

Art, Community, & Education



## Find Out What's Happening

Check out the second section

Section II is filled with information about arts, entertainment and special events. There are education stories, a variety of features, and the arts and entertainment and bulletin board list

## Public Can Comment on Proposals for Shadow Cliffs

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) will conduct a public meeting from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Wed., Feb. 23 at the Veterans' Building, 301 Main Street, Pleasanton, to review proposed changes to the Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area.

The document under consideration is the Land Use Plan Amendment Update (LUPA). The document looks at the overall park. However, a major point of concern has been acreage in the water slide area, which was abandoned by a private concessionaire in 2008, as a result of business difficulties.

The district says the goal is to establish a more natural and park-like landscape. The plan looks at various areas in the park.

Major features of a new-look Shadow Cliffs would include removal of the water slides there now, with construction of a new maintenance yard and staff office taking their place.

There would also be creation of a marsh, which a grassroots group, Friends of Shadow Cliffs (FSC), opposes. It would require staff time to manage it.

(See COMMENT, page 9)

## Hertz Foundation Plans Move to Downtown Livermore

The Hertz Foundation, a major supporter of U.S. science and technology education at the graduate level, expects to move to downtown Livermore in April from its present location on Research Drive near Vasco Road.

Negotiations are not yet final but are far enough along to be disclosed publicly, Foundation president Jay Davis said in an interview before announcing the move to the Livermore City Council Monday night. The new location will be 2300 First Street, the building also occupied by Lawrence Livermore National Security near the Bankhead Theater.

The reason for the move is to strengthen the Foundation's fund-raising efforts and connection with the City, Davis said. The Foundation's endowment, originally provided by the late John Hertz, founder of the car rental company, has dwindled with expenses and the declining economy. A big part of Davis's responsibilities these days is finding more resources.

The Foundation aims to support the top one percent of graduate students in science and technology, offering an exceptionally generous five-year commitment at \$50,000 per year. Historically, it emphasized the physical sciences, but half its fellows today are in the biological sciences.

The Foundation has had a disproportionate influence on the leadership of U.S. science, industry and academia. On a per capita basis, its fellows have earned more Nobel prizes, Lawrence awards and memberships in the National Academy of Science than have recipients of the prestigious National Science Foundation fellowships.

Hertz Foundation fellows have founded companies, taken

(See MOVE, page 3)

# Pleasanton to Reopen Union Negotiations

The City of Pleasanton will reopen contract negotiations with the Pleasanton City Employees Association (PCEA).

PCEA represents all city employees with the exception of police and fire personnel.

Speakers at a recent workshop raised concerns about unfunded pension liabilities, how much employees contribute towards their pensions, and health care costs. Much of the focus was on the approval of a pending contract with Local 995.

Some declared that the city should go back to the bargaining table to gain further concessions

from the union. Union workers said that they had already made wage, retirement and medical concessions.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman commented, "This is about balancing the needs of all of the taxpayers with those of employees. I know this isn't going to be easy."

The council had been scheduled to ratify the contract negotiated last year. The item was continued pending further discussions and negotiations of a new contract. Potential bargaining points include employees paying the full amount of employee

contributions toward pensions, and implementation of a 2-tier system, with new employees being offered a different retirement.

Employees told the council they felt betrayed by the council backing out of a contract that had been fairly negotiated. Many declared that they worked hard to provide services for Pleasanton residents, and now feel that their efforts are unappreciated. Several said they had to commute to work, because they could not afford to live in Pleasanton on the salary they received. One urged the council. "Treat us like

humans, not as dollars signs."

Brenda Wood, business manager for Local 995 PCEA declared, "We are saddened by what has happened. Workers are being made scapegoats for the current economic problems. Attacking public employees and our retirement security is not the answer. The average retirement pay for Pleasanton workers is \$26,660 a year, not a lot to live on. Public workers make less than those in the private sector. We are all angry that Wall Street was bailed out and we were left holding the bag."

Alda Nash said she was ex-

tremely disappointed with the turn of events. Comments have been made attacking workers. She pointed out that benefits are not entitlement, they are pay of a negotiated compensation package. "All we ask for is respect and fairness in the process."

Resident David Miller said by taking action now, it would prevent problems in the future. If the pensions continue to be unfunded they may not be there when needed. He thanked the union for agreeing to reopen negotiations.

Resident Bart Hughes said (See NEGOTIATIONS, page 5)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Workers were busy last week putting the finishing touches in place for this weekend's opening of the West Dublin/Pleasanton BART station.

## West Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station to Open on Saturday

By Ron McNicoll

BART will open its \$106 million West Dublin/Pleasanton station to the public on Feb. 19. Two parking ramps near it have capacity for a total of 1190 vehicles.

The opening will be one day after officials gather at the station for ceremonies to dedicate the station. Reps. Jerry McNerney and John Garamendi, Supervisor Scott Haggerty and BART area representative John McPartland

are expected to be among the dignitaries.

The parking lots are the big feature welcomed by Valley commuters and those to the East who have seen the lots and ramp for the East Dublin/Pleasanton station fill up by 7:30 a.m. on weekdays.

The new station also will attract riders from north of Dublin along Interstate 680. Those drivers skipped the East Dublin/Pleasanton station, because

they didn't want to double back to the east from their westward destination, said transportation planning officials.

The station also will encourage transit-oriented development (TOD), which is vital to helping California meet its goals for reduction of greenhouse gases, said BART spokesman Linton Johnson.

There also are plans for office and hotel development and up

(See BART, page 5)

## Regional Theater Moves Forward

Plans for a 2000-seat regional theater in downtown Livermore continue to move forward.

The city council approved amendments to a disposition and development agreement (DDA) and issuance of bonds. The DDA is a partnership that includes the city, Redevelopment Agency and Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC). Approval of the issuance of bonds allows LVPAC to apply for a credit rating and to prepare the bonds for sale. The final step before the start of construction, likely sometime in early summer, would be for staff to approve the sale of the bonds. Before that final approval, the city would verify all of the proposed financing sources and uses of funds. The city could opt out of the project at that time. Once the bonds were sold, there would be no turning back.

The vote was 4 to 1 to move

forward with the amendments to the DDA. Doug Horner was opposed.

Horner wanted to add a provision that would have held up the sale of the bonds until the state budget is passed and the fate of redevelopment districts in the state had been determined.

Councilmember Jeff Williams and lawyers pointed to language already in the DDA that provides the city with the protection it needs. Understanding this, the majority voted for the staff recommendation. The recommendation was to amend and restate the DDA originally approved in 2009.

If the theater moves forward, tax increment funds from redevelopment would finance the public share of the regional theater.

As part of his budget, Governor Jerry Brown has proposed to

(See REGIONAL, page 4)

## Test Correction Puts School in Noncompliance

Pleasanton Middle School has been put into program improvement mode by the Pleasanton Unified School District.

Although the school has a very high API score of 903 overall, performance in math for one testing subgroup, Hispanic

students, failed to meet proficiency standards set out by the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

The same subgroup missed the required level in the previous year. Last year it appeared they

(See SCHOOL, page 5)

## Better Cancer Therapy: Livermore Company Scores Technical Advance

By Jeff Garberson

A small Livermore company announced that it achieved a significant technical success in an effort to make a more effective kind of radiation therapy more widely available.

The company, Compact Particle Acceleration Corp., or CPAC, reported that it had generated a proton beam using a cluster of innovative technologies that should make it possible to produce a

medically useful instrument in the next two years at a relatively affordable size and cost.

For certain kinds of tumor, protons deliver their cell-killing dose in a much tighter target area than do the X-rays used in conventional therapy, greatly reducing unwanted damage to healthy tissue. A physics phenomenon called the Bragg effect means that they deposit very little

(See CANCER, page 5)

## Charter Schools on Track to Move into New Facility This Summer

By Patricia Koning

The ambitious plans to move the Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS) and Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory High School (LVCP) to a new campus before the start of the 2011/12 school year are on track.

"We are very close to making this a reality," said Bill Batchelor at a recent town hall meeting for parents of both schools. Batchelor is executive director of the Tri Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC), which oversees both schools.

The City of Livermore's Plan-

ning Commission approved the project at its Feb. 1 meeting. "TVLC completed all of the required studies, including traffic, noise, environmental review, and the scenic corridor. They also met with the Livermore Police Department to review plans for the drop off and pick up areas to reduce the traffic impact and to develop measures to ensure the safety of the elementary school aged children," said city planner Frank Guido.

All that remains is for TVLC to secure financing. TVLC will

(See CHARTER, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Arroyo Seco students looked over the work of fellow students. Pictured are (from left) Sophia Jones, Renee Stoyer, Nick Tivey, Jessica Bonfiglio, and Melia Miller.

## Arroyo Seco Fifth Graders Learn about Healthy Bodies, One Body Part at a Time

By Patricia Koning

In addition to the books that fill the library at Arroyo Seco Elementary School, there are now body parts—everything from the pancreas to the esophagus, including veins, brains, and in-

testines, both large and small. It's not a dissection experiment gone horribly wrong, but an innovative science project.

Fifth grade teacher Connie Ormond came up with idea after visiting the BODY WORLDS Vi-

tal exhibit at The Tech Museum in San Jose. "The exhibit showed what happens when we take care of our bodies and also what happens when we do not—that's the part that really stood out for me," she explained.

(See HEALTH, page 6)

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### PET OF THE WEEK

Meow! Meet Cupid- a ten year old fully declawed Lylac point Siamese looking for a home. Talking and cuddling are his two favorite hobbies. He can surely add some love into your life, and would make a great companion for your plans this Valentine's Day. Keep in mind though, because he is fully declawed, he must stay indoors at all times. To learn more and fall in love with our adoptable animals, call 925-426-8656 or visit the website www.valleyhumane.org. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street, Pleasanton. Hours are Tues.- Sat. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.





**Sparky, a 4-year old Lab-Pitbull Mix, was dognapped from a shopping center in Livermore last Saturday. His owner, John, went into one of the businesses in the center at the corner of North Livermore Ave. and Portola, for a few minutes. When he came out the dog was gone. The dog was not wearing a leash or a collar at the time. According to witnesses at the scene, four people used food to lure the dog around the corner, put him in their car and took off. Sparky is black, weighs 62 pounds, has a stocky build, white paws, white patch on his chest and a white stripe down his snout. There is a reward for information that leads to the dog's recovery. Call 1-408-910-1397, or Home Again at 1-888-466-3242. Sparky's microchip number is 483B7F7925.**

# Economy Showing Signs of Recovery in Pleasanton

The economic situation is improving. At the same time Pleasanton has moved ahead with plans that bode well for the future of the city.

That was the message delivered by Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman during her annual state of the city talk. The presentation was hosted by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce.

"Economic gain is visible. The second and third quarters have been good for commercial development," she continued. New businesses are moving here. Among them are Xradia, Inc., X-Ray Imaging, Callidus Software, Workday and the Patelco headquarters. Safeway has purchased and renovated another building to expand its footprint. Clorox will bring jobs and create a new innovation center in the five buildings it will occupy.

Roche Molecular Systems' center of research, development, and production is expanding. Upgrades are planned at Stoneridge Mall. CarrAmerica has plans to expand, including three new office buildings, a 130 room hotel, retail and potentially residential development.

Hosterman noted that all of the environmental work has been completed for the Staples Ranch property. The property has been annexed to the city. "We will begin to review the development proposals for the site and to work with Livermore on improvements to El Charro."

Other accomplishments over

the past year include remodeling of the city's permit center, completing the youth master plan update, and installing solar panels at the operations center. The solar power is expected to save the city \$3.6 million over the next twenty years, said Hosterman.

"There has been a residential boomlet," Hosterman declared. Over the past year, 557 homes were sold, a 20 percent increase over 2008. "We still have a ways to go in that area."

The city is moving ahead with planning transit oriented development in Hacienda Business Park.

In the retail sector, the city council approved extended hours for music at downtown restaurants, bringing in more people to dine. A new shop local campaign was launched. The campaign is important, because for every dollar spent in Pleasanton, money comes back to the city that pays for services for residents, she stated.

"The highlight of last year was the opening of the Firehouse Arts Center. It has been winning awards for its elegant and intimate setting," Hosterman continued.

Transportation is improving. Hosterman noted that a second BART station will begin operating soon (Feb. 19). New eastbound HOV lanes have opened on I-580; groundbreaking is planned on westbound HOV lanes. A policy statement was concluded with Livermore, Dublin and Alameda County agreeing

on priority projects for transportation funding. "It is our hope that Highway 84 improvements will move up on the list."

A goal in planning is to promote fiscal stability by supporting and promoting the local economy, according to Hosterman. "Pleasanton is a good place for businesses to relocate. It is at the hub of 580/680 with easy access to Silicon Valley and the rest of the Bay Area. The city has a high achieving school district. Through the dedicated and high quality work of city staff, Pleasanton has become a premier destination for families and businesses.

"People feel safe. The parks are green and well manicured. Pleasanton's success is not an accident, serendipity or a stroke of good luck. It is the direct result of many hardworking staff members and a caring community of residents and businesses," Hosterman stated.

Hosterman also related some "somber news," noting that the U.S. economy is slowly emerging. Projected growth remains slow. Locally, we are impacted by the state and federal governments. One piece of good news, is that property tax revenue will be up 2 percent. However, the sales tax will be flat.

"2010 was about doing the same with less in Pleasanton. Much of the financial collapse is the result of a lack of planning. That won't happen here in Pleasanton. Our goal is to sustain what we have - a safe, clean city and robust economy." Hosterman said that the city is holding steady financially. "The sky is not falling in Pleasanton. The city has \$881 million in assets."

For the short term, there will be no new hires in the city. There are plans to engage in labor concessions and long range fiscal planning. All city departments are being asked to look at expenditures and eliminate all non-essential spending, reduce overtime, delay non-essential projects, and examine programs and services very carefully. For the third year, there will be no salary increases for management. Staff is in its second year of no pay raises.

Hosterman praised the city

council for helping to make Pleasanton what it is today. "Each councilmember brings a different perspective. I believe we make decisions that are in the best interest of the entire community."

Hosterman used a story told to her that she said provides an interesting picture of the local economy. According to what she was told, in one of the sports leagues, every year there are a few families in need of scholarships. Typically it is 8 to 10. Last year, there were 28 requests. This year, the number is back down to eight.

## Budget Requests Up for Lab

The budget requests for FY2011 and FY2012 for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory show an increase.

In 2011, the budget, if approved, would go from \$1.08 billion to \$1.134 billion. There would be a decrease in spending for nuclear nonproliferation and an increase in spending for weapons activities. In 2012, the budget is proposed at \$1.176 billion. There is increased spending for both weapons activities and nonproliferation.

In a video message to the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) workforce, NNSA Administrator Thomas D'Agostino hailed President Obama's Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Request for NNSA as a critical investment in building the nuclear security enterprise required to enhance the security of our country and our allies.

The budget request, which was delivered to Congress on Monday, provides \$11.78 billion to invest in a modern, 21st century national security enterprise, implement the President's nuclear security agenda, and improve the way the NNSA conducts business and man-

ages its resources. It represents an increase of 5.1 percent from the \$11.2 billion requested for FY 2011.

The President's request includes \$7.6 billion for the Weapons Activities appropriation, an 8.9 percent (\$621 million) increase over the President's FY 2011 request. These resources will support, among other things, the operation and construction of the modern research facilities needed to undertake cutting edge science and attract the next generation of nuclear security experts. It is the first step in implementing President Obama's commitment to invest \$85 billion over the next decade to sustain the nuclear deterrent and to modernize the infrastructure that supports it.

There is an increase of 3.1 percent over the FY 2011 level to protect and advance the scientific capabilities at the U.S. national security laboratories and a 21 percent increase for infrastructure improvements.

The FY 2012 budget request also provides the resources required to implement the President's commitment to secure vulnerable nuclear material around the world within four years. It

requests \$2.5 billion in FY 2012 and \$14.2 billion over the next five years to reduce the global nuclear threat by detecting, securing, safeguarding, disposing and controlling nuclear and radiological material, as well as promoting the responsible application of nuclear technology and science.

To download a copy of the FY 2012 Budget Request and watch Administrator D'Agostino's message to the NNSA workforce, visit NNSA's budget page at <http://www.nnsa.energy.gov/aboutus/budget>.

The Alliance for Nuclear Accountability (ANA), a national network representing communities downwind and downstream from U.S. nuclear facilities, and Tri-Valley CAREs, a part of the network since 1989, question whether increased funding for nuclear energy and weapons will divert resources from legally required environmental cleanup and clean, sustainable energy programs.

A Tri-Valley CAREs press release notes that despite pledging to reduce the U.S. nuclear stockpile in the recently ratified New START treaty, the Department of Energy (DOE) will likely ask Congress for significantly more funds for nuclear weapons activities, including expanding U.S. warhead production capacity, while nonproliferation programs are allowed to stagnate.

## Adding Iron Horse Trail Link Finds Support

East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) bid to link 28 miles of the northerly portion of the Iron Horse Trail to an existing segment in Pleasanton found support and cooperation at a meeting of the city council, planning commission, and the city's committee trails and bike paths last week in Pleasanton.

The new link would run from the East Dublin/Pleasanton BART station for 1.6 miles, and connect to the remainder of the trail at Santa Rita Road.

The trail begins in Concord, and ends at Valley Avenue and Stanley Boulevard, where trail users then can move to the trail along Stanley.

Cyclists and hikers took to the microphone to praise the connection. Homeowners in the Valencia subdivision expressed some concern, because it will come through their neighborhood. However, they said they are willing to continue working with EBRPD and city staff to make sure the trail would be compatible with their neighbor-

hood.

One specific concern is a mini-park adjacent to the trail right of way. EBRPD has agreed to move the park to a nearby location, at its own expense.

Jim Townsend, trail development program manager for EBRPD, said that a federal grant was enough not only to construct the trail link, but also move the mini-park.

The park currently contains basketball courts, tennis courts and a tot lot. The park is currently maintained by the homeowners association. However, the city is offering to take over maintenance of the tennis courts and basketball court, but not the tot lot.

It's not clear whether the homeowners association wants to continue the tot lot, since the population in the subdivision is aging.

The city maintains the Iron Horse Trail segment that goes from Stanley Boulevard along Valley Avenue and north from Busch Road to Santa Rita Road. EBRPD will maintain the new 1.6 mile segment.



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## Wind Power Discussed; Climate Change Next

This possibility of a reliable and abundant source of renewable energy for the future was the topic of, "It's Gust About Time: Harnessing the Wind for Our Future Energy Needs."

The talk was presented by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory scientists Jeff Mirocha and Sonia Wharton, and teacher Christine Tyler. The lecture was the second in the 2011 Science on Saturday lecture series.

The presenters discussed why the wind blows, where it blows best and how energy can be generated from the wind. A total of more than 1,000 students, teachers and community members attended the two sessions in the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

Congressman Jerry McNerney, a former wind energy engineer and Sandia employee, welcomed the audience by opening with a quick summary of how far wind technology has come since he started working on windmills in the 1980s. McNerney joked about how the windmills "often

fell apart" soon after they were turned on. But engineers and scientists "stuck with it," he said, and now wind energy is booming.

"That's what so exciting about science," McNerney said. "There's always something new to discover. Science is where it is at."

McNerney challenged aspiring scientists and engineers to "stick with it," because they are the future of technology.

Science on Saturday (SOS) is a series of free science lectures for middle and high school students. Each topic highlights cutting-edge science occurring at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). The talks are presented by leading LLNL science researchers supported by master high school science teachers.

The next lecture in the series is Feb. 19: "Withstanding Climate Change: You Can Change the World," presented by Dean Williams, LLNL scientist; and teachers, Roger Johnson and Tif-

fany Burkel.

There are two sessions, 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore.

Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis; there is no pre-registration. Directions, maps and a complete list of lectures are available at <http://education.llnl.gov/sos/>. Science on Saturday is presented by LLNL's Science Education Program.

## MOVE

(continued from page one)

leadership positions in the military, and won major scientific awards. For example, Davis proudly noted that Maj. Gen. Neil McCasland, a 1988 Hertz fellow, has been named director of the Air Force Research Laboratory in Ohio, replacing Maj. Gen. Ellen Pawlikowski, a 1982 Hertz fellow, who has been made director of the Space and Missile Command in El Segundo and nominated for a third star.

One amusing example of a new Hertz fellow accomplishment is the recent publication of a six-volume, 2,400-page science based cookbook, *Modernist Cuisine: The Art and Science of Cooking*, which sells on Amazon for nearly \$500. The book was co-authored by Hertz fellow Nathan Myhrvold, who was chief technical officer of Microsoft, founder of Microsoft Research and later of Intellectual Ventures

Corp.

The cookbook's website claims that "it achieved astounding new flavors and textures by using tools such as water baths, homogenizers, centrifuges, and ingredients such as hydrocolloids, emulsifiers and enzymes" — an application of scientific skill and cultural imagination that helps show the wide range of interests of Hertz fellows.

## Livermore Gives Green Light To High End Outlet Center

The Livermore City Council approved a revised plan for a high end outlet retail center in Livermore.

The Paragon Outlets (formerly Prime Outlets) new plan includes eight retail buildings and a food court with an overall area of 540,000 square feet. There will be 240 parking spaces. It would be built at the corner of the El Charro/I-580 interchange on 42 acres. Paragon has also purchased additional 17 acres, which will be developed at a future date.

Senior Planner Ben Murray told the council that the project includes a vineyard buffer and scenic corridor protection provisions. The plan includes updated architecture and landscaping.

Under the revised plan, the sales tax reimbursement agreement is amended. To receive a sales tax reimbursement, Paragon must generate more than \$1 mil-

lion in annual sales tax. The total reimbursement is capped at \$16 million and \$1 million annually. A study finds that the project would generate between \$1.8 and \$2 million in annual sales tax revenue. This is expected to generate \$1 million or more of sales tax revenue annually to the city beginning within three years after operations begin.

City Councilmember Marj Leider suggested a name that included a reference to wine country.

Councilmember Doug Horner said he had feared that under the new ownership the old design for the outlet would be used. "My suspicions were unfounded. It's beautiful."

Paragon Outlets plans on bringing 134 stores to the original 42-acre property.

Two members of the public urged the council to make sure that Paragon has agreements with major tenants before proceeding.

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# EDITORIAL

## Trimester Schedule Boosts Learning

The trimester schedule initiated at Granada and Livermore high schools three years ago is making a big difference, according to a recent progress report.

The report is the work of Chris Van Schaack, the Livermore School District's student services director. Van Schack was Granada's principal when the trimester schedule was inaugurated. He promised at that time to do a progress report when the innovative schedule reached its third year.

The plan was presented to the School Board by Van Schaack and Livermore High School principal Darryl Avilla. At the time, the schools were on two different block schedules.

Three years ago students were having trouble fitting electives into their schedules. Student achievement was stagnant. Change has come since then, thanks to the flexibility permitted under the new system. The report shows major gains in all areas — standardized test scores in English, the arts, math, history and science — as well as the Academic Performance Index (API) at both Granada and Livermore High.

The API scores for Hispanic students, English Language Learners and socio-economically disadvantaged students has shot up spectacularly, besting even the overall gains at the two high schools.

"I was beside myself when I saw these improvements," exclaimed Trustee Bill Dunlop.

At a time when much of the news concerning the public schools seems to be about failure, this report is to be celebrated. Good work.

# Pleasanton Will Have Final Vote on School Cuts

The Pleasanton school board will make its list of cuts to balance its budget when it meets Feb. 22.

Meeting Feb. 8 and 15, the board heard from the public about what cost savings should take place in the budget.

After testimony at the Feb. 15 meeting, trustees gave tentative approval to a list of cuts totaling \$3.1 million in order to balance a budget for fiscal year 2011/12. Staff will take those program cuts and translate them into job descriptions, so there can be a list of positions for the board tentatively to eliminate at the meeting Feb. 22.

The district must close a gap of \$7.7 million as projected currently, because of uncertainty about any good news from Sacramento about revenue beyond the basics proposed by Gov. Jerry Brown in January.

All trustees made it clear that they are reluctant to approve the list of cuts, but felt there is no choice right now. Preliminary notices for teacher layoffs must be received by teachers by March

15, with a final notice going out in May.

## CLASS SIZE REDUCTION INCLUDED ON CUTS LIST

The \$3.1 million list of cuts includes the elimination of K-3 class size reduction, which would save \$1.3 million. Currently these classes have a 25:1 ratio. Before the past year, class sizes were 20:1, with the expansion of classes going for savings to meet the current year's budget.

Some \$400,000 would be saved by eliminating the 25:1 class ratio in 9th grade math and English, bringing those classes to 32 students each, and saving \$400,000.

Other proposed cuts include reductions in various programs, including one specialist section per week for grades 1 to 5, reading specialists, Barton reading program, high school and middle school counseling services, Regional Occupation Program, classified support and the work year for management.

Resources available to the district to help balance the budget are one-time money from the

Federal Education Jobs Act at \$2.7 million, and spending from the undesignated reserve at \$1.9 million. Those two categories total \$4.6 million. With the \$3.1 million in program cuts, they would balance out the \$7.7 million deficit projection.

If there were a state tax extension election in June, and it passes, and if the district's \$2 million parcel tax is approved by voters in May, the district would be looking at a better scenario, and not face as many cuts.

Speakers from the audience had suggestions about what the board might do. Carl Palowich said at the Feb. 15 meeting that the district should give up five days of instruction on the school calendar, since the state is offering districts that flexibility to save money.

He asked the board if it wants 180 days of instruction, but with program cuts and layoffs, or a shorter work year for teachers, and retention of all teachers and programs.

Such a change would have to

be approved by teachers. Their union is in negotiations now with the district. There has been no public discussion about such a change.

A suggestion was made about freezing step and column raises for teachers. Staff and trustees pointed out that the scale is created to encourage and reward teachers to advance their education. It also recognizes the skills gained by experience.

Freezing step and column might save money in the short term, but once that agreement no longer applied, teachers would revert to the levels where they would have been without the freeze. That can put a hardship on a district to meet that demand all in one year, said Cazares. The district would have to set aside funds every year to meet the obligation.

At the meeting Feb. 8, teachers union president Trevor Knaggs said that step and column is a "lifeline for teachers who have had no COLA for three years."

