



Ravi Coltrane

Pleasanton Puts Focus on Jazz

Jazz is the focus of several special events in Pleasanton Feb. 7 to 10.

DOWNTOWN

The first, Truffles, Tidbits and Wine Tasting, will serve as a kick-off event for the annual Campana Jazz Festival on Thurs., Feb. 7.

Activities will be from 6 to 9 p.m. in downtown Pleasanton.

Several downtown businesses will be hosting jazz groups during the evening including the following: Pleasanton Hotel, Fred McCarty on the guitar; Main St. Brewery, the Jeff Bordes Quartet; Oasis Grille Wine Lounge, Jesse C. Hendricks playing jazz guitar; Studio 7 Fine Arts, the Prime Time Trio; and Pans on Fire, the Brian Swartz Trio. The Rose Hotel and the Museum on Main will also be hosting groups during the evening.

The wine tasting event kicks off at The Rose Hotel. Wineries of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association will be pouring red and white wines, ports, dessert wines and champagnes. Each participating business will feature sweet treats and/or hors d'oeuvres to pair with the selections being poured.

Tickets for the wine event may be purchased in advance at a discounted price of \$25 through February 6th. Tickets are available for purchase at the following locations: The Rose Hotel, 807 Main Street; Clover Creek, 670 Main Street; Studio 7 Fine Arts, 77 West Angela Street and the Pleasanton Downtown Association office, 830-A Main Street. If there are any remaining tickets available, they will be sold on the

(See JAZZ, page 9)



'Oz' Evening to Raise Funds for Firehouse Center

Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation (PCAF) is launching the community fund-raising program for the Firehouse Arts Center with a gala event on Friday, February 29, at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

"A Wonderful Evening of Oz" will begin at 7:00 pm with a hosted bar and hors d'oeuvres. The event will feature live entertainment as well as a display of art by local artists. The dinner and program will begin at 8:00 with a sit-down gourmet dinner catered by "A Tasteful Affair." Emcee Brad Kinney will lead guests through a live auction featuring unique items and experiences. Dancing to the music pro-

(See OZ, page 9)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Operation: SAM replaced the yellow ribbons on the tree in downtown Livermore. The bows were made by Joane Grimsley. Richards provided a discount on the ribbons. The funding was donated by Kristin Ekvall and Brian MacGowan. Ekvall, who is shown hanging the new ribbons, stated, "It has been a real community effort in support of our vets, all of our troops active and inactive."

High Speed Rail over Altamont Still Possible

A future bullet train could travel to Livermore, where it would deposit and pick up passengers at an intermodal station linking passengers to BART and an upgraded Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) trains.

The idea of high speed rail coming into the Valley isn't dead; as part of a regional rail plan, a BART extension to the Valley and beyond is under study.

Mayor Marshall Kamena commented, "BART to Livermore is much more real than it ever has been."

There are two parallel processes underway with regard to

transit. One is the high speed rail; the other a regional rail plan to provide a 50 year blueprint.

In December, the California High Speed Rail Authority confirmed staff's recommendation to provide the express high speed rail service through Pacheco Pass. At the same time, they are moving forward with regional rail commuter and high speed train service through the Altamont Pass between Sacramento and Oakland/San Jose.

The High Speed Rail Authority proposed establishing an Altamont Pass corridor steering committee with the primary pur-

pose of helping determine to what extent high speed rail service could be provided in the Altamont Pass corridor and how it would be coordinated and compatible with other rail services in the corridor. Local and regional agencies and transit agencies from Alameda and San Joaquin counties will work together on the process. If there is agreement to work together, the rail authority would vote to create the Altamont Pass HST (high speed train)/Regional Rail Steering Committee at its Feb. 6 meeting.

The importance of the high

speed rail commitment is that the Tri-Valley hybrid plan could be included in some of the \$10 billion bond funding that the state hopes to get approved on the statewide ballot in November 2008.

The Livermore City Council received an update on the process Monday from Bonnie Nelson, of Nelson/Nygaard, a consultant for the city.

MTC has adopted the regional rail plan, which includes a BART extension to Livermore with an inter-modal station at Isabel and Stanley. The MTC also discussed other rail options.

These include separating passenger and freight service. This would allow the ACE train to provide more frequent service at higher speeds. ACE could also be electrified, which would enable trains to travel at up to 129 mph, faster than any car could cover the distance.

Nelson commented that it is important to identify and refine improvements in rail service in the area so that they can be included in the Nov. 2008 ballot measure. "The bond can only be removed from the ballot by a two-thirds vote of both state

(See RAIL STUDIES, page 3)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Cold, wet weather has dusted the hills surrounding the valley with snow

Livermore School Board Gives Trimester Schedule the Green Light

By Patricia Koning

At last week's meeting of the Livermore Board of Education, the trustees unanimously approved adopting a trimester schedule at Granada and Livermore High Schools. These changes will not come cheaply—the total cost will be nearly \$2.4 million over three years.

"It's unusual to bring an item like this before you at a time of budget crisis," said Livermore School Superintendent Brenda Miller. "But I feel this trimester schedule is better than what we currently have. Even with a worst-case budget scenario, there is still money for a three-year

trial." The worst case would include adoption of Governor Schwarzenegger's January budget proposal, which includes a mid-year budget cut for K-12 education and deeper reductions in 2008/09. Both the Pleasanton and San Ramon school districts have announced drastic reductions in programs and possible layoffs if the governor's proposal were enacted.

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District currently has a budget surplus of approximately \$6.3 million and a 4% reserve for economic uncertainty. About two-thirds of the

surplus, \$3.8 million, is one-time funding.

"We have put ourselves in a reasonable fiscal situation," said trustee Bill Dunlop. "We are not in dire straits going into this, fortunately."

Granada principal Chris Van Schaack and Livermore principal Darryl Avila both feel the trimester schedule will improve student achievement and give students more flexibility.

"We might be able to offer courses like Farsi and Mandarin," said Kelly Bowers, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services. "With so many people ex-

(See SCHEDULE, page 2)

Pleasanton Schools Facing Teacher Lay Offs, Program Cuts

It was doom and gloom at the recent Pleasanton School Board meeting as trustees heard details about the impact that the state's budget could have on the district.

The Pleasanton Unified School District is looking at cutting \$4.5 million from its budget. This will result in layoff of personnel in all areas, as well as a reduction in programs. Everything beyond the basic core program will need to be "on the table" for consideration of elimination or reduction.

The governor's budget calls for cuts to K-12 students and schools statewide by reducing Proposition 98 funding by \$400 million in the current school year and suspending Proposition 98 funding for 2008-09.

"Without a doubt, our students will be negatively impacted by the governor's budget proposal because it cuts funding for daily services and programs in our schools," said Superintendent John Casey. "The idea that

we can make \$4.5 million in cuts and maintain services to students and continue to improve student achievement flat out won't happen. These cuts are too deep," he told the board.

He provided examples of some of the programs that could be impacted. Students would lose the ability to meet annually with a counselor. The district wouldn't be able to offer some of the advanced courses. There could be a loss of extracurricular activities, such as clubs and sports.

Trustee Pat Kernan declared, "I'm devastated. In the eleven years I've been on the board, we've never faced this much of a potential deficit. The programs we have implemented over the last ten years could be for naught in one fell swoop." He added that the district would do everything possible to protect its employees.

Sandra Lepley, Assistant Su-

(See PLEASANTON, page 3)

Livermore Rotary Helps Rebuild Soviet Hospitals

"When the Soviet Union collapsed, the Soviets stripped many of their hospitals of their equipment. They just stripped them of everything," relates David Mertes.

The Livermore educator, as a member of Livermore Rotary, has been working with fellow Rotarians to help put some of those hospitals back together.

They've just completed their second project, raising \$60,000

to equip an intensive care unit at a regional children's hospital in Pecs, Hungary.

With Mertes serving as coordinator, Livermore Rotary partnered with a global Rotary foundation named Assist International and brought in clubs from Oklahoma City, Belgium, Budapest and Pecs. Each of the five clubs contributed \$5000. The Rotary International Foun-

(See REBUILD, page 3)

Former NFL Player to Head Open Heart Kitchen

Open Heart Kitchen has hired a new executive director, former NFL player Michael Carter.

Carter took over the job a few weeks ago. He has spent the time learning more about the operation. One thing he found was a need for more volunteers. Carter explained that many of the volunteers are high school students who are not available during finals or vacation periods. There is a need for people to fill in during those times.

Currently Open Heart Kitchen serves about 3500 people a week, up from 3000 a week in 2006. "We are not just serving the homeless.

We are seeing people who are out of work and the working poor," said Carter.

Carter comes to the job with a strong background in charitable work. For the past 17 years, he has run his own charity. It placed retired NFL players in schools to work directly with students who had a 2.0 gpa or lower. The players helped the students develop life skills as well as learning skills so they could succeed in the future. During the 17 years, over 4000 students took part in the program.

He said he is in the process of

(See OPEN HEART, page 4)

Livermore Design Review Committee, Planning Commission Combined

The Livermore Design Review Committee and Planning Commission will be combined into one body.

The city council voted 3 to 2 to make the change. Marj Leider and Doug Horner, the only two councilmembers who served as members of design review and planning, voted "no."

Design Review addresses design issues; the Planning Com-

mission land use options.

All eight of the current members of the two review bodies would be retained. The final size of the new commission would be established by the council after the current members terms expired. The council would consider whether 5 or 7 or some other number were the appropriate size. There would be train-

(See COMBINED, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Granada High School took on Foothill High School junior varsity (blue uniforms) in a soccer match, coming out with a 2 to 0 victory. The varsity match ended in a 1 to 1 deadlock.

Ideas Sought for Park on Staples Ranch Park

The City of Pleasanton will host two community workshops focused on generating public input about the 17-acre community park planned for the Staples Ranch property.

The property is part of a 124-acre parcel located on the northeast corner of Pleasanton at the junction of I-580 and El Charro Road near Stoneridge Drive. Both workshops will be held in the multi-purpose room of Henry P. Mohr Elementary School, located at 3300 Dennis Drive in Pleasanton. The first workshop takes place on Thursday, February 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. A second workshop will be held on Saturday, February 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

City staff will gather input from the workshop meetings to determine the features and amenities that community members would like to have included in the park. Those features will then be incorporated into a proposed master plan to be introduced at yet another community workshop in early March. Community input will be solicited and folded into the document prior to its presentation to the Parks

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Puppies! Greg and Bobby (and their brother Peter- AKA "The Brady Bunch") are 10 week old Border Collie/Great Pyrenees mixes. They are looking for homes where they can be included as part of the family, with plenty of exercise and training. They are large breed puppies, and will eventually weigh 80 to 100 pounds. To see available dogs, please stop by every Saturday from 11AM to 2PM at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton or visit www.valleyhumane.org or call 925-426-8656.

SCHEDULE

(continued from page one)

cited I have a lot of confidence and strongly support this change."

With the new schedule, the school year is divided into three 12-week trimesters with four 70-minute class periods and one 75-minute period offered each day. Students would take four or five classes, each worth five credits, each trimester.

Graduation requirements likely will be raised from 230 to 270 credits because students will earn more credits each school year. A decision on when to implement the new graduation requirement has not been made, but the principals say it will be phased in, probably starting with the class of 2011 or 2012.

All but one of the audience members, including high school students, parents, and teachers, were critical of the decision to implement the trimester schedule, both for the cost and short timeframe.

"This is like rushing out to buy a new car right after getting a layoff notice because you still have good credit," said Keith Pickering-Walters, president of the Livermore Education Association (LEA). "If you choose to fund this schedule please don't blame the association for any problems it may cause if there are budget cuts or if Measure D is not renewed." Measure D was the bond measure approved by Livermore voters to finance the community center, new library, and schools.

