



Find Out What's Happening

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

Survey Shows Strong Support For School Parcel Tax Extension

Of those surveyed, 70 percent would support the extension of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District parcel tax.

Tramutola Advisors and True North Research conducted a community poll in January, 2014 designed to determine the feasibility of placing a measure on either the June, 2014 or November, 2014 ballot to renew the current parcel tax at its current rate of \$138 per parcel.

Larry Trmutola said of the survey results, "We rarely see numbers like these."

Based on the responses, Tim McLarney, president of True North Research, concluded that it would be feasible to move ahead with a ballot measure in June 2014. Support for extending the parcel tax remained above two-thirds throughout the survey. He recommended not going for an increase in the tax.

The measure provides roughly \$3.8 million annually to pay for specific programs and services as identified in the ballot measure. In the past the funds have been earmarked for class size reduction, elementary science program, high school counselors, school libraries and middle school electives, as well as technology and high school college and career preparation classes.

Livermore voters ap-

proved the first parcel tax in 2004 with 71.6 percent approval. It was renewed in 2008 with 76.2 percent in favor.

No decision was made by the Board of Trustees. However, based on the recommendation of the consultant, the measure would likely be placed on the June 2014 ballot.

In order to make the June election, the ballot statement would be needed by the first

week in March. The board meets March 4.

McLarney presented the results of the survey to the Livermore Board of Trustees last week.

The telephone survey conducted in January quizzed 350 people who would likely vote in the 2014 June election.

While described as random, interviews were conducted within political and

(See EXTENSION, page 5)

Amador Civics Team Wins State, Headed for D.C.

By Ron McNicoll
Amador Valley High School's civics competition team will be going to Washington in April to compete once more in the national "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" contest.

Amador won the honor by finishing first in the state competition in Bakersfield on the Feb. 8 weekend. Foothill High School's team, which is coached by Jeremy Detamar, finished second.

Amador is coached by government and economics teacher Brian Ladd, with assistance from history teacher Mairi Wohldemuth. The national competition will be held April 26-28. The team will arrive a few days earlier to rehearse for the contest.

The competition take place in the U.S. Senate committee hearing rooms, with students "giving testimony" by discussing different aspects of the U.S. Constitution, including its foundations in philosophy, and such issues as the Bill of Rights and citizenship in the 21st century. Judges then will play the role of senators by asking questions.

Amador won the national competition in 1995, when Skip Mohatt was the school's first coach. As a new teacher at that time, Ladd worked with Mohatt, and trained subsequent coaches, before taking over later.

Amador won second place in 2006-08, 2011, and 2013. The school was third in 1994 and in 2009.

This year, Amador did not win the district or regional competition, so for the first time, it advanced as a wild card team, and became the first wild card to win at the state level.

"This group of young men and women worked closer and harder than any other team I have coached. They help each other. If

(See CIVICS, page 12)



BUNNIES AT PETSMA Is she wondering, "What will I read today?" Not at all. Emma has wonderful household manners, and will be the perfect addition to any home. Meet Emma and 12 + bunnies this Saturday from 12-3 pm at the Dublin PetSmart, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. For more info, call 925-519-1723, or email ebrabbit@comcast.net. Visit www.eastbayrabbit.petfinder.com to see more pet profiles.



Dublin resident Dennis Mitchell collects signatures for the Dublin Open Space Protection initiative.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

ValleyCare Lays Off 24, Reduces Executive Salaries

By Ron McNicoll
ValleyCare Health System has eliminated 24 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, saving \$1.8 million as part of an effort to return its books to black ink.

In addition, salaries of eight top management executives have been reduced by a total of \$147,000, or more than 5 percent. Also, ValleyCare will no longer be paying the salary for departed CEO Marcy Feit, who earned \$905,000 in 2012.

Scott Gregerson replaced Feit as Interim CEO. He was hired as vice-president of strategic partnerships in 2012. That position is now vacant. Gregerson was paid \$350,000. With the pay cuts he now earns \$330,700.

No reason has been announced for Feit's Feb. 4 departure, but board of directors chairman John Sensiba said that he will address it eventually.

All told, the savings since Feit's departure and the board's unanimous decisions Feb. 19 about the layoffs and salary reductions will amount to \$2.8 million.

ValleyCare earns approximately \$286 million in revenue annually. The operating loss for ValleyCare last year was \$5.1 million, the fourth consecutive year of negative ending balances in cash flow.

The board may enact further savings by canceling performance bonuses for department heads who were slated to receive them. However, a decision has not yet been made, said Gregerson.

(See VALLEYCARE, page 5)

State of the City Finds Pleasanton Strong and Getting Stronger

By Carol Graham
Feedback from a community-wide survey allowed Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne to state that seven in ten residents find the city an excellent place to live.

"As a matter of fact, the survey found that the longer residents live here, the higher they rate the city," said Thorne. "As a 38-year resident myself, I can relate to that!"

Thorne addressed 230

attendees during the annual State of the City address and luncheon held on February 25th at the Hilton Pleasanton at the Club.

"This year the city implemented a new plan to measure the performance of the city and the satisfaction of its residents. The bottom line for us is, are you happy?" said Thorne, during his second state of the city address following his 2012 election. "The plan is to measure the performance of city services

from year to year and to set meaningful and measurable targets in key service areas such as public safety, dependable infrastructure, economic development, and financial stability. In this way, we get a picture of where we are today in relation to our past, and we can gauge our progress on future goals and objectives."

During 2013, Pleasanton made significant strides. By paying off Certificates of Participation in advance

of their maturity in 2032, taxpayers were saved \$10.7 million in interest, said Thorne. In addition, the city is now free of construction debt for the first time in 45 years.

"Lee Iacocca, one of the great CEOs of our time, expressed our position beautifully when he said, 'We at Chrysler borrow money the old-fashioned way: we pay it back!'" said Thorne. "I agree completely. Happily,

(See PLEASANTON, page 4)

Future Dublin Ranch Properties' Density Lowered

By Ron McNicoll
The Dublin City Council gave its unanimous approval to developer requests for changes in the general plan and the East Dublin Specific Plan for Dublin Ranch properties.

The larger Dublin Ranch property, approved by the

council Feb. 18 covers 64 acres between Dublin Boulevard on the south and Central Parkway on the north, and between Fallon Road on the east and Lockhart Street on the west.

The change reduces the overall residential density (See DUBLIN, page 4)

Incubator to Bring High Tech Business Start-ups Downtown

An incubator for start-up tech companies will be located in downtown Livermore. The city council approved a lease with i-GATE for use of the former SBC (Southwestern Bell Corporation) building at 2324 Second Street across from the Post Office.

The council also okayed

\$50,000 for space improvements in the building. The vote was unanimous.

The facility requires some upgrades to enable i-GATE's intended use of the space, which includes private desk space for working start-ups, a co-working

(See LIVERMORE, page 8)



Livermore Mayor John Marchand threw out the first pitch opening day for the Livermore American Little League. Oakland A's mascot, Stomper, was on hand for the festivities. For scores, go to page 6.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Inside

SECTION A	Editorial.....4
Art & Entertainment.....8	Mailbox.....4
Bulletin Board..... 10	Roundup.....3
Milestones10 & 12	Short Notes.....9
MAIN SECTION	Sports.....6
Classifieds.....11	Obituaries.....9



PET OF THE WEEK

Make time for a cup of Java! A captivating, outgoing gray tabby just 2½ years old, Java always gives a warm welcome, like a friend you're truly glad to see. Java is just percolating at the Valley Humane Society until her special someone stops by. Why not come by and see for yourself what's brewing with Java? Adopt Java for just \$14 during Adults Only, a cat adoption affair ending February 28. For more information, please call (925) 426-8656 or visit valleyhumane.org.

Photo - Valley Humane Society/D. Smith



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Students at Foothill High School in Pleasanton held a noontime demonstration to make fellow students aware of human rights violations in Russia.

Foothill Students Demonstrate Over Russian Gay Issues

Two dozen Foothill High School students conducted a silent demonstration in the school's quad at lunchtime to make fellow students aware of human rights violations in Russia.

The protest on Feb. 21 was sponsored by the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) and the campus chapter of Amnesty International.

Cori Hartwig, president of the GSA, said that the students wanted to do some-

thing because of what they had heard from news media about anti-gay repression in Russia.

The students formed a circle and held signs that spoke against hatred. Some included a gay pride flag logo.

Hartwig, a senior, said that she did not know whether it was the first such demonstration at Foothill, but she has not seen any similar demonstration in her years

on campus

"The response was really positive. A lot of (students) came up to us and said, 'Thank you for doing this,' or 'I support you.' Since it was a silent vigil, we couldn't talk back," said Hartwig.

The demonstration was silent because "we didn't want to do anything aggressive. I believe part of creating tolerance and acceptance is to respect others," said Hartwig.

Registration Opens for Parent Project Program

Axis Community Health, the City of Dublin and the Dublin Unified School District are teaming up to bring the nationally acclaimed Parent Project program to Tri-Valley parents. The program gives parents the tools they need to prevent or change problematic adolescent behavior. Registration is now open for the 12-week course that begins March 19.

"Raising strong-willed or rebellious adolescents presents serious challenges, ones

that often negatively impact everyone in the home," said Amie Sousa, Teen Drug and Alcohol Program Coordinator. "Through the Parent Project, parents acquire the skills needed to combat destructive behaviors, including poor academic performance and drug and alcohol use."

Solution-focused and activity-based, the Parent Project offers step-by-step strategies for identifying and preventing destructive be-

haviors. School attendance and performance improve; gone for good are the arguments and anger. The weekly three-hour sessions include a support-group component providing an opportunity for parents to share experiences in applying Parent Project lessons. Participants go from experiencing stress and a sense of isolation to acquiring the skills for addressing their adolescent's issues and improving the quality of life in

Chamber Announces 51st Annual Community Service Awards Winners

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce will recognize individuals, groups and businesses who have demonstrated excellence and community leadership in business, volunteer activities and achievement within the Pleasanton community on Wednesday, March 19 at the Firehouse Arts Center.

The Community Service Awards began in 1963 in an effort to recognize good people doing great things in the community. Since then hundreds of recipients have been honored.

Award recipients include the following:

Turman Commercial Painters, Business Philanthropy Award: For businesses that have provided philanthropic service beyond the scope of normal business activity.

The HopYard American Alehouse & Grill, Excellence in Business Award: For businesses that have made a positive impact in the Pleasanton community through their achievement within the scope of normal business activity.

Pleasanton Military Families, Excellence in Service Award: For non-profit organizations that have contributed to Pleasanton.

Greg Thome, Disting-

uished Individual Service Award: For individuals who have contributed to Pleasanton through exceptional service to the community or philanthropic efforts.

Sarah and Claire Williams, Distinguished Individual Youth Service Award: For youth who have contributed to Pleasanton through exceptional service to the community or philanthropic efforts.

Hacienda, Green Business Award: For businesses that promote sustainable environmental business practices throughout their organization for the benefit of employees, customers or the community.

This event, sponsored by Chevron and University of San Francisco Pleasanton Campus, will celebrate people who go the extra mile to

make Pleasanton a fabulous place to live and do business. The public is invited to attend this fun-filled evening beginning at 6:00 p.m. with a hosted bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres, as well as a silent auction followed by the awards presentation. Cost to attend is \$45 per person and tickets are on sale now on the Chamber's website at www.pleasanton.org.

The Pleasanton Chamber presented six Community Service Awards in 2013: **Business Philanthropy Award:** 1st United Services Credit Union; **Excellence in Business Award:** Simpson Strong-Tie; **Excellence in Service Award:** Volunteers in Police Service; **Distinguished Individual Service Award:** Debi Covello and Green Business Award: The Clorox Company and Café Main.

Writers Program Tells How to Save a Bundle on Your Taxes

Bonnie Lee will be the guest speaker at the next monthly meeting of the California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch on Saturday, March 15, 2014, at the Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard, Pleasanton.

For over 20 years, as the owner of Taxperts™ and as an enrolled agent, Lee has represented taxpayers across the country. She specializes in resolving tax problems for independent contractors, the self-employed, and small business owners. She is a member of the National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA) and California Society of Enrolled Agents (CSEA).

In 2007, Lee mounted her Taxperts™ seminars and broadcast the first of her weekly Taxperts™ radio broadcasts on KSVY radio in Sonoma County. Her Entrepreneur Press books, Taxperts, The Complete Book of Dirty Little Secrets and Hidden Deductions for Small Business that the IRS Doesn't Want You to Know, offer readers over 20 years of insider experience in dealing successfully and prosperously with the IRS.

The CWC Tri-Valley Branch invites writers of all genres and experience levels to learn about their craft at its monthly meetings. The meeting will be Saturday, March 15, 2:00-4:00 p.m. (registration at 1:30). The cost for CWC Members is \$10, nonmembers, \$15. Anyone interested in the program or the organization may attend with no obligation to join. Reservations requested by contacting George Cramer at reservations@trivalleywriters.org no later than Wednesday, March 12.

For more information about California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch contact Paula Chinick at president@trivalleywriters.org or visit www.trivalleywriters.org

New Hours For Regional Parks

Del Valle Regional Park will be open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. starting Saturday, March 1, according to information from East Bay Regional Park District. Del Valle has been opening at 7 a.m. and closing at 6 p.m. since November.

Starting March 8, Sunol Wilderness Park will stay open two hours later in the evening, closing at 7 p.m. instead of the current 5 p.m. Its 8 a.m. opening will not change.


Starting March 13, three other East Bay parks -- Brushy Peak, Dublin Hills and Pleasanton Ridge -- will stay open one hour later, closing at 7 p.m. instead of today's 6 p.m. Like Sunol, they will continue to open at 8 a.m.

East Bay Regional Parks operates 65 parks in the East Bay. For more information on any of them, go online to <http://www.ebparks.org/parks>.

Life Begins

at ValleyCare

Giving birth is one of life's most joyous experiences. That's why our physicians make your health and comfort, and the health of your baby their top priority. Along with our advanced treatment capabilities, our physicians, nurses, and specialists provide you and your baby with the support and encouragement needed to make your birth experience a memory you'll always treasure. It's a culture of caring made possible by real people practicing real medicine.




**ValleyCare Medical Foundation
OB/GYNs**

Scott D. Eaton, MD
William Phillips, MD
Jennifer Salata, MD
Gabrielle Schaefer, MD
Laura Silverstein, MD
Rebecca Stone, MD*
Arlene Melville, NP


*Dr. Rebecca Stone is now seeing patients in the Livermore office along with Dr. Scott Eaton.

**VALLEYCARE
MEDICAL FOUNDATION**

Visit www.myvcmf.com
or call 925.734.6655



Indulge in a slice of pure happiness at Patxi's Livermore



Free Delivery!

2470 First St
Livermore, CA
patxispizza.com

VALLEY ROUNDUP

DeSaulnier Endorsements

State Senator Mark DeSaulnier has received a sought-after endorsement from the Central Labor Council of Contra Costa County, AFL-CIO in his bid for California's 11th Congressional district seat. He seeks to replace George Miller, who is retiring.

Currently, DeSaulnier represents California's 7th State Senate district, which covers 70% of California's 11th Congressional district. Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin are part of the 7th State Senate District.

One of the largest Labor Councils in the San Francisco Bay Area, the Central Labor Council of Contra Costa County, AFL-CIO represents about 84,000 union members, and is affiliated with 94 local unions. The Council is responsible for organizing and uniting members across the County. Their mission is to promote, establish, and protect the highest possible standards in the workplace for working men and women.

DeSaulnier also scored endorsements from three elected leaders, including: Representatives Eric Swalwell, Jerry McNerney, and John Carney. Previously he announced support by Congressman George Miller and Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher (Ret.).

Next weekend, DeSaulnier plans to formally open up his campaign headquarters, where he'll build a field operation that will identify, organize and mobilize voters for the upcoming June 2014 Primary election.

DSRSD Votes for Conservation

The Dublin San Ramon Services District Board (DSRSD) of Directors unanimously declared a Community Drought Emergency, calling for 20% voluntary conservation. The board increased the District's budget \$150,000 to cover expenses related to the drought and corresponding limitations in water supply.

The Board also endorsed the District's Drought Response Action Plan with the following key elements: curtail District system-wide water usage by 20% compared to the same period last year (by reducing indoor water use 5% and outdoor water use 40%); fully cooperate with Zone 7 Water Agency (the District's water wholesaler) to curtail water use; pursue actions described in the Drought Response Action Plan; and, convert existing potable irrigation customers to recycled water wherever possible.

To set an example for its customers, the District has already done the following: turned off potable irrigation systems at all District facilities (primarily remote pump stations, because the landscaping around the District Office and the wastewater treatment plant is irrigated with recycled water); switched to recycled water to clean sewers; and ceased flushing hydrants except for critical areas where flushing is necessary to maintain adequate water quality. The District is also exchanging all potable water construction meters for recycled water construction meters, expanding recycled water use to

as much landscape irrigation as possible (if the drought persists, outdoor potable irrigation may be restricted or even banned), and scheduling District experts to speak to community groups about what our customers can do to minimize the drought's impact.

In late April, early May, the DSRSD Board will have a better understanding of the current rainy season and its corresponding impacts on the state's water supply, and may be asked at that time to consider additional policy decisions. Such considerations might include the following: adopting a drought stage and higher rates (Stage 1 water rates have a target goal of reducing water use by 10%, Stage 2 has a target goal of reducing water use by 20%, Stage 3 has a target goal of reducing water use by 35%, and Stage 4 has a target goal of reducing water use by 50%); implement affordability programs for customers who are already low-water users; enhance rebate programs with additional incentives; adopt appropriate mandatory conservation requirements, limitations, or prohibitions; and, enact appropriate enforcement action for customers who fail to comply with mandatory conservation requirements.

Electric Lawn Mowers

In an effort to reduce air pollution, the Bay Area Air Quality Management is providing a rebate towards the purchase of a new, cordless, zero-emission, electric lawn mower in exchange for an operable gasoline lawn mower, which will be recycled.

Gasoline powered lawn mowers are a source of pollutants which can have health impacts, and contribute to the formation of summertime smog in the Bay Area.

Two Black & Decker cordless battery electric lawn mowers are available with a gasoline mower trade-in. Advance registration is required online at www.baaqmd.gov/mowers or by calling the Black & Decker hotline at (844) 262-3495, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Each participant can select an appointment time. Participants must be Bay Area residents and have proof of residence such as a recent utility bill or driver license. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Supplies are limited.

Additional information about the exchange events, including specific locations and lawn mower specifications is available at <http://www.blackanddecker.com/mowerevents>.

Corrections

A headline for a DAR Awards article headline in the Feb. 13 Independent reads, "Mendenhall Student Takes Top Honors in DAR Contest." The first place, \$1,000 award went to Granada's Karissa Beran.

Last week's article about desalination research incorrectly stated that ultra-light materials called aerogels can float in air. They can be made to float in gases that are heavier than air but not in air itself.

Sunrise Kayak Rentals Extended Three More Years At Del Valle

By Jeff Garberson

Sunrise Mountain Sports of Livermore will be able to operate its popular kayak rental business at Del Valle Regional Park for another three years following a decision by East Bay Regional Park District's operations committee last week.

The Sunrise operation was in doubt earlier in the week after the Park District's staff recommended that a Fremont company, Outback Adventures, replace Sunrise as operator of the concession.

The staff recommendation came as a shock to Sunrise, which established the kayak concession at Del Valle in 2006 after nearly a decade of carting kayaks to the lake from its outdoor sports store in Livermore.

It also shocked the large clientele that Sunrise had built up over the years and that had come to depend on the Livermore store to provide high quality kayaks, instruction and tours.

The founder and co-owner of Sunrise, Kim Granfield, sent an email to friends and customers. Within a few days, he was able to head for the Park District committee meeting carrying a petition with some 750 signatures asking that Sunrise be retained as operator of the concession.

While he expected some support, its level surprised him. In an interview, his voice grew quiet in expressing his response: "It was heart-warming. I was very happy that I had so much support."

Thinking he was about to lose the concession "was devastating for a while," he added. It might have turned into a serious business loss, since kayaking and the concession provide a significant fraction of Sunrise's revenue. Not suspecting that there were any questions about continuing the contract, he had bought new kayaks in the Fall to add to existing stocks in preparation for the coming year.

Both Outback Adventures and Sunrise Mountain

Sports were given opportunities to make their case at the committee meeting. The record of years of good service plus the outpouring of support, which took the form of letters and emails as well as the petition, were enough to convince the Park District to overrule the staff recommendation. "They were not ready to give the contract to someone else," he said.

Despite the several days of anxiety, Granfield thinks the overall experience has been positive, and not only because it came out well for him.

He understands that enthusiasm for water sports only goes so far. Sunrise needs to do a better job of communicating with the Park District. For example, 70 paddlers showed up for a lake tour on Thanksgiving Day—a positive reflection of the popularity the store has brought to the sport in recent years, but a challenge for the Park's short-staffed crew of rangers who had no advance warning.

In response, he has started preparing monthly schedules for the Park to make sure staff are not taken by surprise. He says he intends to be more "systematic" in dealing with the business side of water sports; for example, explaining more clearly on the Sunrise website what levels of instruction are offered.

As its name indicates, Sunrise was known for mountaineering sports before it got seriously into the kayak business. In recent years, its kayak efforts have grown, stimulated by location and the presence on-staff of half a dozen certified kayak instructors.

It is by no means the only business in the Bay Area to offer kayak rental, sales and instruction. Being close to Del Valle, however, means it has easy access to one of the few lakes in the Bay Area to allow boating.

While winds can come up in the afternoon, the water is generally calm and easy to enter and paddle for a few hours. Beginners, enthusi-

asts and potential customers come from miles around to buy a boat or to simply try kayaking or one of the other water sports offered such as paddle boarding.

Literally hundreds of customers can throng the concession on a warm summer weekend, signing up to take

a boat out for a few hours.

Staff expertise counts in the store's reputation. Kim and his brother, Rob Granfield, the business's co-owner, go on challenging expeditions such as kayaking coastal Greenland, Alaska, Tierra del Fuego and Britain. They and other instructors

on the Sunrise staff have reached advanced levels of certification from the American Canoeing Association, the largest organization to set water sports standards.

Over the years, Sunrise has built up an impressive line of kayaks for sale and rent, including brands like

Dagger, Perception, Wave Sport and Wilderness Systems that are well known in the world of serious kayaking. (It also offers popular Hobie paddle boats.)

For more on Sunrise Mountain Sports, see its website, <http://www.sunrisemountain.com/>

PHILHARMONIA
BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

wednesday **March 5** at 7:30pm

Named Musical America's "Ensemble of the Year" in 2004, the **Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra** is renowned worldwide for stellar performances of Baroque, Classical and early-Romantic era music using original period instruments. Founded in 1981, the San Francisco-based group offers rich and historically-fascinating programs under the leadership of music director **Nicholas McGegan**.