## REGIONAL THEATER

(continued from page one)

dissolve redevelopment districts. Brown has said that current obligations would be respected. According to city consultants, it is unclear what would happen to the project if districts were dissolved.

Tom Webber, a financial consultant for the city, said he is not sure that the proposed agreement with LVPAC would protect tax increment funds from being taken by the state. "We just don't know."

City Manager Linda Barton pointed out that if redevelop-

ment districts were dissolved, she feared there would be no ability to move forward to build increment to pay off bonds.

Len Alexander, executive director of LVPAC, said that LVPAC would not sell the bonds without the needed funds. That would put both the city and LVPAC in jeopardy. "If we reach the point where we are ready to go, all parties would take a look at the numbers. If they do not match what is projected for any reason, there are two options. One is to end the project. The

second would be to set another date to re-examine the project." He added that it would take 90 to 120 days to prepare the bonds.

Alexander said that LVPAC had already spent \$7 million on the project. Costs are running at \$75,000 a month. At some point, it will become a burden. He suggested that the moment the city feels secure, it should move forward as expeditiously as possible.

The DDA includes the following: the RDA would lease the land for the regional theater to LVPAC; LVPAC would build, own and operate the regional theater; the total cost of the theater, including financing, is estimated to be \$184 million (nominal dollars) over 30 years; RDA would pay \$123 million (nominal dollars) in tax increment over 30 years through a lease for the facility; the sources of funding for the debt service include tax increment, Altamont and Vasco landfill fees, fund-raising, facility fees, and operations.

LVPAC is primarily responsible for debt service. If there were a shortfall, LVPAC would use its available resources to pay the debt service. If the shortfall were from tax increment, LVPAC would be repaid when increment funds became available. The general fund is included in the lease agreements and would ultimately be responsible for debt to the extent that all other funding sources were unable to meet the debt service. The primary sources of funding must pay back the general fund if an advance were needed.

Amendments to the original DDA include the use of the general fund to guarantee the financing, leases to replace the operating covenant, \$5 million reduction in RDA payments, fixed rate financing to replace variable rate financing, and payment by LVPAC of a \$12.3 million credit enhancement fee to the city.

Marc Roberts, Community Development Director, told the council that the RDA is expected to have \$301 million in tax increment available over the 30 year life of the agency. Use of tax increment would pay off current debt service, finance the L Street parking garage, repay current city loans and agency operations, and finance the regional theater. There would be \$58 million unallocated.

It was estimated that both RDA and LVPAC have one and a half times the amount of funding needed to move forward with the regional theater.

Roberts noted that a variety of stress tests had been applied to the financing proposal to determine the impact the short-term significant reductions in particular funding sources would have on the city's general fund.

The tests looked at three stress factors for LVPAC, including converting the Bankhead debt to fixed rate, a \$3.6 million reduction in fund-raising, and short-term severe operational stress. Roberts stated that none of the stresses individually required use of the general fund. However, if combined, \$1.8 million over three years would be required from the general fund to pay debt service. The general fund would be paid back within three years.

Additional stress tests included a 30 percent reduction in landfill revenues and a 24 percent

reduction in tax increment due to slow recovery and second recession in the late teens. Neither would result in the use of general fund monies.

Roberts continued that when all five stress tests were combined, use of the general fund was required. The maximum amount each year would be \$2.2 million; the total use would be \$11.2 million over nine years. The general fund would be repaid over five years.

Oversight provisions are included in the DDA. LVPAC finances would be monitored annually for the life of financing, including the ending balance against projections. If targets were missed by more than 10 percent three years in a row or by more than 20 percent in one year, a correction plan would be required. If the corrections were not made, increasing oversight would be applied up to the appointment of a financial overseer.

Alexander addressed some of the concerns raised by members of the public. One is that no self-respecting artist would come to Livermore. Alexander said that the Bankhead Theater has proven that that is not true. Over 100 attractions from around the world have appeared there since 2007. Few of the artists knew where or what Livermore was. Each of them has offered to return.

A second concern is that audiences would not come to Livermore. Alexander said that there have been an average of 190 public events each season at the Bankhead, with an average attendance of 70,000 each year. There are 49 weekends completely booked this year. Almost \$3 million in ticket revenue have been returned to local groups. The last 7 of 8 LVPAC shows have sold out. The current receipts are 15 percent ahead of forecast. Audiences for a recent show, Diavolo, included 50 percent first time attendees. Six percent came from distances of 35 to 90 miles. "If you have the right attractions, people will come here," declared Alexander.

The final concern was whether the regional theater would negatively impact the Bankhead. To date, LVPAC has received \$26 million in cash contributions and pledges. The fund-raising for the regional theater is at 52 percent of the goal. In FY2010, LVPAC achieved a net operating surplus. Alexander pointed out that the plan to operate the regional theater has been developed by experienced professionals. It is a flexible plan with a mix of rentals and LVPAC presentations. "The plan strengthens the Bankhead Theater. There are shared overhead costs. More experienced personnel can be hired, and there are greater fund-raising opportunities." In addition, there would be greater visibility for the arts overall. It would provide marketing ties to bigger names. For example, if Yo-Yo Ma were brought in, the two symphonies that use the Bankhead, could guarantee tickets to the performance to their season ticket holders, said Alexander.

Members of the audience weighed in with their observations. Only a few spoke in opposition to the regional theater.

Several requested that Livermore voters be asked to determine if they want a regional theater. There were concerns about what would happen to the general

fund if redevelopment agencies were to be dissolved.

Valerie Raymond said that dissolving redevelopment would allow tax dollars to go to other local agencies. "I do feel it's time for redevelopment money to go to agencies that really need it. Redevelopment has become a honey pot for special interest groups."

Joanne Eteve said that the general fund already supports diverse cultural programs, such as those offered at the library. The council promised no use of the general fund. She urged them to keep that promise. She declared, "This plan supports your political supporters at the expense of our quality of life."

Over sixty speakers said that the regional theater would improve the quality of life in the city and the region. It would also increase diversity, arts and cultural experiences.

LVPAC Board President Phil Wente stated, "This is an iconic project. It will define the city. It will create tremendous economic activity estimated at \$20 million a year. I believe we are in a position to move this project forward."

Supervisor Scott Haggerty said that when the small theater was proposed, a lot of people said it couldn't be built. What it has accomplished for downtown is amazing. The community is vibrant. "Livermore has shown the state what can be accomplished that is positive using redevelopment dollars. I'm sure the council has done everything it can to put safeguards in place to move forward with the regional theater. It will finish the vision."

Speakers from the business sector pointed out that the theater would help them to recruit and retain highly skilled employees. It would boost the economy.

Livermore Chamber of Commerce CEO Dale Kaye said that the chamber supports the regional theater. "I have been told by businesses that it would be a flourishing asset to bring people in and keep them here. Innovation Tri-Valley has studied the regional theater and feels very strongly that it is good for business."

David Rice, CEO of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation, said the foundation would be there to support the regional theater. It is an important economic generator.

Todd Thomas, president of Amerimade Technology Inc., stated that the regional theater impacts the technology community. "We are a little challenged in recruiting high skill staff. We could just pay a lot of money and benefits. We can also provide a well rounded community. The regional theater will help recruit and retain staff."

Nicolas Liang, from Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard located across from the Bankhead Theater, said that half of his business comes from outside of Livermore. "Every time the Bankhead has a show, we are extremely busy."

Those representing education declared it would help fill a void left by the cancellation of art and music programs in the schools. It provides exposure to world class performances at an affordable rate. Among those speaking were school trustees, teachers, and representatives of the superintendent.

A letter was read from school trustee Stewart Gary, formerly Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Chief, expressing strong support for the regional theater. He noted that the plan provides an opportunity to diversify the economy with a strong, bold project.

Another trustee, Bill Dunlop, also speaking for himself, noted that studies show that music helps students improve academic performance. "Anything that brings more arts will have a positive impact on children and students."

Some speakers said that now is the time to move forward with historic low interest rates and construction costs. Others commented that a down economic period was the time to be bold and move forward. The benefits outweigh the risks.

Susan Houghton, director of public and government affairs for Safeway, declared, "If we don't do it now, it will never happen."

Jon Harvey, reading a letter from the Greenbelt Alliance, pointed out that measures such as the regional theater provide well documented environmental, economic and social equity benefits. They also help position the city to capitalize on the fundamental shift that has begun in the real estate market toward redevelopment of town centers and away from construction in the outskirts of suburban areas.

Sierra Club representative Dick Schneider made similar observations.

Landscape architect Bruce Jett commented on a national study that showed that the arts generate \$166.2 billion in economic activity annually. The arts provide 7 million jobs. \$33 billion goes back to local governments with an investment of only \$4 billion.

## Amador P.E. to Offer Self-Defense Classes

The Amador Valley High School P.E. classes have decided to contribute to the task of helping women learn self-defense. The goal is to lower the number of assaults on women by teaching them self-defense.

In similar projects around the Bay Area, they have found much success. For example, IMPACT Bay Area has been teaching more than 12,000 females how to defend themselves against verbal, physical, and sexual assaults since 1985. At the event, Tri-Valley P.O.W.E.R. NOW, which stands for Protection Of Women Every Where Right NOW, we hope to provide the same. We would appreciate any help that you may give.

The comprehensive self-defense clinic will be held on March 26th, 2011. At this event the goal is to impart valuable self-defense information and techniques to the Tri Valley community at large. Trained professionals are donating their time to help train community members to be safe and get out of harms way. All ages and genders are welcome to attend any of the training sessions and workshops.

Please go to the website to sign up: <http://trivalleypower.webs.com/>

Wear appropriate work out attire.

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# Garamendi Brings Town Hall to i-Phones

By Ron McNicoll

The first i-Phone congressional forum in U.S. history has taken place from the offices of Rep. John Garamendi, whose district includes Livermore.

Thousands were hooked up to Garamendi's congressional of-

fice on Feb. 8 through i-Phones, Facebook, and streaming video on the web, through a page called "Visible Vote."

One caller was vacationing on a beach in Mexico. Plain old land-line telephones also worked for the phone conference. However, the people with screens in

front of them could see Garamendi's congressional office.

"For the very first time, a telephone town hall was held in real live TV and i-Phone. Also you've seen inside of the historic Cannon House Office Building." (The structure was built in 1908, when the Capitol Building ran out of office space for congressional members.)

Garamendi answered a wide variety of questions during his one hour or so on the phone. One from a Livermore caller, asked, "I have not heard one valid reason why we are still there (in Afghanistan). Can you give me a valid reason why we are there?"

"I cannot. I don't think there is a good answer. I disagree with Obama. The effort in Afghanistan is misguided. We need to remove troops as soon as we can, beginning this summer, not in 2014," said Garamendi.

The Congressman said that the U.S. should be putting its money into social development and education in Afghanistan. "We spend over \$100 billion a year in Afghanistan. That's about a half-trillion dollars, or \$500 billion, by the time serious withdrawal is underway (in 2014)," said Garamendi.

"We need that money at home to pay down the deficit and for high-speed rail. We're talking about a serious crisis for California and the nation, if the levees break in the Delta," said Garamendi.

"We do have a terrorism problem. We need to focus on it like a laser. The CIA thinks there are not many in Afghanistan. There are more in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia," said Garamendi.

Asked about the future of the Delta water supply, Garamendi said it's important to pay attention to what science learns about

the situation. After carefully examining policy, the state can look at the solution.

Garamendi opposed the Peripheral Canal in 1982. In the phone conference, he counseled against a rush to build a peripheral canal around the Delta.

Some of the pressure for squeezing more water from the Delta by using a Peripheral Canal comes from the demand generated by growth in Southern California, which made it unpopular in northern California in 1982.

Garamendi and former Contra Costa County supervisor Sunne Wright McPeak, now a Pleasanton resident, helped organize the initiative that sunk the original Peripheral Canal.

Garamendi told those on the phone conference that the fifth biggest river in the West is the water flowing through southern California wastewater treatment plants, implying that southern California development could look to that source for water conservation.

Defenders of some resurrected form of a Peripheral Canal have said it's necessary to meet future water commitments to Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin, as well as Central Valley and southern California water users.

## NEGOTIATIONS

(continued from page one)

that he understands the potential impact on the lives of employees. The fact is that personnel costs continue to go up at an unsustainable rate. Something has to be done. "I hope during the negotiations that options are considered that will minimize the impact on

## SCHOOL

(continued from page one)

had risen to above the standard in the 2010 results.

However, recomputing the test answers to correct original scoring errors resulted in "one student not achieving," said district spokesperson Myla Grasso. In effect, the district became "in non-compliance" with the NCLB, she said.

The NCLB standards rise annually, according to a steeper scale every year. As a result, many districts will be coming into conflict with the standards, if they have not already.

To comply with the new condition imposed by law, the school must conduct a survey of faculty, and re-examine the academic plan for the school, said Grasso.

This is a new experience for the Pleasanton district. Grasso said that as a result she did not have many details about what

would be expected by compliance authorities.

Most school districts who received news they that would have to start on the plan already were notified during the summer. Pleasanton did not hear about it until February, upon learning about the recalculation of the API scores, said Grasso.

The NCLB standards will rise sharply in the next few years, as set out by the original law. Congressional members have talked about changing those standards, so that the seemingly impossible goal of having every student at 100 percent proficiency no longer would be required.

Instead, many educators prefer a "growth model," which would not set an absolute level, rather a goal of steady growth in student performance, said Grasso.

## Fatal Accident Reported in Livermore

The Livermore Police Department responded to a single vehicle collision on N. Vasco Rd. between Garaventa Ranch Rd. and Dalton Rd. on Feb. 10 at about 6:30 p.m.

A Lexus SUV had been travelling southbound on N. Vasco Rd. when it veered right and

struck the west curb.

The Lexus then swerved to the left and travelled over the raised center median and crossed the northbound lanes of traffic without hitting any other vehicles.

The Lexus collided with a concrete abutment and came to rest. The 70 year old male driver was pronounced dead at the scene.

The collision investigation is ongoing.

Anyone who witnessed the collision is asked to contact the Livermore Police Traffic Unit at 925-371-4850. Vasco Rd. was closed until approximately 9:30 due to the investigation.

## McNerney Continues to Push for Veterans' Benefits

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) met one-on-one with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki.

During the meeting, Congressman McNerney discussed several issues of importance to veterans with the secretary, including the future of the Livermore Veterans Administration (VA) facility, the status of a new San Joaquin veterans' medical facility, the VA's backlog of benefits claims waiting to be processed, and the need to improve care for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injuries.

At the Congressman's request, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs visited the Livermore VA last year, toured the facility, and met with a group of local veterans. During last week's meeting, Congressman McNerney again urged the secretary to revisit decisions made by past Secretaries of Veterans Affairs to close the Livermore VA and to instead develop a plan that would allow the facility to stay in veterans' hands.

Rep. McNerney stated, "The Livermore VA is a uniquely situated facility that is an important resource for the thousands of veterans who live in the area. Given its tranquil setting, I've long advocated for the facility to remain in veterans' hands and be used to provide treatment for

veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. With an increasing number of veterans suffering from PTSD, this type of care is more important than ever."

The congressman discussed with the secretary the new veterans' medical facility that is planned for San Joaquin County. Congressman McNerney again expressed to the secretary the importance of completing this facility that will serve thousands of veterans and create approximately 900 jobs.

Congressman McNerney also pointed to the need to address the VA's backlog of benefit claims waiting to be processed. According to the VA, about 400,000 claims are waiting to be processed. However, veteran advocacy groups such as the American Legion believe this number to be closer to 1 million. As the Ranking Member for the Subcommittee on Disability and Memorial Affairs, Congressman McNerney is the highest ranking Democrat on the subcommittee charged with overseeing how the VA processes many types of benefits for veterans.

Finally, Congressman McNerney and Secretary Shinseki spoke about the need to improve care for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injuries.

## Hydrogen Powered Buses to Be in Downtown Livermore

Lawrence Livermore and Sandia national laboratories will showcase two buses powered by hydrogen, now operating at both Livermore sites. The collaborative effort is part of a strategy for an energy sustainable future and cleaner environment.

The vehicles will be on display in downtown Livermore. The public is welcome to stop by and take a ride. Scientists will be on hand to answer questions about hydrogen technology and energy research conducted at the laboratories. In addition, a Toyota Prius equipped with a cryogenic tank will be on display, as well as a fuel cell mobile lighting system. Posters and brochures also will be available.

Leased from the Ford Motor Company, the buses use internal combustion engines, but are a bridge to vehicles that will use hydrogen fuel cells - the power train of the future.

The project is funded by the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy /Fuel Cell

Technologies Program. The DOE is actively engaged in market transformation efforts to demonstrate hydrogen technologies and educate the public about the safety, energy security and environmental advantages of hydrogen as a transportation fuel.

They will be displayed at 11 a.m. Tues., Feb. 22 in the parking lot adjacent to the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Fuel Cell Technologies Program conducts comprehensive efforts to overcome the technological, economic, and institutional obstacles to the widespread commercialization of fuel cells and related technologies. The program works with partners in industry, academia, non-profit institutions, and the national laboratories, and coordinates closely with other programs in four DOE offices - Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Science, Fossil Energy, and Nuclear Energy.

## BART

(continued from page one)

to 617 TOD units on the Dublin side of the station. The Windstar apartment development with 150 units, 20 percent of them affordable, has been approved on the Pleasanton side of the station.

The private sector has contributed from \$15 million to \$20 million towards construction of the station, said Johnson. Another \$15 million came from local and state financing.

The station is the 44th to open since BART began in 1972. It is the first station opened in eight years.

The station's Pleasanton entrance is a short walk from Stoneridge Mall. There is a walkway through the station connecting Pleasanton and Dublin. It is the first one in the Valley that allows pedestrians to walk over Interstate 580.

### BART DIRECTOR HAILS OPENING

John McPartland, the director who represents the Valley on the BART board, told The Independent that the station opening "is a significant milestone in the continued effort to provide public transportation to citizens of the Tri-Valley area."

Completing the West Dublin station is an incremental step in bringing the BART line into Livermore, added McPartland.

McPartland explained that the West Dublin station was really the first one planned in the Valley. However, the BART board many years ago wanted to extend to Livermore, and decided to push as far east as it could. That brought the line's terminus to the east Dublin/Pleasanton station, which was opened in the 1980s.

Then the BART board wanted to fulfill its commitment to build the West Dublin/Pleasanton station, and obtained financial help from private parties.

McPartland said he already has been working on the Liver-

more extension through its initial EIR phase. Work will continue into the next phase, which is the project EIR.

### THOUGHTS ON INITIATIVE

Former BART director Robert Allen is a member of a group circulating a petition to locate the Livermore extension in the Interstate 580 median all the way to Greenville Road, instead of coming down Portola Avenue downtown, and then east along First Street underground to Vasco Road. The initiative calls for the first station to be built at the Isabel site.

Allen and other supporters say the cost would be lower. The freeway option would not take homes away from people in the path of the route to downtown.

McPartland said that he would support putting the initiative on the ballot, with one caveat, namely, that those who are advertising the petition are honest with the public, and reveal that putting stations right on highway 580 will mean that federal funding would not be available.

McPartland explained, "The project won't be able to meet TOD guidelines from the federal government. Federal funds represent greater than a 50 percent share of the total cost. That means that the pricetag would fall on the state and county, and "you know what that means," said McPartland, referring to the \$25 billion budget deficit facing the state for the coming year.

McPartland made it clear that if he did support putting the question on the ballot, provided the backers produce their financial plan, he definitely would not endorse either side of the ballot question. "I want the citizens of Livermore to be the determiners of their own fate. I will support (the decision on a route) as best I can as a BART director."

## CANCER

(continued from page one)

energy while transiting tissue, then release most of their energy while stopping.

By contrast, X-rays cause injury to tissue relatively uniformly as they enter, pass through and exit the body.

Because of its clinical advantages, proton therapy is in use at a number of major medical centers in the U.S. The cost of setting up a proton therapy facility can exceed \$200 million, requiring not only an expensive scientific instrument (a proton accelerator) but a major building to house it and in many cases multiple patient treatment areas. The high cost limits the therapy's availability, although interest continues to grow and there are now some 30 facilities worldwide.

CPAC hopes to bring the cost down dramatically, partly because of the small expected size of its accelerator, about 10-15 feet long by five feet wide. Unit costs in the range of \$20-30 million have been mentioned in earlier articles about the company's work. However, Anthony Zografos, CPAC's vice president and general manager, declines to specify a price today on the basis of business confidentiality.

In any case, the cost of adding proton therapy to a cancer treatment center could depend as much on decisions about construction as on the expense of the technical equipment. The small CPAC system would be far cheaper to find or create a space for than some of the basketball court sized facilities in use today.

The accelerator is based on principles long explored at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for its programs. Nicholas Christofilos pioneered induction accelerators starting with the big ASTRON controlled fusion machine in the 1960s. Leading more directly to the proton therapy work was the Lab's effort three decades later to greatly improve insulator and vacuum technology in order to get higher energy acceleration of intense pulses of electrons for radiography of nuclear weapon components.

Technologies pioneered at the Laboratory generated a number of patents. The potential for medical application of a compact accelerator was recognized at the UC-Davis Cancer Center, which employs proton therapy for certain eye cancers and which has been involved in several collaborations with the Laboratory.

TomoTherapy, a Madison, Wis., company that develops and sells various radiation therapy products, joined the effort in 2007 and helped create CPAC a year later to focus on the proton accelerator effort. CPAC has licensed a number of the Laboratory patents and generated more of its own.

When CPAC was established, its announced funding was \$45 million from private investors including TomoTherapy and potential customers. While TomoTherapy is publicly traded, CPAC is private, so further finan-

cial information is not publicly available.

CPAC is located at the corner of Vasco Road and Patterson Pass Road, close to the Lab, to which it still has research ties. CPAC is comprised of about 8,000 square feet of lab space, 5,000 square feet of office and another 5,000 square feet of warehouse that can be customized as needed. It has 10 mostly technical employees today and expects to add 20-25 more by the end of this year, Zografos says. If all goes well, CPAC may add another 20 or so by the end of 2012.

The accelerator concept pioneered at the Lab and now being developed by CPAC is called a Dielectric Wall Accelerator. Clusters of charged particles ride moving electrical fields in much the way surfers ride waves on the ocean. A key advance has been the development of optical devices that can switch capacitors - electrical storage devices - at extremely high speeds, generating the needed electrical fields.

The recent achievement the acceleration of a proton beam about two centimeters through a module whose components are commercially available and whose architecture worked as planned, and to analyze the results thoroughly with multiple diagnostic systems. The energy level was still far too low for tumor therapy, Zografos wrote in an email. However, a clinical machine would be built by assembling sequences of "smaller segments like the one we are characterizing today," so they are "extremely confident" in the path to a commercial product.

To Zografos, the pace of progress in the past year has been "literally breathtaking."

At the beginning of 2010, CPAC was comprised of "three people in a warehouse," he wrote. Now it has a "state-of-the-art facility."

"I think what we have been able to do better than anyone has been to combine the cre-

ativity and innovation that you normally find in a start-up with a disciplined approach, world class engineering and a vision for growth with respect to supplier and partner selection, etc., that you normally find in an established company."

## A Long History of Medical Studies

Interest in the use of radiation to treat disease dates from the early days of the Lawrence Lab in Berkeley, parent lab to the now fully independent Lawrence Livermore.

Ernest Lawrence, the Berkeley lab's founder, predicted in early 1934 to his brother, John, a physician, "Neutron rays will find their application in medicine." He also discussed the use of radioactive sodium, produced in the cyclotron in Berkeley, as a therapeutic cocktail in which radioactive atoms "might hook onto cancer cells and radiate them internally."

The Berkeley Lab pioneered many of the modern uses of radioactivity in medicine, in large part because with Lawrence's cyclotrons and nearby medical schools it had the resources to do so. In 1946, Robert Wilson, who worked for a time at the Berkeley Lab and went on to one of the most illustrious careers in modern particle physics, proposed using protons for therapy. Berkeley performed some of the earliest proton therapy treatments, starting in 1954.

He is proud that three out of the company's four major suppliers "are right here in the Bay Area," chosen for the quality of their work and continuing ability to "support our long term plans."

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are right here in the Bay Area," chosen for the quality of their work and continuing ability to "support our long term plans."

The therapeutic advantage of protons over X rays is that protons tend to cause less damage to healthy tissues. For one thing, protons are heavier and don't scatter as much into nearby tissues. For another, they release their energy in a relatively confined space at the end of their flight, keeping damage confined. The end-of-path energy release phenomenon is called the Bragg effect, for the British physicist who discovered it in 1903.

Berkeley Lab researchers continued to do experimental therapy with charged particles heavier than protons in the 1970s. Particles like carbon have still stronger Bragg effects and are potentially more effective than protons. However, heavy particle accelerators are more expensive still, and there are few carbon therapy centers operating in the world.

Livermore's Compact Particle Acceleration Corp. says it is focusing on proton accelerators and has no plans to explore machines that would accelerate heavier particles for therapy.



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# SPORTS NOTES



**Pictured in photo are Livermore Aquacowboy team members: Nina Hayes, Katie Kulp, Trent Trump, Haley Hamza, Nathan Boas, Coach Alex Silver, Adriana Rocha, Desiree McConn, Evan Carlo, Cat Elliott, Megan Fairbanks, Sarah Swanson, Julia Rocha, Nicolette McConn, Sydney Magann, Caroline Eckel, Coach Lisa White, Jack Rehberger, Ben Rocha, Celine Nguyen.**



**Livermore's Springtime Tumbling and Trampoline team members are (left to right) Lexi Carzoli, Megan Hebert, Megan Contarciego, Kaitlyn Clevenger, Sabra Wilson, Anna O'Brien, Nicholas Abrego, Delaney Foote, David Davison, Jeremy Pigford; and front Kendall Aasen.**



**Pleasanton U13 Rage AC team, coached by Dave Shaw, won the 2011 NorCal Cup Gold Championship game February 13, in Woodland against CalOdyssey. It was a "nail-biter" of a game which was tied at the end of regular play and the two, five minute- golden gold overtime play periods. The game was settled with penalty kicks, with the Rage AC team came out victorious. Pictured are (back row) Coach Dave Shaw, Maggie Kilday, MacKenzie Bammer, Mildred Gil, Amanda Jensen, Kennedy Truex, Bryanna Schreiber, Madison Avery; (middle row) Xenia Perea, Jasmine Dessouky, Lisa DeFeo, Sami LaBella, Heather Jackson, Christina Echavia; and (front row) Nicole Tsuno, Megan Martin, Sadie Moore, Katlyn Franciscovich**

## High School Wrestling

Livermore High School grapplers defeated Granada 40-25.