Most of the cost to implement the schedule would be for increased staffing. A total of \$1.5 million will come from the General Fund and another \$750,000 from Measure D. An additional \$130,000 for textbooks, a one-time expenditure, would be paid for from the instructional materials fund.

Miller noted that \$50,000 has already been budgeted in the General Fund for high school reform. She also said that the District would need to spend \$300,000 annually to adjust the schedule at Livermore High School as a result of the arbiter's decision on the teacher workday.

The trustees opted to fund the staffing portion trimester program with \$600,000 from the one-time surplus, \$200,000 for each of the next three years. The remainder of the staffing cost, \$900,000 exclusive of Measure D, will come from the General Fund.

Before last week's meeting, LEA and the District agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding covering funding, teacher prep time, early release collaboration days, class size, and teacher workday related to the trimester schedule.

Peggy Harding, a teacher at Livermore High School and member of the LEA bargaining team, thanked the District for working proactively with the union. "I want to tell you how much we appreciate that you worked with our association. You went through the proper channels and showed genuine respect for the association and all teachers," she said.

The three-year trial of the trimester schedule will begin in the 2008/09 school year and end in 2010/11. Measure D, the parcel tax, comes up for renewal in 2009 for implementation in 2010. Measure D brings in approximately \$3.2 million each year.

"We should wait to see if Measure D is renewed," said Paula Orrell, a parent of two high school students. "The new schedule can wait. Please stop spending and practice the fiscal conservatism you have practiced in the past."

Evaluations of the program's success will begin in the fall of 2010 and will include LEA. To assess success or failure, the District plans to look at the number of students taking more classes, attendance rates, suspension/expulsion rates, number of students taking Advanced Placement (AP) classes and UC-required classes, number of electives taken, and test scores, primarily AP. The District will also take into account anecdotal information from students, parents, and staff.

Alex Rogers, a sophomore at Livermore High School, questioned if the trimester schedule were in the students' best interest and if their voices had been heard. "Our opinion needs to be counted in this decision because it affects us more than anyone else," he said. "The general consensus is that people like the modified block schedule."

Another concern voiced by high school students attending Granada is the loss of the opportunity to double up on subjects such as math or foreign language. By doubling up, students can complete two years of a single subject within one school year. Under the trimester schedule, two trimesters comprise a year-long course.

According to Van Schaack, Granada will offer year-long Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and possibly Calculus in the next school year. The yearlong Calculus class would mirror the college level courses of Calc 1 and Calc 2. This will enable students to take the courses in sequence.

Also planned is an accelerated language program that would allow students to take three years of language in two academic years. Students would take Spanish 1A, 1B, and 2A in the first year; Spanish 2B, 3A, and 3B in the second year; and the yearlong AP course in the third year.

Seminar Series Planned for Olive Growers

Tri-Valley Conservancy will be hosting an Olive Growers Quality Alliance Educational Series. The purpose of this series is to assure the highest quality of olive oil produced by the Tri-Valley Olive Growers.

The first session of the Olive Growers Quality Alliance seminars will be held on Wednesday, February 13, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, at the Livermore Public Library, Community Room A, 1188 So. Livermore Avenue, in Livermore.

Growers are invited to join in the discussion of needs and issues that should be addressed in

future sessions. The panel is comprised of the following specialists:

- Patty Darragh, Executive Director, California Olive Oil Council
 - Adam Englehardt - Operations Manager, Olivina Ranch
 - Nancy Ash, owner of *Strictly Olive Oil* (a consulting company specializing in olive oil product marketing and education)
- Please RSVP by Feb 8th to the Tri-Valley Conservancy (925) 449-8706. There is no charge for this session. Future sessions will have a fee of \$10 to cover the cost of materials.

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PARK

(continued from page one)

and Recreation Commission later in March. A proposed master plan is expected to be presented to the City Council in mid-April.

"These two meetings mark the beginning of five excellent opportunities for the citizens of Pleasanton to participate in designing a spacious community park," according to City Manager Nelson Fialho. "Public input can also be heard at the Commission and City Council meetings. All Pleasanton residents are invited to contribute their ideas. Whether you like to walk your dog, play tennis, or run along trails, this is your opportunity to help create this community park," he added.

Last November, the City

Council unanimously approved motions to prepare a sales and purchase agreement with Alameda County also to purchase a five acre parcel for a planned neighborhood park on the Staples Ranch property, and to direct staff to initiate a master planning effort for the 17-acre park. The proposed development for the 124-acre site includes the relocation of the Pleasanton Auto Mall, building a continuing care retirement community, and a retail complex.

For more information about the community workshops or the planning process, please contact Jim Wolfe, Director of Parks and Community Services, at (925) 931-5340.

Ron Paul 2008

Americans for Ron Paul

The Citizen's Statesman

Ron Paul, a 10-term US Congressman, is the unsurpassed leader in the fight for a limited, Constitutional government, low taxes, civil liberties and a return to sound monetary and responsible foreign policies. He is acclaimed among both his colleagues and his constituents for his honesty, transparency and consistent voting record. As one fellow Congressman expressed, "Ron Paul personifies the Founding Fathers' ideal of the citizen statesman. He makes it clear that his principles will never be compromised, and they never are." When was the last time we could make such a statement about a politician?

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Citizens across the nation are rallying behind the "Statesman of the People" despite the mainstream media's fear of Dr. Paul's message reaching main street. He has the largest national grassroots support organization of any candidate. His message resonates across parties evidenced by "Ron Paul Republicans," "Ron Paul Democrats" and "Ron Paul Independents" proudly carrying his banner. He has broken fund raising records without one corporate or special interest dime and has received more contributions from American military personnel than any other candidate. Ron Paul has support of the citizens across party, racial, socioeconomic and religious lines because his policies are American policies, and We the People are reclaiming our country.

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Known as "The Taxpayer's Best Friend" and has never voted to raise taxes

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Has the only economic recovery plan that attacks the causes rather than masking the symptoms

Never voted for an unbalanced budget or unconstitutional spending

Voted against the war in Iraq

Voted against the PATRIOT Act

Voted against REAL ID

Voted against regulating the Internet

Never taken corporate lobbyist money

Advocates health freedom

Advocates returning control of government to the citizens

Advocates a strong national defense and securing our ports and borders

Against reinstating the draft
Champion of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights

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<p>Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500</p>	<p>Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100 Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000</p>	<p>Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000</p>	<p>Blackhawk 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300</p>	<p>Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd., Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500</p>	<p>Livermore 1983 Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 925.667.2100</p>	<p>Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Ste. 100 Lafayette, CA 94549 925.253.7001</p>
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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Downtown Board of Directors

Livermore Downtown Inc. will install a new board of directors and hand out community awards on Mon., Feb. 4 at Terra Mia, 4040 East Ave., Livermore.

Heavy hors d'oeuvres and no host bar from 5:30 to 6 p.m. followed by the presentations at 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 per person. To be installed are the following: president Karen Long, vice president Anthony McPeake; treasurer Brook Witherspoon, secretary Tommie Van Fossen; board members: Chris Doczy, Jeanette Faenzi, Elizabeth Fields, Beth Gartrell, Robert Gundry, Pam Hundal; past president Lance Leber; ex officio Pete Conley.

Workforce Housing

At its January 14 meeting, the Livermore City Council approved funding for a program that will make five homes available through the local workforce housing program.

The \$2.7 million will purchase five townhomes in the Station Square development. The funding sources include \$500,000 from the redevelopment agency housing set-aside funds and \$2.2 million from Housing Enabled by Local Partnership (HELPS) and housing trust funds.

The workforce program would create home ownership opportunities for people who currently work in the city but live outside the city limits. The housing would be available to moderate income households whose income is \$111,454 for a 3 to 4 person household. Preference would be given to emergency responders and Livermore school teachers.

To jump start the program, Signature Properties is selling five homes to the city at below market rate, ranging from \$482,505 to \$510,566.

The program would provide down payment assistance to eligible homebuyers, about \$600,000 of the available funds.

Buyers would enter into a resale restriction agreement regulating the resale of the home for at least 55 years.

The city receives about 25 inquiries each

month about homebuyer assistance. The main barrier to ownership is not having income high enough to be able to purchase a home in Livermore.

Lab Scientist Vice Chair

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Chief Scientist Karl van Bibber has been elected vice chair of the American Physical Society's California Section.

A self-professed "science junkie," he said he looks forward to having a broader impact in issues such as science literacy and awareness.

He currently serves in the Physical Sciences Directorate and previously was deputy director of the Science and Technology Office and Laboratory Directed Research and Development Program, helping to guide the Lab's portfolio of early stage exploratory research projects.

One of eight regional sections nationwide, the California section hosts multi-disciplinary meetings in Northern and Southern California. The rotating location helps minimize travel expenses for scientists who wish to join colleagues. The most recent section meeting drew 200 attendees to Berkeley, where the Laboratory's Hope Ishii spoke about her materials science approach to isolating comet dust from the Wild 2 mission for analysis.

The executive committee also includes member-at-large Lin Yang from the Laboratory, and a former Laboratory scientist, Jennifer Klay. She continues to collaborate on relativistic heavy ions from her new job at the California Polytechnic State University.

Van Bibber received bachelor of science degrees in physics and mathematics from MIT and his Ph.D. in physics from MIT. He completed post-doctoral studies in nuclear sciences at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Correction

The dates for the Livermore Valley Wine Country Championship listed in the Independent Magazine were incorrect. The golf tournament at The Course at Wente Vineyards runs April 3 to 6.

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

perintendent for Business Services, noted that not only is there no cost of living increase in funding for schools, funding is reduced by 2 percent. "This puts the district in one of the most difficult situations it has been in for a long time." The district is projected to receive \$478 less per student in average daily attendance money.

The state will not backfill reductions in federal funding for special education students. The result is the district will receive \$400,000 to \$450,000 less.

"This is not a one year problem. It will take two to three years to turn the state around," added Lepley. "In looking at our funding, I don't see how we won't impact personnel." She talked about "what ifs" when it comes to losing personnel: 28 teachers, 16 classified positions, and 3 management positions.

Casey issued a letter to all staff detailing some of the cuts that would have to be enacted if the state budget were approved as proposed. He has also written an open letter to the community. In it, he notes that in order to provide a balanced budget, the district is at risk of losing many of the student programs and services that have been a draw to both the District and to the community of Pleasanton.

According to Casey, after initial analysis of the budget, PUSD would be able to cut about \$0.9 million in non-personnel programs, leaving about \$3.6 million that would have to be covered by a reduction in personnel. This equates to the elimination of about 47 positions across the District.

Layoff notices would have to go out prior to March 15.

During the month of February, the PUSD Board of Trustees will hold public workshops on how to balance the budget and receive input from the District's Budget Advisory Committee and employee associations. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for February 12.

The public is invited to offer comments and suggestions by sending an email to publicinfo@pleasanton.k12.ca.us or by calling the PUSD Public Information Office at 925-426-4304. For more information about the governor's proposed budget cuts, visit the District's website at www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

The trustees approved moving forward with grant applications for funding to expand several of the academies at its high schools. The funding is available through the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006.

The money cannot be used for everyday operations at schools. It can be used to modernize or build new facilities or provide equipment for a program for career specific courses. These are matching grants totaling \$13.429 million, with the school district paying half of the cost.

All five trustees supported five of the grants. Steve Brozosky opposed an application that would have provided a multipurpose room for Village High School. The room would be used to expand the school's hospitality, tourism and recreation academy.

Brozosky felt that was too much money for a room that would not be utilized by many students.

Julie Duncan discussed the career and technical programs

that would be improved if the grants were approved by the state.