Widely admired for her compelling verve and dazzling performances on the Baroque violin, concertmaster **Elizabeth Blumenstock** leads Philharmonia in a program of virtuoso Baroque works by Central European composers. *Music from the Heart of Europe* includes the works of Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg Philipp Telemann, and Georg Muffat.

"An irresistible combination of rhythmic verve and sheer delight."
—San Francisco Classical Voice

call 925.373.6800 **click** www.bankheadtheater.org
come by 2400 First Street / Livermore

BANKHEAD
THEATER

Winners of Livermore Spelling Bees Move on in Competition

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District held its annual Spelling Bees on February 5 and February 12.

Fourth, fifth, and sixth grade spellers competed on Feb. 5, tackling such words as rhythm and spaghetti.

The winners were: first place: Ella King; second place: Staicy Robles; third place: Samuel Siegel; fourth place: Jessica Jaing.

The seventh and eighth grade competition was held on Feb. 12. These students spelled words such as plagiarize and chartreuse. After sixteen tense rounds, the winners were: first place: Miriam Brown; second place: Audrey Kane; third place: Meenakshi Singhal; fourth place: Sarah Morgan.

These seven students will advance to the Alameda County Competition on March 8 at Cull Canyon Middle School in Castro Valley.

EDITORIAL

Sign the Dublin Initiative

Dublin residents are in the process of collecting signatures for an initiative designed to protect open space on its borders, particularly Doolan Canyon.

The Dublin Open Space Protection Initiative would establish an urban limit line on the eastern edge of Dublin. It would also make the western urban limit line permanent.

Doolan Canyon comprises the majority of the greenbelt between Dublin and Livermore. Development threatens the area, currently made up of open space and ranches. It is mostly undeveloped and home to an array of threatened and endangered animals and plants.

Pacific Union has submitted an annexation request to Dublin with the idea of building a 1900 home senior community in Doolan Canyon.

The developer went to Dublin with the proposal because both Alameda County and Livermore have established urban growth boundaries that require a vote of the people to allow the boundary to be moved.

Dublin is the only city in the area that does not have an urban limit line encircling the city, making it easier and faster for a development proposal to gain approval.

No one thinks that development will stop with the one proposal. Without an eastern urban growth boundary, Dublin will be able to continue its eastward sprawl, posing not only a threat to Doolan Canyon, but to Collier Canyon and areas beyond.

Dublin doesn't need to expand in order to meet its housing needs for years to come. It makes no sense to proceed with a development that invites further sprawl.

The City has grown at a rapid rate, raising concerns about traffic congestion and pollution. It's time for residents to step in and stop the city's sprawl both eastward and to the west. That would happen if the initiative became law, establishing a new urban limit line that could only be changed by Dublin voters.

We urge voters to sign the Dublin Open Protection Space Initiative.

Implementation Guidelines Make Camping Ordinance 'More Humane'

The Livermore City Council gave the go-ahead for staff to finalize an implementation process for the new urban camping ordinance.

In essence, what the ordinance does is clarify that overnight camping on public properties and private property where there is public access is unlawful without possession of a permit authorizing use of the facility. The ordinance is the result of recent activities on public property, particularly in arroyos and rights of way, that have raised concerns regarding public health, safety and security. Violations could lead to fines or jail.

The council approved the ordinance at its Feb. 10 meeting. It directed staff to come back with implementation procedures.

Speakers had criticized the ordinance as too harsh, hurting those who are already having problems. Speakers and Councilmember Lauren Turner had asked for guidelines on how the ordinance would be implemented.

At its meeting on Monday, the council endorsed the proposed guidelines. They will come back to the council on March 10 for final approval.

Turner stated, "I'm happy. It makes the ordinance sound more humane." She asked for clarification on when a citation might be issued.

The draft camping ordinance implementation guidelines are as follows:

1. When a complaint is received, City staff will investigate. If camping is occurring, city staff will advise

people about the prohibition and provide information about services.

2. City staff will also post a notice to comply based on a reasonable time frame depending on the circumstances – but not less than 24 hours.

3. City staff will notify service providers that an encampment has been posted.

4. If a re-inspection finds that the violation has not been abated, the camp will be removed. City staff may exercise discretion regarding citations.

5. Personal belongings, but not trash or hazardous materials, will be preserved for not less than 60 days for retrieval by the affected person. Personal belongings will be stored at no cost.

6. A notice will be posted regarding the location to pick-up personal belongings.

7. Citations will not be issued if someone collects his or her belongings.

Mayor John Marchand commented, "The ordinance will be reactive to complaints. It targets bad behaviors. It is not criminalizing the homeless. It allows the city to clean-up the large encampments that represent public health and safety hazards."

Several homeless people addressed the council, expressing concerns that they will be cited. They feared the goal was to drive them out of town.

One of them stated that she is homeless. She worked

for many years, but has been unable to find a job for the past 3 or 4 years. Her house went into foreclosure and was sold on a short sale. "Every dime I had, I put into my home." She added, "I am only one of many stories. People out there are not on drugs and are not criminals."

Another said she had been homeless since Sept. 25. "I tried very hard to find a job. It's not that easy. Where are we supposed to go? A lot of us are trying to get out of this mess. We have to have a place to sleep."

Marchand plans to hold a homeless summit sometime in April to discuss ideas on how to help the homeless. Details will be released at a future date.

Four Zone 7 Seats Open

The nomination period for the June 3, 2014 election ends on Friday, March 7, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

There are four seats available on the Zone 7 Water District Board of Directors. As of Monday, none of the four incumbents, John Greco, AJ Machaevich, Sarah Palmer and William Stevens had filed.

Incumbent Eric Swalwell and current State Senator Ellen Corbett have filed for the 15th Congressional District seat. Both are Democrats.

In the 10th State Senate District, incumbent Ellen Corbett is terming out. Audie Bock, former State Assemblymember; Roy Hashimoto; Mary Hayashi-D, former State Assemblymember; Peter Kuo-R, insurance agent; Roman Reed-D, Fremont Planning Commissioner;

and Bob Wieckowski-D, State Assemblymember are the potential candidates to replace Corbett.

The 16th State Assembly District candidates for the seat currently held by Joan Buchanan include Newell Arnerich-D, Danville Councilmember; attorney Catharine Baker-R; and Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti-D. Orinda Councilmember Steve Glazer-D is expected to file.

Pleasanton School Board member Jeff Bowser, San Lorenzo School Board member Helen Foster and San Leandro City Councilmember Ursula Reed have filed to run for Alameda County Superintendent of Schools. Sheila Jordan is the current superintendent. She is retiring.

In the county school

board 7th trustee area, which includes the Tri-Vally, incumbent Yvonne Cerrato is up for reelection. She had not filed as of Monday.

In the event that an incumbent fails to file for re-election, the nomination period for that office is extended until Wednesday, March 12, 2014 for any candidate other than the incumbent.

Nomination documents are available at the Alameda County Registrar of Voters Office, 1225 Fallon St., Room G-1, in Oakland. Candidates for municipal offices should contact the respective City Clerk for information on obtaining nomination documents.

For more information, contact the Registrar of Voters office at (510) 272-6933.

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

unlike Chrysler, the City of Pleasanton will never have to worry about being owned by Fiat."

Stating that the city is financially solid, Thorne noted Pleasanton's place among state- and country-wide statistics. While the national unemployment rate is expected to level off at around 6.5 percent and California's rate is 8.3 percent, Pleasanton's unemployment rate is only 3.4 percent.

"We're doing much better than the state and the nation on the employment front," said Thorne. "We have a steadily improving market. Pleasanton's commercial office market vacancy rate was 11.8 percent at the end of 2013. That compares to 16.3 percent at the same time a year ago, and 17.9 percent two years ago."

Additionally, Thorne noted that business license revenue was up by 10 percent from the previous year, and that residential home values continue to climb. "Last year, the median sale for a single family home was up by 9 percent, to \$900,000!" he said.

Hosted by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, the luncheon's sponsors include the Clorox Company, Heritage Bank of Commerce, Lawrence Livermore National Security LLC, Safeway, and Sensiba San Filippo LLP.

Thorne highlighted several of the year's accomplishments, including the completion of the Stoneridge Drive extension, a project 20 years in the making, and the updated adoption of an Economic Development Strategic Plan.

"Stoneridge Drive now connects Livermore and Pleasanton at a junction where the elegant Stoneridge Creek Retirement Community is located, and a wonderful five-acre neighborhood park," he said. "The project also features a trail

extension that connects the Arroyo Mocho Trail to the Livermore Trail system."

He continued, "After seven years, it was time to update Pleasanton's Economic Development Strategic Plan. With your help, we were able to determine the city's strengths and opportunities and use it as a basis for the plan update. The new strategic plan will focus on three priority areas for us to consider over the next three to five years: business development and communications, built environment and workforce, and economic health and resilience. The purpose? To sustain and grow Pleasanton's robust business economy."

Other achievements include launching a program to convert Pleasanton's more than 5,400 street lights to LED bulbs, a change that will save the city about \$200,000 a year in energy and maintenance costs, and adopting a Recycled Water Master Plan that includes agreements for wholesale recycled water and a new distribution system for irrigation.

The luncheon, open to all, was attended by elected officials including Senate Majority Leader Ellen Corbett, Pleasanton Unified School District Board President Jamie Hintzke and Trustees Valerie Arkin, Jeff Bowser and Joan Laursen, Zone 7 Water Agency Board member Angela Ramirez Holmes, East Bay Regional Parks District Director Ayn Weiskamp, BART Board member John McPartland, Vice mayor Jerry Pentin, and City Councilmembers Karla Brown and Kathy Narum. Also in attendance were City Manager Nelson Fialho, PUSD Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi, and representatives from the offices of Congressman Eric Swalwell, office of Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley, and the office of Assem-

blymember Joan Buchanan.

Thorne's full speech will be aired repeatedly on Channel 30.

"The state of our city is strong and getting stronger," Thorne concluded. "Our future is as bright as our determination is strong, and your city leadership and staff are committed to that vision. Together, we have connected ourselves to a world full of possibilities and opportunities for our children, our neighborhoods, our businesses, and our city. We have committed to Pleasanton's prosperity, to Pleasanton's promise. The future begins now."

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Letter Policy: The Independent will not publish anonymous letters, nor will it publish letters without names. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be submitted by e-mail to editmail@compuserve.com.)

The Homeless Lori Pavich Livermore

A few Mondays ago I stood before the Livermore City Council and a crowd of sympathetic homeless advocates and explained how heartless the newly adopted Urban Camping Ban will be.

It passed anyway and it's absurd that it did. My deepest thanks to Councilmember Lauren Turner for understanding how inhumane it will be and for being the sole vote against it.

As I explained that night I understand some of our homeless need guidelines and boundaries. I see the messes some of them create and leave behind. I see how entitled some of them have become. I've seen some of them arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct, and deserve it. I'm keenly aware some of them struggle with mental illness and addictions. Some of them. That's

DUBLIN

(continued from page one)

from 484 units to 437 units. It redistributes housing acreage and other spaces to create 14 acres of rural residential/agricultural designation stretching along the property in a C-shape on the development map from Central Parkway south to Dublin Boulevard.

Once, that agriculturally designated area was considered for potential vineyards. However, practical considerations concerning some aspects of site design discouraged that use.

The problem with this new ban, it's a one size fits all ban that also penalizes the portion of the homeless that work really hard at being well respected citizens of Livermore. I know this because I hang out with them. I visit with them, listen to them, laugh with them, pray with them, and have cried with them. I know their strengths and limitations, their fears and their dreams.

I know their stories and I care deeply for them, all of them. There, but for the grace of God, go you or I.

I am extremely grateful Livermore has a large, generous faith based and non faith based community of volunteers that care deeply about humanity. It's what makes Livermore so attractive in the first place. I'm also extremely proud of the City Council for suggesting we hold a Homeless Summit to address the needs of the homeless. What I don't understand is why the Urban Camping Ban was put in place before we had the tools to deal with the consequences of the ban.

The title, "Urban Camping Ban" sounds so generic, so let me spell it out. As soon as the implementation portion of the ban is finalized it will be against the law for the homeless of Livermore that sleep outside to use blankets or sleeping bags. I understand the need for an ordinance to prevent "Occupy Oakland" from ever happening in Livermore, but why couldn't the ban

Also in Dublin Ranch, the council at the developer's request, lowered the density in The Groves, Lot 3, from 304 for-sale condominiums to 122 attached single family residences. Earlier authorizations for higher densities did not result in a plan that would meet the market, said the developer and city staff.

The townhouses average about 2000 square feet, and have two or three bedrooms. There will be a double garage with each unit.

The council also ap-

proved funding for various community organizations that requested city money. Most were social services that deal with homeless people, seniors, women's sheltering, education, and at-risk youths.

For these purposes, some \$120,000 was committed from the general fund, \$7,000 from the federal Community Development Block Grant program and \$7000 from the Affordable Housing Fund, which is supported by fees paid by developers.

There was also discussion about arts groups that applied for money. Former Mayor Janet Lockhart, who heads the city's new Human Services Commission, said that the panel, which screened the applications, felt it was more appropriate to take care of human needs first.

However, Lockhart encouraged the city to look at separate funding to support art groups. Lawrence Kohl, music director of the Pacific Chamber Symphony, pointed out all the work being done with youths in music education by his organization. Kohl noted that Dublin will have a new theater at the high school for music and theater performances, where students can be exposed to more outside performances that will raise their musical appreciation.

Mayor Tim Sbranti said that the council should look in a few months what might be done to provide arts funding. The city's cultural arts council should be involved in the process.

The council also approved a salary schedule for acting city manager Chris Foss. Foss officially will become city manager when the contract begins on April 26.

The five-year contract will pay him \$224,000 annually, with a one-year separation agreement that will pay him one year's salary and benefits. He will receive a \$540 monthly car allowance, and 45 days of leave.

The council heard the annual update about the city's smoking control policy for apartment complexes. Three more complexes joined the program in 2013, bringing the city's total non-smoking units to 92 percent.

THE Independent

(INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.)

Publisher: Joan Kinney Seppala
Associate Publisher: David T. Lowell
Editor: Janet Armantrout

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550; (925) 447-8700. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9998. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. Go to www.independentnews.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

Advertising rates and subscription rates may be obtained by calling (925) 447-8700 during regular business hours or by fax: (925) 447-0212. Editorial information may be submitted by editmail@compuserve.com.

Why the Tax?

Karl Aitken Pleasanton

How many of you read the February 20th article concerning Alameda Coun-

(More MAILBOX, page 10)

Brown Wants \$687 Million Available for Drought Aid

By Ron McNicol

California Gov. Jerry Brown is proposing a \$687 million drought-relief legislation package, which would spend \$549 million from a 2006 voter-approved water bond for grants to local governments for water conservation projects.

In announcing his plan on Feb. 19, the governor said, "This is a call to action. We must all do our part to conserve in this drought. The state is doing its part by providing immediate funding for drinking water, food, housing and assistance for water-conserving technologies."

Some \$40 million would go to grants for agencies to use for encouragement of efficiency in water use by farmers and commercial enterprises. The money would come from the state's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

The drought is hampering Central Valley agriculture. Jobs lost by agricultural workers, and the economic ripple effect from the resulting drop in spending, eliminates other jobs. The bill, which will be carried by Senate President pro-Tem Darrell Steinberg of Sacramento, would allocate \$25 million for food assistance, and \$21 million for housing-related assistance from the general fund.

Seventeen communities in the state have been identified as possibly running out of water in the next three to six months. Such drought-caused shortages would be addressed with \$15 million from the Emergency Drink-

ing Water Fund.

Senate Majority Leader Ellen Corbett, whose district includes the Valley, said in a news release, "I am pleased that the legislation will benefit East Bay and Tri-Valley communities."

Corbett cited incentives for agricultural irrigation projects that reduce energy and water use, and "the acceleration of funding for shovel-ready projects that will enhance water supplies."

Zone 7 Water Agency is also stepping up its water production ability by accelerating a well-drilling project. The board of directors voted unanimously on Feb. 19 to initiate condemnation proceedings against landowner Pleasanton Gravel Co. for 1.26 acres.

There was correspondence between attorneys for Zone 7 and Pleasanton Gravel about the price, with Zone 7 talking about an appraisal price of \$34,000, and eventually offering \$75,000.

Although the board voted for condemnation, Pleasanton Gravel president Don Kahler told The Independent on Feb. 25 that the firm has no problem with the condemnation. It's a necessary well, and condemnation is the fastest way to accomplish it, said Kahler.

Pleasanton Gravel did protest one matter on another Zone 7 agenda item at the meeting. The Zone 7 board approved a lake use evaluation for its future Chain of Lakes.

The evaluation shows

which lakes would be suitable for various uses, including groundwater recharge, flood control water retention, habitat corridor and wildlife habitat, active recreation, and public education and passive recreation.

Kahler told the board that Pleasanton Gravel has a problem with designating Lakes F and G for recycled water storage. Kahler told The Independent later that one of Pleasanton Gravel's properties includes a horse ranch with two wells. Pleasanton Gravel doesn't want recycled water near those wells.

On the other side of the recycled water issue, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) sent a letter reminding Zone 7 that a Memo of Understanding (MOU) signed in 2004 commits Zone 7 to finding a place for storage of 1200 Acre Feet (AF) of recycled water, and 900 AF of water for LAVW-MA, which exports brine water from a salt-removal process to the Bay.

DSRSD backs the Zone 7 evaluation, said the agency's general manager, Bert Michalczuk.

Support for the evaluation also came from a Pleasanton's Valley Trails Homeowners Association official. He said the evaluation "fits in with what we want." The designated lake will hold storm water long enough so that water won't be high enough to threaten the Bernal Avenue bridge near Valley Trails, which has flooded in the past.

Livermore Calls for 20% Reduction in Water Usage

Livermore joined other water retailers in declaring a stage 1 emergency, which calls for a voluntary 20 percent reduction in water use.

A 20 percent reduction for the average resident would mean cutting usage by about 2,250 gallons per month, which translates to a daily reduction of about 75 gallons per household or about 25 gallons per person.

Both the state and Zone 7 have declared water emergencies, calling for a 20 percent reduction in use. In addition, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) reduced water allocations to zero.

Zone 7 obtains 80 percent of the water through the Delta. It is then imported to the Valley via the State Water Project. The imported State Water Project surface water is either stored in the groundwater basin via stream recharge or treated by Zone 7 for immediate delivery to customers. Without this imported surface water, current residents, businesses and agricultural customers would suffer severe water shortages and be forced to rely on groundwater and local surface water that normally supply only 20 percent of demands.

It is likely that Zone 7 will have to meet 2014 demands using only the groundwater basin, local storage in Lake Del Valle, and any water that can be obtained through interconnections with other agencies through the individual retailers, such as EBMUD.

In addition to interruptions or limitations in the amount of surface water deliveries due to DWR allocations, deliveries could be halted completely by physical limitations of the Delta system which are being exacerbated by the drought. Salt intrusion due to extremely low river flows could ultimately force a shut-down of the pumps, which would stop all water movement in the system. If a complete shutdown of the DWR system occurs before

all of the 2013 carry-over water is used by Zone 7 or delivered to Lake Del Valle for later use, it would further reduce the amount of water available this summer.

Darren Greenwood, assistant public works director, told the council that, although Zone 7 has done a good job of "banking" water in the groundwater basin during wet years, the groundwater basin has a finite supply and must be used prudently since prolonged, multi-year droughts are fairly common in California's history. Also, Lake Del Valle is available as a local supply source. However, it is currently at less than 60 percent of capacity and some of the water stored there is reserved for downstream agencies (Alameda County Water District and Santa Clara Valley Water District).

Zone 7 receives requests for 50,000 acre feet each year without conservation. In the worst case scenario, even with the 20 percent conservation, there will still be a 27 percent shortage. If the worst case occurs, there would be a need to take additional action, said Greenwood. This could include mandatory reductions as well as changes in water rates to encourage conservation.

Councilmember Stewart Gary suggested that the public should be made aware that the groundwater represents a finite resource. "Like a battery, at some point it needs to be recharged."

Councilmember Doug Horner offered the opinion that the current rate system did nothing to encourage conservation. He noted that on his water bill, two-thirds of the revenue cost towards fixed costs, only one-third pays for water used. "That creates a disincentive to save water."

Mayor John Marchand, who previously served on the Zone 7 board, said that 85 percent of the costs to deliver water are fixed. Even with no water, those costs will have to be paid.

Councilmember Bob Woerner said there is a big distinction between price and costs. "If no one bought water, there would be no money to pay fixed costs. He described fixed costs as paying for the right to draw water when you want it."

Gary suggested that the city set up a program to provide an incentive to remove ornamental turf. "This crisis may be the time to do it."

EXTENSION

(continued from page one)

demographic clusters based on voter information. A certain percentage of each cluster was contacted.

In an initial test of possible ballot language, 70 percent said they would support it, 22 percent were opposed, McLarney told the board.

"With the need for a two-thirds approval, 70 percent is a really good place to start," he added.

McLarney told the board that when asked about issues of importance in Livermore, maintaining the quality of education was at the top. "That bodes well for the feasibility of the measure." Maintaining property values, maintaining streets and roads and improving public safety also ranked high.

One question had to do with how voters feel about the district's performance, with 64 percent finding the quality of education excellent to good and 20 percent as fair.

In response to rating the need for additional money, 68 percent said there was a great or moderate need. "This is on the high side for such a survey," commented McLarney.

Those questioned were asked to list projects and programs in the order they would favor most. "Everything tested received support from at least 75 percent of the voters," said McLarney. He called that result, "an embarrassment of riches. The district can pick any items on the list."

The top three were con-

VALLEYCARE

(continued from page one)

Gregerson said that at the Feb. 13 meeting, staff was solidly behind the actions, including the further possible bonus cancellations. He added, "Everyone was nodding their heads" at the meeting.

On the staff paycuts, the top-earning executive is Chief Financial Officer Ken Jensen, whose \$463,500 salary was reduced to \$425,500. Chief Operating Officer Cindy Noonan's pay was cut from \$412,000 to \$377,300.

The lowest salary among the executives, \$216,300 for vice-president of corporate compliance Doreen Maples, was reduced to \$210,900.

Fourteen of the FTEs in the layoff were at ValleyCare's Livermore campus, ten in Pleasanton.

Most of the 24 positions eliminated were among support staff. Work assignments have been rearranged in those job categories. Gregerson said that he expects no reduction in services, because ValleyCare plans to make delivery of them more efficient.

Positions eliminated include administrative assistants, health educators, some athletic trainers, registrars, and coding supervisors.

The only direct patient care positions gone are three half-time nurses working in cardiac rehabilitation. The program consists of physical exercise run by exercise physiologists, who will monitor patients' progress, so that their recovery is safe, said Gregerson.

Gregerson said that the board acted after hearing an oral report from its consultant, Thomas Pyper, a CPA with medical institution experience.

Pyper's remarks to the board were not specific about positions. "They were in a general scope of service review. I don't know what his final report will say," said Gregerson.