For the first time in 6 years, Livermore Cowboys bested their cross town rivals, the Granada Matadors. Led by decisive wins from seniors Alex Baxter and Terin O'Callaghan, Livermore jumped to a 6 match, 25 point lead. Granada rallied with 2 pins by heavyweight Bennett and 103 pound Campiotti, but Livermore answered back with 2 more wins by sophomore Nicko Lang and senior Ryan Hastings. Granada senior Joey Wolfson may have suffered a season ending injury in his match to Tyler Rardon.

Results: 103 -- Campiotti (G) p. Cortez 3:21; 112 -- Lang (L) p. Benavides 0:56; 119 -- Hastings (L) d. Coburn 6:2; 125 -- Campiotti (G) d. Disbrov 8:2; 130 -- Cuneo (G) d. Krenz 16:2; 135 -- Rardon (L) d. Wolfson Inj. Default; 140 -- Higgins (G) p. Bohlund 1:10; 145 -- Baxter (L) d. Van Galder 10:0; 152 -- O'Callaghan (L) d. Kraft 11:0; 160 -- Morgan (L) p. Bradley 3:29; 171 -- Mitchler (L) d. Cook 8:7; 189 -- Laursen (L) d. Gomez 10:8 OT; 215 -- Neil (L) if Smith. 19:4; 285 -- Bennett (G) p. Lewis 1:21

Livermore JV defeated Granada 45-26 and ended their regular season with a perfect 7-0 EBAL record and a 13-3 record overall.

## Pleasanton Seahawks

As the weather reached unseasonably warm temperatures, the Pleasanton Seahawks (PLS) turned in many hot times at the Pacific Swimming Zone 2 Short Course Winter Championship Meet February 5 - 6, 2011 at Campolindo High School in Moraga.

Results:  
Pre-Novice Group: Christina Coatney continued to better her B times in the 25/50 free and 25 breast

Intermediate 1: New B-times: Rachana Mulkamala, Nick Wonosaputra; New A-times: Alex Ren, Paulina Umansky

Varsity Group: New A-times: Jae Williams, Natalie Cook, Shri Gandhi  
Pre-Junior: Lara Serban 3 new best times (LTB), Emma Valentine 3 LTB, Paasine Heikari 2 LTB, Rishi Kodali LTB - 50 free; Ben Sproul new Junior Olympic (JO) 50 back

Junior: Nja Zuniga 2 LTB, Olivier Rooney 3 LTB, Will Rose 4 LTB, Aditya Gupta LTB - 50 free, Aaron Li 2 LTB, Matthew Li LTB - 100 breast, Michael Martin 100% LTB, Rishab Nair 4 LTB, Miranda Heckman 2 LTB, Tim Yao Far Western - 50 breast and Miranda Heckman - high point winner for the 10 and under girls

Pre Senior: Vera Umansky and Adrien Rooney swam very well, Analese Chinn 5/7 LTB, Kayla Lindsay 3 LTB, Shawn Kim 100% LTB, Chris Lee 100% LTB, Moriah Simonds 5/6 LTB and Nathaniel Sproul 100% LTB & 1 new JO

## Livermore Aquacowboys

At the Pacific Swimming Zone 2 Championships held on 02/05/11-02/06/11 the Livermore Aquacowboys team achieved 7th Place overall among a field of tough competitors. Alex Gonzalez, Megan Hill, Katie Kulp and Trent Trump were selected for the Zone 2 All Star Team. Andrew Hayes was the high point winner of the 17-18 boys division and Evan Carlo finished second.

New best times were achieved by Jessica Akins, Sarah Bass, Megan Hill, Taber Da Costa, Daiki Nishikawa, Victoria Carroll, Caroline Eckel, Sydney Magann, Katherine Rehberger, Julia Rocha, Megan Wilcox, Alexander Bass, Paige Da Costa, Christopher Gonzalez, Matthew Hayes, Jared Hill, Collin Trump, Annemarie Arnold, Taylor Brennan, Allie Clark, Megan Fairbanks, Nicolette McConn, Sofia Moufarrej, Victoria Moufarrej, Celine Nguyen, Sarah Swanson, Alexander Gonzalez, Ben Rocha, Shahini Ananth, Cat Elliott, Haley Hamza, Katie Kulp, Brianna Reynolds, Adrianna Rocha, Trent Trump, Shelby Swanson, Nathan Boas, Evan Carlo, and Andrew Hayes.

New Junior Olympic qualifying times were turned in by Victoria Carroll, Caroline Eckel, Sydney Magann, Allie Clark, Megan Fairbanks, Sarah Swanson, Alexander Gonzalez and Haley Hamza.

New Far Western qualifying times were swum by Sarah Swanson, Alexander Gonzalez, Haley Hamza and Andrew Hayes.

A new Pacific Recognition time was recorded by Katie Kulp.

## Baseball Alumni Game

Livermore High School baseball alumni are invited to play in an alumni game this year on Saturday March 12th and 11:00. The alumni will be playing against the current Varsity team.

Lunch will be provided afterward for all those that participate. Even if you do not wish to play or you physically are unable to, come on out and check out the new facility and enjoy a free lunch.

Any questions, please feel free to check our website at [www.eteamz.com/LHSCowboysBaseball](http://www.eteamz.com/LHSCowboysBaseball) or e-mail Coach Perotti at [dperotti@lvjhsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:dperotti@lvjhsd.k12.ca.us)

## BUSC 2011 Placement Dates

Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club (BUSC) has released its 2011 placement dates for the upcoming 2011-12 soccer season. The sessions are scheduled around the two 3-day holiday weekends during the month of February. BUSC has also rented the turf fields at Las Positas College in order to eliminate any possible rain out issues.

These placements are for all competitive levels of play for the age groups below.

The U9 & U10 age groups will run in the "academy" format, which means players will be selected from a player pool of the top 50 players for each age group. These players will train together during the March-May time frame. Coaches will use this spring training to determine what team the players will be placed upon after they return from the club break, which takes place from June 17 through July 4.

Each age group will have 5 teams of 10 players.

A U9/10 academy parent information night will be announced soon. Please check the website for details.

All parents are asked to register their kids for try outs by completing the registration form available on the website [www.busc.org](http://www.busc.org). This pre-registration process will allow BUSC to properly prepare with staff and equipment.

U11-U14 Age Groups: Saturday,

February 26 & Sunday, February 27, Las Positas College (turf field) both days; Age 11: 8:30am-10:30am; Age 12: 11:00am-1:00pm; Age 13: 1:30pm-3:30pm; Age 14: 4:00pm-6:00pm

U15-U16 Age Groups: Tuesday, April 12 & Thursday, April 14, Val Vista Park; Age 15: 4:00pm-5:30pm; Age 16: 5:30pm-7:00pm

U17-U18 Age Groups: Thursday, April 21 & Friday, April 22, Val Vista Park; Age 17: 4:00pm-5:30pm; Age 18: 5:30pm-7:00pm

U19 Select & Advanced: Val Vista Park. 4:00pm-6:00pm

## Bocce Kits for Rent

Following the debut of two new bocce courts at the freshly renovated Bothwell Park, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is now making bocce ball kits available for rent to the public.

Bocce ball kits can be checked out for a week at a time from the Robert Livermore Community Center. The kits are available at the front counter from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rental for one week is \$20, plus a \$40 refundable deposit by credit card or cash - a total of \$60. The \$40 deposit is refundable if equipment is returned in good condition. Kits are rented on a first-come, first-served basis; reservations are not available in advance. Rental of a bocce ball kit does not guarantee a bocce ball court will be available.

The Robert Livermore Community Center is located at 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Bothwell Park is located at 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. For more information, call 925-373-5700.

## Dublin Bowl-a-Rama

Dublin Partners In Education is now recruiting teams to bowl at the annual Bowl-a-Rama event. This family fun event raises money to support program in the Dublin public schools. All families are invited to join in the fun, kids and grandparents are welcome.

The event will be held Sunday, March 6, fun starts at 1:00 till 4. Registration forms are available at all public school offices and at Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowling Center.

Contact Kelly Knabe at 828-255 ex 5423 or e-mail [knabekelly@dublin.k12.ca.us](mailto:knabekelly@dublin.k12.ca.us) for more info.

## PGSL Registration

2011 Registration is still open for some divisions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League. All girls living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play. We encourage families with daughters in grades K-3 to register as there are still openings. "Black" division teams have been formed, and "Teal" division teams are nearly finalized. However, there's still room in a few of PGSL's "White" divisions. Register ASAP as Opening day is just a few weeks away. Two ways to register: 1) Online at [www.pleasantonsoftball.org](http://www.pleasantonsoftball.org); 2) Mail-in: PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (download a registration form from the website). Late fee of \$25 applied after 11/30/10. For more information or questions, email Christine Tanis at [christine.t@pleasantonsoftball.org](mailto:christine.t@pleasantonsoftball.org).

## Tumbling & Trampoline

Livermore's Springtime Tumbling and Trampoline hosted two dual meets on February 12, 2011. Eleven athletes from Springtime competed in Trampoline, Double-Mini Trampoline, and Tumbling. In the first meet Springtime competed against Starz Gymnastics, Dance and Cheer and Marin Elite Gymnastics Academy. They followed that with a second meet against Vargas Academy of Gymnastic Arts. The results for both meets are:

Ages 11 & under: Nicholas Abrego: Trampoline Level 5 - 2nd place (21.7)/2nd place (22.3); Double Mini Level 5 - 2nd place (56.7)/1st place (56.5)

Kaitlyn Clevenger - Trampoline Level 7-1st place (24.1)/1st place (24.0); Double Mini Level 7 - 2nd place (57.7)/1st place (58.9); Tumbling Level 6 - 1st place (52.1)/2nd place (50.5)

David Davison: Trampoline Level 6 - 1st place (25.1)/1st place (24.9); Double Mini Level 7 - 3rd place (55.1)/2nd place (58.3); Megan Hebert: Trampoline Level 6 - 3rd

place (24.0)/3rd place (24.3); Double Mini Level 6 - 1st place (57.9)/1st place (58.0); Tumbling Level 5 - 1st place (55.2)/1st place (55.3)

Sabra Wilson: Trampoline Level 6 - 2nd place (24.8)/2nd place (24.6); Double Mini Level 6 - 2nd place (56.8)/2nd place (57.0); Tumbling Level 5 - 3rd place (49.2)/2nd place (52.9)

Ages 12 & up: Kendall Aasen: Trampoline Level 7 - 4th place (18.3)/3rd place (23.4); Double Mini Level 8 - 5th place (55.8)/2nd place (59.2); Tumbling Level 7 - 1st place (53.6)/3rd place (53.3)

Lexi Carzoli: Trampoline Level 5 - 4th place (21.8)/1st place (22.8); Double Mini Level 5 - 5th place (54.7)/1st place (57.1); Tumbling Level 4 - 2nd place (49.9)/2nd place (50.4)

Megan Contarciego: Trampoline Level 6 - 3rd place (23.5)/1st place (23.5); Double Mini Level 6 - 1st place (56.7)/1st place (57.8); Tumbling Level 4 - 1st place (54.0)/1st place (56.1)

Delaney Foote: Trampoline Level 8 - 1st place (53.1)/1st place (52.3); Double Mini Level 8 - 1st place (60.5)/1st place (61.3); Tumbling Level 7 - 2nd place (52.3)/2nd place (53.6)

Anna O'Brien: Trampoline Level 7 - 5th place (3.0)/2nd place (24.0); Double Mini Level 7 - 2nd place (58.5)/2nd place (57.9); Tumbling Level 6 - 5th place (51.5)/2nd place (52.8)

Jeremy Pigford: Trampoline Level 7 - 3rd place (23.3)/1st place (25.2); Double Mini Level 8 - 2nd place (58.0)/4th place (58.8); Tumbling Level 6 - 1st place (54.9)/1st place (54.5)

## Gymfinity Gymnastics

The Level 7, 8 and 9 teams from Gymfinity Gymnastics participated in the Winter Invitational hosted by San Mateo Gymnastics in Redwood City, CA on February 5-6, 2011. In the Level 7 Middle age division, Dakota Abundiz placed 3rd on the balance beam. Taylor Hurst dominated in the Level 8 Older A division, placing first in all events. Isla Andrews achieved a new personal best on bars and took home the bronze medal in the



**The Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club (BUSC) U13 Premier team are NorCal Premier 2 State Cup Champions after defeating the Rays 97B on Saturday morning in Woodland, CA. Ballistic maintained possession of the ball for the majority of the match, and jumped out to a 2 to 0 first half lead. Cameron Owens scored Ballistic's first goal with a beautiful crossing far-post header. Ryan Racer scored next for Ballistic with a header of his own. The Rays scored on a penalty kick early in the second half. BUSC's next goal came when Mitchell Wilson dribbled around two defenders, had his shot blocked by the keeper, but gathered the rebound and scored. Keeper Omeed Ziari had a stellar game, saving several well hit shots on goal. The final score was BUSC 3, Rays 97B 2. The BUSC U13 Premier Team coached by Justin Rothling includes Chudi Atuegbu, Nathan Esparza, Max Gershman, Nima Habibi, Jeffrey Klei, Sam Molz, Cameron Owens, Carsen Paynter, Ryan Racer, Cameron Ritchie, Taylor Silva, Jackson Still, Nick Tucker, Geoffrey Wiederecht, Mitchell Wilson and Omeed Ziari.**

# What Our Readers Are Saying...



"Orthodoxy is called 'the best kept secret in America,' but thanks to The Independent's online event calendar, the secret is out. The Independent's calendar is letting folks know who we are and what services we offer. For example, the Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery in Pennsylvania is the speaker for our pre-Lenten Retreat, February 18-20 (see The Independent's Online Calendar for details).

We are proud (in a humble way) to be listed side by side with all of the churches in town. Thank God, The Independent is riding the crest of electronic progress and is inviting every religious body in the Tri-Valley to catch the online wave. Let's go surfing together!"

## Archpriest Leo Arrowsmith

Rector, St. Innocent Orthodox Church in Livermore; Besides pastoring St. Innocent Orthodox Church in Livermore, he is a teacher and painter of Orthodox icons; Seven Year resident of Livermore

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**THE Independent**  
NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE



# SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen  
**Dublin High School girls varsity soccer team advanced to the first round of NCS Division II with a win last week over Dougherty Valley. The Lady Gaels took on Alhambra in the first round in a game played Wed., Feb. 16 at Alhambra High School in Martinez. Noria Mitchell (19), from Dublin, battles for the ball in the Dougherty Valley game.**



Photo - Doug Jorgensen  
**Livermore High defeated Granada 3 to 0 in the final EBAL varsity men's soccer match. Both squads advance to the NCS Division I championships. Livermore took on James Logan and Granada faced De La Salle in the first round games played on Wed., Feb. 16. In the photo, Livermore's Alex Gonzales (7) and Granada's Cody Martinez (11) battle for the ball.**

Level 8 younger age group. In the Level 8 Older B, Emma Soriano placed 2nd on the beam while Kaitlin Hausmann took 3rd on the bars.

Level 7: Younger: ALL-AROUND: Katie Mathers 34.975 (4th). VAULT: Mathers 8.675 (8th). BARS: Mathers 8.75 (5th). BEAM: Mathers 9.0 (4th). FLOOR: Mathers 8.55 (9th)

Middle: ALL-AROUND: Dakota Abundiz 33.45 (8th). VAULT: Abundiz 8.725 (6th). BARS: Abundiz 7.15 (12th). BEAM: Abundiz 8.8 (3rd). FLOOR: Abundiz 8.775 (6th)

Level 8: Younger: ALL-AROUND: Isla Andrews 35.325 (5th). VAULT: Andrews 8.15 (9th). BARS: Andrews 9.55 (3rd). BEAM: Andrews 8.9 (4th). FLOOR: Andrews 8.725 (6th)

Older A: ALL-AROUND: Taylor Hurst 35.7 (1st). VAULT: Hurst 8.425 (1st). BARS: Hurst 8.75 (1st). BEAM: Hurst 9.2 (1st). FLOOR: Hurst 9.325 (1st)

Older B: ALL-AROUND: Emma Soriano 33.675 (4th); Rebecca Meister 24.725 (6th); Kaitlin Hausmann 23.8 (8th). VAULT: Soriano 8.675 (2nd); Meister 8.05 (7th); Hausmann 7.8 (8th). BARS: Hausmann 8.8 (3rd); Soriano 8.05 (7th). BEAM: Meister 8.35 (5th); Soriano 8.2 (8th). FLOOR: Soriano 8.75 (4th); Meister 8.325 (6th); Hausmann 7.2 (7th)

Level 9: Middle: ALL-AROUND: Valentina Barbalinardo 17.875 (11th). VAULT: Barbalinardo 8.775 (4th). BEAM: Barbalinardo 9.1 (4th).

McCreary 279, Gil Criste 258, Mike Hill 258, Jerry Friesen 258, Alex Holland 257, Bill Lindke Jr. 249, Tom Roberts 245, Matt Coleman 245, Phil Sivret 243, Billy McClain 242, Mike Adema 232, Norm Schaegeel 225, Judy Piper 203 and Tom Gramatica 201.

Rusty Browning in the Practice Kings & Queens League bowled 253, Craig Truscott 235 and Josh Helfarich 173. Nick Tehero in the Family Affair League rolled 254, Chuck Anderson 246, Jeff Richter 223, Bobelson 214, Mike Collins 214 and Erica Smith 212. Mike Wood in the Early Years Fun Time League bowled 265, Charlie Butkiewicz 243, Keith Wilson 224, Dan Stuber 223, Brian Johmann 213 and Mark Hernandez 209.

Rich Canada in the Cheyenne League rolled 280, Mike Stephenson 268, John Twardy 266, Dave Erwin 264, Mike Bowers 258, Duane Moschetti 254, Gabe Donohue 245, Kevin Duguid 243 and Scott Hylton 222.

Morning League Bowlers Frank Cerros and Dick Greene in the Monday Primetimers League both bowled 212. John Waite 211, Rich Harris 207, Jim McQuaid 201, Otis Farris 200, Carla Van Epps 194, Rosemarie Phipps 190 and Dale Irving 171. Rich Bagoio and Garry Rodrigue in the Sirs & Sirettes League rolled 223, Norm Taasevigen 210, Larry Preszler 200 and Bo Wong 191. Tom Crane in the Donna's Mixers League bowled 238, Don Tunisio 218, John Foscalina 217, Clint McFaddin 213, Rose Nelson 212, Dong Parker 212, Dick Braden 210. John LeMire in the Friday Primetimers League rolled 236, Norm Taasevigen 210, Otis Farris 210, John Waite 209, Alma Taasevigen 206, Bob Stein 192, Shirley Davis 192, Barbara Thompson 176.

Youth Bowler Eric Smyth in the Generation Gap League bowled 277, Casey Vangalder 264, Ross Anderson 240, Justin Agness 211 and Katelynn Goddard 211.

In last weekend of the 46th Annual Livermore Valley Tournament - Tammy Lewis bowled 257, 269 and 279 for a 805 series. Dwayne Hunter and Moeses Svo each rolled "Perfect" 300 game; Ron Pallan was close with a 299.

### Bowling News

Bruce Ragusa in the Generation Gap League bowled 254, 195 and 188 for a 637 series that was 157 pins over average at the Granada Bowl in Livermore. Mark McCreary in the Cheyenne League rolled 278, 279 and 252 for a 809 series and Ray Salas bowled 300, 257 and 286 for a 843 Series. Youth Bowler Jeffrey Anderson rolled his 1st "Perfect" 300 game. Youth Bowler Shawn Donohue bowled a "Perfect" 300 Game.

Tom Jaegel in the Generation Gap League bowled 225, Phillip Jarret 223 and Austin Barte 165. Dale Mellberg in the Getaway Fours League rolled 245, Wesley Nortny 244, Rich Novotny 241, Lee Pettus 238, Jim Fuchs 224, Neil Lund 220, Bastian Sopora 214 Jeff Cote 213, Debbie Evans 192 and Sharon Lusareta 185. Roger Purta in the Match Point League Bowled 269, Gene Tanaka 268, Scott Hylton 256, Dan Loder 252, Mark Eiden 243, Eric Joergensen 238, Randy Miller 227, Roy McCord 221, Wayne Brewster 216 and Alvin Bettis 207. David Drab in the 4 Seasons Heating & Air League rolled 280, Johnathan Miller 279, Mark

McCreary 279, Gil Criste 258, Mike Hill 258, Jerry Friesen 258, Alex Holland 257, Bill Lindke Jr. 249, Tom Roberts 245, Matt Coleman 245, Phil Sivret 243, Billy McClain 242, Mike Adema 232, Norm Schaegeel 225, Judy Piper 203 and Tom Gramatica 201.

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### Youth Rugby

The Pleasanton Cavaliers Rugby Club results:

U8/10s - Pleasanton Cavaliers Vs SFGG: The Pleasanton Cavaliers played a 7-a-side match on Treasure Island on Sunday. Kyle Kenny scored the first two tries, Colin Miller scored one off the middle. Vincent Schollaci scored one off the wing and Angus Hicks-Frazier scored another after a 60m run with the ball.

U12s - Pleasanton Cavaliers Vs Marin: The team played three 20 min games. Marin

won the 1st & 3rd with the Cavaliers taking their 1st victory of the season in the 2nd game. Cavaliers demonstrated some solid tracking and excellent defense against the more experienced Marin team. There were several pop passes to forwards who were running closely in support of the backs that allowed the Cavaliers to break the gain line consistently. The final play of the game was a score by the Cavaliers with a brilliant rolling maul that started on the 10m line and rolled all the way in for the score. Tries - Mark Silverthorn (2), Tyler Bonitz (2), Liam Bretz, Anthony Campa and Marc Gaultier. Man of the Match was Patrick Michie.

U14s - Pleasanton Cavaliers Vs Marin: The Cavaliers were up against two strong Marin teams and lost 35-12 with the A side. Tries were by Justin Silliman (2) and a conversion by Paul Campa. Men of the Match - Justin Silliman & Jacob Felix. The match against the B side was a score of 31-7 to Marin. Tries were by Justin Silliman (2), Tomas Rozsa (2), Paul Campa (1) and conversions by Paul Campa (3). Men of the Match - Tomas Rozsa and Michael Balesteri.

High School - Pleasanton Cavaliers Vs Live Oak High School: Livermore's Robertson Park hosted the games on Sunday. Varsity - They came out strong and prevailed in a convincing low scoring match. The Cavaliers equaled Live Oak in scrums won and also forced 11 turnovers. Injured players were Parker Clayton and Nic LaTourette. Tries - John Jelincic, Robert Lopez and conversion by Sheldon Du Plessis. Final Score 12-0 to Cavaliers. Junior Varsity - the Junior Varsity played hard in a back and forth match with many lead changes. Two tries scored by Grant Bonham maneuvering both times through Live Oak's defense and one more score by Zach Summerfield. A couple of Cavalier hiccups gave Live Oak a try with seconds left to go. Final Score 22-19 to Live Oak.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen  
**Pleasanton Seahawks swim team members turned in solid performances at the two-day Nor-Cal Superleague Championship held in Pleasanton over the weekend.**

## World Walk to Wellness Launches Series of Trail Walks on February 26

Explore Pleasanton from a new angle.

Community members are invited to join monthly group walks to get acquainted with Pleasanton's public trail system. The first World Walk to Wellness trail walk will be held on Saturday, February 26, starting at 9 a.m. from the south parking lot of the Tennis & Community Park, 5801 Valley Avenue (at Hopyard Road).

Expert guide Dolores Bengtson will lead the walk across the pedestrian bridge to the north side of the Pleasanton Canal, then head west to Arroyo de la Laguna, south along the arroyo trail to Arroyo Del Valle, east to Pleasanton Valley, then loop back to the tennis park. Participants should allow about two hours to complete the loop, which is mostly along wide gravel paths.

"Come prepared to explore Pleasanton from a new angle, from the banks of our arroyos and canal," said Bengtson, who is well known from her long career with the city's parks and community services department. "This walk on the well maintained service roads along the arroyos will open up an entire new world to you.

"For sure I'll fill you in about 'Pleasanton and water!' and, with

some luck, we'll see ducks, herons, and egrets. Wear comfortable shoes," advises Bengtson. "Bring along some water and dress in layers. If it looks like it might rain, bring a raincoat. For 'new walkers' - don't sweat it - the trail is flat, and we'll go at a comfortable pace. Most of all, be prepared to be amazed and surprised at how much you will enjoy the morning!"

Like all World Walk to Wellness events, this trail walk is free. However, voluntary donations to Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation are welcome. So far, World Walk to Wellness has raised \$6,000 for PPIE, including matching funds provided by corporate sponsor ACCUSPLIT, makers of pedometers and stopwatches.

W. Ron Sutton, CEO of ACCUSPLIT and a Pleasanton resident, created the World Walk to Wellness program to promote healthy lifestyle choices in our community. Working with volunteers, Sutton has hosted weekly walks exploring Pleasanton city parks for the past two months. Sign up for e-mail notification of park and trail walks at walks@WorldWalkToWellness.org.

"If the rain is not falling sideways, I'll still be out, staying active, in the rain," said Sutton.

"We can still walk n'talk and have fun. We can dry off later."

Sutton is taking the wellness concept one big step further this month, hosting an organizing meeting to create a "Community of Wellness." The meeting will take place from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in the Pleasanton Public Library Community Room. "If you know of people who should attend to help form what we are and do, please let them and me know by reply to Ron@MrPedometer.com," Sutton added.

Future World Walk to Wellness group trail walks lead by Dolores Bengtson are planned for March 19 at Callippe Preserve City Golf Course Trail and April 9 at the Marilyn Kane Trail, both Saturdays, and both beginning at 9 a.m. Advance registration is not required for participation.