Three of the academies are at Amador Valley and two at Foothill. Money would be used to provide equipment for the Engineering and Design Academy at both schools; modernize the Hospitality, Tourism and Recreation facility at Amador; and build a new facility for Health Science and Medical Technology at both schools.

Duncan noted that new equipment was desperately needed for the engineering and design academy.

There is a lot of interest in sports medicine as a career. Duncan explained that the grant would help build new training and fitness rooms at both high schools.

REBUILD

(continued from page one)

lot of their burn victims come from the surrounding farmlands where agricultural burning is common.

The equipment was dedicated at a ceremony at the hospital on November 12. Among those on hand were the deputy ambassador from the U.S. and representatives from the Hungarian government. The equipment had been installed the week before by a team from the U.S.

Mertes was himself unable to attend the dedication, but did make one trip to Pecs earlier to help with the planning.

Assist International is run by Bob Pagett, a Scotts Valley Rotarian. Mertes met Pagett sev-

eral years ago when their paths crossed in Calcutta, India, where Mertes was involved in an education project.

Three years ago they joined forces to equip a children's hospital in Budapest, with Assist International gathering the equipment and Livermore Rotary and other clubs providing the funds for the installation. That time, too, \$60,000 was raised.

The project in Budapest led to a request from Pecs. And now a third project is underway, for a hospital in Cluj, Rumania.

"We're just starting with the fund-raising. We expect Cluj will have their hospital equipment installed next fall," Mertes reports.

"We've developed a working relationship that has proved to be very effective," he says of Livermore Rotary's partnership with Assist International. "As long as there are needs to be met, we'll meet them."

RAIL STUDIES

(continued from page one)

needed around the station, said Nelson.

A second is a two station option that would go down I-580 to Greenville. "There is a potential to build a grand central station at Greenville to connect ACE and the high speed rail," explained Nelson. There are plans for transit oriented development at the Greenville site.

The final alternative would be a three station option that would extend to Tracy.

"The idea that there will be a preferred BART extension plan in a year is very exciting," commented Nelson.



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EDITORIALS

Ariel Can Stay

The Pleasanton City Council has approved a conditional use permit enabling Jennifer Hosterman to keep her hawk.

The Pleasanton mayor rescued the wounded bird and has provided a home for it. The hawk, a red-tail named Ariel, is living a life of public service. Hosterman employs Ariel to educate the public about raptors.

Ariel became an issue during the 2006 mayor's election when Dan Carl, the campaign manager of Steve Brozosky, Hosterman's opponent, accused the mayor of violating the city code.

Hosterman indeed should have known she needed a city permit to keep the raptor. Then she made things worse by reacting in a heavy-handed way. When the Planning Commission denied her request for a use permit, Hosterman took the issue to the City Council on appeal. She has all the federal/state permits required of wildlife owners and this was good enough for the council, which okayed the permit in a 3-1 vote, Cindy McGovern dissenting.

McGovern wanted an ordinance in place regulating wild and exotic animals. The council directed staff to look into such an ordinance.

Ariel has found a loving home with Hosterman. The hawk doesn't pose a public menace. In approving the use permit and setting in motion an ordinance that will provide future oversight, the council settled this tricky issue in a most wise manner.

Youth-Run Youth Court

The Tri-Valley Youth Court, an innovative new court aimed at giving first-time youth offenders a second chance, is scheduled to begin next week.

Youth Court will operate like a regular court, only all the participants—defendant, prosecutor, defense advocate, court clerk and jury—will be teenagers. The court will administer the sentencing of young people who've pleaded guilty to misdemeanors. The defendants themselves will serve on juries as part of their sentences.

The court will be in session on the first Tuesday of the month, with 12 cases to be heard in three courtrooms. Young people are needed to serve in a volunteer capacity as the "attorneys," jurors and other court personnel (to volunteer call www.trivalleyyouthcourt.com). "This program provides a tremendous learning opportunity for youth," observes Livermore Police Chief Steve Sweeney.

Some 1300 of these courts are in existence nationwide. An enlightened approach to criminal justice is at work here. Tri-Valley Youth Court will generate trust in and respect for the law among young people, at a time in their lives when a second chance really means something.

Input Sought for New Robertson Park Master Plan

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) will host a third meeting on the Robertson Park Master Plan on Wednesday, February 6, at 6:30 p.m.

This session marks the last of three public meetings designed to generate public input on the first update of the Robertson Park master plan in 20 years. The meeting is open to all members of the public. It will be held in the Cresta Blanca North room of the Robert Livermore Community Center, located at 4444 East Avenue in Livermore.

The objective of the park Master Plan is to develop a series of goals for the use, management and development of Robertson Park. The existing master plan was completed in 1988. Since that time, Livermore has almost doubled in population size, with more residential housing surrounding Robertson Park.

Several specific projects are currently being planned for the park. These include extension of the paved walking and bike trail along the north side of Arroyo Mocho to Concannon Blvd. It would then go under the road

and connect to the trail along the east side of Concannon and a children's play area near the field house with a trail leading from the horseshoe area. The play area is being built by O'Brien Homes as part of conditions of approval for a nearby housing development.

Within the past year the LARPD Board received a report on the cost and feasibility of developing more complete soccer facilities at the park.

At the previous two planning meetings, members of the public asked for more sports fields. Others liked the open space, riparian look of the park. Equestrian advocates wanted more facilities.

A study session for the Board of Directors will be held on February 13, at 6:00 p.m. A final draft of the master plan will be presented to the Board of Directors by March 2008.

For more information, please contact Chiye Azuma, Project Manager, at (925) 373-5724. Residents who would like to be notified of subsequent planning meetings can contact Vicki Wiedenfeld by phone at (925) 373-5723, or email at vwiedenfeld@larpd.ds.ca.us.

Livermore to Implement Solar Cities Program

Livermore will move forward with a Solar Cities Program. The council approved the concept at its January 28 meeting. The program is a partnership with the City of Pleasanton.

The goal is to provide homeowners with information that simplifies the process of installing solar energy so they would move forward with projects. This would include information about the cost benefits and available tax credits.

The one disagreement among councilmembers was whether the city should identify one provider of solar services, or establish a list of qualified businesses. City staff was asked to come back with information on how other cities had handled the issue. City staff had recommended a list of

providers. Former councilmember Tom Reitter suggested that the city recommend one provider. He felt that would be less confusing for homeowners. In addition, it would allow city staff to become comfortable with working with the company, thereby speeding up the permitting process.

Representatives from REC Solar addressed the council on the issue, as well. The company has been selected as the sole service provider for solar installations in San Jose. They echoed Reitter's comments.

Councilmember Doug Horner supported the one provider concept. "It is a young industry. I think the city's program would work better if it focused on one good provider. That doesn't shut

Opposition Voiced to Measures A and B

Measures A and B on the February 5 ballot ask voters to approve funding to construct a new facility for Children's Hospital Oakland.

The hospital is a nonprofit private hospital. It provides treatment to children from all over Northern California, including Alameda County, who have serious illnesses like cancer, diabetes and birth defects.

The hospital needs to be retrofitted for earthquakes. However, rather than retrofit the current hospital, the plan is to construct an entirely new facility. Children's Hospital also wants the new project to increase the number of beds. Currently, there are 190 licensed beds at Children's Hospital, with another 20 being leased at Alta Bates-Summit. The project would bring the total to 250 beds, all single patient rooms. The new building would be 12 stories high, located in the neighborhood between Shattuck Avenue and Martin Luther King Way, near 52nd street in north Oakland.

Measures A and B would both create a new tax. A two-thirds vote is needed to approve either measure. The one receiving the most votes, above the two-thirds needed, would become law. Under the measure, over a set period of time (35 years for Measure A and 30 years for Measure B), each year each household would pay \$24, small business owners \$150, and large business owners \$250. Alameda County would collect the tax money and keep track of it.

If two-thirds of those voting on the parcel tax approve it, the revenue would be part of an overall financing package to pay for the estimated \$750 million cost of a new hospital. The \$300 million raised by the local measures

would be joined by private fundraising efforts, cash reserves and state grants to comprise the \$750 million total. An additional \$100 million of the \$750 million would be on the state ballot in November in the form of a bond especially for construction of Children's hospitals.

The hospital would like voters to reject Measure B, and vote instead for Measure A, said hospital CEO Frank Tiedemann in a recent story in The Independent.

Opposition has arisen for both measures, particularly for Measure B. Among the arguments against B is that it uses the county's bond rating and makes the county's taxpayers responsible for paying off the bonds. The county would also be responsible for collecting the tax money and would not receive compensation to do so.

With the bonding capacity used for a private hospital, there wouldn't be money to retrofit or rebuild such public facilities as Highland Hospital. Measure B contains no requirement that the new Children's Hospital be built in Alameda County.

The Alameda County Democratic Party raises the issue of public funds for a private entity in recommending a "no" vote on both measures. In a statement regarding the measures, the party says it values the work of Children's Hospital and wants the Hospital to remain in Alameda County, both for the important service it provides and for the jobs it creates. "Unfortunately, the Board of Directors of Children's Hospital has proposed a plan for funding its seismic retrofit, contained in both Measures A and B, that is fundamentally flawed. Ultimately, these measures set one institution ahead of all the others also providing vi-

tal medical care to children in Alameda County. In doing so, these measures also set this one private institution ahead of all the County operated hospitals that critically need to draw on the public borrowing authority to fund their own seismic upgrades."

Arthur B. Green, Executive Vice President, Alameda County Taxpayers' Association, is one of the signers of the "no" on Measure A rebuttal arguments. The argument also opposes use of public funds for a private hospital. "This \$300 million parcel tax for homeowners and business owners amounts to a corporate giveaway at a time when public hospitals, schools, libraries and other needed services are competing for funds. It is unfair to ask voters to foot the bill for a private facility."

The Alameda County Republican Party recommends a "yes" vote on both measures. No reasons were provided.

Measure B was developed without input from the county.

Measure A was placed on the ballot by the supervisors, after talks with representatives from Children's Hospital. It addresses some of the major issues in Measure B. Measure A would not use the county's bond capacity, nor would the county be responsible for paying off any bonds. In addition, the county would be reimbursed for any work on collecting the tax funds.

The entire Alameda County Board of Supervisors signed the "No on B" argument.

The "no" argument points out that Children's Hospital, the Supervisors, the Alameda County Taxpayers Association and healthcare providers throughout the County are recommending a "no" vote on Measure B. The ar-

gument points out that if passed, the measure would tax every household in Alameda County (including those already paying taxes for health services) to benefit a private hospital. "Measure B sets up a complicated tax structure that forces homeowners to pay one tax, businesses another and exempts others. It would require the County of Alameda to keep income records for every Alameda County household. If that were not enough, there are no guarantees that money raised by Measure B would fund healthcare services in Alameda County to benefit Alameda County residents."

Failure to rebuild the hospital by 2013 to meet new state standards for hospital earthquake safety would force the hospital to lose its license and close, said Tiedemann.

Opponents counter his argument.

Alameda County Taxpayers' Association adds, "Children's claims it will shut down if it cannot build its tower. This is untrue. With tens of millions of dollars in seismic retrofit funds approved by voters in 2004 and the \$150 million it plans to raise from donors, it can more than afford to retrofit its current inpatient facilities without an exorbitant and unnecessary parcel tax that we will be paying for the next 35 years."

Neighbors of the proposed new hospital, who are opposed to Measures A and B state, "Children's can offer state-of-the-art care in an earthquake-retrofitted facility without the need for a fancy high-rise that would jeopardize the character of a thriving, family-oriented neighborhood." They are concerned about the use of eminent domain to take homes.

OPEN HEART

(continued from page one) wrapping up his charity. He says obtaining funding to run it has been harder to find.