COMPETITION IN VALLEY MARKET

Gregerson has promised to eliminate ValleyCare's loss by fiscal year 2015, and then take ValleyCare further, so it can be in a good position to compete in the Valley against larger health care systems.

Non-profit Walnut Creek-based John Muir Health and its for-profit Texas-owned partner San Ramon Regional

Medical Center are purchasing a 905,000 square-foot, 4-story building to operate a clinic on Owens Drive, not far from ValleyCare's Pleasanton campus on West Las Positas Boulevard and Santa Rita Road.

Palo Alto Medical Center (PAMC), which operates in four Bay Area counties, operates a facility in the Dublin Gateway Center on Dublin Boulevard and Tassajara Road. ValleyCare opened an urgent care facility in the same center last spring.

The Dublin Gateway property is owned by the Eden Township Health Care District, which operates in San Leandro and Castro Valley.

Eden has an entitlement to build a hospital or other medical facility on the Dublin Gateway property. However, Eden CEO Dev Mahadevan told The Independent in December that the district board has no plans to construct anything there.

Kaiser operates clinics in Livermore and Pleasanton. It owns a 58-acre parcel in Dublin. The major California non-profit has not determined what kind of facilities -- hospital, clinic or outpatient surgery -- will be built there.

Kaiser's original announcement more than five years ago talked about developing 900,000 square feet by 2015, but the date so far has been pushed back to 2020.

MEDICAL MODELS MAY CHANGE

ValleyCare provides the Valley's only hospital. However, the medical field has moved on to the new approach of preventive medicine, which encourages education about disease prevention, and catching problems early before there is a need for hospital care.

This is the health care model supported by the Affordable Care Act. Medical observers have said it follows the model developed by Kaiser Permanente, including keeping system-wide, computerized patient records, which requires a big financial investment in technology.

Individual doctors and small groups of practitioners may have difficulty in keeping up with the technology costs of the new model. Some of them have affiliated

with medical groups, which can afford to do so.

ValleyCare created its own medical foundation, with more than 50 affiliated doctors. The expenses for office space and related equipment represented part of the red ink that showed up on the ValleyCare books, said Gregerson.

Even the current medical model will change, said Gregerson. He said that Kaiser and others will change the Kaiser model. There also will be new models developed by providers throughout the nation.

ValleyCare was begun in 1961 by Livermore and Pleasanton residents who invested their money to create a non-profit. Today there are 1400 members. The institution is still a non-profit. ValleyCare Hospital replaced an old, small facility in Livermore; then added the Pleasanton campus in 1991.

Acala New City Attorney

Jason R. Alcala was approved by the city council on Monday as the new Livermore City Attorney.

He replaces John Pomidor, who retired last year.

He had been serving as Interim City Attorney. Alcala was first employed by the City of Livermore in 2004 as Assistant City Attorney; he was promoted to Senior Assistant Attorney in 2011.

Mayor John Marchand stated, "Mr. Alcala already understands the high ethical standards and the culture of the City of Livermore. Jason has demonstrated his legal skills, and he also has a good working rapport with the Council and the staff. I look forward to expanding his responsibilities as our City Attorney."

Before joining Livermore, Alcala was the Deputy City Attorney for the City of Thousand Oaks in Ventura County. He also practiced with a boutique law firm in Southern California, where in addition to his private practice, he was appointed as the Assistant City Attorney to the cities of Chino and Coachella.

Marchand described Alcala as a skilled municipal law expert who is intimately familiar with the administrative and operation functions critical to the City's success. He has extensive experience in land use and was the primary legal counsel to the Planning Commission prior to assuming his duties as the Acting City Attorney last summer. He has been the lead attorney guiding the wind-down of the City's former Redevelopment Agency, and was instrumental in the completion of several public improvement projects including the Downtown First Street Streetscape Improvements, the Livermore Premium Outlets public infrastructure, and the State Route 84/Isabel Interchange project.

As a litigator, he successfully defended the City in lawsuits including challenges to Livermore's Development Code and to a low-income housing project. "I am honored by the trust the City Council has placed in me to be the City Attorney," said Alcala. "I am excited by the responsibilities and challenges that come with the position."

Alcala and his wife Tifanie Heben live in Tracy with their daughter Alexandra (11) and son Jason Jr. (9).

Landscaping Flowers

- Planting
- Monthly Maintenance
- Irrigation Systems
- Drainage
- Landscape Lighting
- Install/Repair Fencing

FREE ESTIMATES
Call (925) 339-3981
License # 111174

Are You Hearing And Understanding The Sounds of Life?

Kenneth Billheimer, Au.D.
Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist

Sierra Parini, Au.D.
Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist

Jacque Pedraza
Hearing Aid Specialist

Pleasanton
4460 Black Ave, #F
484-3507

Livermore
1613 Second Street
960-0391

HEARING SERVICES
www.pleasantonhearing.com

Reed Plumbing Company
Livermore, CA
(925) 371-5671
davidreed@dareedplumbing.com
LIC #601931

SPARKLE POOL

- Weekly Pool Maintenance
- Filter Cleaning
- Equipment Installation & Repair
- Pool Inspections

Residential & Commercial
(925) 577-7111

POOL SERVICE

SPORTS NOTES



Dublin High School varsity soccer players celebrated a second round win in the (North Coast Section) NCS division II playoffs. Dublin defeated the Hayward Farmers, 3 to 0, to advance to the NCS final four. The Dublin Gaels played its NCS semi final on Wednesday night at Campolindo Field.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen



Foothill High School edged crosstown rival Amador Valley High School 52 to 50 in EBAL varsity basketball action.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen



Livermore American Little League T-Ball the Mudcats played an opening day game vs the Muckdogs. Both teams had a lot of fun. All of the kids on both teams played hard. Mudcats' players Bryce Rivera, Alex Young, and Nico Rodriguez all contributed with hits. Pitcher Christian Jose made an amazing catch from his position.

Livermore American LL

Livermore American Little League opened its season with a slate of games.

Single A: Giants 17, Pirates 5: The Division A Giants had a great start to their season with sound defense and strong hitting. Seth Weintraub turned in a 3 for 3 performance and Ryan Gomez had a 2 for 3 day including a bases clearing home run. Giants' Joseph Burbach went for 3 for 3, 2 doubles and 1 single, while Cole Ebel went for 3 for 3, 2 triples and 1 single.

Yankees 2, Cardinals 24: On Opening Day for the Single A division the host Yankees took on the visiting Cardinals. It was a great day for baseball. There were great performers on both teams and most importantly fun was had by all.

AA Division: Giants 10, Cardinals 3: The Giants started out the 2014 Season with a 10-3 victory over the Cardinals. Giants' Karl Meyers led the game with an RBI in the 1st Inning and continued to play well in the 2nd Inning. He caught a fly ball and was instrumental in an awesome play for a 2nd out at 1st base. Giants' Mason Rosa closed out the 2nd Inning and brought the score to 2-0. He then went on to pitch in the 3rd Inning throwing strikes and getting 3

outs in a row.

The Cardinals' Mateo Bullis showed excellent sportsmanship and positive attitude. The Cardinals' Tyler Bury displayed outstanding hitting and base running. The Cardinals' Caden Sullivan turned in a top pitching effort and played solid defense.

AAA Division: Cardinals 16, Rangers 3: The Cardinals' Reef Sweeney, first up at bat, hit an inside the park home run to tie up the game Cardinals' Max Thorpe hit a triple in the 3rd inning.

Athletics 2, Giants 18: Giants' Drew Kardy showed superb defensive plays and also tripled. He made a diving catch at second to end the third inning. Giants' Nick Mamaog was a standout pitching and hitting. Giants' Peyton O'Callaghan, was the Giants' VIP of the day. She had an outstanding single and hit a triple, "flying screamer" to center field in the 6th inning. Giants' Jarred Sanchez accounted for an RBI.

Athletics' Royal Jones was the team's VIP of the day! He took the first pitch of the season and turned it into a home run. Giovanni Sandoval tripled in the 4th inning and made a daring attempt to steal home plate. Athletics' Crayton McCafferty was delivering some heat while pitching to the Giants. He made an amazing play when a Giants' player connected

for an RBI. Crayton threw to first and ended that inning.

Majors: Athletics 4, Giants 5: The Giants and the A's faced off on opening day. The Giants began strong with singles by Cameron Winter and Steven Lee. The Giants took an early 3-0 lead on a strategic play, reaching base and sending runners on a dropped third strike. The A's settled in with masterful pitching by Cole Gibson-Bauer and Parker Hughes who combined for 13 strike-outs. With such dominant pitching, the A's allowed only 2 more runs the remainder of the game. For the Giants, Adam Chapman launched a triple down the third-base line and then came around to score in the 3rd inning. The A's bats came alive in the 4th and 5th innings to put 4 runs up in hot pursuit of the lead. With 3 runners on, Jake Kennedy blasted a triple deep to centerfield, earning him 3 RBIs. Jake's defense was phenomenal as well, shutting down the Giants in the 5th with a great snag of a hard line-drive to left field. The A's threatened in the bottom of the 6th with 2 runners on and one out, but Giants' pitcher Cameron Winter sizzled, forcing outs that earned the Giants their first victory. Final score Giants 5, A's 4.

Reds 4, Yankees 13: Good match up. Good competition for the first game of the season. Reds' first batter, Mason Paulo, started the game with an inside the park home run. The Reds' Brandon McDougall played an overall great game, with outstanding fielding and batting as well. Joey Orluck delivered some nice clean up pitching in the 6th inning for the Reds.

Fusion Spring Soccer League

Livermore Fusion Soccer Club is currently accepting registrations for its spring soccer league. The program is offered to both boys and girls in the U7 through U12 age groups. Each player will receive 6 professionally coached sessions, held on Fridays, and will play in 5v5 games each Sunday between 9am-12:30pm. There is limited space available: with 8 players per team and 6 teams per age group, their will only be 48 spots available at each age group. The program will begin on March 23rd, 2014, and will run until May 18th, 2014.

For more information, visit the Fusion website at www.fusionsc.org, call 925-443-7570 or visit the Fusion SC office at 1976 4th Street in Livermore.

Fusion Girls Soccer Club

On a wet and blustery morning, Fusion Girls Soccer Club swept all three female first place categories at the inaugural Lam Research Heart

and Soles 5k race. Sponsored by Lam Research and the Silicon Valley Leadership Group Foundation, the event was established to fund salad bars for K-8 schools in Santa Clara County. Over the next three years, the Lam Research Heart & Soles 5K will raise funds to establish salad bars in 100 schools.

The race was held on Feb 8th at Hellyer Park in San Jose. Katie Fenner 9, 2013 Fusion U9 Premier, took 1st female in the 9 and under age group finishing 88th overall with a time of 26:55. Jackie Fenner 11, 2013 Fusion U12 Premier, won both the 10-13 female age group and was the women's overall champion. Jackie finished 16th in the race with a time of 21:05. The race was won by Jake Egly of Walnut Creek with a time of 16:27. 497 people participated in the race, including 280 females.

Jackie and Katie both credit their strong showing to Club Fusion's rigorous training in 2013 with a special shout out to their respective coaches Uri Robledo and Matt Caution.

Water Polo

Last weekend, LARPD LAZERS water polo sent 5 teams to the annual Winterfest Water Polo tournament in Southern CA, which brings over 300 teams to the region. The teams were: 14U Girls, 14U Boys, 16U Girls, 18U Girls and 18U Boys.

The 14U girls came away with 3 wins/2 losses, and finished 6th out of 14 teams in the BB bracket. Top scorers Madeline Nelson, Julia Thompson, Shelby Nelson and Gianna Paden. Top defensive player was Emily McElroy in goal. Two games ended in shoot-outs. It was a tough task to go to Southern California, the mecca of water polo, and come out with a winning record and these girls did just that.

The 14U boys finished 4th out of 12 teams in the B bracket, 2 wins/3 losses. Although the win-loss record didn't show it, the team won at the right time and was very close to making the championship game. Top scorers were Nathan Williams, Calvin David and Max Nelson. Top defensive playmakers were Scott Ragatz in goal, and Ian Herbert, 2 meter defense.

16U girls were led by veterans Emily Hawkins, Elizabeth Bukus and Hannah Borjon. Despite the losses in the first four games, the girls played hard, learning and fighting till the end of each game and coming together for a glorious final game victory finishing 11th.

18U girls key players were Michelle Hawkins and goalie Caroline Danforth, who stepped up to make vital blocks to keep the team going strong throughout the tournament. Hawkins led the team in goals and steals, followed by teammate Jessica Elfin. The 18U girls finished a solid 7th in the tournament and continued to demonstrate the growing pool of talented water polo in Livermore.

18U boys battled, but came away with 4 losses by one point in each game, and one tie. Top scorer was Max Federle, and Jesse Farrens blocked 22 shots on goal in one game alone.

Track and Field

Athenian Athletics Track Club invites athletes ages 7-18 to participate in fall and winter practice sessions to prepare for the 2014 Track and Field season as well as training for the upcoming Winter season series of competitions at Cal Berkeley and Los Gatos High School.

Practices will be held on a voluntary/drop-in basis Monday through Friday. Club participants will have the option of competing for either (or both) AAU and USATF Track and Field events. For practice time and location, please visit facebook page, and group under Athenian Athletics. Any questions please feel free to contact Coach Rik Richardson at 925-518-9356 or e-mail atheniantrack@hotmail.com.

Bocce Kits for Rent

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is 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.

Livermore Half Marathon

The new Livermore Half Marathon will run on March 29, 2014, according

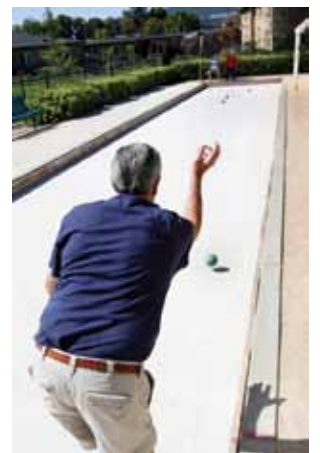
Sign Up for Pleasanton Spring Sports Programs

The City of Pleasanton's Department of Community Services offers a full range of sports programs for adults and children in the spring, including:

- **Adult Basketball League:** Compete in one of the men's basketball leagues that provide the perfect combination of fun and competition. Two leagues are offered, Novice and Intermediate. Both leagues begin March 5, 2014. In order to register as a team, a minimum of six players on a roster is required. Games are held at Pleasanton Middle School (5001 Case Ave) on Wednesday nights from 7:00-10:00pm. Registration deadline is February 24.

- **Adult Bocce League:** Register for one of the co-ed bocce leagues. New-to-the-sport participants are highly encouraged to try out this low-key league. Both the Beginner and Advanced leagues begin on March 19, 2014. In order to register as a team, there must be a minimum of four players on the roster. Games are played at Centennial Community Park (5353 Sunol Blvd), next to the Senior Center on Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 6:00-10:00pm. Registration deadline is March 6, 2014.

- **Adult Softball League:**



Bocce is one of the sports available to adults.

The City of Pleasanton Adult Softball offers leagues in the spring and fall. Divisions cater to all skills and abilities. Men's and Co-Ed leagues are scheduled Sunday through Friday evenings. Teams and individual players are welcome. Leagues begin March 30, 2014. Games are held at the Pleasanton Sports Park Adult Softball Complex (5800 Parkside Dr). Registration deadline is March 13, 2014.

To register for any of the Spring Adult Sports Leagues, please visit www.pleasantonfun.com.

For additional information, call the Sports Office at (925) 931-3437 or email Recreation Supervisor Joelle Glushenko at jglushenko@cityofpleasantonca.gov



The East Bay Athletic League Wrestling Championships were held on Saturday Feb. 22. Livermore High School claimed the most individual champions. Pictured (from left) are Matt Neale, Jacob Roach, Aaron Cortez and Cody McNaney.

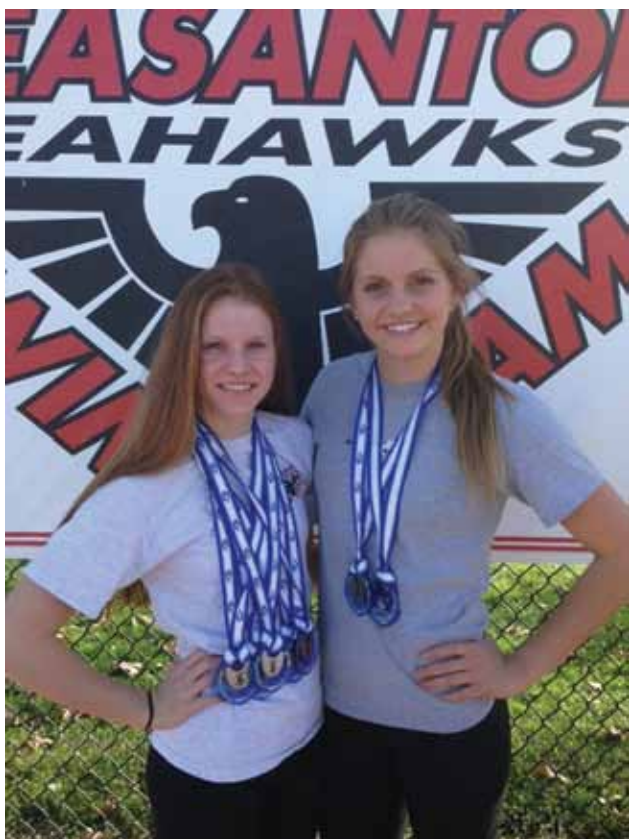


West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy Optional gymnast from Pleasanton, competed at the Mardi Gras Invitational, in Vallejo, on February 16, 2014. Abigail McKeag, Level Seven Older, placed 3rd in floor with a 9.375, tied for 2nd on beam with an 8.425, placed 3rd in bars with an 8.850, and 3rd in the all-around with a 35.600. Nicolette Barbosa, Level 7 Younger, placed 2nd on vault with a 9.100. Sara Ling, Level 8, placed 2nd on vault with a 9.275, 3rd on beam with an 8.900 and 4th in the all-around with a 34.325.



Olympic gold medalist Anthony Ervin, photo at left, conducted a swim clinic for the Livermore Aquacowboys swim team on Sunday, February 23rd. He shared his expertise in the freestyle stroke, teaching specific skills for improving technique along with dry-land stretches, swim drills, and advice on understanding muscle balance and strength for developing a better freestyle stroke. Anthony has won two Olympic medals and two World Championship golds. In 2003, he auctioned off his 2000 Olympic gold medal on eBay to aid survivors of the 2004 tsunami. He competed in his second Olympic games at the 2012 London Olympics where he placed fifth in the 50 meter freestyle. He recorded the fastest U.S. men's 50 meet freestyle time in 2013. The Livermore Aquacowboys are a year-round team training and competing as a member of the USA Swimming Association.

SPORTS NOTES



Erika Brown and Moriah Simonds swam in a dual meet in Osaka, Japan, Feb. 11-17 as members of the Western Zone All Star team. Erika earned medals in the 100 free (bronze), 50 free (bronze), 200 free (gold), 400 Medley Relay (silver) and 400 Free Relay (gold). Moriah earned a bronze medal in the 200 free and a gold medal in the 800 free. These two swimmers contributed to a victory for the USA Women.



In a dual meet between the Itoman Japanese National Junior Team and the CA/NV Western US All Star Junior National Team swimmer, Trent Trump, achieved life time best times and won Gold in the men's 200 free individual, Gold in the men's 4X100 relay, and a Bronze in the men's 100 free individual race. Trent is a senior swimmer on the Livermore Aquacowboys and Granada High School Swim Teams in Livermore. Trent also finished 6th in the 200m backstroke and 6th in the 50m free overall. The meet took place in Wakayama, a suburb of Osaka, Japan. The US team was comprised of 18 men and 18 women from the Western US Zone, who applied and were selected from a combination of top athletes in individual events from Senior Nationals in Knoxville, Junior Nationals in Greensboro and CA/NV Sectionals in Los Angeles. The team traveled to Osaka as part of a 2 year dual exchange with the Itoman National Junior All Star Team.

to event producer Project Sport. Runners will pass through downtown, into the vineyards and finish on First Street. The 13.1 mile run will be followed by a downtown festival of local wineries, craft beer, artisan chefs, specialty boutique shopping and live music. Registration for the Livermore Half Marathon is underway. Entry will approach its full price of \$89 as race day nears. Register at [runliver-](http://runlivermore.com)

runlivermore.com.

West Coast Tryouts

The West Coast Soccer Club will be holding competitive youth soccer tryouts for the upcoming 2014 season. Boys and girls at all ages and skill levels are welcome. Tryouts continue through April 13 for those in older age groups. Please visit website for age



Pictured are members of the LAZERS' 14U girls water polo team (back, from left) Alyssa Bergmann, Gianna Paden, Emily McElroy, Kelsey Mahurin, Madeline Nelson, Lauren Coching, Maddie Weiglein, Coach Matt Croghan; (front) Lexi Neely, Victoria Nguyen, Natalie Hawkins, Shelby Nelson, and Julia Thompson.



The Phantom Lacrosse U15 boys started the season with a 12 to 7 win over the Tomahawks. Notable players, Shane Jenkins and Devin Funaro, each scored 6 points to carry the team to victory. The next game is 9:00 am, March 1st at Robertson Park. For more information: www.phantomlacrosse.org. In the photo, Shane Jenkins fends off opponent while Devin Funaro and Jace Gersten stand ready to assist.

Shamrock Fun Run

The Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk in Dublin will be held on Sun., March 16, 6815 Dublin Blvd. Race day registration begins at 7:15 a.m. with the race start at 8:30 a.m.

On-line registration information at www.dublinca.gov. Last minute pre-race registration will be available on Thursday, March 13 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM at World of Shoes, 7871 Amador Valley Boulevard, Dublin.

Event T-shirts are available for all pre-registered participants. Entry fee for individuals \$25 (chip timed), \$23 (not timed); families (chip timed) \$21 per person for immediate family of three to six members living at the same address; corporate and running clubs \$23 (chip timed). On site registration is \$35.

For Fun Run information please call (925) 556-4500.

Run for Education

Pleasanton Partnership in Education Foundation (PPIE), online registration opened at www.ppierun.com for the 2nd Annual "Pleasanton Run for Education," taking place Sunday April 13, 2014.

The run starts and finishes at the Alameda County Fairgrounds and includes a half marathon (13.1 miles), 5k (3.1 miles), a kids' challenge for ages 12 & under, and much more. Following the race, participants and spectators enjoy food, fun and entertainment at the post-race Expo.

To register and learn more, log onto www.ppierun.org. There you'll also find Sponsor opportunities, Pre-

group dates and to pre-register. <http://westcoastsoccerclub.com/team-news/register-now-for-west-coast-tryouts/>

Race training group information, and information on how to participate in the post-race Expo. To learn more about PPIE Foundation, visit www.ppie.org or find Pleasanton Partnerships in Education on Facebook.

PPIE is a non-profit, 501(c)3 foundation that supports all schools in the Pleasanton Unified School District.