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UNKNOWN (PG13) DLP THX		1:05	4:05 6:45 9:30
I AM NUMBER FOUR (PG13) DLP D-BOX		12:40	4:15 7:05 9:40
I AM NUMBER FOUR (PG13) DLP		12:00	2:45 5:20 8:00
BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER LIKE SON (PG13) DLP		1:35	4:30 7:15 9:50
GNOME AND JULIET (G) DLP THX		1:30	3:45 6:10 8:20
GNOME AND JULIET 3D (G) DLP		12:20	2:40 4:50 7:10 9:20
JUSTIN BIEBER: NEVER SAY NEVER 3D (G) DLP		1:30	4:10 6:50 9:25
JUST GO WITH IT (PG13) DLP	12:10	1:20	2:50 4:00 5:30 6:40 8:10 9:35
THE EAGLE (PG13) DLP		1:40	4:25 7:00 9:45
THE ROOMMATE (PG13) DLP		12:15	2:30 4:45 7:20 9:30
THE KINGS SPEECH (R) DLP		12:45	4:10 6:50 9:35
TRUE GRIT (PG13) DLP		1:10	6:40 9:10
THE FIGHTER (R) DLP			4:05

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## MAILBOX

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

### Club Questioned Karen Hogan Livermore

A Good News Club has been formed at an elementary school in Livermore. Sponsored by the Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF), its purpose, according to the CEF Website, "... is to evangelize boys and girls with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and establish (disciple) them in the Word of God and in a local church for Christian living."

I spoke with a woman in

the CEF of Northern California office. Over the course of the conversation she told me that while the Bible is inspired by God, Hindu sacred texts are inspired by Satan. Homosexuality is a life-style, a sin on par with murdering a child.

Livermore is a diverse community. We have a Hindu temple. Christianity is practiced in many forms. We have a strong Jewish community as well as a Muslim community. Atheists sip coffee at local cafes seated next to groups conducting Bible studies.

Homosexual "life-style" is indistinguishable from heterosexual "life-style": parents who love their children, work hard to provide for them, help them with homework, take them to church, do their best to guide them into being the person they are meant to be.

I like this diversity. I think it makes for a healthy community. The local Good News Club

is taught from 3:00 to 4:00 PM once a week by an Emma Smith teacher in her classroom. Students attending six weeks in a row will receive a stuffed toy; children who bring a friend, will receive a piece of candy, as will the friend.

While this teacher has the right to teach this after-school class, I feel conducting it in her classroom blurs the line between her role as a public school teacher and her efforts to evangelize children in her religion.

With freedom of speech comes responsibility. I worry that the children in this teacher's club might find it difficult to relate to students of other faiths or "life-styles." The Good News Club could create confusion, friction, and bad feeling among the students.

### Gang Activity Tony Favero Property owner and former Livermore resident Half Moon Bay

Dear Mayor Marshall Kamena, City Manager Linda Barton, Livermore City Council:

This communication addresses a matter of mounting angst concerning our commercial investment at 2255 Chestnut Street, Livermore, located at the intersection of Livermore Ave.

We have expended considerable resources in the last few years to address various security issues affecting our apartment tenants. Among other things, a large masonry wall was constructed to curtail repeated destruction of a chain link fence to discourage further criminal intrusion into the complex, thus restoring a safe and comfortable environment for residents and their children.

At first we assumed these were merely isolated episodes and once resolved, the state of affairs would return to normal. This appears to not be the case as the existing and increasing gang activity in Livermore presents a rising concern to us and other property owners, especially so in the vicinity of the new downtown Livermore developments.

I recently learned that our apartment tenants are increasingly in fear for their property and persons; just last week one tenant observed a gang member jumping over the fence (from city property) in a failed attempt to gain entry into his apartment, last Tuesday evening the same tenant experienced an attempted break in and had a car stolen from the premises. I find the continuing incidents to be very distressing and disturbing, and I would certainly presume that city officials would as well. Note: the latest intrusions emerged from the adjoining city property on Livermore Ave.

Please note that our commercial property is merely one block away from the main core of Livermore's new downtown development and theater. Should the ascendant gang/criminal activity fail to respond to current

city mitigation efforts, then we all know it will only be a matter of time before city commerce will be detrimentally affected, to the harm of all Livermore residents and business owners, resulting in investors with vacant apartments and shuttered businesses. Such escalating criminal behavior will, with certainty, diminish consumer pursuits in Livermore's downtown. It is imperative to continue proactive action assiduously in the matter while it remains manageable in the early stages. Intensifying concerns to this uneasiness will be amplified by others in the future, especially so in the media, should remedial action only diminish or fail to curb criminal gang assaults on property and persons.

I am aware that significant numbers of gang members statewide, as reported from various media sources, are illegal immigrants and as such I desire to know if the city is reporting such individuals caught in gang activity/crimes to ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement) and if not, why not? Your answer to these questions is appreciated.

I encourage the council and police force to relentlessly pursue and utilize all necessary resources to advance successful and effective new strategies leading to the eradication of the escalating law-breaking in the community.

Please let me know if I may provide any assistance to advance this proaction effort.

### Response to Letter Steve Sweeney Chief of Police Livermore Police Department

I am responding to your message on behalf of Mayor Kamena and the City Council. I appreciate you taking the time to alert us to your concerns regarding the incidents of crime that have occurred on your property. Unfortunately, we do experience some gang activity in Livermore but do our best to address it. Over the past few months we have seen an increase in this type of activity, particularly in the Chestnut/North "I" Street area. This has been evident by some acts of violence and associated graffiti. Our patrol officers have been very proactive in addressing the problem by arresting numerous individuals, identifying their gang affiliation for enhancement of criminal charges, and conducting probation and parole searches.

As far as your question regarding Livermore being a sanctuary city, we are not. While we do not target people based upon their citizenship, those who are arrested are transported to the county jail where, among other things, their citizenship status is evaluated.

I have researched the history of calls for service at your specific property and would like to discuss this matter with you further. If you could provide me

with a phone number, I would be happy to personally contact you.

### Use of Classroom Gil Stratton Livermore

Look out Livermore! A little brochure came into my hands from some corporation titled "Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc." which claims to teach kids 5-12 years old "Dynamic Bible Lessons," "Inspiring Missionary Stories," and "Life-Changing Scripture Memories" and apparently will use a classroom provided by a Livermore public school. It claims that the Christian workers are screened by themselves. I just wonder why this group wants to use a public school for their activities. With all the churches in Livermore, I would have thought this corporation could have found a better home in a religious environment. Maybe the existing churches have shunned them for good reason.

If we have learned anything from the missteps of the Catholic Church recently, it is that the downstream lawsuits are financially crippling. If things are too hot for regular churches to touch why in the world would the school district want to underwrite such a religious activity?

There is often a difference between what is legal and what is right. A good example is that Wichita church that disrupts funerals for war veterans. Legal? Yes. Right? No. I see this as the same sort of thing. Legal?

Maybe, but definitely wrong.

### In Memoriam Chris Green Pleasanton

We are approaching 6,000 U.S. soldiers who have died responding to a call to serve our country. This says nothing of the additional lives of the citizens of Iraq and Afghanistan. We continue to spend over \$2 billion a day on this war: money which is actually "borrowed". Pleasanton's current share of this cost is \$523 million. And yet, no one talks about it and it receives no notice in the media. The Iraq/Afghan Wars have outlasted all previous U.S. wars, and we are not out yet.

Do you know anyone involved in the war in Iraq or Afghanistan? Do you care about the men and women who have died for these wars? Pleasantonians 4 Peace cares. We read the names of the lost American soldiers each month. We remember each person and their hometown. They are men and women like you and me, with families and towns in which they were born, grew up and lived.

Care, by joining us on the second Wednesday of each month, in front of the Pleasanton Museum on Main Street, at 7 p.m. We are a grass-roots organization for the East San Francisco Bay. All are welcome. For more information, visit our web page at [www.pleasantonians4peace.org](http://www.pleasantonians4peace.org) and Facebook.

## HEALTHY

(continued from page one)

do this project with our students as the culminating activity for our Human Body Systems unit."

The students could choose any body part that was covered in the unit and make it a healthy or unhealthy specimen. With a few guidelines on making the body parts three-dimensional and suggestions for materials, Ormond turned the students loose.

"I was surprised and thoroughly pleased with what they came up with," she said. "None of them had gone to the exhibit before doing the project. They just used their creativity."

The body parts the students replicated include tongues, teeth, livers, lungs, skulls, skeletons, eyes, hearts, kidneys, brains, large intestines, small intestines, veins, the esophagus, alveoli, and pancreas. They showed gum disease, how Alzheimer's affects the brain, what Crohn's Disease does to the intestines, broken bones, tumors, an infected, twisted large intestine, and cirrhosis of the liver, along with many specimens of perfectly healthy body parts.

Katie Siedl made unhealthy lungs using black balloons to indicate tar. She put a tumor near the top of one lobe and using a straw to blow air into the balloons, demonstrated how the tumor prevents air from reaching the blocked lobe.

Jack Perry also made unhealthy lungs. He was inspired by a project in science class in which the students examined healthy and unhealthy pig lungs. "Seeing how the pig lungs worked made me realize how important the lungs are," he said.

Sophia Jones created a skeleton using a skull keychain, toothpicks of different sizes, and straw from a broom. With help from her uncle, who is an engineer, she was able to make all of the larger bones to scale.

Sophia Nicholas decided to make a model of healthy teeth because her braces and headgear were recently removed. Like the other Sophia's project, she made the different types of teeth to scale. In creating her model, she learned the location of the wisdom teeth.

Looking at Nick Tivey and Jessica Bonfiglio's models of the brain, the difference between a healthy and unhealthy specimen is quite clear. Nick's model brain looks shrunken compared with Jessica's model and has deep grooves. He used pictures of brains of people who died from Alzheimer's disease to create his model.

Ormond also encouraged the students to see the *BODY WORLDS* Vital exhibit for themselves. Sophie Jones' family provided general admission tickets to The Tech Museum for every student who wanted to go.

"It was totally cool," said Tivey. "There was every body part you could imagine. I learned about bones that I never knew existed. Everyone should go see this."

*BODY WORLDS* Vital is the latest chapter in the HUMAN SAGA project, a series of curated museum exhibitions that began with exploration of the brain and neuroscience, cardiology and the heart, human development and longevity and aging. Vital celebrates the potential of the human body and the body in motion. Featuring authentic human bodies, the exhibition shows the body in health, distress, and disease.

*BODY WORLDS* Vital premiered at The Tech Museum and is scheduled to remain open through April 24. For more information and for tickets, visit [www.thetech.org](http://www.thetech.org). To learn more about *BODY WORLDS*, visit [www.bodyworlds.com](http://www.bodyworlds.com).

## OBITUARIES

### Craig Lewis Guymon

Craig Lewis Guymon was born February 20, 1953 in Cedar City, Utah and died unexpectedly on January 31, 2011 in Oakland. In 1954, he and his family moved to Las Vegas, Nevada and later relocated to Livermore, California in 1965. He graduated from Livermore High School in 1971.

Craig worked as an electrician, mechanic, and in recent years at a recycling center in Oakland. He was amazing with his hands and could fix just about anything. Craig was married to Gloria Prindle but was later divorced. He is survived by his parents, Lloyd and Mary Lou Guymon; brothers Steve (Michelle) Guymon and Jesse (Sandy) Guymon; and his sisters Dorothy (Joe) Kennedy and Mary Ann (Dave) Andersen and Angie (Lee) Kendall; and seventeen nieces and nephews.

Any chance he got he enjoyed

being with his family. His quiet sense of humor will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Craig was buried on February 4th at Roselawn Cemetery in Livermore. His memorial service was held on February 5th at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Hillcrest Avenue chapel, Livermore, CA.

### Richard (Dick) Olen Swafford

Richard was born on Aug. 10, 1935, in Fort Wayne, Indiana and passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2011. He was 75 years old.

Richard was a graduate of North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, where he earned a degree in political science. He was a

teacher and basketball coach for 10 years and then served as a sales manager for a school supply company for almost 40 years. He was a member of the Lions Club in Fort Wayne, Indi-

ana, and moved from Indiana to Livermore in 1974 and became a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

His passions included his hometown of Kendallville, IN, basketball, his dogs (Boxers), and traveling. Most of all he was a great provider for his family who he loved and kept as his top priority.

His was preceded in death by his son Kent in 2008. He is survived by his loving wife, Joyce, of 54 years, his children, Kim Coupe and Kevin Swafford both of Livermore, his grandchildren, Sean Swafford, and Krystal and Jeremy Coupe.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, Feb 19, at 3:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore, CA.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Cancer Society or Humane Society would be

appreciated.

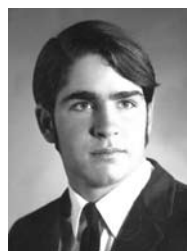
Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

### James John Mattos

Livermore resident James Mattos passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 12, 2011. He was born April 24, 1950. Jim, as he was known to family and friends, touched many lives with his sense of humor, generosity and caring personality.

Jim is survived by Carla, his devoted wife of 34 years; his loving daughters, Sara and Catherine, son-in-law Ryan and grandson John. He is also survived by his mother Faith, sisters Marcia and Glorian, brothers Don and Richard and niece Angela.

Friends and Family are invited to a celebration of Jim's life on February 18 at 11:30 am at the Chapel of Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave, Livermore.





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**Richard Swafford**  
Memorial Service, Sat., Feb 19th, 3PM at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore, Ca

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# Toasting Abe and George For Presidents' Weekend

By Laura Ness

Are you feeling a bit Presidential? Sometimes, it's better to be a former President than a standing one: just ask Mubarak. This coming weekend, whether you're feeling Presidential or not, you'll have three days to celebrate the birthdays of Abe and George, and you won't lack for opportunities to trade a few Abes, Andrews and Grants for a really fine time in Livermore Valley wine country.

First of all, if you missed the official unveiling of the stupendously delicious 2003 Cabernet Port from Steven Kent, and assuming there's any left of it, get on over there and check out not only the new Experience tasting format, but this Port. It will delight you with its heart and soul of cassis. At \$30, (one Andrew and one Alexander), this beautiful Port is so worth it. The bottle alone is poetry.

Fond of fondue? We're sure George enjoyed his cheese, although there's no historical reference to fondue consumption at Mount Vernon. But you can enjoy some great fondue and barrel sampling at Crooked Vine/Stony Ridge, all three days, from 11:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Eagle Ridge invites you to come find out who chopped down that cherry tree, while you feast on food and wine pairings, including Cherries Jubilee and their luscious Zinfandel. Zinfully speaking, this is a terrific tribute to our early Presidents. But don't forget that Petite Sirah—a mighty nice wine for a savory Yankee style pot roast, perhaps?

Speaking of Petite Sirah, the Bent Creek tasting room will be open from noon to 4:30 Saturday, Sunday and Monday. This 2007 is some of the best Petite presently being poured in all of Livermore Valley. Good times start at the end of the road, and continue all the way home to your dining table. Snag some of their 2005 Syrah, on sale for \$115 per case.

Cuda Ridge, home of Presidential purple power, will be open Sat.-Mon. of Presidents weekend. The standard tasting flights, including their recent award winners from the S.F. Chronicle competition, will be available for \$5.00 standard flight, \$10.00 reserve flight. Enjoy cheese pairings, fruit, and crackers. Roger Kardinal, legendary Livermore folk musician, will be playing on Sunday, Feb. 20. Visit [www.CudaRidgeWines.com](http://www.CudaRidgeWines.com) or call 510-304-0914 for more details.

Fenestra gives you a peek of the future this weekend with unreleased wines right from the barrel. Winemaker, Brent Amos, and owner, Lanny Repogle, will share interesting tidbits and facts on the wines as you taste. Regular \$5 tasting fee applies.

Thomas Coyne holds its annual Winter Open House on Presidents weekend at the historical tasting room. Tom plans to release four exciting new wines and will serve a selection of fine fruits and cheeses. Once again, it's time for Bottle Your Own Wine! They will be offering Vino Tinto Barato. Limit 6 per person. Available February 19 & 20, Sat.

and Sun. only. Come and enjoy sweeping views of the valley as the spring rains green everything up all over again.

The annual Wood Family Vineyards, Presidents Weekend Barrel Tasting will celebrate its 5th year this weekend. Rhonda and friends present their Annual Presidential fiesta, Saturday & Sunday, February 19 & 20, from noon - 4:30. They'll be releasing a 2006 Merlot from their own estate vineyard, as well as the 2nd official release of their 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon, McGrail Vineyards along with a barrel sample and futures offering on the awesome 2009 Grenache (*extremely limited production, approximately 40 cases produced*). Reserve your case and become an Extended Family Member. You'll be glad to be part of this family: they never fight, they always agree on what to have with dinner (wine, of course, what else?) and everyone always wants to help with homework, so come on over. There is a \$5 tasting fee and you get to keep your logo'd crystal wine glass, because quite frankly, Rhonda doesn't feel like washing them! Extended Family "Club" members, bring and show your card (or check the list) for waived tasting fee.

Visit Retzlaff over Presidents Day weekend for a chance to do some special barrel samplings, paired with an assortment of goodies. The cost for the barrel tasting is \$5.00, and please stick around to enjoy the current offerings in the tasting room. "Gloria's Pride," is sure to hit the

spot on a cool winter's day, and Zin fans can rejoice in Noah's latest offering.

Concannon invites you to join them on Presidents Day weekend for gourmet artisan cheeses paired with their award-winning wines. \$15/person: \$10/Gatekeeper's Guild members. Reservations recommended: 925-583-1561

Mitchell Katz Winery is also open on Monday, so come on out and grab some of those big medal winner wines before they've disappeared into the annals of history.

Not too early to plan ahead. Here are some happenings into next week:

Wednesday, February 23, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Steven Kent and La Rochelle Winery site, join your host, Steven Kent Mirassou, in the La Rochelle tasting room for a pairing created by Chef Neil Marquis Reservations Required, Please call Tracey at 925-243-6448 to reserve your space, VISIT LRwine.com for complete menu.

Thursday February 24, 2011, 6 p.m.: Retzlaff winemaker dinner at Nonni's Bistro in Pleasanton. Enjoy dishes such as Smoked Salmon Timbale paired with Retzlaff Sauvignon Blanc, Cappuccino of Mushrooms, as well as grilled fresh sturgeon, both paired with Retzlaff Chardonnay, and Duck Breast with Blueberries & Gorgonzola paired with Retzlaff Merlot. There's more! All this for \$65.00 for Future Members, \$75.00 for non members. Call Nonni's Bistro: 925-600-0411

## SHORT NOTES

### Family Game Day

A family game day is planned at the Livermore Lirbray.

Board games—remember those? Make it a family outing! Bring the entire family and learn to play some of the newer hit board games with Kevin O'Hare and friends from KublaCon, a family gaming club ([www.kublacon.com](http://www.kublacon.com)). Enjoy playing some of the familiar classic games you know and love as well. Drop in on Saturday, March 12th, any time between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., in the Craft Room of the Civic Center Library, located at 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

All those attending can enter a contest to win a board-game related prize, sponsored by Cooleykatz Toys!

All ages are welcome to this free library program. Contact Youth Services at (925) 373-5504 or Gary Myer at (925) 373-5500, ext. 5582, for more information.

### Dublin Bowl-a-Rama

Dublin Partners In Education is now recruiting teams to bowl at the annual Bowl-a-Rama event. This family fun event raises money to support program in the Dublin public schools. All families are invited to join in the fun, kids and grandparents are welcome.

The event will be held Sunday, March 6, fun starts at 1:00 till 4. Registration forms are available at all public school offices and at Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowling Center.

Contact Kelly Knabe at 828-255 ex 5423 or e-mail [knabekelly@dublin.k12.ca.us](mailto:knabekelly@dublin.k12.ca.us) for more info.

### Constellations & Flowers

Winter Constellations is the theme of the Sat., Feb. 19 Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger

program. Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 6 p.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park.

Winter is a great time for astronomy (when you can see the stars) as it gets dark so much earlier. That plus the amazing beauty of winter constellations is a great combination. This program will include walking about a mile and a half into the park, observing along the way. Please dress warmly and leave flashlights at home to protect night vision. Canceled if raining.

Sun., Feb. 20, the topic will be First Flowers. Meet Ranger Amy Wolitzer at 2 p.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park.

While the East Coast and the Sierra are still buried under feet of snow, signs of spring are coming on full force here in the Bay Area. Join this nature program to search for the blooms of early spring. Participants will also enjoy the last of the "fungal flowers" of winter as they fade away. This walk will last two to three hours. Canceled if raining heavily.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

### Theater Class

Las Positas College forensics team, the Talk Hawks, will hold a fund-raiser on Fri., Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in room 801 at the college.

The event features a full screening of "Theater Class," a raffle and chance to meet the cast. Tickets are \$5.

All donations and ticket sales support the forensics team. Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore.

For information about Theater Class go to [www.theater-class.com](http://www.theater-class.com).

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**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 446872**

The following person(s) doing business as: Walk On Water Faith (WOW Faith), 3800 Vineyard Ave. Apt J, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Keely Payne, 3800 Vineyard Ave. Apt J, Pleasanton CA 94566

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Keely Payne

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 446543**

The following person(s) doing business as: Vincent's Diamond Sawing & Drilling LLC, 5015 Pisces Ave., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Vincent's Diamond Sawing & Drilling, LLC, 5015 Pisces Ave., Livermore CA 94551

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447209**

The following person(s) doing business as: Esteem Productions, 327 Jillana Ave., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Christina Chan & Brianna Slaven

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447209**

The following person(s) doing business as: Esteem Productions, 327 Jillana Ave., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Christina Chan & Brianna Slaven

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Signature of Registrant: /s/ Christina Chan & Brianna Slaven

The Independent Legal No. 2925. Publish February 3, 10, 17, 24, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447547**

The following person(s) doing business as: Kim's Excellent Cleaning Service, 5015 Pisces Ave., Livermore, CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Kim A. Valdez

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447282**

The following person(s) doing business as: Rockhouse Sports Pub and Grill, 1840 Portola Ave., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Billy Jordan, 73 N. Alta Dena St., Mountain House, CA 95391

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447206**

The following person(s) doing business as: Happy Tails Dog Packs, 3037 Badger Drive, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Janet Vigallon

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447505**

The following person(s) doing business as: Beachcomber Studio, 154 Jensen Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Loren C. Olk, 154 Jensen Way, Livermore, CA 94550

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447495**

The following person(s) doing business as: CMK Solar, 2850 Calle Reynoso, Pleasanton CA, 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Craig Kurotori

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447495**

The following person(s) doing business as: CMK Solar, 2850 Calle Reynoso, Pleasanton CA, 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Craig Kurotori

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447495**

The following person(s) doing business as: CMK Solar, 2850 Calle Reynoso, Pleasanton CA, 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Craig Kurotori

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447495**

The following person(s) doing business as: CMK Solar, 2850 Calle Reynoso, Pleasanton CA, 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Craig Kurotori

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The following person(s) doing business as: CMK Solar, 2850 Calle Reynoso, Pleasanton CA, 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Craig Kurotori

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447495**

The following person(s) doing business as: CMK Solar, 2850 Calle Reynoso, Pleasanton CA, 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Craig Kurotori

Jennifer Alfonso, 4544 Sierawood Lane, Pleasanton, CA 94588

This business is conducted by: an Individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on December 3, 2007

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Jennifer Alfonso

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 19, 2011. Expires January 19, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2932. Publish February 10, 17, 24, and March 3, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447582**

The following person(s) doing business as: the 47th element, 622 Hamilton Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Karen Trown

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2011. Expires February 14, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2943. Publish February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 448055-56**

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) A Livermore Taxi Cab Co., 2) A First Street Cab Co. of Livermore, 849 East Stanley Blvd #475, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Harmony Pennington

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2011. Expires February 14, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2941. Publish February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447950-952**

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) Home Loan Funding, 2) The Home Mart, 3) Trupro Real Estate Services, 39 California Ave. #201, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Gary Stange

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 9, 2011. Expires February 9, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2942. Publish February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 448030**

The following person(s) doing business as: Curves Livermore, 1129 Catalina Dr., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Amber Baydo

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 1, 2011. Expires February 1, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2935. Publish February 10, 17, 24, and March 3, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447533**

The following person(s) doing business as: Hometown House Services, 575 South O St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Mary Marceyes Strommer

This business is conducted by: an Individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on January 27, 2011

/s/ Mary Marceyes Strommer

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2011. Expires January 31, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2940. Publish February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447582**

The following person(s) doing business as: the 47th element, 622 Hamilton Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Karen Trown

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2011. Expires February 14, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2943. Publish February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 448055-56**

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) A Livermore Taxi Cab Co., 2) A First Street Cab Co. of Livermore, 849 East Stanley Blvd #475, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Harmony Pennington

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2011. Expires February 14, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2941. Publish February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447950-952**

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Signature of Registrant: /s/ Gary Stange

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 9, 2011. Expires February 9, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2942. Publish February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 448030**

The following person(s) doing business as: Curves Livermore, 1129 Catalina Dr., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Amber Baydo

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 1, 2011. Expires February 1, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 2935. Publish February 10, 17, 24, and March 3, 2011.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 447533**

The following person(s) doing business as: Hometown House Services, 575 South O St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Mary Marceyes Strommer

This business is conducted by: an Individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on January 27, 2011

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Mary Marceyes Strommer

This business is conducted by: an Individual

The registrant began to trans



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**REAL ESTATE NEWS AND NOTICES**

## Housing Proposals Would Impact Buyers

By Cher Wollard

If you have bought or refinanced real estate with a mortgage, chances are Uncle Sam had a role in your purchase. More than 90 percent of home mortgages are financed or guaranteed by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac or other government entities, according to data from the research firm LPS Applied Analytics.

Last week, the Treasury Department released its report on the future of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, with recommendations to "wind down" the federal government's role in the housing industry over the next five to seven years.

This would be done by gradually reducing the value of loans Fannie and Freddie can guarantee and raising the prices they charge lenders. They also would require larger down payments from borrowers.

"This is a plan for fundamental reform," Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said. "We are going to start the process of reform now, but we are going to do it responsibly and carefully so that we support the recovery and the process of repair of the housing market."