He said that he was told when he was hired at Open Heart Kitchen to take it to the next level. He explained, "The board said that was whatever I thought it should be." Carter said he likes to work with kids, so he is looking at incorporating a program or programs with kids. He explained that there is a need to expand, to bring in more funding so that paid workers, such as site supervisors, could be hired.

Open Heart Kitchen has a major fund-raising event scheduled in February. Carter said, "We need to get as many people out as we can."

The benefit gala with the theme, "Have A Heart Round Up 2008," is set for February 9 at the Robert Livermore Community Center.

Beginning at 6 pm, there will be a cocktail reception followed

by a catered dinner, line dancing instruction, a live auction led by "Big Frank" Jakubka, and dancing until 11 pm to the sounds of country music performed by the California Cowboys. Guests are invited to dress casually and wear their best cowboy hats.

Tickets are \$55 each. They are available for download by visiting Open Heart Kitchen's website, www.openheartkitchen.org and clicking on the event logo on the first page. Interested attendees can also call 925-580-1616 for more ticket information. Carter noted there are both hot meal programs and a box lunch program.

The schedule is as follows: East Livermore Hot Meal Program: 12 noon to 6:00 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore.

North Livermore Hot Meal Program: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on

Thursdays at Vineyard Christian Fellowship, 460 North Livermore Avenue, Livermore.

Dublin Hot Meal Program: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Mondays at Crosswinds Church, 6444 Sierra Court, Dublin.

Pleasanton Hot Meal Program: 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm on Fridays at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road at Del Valle.

Ridgeview Commons Senior Meal Program: As part of a contract with the Area Agency on Aging, Open Heart Kitchen serves dinner for senior citizens 62 years of age and older. Meal service is from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm Monday through Friday at Ridge View Commons, 5200 Case Avenue in Pleasanton. Residents and neighboring seniors are invited to dine for a requested donation of \$3.00 per person in advance or \$3.50 at the door. Service includes a nutritious well-balanced "senior friendly" hot

dinner and side dishes, and an all-you-can-eat soup and salad bar and free beverages. Entertainment is offered on a regular basis. Teen volunteers deliver plated meals to the diners.

Weekend Box Lunch Program: This program aims to distribute lunches on Fridays throughout the year so that children have something to eat over the weekend when the school cafeterias are unavailable. The three beneficiary groups are the low-income students of Marilyn Avenue, Portola Avenue, and Joe Michell schools in Livermore, and the children of single parents at Arroyo Vista Community Housing in Dublin. Box lunches are prepared on Thursdays at Vineyard Christian Fellowship, 460 North Livermore Avenue by a team of teen volunteers. The lunches are then distributed every Friday.

Carter said that anyone interested in volunteering can call Geneal Williams at 580-1619.

Joe Michell Elementary to Include 6th Grade Next Fall

By Patricia Koning

After two years of discussion, the trustees of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District voted unanimously to add sixth grade to Joe Michell Elementary School next fall. For parents at Joe Michell, this decision was a long time coming.

"Thank you for undertaking due diligence to listen to everyone in the Michell community," said parent Richard Crampton. "Now it's time to move forward. You have a strong commitment from parents and teachers to turn this school around and make it into a great school."

In exploring the concept of adding sixth grade to Michell, District staff determined that a minimum of 60 students would be needed to make the program financially viable. To date, 70 parents of students who will enter sixth grade next fall have

signed commitment letters.

Parent Ron Cortez said enrollment at Michell could increase dramatically as a result of the Board's action. "I know people ready to enroll their kindergartners and elementary school-aged kids to take advantage of this program," he said.

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Kelly Bowers explained the benefits of a K-6 program as fewer transitions, more time to build relationships, and smaller school size. The Michell sixth grade will be capped at 90 students, while Livermore's other middle schools have about 250 sixth graders at each site.

Parent Diane Mueller agreed with Bowers' assessment. "I'm a 9-year Junction alumni," she said. "Yes, I attended Junction back when it was a K-8 school. I benefited greatly from that op-

portunity and would have been lost in a junior high situation."

For now, only sixth grade is on the table. The trustees emphasized that approving sixth grade at Michell does not mean seventh and eighth grade will automatically follow in subsequent years. "There is high probability given what we are seeing in the budget that we won't see K-7 or K-8 in future years," said trustee Bill Morrison.

Bowers said that the parents who have signed commitment letters are aware that the program is only K-6. She added that they would probably be very happy to see it expanded.

The trustees approved spending \$75,000 to add a science laboratory to Michell for the sixth graders. According to Bowers, there may be some additional facilities costs if the school were to expand to K-7 or K-8, but since

the site is not at capacity, those costs would not be exorbitant.

While Morrison approved the item, he questioned the impact the decision would have on Portola Elementary School. "We are going to face closing an elementary school next year or the year after," he said. "Is this Board willing to back up and clearly review the pros and cons of closing either Portola or Michell? Otherwise we are making a decision tonight that we will close Portola."

There was no response to his observation.

Last year Superintendent Brenda Miller said that because of declining enrollment, the District would probably close at least one school within the next five years. Portola and Michell, as the smallest elementary schools, are the likely candidates.

COMBINED

(continued from page one) ing provided for Planning Commissioners on design and for Design Review Committee members on land use.

Steve Stewart, senior planner, said that by Oct. 1, 2009, the group would be reduced to five.

Staff identified both benefits and disadvantages to combining the two review processes. Benefits would include increasing review efficiency by reducing time, allow land use compatibility and design issues to be addressed by a single review body, and lower administrative costs. Disadvantages would be longer planning commission meetings, less distinct design discussion and solutions, and fewer opportunities for public comment.

Councilmember Jeff Williams raised the issue last December of combining the two review bodies. "It was my observation that the folks on the Planning Commission often overrode design issues that negated Design Review's recommendations. My

goal was to have each focus on their charter or combine the two. I believe both land use and design reviews are vital. If the decision is to combine the two, we would need to make sure that the appropriate skill sets are included."

Mayor Marshall Kamena said that he has thought for several years that something needs to be done to make things move quickly. He felt combining the two would help. However, he would not support any motion that removed any current member of either Design Review or the Planning Commission.

Leider said she didn't think combining the review process would save much time. She said in talking to members of the Pleasanton Planning Commission, which takes on both functions, they tend to deal with land use at one meeting then hold a second meeting to talk about design issues.

Kamena agreed that there could be more meetings on a par-

ticular project.

Horner said the two review processes are very different things. "I have concerns about the proposal. One is the shortening of the public process. I don't want to see less time focused on design. Reviewing of design issues is not easy and needs a lot of attention."

He said that both are great training grounds for people who want to become involved with the city. "Rather than combine them, I'd lean towards empowering Design Review to make decisions; provide the members with training opportunities."

Councilmember John Marchand said he didn't have the experience of serving on either. However, if the two were combined he would enlarge the number of members to have as many eyes and as much public comment as possible.

Kamena said after the vote, "I think this is an action where everyone wins. We hope to prove it."

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Tri-Valley CAREs to Challenge Go Ahead for Bio-Lab Operation

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has been granted approval to begin operating its new biosafety laboratory, following the completion and release to the public of the final environmental documents.

Approval was granted by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Security Administration, Livermore Site Office.

Tri-Valley CAREs, an outspoken opponent of the Biosafety Level-3 facility, has said it will pursue legal action against the DOE to stop the operation of the facility. They have pointed out that such a facility is meant to handle and process pathogens such as anthrax, plague and Q fever, just short of the highest "4" level reserved for diseases like Ebola.

"The DOE and Livermore Lab are jeopardizing the health and safety of the local community and the surrounding Bay Area," charged Marylia Kelley, the Executive Director of Tri-Valley CAREs and a neighbor of Livermore Lab of the decision to operate the facility.

DOE issued a Draft Environmental Assessment for public comment in July 2002 to construct and operate the Biosafety Level 3 facility at the Lab. An environmental assessment was prepared, which was challenged in September 2003 in Federal District Court. In the lawsuit to stop the facility, the primary argument was that because of the checkered history of safety, security and environmental issues, and because of the highly dangerous nature of the biological agents involved, a more comprehensive environmental impact statement was required before operations could begin.

In September 2004, the District Court ruled that the Environmental Assessment was adequate. The plaintiffs appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court.

In October 2006, the Ninth

Circuit Court found that with the exception of the lack of analysis concerning the possibility of a terrorist attack, the U.S. Department of Energy did take a hard look at the identified environmental concerns. However, the Court remanded the matter for the U.S. Department of Energy to consider whether the threat of potential terrorist activity necessitates the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

In response to the Ninth Circuit ruling, DOE reviewed the threat to the Biosafety Level 3 facility from terrorists and the potential environmental effects that might derive from various terrorist acts against the facility. In its assessment NNSA believes that the probability of a successful terrorist attack on the BSL-3 facility is so uncertain that the possibility of such an event cannot be accurately quantified. No environmental impacts are expected as a result of potential terrorist activities directed against this facility. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

"The U.S. Department of Energy has determined the probability of a successful terrorist attack on the Biosafety Level 3 facility is extremely low," Livermore Site Office Manager Camille Yuan-Soo Hoo stated. "The safety and security features of the laboratory meet, or in many cases, exceed, those required for this type of research. In addition, the purpose of the work to be conducted in the facility will be to develop systems and technologies to reduce the overall probability and consequence of a bio-terrorist act against the public in general."

According to Tri-Valley CAREs' Staff Attorney, Robert Schwartz, "We are deeply frustrated by DOE's continuing refusal to analyze the risks, hold public hearings, or comply with federal regulations and our nation's most fundamental envi-

ronmental law, the National Environmental Policy Act. Once again, it is up to us to bring legal action to stop the facility, and we are preparing to do so."

Schwartz stated that instead of conducting a detailed study of the terrorist threat, DOE chose to down play the risks to the community and the environment and issue a Finding of No Significant Environmental Impact (FONSI) for the research facility. "Tri-Valley CAREs intends to pursue legal action against DOE," maintained Schwartz. "The terrorist threat analysis ordered by the Ninth Circuit is inadequate and unsupported."

A similar facility proposed for the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico is currently in the process of undergoing the highest level of environmental analysis, an EIS. This will ensure a more robust environmental review and public hearings for the people of New Mexico. "We in California deserve no less," insisted Kelley. "This situation is an outrage."

The Final Revised Environmental Assessment and Revised Finding for the Biosafety Level 3 Facility were released to the public Monday.

Copies of the Final Revised Environmental Assessment and Revised Finding of No Significant Impact are available to the public at the locations listed below:

- Livermore Public Library, 1000 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550 (925) 373-5000;
- Tracy Public Library, 20 East Eaton Avenue, Tracy, CA 95376 (209) 835-2221;
- National Nuclear Security Administration/Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Public Reading Room, Discovery Center, Building 6525, located at the East Gate entrance off Greenville Road, Livermore, CA (925) 422-3272; and
- On the web at www.envirinfo.llnl.gov/

Housing, Transportation Funds Among Priorities

Elected officials from five valley cities met with Congressional representatives in Washington, D.C. to discuss local priorities.

Housing, transportation, a regional communication system, and the status of both the Livermore VA and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory were among the topics discussed. The economy was also an issue.

Valley officials meeting with members of the Senate and Congress were Livermore Vice Mayor John Marchand, and mayors from the other four cities: Jennifer Hosterman, Pleasanton; Janet Lockhart, Dublin; Abram Wilson, San Ramon; and Candace Anderson, Danville.

They met with Ellen Tauscher and Jerry McNerney.

McNerney hosted a conference call with reporters to discuss some of the issues raised by the mayors.

He said, "I think we can get some of these projects funded." He said he was impressed with the way the mayors worked together, speaking as one voice.