Pictured are members of the LAZERS' 18U girls water polo team (back, from left) Cameron Toth, Coach Kim Buck, Mikayla McNair, Leah Taulton, Elizabeth Bukus, Kelsey Naninni, Ashley Petit, Hannah Borjon, Jessica Elfin, Caroline Danforth; (front) Lauren Cano, Sadie Serdahl, Emily Hawkins, and Michelle Hawkins.



Pictured are members of the LAZERS' 14U boys water polo team (back, from left) Assistant Coach Mark Ragatz, Cole Markley, Calvin David, Scott Ragatz, Luca Cuppoletti, Max Nelson, Ian Herbert, Coach Andre Weiglein; (front) Assistant Steve Ragatz, Michael Jun-Burge, Nathan Williams, Alex Jun-Burge, Dylan Weiglein, and Ryan Weiglein.



Pictured are members of the LAZERS' 16U girls water polo team (front, from left) Makinna Newkirk, Fiona Weaver, Emily Hawkins, Morgan Mayhew, Kayley Clark; (back); Aislin Steill, Elizabeth Bukus, Gabby Parker, Hannah Carlson, Julia Matthews, Alex Kerin, Hannah Borjon, and Katelyn Johnson.

2ND ANNUAL PLEASANTON RUN FOR EDUCATION APRIL 13, 2014

★ Half Marathon, 5K & Kids' Challenge ★

GREAT EXPO AWAITS YOU

Enjoy the Family Fitness Expo at the finish line to help you celebrate and recover from a successful run. We will have lots of goodies, giveaways and activities to inspire your children to engage in a healthy lifestyle.

NOT A RUNNER OR A MORNING PERSON?

That's ok! You can make an online Snooze for Schools donation and sleep tight knowing your contribution will keep us on the right course. Every dollar is greatly appreciated! Visit www.ppierun.com to provide support.



EARLY BIRD PRICING AND COMPLIMENTARY BIB PERSONALIZATION WHEN YOU REGISTER BEFORE MARCH 10TH!

Register online at www.ppierun.com

Half Marathon & 5K 7:30am | Kids' Challenge 9am

STARTS & FINISHES AT THE ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

FREE PARKING!

PRESENTED BY CLUBSPORT TO BENEFIT PPIE





Volunteers transformed one lawn.

Workshop to Show How to Replace a Lawn with Native Plants

Dixie Finley had had enough of watering her lawn, and, as a long-time observer of the natural world (she is an expert animal tracker) she knew her turf didn't provide habitat for wildlife. On a fall morning in 2012 she welcomed the group of thirty shovel-bearing Mow no Mo! participants who arrived at her home in Livermore.

This mixed group, comprised of everything from first-time homeowners to senior citizens, and everything in between, worked in Dixie's front garden, trenching along her driveway and sidewalk, laying out cardboard, spreading compost, and shoveling a large pile of woodchips.

With design help from Kat Weiss of Kat Weiss Landscape Design, and a

nearly \$500 rebate from her water district, Dixie purchased a variety of native plants, including California lilac, manzanita, and sages, coral bells, and seaside daisies.

"I'm just thrilled," she said, looking fondly at the native plants in her garden. "I love to sit out in the front garden, watching the birds. It's peaceful." Dixie's water bill now hovers around \$30 a month. She says that she is "captivated" by the beauty of her native plant garden, and delighted with the native bees, butterflies, and birds it attracts.

Michael Johnson, a fly fisherman, felt he was using too much water on his lawn. "I want to leave the water for the fish, and plant natives that will provide food, shelter, and nesting areas for

wildlife."

Michael's front garden in Lafayette is the venue for the upcoming "Mow no Mo!" workshop to be held on Saturday, March 29, from 10-3. "Not only will we be using a lot less water once the lawn is gone, but we'll be receiving a significant rebate from EBMUD for removing the grass," said Michael.

In this hands-on workshop participants will learn how to remove a lawn and select drought-tolerant plants, as well as find out how to receive a lawn-removal rebate from a water district.

The fee is \$30. Pre-registration is required, at <http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/select-tours>. This workshop is coordinated by the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour.

Tasting in the Winter Wonderland: Fine wines paired with fascinating snacks

by Harry Stoll

The vines slept, but tasters were alert to the culinary creations appropriately paired with wines during the February 22 Winter Wonderland tour of Rodrigue Molyneaux, Cuda Ridge, Las Positas, and Fenestra wineries. It's about a 5-minute drive between them. Hardy tasters could go by bicycle or even walk. Each winery did a splendid job of selecting wines to pair with the food.

It was calm and sunny, making the touring tasters forget for a spell that we needed a rainy spell. The hills were greened by the recent rain. Maybe more rain could be on the way.

The Rodrigue Molyneaux entry road runs beside the winery's vineyard. On the other side of the road, tasters spotted horses, as they headed for the hors d'oeuvre, which consisted of a thin slice of terrine with roasted vegetables, garnished with fresh pesto and toasted crisps. A taster could pair the yum, yum, yum treat with a 2011 Livermore Valley Pinot Blanc from the esteemed Buttner Vineyard in Sunol. This Pinot Blanc offers a crisp acidity with subtle notes of green apple, peach and grapefruit. It retails for \$21. The taster could also pair the treat with the 2010 Livermore Valley Rodrigue Molyneaux il Segreto, which displays aromas and flavors of ripe fruit, plums, and blueberries. On the palate it creates a powerful elegance with lively acidity. The finish is a long longing. It retails for \$24. It's no secret that il Segreto is mostly estate Cabernet Sauvignon with some Nebbiolo and Sangiovese. It has a sophisticated power.

Taster Bob Hindmarsh described himself as a "Livermore booster," and likes the areas because often you'll see owners or winemakers. Co-owner and winemaker Garry Rodrigue was pouring in the tasting room with that friendly demeanor of his.

A lone hawk, wings spread fully, surfed the gentle breeze, its hawk eyes to the ground, its beak cawing. At Cuda Ridge Wines the

joint was jumping and tasters were going around the food setup, which featured a salmon cerviche on a tostada. "Umm umm, umm," they said, saying it better than any food critic. This treat was prepared by Posada Restaurant and Catering. To pair with it, the winery poured a 2010 Cuda Ridge Livermore Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. It's a cab lovers love that is dark and deep. The leathery aroma with a bit of juniper incense and roses unfolds to flavors of espresso gelato, pepper, roasted chillies, and molasses. It retails for \$34.

Salmon and Cabernet Sauvignon. Who knew? The Winter Wonderland tasters know. They made the same sounds they did for the food, outdoing any wine writer's raves. Co-owner and winemaker Larry Dino, and co-owner Marge Dino were present and busy. Cuda Ridge is fairly new at this location and it's a winner. A large shaded patio provides a nice southern view. On this day, the patio was filled with family and friends. Some babies were being cooed and rocked. At an outdoor table sat three women, members of the nubbility. All three drank red wine. A giant step for womankind.

Against an azure canvas an artist painted filmy strips of serious clouds.

Las Positas Vineyards includes a tasting room and a grand room, properly outfitted, with a view of the hills to the south, and a southern patio.

Owners Lisa and Lothar Maier's main vineyard is located on Kaltroff Commons. The spacious tasting room and event center are in a small vineyard. For movie or live music nights they serve pizza from the adjoining kitchen.

For the Winter Wonderland tour, right out of their kitchen and into the great room or to the spacious patio, were brought two thick pizza slices of barbecued pulled pork, caramelized onions, and pineapple. It was paired perfectly with a 2011 Las Positas Estate Syrah, which won a gold medal at the San Francisco

International competition and retails for \$32. The aroma and flavors show rich blackberries, plum, spice and chocolate. The hint of smokiness ignited the pizza. Tasters could also choose a 2012 Estate Rosé from a watermelon patch and a strawberry field. It retails for \$24. Or they could choose a 2012 Sunol Buttner Vineyard Pinot Blanc, which won a gold medal at the state fair. It retails for \$28. Or, they could taste all three.

The artist changed the scene, adding some fishbone clouds.

Fenestra Winery is located in an historic building that George True built as a winery in the late 19th Century. It's fit into a hill for cooling. This is the last stop on the tour, time for dessert. Posada Restaurant and Catering starred again. Sue, the host, constructed the dolce as tasters waited. She drizzled some chocolate syrup in a nice back and forth design, added chopped mango, then took one of those pastry cones with a hole in the bottom and added a dollop of creamy ricotta cheese, a blueberry, and finally another chocolate drizzle. The delight was paired with Fenestra 2011 Dolce Francesca, made from 95% late harvest Viogner and 5% of the Iberian varietal Verdelho. A small bottle retails for \$17. The Dolce is sweet and sunny with flavors of peach, nectarine, honey, and a pineapple. Tasters alternated between the two dolces. Some sighed, others made guttural sounds.

The name Dolce Francesca is a puzzle easily solved. Dolce, of course, translates to sweet. Fran Replogle, along with husband Lanny founded Fenestra Winery at this site in 1980, when there were only five wineries in the Livermore Valley. They still own the winery. Lanny was the first winemaker and is now a consulting winemaker.

The Winter Wonderland tour left a nice finish for the participating tasters. The tour of some primo Livermore Valley wineries is over for this winter, but not forgotten.

Livermore High Plans 'Farm to Fork' Career Pathway

By Ron McNicoll

Inspired by local agriculture, Livermore High School plans to launch a career pathway next fall called the "Growing California Green" Academy.

Livermore High also intends to begin its first Latin and Advanced Placement (AP) senior physics classes next fall, if enough students sign up for them. Registration for incoming freshman concludes Feb. 28. The hope for the agriculture/culinary program is to enroll enough 8th graders to create a freshman class. A sophomore class is also planned. Sign-ups for grades 9 to 12 will run through March.

Growing California Green represents a timely program, in view of the "Farm to Fork" movement, by which consumers have become more aware of the origin of the food they eat, and how it is prepared.

Joe McNealy who teaches agriculture and serves as the Future Farmers of America advisor, said that the hiring of a second agriculture teacher, Paulina Pinheiro, makes it possible to create enough classes to offer the pathway.

School Principal Alberto Solorzano said that the pathway would provide instruction for students who are interested in careers in farming, the culinary industry and business, and will integrate all of the information into a whole.

Livermore High's location in the heart of an agricultural area prompted the idea, explained Solorzano. Some 225 students take ag classes. Livermore High

School offers the only agriculture classes in Alameda County at the high school level. Although some of the students live on farms and ranches, most live inside the Livermore city limit.

"We are seeing (the program) grow more, because of the interest in nature in the Livermore Valley. We are still surrounded by the farming industry, with crops and vineyards. There are still a lot of families connected to those farms," said Solorzano.

In the pathway's culinary and hospitality classes, students will learn about where the food is grown, how it is raised, and how to prepare it. "The Livermore Valley is involved in every aspect, so it represents an industry. Farmers' markets have increased," added Solorzano. The high school owns a large greenhouse. Students will be able to plant seeds of tomatoes, corn and other fruits and vegetables, observe their germination, and follow the crop to harvest. They will prepare the meals in culinary classes.

"The long process will take them full circle," said McNealy.

The business part of the pathway will cover such things as event planning, which can also be used to teach math. McNealy explained that an event planner needs to coordinate with a chef concerning the best size of table area needed for a particular kind of table setting that supports a certain kind of meal, and calculate the solution to that spatial problem.

A.P. PHYSICS, LATIN CLASS ALSO FIRSTS

If enough students sign up, there will be a Latin class for the first time. Plans for the course offering grew out of the interest expressed by Latin Club members, who organized two years ago.

Studying Latin can give students insight into ancient Roman culture, which fits into the high school's approach to multicultural studies, said Solorzano.

Mary Kaye Brown, who would teach the class, said that she studied Latin in high school and college as her foreign language requirement.

The study of Latin helps in learning any other language, including english, said Brown. "It involves reading ancient texts, analyzing them, and understanding the kinds of phrase. You pick apart the structure of language," said Brown. She credits Latin for making her subsequent study of Hungarian much easier.

Brown created something of a Latin atmosphere in her family. Her daughter is president of the school's Latin Club this year. Her son headed the group last year.

The AP Physics course would be offered in addition to the continuing honors Physics courses. The new class would raise the level a bit. "We want to make sure students can continue their growth," said Solorzano.

With AP classes on one's record, a student is guaranteed college course requirement fulfillment, provided that he or she passes with a 4 or 5 grade, said Solorzano.

LIVERMORE

(continued from page one)

facility for individual entrepreneurs, and a small fabrication lab for developing models and prototypes. I-GATE also plans to use the location as a community space for hosting classes, seminars, and meetings on innovation-related topics. Lawrence Livermore and Sandia National Laboratories have provided \$20,000 to construct the fabrication lab.

The site is part of the former Redevelopment Agency's holdings. I-GATE will lease the property on an interim basis for up to 25 months while the city seeks a disposition determination of the property from the state.

Brandon Cardwell, Senior Management Analyst in the city manager's office, i-GATE opened its current facility on Longard Road in Livermore to provide early stage technology companies with a physical location to conduct R&D and business development activities. Fol-

lowing a challenging year attempting to attract start-ups to the incubator, i-GATE expanded its technology focus beyond energy and transportation in late 2012 and has since accepted six technology start-ups into its program.

Cardwell said that the small companies have created 49 new jobs and attracted \$2.9 million in outside investment. However, the location is a barrier to attracting additional start-ups. There are no nearby services. A downtown location would provide access to services, such as restaurants.

Possibilities include entrepreneurship education, start-up support events (investor panels, networking events, speaker series etc.), paid internships for local students, branding the region as a hub of innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship, and STEM education (Design for Manufacturing Academy, 3D printing

classes, etc.)

Cornell Wright, CTO of TerrAvion LLC, one of the incubator companies, spoke in support of the downtown location. "i-GATE attracted us to Livermore, along with the airport. Internet connectivity is an issue at the current location. Downtown will help us and attract others." TerrAvion provides imagery for growers that show how crops are growing. The company has hired two full time employees.

Daniel Casner, president of Robot Garden located in i-GATE, also favored the downtown Livermore. He pointed out that hardware is the fastest growing tech sector. Computer aided design, a fabrication lab are important tools in development prototypes. A tech center in downtown will provide a more vibrant location, exciting students about STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). It will be good for start-ups."

St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl Returns To Downtown Pleasanton

Downtown Pleasanton merchants and local brewers will come together on Saturday, March 15, 5-8 p.m., for the third annual St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl. The event is hosted by the Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA) and sponsored by Goodguys Rod & Custom Association. Patrons can shop along Main Street while sampling a variety of beer and tasty bites at 26 locations. Guests are encouraged to wear green and their best St. Patrick's Day costumes.

A variety of beer will be offered by 21st Amendment Brewery, Alaskan Brewing Company, Altamont Beer Works, Deschutes Brewery, Eight Bridges Brewing, Firestone Walker Brewing Company, Gordon Biersch, Handles Crafted Brews,

Iron Oak Brewing Co., Karl Strauss Brewing Company, Lagunitas Brewing Company, Lost Coast Brewery, Main Street Brewery, Mendocino Brewing Co., Miller/Coors, Sourced Brewing Co., Schubros Brewery, St. Florian's Brewery, and Working Man Brewing Co.

Presale tickets are available for \$30 online at PleasantonDowntown.net, at Redcoats Pub - 336 St. Mary Street and Studio Seven Arts - 400 Main Street. The week before the event, tickets will be available for \$35. If not sold out, remaining tickets will be offered for \$40 the day of the event beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the Firehouse

Arts Center - 4444 Railroad Avenue. Tickets must be redeemed on March 15 from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center. Ticket price includes beer tastings at 26 downtown locations, a commemorative beer glass and tasting map. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold.

The PDA will be selling designated driver tickets the night of the event for \$10. Patrons are also encouraged to go for coffee after the crawl at Tully's - 349 Main Street. All Brew Crawl participants with a wristband can enjoy 20% off a grande barista beverage from 7-9 p.m.

Event is rain or shine, no refunds.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 FIRST STREET 445 SHOW	
NON-STOP (PG13) DLP-CC	12:05 1:05 3:00 4:00 6:10 7:05 8:50 9:50		
SON OF GOD (PG13) DLP		12:05 3:20 6:40 9:50	
PHILOMENA (PG13) DLP		3:30 6:35	
DALLAS BUYERS CLUB (R) DLP		12:25 9:30	
LEGO MOVIE (PG) DLP	12:05 1:05 2:25 3:25 4:45 5:50		
		7:05 8:10 9:25	
3 DAYS TO KILL (PG13) DLP		1:15 4:05 7:10 9:55	
THE MONUMENTS MEN (PG13) DLP		1:00 4:00 7:00 9:55	
FROZEN (PG) DLP		12:00 2:40 5:20 8:00	
POMPEII (PG13) DLP		1:30 4:20 7:00 9:40	
ROBOCOP (PG13) DLP		1:10 3:55 6:50 9:35	
RISE OF AN EMPIRE (R) DLP	12:00 2:25 4:50 7:15 9:50		
AMERICAN HUSTLE (R) DLP		1:00 4:00 6:50 9:45	
PREVIEW, THURSDAY, MARCH 6:			
300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE (R) DLP-3D-DBOX		8:00PM	
300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE (R) DLP-2D		8:00PM	

RETZLAFF
Estate Wines

Reserve Our Lovely Grounds for Your Special Celebration or Wedding

1356 S. Livermore Ave.
Hours: Tue-Fri 12-2pm,
Sat-Sun 12-4:30pm,
Mon-Closed
(925) 447-8941

OSCAR WEEKEND - SEE THE FILMS BEFORE THE OSCARS ON SUNDAY!

Oscar Favorite to Win Best Picture!
12 YEARS A SLAVE
Fri - Sat: 3:45 8:45

Oscar Nominated for Best Picture, Director & Actor!
NEBRASKA
Fri - Sat: 1:20 4:00 6:30

HER
Fri - Sat: 9:05

OSAGE COUNTY
Fri - Sat: 1:00 6:50

Vine Cinema & Alehouse
1722 First Street - Livermore www.VineCinema.com

SHORT NOTES

Health Care Coverage

With time running out for individuals to enroll in an insurance plan in the healthcare marketplace for coverage starting in 2014, San Ramon Regional Medical Center is ramping up efforts to educate the uninsured on steps they can take to secure affordable healthcare coverage.

As part of the "Path to Health" campaign, a community education and outreach initiative to raise awareness and understanding of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and provide trusted resources to assist in enrolling, San Ramon Regional Medical Center will be providing trained enrollment counselors to answer questions and assist with the enrollment process.

"The Path to Health initiative provides an excellent opportunity for members of our community to get answers to the questions they have about health insurance basics, the enrollment process and the health care law," said Gary Sloan, Chief Executive Officer of San Ramon Regional Medical Center. "We have always been committed to delivering safe, quality care in the communities we serve. As caregivers, ensuring that our community and our patients understand all of the coverage options available to them is an extension of that mission."

Through its social media channels, bilingual website and enrollment events, the "Path to Health" campaign works with community partners to offer educational materials and resources about the insurance exchanges and the ACA to help simplify the law and educate members of the community about their insurance options so that they can

choose the best coverage for themselves and their families.

For more information, visit www.pathtohealth.com or call 866-893-8446.

Health Scholarships

For over 20 years the ValleyCare Auxiliary has been awarding scholarships totaling over \$100,000 to local high school students. Each year the Auxiliary awards four \$4,000 (paid at \$1000 per year for four years), and two \$1000 scholarships (paid at \$500 per year over two years).

This year, in addition to the Auxiliary scholarships, the ValleyCare Medical Executive Committee (MEC) has approved the funding over the next five years for an additional \$4000 and one \$1000 scholarship. These scholarships will be named the "Dr. Daniel Lucas Memorial Scholarship" in memory of Dr. Lucas who died in 2014. He was a much loved and admired interventional radiologist on the ValleyCare staff for 22 years. The MEC would like to keep his memory alive through these scholarships.

The Auxiliary and MEC scholarships are available to graduating Tri-Valley high school seniors who plan to enter a medical related field. Funds for the Auxiliary scholarships were raised through gifts to the Auxiliary and through proceeds from sales at the Auxiliary's Livermore Thrift Shop and the Gift Shop at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton.

Applications are available at the local high schools. They can also be obtained from the Information and Reception desks at ValleyCare Medical Center, 5555 W. Las Positas

Blvd., Pleasanton, the Valley Memorial Center, 1111 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore and the ValleyCare Health Library, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 270, Pleasanton.

Applications must be post-marked no later than March 24, 2014. Scholarships will be awarded at the Auxiliary Appreciation luncheon on May 19, 2014.

Retired Teachers

The Retired Teachers luncheon honoring local author, Marissa Moss, will be held on Tues., March 18. For more information regarding cost and location, please call (925) 462-7495

Marissa Moss graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a degree in Art History. She studied illustration at the California College of Arts & Crafts and with Caldecott winner Uri Shulevitz. She once taught art to elementary school children and children's book illustration through the extension program at the University of California at Berkeley.

Best known for the Amelia's Notebook series, her books are popular with teachers and children alike. Amelia is often used to model journal writing while the historical journals in Moss' Young American Voices series are used in social studies classes. Rachel's Journal, the Story of a Pioneer Girl was featured on Good Morning, America and is included on the California State standardized test for fourth graders. Both Rachel and Hannah's Journal are included in state textbooks. Her picture book biographies of historical figures from Jackie Mitchell to Maggie Gee have won many awards.

Moss has written more than fifty children's books, from picture books to middle-grade and young adult novels. Her most recent novel, A Soldier's Secret: the Incredible True Story of Sarah Emma Edmonds, a Civil War Hero, won the California Silver Book Award.

In her books and her presentations, Moss shares her passion for art, history, and storytelling, and the way the three things relate to each other.

Fun on the Farm

Forest Home Farms Historic Park and the Glass House Museum hosts Fun on the Farm from 10:00am to 2:00pm the second Saturday of each month. On these days you can step back in time to explore the site, enjoy tours, and participate in a free activity from days gone by.

The theme for Saturday, March 8, 2014 will be Mystery Gadgets and Tools. Over the years the patent office has been busy recording the latest ideas to make work in the kitchen and around the farm easier. Guess what some of the objects in the collection were used for, and try using a few of these hand-powered devices.

Tours of the restored Victorian Glass House Museum will be held at 10am, 11am, 12pm and 1pm and tours of Forest Home Farms Historic Park, including the tractor museum, at 11am and 1pm. Each tour lasts approximately 45 minutes and the fee is \$5 per person or \$8 for both tours taken on the same day. Children ages 2 and under are free.

Scout Day: March 29 is designed for both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to have a fun time at Forest Home Farms Historic Park while completing requirements toward merit badges,

belt-loops, try-its, patches, and pins. Activity stations will include historic property tours, animal care, old-fashioned games, organic gardening, machines and equipment. Activities are perfect for many different scouting levels including: Brownies, Junior Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts.

Scout Day is on March 29, 2014 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Pre-registration is required and can be completed online at www.SanRamonRecGuide.com using activity #89403. Cost is \$12 for residents and \$15 for non-residents. Ages 6-12. Space is limited.