The National Association of Realtors said it welcomes the Obama administration's call for an orderly transition to a new structure that would enable Americans to achieve affordable, sustainable mortgages.

"As the leading advocate for home ownership, NAR recognizes that the existing system failed and that changes are needed to protect taxpayers from an open-ended bailout," said NAR President Ron Phipps.

"We believe there must be a certain level of government participation to provide middle-class families access to affordable mortgages at all times and in all markets."

Instead of one specific proposal, the administration offered three alternative versions, each with different levels of federal involvement, for lawmakers to consider.

The first option would eliminate government guarantees for most mortgages.

The second option would allow the government to offer guarantees to investors only in times of financial distress. The aim of this option is to preserve a steady supply of funds for housing loans, without reducing interest rates in healthy markets.

The third option would offer a more modest shift from current policy: The government would continue to guarantee a broad range of mortgages, but only for lenders who purchase mortgage insurance from a private company.

The report does not, however, advocate the elimination of federal programs that guarantee mortgages for lower-income families, veterans and farmers, including FHA. But these programs would guarantee no more than 15 percent of mortgages, down from a current level of about 30 percent.

All three proposals would likely raise the cost of purchasing a home, thus pushing homeownership beyond the reach of some families. None of the plans, however, would eliminate the government's presence from the housing market entirely.

In general, the government proposes:

- The size of the portfolio held by government housing finance industries would shrink by about 10 percent per year.
- Minimum downpayment requirements would increase to 10 percent for government-guaranteed loans.
- An insurance fund for mortgages would be created, which would operate much like bank deposit insurance, supported by premiums paid by lenders.
- The fees charged to cover the risk of default would be increased, thus reducing the need for government subsidies.
- Most of the mortgage market would gradually be turned over to the private sector.

So what does this mean for buyers and sellers? Possible outcomes include:

- Increased interest rates. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac guarantee the mortgages they buy, so investors are willing to accept relatively low interest rates, which are then passed on to consumers.

However, the system works only because taxpayers ultimately are liable. Since 2008, the government has spent more than \$135 billion honoring Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac mortgage guarantees.

Without Fannie and Freddie, investors are likely to demand higher interest rates on the money they lend. How much higher is subject to debate; estimates range from less than half a percent to several percentage points.

Historically, mortgage interest rates have been about 8 percent. Today's rates on conforming loans are slightly above 5 percent. Rates on adjustable loans are even lower.

Nearly universal use of mortgage insurance. Currently, FHA mortgages and mortgages with low downpayments require mortgage insurance, which can add hundreds of dollars to monthly payments.

Under the administration's proposals, the government would provide incentives for private mortgage insurance companies, as well as insure some mortgages for a fee. This may somewhat mitigate the push toward higher interest rates.

Less availability of 30-year fixed-rate mortgages. While many people believe the housing crisis was precipitated by the rise of non-conforming adjustable rate mortgages, the 30-year fixed-rate loan could become a relic of the past.

That's because private lenders have never been very interested in locking in interest rates over such a long period of time. Without direct competition from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, they are less likely to make such loans.

Fixed-rate mortgages have never existed without government support. They were introduced by the Federal Housing Administration in the 1930s, and have been the most popular form of home financing in the United States ever since.

Such mortgages are rare in other countries, however, with adjustable mortgages or shorter-term mortgages being more readily available.

So why do those seeking to avert a future housing meltdown focus so much on government programs?

The role that federal home ownership policies played in the housing crisis, and particularly the role of Fannie and Freddie, is controversial.

A few scholars contend Fannie and Freddie fueled the crisis by financing vast numbers of questionable loans. But most experts say they simply chased after the bad behavior of other lenders to reclaim market share. In either case, their acquisition of bad loans saddled taxpayers with huge losses.

NAR analysts note that when private capital fled the marketplace during the recent financial crisis, government backing of residential mortgages was crucial to sustaining the housing market.

"Without government support, the financial crisis could have been far worse," Phipps said.

In general, the real estate industry is cautiously optimistic the proposals will ultimately strengthen the industry. However, they caution that changes to the current structure should not undermine the ability of families to own homes they can afford.

"Reducing the government's involvement in the mortgage finance market is necessary for a healthy market, but should not be done at the expense of the economy or homebuyers," Phipps said.

"Any proposal for increasing fees and borrowing costs beyond actuarially sound levels will only make it harder for working, middle-class individuals to achieve home ownership, and only the wealthy will be able to achieve the American dream."

If you are thinking about purchasing or selling your home, or refinancing your mortgage, and want to do so before changes are enacted, contact your local Realtor.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.





Photo - Doug Jorgensen

LT. John Fields is pictured center back holding his nephew. Surrounding him are family and friends. For more photos, go to [independentnews.com](http://independentnews.com).

## Big Welcome Home

Lieutenant John Fields was greeted with a Welcome Home Ceremony who was returning after 13 months in Afghanistan. It was his 7th deployment in Afghanistan.

Livermore Military Families, family and friends hosted the welcome at the Livermore home of his sister, Deborah Fields. A motorcycle escort traveled with him from San Francisco Airport to Livermore.

A large flag was hung on the front of the house.

According to those who attended, John was "floored" by the welcome home.

During his most recent deployment, John was the Biometrics OIC, assigned to a Special Task Force to identify Afghan citizens against the Terrorist Watch List. He led a Joint Service team on over 80 field operations throughout Afghanistan that involved direct contact with criminals and insurgents and exposure to insurgent attacks. John and his team conducted over 30,000 biometric enrollments resulting in the detention of 68 criminals and insurgents.

He was injured at least twice during this deployment.

The first injury was when a bomb went off in close proximity. It knocked him unconscious leaving him with very little hearing in one ear. The other, more serious injury required that he be flown off of the base, to a more sophisticated medical unit in Germany. This happened to coincide with the Volcano Cloud eruption in Iceland that completely shut down European flight travel. In route to Germany, John's plane was redirected to Iraq (mid-air) where John received treatment.

John is currently an O3 in line for a promotion to O4.

## McNerney Introduces Recycled Water Bill

Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton, has introduced legislation that would provide \$125 million in grant funding for recycled water.

The bill, HR 395, has the title Healthy Communities Water Supply Act. It is an amendment to the federal Clean Water Act.

The bill was introduced Jan. 24. It is expected to be assigned to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, which deals with water projects.

McNerney visited the recycled water project in the 11th Congressional District that is run

jointly by Dublin San Ramon Services District and EBMUD to learn firsthand about what recycling projects are accomplishing. The joint partnership, organized in the 1990s, is called DERWA, or DSRSD EBMUD Eastbay Recycled Water Agency.

Wastewater projects like DERWA are "a good investment for our area and our state," said McNerney.

Much of California's water supply is being squeezed in two ways. Environmental problems in the Delta must be solved to enable more water to flow through there to customers in the Valley

and in Central and Southern California. Climate change is also predicted to bring longer droughts.

McNerney said in a prepared release, "Given the fragile state of California's water supply, it's crucial that we invest in ways to increase our water availability. This legislation provides grants to improve water sources through innovative means like recycling and reclamation projects."

McNerney introduced similar legislation, which was passed by the House, in previous sessions of Congress. However, the bills did not advance in the Senate.

## Nominations Sought for Community of Character Award

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative is soliciting nominations for the 2011 Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award. The Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award was established in 2008 to recognize Pleasanton citizens chosen by their peers who consistently model high ethical and moral standards of behavior advocated by the Collaborative: Responsibility, Compassion, Self-Discipline, Honesty, Respect and Integrity.

The award is named in honor of longtime Pleasanton Unified School District Board Member and community volunteer, Juanita Haugen. Haugen, co-founder of the Pleasanton Community of Character program, believed that part of Pleasanton's suc-

cess is due to its compassionate citizens. She wished to remind people to model ethical standards of behavior.

This year's Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award recipients will be announced May 11, 2011 at the Community of Character Collaborative Celebration at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

Anyone wishing to nominate a person who has demonstrated a commitment to our Community of Character traits through their volunteer work may download a form at the following: [www.communityofcharacter.org](http://www.communityofcharacter.org). The deadline for nominees is April 15, 2011.

Nomination forms are also available at the Pleasanton School District office, 4665 Bernal Av-

enue; The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce office, 777 Peters Avenue; The Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal; or The Civic Center, 200 Old Bernal.

Nominees must be Pleasanton residents, demonstrate a commitment to quality volunteer work in the community and exhibit volunteerism above and beyond their day to day job responsibilities.

Past award recipients are Dr. Pushpa Dalal (2010), Chris Miller (2010), Bob Athenour (2010), The George A. Spiliotopoulos Invitational Tournament Volunteers (2010), Jerri Pantages-Long (2009), Sue Evans (2009), Ken Mano (2009), Lori Rice (2008), and Diana and Howard Mendenhall (2008).

## Lab Showcases Energy Work

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is showcasing its work in energy research when the American Association for the Advancement of Science holds its annual gathering, Feb. 17-21, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center.

This year's theme, "Science Without Borders," integrates interdisciplinary science - both across research and teaching - that utilizes diverse approaches as well as the diversity of its practitioners.

The Lab will join hundreds of other research institutions, universities, high-tech industries and professional societies to present exhibits on all facets of science. The Lab's booth will be open to conference participants Feb. 18-20, and family day guests Feb. 19-20.

The exhibit will feature an energy-related theme with two major components. The first includes a 3D virtual ride on a beam of light as it barnstorms through the National Ignition Facility (NIF) - the world's largest laser system - and smashes into a BB-sized target filled with fusion fuel, all in a quest to develop fusion as a future energy source.

The second area focuses on finding solutions for the energy-climate challenge. Visitors can try out a simulation developed by LLNL scientists as a learning tool about energy and climate change. Players face the challenge of meeting the world's 21st century energy demands on a fixed budget while keeping carbon emissions at a minimum.

"This exhibit features two of the Laboratory's most exciting and important research thrusts - laser fusion research with NIF and understanding climate change and the impact of our

energy choices, all aimed at ensuring the nation's energy security," said Tomás Díaz de la Rubia, LLNL deputy director for science and technology.

Throughout the conference, assorted Lab scientists will speak on topics of national interest, from future sources of clean, renewable energy to adventures in antimatter.

Lab chemist Trish Baisden will help celebrate the 100th anniversary of Marie Curie's second Nobel Prize with "Marie Curie, the Premier Chemist, Co-Discoverer of Radiation and Radioactivity." Baisden will be one of three speakers who will reflect on Curie's work. The session begins at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 18.

Also that day, Jane Long, principal associate director at large, will present a discussion on "Portraits of the California Energy System in 2050: Cutting Emissions by 80 Percent," beginning at 1:30 p.m. This study looks at ways California can meet the governor's order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. During this ses-

sion, speakers will explore the construction of energy system portraits for meeting stringent emission standards, what can be learned and areas of focus.

Lab physicist Hui Chen will present "Generation of Positrons with Intense Laser Light," as part of the session "Through the Looking Glass: Recent Adventures in Antimatter." Antimatter provides unique opportunities in science and technology, ranging from fundamental tests of the symmetries of nature to the study of materials and human metabolism. This symposium explores forefront science with positrons (the antiparticles of electrons), antiprotons, antiatoms and the most complex antinuclei yet observed. The symposium takes

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## Coin Club Annual Show Set in March

The Livermore Valley Coin Club will hold its 48th annual coin show and sale on Sunday March 6, 2011, from 10 am to 5 pm. The show will be held at the Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Drive Springtown in Livermore.

More than 30 dealers from all over Northern California will offer gold, silver, and base metal coins from the United States and foreign countries. Ancient coins will be offered as well. Prices range from a few cents to hundreds of dollars.

Dealers will make appraisals and purchase coins from the public.

Admission is free. Wooden "nickels" commemorating the event will be given away while

supplies last. This year's raffle will feature a U.S. \$10 gold coin (1/2 ounce of gold) for the grand prize and 14 additional runner-up gold and silver coins. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6/\$5.00, available at the show. An hourly drawing will also be held for a U.S. silver dollar.

Members of the Livermore Valley Coin Club will set up numismatic displays, information table and will be available to discuss the club's activities. Lunch service will be provided by Pit Stop BBQ & Deli. For further information please call Stephen Kramer at (925) 980-9307.

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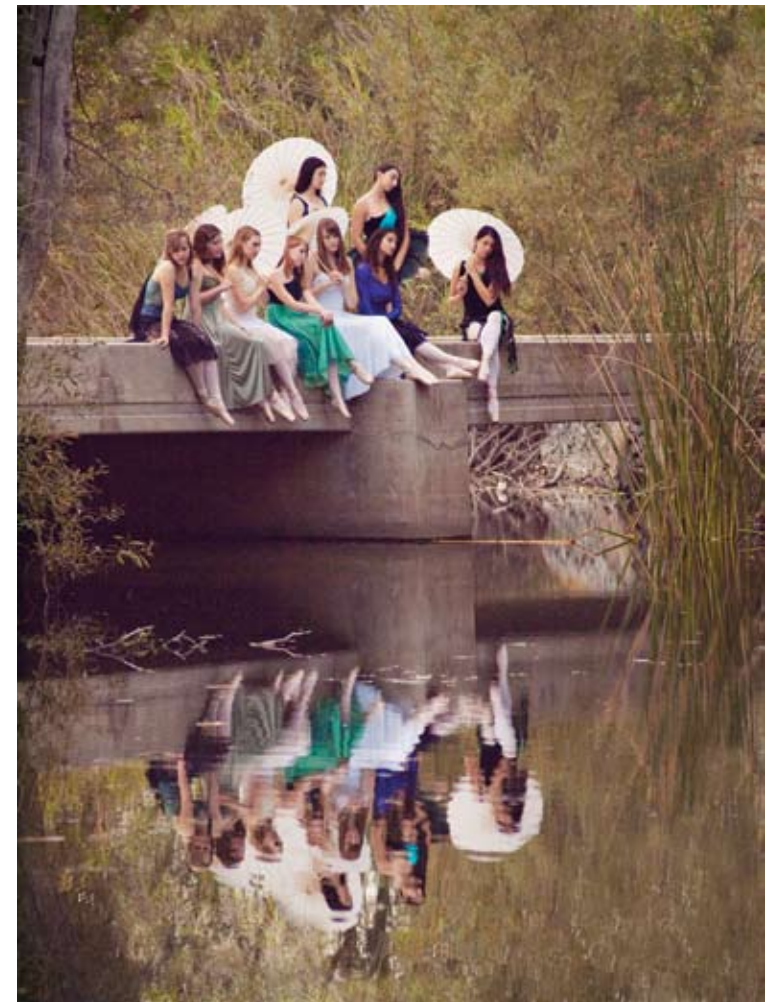
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# Art, Community, & Education



## Dance Presentation Benefits Diabetic Youth Foundation

Le Tableau Magnifique, ballet company for Livermore School of Dance, will be performing "Variations in Motion" at The Bankhead Theater on Saturday, March 5, 2011, with performances at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The performances are a benefit for The Diabetic Youth Foundation. A portion of the proceeds will be given to the organization.

The Company will present five different programs starting with a full-length production of the story ballet, Coppelia, the classic, comedic tale. The dancers will then perform a montage from the Broadway hit musical, Wicked, which brings to life the friendship of Glinda, the Good Witch, and Elphaba (also known as "The Wicked Witch of the West").

Diablo Ballet Dancer and former Miami City Ballet Company member, David Fonnegra, adds a Balanchine style piece to the repertory with a "Tribute to Serenade," set to Tchaikovsky's beautiful score. "Dancing Through Time" illustrates the evolution of ballet,

starting with the classically romantic Les Sylphides and Sleeping Beauty and evolving into more jazzy-style ballet with dances to The Andrews Sisters and 70's era music and progressing to the very contemporary and athletic movement set to Thom Willems' "In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated."

The ensemble concludes with "Elements," which represents the earth and its beauty. From rain and wind to fire and flowers to celestial lights, this piece fuses classical and contemporary styles with fabrics, lights, and diverse movement.

Please contact The Bankhead Theater at (925) 373-6800 or via their website at [www.livermore-performingarts.org](http://www.livermore-performingarts.org). Tickets are \$18, \$20, and \$24. There will be a dessert reception in the lobby following each performance.

Le Tableau Magnifique Ballet Company dancers have performed for local charitable venues, including The Taylor Family Foundation, Rosewood Gardens, Heri-

(continued on page 6)

Photos of "Variations in Motion" by Kerri Hamilton.





## The Tubes to Rock the Firehouse in Pleasanton

The Tubes will rock the Firehouse Arts Center on March 4.

Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center will host the San Francisco-based rock group for an 8:00 p.m. performance. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

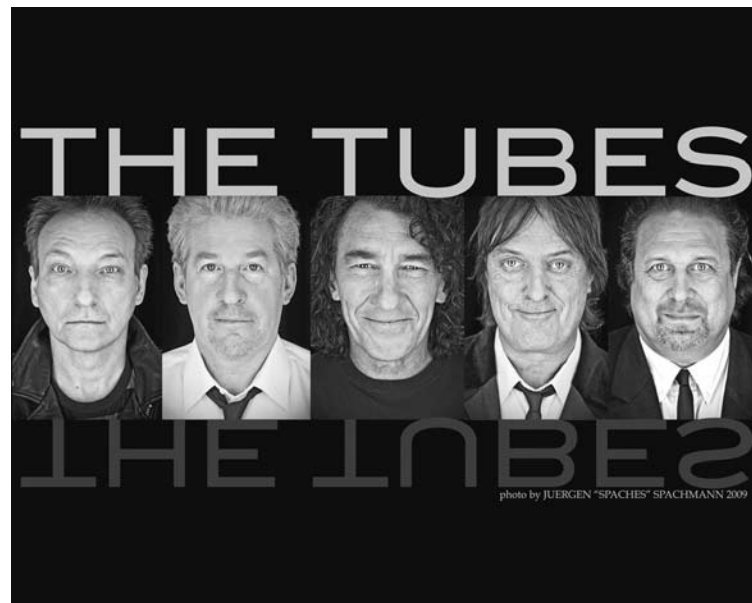
The Tubes' 1975 debut album included the hit single "White Punks on Dope," a tribute to their rich, white fans in San Francisco. During the band's first 15 years, its live performances were characterized by wild satires of media, consumerism and politics. The group developed a faithful cult following and continues to draw audiences throughout the United States and abroad. The Tubes' most recent album, "Mondo Birthmark," was released in 2009, and contains previously unreleased rare photos

and interviews of the group.

From the group's inception, The Tubes' musicians have put creativity and art skills into their live performances and have been known through the years for their theatrics. One critic opined that with their media savvy and theatrical skills, The Tubes were "born to create rock video, but arrived several years too early." The band did produce at least one collection of music videos, however, which were issued on the 1982 Pioneer Artists laserdisc "The Tubes Video." The recording contained versions of twelve of the band's hits, mostly from "The Completion Backwards Principle" album, including "Mondo Bondage," "Talk to Ya Later," and "White Punks on Dope", based on the group's stage shows.

Today's complement of The Tubes includes four members of the original band that formed in 1969: vocalist Fee Waybill, guitarist Roger Steen, drummer Prairie Prince and bass player Rick Anderson. Keyboardist David Medd joined the band in 1996.

Tickets are \$30, \$35 and \$40. Group discounts are available. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. The entrance to free parking is on Spring Street near First Street.



## Off-Broadway Comedy, 'Queen of Bingo' at Firehouse

Theater A Go-Go will present its production of Queen of Bingo at the Firehouse Arts Center February 24-27.

Performances will take place at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, February 24, 25 and 26, and at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 27. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

Queen of Bingo is an Off-Broadway hit comedy about a night in the lives of Sis and Babe, two sisters on the older side of 50 who want to add a little fun and excitement to their lives with a night out at the local bingo game. In a comedic twist, the sisters are played by two male actors. Shane Partlow (Sis) and Rowan Joseph

(Babe) are seasoned actors who have appeared in dozens of productions on both stage and screen. Partlow is well-known to Bay Area audiences for his appearances as a guest equity actor with Diablo Light Opera Company (DLOC) in 2008. He won the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award for Best Actor in a Musical for his portrayal of Will Rogers in *The Will Rogers Follies* with DLOC that year.

Addressing to topics of bingo, family bonds, widowhood, diet crazes, winning and losing and sibling rivalry with humor and hilarity appropriate for all age groups, the show features the "middle bird special" just before intermission. During that segment, the audience is invited to join in the fun



Shane Partlow and Rowan Joseph perform.

with a bingo game of its own and the chance to win a frozen turkey. Photos of all turkey winners are posted on the Theatre A Go-Go website, [www.theatreagogo.com](http://www.theatreagogo.com).

Tickets to Queen of Bingo are Adult-\$13, \$20 and \$25; Child-\$15 and Senior-\$22. They may be purchased online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office.

Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. Group discounts are available. Entrance to free parking is on Spring Street near First Street.

## A Look at Lost San Francisco Landmarks Part of Livermore Read Program

Author James R. Smith will discuss his book *San Francisco's Lost Landmarks* at 7pm on Tuesday, February 22 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. There is no charge for this event.

People who recall San Francisco's prior days bemoan that it just isn't the same... and they're right. San Francisco will always remain one of the world's great cities, but yesterday's San Francisco, with its personalized style and charm,

had no rival. San Francisco's earthquakes, 1906 and prior will be presented in a richly illustrated discussion of how the city earned its seal and what really happened.

James Smith's book *San Francisco's Lost Landmarks* is not just a list of places, facts and dates — this pictorial history shows why San Francisco has been a legendary travel destination as well as one of the world's premier places to live and work for more than one hundred and fifty years. It not

only tells of the lost landmarks, but also dishes up the flavor of what it was like to experience these past treasures.

California historian James R. Smith is the author of *San Francisco's Lost Landmarks* and *San Francisco's Playland at the Beach: The Early Years*, as well as a number of historical articles. He co-authored *The California Snatch Racket: Kidnappings during the Prohibition and Depression Eras* with friend and noted author W.

Lane Rogers. The pair also co-wrote *Serious Mischief: Crimes in California*, slated for publication in 2012. Smith is currently working on *San Francisco's Playland at the Beach: The Golden Years, covering 1945 through 1972*.

This program is part of *Livermore Reads Together*, a community-wide reading program featuring James Dalessandro's book, *1906: A Novel*, about the San Francisco earthquake and fire. The community of Livermore is encouraged

to join their neighbors by participating in the *Livermore Reads Together* free events for children and adults during the month of February 2011. Copies of books and event schedules are available at all Livermore Public Library locations. *Livermore Reads Together* is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library.

For additional events check the library's website at [www.livermore.lib.ca.us](http://www.livermore.lib.ca.us).



# The Music of Doris Day Planned for Bankhead

Vocalist Laura Didier and the Jim Martinez Jazz Trio will present "The Music of Doris Day" at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Sunday, February 27, 2011. The show starts at 2 pm.

Jim Martinez, 45, is a Classically-trained Jazz pianist based in Sacramento, California and has performed or recorded with some of the biggest names in Jazz. Lionel Hampton, the Stan Kenton Band, the Nelson Riddle Orchestra, Bucky Pizzarelli, Christian McBride, Roy Hargrove and many others. He opened All-Star Night for twelve consecutive years in a row at the 2007 Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Moscow, Idaho. Jim recently worked as pianist and musical director for Joan Rivers and Bob Newhart. He has recorded thirteen CD's and performs internationally.

At a Jazz jam session in early 2007, Martinez met vocalist Laura Didier. They discovered quickly

that they had the chemistry needed to form a musical partnership. "Laura was a bright talent that needed some polishing. I saw it right away and invited her to join my Jazz group," explained Jim. "We worked often in clubs, festivals, wineries, wherever Jazz is played. She even traveled internationally with us. Laura certainly got a crash course education in singing with a high energy trio".

This education came just at the right time. Jim and Laura received not only accolades for their music, but an interesting common observation from fans. "I would need four hands to count how many times someone told us Laura reminded them of Doris Day," Jim recalled. "Not just her voice but everything else, too. We heard it so much it was uncanny."

"One day, I said to Laura, 'Hey, we should do a tribute to Doris Day!' Her eyes lit up. We both

knew that, if done right, a tribute would be a wonderful and thoroughly entertaining event!"

"I threw myself into research for this show," says Laura. "I read everything I could find on Doris Day, I watched her movies, her TV shows, and in doing so, I discovered many interesting facts about this multi-talented star. I love sharing these stories with our audiences and they've expressed how much it adds to their enjoyment of the evening."

The Doris Day tribute features Didier, backed by the Jim Martinez Trio, singing many of Doris' greatest hits from her big band and movie years. Didier added, "For anyone who grew up with Doris Day, this concert will certainly bring back fond memories. But even if they didn't grow up with her, folks always leave with huge smiles and we love it!"

"The Music of Doris Day" con-



Laura Didier and Jim Martinez to perform.

cert takes place at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on Sunday, February 27 at 2 pm. Didier, backed by the Jim Martinez Jazz Trio, will also perform some of Doris' popular hits spanning five decades, including "Sentimental

Journey," "Secret Love" and "Que Sera Sera (Whatever Will Be, Will Be)". Audiences will also be treated to stories, highlights and anecdotes from Ms. Day's career.

For tickets, go to [www.LivermorePerformingArts.org](http://www.LivermorePerformingArts.org).

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# 'Yeomen of the Guard' - Musical, Mirth and Mystery

by Susan Steinberg

After two triumphant runs in Walnut Creek and San Francisco, the Lamplighters will finally bring their stunning production of G & S's "Yeomen of the Guard" to Livermore on February 19 and 20.

Just imagine the stately old Tower of London magnificently re-created on the Bankhead stage. As my grandchildren would say, "AWESOME!" Throw in a rousing chorus of traditionally red-uniformed Beefeaters (the Tower guards), eight (count them - eight) outstanding singers, a rowdy but tuneful crowd of 17th Century Londoners, and you have some idea of this show's magnitude.

Those "topsy-turvy" musical comedy partners, Gilbert and Sullivan, always aspired to write a more "important" or "serious" work. Even Queen Victoria suggested it to Sir Arthur when she knighted him. (Curmudgeonly social critic Gilbert had to wait a lot longer for that honor, as his sarcastic parodies of governmental idiocy had really rankled royalty.)