Congresswoman Tauscher who was on a flight home during the conference, issued a statement. She said of her meeting with the mayors, "We talked about how to get more federal dollars for programs like the East Bay Regional Communications System, an interoperability emergency system that will ensure our cities and agencies can commu-

nicate in the event of an emergency. It's our goal that before long every fire department, police station and first responder in the East Bay can communicate seamlessly across a common network. We also discussed ways to alleviate congestion on I-580 and helping families struggling with their mortgages to stay in their homes. I am proud to work with the mayors, Congressman McNerney, and the communities I serve in this unified approach."

One request was for \$2.6 million to fund a housing project. The money would be used to help families facing closure to keep their homes.

The program would be administered through the Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center. There would be an effort to work with lenders to buy down the interest rate or extend the life of a loan. The homeowners would go through an educational process that would help them avoid future problems.

Danville Mayor Candace Anderson noted that the none of the 70 homebuyers who went through the Tri-Valley process are facing foreclosure. "Education was a big component."

The money would not be a gift. It would be secured by the home. If the home were sold or transferred, the money would be paid back and go into a pool for future use. It is estimated that the \$2.6 million would help 50 fami-

lies.

An interoperability communication system was another high priority for the mayors.

The system would be operated through a joint powers agreement that includes 33 member agencies throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The request was for \$3 million this year. The entire system is estimated to cost \$70 million, with \$33 million available now.

Funds for improving transportation were on the list. Mayor Hosterman noted that the pricetag for eastbound HOV lane is \$75 million. The goal is to have it completed by 2009. "The forecast shows that the lane would decrease traffic delays by up to 70 percent in that lane and in mixed lanes as well." Initially, the new lane would be for high occupancy vehicles. However, it would transition to a high occupancy toll lane in the future.

McNerney was asked both about the status of the Lab and the VA Hospital in Livermore.

One idea discussed was to fund more energy research at the Lab. McNerney stated that not much was being considered. "I want to make sure funding for the Lab stays at expected levels so the Lab would not have to lay off people."

Marchand said the key issue is the reduction in the workforce at the Lab. He said that energy independence equates to na-

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Letter Policy: The Independent will not publish anonymous letters, nor will it publish letters without names. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed.)

Wrong Place T.K. Hayes Livermore

At the February 11 Livermore City Council meeting, the Planning Commission will recommend approval of a Toyota Dealership in North Livermore - a huge dealership that will use all 16 acres of undeveloped land off Northfront Road between Vasco and Herman. It will be the largest Toyota dealer in Northern California, larger than the entire Pleasanton Auto Mall.

At issue is not Toyota having a dealership in Livermore - that would be welcome. This project is in an existing residential area. With an adjacent lot set aside for BART, there is no additional land to build on in this area. These 16 acres should be dedicated to mixed use, transit related development in anticipation of BART coming to Livermore. There are two other areas in Livermore where auto dealers already have businesses, which is where Toyota should be. The fact that Toyota has a policy requiring 10 miles between dealerships, and that this land is 10.3 miles from Dublin Toyota, should not be the overriding reason to approve such a project.

Contact us at StopToyotaNorthLivermore@gmail.com for more information.

Prop. 93 Roy S. Cornwell Livermore

Proposition 93 is a fraud that alleges to extend term limits. Realize that this proposition was

put on the ballot by Don Perata (and some associates) who wish to preserve their opulent lifestyles.

I have watched him operate as an Alameda County supervisor, as an assembly member and as a state senator and in each position his conduct has been self serving and generally despicable. The so called term limit proposition actually extends the time this man can serve. Also given this gift are others, for example Fabian Nunez, the assembly speaker. Is there a pattern here?

Left out of this legislation was the originally proposed redistricting change. Under the present system each legislator gets to draw his or her own district and make sure of his or her re-election. Term limit laws currently in place impose some restrictions on this practice, but not many. The present group in the legislature is in a state of abject fear that an honest, reasonable redistricting would be enacted. Proposition 93 was originally proposed to designate a panel of retired judges to set up districts that were fair. The present system is anything but.

The excuse used to keep legislators in place is that we need experienced people in the legislature who are familiar with the process. Hogwash. The state keeps sliding deeper into the fiscal hole under the guidance of this so-called experienced group. We pay prison guards more than college faculty because more money comes from the prison guards. Other unions contribute and it all can be summed up as special interests driving the budget process. The only way to stop this process is to turn the rascals out. Proposition 93 has the sole effect of keeping the same bickering, ineffective, politicians on the job.

Cronyism Kim Leighton Pleasanton

The issue of the Pleasanton Mayor's hawk is absolutely political and perhaps not very nice, but the way that Mayor Jennifer Hosterman responded to it is the bottom line. As a public figure she knows her actions come under greater scrutiny, this is a condition that a person in public office must be prepared to accept.

While it may not have come to the City's attention if it had been in anyone else's backyard, keeping a hawk is not allowed in Pleasanton. Pleasanton's Mayor

should have shown more respect for her office and not dragged the City Staff, the Planning Commission, as well as her fellow City Council members into the difficult position she put them in.

As Mayor of Pleasanton she should be held to a higher standard and pointing the finger of blame at the complainant and saying "he started it" is beneath her position and childish. The Mayor should have asked one of her fellow, non-Pleasanton, hawk handlers to care for the bird until it was ready for release. She could have then pursued the process for changing the ordinance as any other citizen would have been asked to do.

The time spent by city staff and the City Council as well as the regional embarrassment is the fault of Mayor Hosterman. Far worse is the ugly position that she put Pleasanton city staff and her fellow council members in. There is no question the outcome to allow her to keep the bird was favoritism, justified because of the political origin.

That does not excuse the "I am above the law" arrogance demonstrated by Pleasanton's Mayor and three council members that voted to give her an exception. I feel shame for my city and concern that my elected officials do not hold themselves to a higher standard.

Another Bank Robert W. Byrd Pleasanton

Dear downtown Pleasanton business owners and the drive-in/walk-in pedestrian customers who support them:

The City sold the Kolln's Hardware buildings investor(s) enough in lieu parking fees to cover the property with nearly 12,000 square feet of unparked buildings.

In appreciation for an estimated \$1.5 million or so in increased equity and the thirty-five public parking spaces the building businesses will use when occupied, the investors leased the Main Street portion to a commercial bank. Now, I can't stop thinking, with retail and restaurant businesses desperately seeking street level space on Main Street and parking harder to find by the day, we gave up a unique old hardware store with charm, character and 100 years of history (and darn near any kind of hardware one might need) for another bank. Why? Am I alone here?

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WHEN: Wednesday, February 6, 6-8pm

LOCATION: LifeStyleRx Cafe

FEE: \$45/Person \$80/Couple

Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 30, 5pm to Julie Rooney at 454-6339.



A NEW PARK IN PLEASANTON! Pleasanton Residents Invited To Participate In Master Plan Workshops For Proposed Staples Ranch Community Park

All Pleasanton residents are encouraged to participate in two upcoming community workshops to determine amenities and features for a proposed 17-acre community park on the Staples Ranch property located on the northeast corner of Pleasanton at the junction of I-580 and El Charro Road near Stoneridge Drive.

The community workshops are scheduled for Thursday, February 7, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 9, at 9:30 a.m. Both meetings will be held in the multi-purpose room of Mohr Elementary School, located at 3300 Dennis Drive.

For more information regarding the workshops or the planning process, or to comment on this matter, please contact Jim Wolfe, Director of Parks and Community Services, at jwolfe@ci.pleasanton.ca.us or (925) 931-5340.

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JAZZ

(continued from page one)
 evening of the event at The Rose Hotel for \$30.00 beginning at 5:45 p.m. All tickets must be redeemed for glasses by 7:30 p.m.
 For information on Truffles, Tidbits & Wine Tasting or the Campana Festival's "Weekend of Jazz," visit www.pleasantondowntown.net or call the Pleasanton Downtown Association at 925-484-2199, ext. 4#.

RAVI COLTRANE
 Saxophonist, bandleader and composer Ravi Coltrane will perform on Friday, February 8.

The City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents will host the 8 p.m. performance at the Amador Theater.

Named for Indian sitar artist Ravi Shankar, Coltrane is the son of music legends John and Alice Coltrane. He grew up hearing a variety of music and began playing clarinet in middle school.

"My mother played piano and organ at home every day and she took us to recording sessions," Coltrane says. "She played my father's LPs and recordings of classical music. I also listened to a lot of R&B, soul, popular music of the day as well as symphonic music and was a big fan of film scores. Jazz was something I appreciated, but I had to reach my late teens and go through profound family changes before the music became a dominant force in my life."

Coltrane pursued musical studies at the California Institute of Art and, in 1991, began playing with Elvin Jones, his father's drummer from the 60s. He moved to New York City and played with a variety of artists, including Steve Coleman, who was particularly influential.

In 1997, after performing on more than 30 recordings as a sideman, Coltrane recorded his first album as a leader, *Moving Pictures*. In 2002, he established his own recording company, RKM Music. That same year, he produced *Legacy*, a four-disc thematic study of his father's career for Verve. He continues his role as family archivist of the senior Coltrane's unreleased material and is working on new projects with Verve.

Over the past decade, Coltrane has led a number of jazz ensembles and brought his mother out of a 26-year performing hiatus with their recording, along with several other notable artists, of *Translinear Light*. Of Coltrane's fourth album, *In Flux*, the *New York Times* wrote, "He's fascinated on one hand by miniatures and on the other by the idea of longer songs that sound like collective improvisation from start to finish."

Coltrane adds, "I want to be involved in music that is truly honest; that's not trying to follow trends or fit into someone's

idea about what jazz is. My aspiration is to acknowledge with love my influences while attempting to move forward; to be open and receptive to shifts in the musical terrain; to make music that is relevant to my present day experience."

Tickets to the Ravi Coltrane performance are \$30, \$35 & \$40 for adults and \$20, \$25 & \$30 for students with identification. Tickets can be purchased on line at www.civicticketstickets.org, by phone at (925) 931-3444 or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office, at 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Monday thru Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and two hours prior to each performance.

The Amador Theater is located at 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.

CAMPANA FESTIVAL
 Amador Friends of Music and the Amador Valley High School Music Department will host the 33rd Annual Campana Jazz Festival (CJF33) to be held on Saturday, February 9, at Amador Valley High School.

Designed as an all-day educational jazz festival, it will bring together 42 ensembles from 24 schools, with over 700 participating students. These high school and middle school ensembles, participating in big band, combo and vocal divisions, will take part in adjud-

cated performances, instrumental workshops and master classes. Over \$7000 of scholarships to regional, state and national jazz camps will be awarded at two awards concerts held at the end of the day.

The public is invited to spend the day attending the performances and award concerts. A nominal entrance fee provides admittance. Additional information and schedules will be provided on www.amadorband.org.

PLEASANTON LIBRARY
 The focus on jazz concludes Sun., Feb. 10 with a performance by the Silver Moon Swing Band and Jazz Caliente Latin Band at the Pleasanton Library. The concert will be 1:30 to 5 p.m. on Sun., Feb. 10.

The Silver Moon Band will kick off the afternoon of free jazz at the Library at 1:30 p.m. with favorite swing ballads.

At 3:30, Jazz Caliente will take the stage. From samba to mambo, bossa to bolero, and bebop-to Lee Waterman's original compositions, Jazz Caliente percolates with West Coast Cool and strong Afro-Cuban and Brazilian influence. All of the band members are terrific ensemble players and brilliant soloists.

All library programs are free and open to the public. No registration is required. For more information, please call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

OZ

(continued from page one)
 by Brad Kinney Productions will top off the evening.