For more information about Forest Home Farms Historic Park call (925) 973-3284 or visit www.SanRamon.ca.gov. Forest Home Farms Historic Park is located at 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., just south of Pine Valley Road in San Ramon.

Climate Ride 2014

This May 17-20, Team Greenbelt Alliance will embark on a 4-day, 250-mile charitable cycling adventure from San Francisco, through wine country, to the steps of the State Capitol. The goal is to raise \$35,000 so that Greenbelt Alliance can continue being the champion of the places that make the Bay Area special.

For information on the event, or to register, go to www.greenbelt.org

Additional information is available by sending an email to afleming@greenbelt.org.

Science Bowl Winners

Students from Hopkins Junior High School in Fremont, Calif., will once again represent California at the U.S. Department of Energy's

(DOE's) National Science Bowl in Washington, D.C. The team won the Sandia National Laboratories Regional Middle School Science Bowl held at Las Positas College on Saturday, Feb. 22.

Fremont's Thornton Middle School finished second, and Walnut Creek's Dorris-Eaton School took third place.

"What you are doing here today is so critically important," said Congressman Eric Swalwell (D-15th) in his welcome address to the participants. "Not only for your own academic development, but also to prepare yourself for the future economy of the United States - the knowledge economy."

A total of 24 teams from Northern California middle schools competed in the event. Students answered questions related to biology, chemistry, earth and space science, energy, mathematics, and physics during the fast-paced, all-day, Jeopardy-style competition.

The Hopkins Junior High School team will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to compete against top teams across the nation at the DOE National Science Bowl in late April. The school has twice won the DOE National Science Bowl, in 2009 and 2012. In 2013, they finished in third place.

Sandia National Laboratories coordinates annual high school and middle school regional competitions for DOE's Office of Science. DOE created the National Science Bowl in 1991 to encourage students to excel in math and science and pursue careers in related fields. More than 200,000 students have participated in the National Science Bowl since its inception.

OBITUARIES

John Oliver

John Albert Oliver, age 93, passed away February 17, 2014 following a period of declining health



while visiting family in Corvallis, Oregon with his wife of 31 years, Patricia. Wind and vision had failed him, while clarity of thought, wisdom, and his sense of humor were strong until the end.

John was born in Seattle, Washington on April 19, 1920, only child to Frank Howard Oliver and May Germaine Oliver. He had three lifelong passions: faith; family; and writing. He graduated from Ballard, WA, High School and then attended both the University of Washington and the University of Cincinnati. He served in the Army Signal Corps, Philippines, Pacific Theater, during WWII. After his discharge from the Army he followed in his father's footsteps and worked as a passenger ticket agent for the Southern Pacific Railroad in Seattle. He was transferred to the Bay Area for the trucking division. In his forties he decided to pursue his love of writing and began his career in journalism as a stringer for the Daily Review in Hayward, CA. He loved being on the trail of a "hot lead"!

John was very proud of his association with the two newspapers for which he worked for a combined total of over 40 years. The Herald & News in Livermore, Pleasanton, and Dublin, CA, and the Independence Oregon branch of the Polk County Itemizer-Observer. His specialties were writing feature stories and weekly columns. He was the Editor of the Herald & News in 1971. For many years he penned the "Oliver Twist" column of personal interest stories of people and events in the Tri-Valley. Friends often called him the compassionate journalist for his kindness and consideration. He considered it important to avoid sensationalism and to always honor confidentiality.

John also had two books published and finished a third. The first was an authorized biography of Eldridge Cleaver, Black Panther, titled "Eldridge Cleaver Reborn". The second was

a biography of Arthur Blessitt, missionary, titled "A Walk with the Cross". He and his wife Patricia also completed a biography of Russian Orthodox Priest Roman Sturmer, who fled Russia during the Russian Revolution of 1917, traveled the world, and took up his ministry in San Francisco.

In 1982, John married Patricia Wilson. The couple moved to Monmouth, OR, from Livermore when John retired from the Herald in 1985. John and Patricia spent a year during 1987-88 as volunteers with Northwest Medical Teams in Mexico City. While helping the very poor on the outskirts of Mexico City, they also helped teach English to Hispanic business people. Upon returning to Monmouth, John came out of retirement and resumed his journalism career at the Itemizer-Observer. During this time their home was often filled with international students, something they both enjoyed. Final retirement from the newspapers came for John in 1996 though he never stopped writing.

In 2006, John and Patricia moved to Vancouver, WA. When not reading or writing, John became an avid follower of The Seattle Mariners and more recently the Portland Trailblazers.

John felt he had been blessed with a wonderful family. He is survived by his wife, Patty, and children, son Matthew Oliver of Livermore, CA, daughter Abby Tice of Brentwood, CA, daughter Jeannie Flint of Dublin, CA, stepson Brian McNeil of Fairbanks, Alaska, stepdaughter Karen Sass of Vancouver, WA, stepdaughter Linda Windom of Corvallis, WA, and twelve grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

There will be a celebration of John's life for family and friends on March 8th at 2:00pm at City Bible Church, Vancouver, WA, 14311 SE Mill Plain Blvd., where he was a member. Interment will be a military service at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, OR at a later date.

Irene J. Dover

April 13, 1936-Feb. 16, 2014

Irene J. Dover of Livermore, California, went to Heaven to be with the Lord on Sunday, February 16, 2014, at the age of 77.

Irene was born to James and Benedetta Carlucci in



Los Banos, California.

She worked at Bay Area Security Services for the last 23

years as the Office Manager. She was a trusted and respected employee and the owner, Alan Williford considered her a 2nd mother and she loved him as a son.

Irene was a devoted mother to her 3 children and taught us to be strong, kind and the value of family. She loved spending time with her children and grandchildren. She had a passion for her Italian heritage and it showed in her amazing Italian cooking. She loved to shop and had a green thumb. Her favorite charity was St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Irene is survived by her three children: Michael Dover of Livermore, CA, Doug Dover and his wife Kathy of Tracy, CA and Julie Mayhood and her husband Todd of Discovery Bay, CA; along with her grandchildren: Andrew; Paige; Christian; Troy; Tanner and a great grandbaby due June 8th.

Funeral services will be on Friday, March 7, 2014 at 10am, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 1621 Center Ave., Los Banos, CA 93635. The Rosary will be recited and mass will follow. Burial will be at the Los Banos District Cemetery.

Richard Rhine Quinlan

Richard Rhine Quinlan passed away on February 21, 2014 following complications from heart disease and diabetes. He was born on August 3, 1930 in Bakersfield, California.

He graduated from Garces Memorial High School in 1948. He enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1950, serving for four years as a military police officer in Texas, Alaska, and Colo-



rado. His main assignment was in Fairbanks, Alaska, where he served for 2 1/2 years.

While in Denver, Colorado he met his wife, Juanita "Van" Van Iperen, who was also a member of the Air Force. They married in Denver, Colorado on November 6, 1954. After they were both discharged from the Air Force, they settled in Bakersfield and built their first home while Richard worked for the U.S. Post Office. He also attended Bakersfield Community College on the GI Bill. The post office transferred him to Livermore where he worked as a postal clerk for 30 years. Everyone in town knew him as the friendly man who worked at the post office.

He had a smile and a joke for everyone and people waited in line especially for him. Richard had many hobbies he thoroughly enjoyed. He loved building houses. In addition to building their first home, he and Van, with the help of their children, built two homes in South Lake Tahoe. He also did extensive remodeling work on their house in Livermore. He was an avid woodworker and built many beautiful pieces of furniture. He loved reading and listening to music. He and Van attended many live musical performances throughout his life—everything from the Oakland Symphony, to Frank Sinatra, to the Rolling Stones. He also loved sports, and he and Van were season ticket holders for the Oakland Raiders, the Oakland A's, and the Cal Bears for many years. He also loved to travel and go on camping trips. He took his entire family on many road trips throughout the U.S.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, George Earl Quinlan and Mary Hazel (Stapel) Quinlan. He is

survived by his wife of 59 years, Van Quinlan; four children, Lori Rochin, Marc Quinlan, Shawn Quinlan, and Shannon Hurtz; eight grandchildren, Krista, Candice, Chase, Ryan, Cory, Mia, Aiden, and Alyssa; three siblings, Colette Flores of Livermore, Georgia Quinlan of Pleasanton, and Mike Quinlan of Lathrop; and many nieces, nephews, and grand nieces and nephews throughout the United States.

Services will be held at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore, on Friday, March 7 at 1:00pm. Contributions may be made in his name to the American Heart Association, 426 17th St, Suite #300, Oakland, CA 94612

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary, 925.447.2942, callaghan-mortuary.com

Daniel Martin

Daniel Martin, handsome, intelligent and witty, passed away unexpectedly on the evening of May 9, 2013 at his home in Folsom CA. Dan was born August 26, 1985 in Southern CA. Daniel grew up in Pleasanton, CA and attended Walnut Grove, Harvest Park, Amador Valley High School and Diablo Valley College. He also enjoyed his time in boy scout troop 998. Daniel had a passion for movie making, writing, acting and comic. He loved playing online

video games and communicating on Face book with his large following of friends.

Daniel's life was cut short, his family is heartbroken.

Daniel will be greatly missed by his friends and family.

Daniel is survived by his father Harold Martin, mother Melinda Keim, stepfather Glenn Keim, step mother Debra Martin, brothers Matt and Mike, stepbrother Dustin Stedt, step sisters Leela Sherbon and Sonia Stedt, grandmother Nadine Martin and numerous other family and friends.

Daniel we love you and miss you beyond words. Dan you will forever be in our hearts.



NADIA LOEWE, M.S.

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

Adult, Adolescent, Child, Couple & Family Therapy

Affordable sliding scale

Located in Pleasanton

(925) 226-6011

www.nadialoewe.com

Obituary/ Memorial Policies

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

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

Please send an email to editmail@compuserve.com

THE NEPTUNE SOCIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
2177 Las Positas Ct, Ste. K, Livermore CA 94551
(925) 454-1974
www.neptune-society.com
Sam Miller, Branch Director FD#1823



The Transitional Kindergarten (TK) class at Rancho Las Positas Elementary School enjoyed their own special "Snow Day" on Friday, January 24, 2014. Dressed in snowsuits with hats, mittens and boots, 26 enthusiastic students experienced a fun, out-of-the-ordinary little bit of winter right here in Livermore. TK Teacher, Mrs. Pastrnak, along with her Aide, Mrs. Brackett, oversaw the fun with drifts of "snow" that parent volunteers delivered from Tri-Valley Ice that opened this January on Greenville Road in Livermore.



MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

ty wanting us to extend the Health Care Tax for 15 more years and wondered why this tax is needed now that we have the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare)? Isn't our President's and the Democrats' signature accomplishment supposed to solve the problem? Why are we paying a redundant tax? Please give this some serious thought before voting in June.

Response to Letter Maurice Duenas Livermore

In last week's edition of The Independent John Shirley advocated that in order to keep the Bankhead open, that "LVPAC should withhold future payments to the bank until a plan to meet this crisis is worked out". This tactic is completely unethical and dishonest. What John Shirley advocates is in direct conflict with how a properly run business should behave. Let's keep the Bankhead open by lying and not taking responsibility for their ineptness. By all means, keep the inferior and shady management in place too. All while the taxpayers pick up the tab (\$22 million and counting). Sounds logical and well thought out.

Windmills – A Hazard to Bats Adam Perry

I am in fourth grade and have been learning about an issue I want to bring to your attention – bats colliding with windmills. This is an increasing problem in California and throughout the Nation. Wind power is a great source of renewable energy, but scientists are finding that windmills kill bats.

Why bats collide with wind turbines is a mystery. Scientists are experimenting with different ways of keeping bats away from windmills, like using whistles and light shows. Some scientists are also creating different types of windmills that hopefully will be less harmful to bats.

We need bats because they are part of a healthy environment. They pollinate flowers and crops and they eat mosquitoes and other pests. Until a solution is found, the best thing we can do to help bats is use less electricity. Please be careful about the electricity you use and help save a bat!

Tesla Park Loree Clavell Livermore

Monday night I planned on watching the Livermore

City Council Meeting on television, as the agenda about the homeless situation in Livermore interested me. I was surprised and a little dismayed that about thirty off-highway motorcycle riders supporting the expansion of Carnegie Park showed up to speak during the public forum.

I am aware of the controversy surrounding this issue and think that voices on all sides should be heard. However, as Mayor March and explained very clearly at the beginning of the public forum, the City Council does not have jurisdiction over the parks. He also stated that Livermore's staff was going to review the EIR, as is the standard procedure when a proposed development affects the city. Nevertheless, the speakers, many not from Livermore, objected to the city's right to do so.

Tesla Park and the conservation of land is especially important as it is so close to our Livermore community.

Motorcycle riding in the hills is a potentially destructive activity and its location should be chosen carefully so as not to disturb and destroy our open space. I wonder if most of the speakers at Monday night's forum have walked the canyons and hills in Tesla and have seen the golden eagle nesting sites. They have ridden in Carnegie, a very different place. Tesla Park is a special place that deserves to be protected.

It is important to let the EIR process take place. That is the only way to determine if all requirements of the CEQA have been evaluated. As the riders at Monday's meeting said, they are "for the environment," so in fairness to Livermore, let's see the process through. I applaud the Mayor and the City Council for intending to do that.

Free Ride, Not! CR Hoaglan Livermore

I read Mr. Schauer's letter in last week's Mailbox and took him up on his suggestion to check the facts for myself. As far as Mr. Schauer's claim that OHV parks are "Getting a Free Ride," just the opposite is the truth. The OHV Trust Fund has been a political slush fund for the park service to pay for other parks & programs (DMV, CHP, cities and counties). The State of California has been "borrowing" millions of dollars from the OHV fund for years to supplement the State General Fund. For example: the 2011 Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission Program Report:

<http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/pages/1140/files/ohmvr%202011%20report%20-%20final-web.pdf>

Please pay special attention to the chart on page 22 where it documents OVER 200 million dollars from the OHV Trust Fund was transferred to the California State General Fund and other state agencies. The money is supposed to be "paid back" within 2 years with absolutely zero interest (can I get a loan like that too?). Guess what...not a single dime has ever been paid back to the "Trust" fund. How did Mr. Brown "balance" our budget? Smoke and mirrors and OHV money, that's how! That report was for 2011, I can't imagine what the overall total is today.

According to a 2006 California State Parks Estimating Survey, the State Fuel Tax Paid on Gasoline Used in the Off-Highway Operation of Vehicles for Recreation was \$56,878,152, and that is in vintage 2006 dollars. I am sure that figure is much, much higher now; I know the cost of living and the price of gas is. <http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/pages/1140/files/fuel%20tax%20survey%20report.pdf>.

When the OHV Trust Fund was first set up the proceeds were to be used for maintaining and improving OHV parks and ONLY for maintaining and improving OHV parks, nothing else. The "Trust" Fund has become a one-way interest-free piggy bank for the state to dip into at will. As far as comparing OHV recreation to golf or tennis, it is apples to oranges. I will use my son for example. He grew up riding, maintaining, repairing and modifying his own machine. That practical experience and hands-on knowledge has been a huge advantage for him excelling at SJSU for Mechanical Engineering. I tend to think golf or tennis would not have given him a leg up in that field.

Mr. Schauer, just imagine how bad your pot-holed roads would be without the interest free money the state gets from the OHV Trust Fund. Also Mr. Schauer please do not omit all the tax revenue generated purchasing and maintaining the OHV vehicles along with associated high-dollar equipment like RVs & trailers (state DMV fees & more gas tax paid), not to mention the positive effect on the local business economy (camping equipment supplies, food, drinks, restaurants, lodging...etc). You see we don't get to ride for free, and we never have.

Volcanoes Contribute to Recent Warming 'Hiatus'

Volcanic eruptions in the early part of the 21st century have cooled the planet, according to a study led by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. This cooling partly offset the warming produced by greenhouse gases.

Despite continuing increases in atmospheric levels of greenhouse gases, and in the total heat content of the ocean, global-mean temperatures at the surface of the planet and in the troposphere (the lowest portion of the Earth's atmosphere) have shown relatively little warming since 1998. This so-called 'slow-down' or 'hiatus' has received considerable scientific, political and popular attention. The volcanic contribution to the 'slow-down' is the subject of a new paper appearing in the Feb. 23 edition of the journal *Nature Geoscience*.

Volcanic eruptions inject sulfur dioxide gas into the atmosphere. If the eruptions are large enough to add sulfur dioxide to the stratosphere (the atmospheric layer above the troposphere), the gas forms tiny droplets of sulfuric acid, also known as "volcanic aerosols." These droplets reflect some portion of the incoming sunlight

back into space, cooling the Earth's surface and the lower atmosphere.

"In the last decade, the amount of volcanic aerosol in the stratosphere has increased, so more sunlight is being reflected back into space," said Lawrence Livermore climate scientist Benjamin Santer, who serves as lead author of the study. "This has created a natural cooling of the planet and has partly offset the increase in surface and atmospheric temperatures due to human influence."

From 2000-2012, emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere increased -- as they have done since the Industrial Revolution. This human-induced change typically causes the troposphere to warm and the stratosphere to cool. In contrast, large volcanic eruptions cool the troposphere and warm the stratosphere, the layer above the troposphere. The researchers report that early 21st century volcanic eruptions have contributed to this recent "warming hiatus," and that most climate models have not accurately accounted for this effect.

"The recent slow-down in observed surface and

tropospheric warming is a fascinating detective story," Santer said. "There is not a single culprit, as some scientists have claimed. Multiple factors are implicated. One is the temporary cooling effect of internal climate noise (ongoing climate activity). Other factors are the external cooling influences of 21st century volcanic activity, an unusually low and long minimum in the last solar cycle, and an uptick in Chinese emissions of sulfur dioxide."

"The real scientific challenge is to obtain hard quantitative estimates of the contributions of each of these factors to the slow-down."

According to climate scientists, in order to separate human-caused global warming from the "noise" of purely natural climate fluctuations, temperature records must be at least 17 years long.

The researchers performed two different statistical tests to determine whether recent volcanic eruptions have cooling effects that can be distinguished from the intrinsic variability of the climate. The team found evidence for significant correlations between volcanic aerosol observations and satellite-based estimates of lower tropospheric temperatures as well as the sunlight reflected back to space by the aerosol particles.

The research involved a large, interdisciplinary team of researchers with expertise in climate modeling, satellite data, stratospheric dynamics and volcanic effects on climate, model evaluation and computer science. Other Livermore contributors include Céline Bonfils, Jeff Painter, Mark Zelinka and Karl Taylor. Other collaborators include Carl Mears and Frank Wentz at Remote Sensing Systems, Susan Solomon at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Gavin Schmidt and Larissa Nazarenko at the NASA/Goddard Institute for Space Studies, and John Fyfe and Jason Cole at the Canadian Centre for Climate Modeling and Analysis.

Community Choice Aggregation Eloise Hamann Dublin

California legislation allows communities to form Community Choice Aggregations (CCAs) to provide renewable energy options for electricity customers. It is like a public utility with the current provider providing the transmission and the billing and the public agency providing energy from renewable sources or a high mix of renewable sources. Marin County, the trailblazer, has been operating their highly successful program since 2010. The price of the renewable energy is comparable to current prices, with an expectation of renewable energy being cheaper by the end of this decade. Sonoma County is scheduled to launch this spring. San Francisco County's efforts are currently stalled by politics.

I would like to praise the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and my city of Dublin for investigating CCA formation. Berkeley passed a resolution in favor of forming a CCA. San Ramon held a city council meeting regarding joining Marin Clean Energy. The

time is right. Formation of CCAs will establish a clear market for renewable energy and encourage renewable projects. When climate scientists say we must leave 80% of the claimed oil reserves in the ground, the best way to reduce carbon emission from fossil fuels is to stop using them.

BART to Livermore? Robert Allen Former BART Director Livermore


BART's Board of Directors plans an environmental review tonight of various alternatives, both "project-level" to Isabel and "program-level" beyond. The Board meets at 5 pm at 300 Lakeside Drive in Oakland (near 19th Street station). This being the last major item on a heavy agenda, it may come up well into the evening.

Nearly 8400 Livermore voters signed an initiative petition in 2011 asking for BART to Isabel/580, causing the City of Livermore to clearly state that as its preference. That is now firmly placed in the City's General Plan Funding is slated for this November's ballot as part of a county-wide transportation measure.

EMPLOYMENT ADS

Reach Tri-Valley homes & businesses with an ad in The Independent Classified Section every week. The Independent mails your ads into businesses & homes.

Call 243-8000 for information.



Follow us
on Facebook

THE Independent

www.independentnews.com

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION
PLACING
LEGAL NOTICES
Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 486933

The following person(s) doing business as: Property Management By Owners, 2615 Trevor Pkwy, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Yufan Zhu, 2615 Trevor Pkwy, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrants :s/: Yufan Zhu

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 16, 2014. Expires January 16, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3599. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2014.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 487223

The following person(s) doing business as: Scotsman Realty Group, 2587 Skimmer Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Gordon Corsie, 2587 Skimmer Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/13/2009.

Signature of Registrants :s/: Gordon Corsie

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 24, 2014. Expires January 24, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3600. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2014.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 487228

The following person(s) doing

business as: SuryaSolar Inc., 5150 S. Forestdale Circle, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

SuryaSolar Inc., 5150 S. Forestdale Circle, Dublin, CA 94568

This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/15/2014.

Signature of Registrants :s/: Chetan H. Patel, CEO

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 24, 2014. Expires January 24, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3601. Published February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2014.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 487191

The following person(s) doing business as: Considerate Beauty, 3550 Helen Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Nancy E. Curtrice, 3550 Helen Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrants :s/: Nancy E. Curtrice

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 24, 2014. Expires January 24, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3602. Published February 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2014.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 487653

The following person(s) doing business as: Baggy Britches, 3868 Stanford Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

(1)Beatrice Hall (2)Paul Jerome Hall, 3868 Stanford Way, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by Married Couple

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrants :s/: Beatrice Hall

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 6, 2014. Expires February 6, 2019.

The Independent Legal No. 3603. Published February 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2014.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 487990

The following person(s) doing business as: E.y.e Photography, 2074 Walnut Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Connie Dumas, 2074 Walnut Street, Livermore, CA 94551

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2/12/2014.

Signature of Registrants :s/: Connie Dumas

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 18, 2014. Expires February 18, 2019. The Independent Legal No. 3604. Published February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 2014.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 487481-483

The following person(s) doing business as: (1)Diablo Dental Services (2)Diablo Services (3)Diablo Books, 1125 Megan Road, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

John-Paul L. Dugovics, 1125 Megan Road, Livermore, CA 94550-3796

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above in 2009.

Signature of Registrants :s/: John-Paul L. Dugovics

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2014. Expires January 31,

2019. The Independent Legal No. 3605. Published February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 2014.

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at (925)426-8656.