In "Yeomen" they found their perfect subject: political intrigue and romantic plotting at London's oldest historical monument. Long a repository for the Crown Jewels, refuge for the royal family, and lock-up for such famous prisoners as Queen Anne Boleyn, her daughter Princess Elizabeth, Sir Walter Raleigh, and the two poor little princes supposedly done to death by their uncle, Richard III,

the Tower still fascinated with its lore and legends.

The plot was set in the chaotic era of the Puritan rebellion against autocratic King Charles II, when accusations of witchcraft, treason, or both could sent an innocent man to the executioner's block on Tower Green, a fate that awaits the play's gallant hero as the curtain opens.

Colonel Fairfax, a much-admired soldier, has been imprisoned and sentenced to death on the false testimony of an influential cousin, scheming to inherit his fortune if he dies a bachelor.

Anxious to thwart his greedy accuser, Fairfax arranges to be married before his execution. A terrified young girl, in need of money to buy medicine for her sick mother, consents to be blindfolded and wed for "an hour of marriage" in exchange for a purse of gold. She is Elsie Maynard, a strolling minstrel, traveling with jester Jack Point, and playing to local crowds to earn a few coins.

Imagine her horror when good friends manage to liberate Colonel Fairfax., boldly presenting him in a Guardsmen's uniform as the heroic son of their beloved Sgt. Meryll. And imagine the shame and consternation of those respected soldiers who have seemingly allowed a "great villain" to escape!

Even more distraught are Jack Point, who had planned to marry Elsie, now still a wife rather than a widow, and lunk-headed buffoon Wilford Shadbolt, Chief Jailor



and Head Tormenter, now in deep disgrace.

Only two characters are happy at this unexpected development. One is Sgt. Meryll's flirtatious daughter Phoebe, who has had a girlish crush on the handsome doomed colonel, and now can freely hug and kiss him as her supposed "brother." The other is Fairfax himself, who learns to his joy that Elsie is his unknown bride, giving him the delightful opportunity to woo his own wife, trying to test her constancy.

Pursuing Phoebe is her clumsy suitor Wilfred, and pursuing Phoebe's father is that implacable old spinster, Dame Carruthers. Which couples will be happily

(or not) united, and which forever separated? That's the captivating cliffhanger right down to the very last moment.

While the complex plot evolves, listeners are treated to some of the most beautiful G&S music ever written, beginning with a full symphonic overture. A glorious series of solos, duets, quartets, and full-throated choruses fill the score, including such favorites as the lyrical "I Have A Song To Sing, Oh", and the famous patter song "A Private Buffoon Is A Lighthearted Loon."

Gilbert's wickedly witty humor is also on display, especially in echoes of Shakespeare's Jester Jaques, as Jack Point sings: "When

offered to the world in merry guise, unpleasant truths are swallowed with a will. So he who'd make his fellow creatures wise should always gild the philosophic pill."

Two separate casts of equal excellence alternate in the major roles, all with outstanding voices (non-miked) and impressive acting skills, a combination which has earned the Lamplighters national and international acclaim and awards.

With veteran director Barbara Heroux at the helm and beloved company conductor Baker Peebles leading the full Lamplighter orchestra, "Yeomen" is a rare delight. Peter Crompton designed the imposing set, and the gorgeous period costumes were created by the late great John Gilkerson.

All the clever lyrics are now clearly shown on supertitles, so the audience can enjoy every hilarious line, a great modern innovation.

Having joined the standing ovation at a packed Yerba Buena Center performance in San Francisco last week, this reviewer is looking forward to enjoying the rich theatrical experience again at Livermore's Bankhead Theater.

"Yeomen" will play for only two shows, on Saturday, February 19 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, February 20 at 2 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets are available at the box-office, by phone at 925-373-6800, or online at [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

## Las Positas to Host Cuban Week Celebration

Las Positas College will present Cuban Week/La Semana Cubana, February 22-25, featuring a celebration of the Cuban people, history, art, dance, music, and religions, providing education, information - and a chance to practice speaking Spanish.

All events are free and open to the public. They will take place 7-9 p.m. each day. For a complete schedule, please visit the website at [www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu). Donations are requested for the Cuban Association for the Disabled, a public program helping children with special needs in Cuba.

The theme of the fourth annual Cuban Week is "Yemaya: Embracing the Earth." The festival, organized by Cubans living throughout the Bay Area, is sponsored by the Las Positas College Spanish Department, with support from the Las Positas College Foundation, The Milanese Family Gift Fund, and BasicNecessities.org.

This past November, Chabot College History Instructor Rick Moniz organized "Faces of Cuba,"

a trip to Cuba as an education and cultural exchange. Las Positas College Foreign Language Instructor and Coordinator Catherine Suárez saw this as an opportunity for philanthropy and sent out a request for donations.

The two faculty members will share stories of their trip during Cuban Week at the presentation, "Cuba through My Eyes," on Thursday, February 24, 7-9 p.m. in the Barbara Fracisco Mertes Center for the Arts Black Box Theater.

The generosity of many students, staff, faculty, and residents of East Bay communities brought countless smiles to the "Faces of Cuba" cultural exchange program. Suárez said she was "overwhelmed" with all the funding and donations. "I was able to fill five extra large duffel bags with all of the school and medical supplies donated," she said. Hundreds of Cubans, including many children, received shoes, socks, soap, toothpaste, books, baseballs, art supplies, medical supplies - and Las



Faculty members Rick Moniz of Chabot College and Catherine Suárez of Las Positas College visit a synagogue in Havana, during a November trip to Cuba where they met people of many different faiths including Jewish, Baptist, Santería, and Catholic.

Positas College t-shirts.

"My goal with this project is to use education, art, and culture to bring the American and the Cuban communities together for a

common cause. I believe that the human spirit is much stronger than any government," said Suárez, who founded Las Positas College's Cuban Week four years ago. She

also is director and co-founder of a local non-profit organization, BasicNecessities, helping families and individuals in need who live within the Tri-Valley.

Suárez pointed to Moniz as the "mastermind" behind "Faces of Cuba." On his 20 trips to Cuba, he has taken hundreds of students and community members to visit with doctors, teachers, architects, women's organizations, farmers, cooperatives, and Cuba's solar energy leaders.

During the November trip, the group traveled on a religious license, meeting people of many different faiths including Jewish, Baptist, Santería, and Catholic. The delegation brought donations to churches, synagogues, medical clinics, hospitals, libraries, and schools, including an art school for students with Down syndrome. Suárez said they hope to travel to Cuba again in January of 2012.

Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore. There is a parking fee.



## Yesterday into Today

# A Look Back at the 60s

By Sarah Bobson

"... my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country."

Those words, eloquent, iconic, delivered by John F. Kennedy in his 1961 inaugural address, captured the hearts and minds of the 60's generation, a generation that believed one person could make a difference, could make the world a better place.

Sargent Shriver's death last month on January 18 at the age of 95, and JFK's address, delivered 50 years ago on January 20 (eerie how close the dates are), bring to mind that generation's idealism. Shriver took up his brother-in-law's clarion call. Although his Alzheimer's prevented him before he died from remembering his legacy, he leaves behind programs such as Head Start, Job Corp, Upward Bound, Foster Grandparents, and Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA).

I will remember Shriver most for the Peace Corps, which he founded in 1961. In its early days, I thought becoming a Peace Corps volunteer (you were called a volunteer, although you were paid a small stipend, and provided with room and board) meant going to some distant, exotic part of the world and helping the poor inhabitants develop agricultural programs, learn English, and build roads and bridges. For this, the locals, I imagined, would not only be able to improve their lives, but they would see what great people Americans were. Looking back over the years and the trail of volunteers suspected of being spies or, what's worse, murdered, I see this was an idealistic and naïve notion.

My sweetheart took up the clarion call to join the Peace Corps in order to obtain a deferment from another government call: the draft. Up until then (1968), Chris had avoided becoming one of Uncle Sam's boys by serving a stint in VISTA, the domestic equivalent to the Peace Corps.

I would like to think that Chris accomplished some good in VISTA. He and three of his deferment buddies worked out of a parish in East Harlem. What they did there, though, was not clear to me since they slept late, got to work around noon, and called it quits by 4.

They lived in the local com-

munity, in an apartment strewn with what appeared to be every newspaper they had ever read, dirty clothes, unwashed dishes, and empty beer bottles. Looking down on this archaeological site was a gallery of political and cultural posters affixed to the walls with scotch tape.

The first time I walked into that apartment, I was struck by a poster of the handsome, somber Che Guevara, his faced framed by that iconic beret, moustache, long hair, and dark beard. Che, as he was simply and reverently called by his admirers, Chris among them, was Fidel Castro's right-hand man during the Cuban Revolution. Che became a martyr in 1967, when he was killed by CIA-assisted forces in Bolivia.

On another poster, Bob Dylan, another of Chris' heroes, stood in front of a New York City building, peering with dark, brooding, poet's eyes, his hair, curly and wild about his face, a checkered muffler wound around his neck. Chris, also a musician and songwriter, wore his own curly hair like Dylan's, untamed and free. Chris' voice adopted the same nasal quality. At the time, I didn't think it sounded like singing, perhaps because I was studying opera.

So, after VISTA, Chris joined the Peace Corps, which deferred him from the guns and the possibility of getting his head blown off in Vietnam. He taught English in the landlocked, West African country of Niger. I remained behind in New York City, where I attended college.

For two years, we sent each other aerogrammes (a compact, lightweight letter and envelope, all in one), sometimes two and three a day, of love mixed with current events, politics, and polemics. The

aerogrammes, sent via air mail, took 10 to 14 days to be delivered. They always seemed to crisscross in the mail, creating a crazy quilt of communication. By the time I got an answer, I had forgotten the question.

It was my duty to keep Chris well stocked with news and stuff from back home. I sent copies of political magazines like *The New Republic*, alternative newspapers like *The Village Voice*. I made audiocassettes of LP's (long-playing records) like The Beatles' "Abbey Road," and single hits such as "Baby Love" and "Stop in the Name of Love" by Diana Ross and the Supremes.

Although the Peace Corps provided Chris with a deferment, I don't think he ever felt comfortable accepting what I believe seemed to him to be a selfish escape. I think he also felt he was letting his grandmother down. She was, after all, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

So, when Chris returned home from the Peace Corps, he immediately enlisted in the Army, three months before he turned 26, the age that granted an automatic deferment. The Army sheared his Dylan locks and gave him its own brand of combat deferment by placing him in a communications division in Thailand.

Before shipping overseas, Chris visited me. One evening, we attended a rock concert. Next to the long-haired, pot-smoking hippies wearing tie-dyed shirts, love beads, and frayed, bell-bottom jeans, Chris, in green fatigues, his hair cut short, looked out of place. On the outside, he resembled the enemy, the warmonger, but on the inside I knew he was still one of them.

Those were idealistic, but schizophrenic times.

## New Session of Paws to Read at Livermore Library

Based on the overwhelming response to this popular program in which children read to dogs, the *Paws to Read* program will begin its new season at the Rincon Library this March. *Paws to Read*, a program sponsored by the Livermore Public Library and the Valley Humane Society, is based on studies which show that reading with trained therapy dogs can improve a child's self-esteem and confidence, as well as encourage a child to read more. This program has proved to be very popular with youngsters perfecting their reading skills.

The Spring program series at Rincon Library will take place on Friday afternoons, March 4

through April 29, with two sessions between 3 and 4 p.m. (No sessions will be held on April 8 due to Spring Break.) Sessions will be approximately 25 minutes long and will be held in the Rincon Library Meeting Room. Registration begins Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Children may register for up to three sessions during the Spring series, as space allows. Drop-ins may be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Participating children should not be fearful of dogs or have allergies to pets.

For more information or to register, please call the Rincon Library at 925-373-5540.

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SOURCE & ACADEMY



Music Review

# Two Talented Teenagers Amaze the Audience

By Nancy O'Connell

The Livermore-Amador Symphony, under the direction of Dr. Arthur Barnes, performed an exciting concert at Livermore's Bankhead Theater on Feb. 12. Two very gifted young artists, Anna Lorenz, harpist, and Da Eun Kim, violinist, performed flawlessly with the symphony. Listeners were enchanted with their obvious mastery of their instruments. Both were winners of the 2010-2011 Competition for Young Musicians.

Not everyone in the audience was aware that the doors actually opened at 7 p.m., when a half-hour lecture was presented on the musical program. Robert Williams, who later conducted the *Overture to William Tell*, spoke on the first three works which were to be performed. Then Peter Curzon explained some of the background for the last half. He told those present that *William Tell* is based on a 15th century folk tale that is actually based on a legend. No one today knows whether there was such a Swiss hero or not.

Peter Curzon sang some of the melodies from each work. He was witty and amusing. When he came to his description of Khachaturian's *Masquerade Suite*, he demonstrated the Polish dance in the *Mazurka*, but then said, "I'm not a trained dancer," and wisely refrained from demonstrating the whirling dervishes whom the composer had envisioned in his *Galop*.

Jean Sibelius' *Karelia Suite*, *Opus 11* was composed in 1893, but was revised by Sibelius and in 1899 appeared in the three movements heard in this concert. Kare-

lia is a section of Finland very near to the Russian border. The *Suite* is based on tales from that area. The French horn fanfares near the beginning of the *Intermezzo* were played well as the strings murmured like the wind rustling the high grasses of a Finnish field.

The woodwinds opened the *Ballade* and introduced the theme which went through many variations. There was a beautiful English horn solo played by Eva Langfeldt and a long section for just the strings, with the basses and cellos in their lower registers while the winds and brass were *tacet*, or silent. The lively *Alla Marcia* movement included a full percussion section. Young Peter Lalor, with his triangle, kept perfect time. There was a stirring finale with the full orchestra as all of the brass led in a forte series of cadences.

Sixteen-year-old Anna Lorenz appeared on the stage and seated herself behind her golden harp. She looked lovely in a shimmering turquoise gown I later learned was created by her mother. Anna's hands and graceful arm movements displayed a maturity far beyond her years as she performed Debussy's *Danses*. Her arpeggios in the *Danse Sacre* were never overshadowed by the orchestra. Dr. Arthur Barnes followed her every nuance as the group accompanied her. The *Danse Profane* placed more technical demands on the harpist. Her cadenza was beautiful. She played the difficult harp glissandos near the end of the Debussy with ease. After two curtain calls, she was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

To the surprise of the audience after the harp was wheeled off, it reappeared behind the violins. Anna herself also came back on stage, now dressed all in black - a quick change - to play as an orchestral harpist in Chabrier's *Espana Rhapsody*. In a quip to the audience, Dr. Barnes challenged us. "What were you doing at sixteen? I'll bet it was nothing like this."

Chabrier composed *Espana Rhapsody* in 1883 after he and his wife had visited Spain. He used some of the melodies he heard on his journey and many of his own. The music was lush and romantic. It called for full orchestra - trombones, French horns, trumpets, the tuba and percussion. April Nissen,

as always, kept perfect rhythm on her timpani. The melodies are very familiar today. However, the program notes state that Chabrier was admired by many composers, including those known as Les Six. Darius Milhaud, who taught at Mills College for many years, was a member of that group, and he, in turn, influenced many San Francisco Bay area musicians.

After the intermission, Robert Williams conducted Rossini's *Overture to William Tell*. There was a beautiful cello solo which concluded with a harmonic high on the finger board. Performed by Nick Dargahi, the entire solo was well executed. In the *Adagio* an ethereal flute solo by Marianne Beeler and an English horn solo by Eva Langfeldt depicted the calm after a storm at sea.

Da Eun Kim, the young violin soloist, appeared in a magenta strapless gown. She played the Wieniawski *Concerto No. 2 in D Minor* with a full, rich tone. She had some very difficult passages that she surmounted with ease. Her double stops were perfectly in tune. Wieniawski was a virtuoso violinist from Poland who placed great demands on the violinists who played his music, but the talented Da Eun Kim mastered every note and every passage. She, too, had two curtain calls and received several bouquets.

The final piece, Khachaturian's *Masquerade Suite*, composed in 1944, was well performed. All the strings used uniform bowings. The concertmaster, Kristina Anderson, played a lovely solo in the *Nocturne*. In the *Romance* there was an outstanding trumpet solo executed by Michael Portnoff. The *Galop* was lively and spirited, bringing the concert to a triumphant close.

It was an evening full of exciting music, and it introduced two talented young girls to the listening public. Both Anna Lorenz and Da Eun Kim should have brilliant careers in the future. It looked as though the theater was sold out. It was heartwarming to see many high school students in the audience. Perhaps one of them will be a winner of the competition next year. On October 2nd, 2011, recordings are due for those who wish to enter the contest, and the actual competition is held on October 23rd.



"Angry girls," Karen Ordaz, Elise Scarlott, and Pleasanton resident Isabella Ohlmeyer (far right) perform as Eloi girls in "The Time Machine: Love Among the Eloi" at Ohlone College.

## 'Time Machine' a Finalist for Kennedy Center Festival

By Patricia Koning

On Sunday, the cast and crew of Ohlone College's production of "The Time Machine: Love Among the Eloi" packed up their sets and costumes and headed north to Humboldt State University. They performed on Wednesday at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) Western Regional Conference for a shot at performing in the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

The production also won Best Overall Cast Ensemble and Best Original Costume Creation for the time machine vest. Three of the actors, April Labson, Bobby August, and Jessica Bettencourt, are nominated to compete in the prestigious Irene Ryan Acting Competition at the Western Regional Conference.

"We're really proud to have been chosen as the best overall ensemble," says cast member Isabelle Ohlmeyer, a 2008 graduate of Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton. "We were so shocked when we found out we'd been chosen as a finalist for the conference. It's pretty exciting!"

"Time Machine: Love Among the Eloi" had its world premiere at Ohlone last October. Playwright Edward Mast adapted the play from the H.G. Wells classic, "The Time Machine". The play places the time traveler in a future Avatar-like world where every earthly need of the young and athletic inhabitants is met.

Mast first wrote the script in the early 1990's when he and director Tom Blank were working together at a play festival in Los Angeles. The two had become friends

years earlier in graduate school at the University of California Los Angeles.

"I remember being very excited about this play when we did a reading at the festival," says Blank. "Last year I was searching for an edgy, original production and Ed's play seemed like the perfect choice."

After a positive response from his staff, Blank decided to make "Time Machine: Love Among the Eloi" Ohlone's fall production. Ohlmeyer admits to being a little skeptical when she first read the script. "We speak in the invented Eloi language for a good part of the production, in fact my character Rooba's first words are in Eloi," she says. "But we all also trusted Tom. Once we got familiar with the script, it all made sense."

Mast spent a week fine tuning the script with the cast and advising the design team. "This was a wonderful opportunity for them," says Blank. "Very seldom do you get a published, award-winning playwright to spend so much time on a production."

Blank has entered a few previous Ohlone productions in the KCACTF and it's something he always encourages his students to attend. "The convention is very exciting and a great learning experience," he says. "The students attend workshops all day and then watch the different competitions. It's great exposure to the world outside of Ohlone."

"Time Machine: Love Among the Eloi" is one of four finalists in the Western Regional Con-

(continued on page 10)

## DANCE

(continued from front page)

tage Estates, The Livermore Art Association, and ValleyCare Medical Foundation.

Two students at Livermore School of Dance have Type I Diabetes. Holding a benefit for The Diabetic Youth Foundation is not only a way for Livermore School of Dance students to give back to California youth who have Type I Diabetes, it is a way to show love, compassion, and support for fellow dancers. Please come and support a very good cause and a dedicated group of dancers.



# 15 Performers Vie for Top Prize at Livermore's Talent Competition

By Patricia Koning

What do a poet, a backwards piano player, and a guzheng have in common? They'll all be featured in the third annual Livermore's Talent Competition at the Bankhead Theater on Feb. 26. The other finalists include vocalists, dancers, pianists, a viola player, a flamenco guitarist, and a beatbox artist.

Livermore's Talent Competition has grown since it was launched in 2009, attracting a wider variety of talents each year. This year 125 people from across the country entered the competition; 56 competed in the semi-finals, which took place at the end of January.

The finalists are all from the Bay Area and range in age from 10 to 33. At the competition, a panel of three judges will choose one winner in the 17-and-under division and one in the 18-and-over division. Each winner will receive a \$2,500 cash prize. The audience will also select an "Oscar Winner" by text voting.

Jason Black, a 2005 graduate of Granada High School, is one of seven finalists in the 18-and-older division. While his talent is defined as piano, he describes his particular style of playing as "much different than most classical pianists, with a lot of musical parodies and remixes of popular songs." See video clips and learn more at [www.jasonlyleblack.com](http://www.jasonlyleblack.com).

He now lives in Salt Lake City, where he is pursuing a master's degree in accounting at Brigham Young University (BYU) and also

building careers in business and entertainment. Jason entered the Livermore's Talent Competition this year for an opportunity to break into the performance circuit in California.

Since moving to Utah five years ago to attend BYU as an undergraduate, he's played in various Utah performing arts venues for family audiences, and for a number of corporate parties and functions. His most noteworthy performance was on the Ellen Degeneres show last year, where he performed his trademark backwards piano act. He'll be performing a version of that at the Livermore's Talent Competition finals.

The youngest performer in the show is 10-year-old Juliet Thorn of Pleasanton. This will be largest audience ever for the Alisal Elementary School fifth grader—her past experience includes school talent shows and music recitals. Juliet's mother Marie Thorn said she started singing at the age of four and has never stopped. "She had this big loud voice. We had to wait until she was seven to start vocal lessons, because no teacher would take someone that young," she explains.

Juliet is a little nervous about performing in the finals, but she's also excited to sing for so many people. "I love to sing. I always have a song in my head," she says. "I enjoy putting a lot of emotion into singing." If she wins she plans to buy herself a pair of ice skates.

The third Tri-Valley finalist is



Juliet Thorn will sing.

Ryan Flynn of Dublin. A junior at Valley Christian High School, Ryan was a finalist last year as well and won the in-theater text vote. "I really liked the show last year, which is one reason I entered again," he says. "It's also a great opportunity to perform. I just love playing flamenco guitar."

Ryan began playing guitar when he was eight, studying with Charles Sedlak, who specializes in flamenco. "If you can play flamenco, you can play anything," says Ryan. "It's so cool."

The finalists in the 17-and-under division are: Jack Bianchi, tap dancer, Danville; Rachael Breen, pianist, Oakland; Ryan Flynn, flamenco guitar, Dublin; Jacquelynn Garcia, dance, Fremont; Ellona



Jason Black plays the piano both backwards (shown) and forwards.

Santiago, vocalist, San Leandro; Juliet Thorn, vocalist, Pleasanton; Kriesha Tiu, vocalist, Brentwood; and Belinda and Virginia Yan, guzheng duet, Orinda.

The finalists in the 18-and-over division are: Jason Black, pianist, Livermore; Rosalyn Chan, vocalist, South San Francisco; Trevor Condon, poetry recital, Modesto; Kimberly Griffin, tap dancer, Walnut Creek; Tiantian Lan, viola, San Francisco; Jenny Liu, pianist, San Francisco; and Francisco Romero, beatbox, San Francisco.

Last year's winners were soprano Lang Michelle Nixon in the

18-and-over division; piano vocalist Hannah Nafzinger in the 17-and-under division; guzheng artist Malina Jiang in the online vote; and Ryan in the in-theater text vote. In the first Livermore's Talent Competition, the 18-and-over winners were acrobatic gymnasts Kristen Allen and Michael Rodrigues. The 17-and-under winner was vocalist Monica Pidoy.

To buy tickets, go to [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org), call 925.373.6100, or visit the box office at 2400 First Street in Livermore. Ticket prices are \$49, \$39, and \$29.

## Review: Recorders Rate Raves

By Susan Steinberg

If it's a gaggle of geese and a flock of flutes, why not a regiment of recorders?

That was certainly the appearance of an impressive array of recorders marshalled for the Farallon Quartet's recent concert here in the Las Positas Early Music Series. One of the large bass recorders actually did resemble a blunderbuss, while the nearly 7-foot "great bass" looked like an old-fashioned small-bore field cannon.

Fortunately, these formidable instruments were created to make music, not war. And lovely music they did make for the appreciative audience at the college's new performing arts center. Joining with troops of smaller recorders—soprano, tenor, and alto—they offered a surprising range of sound, like that of a string quartet, but with greater possible variations.

Imagine a quartet consisting of 1 violin, 1 cello, and 2 double basses. Or 3 violas and a cello. With strings, such combinations

are unheard of, but any and all mixtures of recorders can and are frequently played together. In fact, the recombining of instruments (some even exchanged between players during a performance) gave the audience an extra measure of visual entertainment, like a deft basketball handoff.

In addition to trading off instruments of different sizes, the players also switched from Medieval to Renaissance and Baroque styles, each with different tuning and fingering. Quite an impressive demonstration of their expertise and versatility.

A fascinating pre-concert presentation led by master harpsichord builder Kevin Frye introduced listeners to the amazing history and evolution of this supremely popular instrument. Dating from ancient times, the simple shepherd's pipe of classical mythology developed and rose to prominence in the magnificent royal courts of Europe.

Listeners learned to distinguish

the straightforward cylindrical Medieval and Renaissance recorders, usually made of maple, with a generous bore that produced a "sturdy" sound. In contrast, the more slender, elegantly-shaped boxwood instruments of the Baroque period had narrow bores, offering a smoother "silky" tone, earning the German sobriquet of "sweet flute".

Baroque recorders evolved in other ways as well, from the original single octave of earlier times to a more flexible 2+ octave range, skillfully utilized by such famous composers as Bach and Vivaldi.

The construction of new sizes, from tiny soprano to long contrabass and mammoth "Great Bass" models also broadened the range of recorder sound, from high piccolo-like notes to low double bass tones. A group of these instruments could even achieve a fair imitation of a multi-voiced organ.

By the Renaissance Period, recorder quartets were becoming popular, although they usually

played music originally written for other instruments or for the voice. Only in the Baroque Era did composers write specifically for recorders, and many well-known pieces date from that period.