Event Committee Chair Joyce Shapiro notes, "The Firehouse Arts Center will be a wonderful addition to our downtown. I encourage everyone in the community to support the project. One way to do this is by attending the 'Wonderful Evening of Oz' event we are planning. We will be providing our guests with an extraordinary experience, while raising needed funds for the Firehouse Arts Center."

Tickets are now on sale at

\$125 per person or \$1,000 for a table of 8. Corporate sponsorship opportunities are also available.

To find out more, purchase tickets or discuss sponsorship opportunities, contact Debbie Look at (925) 846-1007.

The Firehouse Arts Center will provide a public visual and performing arts venue for Pleasanton residents. It will include a 240-seat theater, art galleries and classrooms.

For more information, visit pleasantonartsfoundation.org.

The Artists' Universe at Library

Journey beyond the boundaries of this world and experience the imaginative universe as seen through the eyes of the artist. The Artists' Universe is a juried traveling exhibition of 28 astronomical artworks by members of the International Association of Astronomical Artists.

This exhibit will be on display throughout the month of February 2008 in the Library Gallery at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

This exhibit is part of Livermore Reads Together: The Dune Books, a community-wide reading program, featuring Frank Herbert's classic science fiction

series *Dune*, as well as related series titles by Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson. The community of Livermore is encouraged to join their neighbors by participating in the Livermore Reads Together book discussions and free events for children and adults during the month of February 2008. Copies of books and event schedules are available at all Livermore Public Library locations.

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 405396
 The following person (s) doing business as: Bella Roma Pizza, 853 East Stanley Boulevard, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Hamid M. Asem, 11683 Harland Rd, Dublin CA 94568 This business is conducted by: an individual
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed
 Signature of Registrant: /s/: Hamid M. Asem
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on January 8, 2008. Expires January 8, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2278. Publish January 24, 31, 2008, February 7, 14, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 405318
 The following person (s) doing business as: elephanttails.com, 6151 Sunnybrook Way, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Russell W. Sims, 6151 Sunnybrook Way, Livermore CA 94551
 Kanda Chusook, 6151 Sunnybrook Way, Livermore CA 94551
 This business is conducted by: husband and wife
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/: Russell W. Sims and Kanda Chusook
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on January 7, 2008. Expires January 7, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2279. Publish January 24, 31, 2008, February 7, 14, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 405495
 The following person (s) doing business as: M and M Cross Fit, 2121 Railroad Ave., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Michael Harris, 4462 Mines Rd., Livermore Ca 94550 Michael Lampley, 2949 Marina Ave., Livermore Ca 94550
 This business is conducted by: a General partnership
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on January 4, 2008.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/: Michael Harris
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on January 10, 2008. Expires January 10, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2280. Publish January 24, 31, 2008, February 7, 14, 2008.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ELSIE RAMOS BAILEY CASE NO. VP08367299
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ELSIE RAMOS BAILEY.
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by DEBRA A. PLATO, JOHN MICHAEL BAILEY AND CAROLE ANNE BAILEY in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that DEBRA A. PLATO, JOHN MICHAEL BAILEY AND CAROLE ANNE BAILEY be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on 02/25/08 at 1:30 PM in Dept. 707 located at 5672 STONERIDGE DR., PLEASANTON, CA 94588
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person

Open Houses

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$819,000	4BD/3BA	SAT 1-4PM	22759 Rancho Palomares Pl
\$839,000	4BD/2.5BA	SAT 1-4PM	25339 Gold Hills Dr
\$839,000	4BD/2.5BA	SAT 1-4PM	510-886-0400
\$695,000	3BD/2.5BA	SAT/SUN 12-3PM	31 Mountain Valley Pl
\$1,199,888	4+1BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	842 Matadera Circle
\$523,000	6BD/4BA	SAT 1-4PM	6383 Crystal Springs Cir
\$568,850	3BD/3BA	SAT 1-4PM	3285 Monaghan St
\$649,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1:30-3:30PM 1	1474 Silvergate Dr
\$699,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 12-3PM	6023 Hillbrook Pl
\$770,000	4BD/3.5BA	SAT 1-4PM	4315 Westport Wy
\$885,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	11444 Bloomington Wy
\$1,028,000	4BD/4.5BA	SAT 1-4PM	10762 Inspiration Cir
\$838,888	3BD/2.5BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	5448 Alamo Terrace
\$374,000	2BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	3120 Arcadia Cmn Unit 404
\$399,000	2BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4:30PM	79 Meritage Cmn #103
\$429,950	2BD/1BA	SUN 1-4PM	605 N. "M" St
\$455,000	2BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4:30PM	54 Meritage Cmn #102
\$514,999	3BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	5525 Haggis Oaks Ave
\$529,950	3BD/2BA	SAT 1-4:30PM	372 Lincoln Ave
\$540,000	4BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	1828 Cassiopia
\$549,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	6608 Tiffany Cmn
\$599,900	3BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	562 Caliente
\$599,950	3BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	818 Waverly Cmn
\$609,000	4BD/2.5BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	862 Alexander St
\$749,000	3BD/2BA	SAT 1:30-4PM	2624 Decker Ln
\$749,000	4BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	1119 Madison Ave.
\$749,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 11-3PM	1836 Heidelberg Dr
\$789,000	4BD/3BA	SAT 12:30-3:30PM	1579 Frankfurt Way
\$799,900	4BD/2.5BA	SAT 1-4PM	4293 Bellmar Dr
\$939,000	5BD/3BA	SAT 1-4PM	1642 Feldspar Ct
\$939,000	4BD/2.5BA	SAT 12-3PM	540 Alden Ln
\$1,138,000	4BD/2.5BA	SAT 2-5PM 2752	Chablis Wy
\$474,000	3BD/1BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	14261 Ivy Ct

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SHORT NOTES

'Cash for College'

Las Positas College's Financial Aid Office has scheduled seven free "Cash for College" informational workshops in the Tri-Valley region. These workshops will help college-bound high school seniors and their parents learn about the kinds of available financial aid and how to apply for it.

All high school seniors attending the workshops will qualify for a \$1,000 Cash for College scholarship if they file a FAFSA and a Cal Grant GPA Verification before March 2nd.

Financial aid can help students pay for college and may be available for either full or part-time students. In addition to grants and scholarships, aid may include fee waivers, work-study positions, and student loans. These funds can help with such student expenses as transportation and personal expenses as well as tuition and fees, room and board, and books and supplies.

The process of applying for financial aid doesn't have to be frightening. Las Positas staff will help participants learn about the various kinds of financial aid, what the qualifications are and how they can apply for it. Participants will also learn about common misconceptions, about resources to help locate scholarships, and important hints to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application.

An important goal of these sessions is to insure that applicants don't miss the critical March 2nd Cal Grant entitlement deadline.

The Cash for College workshop schedule is as follows:

Thursday, January 31, 7 p.m., Granada High School, 400 Wall St., Livermore

Tuesday, February 5, 6:30 p.m., Dublin High School, 8151 Village Parkway, Dublin

Thursday, February 7, 7 p.m., Village High School, 4645 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton

Sunday, February 10, 12 p.m., Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. This session will be held in Room 2420, in the new Multi-disciplinary Building. A concurrent drop-in FAFSA lab will be held this same day from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m., in the Computer Lab, Room 2412, to assist applicants with the FAFSA application. Personal assistance will be provided in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Mandarin. Participants are asked to bring a pen, their 2007 W-2 forms (or federal tax return) and all other pertinent income and asset information.

Tuesday, February 12, 7 p.m., Merrill F. West High School, 1775 W. Lowell Ave., Tracy

For additional information about these Cash for College sessions, or other financial aid information, please visit www.laspositascollege.edu/financialaid or e-mail lpfnai@laspositascollege.edu or call (925) 424-1580.

Nature Program

"Salamander Shuffle" is the topic of a nature program to be offered by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff on Sun., Feb. 3. Meet Ranger Patti Cole at 3 p.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park.

Winter is the "hot" time for California tiger salamanders. Learn about this beautiful, happy-faced critter during this program. There will be information about the species' natural history, habitat needs, and so on. This program includes a hike that will go off-trail, so be prepared for wet, muddy conditions. Canceled if raining. Space is limited so reserve your spot today by calling (925) 960-2400.

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

Ala Costa Centers Benefit

The Crow Canyon Country Club at 711 Silver Lake Dr. in Danville will take a turn towards Bourbon St. on Feb. 9. That's when the Ala Costa Centers for students with developmental disabilities in the Alameda and Contra Costa counties hosts its annual Mardi Gras dinner and dancing. Festivities are from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Tax deductible tickets are \$95. They are available by calling 510-856-6771 or email Sheila@alacostacenter.org.

Ala Costa Center personnel work with children in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties outside of school hours to help them succeed academically. Retiring Lead anchor Dennis Richmond of the award-winning KTVU 10 O'clock News and his wife Deborah will be designated King and Queen of the Mardi Gras. Ala Costa and the Richmonds will help honor Joe and Donna Rodriguez, owners of Valley Catering in Dublin, as Humanitarians of the Year.

Margie Bennett of Hayward will be recognized as the 2008 Educator of the Year for her work with the 13-18 year olds in Ala Costa's enhanced learning program.

Ala Costa will hold a silent auction before dinner and a live auction during dessert. Donated items include a Hawaiian vacation, Southwest Airlines air travel, Oakland A's tickets, an evening at the San Francisco Opera and autographed sports memorabilia. The official auctioneer of the Playboy Mansion, Damon Casatico of Charity Benefit Auctions, will help maximize bidding. To view these and other items and bid online, please visit www.alacostacenter.comarket.com.

Dancing in the Voodoo Lounge will complete the evening.

Raising Kids

The Pleasanton PTA Council will host a free workshop for parents on Mon., Feb. 4 from 7 to 8 p.m. Topic will be "How to Raise Kids in 24/7 Digital World." The workshop will be held in the Bernal Room at the Pleasanton Unified School District office, 4665 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

Parents will learn about the influence of media on how kids think, feel, act, socialize and make decisions. Parents will be provided with practical tips on what to do about it.

The workshop is presented by Common Sense Media, a nonprofit dedicated to helping families find the media that is right for them. For more information and to RSVP email information@pleasantonpta.org.

Name the Fudge

Candy Bouquet is re-opening in downtown Livermore.

The store is now making its own cream and butter fudge. They are looking for a name for the fudge. People are invited to stop by the store and enter to win free fudge for a year.

The store is located at 1744 First St.

View Planetarium

Take a trip to the stars courtesy of

the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District and TOPScience, an organization of retired scientists and engineers who volunteer in Livermore schools to support science education.

The Planetarium of the Stars is a mobile planetarium composed of an air-inflatable dome and a computer-controlled projector to display the night sky. The planetarium will be available for viewing on Saturday, February 9, from noon to 4:30pm, and on Sunday, February 10, from 1 pm to 5:30 pm at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. There is no charge for this event.

This program is part of Livermore Reads Together: The Dune Books, a community-wide reading program, featuring Frank Herbert's classic science fiction series *Dune* as well as related series titles by Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson.

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

Wine and Chocolate

Tesla Vintners will host a Valentine Celebration featuring a chocolate and wine pairing on Feb. 9 and 10 from noon to 5 p.m. both days.

Tesla Vintners will also be welcoming a new winery, Marr Cellars. Marr offers some favorites like Zinfandel and Petite Sirah. Bob Marr founded Marr Cellars in 1997. In his first year, Bob produced a Sonoma Old Vine Zinfandel and a Rhone blend. He named this wine Cuvee Patrick after his son. Then in 2004, Bob produced Cuvee Selena, naming that wine for his daughter. Bob works in Sacramento and has a small winery in Woodland, just north of Davis, where he resides. Today, Marr Cellars averages from 800 to 1,000 cases of wine per year.