Adopt a new best friend: TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, dogs are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin from 12:00 to 4:00 and the Pet Extreme in Livermore from 12:00 to 4:00. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and Pet Extreme in Livermore from 12:00 to 4:00. For more information, call Terry at (925)487-7279 or visit our website at www.tvar.org

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livermore Petco on Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that have been tested for FIV & FELV, altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats & ranch cats for adoption.

EMPLOYMENT

65) HELP WANTED

56) ADULT CARE

Independent Contractors Wanted

Senior Home Health Care Must have experience **Senior Solutions, Inc** (925)443-3101

BE WARY of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD Call (925)243-8000

MERCHANDISE

115) ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES

ESTATE SALE

Friday, February 28
1151 Nielsen Lane
Livermore
10:00AM - 3:00PM
NO EARLY BIRDS

Lots of items
Previous antique glass dealer
Some furniture,
Vintage clothing & nice girls' clothing,
Household goods

127) LOST/ FOUND

FOUND

WHITE MALE PUPPY
Mines Road area
Livermore
Please call
(925)447-3525

NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

"NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800)321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

REAL ESTATE

Inland Valley Publishing Co.
Client Code:04126-00001
Re: Legal Notice for Classified Ads

The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

EMPLOYMENT ADS

Reach Tri-Valley homes & businesses with an ad in The Independent Classified Section every week. The Independent mails your ads into businesses & homes. Call 243-8000 for information.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

HEALTH

VALLEYCARE HEALTH SYSTEM.
A not-for-profit health system
Visit Us At
www.valleycare.com



TO PLACE AN AD IN THE BUSINESS DIRECTORY, CALL 243-8000

EYE CARE

VALLEY EYECARE CENTER
Medical Associates
Specializing in complete eye care
Pleasanton (925) 460-5000
Livermore (925) 449-4000

PLUMBING

Icemaker FILTERS
AQUA-PURE
15% OFF
DUBLIN PLUMBING
6883 Village Parkway,
Dublin, 828-2010

Don't Miss the News . . .

Sign up for free delivery* of

THE Independent
NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE

If you are not yet a subscriber, please take the time to sign up now! Respond back today!



The Independent is dedicated to giving you, our readers, the news and editorial support to create a vibrant community.



For new subscription:

Online: Visit www.independentnewsfree.com

Phone: Call us at (925) 243-8014.

*Subscription is FREE to residents of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton & Sunol.

Professionals Choice Real Estate Directory

Local guide to the Valley's Leading Real Estate Professionals & Services

<p>Fracisco Realty & Investments Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmt (925) 998-8131 www.MikeFracisco.com Mike Fracisco DRE #01378428 REALTOR®</p>	<p>Ivy Livermore's Top Producing Real Estate Agent 2013 925 998-5312 www.IvyLoGerfo.com CalBRE #01267853</p>
<p>GENE WILLIAMS Mortgage Consultant, REALTOR® (510) 390-0325</p> <p>CINDY WILLIAMS CRS, GRI - REALTOR® (925) 243-0900 www.williamsteam.net Over Three Decades of Experience!!!</p>	<p>Sandee Utterback (888) 823-8315 DRE#0085150 WWW.SANDEEU.COM Prudential "Specializing in Livermore's Finest Homes"</p>
<p>Gail Henderson BROKER ASSOCIATE, MPA COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL (925) 980-5648 www.gailhenderson.com CA DRE#01709171 Prudential California Realty</p>	<p>Real Estate... A People Business Experience, Honesty, Integrity</p> <p>Steve & Lorraine Mattos 925.426.7978 www.rockcliff.com smattos@rockcliff.com DRE #00315981</p>
<p>MORTGAGE LOAN CONSULTANTS Specializing in VA, CalVet, FHA and Conventional Home Loans Rent vs. Buy...</p> <p>CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION TODAY!</p> <p>Barbara Duterte DRE#00958930 / NMLS#260672 (925) 963-9572 www.loansbybarbara.com</p> <p>Michelle Johnston DRE#01801753 / NMLS#261098 (925) 784-1169 MJohnston@mortgagemarket.net www.lender4lifemichelle.com</p> <p>Mortgage Market, Inc. DUBLIN, CA DRE#0887562 / NMLS#287656</p>	<p>SABRINA BASCOM (925) 337-0194 sabrina.bascom@bhghome.com DRE#01848451 101 E. Vineyard Ave #103, Livermore, CA</p>
<p>SENIORS REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST ESTATE SALES - GARAGE SALES DISCOUNTS FOR SENIORS Celebrating 25 years in business</p> <p>Madeline Walker 800-319-8991 homes@madelinewalker.com</p> <p>INTERO REAL ESTATE BROKERS REALTOR®, CDPE DRE # 979099 www.madelinewalker.com</p>	<p>Donna Garrison (925) 980-0273 Susan Schall (925) 519-8226 Search Tri-Valley Homes for Sale at www.FabulousProperties.net CA LIC#s: 01735040, 01713497 Keller Williams</p>
<p>Kristy and Company Estate, Ranch and Land Ladies www.EstatesandRanches.com 925.251.2536 Kristy Nancy Danielle Wendy Petrao Valent Santa Maria Madali CA BRE# 089695 / 087020 / 089022</p>	<p>Rebecca L. Evans REALTOR® LIC.#01490029 REBECCALEVANS.COM REBECC.L@COMCAST.NET LIVERMORE VALLEY REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST 925.784.2870 1790 FIRST STREET, LIVERMORE</p>
<p>Cindy Greci REALTOR®, GRI (925) 784-1243 BRE#01323804</p> <p>Dominic Greci REALTOR®, GRI (925) 525-0864 BRE#01707140</p> <p>Gravelle Group Fine Homes & Estates www.GreciGroup.com</p>	<p>Kelly Franco 925.200.9979 Kelly.Franco@bhghome.com bhghome.com/KellyFranco BRE Lic#01476710</p>
<p>RYAN ANDERSON (925) 371-RYAN (7926) www.371RYAN.com ryan@371ryan.com DRE#01254257</p> <p>371-RYAN Real Estate Sales</p>	<p>Tammy Yau & Steven Wang, CPA Real Estate & Property Management Services (925) 583-3086 / (408) 309-8920 CaGoldenProperties.com BRE#01260501 / BRE#01368485</p>
<p>THE PAM COLE TEAM Your Real Estate Resource (925) 337-2461 pam@pamcole4homes.com www.PamCole4Homes.com LEGACY REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATES</p>	

To Place Your Ad, Call Your Account Representative At (925) 243-8001

Energy Analyzer Sign-ups Win \$500 for Dublin Library Supporters

Some 117 Dublin residents signed up for the Dublin Energy Challenge, and raised \$500 for Friends of the Dublin Library (FODL). The challenge, which ended Jan. 31, consisted of a three-month citywide initiative that encouraged residents to sign up for a free Home Energy analyzer. Dublin at one point reported 90 sign-ups, and qualified then for a \$150 donation to FODL. A push was encouraged to reach 150 sign-ups, in order to be awarded the higher step of a \$500 donation. Although Dublin's sign-

ups fell short at 117, contest co-sponsor Energy Upgrade in California decided to award \$500 for FODL anyway, because Dublin outpaced the rest of Alameda County by a wide margin, said a spokesperson for the contest. More than 500 residents countywide signed up for the Home Energy Analyzer. Dublin's sign-ups were more than 20 percent of the total number. Everyone who signed up was eligible to participate in drawings for \$25 gift certificates at hardware stores. Twelve Dublin residents

were among the winners. The energy analyzer uses challenge co-sponsor PG&E's smart meter data to evaluate energy use. It contains tips for saving energy, including do-it-yourself suggestions for home improvements. The 500 sign-ups countywide represent more than \$11,000 in savings for those residents. An estimated 25 tons of CO2 gases have been saved. Although the Dublin Energy Challenge has concluded, all county residents can still sign up for the Home Energy Analyzer at HomeEnergyAnalyzer.org.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District held its 12th annual Science Odyssey event last week. Over 700 students, a record-setting number, registered to display a research or engineering project for judging. In addition to student displays, exhibitors included the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Swaim Biological (with live snakes, turtles, and other creatures), Zone 7 Water District, PG&E, Solar Universe, City of Livermore Community Development Department, Abbie 4-H, New World System, Livermore Sanitation, VacuaTechniques (vacuum pump activities as shown in the photo), Livermore Lithophiles, and LHS Green Engineering Academy. Live music was provided by Scientific Jam. Students defended their projects to volunteer judges from the science and engineering community prior to the public viewing.

CIVICS

(continued from page one)

someone is struggling, they receive support. I was out during the holidays with back surgery, but they were self-motivated, and practiced on their own. I am incredibly proud of them," said Ladd.

While the People had more participation nationally, until Congress in 2011 quit funding it. Now the teachers themselves, with assistance from community donations, take care of it, said Ladd.

"The federal government

wants to fund STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs, but defunded We the People. The emphasis is going away from the social sciences, especially in education. I strongly believe that civic education is as critical as STEM. If you don't understand government, you can't change it. Only 30 states require civics classes," said Ladd.

Members of the team are Bianca Bacaltos, Eric Chan,

Naomi Chan, Alexandra Gonsman, Domnall Hegarty, Daniel Huang, Liana Huynh, Nisha Kale, Almas Khan, Kathryn Kitayama, Shilpa Krish, Emily Lu, Armin Mahini, John Malchar, Kaitlyn Mallie, Kabir Sethi, Lillian Sun, Jennifer Teitell, Kristina Vateva, Rose Wang, Jarry Xiao, Christine Xu, Jennifer Yip, and Tandy Yuan.

The team will be paying travel cost, and will conduct fund-raising to finance expenses.

Martinez Selected as New Leader for Lab Operations and Business

Mark Martinez has been named the Principal Associate Director for Operations & Business (O&B) at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, acting Director Bret Knapp announced last week. The announcement is effective immediately.

In this role, Martinez will ensure an effective transition of leadership within the O&B organization, following several leadership changes this last year. Don Boyd, the previous O&B PAD, and Stephanie Goodwin, Boyd's principal deputy, retired in 2013.

Martinez will be responsible for leading the O&B organization including the team of supply chain management, technical information, strategic human resources, project management, project controls, property management, facility and infrastructure management, business management, maintenance management,

emergency preparedness, environmental restoration, sustainable energy management, and nuclear operations.

Throughout his 20-year career at the Laboratory, Martinez has demonstrated ability to make significant improvements through the use of continuous improvement processes and implementation of operational excellence principles.

Martinez joined the Laboratory in 1994, after holding positions at both Martin Marietta Systems and Westinghouse Idaho Nuclear Company in support of Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation activities at

the Laboratory. He has held a progressive set of senior leadership roles, including Test Director positions, Deputy Program Leader of the Nevada Experiments and Operations Program, Program Leader, Nuclear Materials Technology Program, and most recently, he served as the Deputy Principal Associate Director of Operations in Weapons and Complex Integration. Martinez carried out a key assignment as the LLNL Institutional Work Planning and Control Leader for several years, leading the assessment of institution-wide work control implementation.

Specializing In
Deceased Stock Removal Large & Small
Transportation to UC Davis and to Crematories
Janice Pementel (925) 997-1387



Students got hands-on experience in learning about how rising levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are affecting life in our oceans in the "Greenhouse Gases: From the Tailpipe to the Oceans" workshop. Photo - Julie Russell/LLNL

Expanding Your Horizons Event Attracted 300 Girls

More than 300 girls, in grades 6 to 9, attended the Tri-Valley Expanding Your Horizons Conference on the Los Positas College campus last Saturday. The annual event is designed to increase interest and foster awareness of careers in math and science.

This year's theme was "Building a Better Future." At the conference, girls participated in hands-on workshops, special group activities and a career fair.

The conference also provides the students with opportunities to meet and interact with positive role models

who are actively engaged in math and science-related careers.

Volunteers from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories/California, Las Positas College and the Association of University Women organized the event.

\$60,000 Donated to Schools to Support STEM

Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS), the entity that manages Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for the Department of Energy, donated \$60,000 to six organizations in support of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education.

On Saturday, Feb. 22, unofficially dubbed "Science in the Tri-Valley Day," LLNL conducted another installment in its ongoing Science on Saturday lecture series at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore, attracting more than 1,000 students. At the same time, Las Positas Community College hosted two science-related programs: Expanding Your Horizons, a daylong collection of STEM-related workshops for 300 middle and high school girls in hopes of introducing them to science and engineering careers, and the Science Bowl, a "Jeopardy"-like event for high school and middle school students.

While attending these events, Acting LLNS President and Acting LLNL Director Bret Knapp, delivered a series of \$10,000 dona-

tions, totaling \$60,000 to the school districts of Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and Tracy, in addition to the Los Positas College Foundation and the Expanding Your Horizons program.

"Support for education in the Tri-Valley community has always been a high priority for the Laboratory, par-

ticularly in STEM," Knapp said. "Laboratory employees and LLNS have a long history of giving generously to the community."

In just the past year, LLNS and the Lab have donated nearly \$4 million to charitable and educational causes throughout the region.



Discover the amazing secrets of a Mediterranean chef! Join us in a joyous celebration of Mediterranean fusion in downtown Livermore. We've paired culinary excellence with the best service in town to create the ultimate dining experience. Highlighted by fresh local ingredients and seasonal tastes, our menu boasts an exquisite selection of regional favorites from the Middle East, North Africa, and Southern Europe. Featuring exotic meat entrees, vegetarian/vegan favorites, celiac and special diet needs, and an 85% gluten-free menu.

Casbah cafe
MEDITERRANEAN KITCHEN & BAR

1770 First Street, Livermore (925) 243-1477
www.casbahexotic.com

THE WORKS
FUEL SAVER PACKAGE

NOW \$19.95
After \$10 Mail-In Rebate

Call for details. Retail purchases only. Up to 5 quarts of Motorcraft® Synthetic Blend oil & filter. Diesel & Ford GT Extra. Taxes & hazard fees extra. Hybrid battery test excluded. Please present coupon at time service order is written. May not be combined with other coupons, discounts or advertised specials. WITH THIS COUPON • Expires 3/31/2014

Lube, Oil & Filter, & Tire Rotation

- Motorcraft® Premium Synthetic blend oil & filter change
- Rotate 4 Tires
- Check Air & Cabin Air Filter
- Brake Inspection
- Fluid Top-Off
- Battery Test
- Filter Check
- Belts & Hoses Check

No Appointment Needed Between 7:30am-3:30pm Mon-Fri

FREE 21 Point Inspection

- Lube, Oil & Filter
- Replace Air Filter
- Rotate 4 Tires
- Brake Inspection
- Fluid Top-Off
- Battery Test
- Filter Check
- Belts & Hoses Check
- Fuel Injection Service

Fuel Saver Special

\$189.95
Regularly \$240

*Up to 5 quarts oil. Taxes and disposal fees extra. Diesel vehicles extra. Hybrid battery test excluded. WITH THIS COUPON • Expires 3/31/2014



Avoid PROBATE! Living Trust \$599

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Revocable Trust
- Wills
- Advance Healthcare Directive
- Financial Powers of Attorney

We are moving to 7000 VILLAGE PARKWAY, DUBLIN - APRIL 2014

Call (925) 479-9600



www.CaDocPreparers.com

Serving The Tri-Valley Since 2003

We are not attorneys. We can only provide self help services at your specific direction. California Document Preparers is not a law firm and cannot represent customers, select legal forms, or give advice on rights or law. Prices do not include court costs. LDA #30 Alameda County, Exp. 4/2015

MOTORCRAFT® COMPLETE BRAKE SERVICE

NOW \$189.95
Regularly \$249

- Brake pads or shoes
- Machining rotors or drums
- Labor included

Per-axle price on most vehicles. Exclusions apply. Taxes extra. Please present coupon at time of write-up. May not be combined with any other coupons, discounts or advertised specials. See participating dealership for details. WITH THIS COUPON • Expires 3/31/2014



2266 Kittyhawk Rd, Livermore, CA 94551

www.livermoreautogroup.com

925.294.7700

THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A

Rossini's 'Cinderella' Opens March 15 at Bankhead Theater LVO Production is an Opera for All Ages and Families



Pictured, from left, are Marco Stefani, Bruce Donnell and Shirin Eskandini.

Livermore Valley Opera (LVO) presents Rossini's take on a timeless fairy tale Cinderella, a romantic comedy perfect for families and people of all ages. LVO offers four performances over two weekends at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

The opera opens with an 8 p.m. performance on March 15. A opening night gala celebration dinner will be held at Uncle Yu's in the Vineyard at 4:30 p.m. (a separate ticket is required).

Additional performances are set for 2 p.m. March 16, 8 p.m. March 22 and 2 p.m. March 23.

The story of Cinderella is one of the most well-known fairy tales around the world. The tale appears in the folklore of so many diverse cultures with between 350 and 1,500 different versions around the world. The earliest versions may have originated in Egypt and China yet the most familiar Cinderella tale is the one published by Charles Per-

rault in this *Histoires ou contes du temps passé* in 1697. His version is the same immortalized by Walt Disney, complete with the fairy godmother, pumpkin carriage and the glass slipper.

Rossini's Cinderella, actually titled *La Cenerentola* is based on Charles Perrault's rendition of the popular tale. Because Rossini's librettist Jacopo Ferretti realized that a fairy tale would be risky for an opera audience, he made several changes to Perrault's version including the absence of the fairy godmother and the wicked stepmother, and instead created a wicked stepfather.

In just three weeks, Rossini completed this opera which is considered to have some of his finest writing for solo voice and ensembles, something that mezzo soprano Shirin Eskandani knows all too well and is excited about performing.

"The role of Angelina,

a.k.a. Cinderella, is a role I've always wanted to sing," explains Eskandani. "It is unusual for Rossini to write music for a mezzo. I'm excited to have the opportunity to perform his beautiful music."

However, that is not all that she is looking forward to. "I've performed in Cinderella before but as the role of the evil step-sister. This time I have a principal role but also get to be a princess for a night and wear a beautiful gown. What girl has not dreamed of that?"

LVO's Artistic and Music Director Alexander Katsman has his own reasons for being excited about sharing Cinderella with the community. "I love Rossini and Cinderella is one of my favorite operas. It is comedic, really funny at times, and I think that is why it will appeal to so many people, including families."

Joining Eskandani on stage is Pleasanton na-

(continued on page 3)

1000 Words: Public Opening Reception March 12 at the Harrington Gallery

The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center will host the second major exhibit of 2014. Seven diverse artists are brought together in the new 1000 Words installation, which features media as varied as woodblock prints, collage, mixed media, painting, photography, book art, and assemblage sculpture. The exhibition opens Saturday, March 8, and runs through April 19.

The Artists' Reception, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Wednesday evening, March 12, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome to come explore the exhibit, and ask questions and chat with the artists and gallery staff.

"The premise for the show," explains gallery director Julie Finegan, "is that it is often said that 'a picture is worth a thousand words,' so I wanted to curate a narrative art exhibit where all the pieces seem to tell a story that is left up to the viewer to consider." She goes on to note that this exhibition is a "great mix of local and other Bay Area artists from slightly further afield."

All seven of the artists exhibiting are tops in their chosen media, and represent the highest quality of their forms.

Santa Cruz printmaker Bridget Henry says of her current work that she is "interested in finding a balance between contrasting sentiment, and between seriousness and levity." She explores dreams, subconscious symbolism, archetypes and myth to "gain a deeper understanding of the human condition."

Also from Santa Cruz, and a sometime collabora-



tor of Henry, is Ann Amica Altstatt, a self-described "maker/finder of things." With training as a lithographer, geologist, and scientific illustrator, Altstatt says, "I think of the art I make as lying at the intersection of mysticism and scientific inquiry, exploring where they compliment and contradict."

A New York transplant now living in Pleasanton, respected local artist Sally Haig works in paint, mixed-media, collage, and sketch materials. Haig is also respected for her writings about art, both the process and execution of the work, as well as art critique and observations.

Lisa Rigge says that when she "made the decision to purchase my first camera, I did so with the commitment to stay with photography"... and that it has led to not only artistic but also personal growth over the years. She goes on: "I've learned that artists need to put their work into the world, separate emotionally from it, and finally, not believe everything everyone says about it... what truly matters is your vision and feeling for your work." Her works are exhibited in numerous public and private collections across the United States and abroad.

Fine art and editorial photographer Kristin Chapman of Livermore simply credits a grade school teacher with igniting her photography passion. "(She) taught us how to make a pinhole camera from a shoe box... photography has captured my interest ever since."

Surrealist painter William (Bill) Sala is considered by some to be one of the pre-eminent American artists working in the style. The Oakland native, currently residing in Castro Valley, has a "unique approach to the graphic use of color and thematic style unparalleled by other contemporary surrealist artists."

The 3-D component to the exhibition is presented by Redwood City artist Kit Davey, who specializes in book arts (creating pieces out of books), assemblage, and collage. "Using ephemera, family heirlooms, flea market finds, and found objects, (I) create art around a wish, a memory, a feeling, or a dream."

SPECIAL GALLERY EVENT

In conjunction with the exhibit, a "1000 Words Response Event" will be held Thursday, March 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m. After viewing the exhibit during the first two



Blame It on the Drifter (upper left) by Bridget Henry; Sky-Window by Kit Davey (top photo); and First Shift Wolf (lower photo) by Kristin Chapman are among the works.



weeks, visitors may select an artwork to respond to with music, poetry, drama, prose or improv. As the exhibition will feature artwork that "tells a story," this is an open invitation to interpret creatively and share. If interested, sign-up at the Gallery Desk. Questions, contact Julie Finegan at 925-931-4849 or jfinegan@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

The Harrington Gallery is located inside the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, Calif. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 12:00-5:00 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., and also one hour before most performances and during intermissions. Admission for this exhibit is free, and donations are gratefully accepted.

Art Exhibit and Reception at Cuda Ridge Wines

A solo exhibition exploring color and texture by Pleasanton artist Nicole Wakeman, will be on view at Cuda Ridge Winery through April 30, 2014. The public is invited to meet Nicole Wakeman during an artist's reception Sunday, March 9th, 1 to 4 pm. Refreshments and complementary tasting of two wines will be available. Cuda Ridge Wines, an award winning winery, is located at 2400 Arroyo Road in Livermore.

Wakeman is a contemporary abstract acrylic painter, who strives to create pieces that capture the viewer. The work in the show encompasses abstracted water and landscapes and non-objective mixed media studies, drawing viewers in for a good, long stay.

An award winning professional artist, Nicole shows throughout the East Bay. During the exhibition, there will be a number of events at the winery including Barrel Tasting Weekend on March 29th and 30th. Cuda Ridge produces small lot, handcrafted Bordeaux Style wines, and is located at their new tasting facility at 2400 Arroyo Road in Livermore. More information on winery events can be found at www.CudaRidgeWines.com

Exhibition and Tasting Room hours are 12:00 - 4:30, Fri-Sun; Iso available by appointment at 510.304.0914.