Interestingly, a renewed interest in recorder groups in the 20th Century resulted in a proliferation of modern compositions, probably more than the heritage of olden days. The instrument's range and versatility make it a popular choice for contemporary musicians who can utilize the different possible tunings. Baroque recorders, for example, are 1/2 step lower than the older instruments, but there are other tuning choices, including the dissonant Pythagorean System, which must truly be the music of the spheres.

Indeed, utilizing some 15 assorted recorders, the acclaimed Farallon Quartet produced an evening of genuinely heavenly music, from old German songbooks of the late 15th Century to the majesty of Bach's complex "Art of the

Fugue". In between, such beloved composers as William Byrd, Josquin des Prez, and John Dowland contributed works in their own signature styles.

Most interesting to avid listeners was the obvious stylistic change from the merry free-for-all "jams" of the Renaissance to the orderly measures of the Baroque. Since the program was not arranged in chronological order, the contrast between a chorale by Bach (1685-1750) and the following song from the Glogauer Liederbuch (1480) illustrated better than any lecture the differences between these periods.

Each piece conjured up the era of its origins, from country fairs to courtly manors, England's stately castles to Germany's mighty cathedrals. The audience was transported from the romantic ballads of Elizabethan times to the lusty drinking songs of German beer-halls, and the cerebral organ mas-

(continued on page 9)



## ART &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



**Pleasanton Art League and Livermore Art Association meeting Mon., Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Bldg., 455 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Guest artist will be master quilter Linda Schmidt. Linda was chosen as the 2003 Teacher of the Year by The Professional Quilter Magazine, and has won over 250 ribbons, many of them Best in Show, Best in Class, First Place or Artist awards, at fairs, quilt shows and art shows. She has been teaching at Quilt University since 2002. The meeting is open to the public. There is no admission charge.**



**An Afghan Art Show featuring paintings by Abdul Shokoor Khusrawy will be on display at the Pleasanton Library on Sun., Feb. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. and on Feb. 23 from 1 to 8 p.m. Abdul Shokoor Khusrawy is newly arrived from Afghanistan. His art reflects the rich history of a proud people who survive even in these challenging times. Shokoor is known for his technique of using a pallet knife on oils to change the textures of his painting. "My knife style is new, and while I use it in a new way, it is still a copy of impressionism art." See the website at <http://artafghan.com/artafghan/index.php> The program is free and open to all. No registration required. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave., Livermore. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 925/931-3405.**

## ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

p.m. For information call 449-9927. **Harrington Art Gallery exhibit, Look of**

Jazz, Saturday, January 29, 2011 – Tuesday, February 22, 2011. Gallery Reception Saturday, January 20, 2011, 3 to 5pm. Bay Area artists such as Chester Elmore, Joan Finton and James Gayles will be featured in an exhibit that celebrates jazz and how it can inspire visual artists. This exhibit will be held in conjunction with our annual Campana Jazz Festival, February 17-20, 2011. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**Wente Vineyards**, work of local photographer, Jennie McGregor, from now through February 28. Wente Vineyards Estate Winery tasting room, 5565 Tesla Road in Livermore. Features lose-up photography of nature, including botanicals, insects and animals.

**Wild Vine** art exhibition program in February features husband-and-wife team Ken Ball and Victoria Whyte Ball. The exhibit includes Ken's special take on nude photography and Victoria's evocative work with the camera. Reception Thursday, February 10th from 6-7:30 pm. Wild Vine, 2187 First Street, Livermore, also participates in Second Saturday Open Studios/Art Crawls.

**Harrington Art Gallery exhibit**, Marks of Nature. A look into artistic interpretations of the pleasant, abstract qualities of images in nature. Includes works by Sheila Metcalf Tobin, JoAnn Biagini and Rebecca Alex. Monday, March 7 – Saturday, April 2, 2011. Gallery Reception Wednesday, March 9, 2011, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**Call for Artists – 13th Annual Art in the Park**, October 1 & 2, 2011, on the Town Green, Danville. Open to artists with quality work in the following categories: Paintings, Sculpture, Photography, Graphics and Fine Jewelry. Booth spaces for Art in the Park are 10' x 10' and are \$70 for Alamo Danville Artists' Society members and \$85 non-members plus 10% of sales to the Art in the Schools fund. For an application, send an e-mail to [normawebb@comcast.net](mailto:normawebb@comcast.net) or call 925-828-9170. Art in the Park, sponsored by ADAS and the Town of Danville, is a fund raiser for Art in the Schools of the San Ramon Valley School District. In the last few years, ADAS & Art in the Park have given over \$100,000 directly to classroom teachers for special art projects. Since school funding has been so drastically cut, these ADAS art grants are extremely important to the arts programs in our local schools.

## MEETINGS/CLASSES

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

**Art Critique and Coffee**, every Friday, 10 a.m. at Border's Cafe, Rose Pavilion, Pleasanton. Information at [poetryoncanvas@mac.com](mailto:poetryoncanvas@mac.com).

**Figure Drawing and Painting Workshop** taught by Livermore artist Carolyn Lord, Saturday, March 19 and Sunday March 20, 2011, 9 am to 4 pm. \$99 plus \$50 Model's fee. Students bring own art supplies Register through Las Positas Community Education. "Figure Drawing and Painting Workshop", when registering the Class' Code Number is AL478 How to register [www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu)

[www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

## WINERY EVENTS

**Livermore Valley GrapeXpo**, Tuesday, March 1, 2011, 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm, presented by Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association. Martinelli Event Center, 3585 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Free to members LVWA members/ \$15 non members. RSVP by February 25 to LVWA offices 925.447.WINE (9463) or [www.LVwine.org/calendar](http://www.LVwine.org/calendar).

**Tamás Estates news & events**: Tamas Tuesdays, February 22, 4-7 pm, explore a world of wines rooted in California. Reservations are highly recommended, as space is limited. Complimentary for Salute! wine club member and one guest. \$10 for non-members Livermore; information at 925-456-2380. Tamás Estates, 5565 Tesla Road.

**Thomas Coyne Winery winter open house** Feb. 19, 20, 21, noon to 5 p.m. at the historical tasting room at 51 E. Vallecitos Road, Livermore. Release of new wines including the Livermore Cabernet Franc 2006. Selection of fine fruits and cheeses served. "Bottle Your Own Wine" We will be selling Vino Tinto Barato at the Open House. Bring a clean bottle, we will fill, cork and label it for you for \$6.00 per bottle. Use our bottle for \$6.50. Or you may bottle label and cork it yourself. This is available only on Feb 19 and 20. Limit of six bottles per person. For more info call (925) 373-6541 or visit <http://thomascoynewinery.com>

## MUSIC/CONCERTS

**America**, Feb. 18, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon, 973-3343 or [SanRamonPerformingArts.com](http://SanRamonPerformingArts.com).

**Youth Music Festival**, Sat., Feb. 19, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**Peter Fletcher** - Classical Guitarist, Sun., Feb. 20, 3 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**Pacific Chamber Symphony**, concert Feb. 25, features master flutist Sheridan Stokes rejoins PCS for a program of works for flute and orchestra: Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Flutes, the Adagietto from Mahler's Symphony #5, and the world premier of a work by Los Angeles composer Christopher Caliendo. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets or information [www.LivermorePerformingArts.org](http://www.LivermorePerformingArts.org) or call the Bankhead Theater at 925-373-6800.

**The Music of Doris Day**, with Jim Martinez Trio and Laura Didier, Sun., Feb. 27, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**Robin and Linda Williams**, masters of bluegrass and harmonizing, Fri., March 4, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets or information [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**The Tubes**, March 4, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**Tuck and Patti**, Jazz Duo, March 5, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**Pleasanton Chamber Players**, March 6, 3 p.m. Celebrating the anniversary of Chopin's 200th birthday, award winning Belgian pianist Evelyne Brancart, chair of the piano department at Indiana University, will perform Chopin's 24 Etudes, Op. 10 & 25, and Schumann's Sonata No. 1 in F# minor, Op. 11. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

[www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**Al Stewart**, Singer, Songwriter, and Folk Musician, March 11, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**A Tribute to Patsy Cline** with Joni Morris, March 12, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**San Ramon Symphonic Band**, March 11, 7:30 p.m. "The Art of the Wind Band," Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon, 973-3343 or [SanRamonPerformingArts.com](http://SanRamonPerformingArts.com).

**Early Music Concert**, Jay White, Counter Tenor; Yuko Tanaka, Harpsichord, March 12, 2011. 7:30 pre-concert talk, 8:00 concert. The Morning Star - music from Northern Europe. Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Tickets are \$15 for individual concerts. [www.lpclearmusic.org](http://www.lpclearmusic.org) or [www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts](http://www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts).

**Golden Bough**, concert, March 19, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**Livermore-Amador Symphony**, concert, Brahms's 4th and soloist Joe Bonfiglio, March 26, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Brahms's 4th and Joe Bonfiglio, soloist. Prelude talk 7 p.m. 925-373-6800, [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

## ON THE STAGE

**Bat Boy: The Musical**, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre. Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton. Weekends Feb. 18-March 13. Call 462-2121 or go to [www.trivalleyrep.com](http://www.trivalleyrep.com) for information.

**Little House On The Prairie**, Feb. 19-27. Presented by Bay Area Children's Theater, Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon, 973-3343 or [SanRamonPerformingArts.com](http://SanRamonPerformingArts.com).

**Arsenic and Old Lace**, Asbury Players, March 18, 19, 20, 2011. Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Curtain time is 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Doors open 20 minutes prior to show time. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$8 for seniors and children under 12. For additional ticket information, please call 455-1048.

**9th Annual Youth Music Festival** will be presented on Saturday, February 19, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Youth between the ages of six and 18 will showcase their musical talents. General admission tickets are \$8. They may be purchased online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office. Box

**Shakespeare's Associates' Winter Fund-raiser**. Saturday, February 26th at 6PM at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth Street, Livermore, CA. Tickets \$60-\$80 at -800-838-3006 or [www.LivermoreShakes.org](http://www.LivermoreShakes.org). [www.LivermoreShakes.org](http://www.LivermoreShakes.org) or (925) 443-BARD.

**The Yeomen of The Guard**, Lamplighters Music Theatre. 8 p.m. Sat., Feb. 19 and 2 p.m. Sun., Feb. 20. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**Queen of Bingo**, theater a go-go, Feb. 24-26, 8 p.m. Feb. 27, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org)

**Livermore 2011 Talent Finals**, Sat., Feb. 26, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St. Presented by the Rotary Clubs

of Livermore as a fund-raiser. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or call 925-373-6800.

**Godspell**, Livermore High School production, Feb. 25, 26 and March 4, 5, 8 p.m. at the school, 600 Maple St., Livermore.

**One Act Plays**, noon March 9, 8 p.m. March 11. Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or go to [www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts](http://www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts)

**The Sound of Music**, presented by Amador Valley and Foothill high schools, March 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 7:30 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**Sunol Repertory Theatre**, annual melodrama Trouble Bubbles at the Hot Springs or Hold Your Nose as You Walk By, by Gary McCarver. March 12, 18, 19, 25, 26, April 1, 2. Admission \$15 Reserved Seating. All Performances at 8 p.m. Sunol Glen School Theatre, 11601 Main St., Sunol. Tickets go on sale to the general public on February 4 at Little Valley Winery, 793 Main Street, Pleasanton, 12-5 PM Thursday-Sunday

**Arsenic and Old Lace**, Asbury Players, March 18, 19, 20, 2011. Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Curtain time is 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Doors open 20 minutes prior to show time. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$8 for seniors and children under 12. For additional ticket information, please call 455-1048.

**The National Tour of The Music Man**, March 19, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon, 973-3343 or [SanRamonPerformingArts.com](http://SanRamonPerformingArts.com).

**Judy, Judy, Judy**, a cabaret tribute will be performed at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, on March 20, 2 p.m. A tribute to the legacy of legendary singer and actress Judy Garland. Performers will include internationally known Tielle Baker, San Francisco Cabaret Gold Award-winning singer Pamela Brooks, Emmy Award singer ML Parr, joined by celebrated jazz pianist Richard Nelson Hall.

**Golden Dragon Acrobats**, Chinese touring company, Fri., March 25, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets or information [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**Aquila Theatre Company** in Pirandello's Six Characters in Search of an Author, Tues., March 29, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**Shakespeare's Associates'** production of A Life in the Theatre by David Mamet. March 31-April 23, 2011, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth Street, Livermore, CA. Tickets from \$25-\$35 at 1-800-838-3006 or [www.LivermoreShakes.org](http://www.LivermoreShakes.org). For more information visit [www.LivermoreShakes.org](http://www.LivermoreShakes.org) or call 925-443-BARD (2273).

**Reach for the Stars! An Evening of the Arts for the Arts**, Livermore Valley Education Foundation presents a special evening fund-raiser featuring arts showcase performances by elementary, middle and high school students enrolled in Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's music, drama, dance and visual arts programs. Thurs., March 31 at 7 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Tickets are \$25 for reserved seats; students tickets are \$12.50 with the purchase of a reserved seat in any section. [www.livermoreperformingarts.com](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.com), or at the Bankhead box office, 2400 First St.,



ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Livermore.

**DANCE**  
**Le Tableau Magnifique**, Livermore School of Dance, will be performing "Variations in Motion" at The Bankhead Theater on Saturday, March 5, 2011, with performances at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The performances are a benefit for The Diabetic Youth Foundation and a portion of the proceeds will be given to the organization. The Company will present five different programs starting with a full-length production of the story ballet, Coppelia. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets or information at (925) 373-6800 or via their website at [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org). Tickets are \$18, \$20, and \$24. There will be a dessert reception in the lobby following each performance.

**Taylor 2, Paul Taylor's dances**, Tues., March 22, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**AUDITIONS/VOLUNTEERS**

**Solo Piano Competition for young artists**, sponsored by Las Positas College Music Department, open to ages 14 through 24. The winner will perform George Gershwin's, "Rhapsody in Blue" at the May 4, 2011 Orchestra Concert as part of the inaugural season for the new Barbara Fracisco Mertes Center for the Arts. The application deadline is February 10, 2011. The selection will take place in February. To request application forms and information, please contact Music instructor Mary Campbell, [mcampbell@laspositascollege.edu](mailto:mcampbell@laspositascollege.edu), (925) 424-1118.

**Auditions, "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm,"** Civic Arts Stage Company Spring Show, Directed by Paula Wujek. Auditions are Saturday and Sunday, February 26 and 27, 2011 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. Audition packets will be available at [www.firehousearts.org/programs](http://www.firehousearts.org/programs). After receiving the packet, auditioners must email name, parent's name if under 18 years, telephone number and email address to [rennals@sfsakes.org](mailto:rennals@sfsakes.org). Applicants will be notified by phone or email of audition time confirmation.

**Auditions, The Sound of Music**, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre. Saturday February 19 at 11:00am or Monday, February 21 at 7:30pm. Call-backs by invitation only Feb. 22 and 24 at 7:30pm. 1048 Serpentine Lane #303, Pleasanton. Please prepare a brief song (16-32 bars). Bring sheet music; accompanist provided. Please bring a picture and resume, stapled together. No tapes; no a capella. Be prepared to dance. [www.trivalleyrep.com](http://www.trivalleyrep.com) for more information. Director: Daren A.C. Carollo, Vocal Direction: Sean Aloise, Choreographer: Todd Aragon, Producer: Kathleen Breedveld, Musical Director: Jo Ann Fosselman. Performance dates: July 22, 2011 through August 7, 2011, Bankhead Theater, Livermore.

**MOVIES**

**Kings of Pastry**, a documentary film, will be shown on February 17 at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Presented by the Pleasanton Library. Doors open 6:15pm, film screens at 7pm. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. The film events are free and open to all. No registration is required. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

**Vine Cinema**, 1722 First Street in Livermore, will present a special showing of the classic 1936 movie, *San Francisco*, as part of the Livermore Public Library's *Livermore Reads Together* series. The film will screen at noon on Saturday,

February 19. For additional events check the library's website at [www.livermore.lib.ca.us](http://www.livermore.lib.ca.us).

**Going Places: A Classic Film Series**, shown the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Pleasanton Library's meeting room through June 2, 2011. The program is a partnership of Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Public Library proudly present. Candy Klaschus, film historian and Coordinator of the Humanities Program at Las Positas College, is the host. There is no admission charge. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. 931-3400. No registration required.

**Facing Ali**, a documentary film about boxer Muhammad Ali, will be shown on March 17 at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Presented by the Pleasanton Library. Doors open 6:15pm, film screens at 7pm. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. The film events are free and open to all. No registration is required. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

**CHORAL**

**Valley Concert Chorale**, Winter concert, "In Remembrance," marking the upcoming 10th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 tragedy. Fri., March 18, 8 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore. Ticket information at [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org).

**OPERA**

**Livermore Valley Opera**, presents Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, March 12, 13, 19, 20. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**The Barber of Seville**, Opera San José continues its 27th Season presents Rossini's comic opera, *The Barber of Seville*. Eight performances are scheduled from February 12 through 27 at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San José. Tickets are on sale at the Opera San José Box Office, by phone at (408) 437-4450 or online at [www.operasj.org](http://www.operasj.org). This production of *The Barber of Seville* is made possible, in part, by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San José.

**Marie's Take on Anna Russell** or "I'm not making this up, you know!" is the topic for the winter gala sponsored by the San Francisco Opera Guild, East Bay Chapter. Sun., Feb. 27 at 4:30 p.m. at the Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Dr., Danville. Soprano Marie Plette will present an interpretation of Anna Russell's hilarious musical synopsis of "The Ring of the Nibelungen." Check-in and no-host bar are at 4:30 p.m., dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed by the program and drawing. Cost is \$85 per person. Proceeds benefit programs for singers in the Adler Fellowship and Merola Opera programs as well as for students in K-12th grades. Reservation deadline is Feb. 22. Seating is open. Reserved priority seating for reservations of tables of 8. Non-members are very welcome. No tickets will be mailed. Names will be on list at door. Contact the con-chairman Elva Cooper at 925-846-2092 or [PhilandElva@Comcast.net](mailto:PhilandElva@Comcast.net), Irene Reich at [p.i.reich@Comcast.net](mailto:p.i.reich@Comcast.net) (not between Jan. 15 and 30) or Silvia Lin at [LLLLL@juno.com](mailto:LLLLL@juno.com) or 925-838-9255 (not from Feb. 1 to 20).

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Arts/poetry contest**, Pleasanton Cultural Arts Contest is sponsoring a Linked Visual Arts and Poetry Contest with a cash prize. Poets and Junior Poets will have through Tuesday, February 22, to view visual art created by members of The Pleasanton Arts League and write a poem in response

to that artwork. The artwork will be on display at Little Valley Winery, Studio 7, Rising Loafer, Towne Center Books, and Comerica Bank in downtown Pleasanton. The winning poem will be displayed adjacent to the corresponding piece of art and a \$50 prize will be given to the best poem in the Junior Poet category. This contest is sponsored by The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, in cooperation with The Pleasanton Arts League. For information on how to register for the contest and contest details, please go to [www.pleasantonarts.org](http://www.pleasantonarts.org).

**A Toast to Heroes: A Literary Evening on the Myth & Reality of the Hero & the Un-hero**. Fri., Feb. 18, 8 to 10 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Poet Laureate Deborah Grossman and Livermore Poet Laureate Cher Wollard will co-host the first Literary Evening at the new Firehouse Center. Narrator Robert Eastwood, award-winning poet, author and artist from San Ramon, will weave his perspective on the mythology of the heroic and un-heroic with other invited Bay Area writers. \$5, students free. [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us)

**La Semana Cubana/Cuban Week 2011 Yemaya: Embracing the Earth**, Feb. 22-25, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Events are in the evening. Feb. 22: Meet the Artists; Exhibit: Filling the Space/Llenando el Espacio; Artist in Residence: Alnokys Turro and Photography by Eira Arrate; Batá Music: Somos 3 Jesús Díaz, Sandy Pérez and Eric Barbería. Wed., Feb. 23: Cuban Words/Palabras Cubanas, The Poetry of Nicolás Guillén performed by Joel and Ana María Oliver; Cuban Author Odette Alonso Yodu Streaming Live from Mexico City via Webcam. Thurs., Feb. 24: Cuba Café/ Café Cuba: Abel Magritte: Cuban Singer and Song Writer Lara Greene: Presentation: The Sound of Son; Rick Moniz and Catherine Suárez: Presentation: Cuba Through My Eyes. Fri., Feb. 25: Discussion Panel: Feminine Voices/ Voces Femeninas followed by Cuban Guateque/ Guateque Cubano, Trío Pasi6n Habanera, Dance Performance by Yussef Breffe Cuban Dance Instructor and Choreographer For more information please visit our web site [lasemanacubana.org](http://lasemanacubana.org), the Las Positas College home page [laspositascollege.edu](http://laspositascollege.edu) or call Catherine Suárez at (925)424-1212.

**Science on Saturday**, February 19, Withstanding Climate Change: You Can Change the World. 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore. Presented by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**Theater Class**, presented by Las Positas College Talk Hawks, Fri., Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. in room 801 at the college, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Full screening, raffle and meet the cast. Tickets \$5 at the door. All donations and ticket sales support the Talk Hawks forensics team. Information, [www.theater-class.com](http://www.theater-class.com).

**48th Annual Coin Show and Sale**, hosted by Livermore Valley Coin Club on Sunday March 6, 2011, from 10 am to 5 pm. The show will be held at the Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Drive Springtown in Livermore. Admission is free. For further information please call Stephen Kramer at (925) 980-9307.

**New Orleans Bash**, Fri., March 4, 5 p.m. Bothwell Arts Center, 8th and H Streets, Livermore. Presented by Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center. Masks are optional. Highlights include Hurricanes, New Orleans Jazz and cuisine, and the option to attend a Preservation Hall Experience, a tribute to the world-

famous French Quarter jazz club, with concerts at 6 and 7 p.m. (separate fee). [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**Science on Saturday**, March 5, Super-heavy Elements: Search for the End of the Periodic Table, 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., downtown Livermore. Presented by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Topics are to be determined. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) or 925-373-6800.

**Dublin St. Patrick's Day Celebration**, Saturday and Sunday, March 12 and 13 at the Dublin Civic Center. Festival includes authentic music and dance, an Irish Tea Cottage, over 150 arts & craft and vendor booth displays, two stages of entertainment, carnival rides, food and drink. Also a Firefighter Pancake Breakfast, Lions Club Parade, Dublin Sister City Green & White Gala and the Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk. [www.ci.dublin.ca.us](http://www.ci.dublin.ca.us)

**Museum on Main**, 2011 Ed Kinney Lecture Series. Wednesday, March 16, 7pm. *An Evening with Julia Morgan*. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. No reservations are required. Tickets are available at the door on a first come first served basis. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, \$3 students/teachers with ID. Information, contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or [education@museumonmain.org](mailto:education@museumonmain.org)

**3rd annual Barrel Tasting Weekend**, Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association. March 19-20, noon to 4:30 p.m. at various wineries. [www.lvwine.org](http://www.lvwine.org). 447-9463. Taste wines right out of the barrel, meet winemakers, and more.

**10th Annual Pleasanton Poetry, Prose & the Arts Festival**, Sat. and Sun., March 26 and 27, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Guest speakers, poetry and prose workshops for adults, youth and teen workshops, writing contests and an award ceremony. For information, contact Michelle Russo, City of Pleasanton Civic Arts, [mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us](mailto:mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us), (925) 931-5350 or Deborah Grossman, City of Pleasanton poet laureate at [pleasantonpoetry@gmail.com](mailto:pleasantonpoetry@gmail.com). [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**A Special Poetry Evening with Cynthia Bryant**, Tuesday, March 29, 2011, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Towne Center Books, 555 Main Street in Pleasanton. Cynthia's latest books are *Pebbles in the Shoe* and *No Time to Shoot the Poets*. Light Refreshments. Free event.

**LIVERMORE READS**

**Livermore Reads**, February 17, 7pm. *A Dramatic Reading from 1906: A Novel*. A cast of volunteer readers from Shakespeare's Associates will bring James Dalessandro's book *1906* to life with a dramatic reading. With an introduction by Philip Manwell, the featured selections will provide a glimpse of 1906 San Francisco— part Paris, part Dodge City— corruption, bravery, a journalist, a runaway, a Chinese slave girl ... and Enrico Caruso! *Livermore Reads Together - 1906: A Novel* is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. For additional events check the library's website at [www.livermore.lib.ca.us](http://www.livermore.lib.ca.us).

**Livermore Reads**, February 19, 12 noon, Vine Cinema. *Classic Movie Screening - San Francisco*. View a special showing of the classic 1936 movie *San Francisco* starring Clark Gable, Jeanette MacDonald, and Spencer Tracy, nominated for best actor. *Livermore Reads Together - 1906: A*

**Livermore Reads**, February 20, 2pm. *The 1906 Earthquake: Lessons Learned, Lessons Forgotten, and Managing Earthquake Risk*. The 1906 earthquake marked the birth of modern earthquake science. Mary Lou Zoback, former Chief Scientist of the US Geological Survey, will bring us up to date on what we've learned.

**Livermore Reads**, February 22, 7pm. *San Francisco's Lost Landmarks with Author James Smith*. San Francisco's earthquakes, 1906 and prior, will be presented in an illustrated discussion of how the city earned its seal and what really happened.

**Livermore Reads**, February 24, 7pm. *The Miles Brothers: Before and After the Earthquake*. David Kiehn, Historian of the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum will show short films and photographs by the Miles Brothers, pioneers in American cinema, including their 1906 film *A Trip Down Market Street*, an historic 13-minute journey shot just days before the earthquake.

**Livermore Reads**, February 26, 1:30am. *Aftershock!: Teens Prepare for Disaster Assistance*. At *Aftershock!*, teens will learn first aid for earthquake and fire disasters through a special American Red Cross training course designed for teens. Other topics include first response topics and techniques, and a look at teen volunteer opportunities with the American Red Cross.

**Livermore Reads**, February 26, 2pm. *Jack London: Eyewitness to the Great Quake*. *Jack London: Eyewitness to the Great Quake* is a dynamic portrait of California through the eyes of the renowned author, adventurer and social crusader, Jack London, as performed by Michael Oakes, artistic director of Live Oakes Educational Theater. Follow London as he journeyed throughout the region documenting the devastation of the 1906 earthquake—one of the most articulate of the eyewitness accounts.