There is no charge for this event. Tesla Vintners is located at 5143 Tesla Rd., Livermore.

Book Events

Towne Center Books is hosting the following events:

- Lunch with Carol Gilligan on Thurs., Feb. 7. Gilligan, named one of Time magazine's twenty-five most influential Americans. She held Harvard's first chair in gender studies and is known for her pioneering work in psychology. The author of the bestseller "In a Different Voice," Carol now teaches at NYU. 11:30 social; 12:00 lunch; \$30.00 book and lunch; \$15.00 lunch only.
- Feb. 13, 7:30, book party for Margaret Grace (aka Camille Minichino) to celebrate the launch of her new mystery series the Dollhouse Mysteries.
- Feb. 20 at 2:00, Barbara Egbert, author of Zero Days, will talk about her adventures hiking the Pacific Coast Trail with her family.

Towne Center is located at 555 Main St., Pleasanton.

Family Storytimes

Livermore Reads Together invites adults and teens to read books from the Dune series, chapter book readers in grades 3-6 to read the City of Ember, and families to join us for Far-Out Stories in February.

Earth people who find themselves in space? Space people who find themselves on earth? Storyteller John Weaver is planning a far-out storytime for Far-Out People at the Springtown Branch Library on Saturday, February 12, at 11:00 AM. The Springtown Branch Library is located at 998 Bluebell Drive next to the duck pond in Springtown.

Robots, spaceships, vacuum cleaners that run themselves? John continues his space theme with FAR-OUT MACHINES at the Civic Center Library on Monday, February 11 at 7:00 PM. The Civic Center Library is located at 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

Far-Out Creatures at the Rincon Branch Library on Saturday, February 16 at 11:00 AM wraps up a month of space silliness. There will be enough silliness - enough for the entire family - stretching to Pluto and back. The Rincon Branch Library is located at 725 Rincon Avenue in May Nissen Park and Swim Center.

All ages are welcome to these free library programs. Contact Youth Services at (925) 373-5504 for more information or pick up a Winter Storytime schedule at any one of the Livermore Public Libraries.

Ask the Doctor

Heart disease is the number one killer of men and women in the United States. Television viewers in the Tri-Valley will have the opportunity to ask doctors how to improve their heart health on TV30's Ask the Doctor show to be broadcast live on Wednesday, February 6, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on TV30, Channel 30.

John Vu, M.D., cardiologist, and Calvin Lemon, M.D., internal medicine specialist will be guests on the show. They will discuss the signs and risks of heart disease, high cholesterol, new treatments and medications, and more. Robert Litman M.D., family medicine specialist, will serve as the medical commentator.

Viewers can phone in their questions for the doctors by calling (925) 462-3030.

The show will rerun February 13, February 20, and February 27 at the same time. Ask the Doctor is sponsored by San Ramon Regional Medical Cen-

ter. The show will be available through a live Web cast or past shows on www.tv30.org.

Fatboy Release Party

Mitchell Katz Winery will host the Fatboy Release Party on Sat., Feb. 2 from noon to 5 p.m. It will be a celebration of 10 years: Jackson Cellars 1998-2002 and MK Winery 2002-2008.

The \$15 per person entry fee includes Off the Hook Lobster Bisque, a keepsake logo glass and various varietal tasting. No reservations are required.

The winery is located at Ruby Hill, 1188 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. Information is available at 931-0744 or www.mitchellkatzwinery.com.

Whale Bus

The Marine Mammal Center of Marin comes to the Pleasanton Public Library on Saturday, February 9. Presenting "Marine Mammals of California," the Center's educators invite participants to an interactive, hands-on introduction to the whales, seals, otters, and other marine mammals that populate the coast and to the bigger picture of caring for the ocean environment.

Registration is required for these two 1-hour programs, which are specifically tailored for different ages. The

program for grades K - 3 will be at 11 a.m., and the 4th - 8th grade program will be at 1 p.m. As these are designed as interactive learning sessions, attendance is limited to 40 children each. However parents or others are welcome to observe quietly from the back of the room.

Please be on time, as doors will be closed to late arrivals once the program begins. For more information, please call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 ext. 8.

Sousa New Manager

Axis Community Health has promoted Amie Sousa to manager of its Teen Drug & Alcohol Recovery Program. She replaces Debra Eberhart, who resigned to take a new position in San Francisco.

In her new position, Sousa will oversee all aspects of the Teen Drug & Alcohol Program. The program includes an outpatient treatment program, extensive community and school outreach through small group meetings, and school-wide activities such as the Choices program and Red Ribbon Week. She will represent Axis in collaborative efforts with other youth services organizations such as SARB (School Attendance Review Board), CVCAN (Castro Valley Community Action Network), Youth To Youth, and Horizons Family Services.



St. Paul's Hospital

Many people in Livermore remember that they were born here in St. Paul's Hospital. Paul E. Dolan came to Livermore in 1916 after his graduation from the Oakland College of Surgeons. He soon became acquainted with Veronica Concannon, daughter of the couple who established the Concannon Vineyard in Livermore. The chaplain at the Camp Kearny base hospital married them at St. Joseph's Church in San Diego on 22 June 1918 while Paul Dolan was serving in the U.S. Army Hospital Corps. After the war in August 1919, Dolan joined the practice of Dr. James Kyle Warner in his offices at Second and J Streets. When Dr. Warner retired in the early 1920s, Dr. Dolan continued with their practice.

At this time there were many little "hospitals" scattered around Livermore. From 1923 until 1935, Dr. William E. Judson operated a hospital in the old Pitcher residence at Fifth and South L. Anyone could set aside several rooms for patient care in a private home and call it a hospital. Evelyn Mulqueeney Griffith remembered that Mrs. Aylward's house at South K and Eighth Street was used as such a hospital. Every now and then, surgeons would come to town and use her home for operations. Despite the opportunity for such local health care, Evelyn and her mother and brother traveled to San Francisco to have their tonsils out, all on the same visit. Dr. Grace Devnich remembered 13 or 14 little places such as Mrs. Aylward's still in business when she came here in 1948.

Dr. Dolan decided to upgrade the town's ability to handle emergency medicine and maintain sterile operating facilities. He had St. Paul's Hospital built in 1927 at Eighth and J. The original building measured 46 by 96 feet and was made of cream-colored stucco with a red tile roof at a cost of \$20,000. Nearly 1,000 people attended the opening ceremonies on June 5, including the Livermore Band. Dr. Dolan performed the first operation the following week, a tonsillectomy on four-year-old Mary Gray. Additions were made twice, the last one a modern nursery in 1940. By then the private surgical hospital had 24 beds. When Betty Hock returned to Livermore after World War II, she had served in large city hospitals and U.S. Army hospitals during her nursing training. At first she was shocked at tiny St. Paul's. She soon learned, however, as she worked there as a private duty nurse, to admire the excellent care available. After all, this was the only major facility between Stockton and Oakland for accidents and emergencies. Betty recalled that Mary Twohey was the cook and prepared delicious meals with the help of local high school girls.

A Roman Catholic, Dr. Dolan was opposed to the use of any artificial form of birth control. When local women wanted a diaphragm fitted, for example, they had to change doctors. St. Paul's served all the physicians in the city, so although she was the patient of another doctor, Virginia Bing went to St. Paul's in 1954 to have her baby. The place was so crowded that she had to go through labor in a screened-off area in the men's ward. Everyone was amazed, including the doctor, when she had not one boy but twins. She had some difficulty after the birth and had to stay at the hospital longer than usual. Hospital rules did not allow children to visit the wards, so her husband, George, brought their other two little boys and held them on his shoulders near the window to see Virginia. She remembered the younger boy calling, "Come home, Mommy, come home!" Dr. Grace delivered many babies at St. Paul's; one of them was her favorite preemie that the nurses nicknamed "Tiny Tim." "One night," Dr. Grace said, "I just felt I had to go to the hospital. I walked in the small door at the rear, and a nurse came over to me and said, 'Tiny Tim died.' I went immediately to the nursery and picked him up. He took a breath! Those nurses couldn't believe it. When he was a year old, his mother sent me a photo of a fat little baby."

A sketch of Dr. Dolan's life in St. Michael's centennial publication reads in part: "He was very community spirited, a member of a number of service organizations, and a trustee of Livermore High School for many years. In 1950, he received the Eagles' Outstanding Service Award. ... He could get gruff, but he had a heart of gold." Dr. Dolan retired in 1951 and died in August 1958. Six of his former nurses attended his funeral in their uniforms, and the city flag flew at half mast. Dolan Park, at the corner of Ladd and Junction Avenues, was named in his memory in 1959.

Valley Memorial Hospital opened in 1962. When St. Paul's Hospital closed in the fall of 1965, Valley Memorial Hospital bought the facility to insure an adequate number of beds in the valley. After an addition to Valley Memorial in 1968, St. Paul's was closed and sold. The building, still at 813 South J Street, survived a threatened demolition in 1992 and is now Quail Garden, the fourth residential care home to use the facility after it closed as a hospital.

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

Sousa graduated from the University of Phoenix with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services (BSHS). She initially came to Axis through an 80-hour internship program while working toward her degree. While working with clients and families in the Behavioral Health Division, she led teen groups in developing life skills, conducted face-to-face in-

terviews, drug testing and crisis intervention and assisted with the Proposition 36 court-mandated program. In 2006, Ms. Sousa was hired as a counselor in Axis' Teen Drug & Alcohol Recovery Program, which, last year, served 159 teens in treatment and 6,000 additional teens in primary prevention activities at assemblies, school visits and the Parent Project.



Amador Valley High School will host the 2008 Winterguard Show on Feb. 2. This year's color guard is performing to the music "Oh What A World" by Rufus Wainwright. The color guard is instructed by Jason Davis, Jeremy Cazes and Lisa Lesley. Guard captains are senior, Kate Dowdy and junior, Rachel Silva with 17 members in total. The public is invited to attend. Events start at 9 a.m.



Granada High Competition Cheerleaders are Grand National Champions. They took part in a 2-day Athletic Championship competition held at the Expo Center in San Mateo this past weekend. The Granada squad earned the title of Grand National Champions by scoring the highest in the school division. They are headed off to Disneyland on February 1st where they will compete for another National Title on Saturday, Feb. 2.

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Kindergarten Open House

Thursday, February 7th at 6:30
School of Imagination, Room 104
6444 Sierra Court in Dublin

Parents will be given information on Kindergarten readiness and learn about the School of Imagination's Kindergarten.

Parents will also get to meet our Kindergarten teacher, **Debbie Von Bergen**, as well as hear from parents whose children are currently enrolled in our Kindergarten program.

For more information about OPEN HOUSE please contact us at (925) 829-9552 or info@schoolofimagination.org

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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. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included.

Spring Fashion Show, staged by Amador Valley High School Fashion Club on Sat., Feb. 23 starting at 4 p.m. in the school library, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets in advance are \$8 general admission (\$12 at the door), or \$15 front row seats. All proceeds benefit Tide, Loads of Hope, which cleans clothes for Hurricane Katrina and Southern California fire victims. Call (925) 931-0628 to order tickets.

Livermore Rodeo Queen Contest, Sun., March 16 at the covered arena at Robertson Park/Livermore Rodeo Grounds. Competitor sign up by March 1; orientation March 6. Sign up by calling Cindy Goltz at 373-7358, the LSRA office at 447-3008, send an email to livemorerodeo@earthlink.net, or mail interest by March 1 to LSRA, c/o Queen Contest, PO Box 180, Livermore, CA 94551-0180.

Overeaters Anonymous, meets in Livermore 7 to 8 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Book study. Newcomers welcome. Contact Georganne, 361-7224.