Land and Light Exhibit Opens at Wente Estate Vineyards



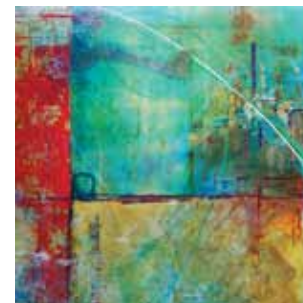
"Old Barn Spring", pastel

Linda Beach of Livermore will be featured as the artist for the month of March at Wente Vineyards Estate Tasting Room. A reception for the artist will be held Sunday, March 2, from 1pm to 3pm at the Wente Vineyards, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore.

The artist will be on hand to discuss her exhibit, "Land and Light," which showcases her most recent seasonal landscapes. Many of the works are the artist's interpretation in pastel of familiar scenes in the Livermore Valley and beyond. Views of the valley in spring are featured in this exhibit.

The award winning artist paints both on location referred to as "en plein air" and in the studio. She is a member of the Pastel Society of the West Coast, the Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod, the Alamo Danville Arts Society, the Pleasanton Art League and Livermore Art Association. Her work has been exhibited in group and juried shows in Northern California and at her alma mater, Wilson College, PA. Linda Beach was a former art teacher and continues to teach adult art classes at the Robert Livermore Community Center. An overview of her work can be seen on her website at www.lindabeachstudio.com

The art exhibit will be on display March 1 - 31 from 11:00 to 4:30 daily at the Wente Vineyards located at 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore.



CINDERELLA

(continued from front page)

tive, tenor Marco Stefani as Prince Ramiro, bass-baritone Bojan Knezevic as Don Magnifico, the stepfather, soprano Emma McNairy as Clorinda, the oldest stepdaughter. Additional artists are mezzo soprano Anna Yelizarova as Tisbe the youngest stepdaughter and bass-baritone Philip Skinner as Alidoro, a philosopher and the Prince's former tutor.

"Stage Director Bruce Donnell, a two-time Emmy Award winner with over 20 years as a director with the New York Metropolitan Opera, has very specific ideas for the production," adds Katsman. "Working with our cast of talented artists, this excellent director will give the audience a memorable experience."

Opera Week includes the following special events:

- Opening Night Gala at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard: Gala ticket includes wine donated by Livermore's own Cuda Ridge Wines, appetizers and dinner at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, followed by a dessert reception in the Bankhead Theater lobby. The welcome reception of wine and appetizers begins at 4:30 pm and seating at 5:00 pm at Uncle Yu's, conveniently located one-half block from the theater. Guests will have a chance to meet the Stage Director Bruce Donnell and Alexander Katsman, LVO's Artistic Director and Music Conductor. The opening night gala is underwritten by Charlene McKenney, Managing Director of Northwestern Mutual.

Gala Tickets are \$85, and are available through Bankhead Theater box office. Raffle tickets will be sold during the Gala for a chance to win lunch or dinner on a San Francisco

Hornblower Cruise and San Francisco Symphony tickets. Proceeds from the evening allow LVO to continue its mission of bringing quality opera to the Tri-Valley and beyond.

- Ice Cream & Opera: Sunday matinees of Livermore Valley Opera productions offer an extra tasty treat with ice cream for all at intermission. Ice cream for this event is generously donated by Safeway.

- Pre-opera talk; artist reception: Included in the ticket price are pre-opera talks providing insights to the featured opera, held one hour prior to curtain. LVO's traditional artist reception is held in the lobby immediately following each performance.

Tickets are adults, \$39-\$74; students 18 years and younger \$10 off on all days, all seating sections (student ID required). Opening night gala tickets are \$85.

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

Mezzo soprano Shirin Eskandani has been hailed by Opera Today for her "pleasing and pliant voice." This Iranian Canadian mezzo soprano is a recent recipient of awards from both the George London and Licia-Albanese Puccini Foundations.

Marco Stefani recently finished the 2012/2013 season debuting with the San Francisco Opera in the World Premier of Mark Adamo's *The Gospel of Mary Magdalene*. The Pleasanton, California native also debuted this past season with Townsend Opera as Don Ramiro in



La Cenerentola, and at the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro singing *Il conte di Libenskof* in performances of *Il viaggio a Reims*.

Knezevic has received critical acclaim for his many operatic portrayals in opera houses in America and in Europe. This past season Bojan sang a heralded *Wozzeck* ("The cast was top-notch, led by Bojan Knezevic in a knowing and musically focused performance in the title role" – San Francisco Chronicle) for San Francisco's Ensemble Parallele as well as *Salome* with the San Francisco Opera, where he returns next season for *Werther*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Madama Butterfly* and *Cyrano*

West Edge Opera's *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Emma

McNairy is enjoying a blossoming international career. As a 2013 Voice Fellow at Marilyn Horne's Music Academy of the West, McNairy was noted by the Santa Barbara News-Press for her "lithely gifted and luminous-toned soprano," in selections from Vaughan Williams' *Blake Songs* in the summer's Vocal Chamber Music Concert.

Katsman is the Artistic and Music Director for Livermore Valley Opera. An alumnus of the San Francisco Opera's Merola Opera Program, Mr. Katsman received his M.M. from St. Petersburg Rimsky-Korsakov State Conservatory and his B.M. cum laude from Musorgsky College of Music in St. Petersburg, Russia. Since his arrival in the United States, Alexander has been sought after as a conductor and collaborative pianist.

A stage director with over 20 years directing with the New York Metropolitan Opera, Bruce Donnell studied at Friedelind Wagner's Master Classes in Bayreuth in 1965 before joining the staff of the San Francisco Opera's Merola Program and spending a summer as an apprentice technician at the Santa Fe Opera.

Classical Clocks & Antiques
SERVICE • SALES • REPAIRS

Come see our large collection of new & used Grandfather clocks!
Largest selection of antique clocks in the Tri-Valley.

1082 East Stanley Blvd, Livermore
(925) 449-2127
Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10am-6pm

BANKHEAD THEATER
SEASON
13/14



SOLD OUT!
Grammy Award-Winning Songwriter
Richard Marx
thursday feb 27 at 7:30pm

A Celebration of
Pacific Chamber Symphony
sunday mar 2 at 2pm

Evoking the Essence of Early Music
Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra
wednesday mar 5 at 7:30pm



A Rollicking Tribute to Johnny Cash
Rusty Evns and Ring of Fire
saturday mar 8 at 8pm

Livermore Valley Opera
ROSSINI'S **Cinderella**
mar 15, 22 at 8pm
mar 16, 23 at 2pm

International Masters of the Sarod
Amjad Ali Khan and Sons
thursday mar 20 at 7:30pm



Brothers of Bluegrass
The Gibson Brothers
friday mar 21 at 8pm

Forward with Scotland's Past
Battlefield Band
thursday mar 27 at 7:30pm
SPONSORED BY Jean King

call 925.373.6800
click www.bankheadtheater.org
come by 2400 First Street / Livermore

BANKHEAD
THEATER

Pleasanton Museum Extends Holocaust Exhibit

Pleasanton's Museum on Main will extend exhibition "Multiply by Six Million: Portraits and Stories of Holocaust Survivors" through Sunday, March 2nd.

The exhibition showcasing portraits of Holocaust survivors living in California has drawn large audiences and thoughtful responses from the community. By featuring individual survivor portraits and stories, "Multiply By Six Million" offers viewers a personal perspective on the Holocaust. Organized and toured by Exhibit Envoy, the exhibition, featuring the works of photographer Evvy Eisen, will be on display at the museum through March 2.

"Due to the large audiences and responses of people visiting the exhibition, we have decided to extend the exhibition through an additional weekend," says Executive Director for the museum, Jim DeMersman. "Visitors have been telling us how grateful they are to have this moving and poignant exhibition brought to their community."

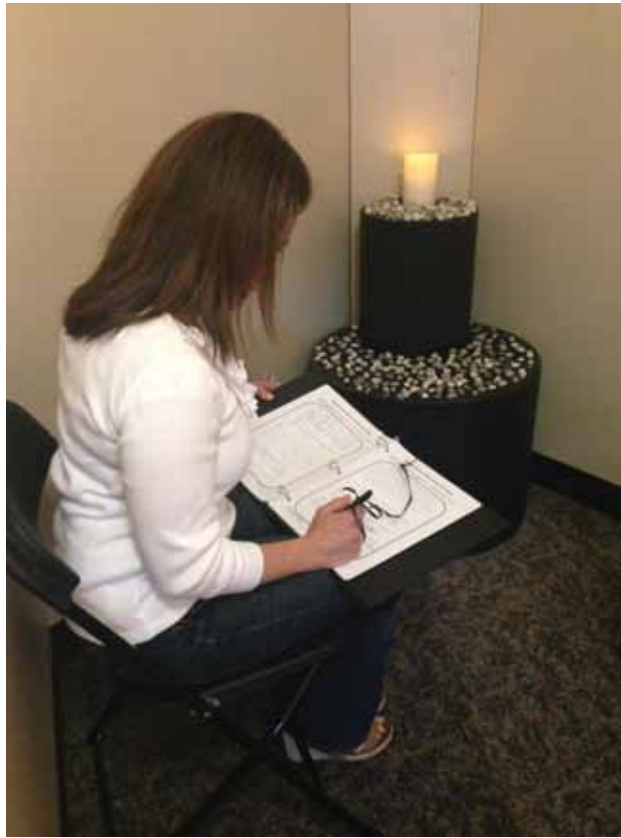
A comment book and small reflection space were added to the exhibition by the museum. DeMersman notes, "We wanted our visitors to have a place they could share their thoughts. We also have a growing collection of memorial stones in a small reflection space all placed by visitors in memory of the six million who perished in the Holocaust."

In the comment book, Meghan, a 17 year-old notes, "These stories are unbelievable. All the survivors were so strong and my heart goes out to them and their families."

A woman identifying herself as Mandi wrote, "Wonderful exhibit. Very touching stories of hope, faith, and survival."

An entry in Yiddish by a visitor named Daniel is translated to, "We will never forget."

The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street in historic downtown Pleasanton. It is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. For more information about current exhibits and programs, visit the Museum's web site at www.museumonmain.org or call (925)462-2776.



Museum visitor writes in comment book; Sixth grade students from Mary Geasa's class at Hart Middle School in Pleasanton take a school tour of the exhibition.



Stories in Art: 1000 Words Exhibit Young @ Art program: The youth art session for the new 1000 Words installation at the Firehouse Arts Center Harrington Gallery will take place on Thursday, March 20, from 4:45-5:45 p.m. Kids will take a tour of the "1,000 Words" exhibit in the Harrington Gallery, and spend some time imagining what the artists are trying to say. Then, they will create artwork that tells a story about themselves. Appropriate for ages 5 – 11. Instructors are professional artist and teacher Debbie Wardrope, and Harrington Gallery curator and director Julie Finegan. Sign up at <https://online.activecommunities.com/pleasanton>, class code 57095. Cost for residents is \$15, non-residents \$20. For more information contact the gallery at 925-931-4849, or jfinegan@cityofpleasantonca.gov

Period Instruments Bring Music from Baroque Era to Life

Named Musical America's "Ensemble of the Year" in 2004, the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra will make its debut in Livermore on Wed., March 5.

The Orchestra is known for its performances of Baroque, Classical and early-Romantic era music using original period instruments. Founded in 1981, the San Francisco-based group offers rich and historically-fascinating programs under the leadership of music director Nicholas McGegan.

Concertmaster Elizabeth Blumenstock leads Philharmonia in a program of virtuoso Baroque works by Central European compos-



Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra. Photo - Randi Beach

ers. "Music from the Heart of Europe" includes the works of Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg Phillip Telemann, and Georg Muffat.

"A Baroque orchestra is

made of instruments that are built as they were at the time the composers wrote for them, so we are hopefully somewhat close to recreating a sound world that didn't

exist for some 200 years," says Blumenstock, who describes Baroque orchestras as intimate, collegial and lots of fun. "Playing these instruments makes me feel closer to the composers I admire - Bach, Purcell, and Handel among others."

The Bankhead performance begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, priced from \$45 - \$65 and \$15 for students, can be purchased at the box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800. The theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore.

For more information about the orchestra, visit philharmonia.org.

Coin Club to Host 51st Annual Show and Sale in Livermore

The Livermore Valley Coin Club will hold its 51st annual coin show and sale on Sunday March 9, 2014, 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, and wooden "nickels" commemorating the event will be given away while supplies last. An hourly drawing will be held for U.S. silver dollars. 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 available.

For further information please call Stephen Kramer at (925) 980-9307.

March 9 & 13

International Film Series at the Vine Cinema & Ale House

1722 First Street, Livermore

For our schedule and tickets:
eastbayjewishfilm.org
or call 510.318.6484



Review: Rare Musical Magic

by Susan Steinberg

What a difference 50 years makes! In 1961 newly-arriving Livermorons found little entertainment available on weekends: a “shoot-’em-up” film at the single-screen Vine Theater or a real shooting scene at some downtown bar.

Now culture addicts have painful choices on some dates with more than one appealing concert. That was the case on a recent Saturday, when a celebrated string quartet at the Bankhead vied with a rare program by local

musicians at the Firehouse. This reviewer attended the Firehouse concert and enjoyed hearing world-class musical talent from our own Valley performers.

First on the program was the Cantabella Honors Choir, an elite group of young singers boasting an impressive list of honors and guest appearances with local arts organizations and prestigious international festivals. Under the direction of Eileen Chang, the ensemble has received awards from the Golden Gate International

Children’s Chorus and the World Choir Games, for which they commissioned intriguing new works.

Their selections amply illustrated the range of their talents, beginning with Felix Mendelssohn’s “Elijah Oratorio,” followed by a portion of Benjamin Britten’s setting of the

“Missa Brevis.” Clean attacks, soaring spiritual purity, impeccably enunciated Latin, and a resonant sonority thrilled the audience with a professionally-polished presentation.

From the sacred to the naturalistic, the group completely transformed its style for four haiku poems set to music by Paul Shin (known as Appogiatura). In the virtuoso style of the famous Chanticleer ensemble, they evoked the crystalline drops of dew on a foggy morning, or the delicate dance of a small leaf on a silky spider web. With intricate rhythms and vocal interplay, this set was an amazing tour de force for the singers, who presented it flawlessly.

Two commissioned works by Appogiatura could not have been more different, and each was stunning. A setting of Emily Dickenson’s famous poem “Hope” experimented with dynamics that challenged the director’s leadership and the choir’s precise responses to variation in volume and harmonies. Finally, “Bluesy” had the singers imitating the sounds of ’70’s blues and disco, with fearless soloists Celeste Tomaschke and Lena Costello creating the effects of electric guitar and organ. Grateful for program notes that illuminated the works, the audience was very receptive to the effect of Old World “mouth music” made modern. Enthusiastic

applause acknowledged the singers, their director, and prize-winning pianist and accompanist Ajung Won for her skillful partnering.

Following intermission, the stage piano gave way to the beautifully gold-festooned concert harp of Dominique Piana. As teacher, soloist, harp historian, and transcriber, she has been a force for beautiful music in the Valley since her arrival, when she founded the Pleasanton Chamber Players. On this occasion, she provided sensitive and sympathetic accompaniment to the art-song program of Greg Allen Friedman, an immensely gifted young singer who began his training as a student in Pleasanton.

Having completed Music Performance degrees at S.F. State and the Chicago College of Performing Arts, he is continuing coaching with several Master Teachers. Recently he performed the impressive achievement of transitioning from baritone to tenor, and the resultant range of his voice served his selections admirably. A full tour of art-songs encompassed works from many countries and centuries. The program notes beautifully expressed the nature of this genre: “Within the short duration of a song, a wondrous world of imagery is conjured from the pairing of the singer’s voice with the instrument, bringing forth an alternate reality, where acute perception and pure sentiment reign.”

Certainly the famous lieder of Franz Schubert perfectly illustrated this description, with settings of poems by Germany’s famous writers, including Goethe and Rückert. Friedman’s sincere, naturalistic singing style fit these verses perfectly. The seem-

ingly simple folk-song-like tale of a little red meadow rose carried the innocent lines to a mournful human conclusion, while “You Are the Calm” was exquisitely sung as a spiritual hymn to a love that represents both the pain of longing and the comforting peace of fulfillment. “To Sing on the Water” delineated the beautiful shimmer of sunset on the water, the rocking of a small boat gliding like a soul in the peace of twilight. Here Friedman showed his ability to evoke both the gentle rocking motions and the sibilant rustle of reeds and tree-branches. Truly a magical lyrical moment.

A number of Schumann’s lieder changed the mood of the concert. Also based on famous poems, these songs seemed chosen by the composer to represent his own deep feelings, from the mournful nostalgia of “In a Foreign Land” to the ecstatic “Dedication,” a passionate tribute to his adored wife Clara. Friedman’s delicately emotional rendition of both made more of an impact than some overly histrionic singers of more years and fame. Highest marks for good taste!

Proving that he also was adept at providing musical drama, Friedman then tackled several heroic poems by Lord Byron, and in the paean to a fallen hero, sang with an innate nobility and dedication that moved this listener to tears. This is obviously an artist who deeply feels the emotions behind each line, and communicates them clearly to his audience.

Later composers reflected fin-de-siècle romanticism and fashionable world-weary melancholy, describing the summer greenery withering

and birds fleeing from the oncoming winter. Notes of plangent sorrow infused the singer’s rendition of two songs by Alfred Holý, while in Richard Strauss’ “Morgen,” depicting the joy of reunited lovers, his tone was tender and caressing, reminiscent of the style of the late lamented Fritz Wunderlich.

Songs from French composers shifted into a lighter vein, with Friedman faithfully rendering their lyricism and even playfulness. Wonderfully precise translations enabled listeners to appreciate both the lush sounds and scents described, and Friedman’s soulful delivery, so different from the Germanic traditions.

Demonstrating his versatility, the tenor then turned to heartier and earthier Italian fare, with works by Tosti and Leoncavallo. Sung with a fuller voice and more physical animation, these pieces became a fitting final tribute to the emotions of love in more realistic settings, even to the idealized portrait of married love. The development of this special art form was effectively well-encompassed in the short half-program, leaving the audience clapping enthusiastically. (Many of the Honors Choir singers who paid rapt attention during the program, were among the most appreciative listeners; they obviously understood the talent and training behind the performance.)

Many attendees, including this reviewer, expressed the hope of hearing this promising young performer in other local venues in the near future. His mature stage presence, emotional sincerity, and sensitive interpretive skills already augur a fine career.

**SAME
—USF,
— JUST CLOSER.
— AND
— LESS FOG.**

CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE

Come learn more about our programs starting August 2014

School of Management

- BS in Management
- MS in Organizational Development

School of Nursing Health Professions

- Bachelor of Health Services
- ADN/BSN to MSN in Nursing (RN required)

Plus, **NEW** online degrees now available.

OPEN HOUSE

at the USF PLEASANTON CAMPUS
Tuesday, March 4, 5:30pm

Learn more or to RSVP call **925.867.2711**
visit www.usfca.edu/pleasanton
or email pleasantoncampus@usfca.edu



Pictured from left to right are the band members (front row) Mark Stoebe, Carl Keesling; (back row) Christ Wilson, Rich Stewart, Jay Cotton, and Colton Carpenter.

True North Project to Perform Concert in Livermore

The band True North Project was founded in 2007 by Livermore resident Mark Stoebe. The band plays original Christian rock music, praise and worship covers, and a handful of rock and roll classics.

The band will present a concert at Livermore's Trinity Church, 557 Olivina

Avenue, on Sunday, March 2 at 6:00 p.m.

True North Project is currently recording its third CD entitled "Best Gig in Town." Their first CD entitled "Empty Tomb" was released in 2008 and their second CD entitled "Miracle" was released in 2010.

Most of the original songs on these recordings were written by lead guitarist Mark Stoebe.

The line up for TNP is Chris Wilson on vocals, Carl Keesling on drums, Jay Cotton on bass, Rich Stewart on Guitar, Colton Carpenter on guitar and keyboard, and Mark Stoebe on Guitar.

Submissions Being Accepted Now for the LPC Literary Anthology

Writers, Poets, Artists, Photographers Welcome

Submissions for the Las Positas College (LPC) Literary Anthology are now being accepted for the 2014 edition. The LPC Anthology staff is asking for prose in the form of short stories, as well as poetry, artwork and photography.

To submit, please include name, the title of the work being submitting, contact information and any additional information necessary.

Anyone in the Bay Area can submit as long as the work submitted for consideration has not been previ-

ously published (self-publishing is allowed).

The students of English and MSCM 19A and 19B select and publish the top submissions to create a book. The LPC Anthology will be sold in the community and at the campus bookstore. A publication and awards ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 17, at 2 p.m. to celebrate and honor the contributors and sponsors.

Anyone who would like to sponsor the LPC Anthology, please contact Melissa Korber at mkorber@laspositascollege.edu. All sponsors

receive at least one free copy of the Literary Anthology and special recognition in the anthology itself for their contributions.

Sponsors of \$100 or more will receive priority seating at the awards presentation, as well as a logo and/or web address included in the anthology.

Deadline to submit entries is March 1 to LPCanthology@yahoo.com

Additional information about submissions or sponsorship can be found at <http://www.laspositascollege.edu/eng/anthology.php>

Daffodil Show Set at Alden Lane

The Northern California Daffodil Society will present its 45th Annual Show on March 1 and 2 at Alden Lane Nursery in Livermore.

Show entries will be accepted Friday evening and Saturday morning. Show hours are Saturday 1 to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 to 4 p.m.

There is no admission charge. The public is invited to attend. Alden Lane Nursery is located at 981 Alden Lane in Livermore.



PHILHARMONIA
BAROQUE ORCHESTRA



photo: Randi Beach

wednesday **March 5** at 7:30pm

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra is renowned worldwide for stellar performances of Baroque, Classical and early-Romantic era music using original period instruments. Widely admired for her compelling verve and dazzling performances on the Baroque violin, concertmaster **Elizabeth Blumenstock** leads Philharmonia in *Music from the Heart of Europe*, a program which includes the works of Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg Philipp Telemann, and Georg Muffat.

"Blending expert execution with an infectious joy."
—San Francisco Classical Voice

"Musical bliss."
—San Francisco Chronicle

call 925.373.6800 **click** www.bankheadtheater.org
come by 2400 First Street / Livermore

BANKHEAD
THEATER

ART & ENTERTAINMENT



"Not Guilty" by Livermore artist Sherri Kelcourse.

Christ Centered Art Asks Artists to Celebrate the Resurrection

Christ Centered Art of Livermore is asking Tri-Valley artists to create original works of art for the 6th annual Christ Centered Art Show to be held in Livermore on April 26 and 27.

This year's theme is "Celebrate the Resurrection" from the Gospel of Luke chapter 24. Artists are asked to read and meditate on this chapter in the Bible and then produce art that reflects the text. Information and entry forms are available online at www.trinitylivermore.org or by calling Merrill Smoak at (925) 447-1848.

Guest speakers for this year's event will include Marianne Lettieri, from Arts of the Covenant in Palo Alto and J. Scott McElroy, Founder and Director of The New Renaissance Arts Movement, www.theR.org.