**REVIEW**

(continued from page 7)

terpieces of J. S. Bach.

This rare evening of pleasure for Early Music enthusiasts and newcomers alike ushered in a brilliant season for this popular series at Las Positas College, now in its sixth year. Two more concerts are scheduled for March 12, "The Lure of London", and April 2, "The Enticement of Italy". Mark them on your calendars for a unique visit to other times and other lands.

Note: A growing local interest in Early Music has resulted in the formation of the new Tri-Valley Medieval and Renaissance Collegium. Prestigious musicians Shira Kammen, Greg Ingles, Peter Maund, and David Morris alternate as directors, welcoming all instruments (at 440 pitch) including voice. Sessions are held Monday nights, 7:30 to 9:30 PM in Dublin. For more information, contact [collegium2011@gmail.com](mailto:collegium2011@gmail.com). or call 925-424-1209.



## Livermore Daughters of the American Revolution Honor Student Essay Winners

By Patricia Koning

The Josefa Higuera Livermore (JHL) Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution honored the winners of its annual essay contests at a ceremony held Sat., Feb. 5. Ashley McKinzie, a fifth grader at Altamont Creek Elementary School won the American History Essay Contest and Daniel Cavalieri, a freshman at Livermore High School (LHS), won the Christopher Columbus Essay Contest. In the Good Citizen Essay Contest, Rachele Hamblin was awarded first place and Kathryn Rambo received second place. Both are seniors at LHS.

For the American History Essay Contest, students in fifth through eighth grade wrote from the perspective of Paul Revere, reflecting back on his accomplishments that he wished to be remembered for in the annals of American history. Ashley received a \$200 Series EE Savings Bond and her teacher Joel Loftus received a \$100 cash award for classroom needs or supplies. Altamont Creek Elementary School will receive a certificate of participation from the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) because 31 fifth graders from the school submitted essays.

For the Christopher Columbus Essay Contest, high school students wrote on the topic "What lessons from Christopher Columbus' life can we draw on today to bring clarity to our decisions in the face of an uncertain future?" Daniel received a \$250 cash award. He was also the District winner, earning a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond, and is entered in the State competition.

### TIME MACHINE

(continued from page 6)

ference, which is comprised of Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Northern California, Northern Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. The other finalists are Cal State East Bay's "Xtigone"; Saint Mary's College, Moraga's "Angels in America—Millennium Approaches"; and the University of Idaho's "UP".

From the finalists at the eight regional conferences, a panel of three judges and the KCACTF artistic director will select four to six of the best and most diverse productions to be showcased at the noncompetitive national festival at the Kennedy Center in April, all expenses paid.

No matter what the outcome, Banks says it's a once in a lifetime

Determining the winners of the Good Citizen Essay Contest is a rigorous process. First, faculty at Livermore and Granada High Schools selected students who met the Good Citizenship criteria of being a leader, dependable, patriotic, and service-oriented. Those students then submitted transcripts, letters of recommendation, and an essay on how they are a good citizen. They also wrote a timed essay on "Our American heritage and our responsibility to preserve it: what is the greatest challenge we face in America today?" For winning first place, Rachele received a \$1,000 cash award and Kathryn received a \$500 cash award.

Rachele's long list of accomplishments includes varsity soccer, a 4.3 grade point average, National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Award in Writing, Girl Scout Silver Award, and serving as a Young Adult Volunteer at the Livermore Public Library, to name a few. In her essay, she wrote about how politics are splitting the people of the United States and threatening to tear the country apart on issues like illegal immigration and the war in Iraq.

"All in all, if the USA wishes to remain a powerhouse in its world, the people of it—whether Republican, Democrat, or not—must find a way to listen to each other and to resolve their issues, both inside and outside of the White House, to keep a united country," she wrote.

Kathryn's impressive resume includes, among other achievements, three years of student leadership, being DECA president, varsity swimming and water

opportunity for his cast and crew. The show was first performed in the small NUMMI Theater in Ohlone College's Gary Soren Smith Center for the Performing and Visual Arts. On Feb. 11, a special encore benefit production was staged in the Smith Center's 400-seat Jackson Theater. "We'll perform in a 900-person theater at Humboldt," says Banks. "That's a size some of these students may never see again for the rest of their lives."

For more information on the KCACTF, visit <http://www.kennedy-center.org/education/actf/>. Results from the Western Regional Conference will be announced on Friday, Feb. 18.



Pictured are the four winners (from left) Daniel Cavalieri, winner of the Christopher Columbus Essay Award who went on to win the District IV DAR Award as well; Rachele Hamblin, Ashley McKinzie, a fifth grader at Altamont Creek Elementary who won the American History Essay Award with her essay entitled "Memoirs of Paul Revere;" and Kathryn Rambo.

polo, academic awards including designation as a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student and AP Scholar, and serving on the Tri-Valley Youth Planning Board and Livermore Area Youth Advisory Commission. In her essay, she wrote about how economic and political issues are jeopardizing the American dream of liberty and equality and the idea of American

heritage that goes with it.

"The American dream is dwindling. Societal tensions are replacing it. For the first time, America is building a wall to keep immigrants out," she wrote. "By preserving the puzzle of American heritage, Americans can preserve the nation they love and the ideals it stands for: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

### Saturday Salon: 'A One Art Song'

4th Street Studio invites writers to read and listeners to listen at its monthly Saturday Salon on Saturday, February 19 at 7:30 p.m. 4th Street Studio is located at 2235 Fourth Street in Livermore. Everyone has up to ten minutes to read. The public is welcome.

This month's Salon, part two of a planned year-long focus on American authors, is "A One Art Song for the Rainy Season Kind of Night" to celebrate the American poet Elizabeth Bishop (February 8th, 1911 – October 6th, 1979). She was the Poet Laureate of the

United States from 1949 to 1950, a Pulitzer Prize winner in 1956, and a National Book Award Winner for Poetry in 1970.

Bishop once wrote, "If after I read a poem the world looks like that poem for 24 hours or so I'm sure it's a good one." Come to 4th Street Studio's Saturday Salon and give yourself the chance to look the world in a new way, provided by the writers who read there. The Salons provide an opportunity for writers to read their work — so they can hear how it sounds when read aloud, and so others can

The essay contests take place in the fall. Topics usually are announced in early September and entries are due in November. The JHL DAR chapter also gives out a Teacher of the Year Award each spring. For more information, visit [www.californiadar.org/chapters/jhlivermore](http://www.californiadar.org/chapters/jhlivermore).

listen to what they have written. All literary forms are welcome: fiction, literary non-fiction, memoir, poetry, monologues, and short dramatic works.

Bring a nosh and something to drink to share.

Saturday Salon at 4th Street Studio is sponsored by Fourth Street Studio.

The Salons, which began in January of 2004, are now in their eighth year, and are held on the third Saturday of each month at 4th Street Studio, 2235 Fourth Street.

### Before and After the Earthquake

*The Miles Brothers: Before and After the Earthquake* will be presented at 7pm on Thursday, February 24 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. There is no charge for this event.

David Kiehn, Historian of the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum will show short films and photographs by the Miles Brothers, pioneers in American cinema, including their 1906 film *A Trip Down Market Street*, an historic 13-minute journey shot just days before the earthquake.

David Kiehn is the author of *Broncho Billy and the Essanay Film Company*, the definitive history of that pioneering film company,

published in 2003. His research on the subject, which began in 1995, sparked a renewed interest in this local Niles history, resulting in the first Broncho Billy Silent Film Festival in June 1998, and the formation of the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum, a non-profit organization, in 2001.

He is the historian and film programmer for the Museum, located at the historic Edison Theater in the Niles district of Fremont, California. In October, 2010, he was seen on 60 Minutes in a segment with Morley Safer about *A Trip Down Market Street*, a film which he discovered was shot by the Miles Brothers, a San Francisco film

company, only four days before the 1906 earthquake.

This program is part of *Livermore Reads Together*, a community-wide reading program featuring James Dalessandro's book, *1906: A Novel*, about the San Francisco earthquake and fire.

The community of Livermore is encouraged to join their neighbors by participating in the *Livermore Reads Together* free events for children and adults during the month of February 2011.

*Livermore Reads Together* is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. For additional events check the library's website at [www.livermore.lib.ca.us](http://www.livermore.lib.ca.us).



# Milestones

## Community

### 27-Year Veteran Leaving Livermore Police Department



The Foothill High School JV and Varsity cheer teams each placed 1st in the United Spirit Association California Spirit Championship competition Sunday at UC Davis. The teams won the JV Show Cheer Intermediate and Varsity Show Cheer Advanced divisions, competing against three other teams from Northern California in each division. The teams will next compete in the National competition in Anaheim in March. Coached by Megan Moore, the Varsity team includes Jori Berman, Bailey Downum, Alyssa Dunlap, Sarah Hadley, Alex Holterhoff, Keri Kodama, Danielle Kozel, Hayley Long, Addie Mantor, Gabbie Scalise, Mackenzie Shields and Paige Tabler. Coached by Kim DeJoy and Karen Maurice, the JV squad includes Amanda Arnold, Haley Bowers, Caressa Duarte, Michelle French, Diane Hadley, Camille Hamlin, Hayley Jefferies, 'Alakoka Kailahi, Emily Palange, Natalie Pearce, Taylor Sanchez, Summer Shelton, Natalie Wright and Haley Zavattero.



For the third year, a cheer team from Pleasanton Middle School has won first place in the California Spirit Championships. Competing in the Junior High Show Cheer Novice division, the team, coached by Kim DeJoy, placed first against four other teams from northern California. The team is made up of 7th and 8th grade girls and has competed in regional events in Fremont and Tracy this school year. The team will next go to Disneyland in March for the Junior National Championships. Last year the team won both the Spirit Championship and the Junior National Championship in their division. The competition at Davis was very successful for Pleasanton schools with the team from Hart Middle School taking second place in the Junior High Show Cheer Novice division. The Hart team is coached by Nancy Jefferies. Hart will also be going to Disneyland in March.

The Livermore Police Department has announced the retirement of 27 year veteran police Captain Scott Trudeau. Captain Trudeau began his law enforcement career in 1982 as a reserve police officer for the City of Pleasanton. Hired as a full-time police officer by the City of Livermore in 1984, Captain Trudeau has worked in virtually every aspect of the department. Starting as a patrol officer, he also worked as a detective, SWAT Team member, Field Training Officer, Crime Prevention Officer, and Crisis Negotiator. Captain Trudeau was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in December 1998, the rank of Lieutenant in January 2001, and the rank of Captain in February 2008.

Throughout his career, Captain Trudeau has distinguished himself as a true professional and a servant to the public. He has a natural ability for creative problem solving and promoting efficiency and crime solving through the use of technology. He has a strong interest in Homeland Security and the collection and analysis of intel-



**Captain Scott Trudeau**

ligence information as a means to protect his community, as well as the greater law enforcement field.

Some of the more memorable accomplishments during Captain Trudeau's career include:

- 1986 – Developed the informant that broke the Shirley Ols-

son homicide case leading to the arrest and conviction of Richard Christopher Tully who is now on San Quentin's Death Row.

- 1990 – Instrumental in the Kay Carrie homicide case resulting in the arrest and conviction of two suspects.

- 1992 - Lead investigator in the largest multi-jurisdictional methamphetamine manufacturing case in California at that time. The investigation lasted 2 ½ years, involved five states and concluded with more than 100 arrests. He received the department's Medal of Merit and Police Officer of the Year Award for this investigation.

- 1999 – Established the Tactical Dispatcher Program and was one of the first to develop the Tactical Intelligence Analyst position for the Crisis Negotiation Team; created the Active Shooter Response Plan and training for the department in the wake of the Columbine High School incident.

Captain Trudeau and his wife Linda both grew up in Livermore and graduated from Granada High School. He is an active member of the community including membership in the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley. Captain Trudeau will be greatly missed and will leave a void that will not be easy to fill. We are truly grateful for the many contributions he has made to the police department and the service that he has provided the citizens of Livermore. The department will officially say good-bye to Captain Trudeau on February 10, 2011.



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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. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

**Bingo Bash**, Italian Catholic Federation, Branch \$285, fund-raiser Fri., March 4 at St. Michael's Parish Hall, 372 Maple St., Livermore. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets \$10 per person good for ten games of bingo with prizes, dancing to the music of DJ Joe Buonsante and surprise entertainment. Raffle, beverages, cookies and chips available for purchase. Proceeds go to the Children's Hospital Oakland Cooley's Anemia Research and the group's college scholarship fund. Reservations, call Elaine M. 846-0986 or Phyllis B. 454-9565. If unable to attend, a donation would be appreciated. Mail to E. Meier, 6597 Lansing Ct., Pleasanton, CA 94566.

**Livermore Lions Crab Feed**: Sat., Feb. 19, 5 to 9 p.m. Los Vaqueros Grill, 1000 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Dinner includes Crab, pasta, salad, garlic bread and dessert ticket purchase also includes water, coffee, tea and soft drinks. A no host bar will be available. There will be raffle prizes, silent auction, and door prize of a flat screen TV. Tickets \$35. Contact Ben Barrientos at 925-449-9974 or Bbarrientos@earthlink.net.

**Livermore High Cowboy Boosters Round-up**, dinner, dance, auction benefiting Livermore High School athletics. Sat., March 12, 6 to 11 p.m. Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore. Tri-tip dinner with all the fixings, silent, live, dessert, themed baskets auctions, raffles and drawings. Dancing. Tickets \$45 per person, \$30 for LHS staff and coaches; table of 8 \$360 with \$45 donated to sport of choice. Information email coferhome@aol.com. LHS Cowboy Boosters, 600 Maple St., Livermore, CA 94550.

**Pacific Locomotive Association**, non-profit group operates the Niles Canyon Railroad between Fremont Niles District and Sunol. Volunteers are sought for the following glazier, painter, electrician, mechanic or welder to restore historic trains. Other volunteers can be a brakeman or brakewoman, shopkeeper, tree trimmer, docent, caterer or engineer. For more opportunities, call Rich Alexander at 510-996-8420 or email pla\_ncry@nrcry.org.

**Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club**, Feb. 19, 38-51 miles Cinderella training ride, meet 9:30 a.m. at San Ramon Central Park, Rebecca Wood, rcwood1@sbcglobal.net. Feb. 20, 35 miles South Livermore over Patterson Pass to Midway, meet 10 a.m. at former Nob Hill Market, Steve Whelan, 415-971-6828. Feb. 23, 25 miles, Benecia, meet 10 a.m. Barbara Wood, 707-745-6353. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

**CYO Basketball crab feed**, Fri., Feb. 25, Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore, 6 p.m. to midnight. Dinner includes choice of crab or chicken, pasta, bread and salad. Silent and live auctions. Tickets \$40 per person (adults only please). For tickets or information contact Norma Jean at 216-2519 or njf@mindy@yahoo.com or go to www.smsccyo.org.

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

**Tri-Valley Democratic Club** meeting Mon., Feb. 21, 7 p.m. at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Ian Fletcher will discuss why free trade is bad for America; the topic of his new book Free Trade Doesn't Work. See www.freetradedoesntwork.com. Refreshments - Public invited - Discussion & Q&A

**Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group's** next meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 10 a.m. The meeting place is Heritage Estates Retirement Community, 900 E. Stanley Blvd. in the second floor conference room. All are welcome. Contact Ann Laye @ 443-4098 for further information.

**Volunteer Drivers Needed**, Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley is looking for Volunteer Drivers to transport seniors to their medical appointments. The Senior Transportation Program supplements existing public and paratransit services by providing rides via volunteer drivers. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle, carry automobile liability insurance, and have a clear DMV record. Please contact Jennifer

Cullen for more information at (925)931-5387 or email: ja.cullen@yahoo.com. Funding for this program is provided by Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) and Measure B Funds.

**20th annual Livermore Wine Country Festival** will be held April 30 and May 1, 2011. Volunteers are needed to help make the event a success. Festival hours are Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The wine pouring shifts are Saturday 10:30 a.m. (½ hour to set up) to 2:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (½ hour to clean up). Sunday 10:30 a.m. (½ hour to set up) to 1:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (½ hour to clean up). All volunteers required to attend the Wine Country Festival Volunteer Training Meeting which is scheduled for Thursday, April 21 at 6:00 p.m. Download a volunteer agreement form at www.livermoredowntown.com. Forms must be returned no later than Monday, April 18th, 2011. For information, call 373-1795.

**Birds of Mt. Wanda**, Sat., Feb. 26 John Muir National Historic Site, 8:30 a.m. gradual climb. Meet at the CalTrans Park and Ride, corner of Alhambra Ave. and Franklin Canyon Rd., Martinez. Wear good walking shoes. Bring water and binoculars, if available. Heavy rain cancels. Information at 228-8860.

**Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment (Tri-Valley CAREs)** was founded in 1983 in Livermore, by concerned neighbors living around the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, one of two locations where all US nuclear weapons are designed. Tri-Valley CAREs monitors nuclear weapons and environmental clean-up activities throughout the US nuclear weapons complex, with a special focus on Livermore Lab and the surrounding communities. Tri-Valley CAREs' overarching mission is to promote peace, justice and a healthy environment. All are welcome at our monthly meeting at the Livermore Civic Center Library Thursday, February 17 from 7:30pm to 9pm. For more information call Tri-Valley CAREs at (925) 443-7148 or visit our website at http://trivalleycares.org

**Free income tax help, Livermore**, AARP volunteer preparers. Monday, Feb. 7-April 18, noon-4 p.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, by appointment, 373-5760. Thursday and Friday, Feb. 3-April 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Avenue, first come, first served. Bring W2, all 1099 forms, copy of previous year's tax return, and other important documents.

**Pleasantonians 4 Peace**, Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, February 23, between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Please join us if you can. Questions?? Call Cathie Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowling@pacbell.net. www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org.

**Spanish/English dual immersion**, K-5th grade in Livermore. Now enrolling for kindergarten. Junction Ave K-8 School offers bilingual and bi-literate education for free. Dual immersion classroom tour Feb. 23 at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Jennifer Hayes at 606-4720 ext. 6332 or jhayes@lvjudd.k12.ca.us.

**Le Tableau Magnifique**, Livermore School of Dance, will be performing "Variations in Motion" at The Bankhead Theater on Saturday, March 5, 2011, with performances at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The performances are a benefit for The Diabetic Youth Foundation and a portion of the proceeds will be given to the organization. Bankhead Theater, 2400

First St., Livermore. Tickets or information at (925) 373-6800 or via their website at www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Tickets are \$18, \$20, and \$24. There will be a dessert reception in the lobby following each performance.

**Livermore Community Blood Drive**: Friday, February 18, 1-7 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue. Every day, Bay Area hospitals need hundreds of units of blood to keep sick and injured patients alive. There is no substitute for blood, and it can only be replaced by blood donations. Please register at www.redcrossblood.org and use Asbury925 as the Sponsor Code, or call Thomas Petty at 925-980-8164.

**Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA.**, Lunch in Pleasanton, Feb. 21, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by Feb. 19 to Roselyn, 999-9936. Happy hour in Castro Valley, Feb. 24, 4 p.m., RSVP by Feb. 22 to Vee, 510-782-4169. Birthday dinner in Pleasanton, Feb. 26, 5 p.m., RSVP by Feb. 22 to Anne, 846-3736. Lunch and musical performance in Pleasanton, March 13, 11:50 a.m. lunch, 2 p.m. performance of Tom Rigny's Flambeau at the Firehouse Arts Center, RSVP to Athene ASAP, 846-0111.

**Find a Treasure**, American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in Pleasanton is requesting the donation of costume or precious jewelry for its annual jewelry event. "Find a Treasure: on March 11 and 12. Donations are accepted at the shop during open hours: Monday to Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-5, Sunday 12-5. The Discovery Shop is located in the Mission Plaza Shopping Center at 1987A Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Contact Monda Wiseman, Mgr. at (925) 462-7374 for more information. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society's programs of research, education, service and advocacy.

**Livermore Adult Community Education** is currently accepting enrollment for the following classes: SAT/PSAT Preparation, English as a Second Language, GED, Adult High School Diploma, CAHSEE Preparation, Microsoft Office 2007, Phlebotomy, Clinical Medical Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Clinical Nursing Asst., Hemodialysis Tech., Physical Therapy Aide, Sterile Processing Tech., Estate Planning, Retirement Planning, CPR/First Aid, Art Classes and Health & Fitness Classes. Call 925-606-4722 for more information or visit us at www.livermoreadulted.org.

**Tuff Girl Fitness** is offering a free fitness boot camp on Saturday, Feb 19th from 9am-10:30am in Livermore in Honor of National Cancer Prevention Month. We have a team for the Avon Walk San Francisco and will accept donations, but not required. To sign up go to www.tuffgirl.com or send an email to getfit@tuffgirl.com

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

**Scholarship applications**. The applications for Livermore students for college scholarships from the Pedrozzi Foundation are now available online at www.pedrozzi-foundation.org. The deadline for finalizing all applications will be March 1, 2010 by 5:00 pm. This is also the deadline for receipt of all sealed, official transcripts. The Pedrozzi Scholarship Foundation will be awarding many annual and multiple year scholarships to graduates of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District.

**Retired Educators' Scholarship**: Up to six scholarships, each worth \$1,500.00, are offered by the Tri-Valley Retired Educators

Scholarship Foundation. The awards are offered to high-school graduating seniors and college/university students. All applicants must be planning a career in education. Requirements are: a) applicants must be residents of the Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin or Sunol area, b) high school applicants must be seniors planning to attend a four-year college in fall, 2011, c) community college applicants must be qualified to transfer as juniors to a four-year institution in fall, 2011, d) 4-year college applicants must be sophomores who will continue as juniors in fall, 2011. Questions about the scholarship should be sent to gregno@pacbell.net or call 925-443-6097. Application packets for the scholarships can be downloaded at the retired educators' website www.div85.caalta.org/. Application deadline is March 7, 2011.

**Disability Action Network (DAN)** meeting, second Thursday of each month at 2:00 pm, Livermore CRIL office, 3311 Pacific Ave., Livermore. The Disability Action Network is a group of people with all kinds of disabilities who are working together to make changes in the community. The group works on health care, housing, access, attendant programs, transportation, and other issues affecting people with disabilities. For more information, please call Jessica Lehman at (510) 881-5743 x5937.

**Toastmasters**, Amador Valley group meets at Mimi's Cafe, 4775 Hacienda Dr., Dublin, 7 a.m. Thursday mornings. Learn to communicate more effectively, improve presentation skills and leadership potential. Contact Hal Brown, 462-2412, for information.

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

## RELIGION

**Trinity**, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8:30, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. with Sunday school or Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Bible study for adults and activities for all ages on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. 447-1848.

**Granada Baptist Church**, 945 Concanon Blvd., Livermore. Services: Sunday school 9:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m., Tuesday Bible study, 10 a.m. to noon. 1-888-805-7151.

**Tri-Valley Unity Church**, 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon. Class for children, ages 1-10, during church service, 10 to 11:15 a.m. Ongoing adult classes and small groups. All are welcome. (925) 829-2733. www.trivalleyunity.com

**Spiritual Reiki Group** The Japanese system of Reiki is a spiritual practice which uses meditations, chanting, visualizations, and hands-on energy group work so that we can connect to our true nature. No prior Reiki experience is necessary. On the first and third Saturdays of every month, 10-11:45 a.m. at Tri-Valley Unity's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. Contact Gayle at gstaehle@comcast.net.

**Community Bible Study Class**, book of Luke will be the topic of study in Pleasanton at Valley Bible Church. CBS is a non-denominational Bible study ministry open to all women, with a special children's program for ages 0-5 years old. The class meets on Thursdays from 9:30-11:30AM beginning 9/9/10 and goes until 5/12/11. More information about the CBS program and registration available by contacting Sharon at 925-399-5072, or email

bobsharonmerrill@gmail.com.

**Granada Baptist Church**, 945 Concanon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

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

**Stepping Stones on Grief Journey**, Grief Ministry bi-monthly sessions, Catholic Community of Pleasanton. Feb., 24 and Mar. 10, 24, 7:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. No prerequisite required. Open to all regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Mary Hagerty, 846-5377, for more information.

**A Call to Justice: Amos/Micah/Hosea**, is the theme of the St. Charles/St. Michael's Bible Study for January 24-March 7. God stood by his people and did the right thing for them - the Bible calls this "justice." All are invited to join the bible study group on Monday evenings from 7:30-9:00 pm at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore. To reserve materials (cost \$10) or have questions call Julie at 925-447-4549 ext 114 or at upcatholic@aol.com.

**Engaging Spirituality**, series sessions Monday evenings, offers daily practices for living deeply. Twenty-one week program starts Mon., Jan. 24, 7 to 9 p.m. St. Michael's Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore. Sponsored by St. Michael Parish Social Concerns Ministry. Information and directions to the meeting location, call Carolyn Owens, 447-8987.

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

**Divorce Care**, Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton, 13-week seminar and support group for people going through divorce or separation. Video shown each night featuring experts on various topics such as controlling anger, forgiveness, caring for kids, and managing finances. The group meets on Tuesdays 7 to 9 p.m. starting March 8. There is a one-time charge for the workbook and other materials of \$25. Preregistration is required. Contact Mark Porter at 846-9693 or mcporter@hotmail.com.

**Concert**, featuring Yogi musician Dada and his band Eternal Wave. Tues., Mar. 1, 7 p.m., at Tri-Valley Unity, 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon, (Gayle at 925-925-3143). Suggested donation \$15. See his website www.eternalwave.com Dada will also perform Feb. 27 during 10:00 a.m. service and follow with a meditation/chanting workshop - \$10 suggested donation, kids free. All are welcome. Dada specializes in spiritual eco-folk music and kirtan singing.

**Faith Chapel Assembly of God**, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Interspersory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

**Pre-Lenten Retreat**, St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Speaker Father Sergius Abbot of the Monastery of St. Tikhon in South Canaan, PA. Fri., Feb. 18, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sat., Feb. 19, 9 a.m. divine liturgy, 10:30 a.m. light breakfast, 11 a.m. first presentation, break for lunch at nearby restaurants, 2 p.m. second presentation, 4:30 p.m. vespers; Feb. 20, 10 a.m. divine liturgy. Information 449-2965.

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