Retired Public Employees Association, Tri-Valley Chapter 075, meets 10:45 a.m. Thurs., Feb. 7 at Emil Villa's Hickory Pit, 3054 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Speaker will be Harvey Robinson, director of health benefits for RPEA. Brunch \$5 per person.

For further information, contact Bob at 845-6563 or June at 461-0315.

Baby Boot Camp offers a unique 75-minute workout designed to help new moms get back into shape after having a baby. Certified personal trainer Rechea Falls brings the national franchise to Bruno Canziani Park in Livermore. The class meets 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. For complete details visit <http://babybootcamp.com>.

Special Events Coordinator needed for the Jeremy Brigham Make A Difference Foundation 6th Annual Golf Tournament. The Foundation is looking for someone special to organize this event scheduled to take place on June 30, 2008 at the Ruby Hills Golf Course. For more information, please contact Jeremy Brigham at (510) 415-1677 and visit www.makeadifferencefoundation.com.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Are you prepared to be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours until emergency personnel arrive? CERT Training prepares a person to help the family and neighborhood in the event of an emergency or disaster. Receive hands-on training in disaster, first aid, disaster preparedness, basic fire fighting, light search and rescue, utility control and damage assessment. Instructors are provided by the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department. Class held at Fire Training Tower 3301 Busch Rd., Pleasanton. Fee \$30. February 6-March 12, 6:00pm-9:30pm. Call Livermore Adult Education for more information (925)606-4722 or register online at www.livermoreadulted.org.

Food Donations, Lady Hustle and Diablo Sports Acamegy have joined forces to fight hunger. Alameda County Food Bank is the main clearing house for food in Alameda County. They deliver food to other organizations throughout the county, including organizations in Livermore. Donations to the food bank provide food for 40,000 low-income Alameda County residents each week, which includes 14,000 children and 7,000 seniors. Donations may be left at Double Diamond Sports Academy, 2272 Research Dr., Livermore. There is a food bin located in the lobby for your convenience. The following items are desperately needed: canned fruit & vegetables, canned meats & fish, pasta, beans, rice, canned soup, dry cereal & oatmeal, tomato sauce, and powdered milk.

Computer Training, Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Introduction to the Internet class on Saturday, February 2 from 10:15 am to 12:15 pm. Searching the Internet on Saturday, February 9th from 10:15 am to 12:15 pm. E-Mail Basics on Saturday, February 16th from 10:15 am - 12:15pm. Classes are hands on, first come first served, and take place in Community Meeting Room B. Stop by the Civic Center Library Adult Information Services Desk or call 373-5505 for further information about the classes. There is no charge for the classes.

Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, meets 7:30 p.m. Tues., Feb. 12 at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton. Kay Speaks will talk on the topic, "Ancestry.com: Review and What's New?" Visitors welcome. Marie Ross, 447-1806.

St. Philip Lutheran School will hold an open house on Tuesday, February 5. All are welcome to meet the staff and visit the classrooms. There will be a general assembly from 7:00 - 7:30pm, open classrooms from 7:30 - 8:30 pm and fellowship in the gym from 8:30 - 9:00pm. St. Philip Lutheran School has served the Tri-Valley area since 1984 with a quality academic program and credentialed teachers for children Pre School - 8. Applications accepted from new families for Fall 2008 starting on 2/19 at 8:30am. For more information, call 925-829-3857, e-mail info@stphilipchurch.com or go to www.stphiliplutheranschool.com.

Annual Crab Feed, Tri-Valley Animal Rescue (TVAR), Sat., Feb. 2, from 6-10 p.m. All-you-can-eat crab, salad, pasta, French bread, dessert and coffee/tea. No host bar. Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Avenue, Livermore. Live and silent auctions and a cash drawing (\$1 per ticket - winner need not be present). The Raving Dave's Band will provide live music for dancing or just listening. Dinner tickets are \$50 after that time. Buy on-line tvvar.org or send payment to TVAR, PO 11143, Pleasanton, CA 94588. For more information, please contact Cindy at 925-828-8664 or Susan at 925-337-4946.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Feb. 2, 30 miles Cinderella training ride from Donlon School in Pleasanton to Livermore, meet 9 a.m., Bekki Livingston, Sun., Feb. 3, 25 miles from Dublin to Sumol, meet 10 a.m. at Shannon Center, Elaine Nadeau, 361-7972. Wed., Feb. 6, 30 miles explore Coyote Hills Park and the Alameda Creek Trail, meet 10 a.m. at staging area at the east end of the trail, Linda Longinotti, 510-313-2631. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details where to meet and what to bring.

Crab Feed and Silent Auction, in support of Valley Christian High School athletic program; Fri., Feb. 8, 6:30 p.m. in the school gym. Football starts at the school this fall. Dinner includes crab, spaghetti and

salad. Auction items include a Rolling Stones guitar, a behind the wheel NASCAR experience, tickets to pro sports events and items from Tiger Woods and Wayne Gretzky, among others. Tickets to the event are available on line at vcalthletics.com or call the athletic department at 560-6226. 7500 Inspiration Dr., Dublin.

Jewelry Event, American Cancer Society Discovery Shop, "Our Hearts Desire is to Find a Cure," Feb. 8 and 9, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at the Discovery Shop, 1987-A Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Questions or to donate jewelry, please call Monda Wiseman, manager at the Discovery Shop, 462-7374.

Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind on Saturday, February 2 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Meeting in cafeteria room 2 at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore, 1111 Stanley Blvd.. Do you know anyone who is blind or is experiencing vision loss? The organization can help people to adjust. Any visually impaired or blind person is urged to attend. Call, Carl, 449-9362 for more info.

Rummage Sale, The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District will hold its annual sale, Sat. Feb. 2 from 8 a.m.-noon, at the Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. For more information, contact Moe Kline at (925) 373-5700.

Masons - Mosaic Lodge #218 F.&A.M., meets 7:30 p.m. first Wednesday of each month at the Masonic Center, 119 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. All Master Masons are welcome to attend. Dinner prior to the meeting open to Masons and their families and persons interested in the organization. Information at 447-2727 or JW@MosaicLodge218.org. The next meeting is Feb. 6.

Ohlone Audubon (Alameda Chapter National Audubon Society), meets 7:30 p.m. Feb. 5 in the library at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Ave. Topic will be "Birds of Northern San Joaquin Valley," presented by David (past president of San Joaquin Audubon, Central Valley Bird Club, and Western Field Ornithologists). Information, call 510-507-3383.

Amador Valley Quilt Guild will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 9, at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Avenue, Pleasanton. Fiber artist Linda Schmidt, noted for her innovative use of fabric and textiles in quilting, will be the guest speaker. Linda, who is an internationally acclaimed artist and teacher, will conduct a workshop the following day. The guild is a nonprofit educational association for quilters of all skill levels. Anyone interested in quilting may attend. For further information about the guild or upcoming speakers, please visit our website, <http://amadorvalleyquilters.org>.

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

Watch the Super Bowl on a Big Screen! Indoor "tailgate" party at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd.

Play fun games of skill and trivia. Win prizes, Sunday, February 3, 2-8 pm. Residents \$13/ non-residents \$18. Register by Monday, January 28, 558-4511.

Organizing Your Office: More Time and Profit, presented by Las Positas College, Livermore, Sat., Feb. 9, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$79 class fee plus \$25 book fee. 925-424-1467 <http://www.laspositascollege.edu/community/>.

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

Livermore Area Blood Drive - Friday, February 15, 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore. There is a severe shortage of blood in the Bay Area, and only 3% of the eligible people give blood. Please help save a life by giving blood. The process takes 1-1 1/2 hours, and snacks and refreshments are served after you donate. You must be 17 years old, and have a form of identification with you. To sign up, go to www.GiveLife.org, and use ASBURY as the sponsor code. For more information contact Tom Petty at 980-8164 or e-mail BloodDrive@asburylive.org.

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

Booklegger Volunteers Needed, Bookleggers present book programs to the school children of Pleasanton. Volunteers are needed: if you are interested in bringing

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

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

Share the Gift of Reading & Writing - New tutor training and orientation: Feb. 2, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Pleasanton Public Library needs adult volunteers to provide free tutoring to adults who want to improve reading, writing, and English speaking skills. Tutors have flexible hours, volunteer once a week and we prepare and supply all materials. Tutor qualifications are: at least 18 years old; average reading and writing skills; interest in helping another adult. No teaching experience needed. Please call to register for the Project Read orientation. A light lunch will be provided. Janice Bauman, 931-3411 or emailjbaum@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Maximizing Your Memory How does memory work? How can we tap into the various types of memory? Learn about the difference between normal age-related memory loss and dementia. Discover strategies for improving your memory. Pleasanton Senior Center as the Alzheimer's Association addresses our fears and attitudes about memory loss. 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton on Tuesday, February 12 at 10am. \$1.50 Residents/\$2 Non-residents.

RELIGION
Step One Groups, support and growth groups on a variety of topics offered by CrossWinds Church starting Tues., Feb. 19, 7 to 9 p.m. Groups meet ranging from 8 to 14 weeks. Fee \$40 per person includes all materials; child care for children under 12 is \$5 per child per night, 6444 Sierra Ct., Dublin. Register at www.crosswindschurch.org or contact Denise Croghan, 560-3835.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Our Savior Lutheran School in Livermore held its annual middle school Talent Day Fair. Each student has selected one of the following areas for a project: art, literature, history or science. One of the science entries was a ferris wheel powered by potatoes.

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<p>LIVERMORE \$1,199,000</p> <p>2371 Vintage Lane Open Sun 1-4 Beautiful custom Southside home loaded with amenities. Offering 4bd/2.5ba, 3,041 +/- sf of living space.</p>	<p>DUBLIN \$1,028,000</p> <p>10762 Inspiration Cr Open Sat 1-4 Beautiful West Dublin Hills Home. This home has 4bd/4.5ba, 3,317 +/- sf of living space. Backyard with kol pond.</p>	<p>LIVERMORE \$990,000</p> <p>By Appointment Gorgeous Savoy Model features 5bd/4ba, 3,541 +/- sf of living space on a 9396 +/- sf lot near Livermore Wine Country.</p>	<p>LIVERMORE \$939,000</p> <p>1642 Feldspar Court Open Sat 1-4 Beautiful Sandhurst home offers 5bd/3ba and 2,837 +/- sf of living space. Rarely available court location. Light and bright!</p>	<p>LIVERMORE \$799,900</p> <p>4293 Bellmawr Drive Open Sat 1-4 Pulte home has 4bd/2.5ba, 2,483 +/- sf home on a 9,419 +/- sf lot. Granite in spacious kitchen. Decorator tile in entry.</p>
<p>LIVERMORE \$790,000</p> <p>By Appointment Beautiful Amber Ridge well cared for 4bd/3ba, 2,872 +/- sf home. Popular floor plan. Hardwood floors and new carpet.</p>	<p>LIVERMORE \$639,000</p> <p>By Appointment Shows great! This 2,100 +/- sf home offers 4bd/2.5ba. Sparkling inground pool and built in BBQ. Great court location.</p>	<p>LIVERMORE \$600,000</p> <p>By Appointment Beautiful open plan with 1,772 +/- sf, built in 2002, three large bedrooms and a bedroom-sized loft! No homeowners dues.</p>	<p>LIVERMORE \$469,950</p> <p>784 Alexander St. Open Sat 1-4 Beautiful 3bd/1.5ba home in Sunset West with updated baths, hardwood floors and much more.</p>	<p>LIVERMORE \$405,000</p> <p>By Appointment Beautiful single story end unit. 2bd/2ba, 944 +/- sf. Vaulted ceilings and fireplace in living room.</p>

LIVERMORE | 2300 First Street, #316 | 925.583.1111