Last year's Christ Centered Art Show involved 33 artists from Tri-Valley churches. Christ Centered Art is a ministry of Livermore's Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Avenue.

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

"Multiply by Six Million: Portraits and Stories of Holocaust Survivors," an exhibition showcasing photographer Evvy Eisen's 15-year-long project to create portraits of Holocaust survivors living in California and to collect their personal histories. Museum on Main, Jan. 8-Feb. 28. The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street in

historic downtown Pleasanton. Open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. For more information about current exhibits and programs, visit the Museum's web site at www.museumonmain.org or call (925)462-2776.

To the Point, an exhibition by local colored pencil artists, will explore the vibrant and versatile art created by artist Maryann Kot and her students. The show will be on view for the theater patrons from January 8th to March 5th, 2014. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankhead-theater.org.

New Show at the Livermore Art Association Gallery, Winter: Waiting for Spring" Artwork will be displayed to make the viewer feel warm and cozy, think about vacationing in the snow or traveling to warmer climates. Of Winter here in the area will be a major focus on the walls of the Gallery at the Carnegie Building, 2155 Third Street, Livermore.

All the Lovely People an exhibit of works by local painters Gina Kaiper, Jim Schnitter and Lily Xu, at the office of Prudential California Realty, 1983 Second Street, in downtown Livermore. The works, both realistic and abstract, depict people of all ages and descriptions playing, working, hiking, dreaming. Through March 22. The show is available for viewing during regular business hours or by appointment. For information, contact Cher Wollard at 925-824-4824.

Pleasanton Art League Spring Show, March 7-9, Alviso Adobe, 3465 Old Foothill Rd., Pleasanton. Reception and awards Sun., March 9, 12:30-2 p.m. www.pal-art.com.

1000 Words: Firehouse Arts Center Harrington Gallery exhibit. New installation with focus on storytelling. Variety of media, including printmaking, mixed media, collage, photography, painting, book art, and assemblage sculpture. 7 diverse artists in uniquely narrative installation. March 8 through April 19. Free reception with the artists Wednesday, March 12, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Special "1000 Words Response Event:" March 27 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Visitors are invited to view the installation during the first two weeks and select an artwork to respond to with music, poetry, drama, prose or improv. Interested participants sign up at Gallery Desk. The public is invited to attend and enjoy. Suggested donation for the performance session is \$7. For more info: 925-931-4849, or jfinegan@cityofpleasantonca.gov. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Donations always appreciated.

Call for art submissions: The Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton announces the call for submissions for the Fresh Works 4th Annual Open Juried Exhibit.

Open to Bay Area artists, all 2-D and 3-D media; no jewelry. Video art contingent upon space; artist provides equipment. All work must be original, completed in the last two years, and not previously exhibited in Pleasanton. Deadline for submitting entry form and fee is Wednesday, March 19, 5:00 p.m. Special guest juror: Carrie Lederer, www.carrielerer.com, Curator of Exhibitions and Programs at the Bedford Gallery at the Leshner Center in Walnut Creek. Exhibit runs May 3 through June 7, with opening Artists Reception and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, May 3, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center Harrington Gallery, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. For more info and entry forms: www.firehousearts.org, or contact Gallery Director Julie Finegan at 925-931-4849, or jfinegan@cityofpleasantonca.gov. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Call to artists, the Livermore Art Association is inviting area artists to participate in the 2014 Spring Show held at the Barn in Livermore on April 5th and 6th. All media accepted. \$1800 in awards given. Application cut-off date is March 3rd. For more information or application, email maryannkot@gmail.com.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Classes at the Figurehead Gallery: Figure Open Studio: Long Pose, on the Third Saturday of the month 3/15, 4/19, 5/17, 6/21 with Jacob Hankinson, Ozell Hudson, or Carolyn Lord. 9 am – 1 p.m. \$30. Please register at www.figureheadgallery.com/classes.html or call Ken Ball at 925-353-0419.

Acrylic painting class, taught by artist Linda Ryan. Fee \$100 includes materials. March 4 for four weeks, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore, 443-3388. Course is designed to give you a solid understanding of the medium. To sign up contact Way Up Art and Frame at 925-443-3388 or email frameit@wayupartandframe.com.

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

ACC / Art Critique & Coffee meetings now at New Leaf in Pleasanton's Vintage Shopping Center on Bernal & Vineyard. Brings together professional, local and emerging artists meetings each Friday at 10:30 a.m. to share latest work, fine tune each

piece with gentle critiques and share tips, techniques and opportunities. Join the mailing list and receive the latest news on when and where the next meeting will be held. PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

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

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

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the 2nd and last Saturday from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 2222 Second St., Suite 2, Livermore. Please confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$5 fee to cover meeting costs.

Watercolor Class, Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Taught by Dennis Collins, Thursdays, March 6-April 3, 9 a.m. to noon. \$100 fee for five sessions. To sign up please contact Way Up Art and Frame at 925-443-3388 or email frameit@wayupartandframe.com.

Intro to Collage and Mixed Media, Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Taught by Lea Decosta, Tuesdays, March 18-April 22, 9 a.m. to noon. \$100 for five sessions. To sign up please contact Way Up Art and Frame at 925-443-3388 or email frameit@wayupartandframe.com.

WINERY EVENTS

Wine Wednesdays, Livermore Valley wineries will be hosting "Wine Wednesdays" each Wednesday through October. One featured winery will be open from 5 to 8 p.m. to help guests "wine-down" from the work week or just grab a taste of wine before going out to dinner in the Tri-Valley. March 5 - Las Positas Vineyards; March 12 - Wente Vineyards (Arroyo Tasting Room); March 19 - Retzlaff Estate Winery; March 26 - Garré Vineyard & Winery. Check for the winery listings at www.lvwine.org.

Cedar Mountain Winery, wine tasting at Swirl on the Square, Thursdays, 5 to 10 p.m., 21 So. Livermore Ave., downtown Livermore. Offering flights, wine by the glass and wine

by the bottle to complement food and entertainment at Swirl. cedarmountainwinery.com, 373-6636.

The Winemaker's Pour House, Live music: Feb. 27, 6-9 p.m., Natalia Sings; March 1, 7-10 p.m., Tumbledown House. 2241 First St., Livermore. www.winemakerspour-house.com or 215-2656.

Cedar Mountain Winery will be pouring flights, wine by the glass and wine by the bottle at Swirl's "On the Side" this weekend, March 1st, noon to 8 p.m. and March 2nd, noon to 6 p.m. Swirl on the Square is located at the corner of Railroad Avenue and So. Livermore Ave. in downtown Livermore.

22nd Annual Chocolate and Cabernet Weekend, Fenestra Winery, on March 8 and 9, 2014, Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 5:00 pm. A variety of chocolate treats will be paired with the fine wines of Fenestra. Featured guest chefs from local Tri-Valley restaurants and caterers will be preparing the delectable dishes. \$15.00 event charge includes a buffet plate, logo wineglass, and decadent pairings. Event charge for wine club members, non-drinkers, and children is \$5.00. The winery is open for tasting and sales every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon to 5pm at 83 Vallecitos Rd., Livermore. For information, phone 925-447-5246 or email info@fenestrawinery.com

Barrel Tasting Weekend Sat., March 29 and Sun., March 30. noon and 4:30 p.m. Taste wines right out of the barrel, meet winemakers, and more. Each winery will host a unique experience during barrel tasting weekend including at least 1 barrel sample for each ticket holder. Tickets are \$40 advance/ \$45 day of the event. This is a fund-raiser for the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association. www.lvwine.org.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

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

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

Richard Marx, Grammy Award winning songwriter. Thurs., Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Under the Streetlamp, Feb. 28, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramonperformingarts.com or 973-3343.

52nd Annual Solo and Ensemble Music Festival, Sat., March 1, Mendenhall Middle School, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Command Performance, Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 So. Livermore Ave., 7:30 to 9 p.m. Hosted by the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District music program. Admission is free.

Pacific Chamber Symphony, A Celebration of PCS: Mozart - Concerto for Clarinet in A Major; Schubert - Symphony No. 5 in B Flat Major, 2 p.m. Sun., March 2. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, evoking the essence of Early Music. Wed., Mar. 5, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Las Positas College Faculty Showcase, 7 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 6. Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts, main stage. Free admission. 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006; information 424-1100.

Fred Hersch, jazz pianist. Fri., Mar. 7, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Rusty Evans and Ring of Fire, Johnny Cash tribute. Sat., Mar. 8, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Contra Costa Wind Symphony presents "Mountains and Canyons." The Grand Canyon, Mount Diablo, Machu Picchu and the Shenandoah River serve as the inspirational backdrop for Contra Costa Wind Symphony's upcoming Spring Concert, featuring the West Coast premiere of a new transcription of Ferde Grofé's "Grand Canyon Suite" by Randol Alan Bass, as well as a reprise of Steven Reineke's "Mount Diablo: A Symphonic Portrait." The concert will also feature Satoshi Yagisawa's "Machu Picchu: City in the Sky" and Bass's arrangement of "Shenandoah." Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek; Sunday, March 9, 2014, 7:30 p.m. Tickets 943-7469 or lesherartscenter.org.

Willy Roland is coming to Downtown Ollie's, March the 14th from 9pm to 1am. Evening of blues and rock. No cover. Willy has opened & toured with Johnny Winter. Downtown Ollie's is located 2128 Railroad Ave. Livermore.

Wake the Dead, blending Celtic music and music of the Grateful Dead. Fri., March 14, benefit for Las Positas College music department. 8 p.m. Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts, main stage. 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006; information 424-1100.

12th Annual Youth Music Festival, March 15, 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Cabaret, Faith Prince 'Have A Little Faith', March 16, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Amjad Ali Khan and Sons, Master of the Sarod. Thurs., Mar. 20, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

or 373-6800.

The Gibson Brothers, bluegrass. Fri., Mar. 21, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Freddy Cole, American jazz original. Wed., Mar. 26, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Battlefield Band, Scottish folk band. Thurs., Mar. 27, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Air Supply, March 28, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramonperformingarts.com or 973-3343.

Paula Cole, pop/rock, March 28, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Del Valle Concert Series, 8 p.m., March 29, Poulenc Trio: 10th season gala. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Pleasanton Community Concert Band, Spring Concert, March 30, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.pleasanton-band.org

Carmina Burana - Valley Concert Chorale, 3 p.m. Sun., March 30 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. The Chorale, in collaboration with Masterworks Chorale of San Mateo, also celebrating its 50th anniversary, presents Orff's masterpiece Carmina Burana. Tickets at the Bankhead box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or call 373-6800.

Tribute to Frank Sinatra and Harry James. Mon., Mar. 31, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

ON THE STAGE

Mercy Watson to the Rescue, Bay Area Children's Theatre, March 1 and 2 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramonperformingarts.com or 973-3343.

The Secret Garden. Presented by Civic Arts Stage Company in partnership with Bay Area Children's Theatre. The beloved childhood classic brought to life on stage as an enchanting musical production. Orphan Mary Lennox returns to England to live with her reclusive uncle and his invalid son Colin, where she discovers a magical secret garden in this compelling tale of forgiveness and renewal. On stage at the Firehouse Arts Center Friday, February 28 and March 7, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday March 1 and 8, 7:00 p.m.; and 2 p.m. matinees on Saturdays and Sundays March 1, 2, 8, 9. Tickets are \$12, \$15, \$18; Child or Senior: \$6, \$9, \$12. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Firehouse Arts Center

Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Outerbridge Clockwork Mysteries, master of illusions, Sat., Mar. 1, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, playing at the Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production. March 1-16. Tickets at www.danville.ca.gov

Sunol Repertory Theatre 2014 Production of "Hotel Escargot" Sunol March 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29. Admission \$15 reserved Seating. All Performances at 8 p.m. Sunol Glen School Theatre, 11601 Main St., Sunol. Proceeds benefit Sunol Glen School. Visit www.sunol.net for more information and on-line tickets sales Admission \$15 reserved seating. All sorts of inept characters, including a hotel owner and her staff, reporters, investors and thieves, a sleuth, movie directors and producers, and wannabe's descend upon Hotel Escargot creating chaos.

Asbury Players presents "Murder's Bad But Monday Can Kill You," a comedy by Pat Cook. March 15, 21 and 22, 8 p.m.; March 16, 2 p.m. Asbury UMC, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. Clueless Sam-Spade-wannabe Harry Monday gets totally committed to the case when he is unexpectedly called in to the Restful Glen Psychiatric Annex after a patient has been murdered. This show will keep you guessing until the last red herring is tossed out. Tickets \$10 general admission. Purchase tickets online at AsburyLivePresents.com or at the door. Doors open 20 minutes prior to show time. Free parking. Call 925-447-8699 for more information or use our online contact form to send us a note.

One Act Plays, Las Positas College Theater Department, March 19 at 1 p.m. and March 21 at 8 p.m. Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts, black box theater. 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Free admission. Tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006; information 424-1100.

Creatures of Impulse Presents teen improv troupe, Face Off, March 20-22, 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

MOVIES

Student Film Festival, Las Positas College, Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts, main stage, Sat., March 1, 1 to 9 p.m. 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006; information 424-1100.

Annual International Film Series, Sunday, March 9 and Thursday, March 13 at the Vine Cinema & Alehouse, 1772 1st Street in Livermore. March 9, 4:30 pm screening is a family-friendly film produced in Poland and Russia. March 13 at 7:30 pm is Fill the

Void, Israel's submission for "Best Foreign Film" at the 2013 Oscars. The Festival is presented by the Jewish Federation of the East Bay. It is sponsored by City National Bank, Auntie Anne's Pretzels, RINA Accountancy, Diablo Magazine, Destination Wealth Management, Congregation Beth Emek, Temple Beth Torah and Tri-Valley/Tri-Cities Midrasha. For the complete schedule or to purchase tickets: www.eastbayjewishfilm.org or call 510.318.6453.

Classic Films at the Pleasanton Library, 7 p.m. first Thursday of each month through June 5, 2014. Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Public Library present "Make 'em Laugh Series" Hosted by Candy Klaschus, film historian and Coordinator of the Humanities Program at Las Positas College. A brief talk about each film is presented prior to the screening. Refreshments are served. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 925-931-3405. Admission is free. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

CHORAL

Carmina Burana - Valley Concert Chorale, 3 p.m. Sun., March 30 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. The Chorale, in collaboration with Masterworks Chorale of San Mateo, also celebrating its 50th anniversary, presents Orff's masterpiece Carmina Burana. The Chorale's own concert pianist and accompanist Daniel Glover will perform Beethoven's Choral Fantasy with full orchestra. Tickets at the Bankhead box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or call 373-6800.

OPERA

La Cenerentola (Cinderella) by G. Rossini, Livermore Valley Opera production, March 15, 16, 22 and 23, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

MISCELLANEOUS

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

An Evening with Author Steve Minnear: Dublin & The Tri-Valley, The WWII Years, March 11th, 7 p.m. Museum on Main 2014 Ed Kinney Speakers Series, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 seniors, \$5 members, and \$3 students/teachers with ID. Tickets may be purchased at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766. Tickets at the event subject to availability.

Livermore Valley Coin Club 51st annual coin show and sale on Sunday March 9, 2014, from 10 a.m. to 5

p.m. 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, make appraisals and purchase coins from the public. Admission is free. Numismatic displays, information table. Lunch service will be available. For further information please call Stephen Kramer at (925) 980-9307.

St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl, Downtown Pleasanton merchants, restaurants and local breweries, Saturday, March 15 for the St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl, 5 to 8 p.m. Information, go to the Pleasanton Downtown Association website, www.pleasantondowntown.net/

31st Annual City of Dublin St. Patrick's Day Celebration, March 15 and 16, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza. Green and White Gala, Fri., March 14, 6 p.m.

Dublin Senior Center. Parade, March 15, 9:30 a.m. Amador Plaza - Dublin Blvd. - Village Pkwy - Amador Valley Blvd., sponsored by Dublin Lions Club. Pancake Breakfast, March 15, 7 a.m. Fire Station 16, 7494 Donahue Dr., Sponsored by Alameda County Firefighters - Local 55. Shamrock 5K fun walk and run. March 16, 8:30 a.m. race begins at Civic Plaza. www.ci.dublin.ca.us

Rivers and Glaciers of California, Tim Palmer, author, photographer presents the program on Sun., March 16, 2 p.m. Friends of the Library Authors and Arts Series program. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. www.livermorelibrary.net.

1,000 Words - a literary response, poet laureate San Kay Harrison will host an event related to the art exhibition at the Harrington Gallery, March 27, 6:30 p.m.

1st annual Livermore Half Marathon, Sat., March 29, start and finish in downtown Livermore. runlivermore.com.

Vendors sought: "Let's go fly a kite!" The San Ramon Art & Wind Festival is scheduled for Sunday and Monday, May 25-26, 2014 in San Ramon's Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd. from 10am to 5pm both days. The City of San Ramon is currently looking for vendors in the following categories: Non-profit Food and Beverage, Businesses, Children/Family Activity Vendors and Non-profit information vendors. Eligibility rules and application form at www.ArtaandWind.com. The deadline for food and beverage vendors is March 7, all other vendors is March 28. For more information, call Mary Ann Wilkman at (925) 973-3210 or visit our website at www.ArtaandWind.com

ALAMEDA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) has prepared an Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Stonybrook Creek Fish Passage Improvement Project, and is inviting your comments regarding the adequacy of the document. This proposed project consists of two culvert improvements that cross Stonybrook Creek along the County of Alameda maintained Palomares Road at Mile Posts (MP) 8.60 and 8.75. It has been determined that both culverts are barriers to all lifestages of anadromous fish, including federally listed Distinct Population Segment (DPS) Central Coast California steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

The primary concerns that led the sponsor, the Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD), to propose the Stonybrook Creek project are: a) presence of barriers to migration of anadromous Central Coast California steelhead and resident rainbow trout to identified spawning and rearing habitat in Stonybrook canyon and b) a concern for damage to public infrastructure and private property due to undersized crossings.

ACRCD is the lead agency under CEQA for the proposed project. ACRCD will be accepting comments on the Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration from Wednesday, February 5th through Friday, March 7th, 2014. Written comments may be submitted to: Haley Burgardt, Alameda County Resource Conservation District, 3585 Greenville Road Suite 2, Livermore, CA 94550.

The Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is available for review at the following locations:

- Online at: <http://www.acrcd.org/NewsEvents/ProjectNotices.aspx>
- ACRCD office, 3585 Greenville Road Suite 2, Livermore, CA 94550, from Wednesday, February 5th through Friday, March 7th, 2014, weekdays between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. (925) 371-0154
- City of Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566; (925) 931-3400
- City of Livermore Public Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550; (925) 373-5500
- City of Castro Valley Public Library, 3600 Norbridge Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546, (510) 667-7900

Milestones

Community

Gymboree Reopening in Pleasanton

Gymboree Play & Music recently announced the re-opening of the center in Pleasanton to show their new equipment to both current and future customers. To celebrate, Gymboree Play & Music of Pleasanton will be holding an open house for parents and children on March 14, 15 and 16 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

The new play equipment was custom-designed for young children by Play Architect Jay Beckwith in collaboration with Gymboree's early childhood play experts.

Classes have always been



designed to give the children an opportunity not only to learn, but to learn while having fun. The new equipment invites children to explore and discover new concepts, allowing the learning pro-

cess to become more organic for the teachers and families. The classes will still be age appropriate, giving children the opportunity to be challenged with attainable mental and physical goals.

Gymboree offers a range of classes for newborns all the way up to a pre-school program. These courses key in on physical and mental tasks for the children to learn, and for the parents to assist in the learning process. Gymboree Play & Music's School Skills is a preschool alternative and readiness program where the children are able to experience a classroom setting without their parents, while still discovering with their favorite Gymboree teachers.

Specialized programs such as Music and Art are also offered.

For more information on the advertising campaign, please contact owner Jigna Vyas at (925) 249-0006, or email her at plsca@gymboreeclasses.com.

Education

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District held its annual Spelling Bees on February 5 and February 12.

Fourth, fifth, and sixth grade spellers competed on Feb. 5, tackling such words as rhythm and spaghetti.

The winners were: first place: Ella King; second place: Stacy Robles; third place: Samuel Siegel; fourth place: Jessica Jaing.

The seventh and eighth grade competition was held on Feb. 12. These students spelled words such as plagiarize and chartreuse. After sixteen tense rounds, the winners were: first place: Miriam Brown; second place: Audrey Kane; third place: Meenakshi Singhal; fourth place: Sarah Morgan.

These seven students will advance to the Alameda County Competition on March 8 at Cull Canyon Middle School in Castro Valley.

Kyle Marchini, a senior Music major at Grove City College, has been named to the Dean's List with High Distinction for the fall 2013 semester. Kyle is a 2010 graduate. He was homeschooled. Kyle is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Marchini (Deborah) of Livermore. Students eligible for the Dean's List with High Distinction have a GPA of 3.85 to 4.0.

Joshua Brum of Livermore earned a Bachelor Of Science with a focus in Criminal Justice Management from Union Institute & University.

Union Institute & University is a non-profit, accredited, private university specializing in adult and distance education since 1964.

Credit Union Anniversary

In February of 1964, OE Federal Credit Union (OE Federal) opened its doors to its union brothers and sisters and their families to provide affordable financial services and exceptional personal service.

Since its humble beginnings 50 years ago, within the Operating Engineers Local #3 headquarters in San Francisco, OE Federal has grown into the largest union based credit union in the country with assets over \$844 million.

OE Federal's success is due in part to the contributions and commitments of so many – past and present Board of Directors, Management Teams and Employees. Most importantly, the credit union's success is because of its loyal and dedicated members.

To celebrate this milestone and show gratitude to its loyal membership, OE Federal will host Member Appreciation Days throughout 2014 at the credit union's twenty-two branch locations, in May, host an open house at its Livermore headquarters, and giveaway a grand prize of a 2014 Ford Mustang at the end of the year.

For more information about OE Federal Credit Union, please visit www.oefcu.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Ohlone Audubon will meet Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 7:30pm at Castro Valley Adult School 4430 Alma Ave., Castro Valley. Topic: Birds of Enchantment: Birding Puerto Rico and a Bit Beyond presented by Jaan Lepson, an Ohlone Audubon member with a PhD in Zoology. His presentation will concentrate on birding in different habitats of Puerto Rico, with a dash of the Lesser Antilles. No admission charge. Refreshments served. For more information and directions visit the website www.ohloneaudubon.org.

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will meet on Thursday, March 13, 7:00pm at Alisal School's multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Bill Mann, president of Star Roses, the rose company that exclusively distributes the Meiland roses will discuss the current catalogue of rose offerings. Final preparations will be made for the Spring Plant Sale to be held April 5th at Amador Valley High School parking lot from 9 to 1. Visitors are welcome. For more information call Bev at 925 485 7812 or visit www.lavgc.org.

The Alameda County Tri-Valley chapter of the National Organization for Women (ACTNOW) will meet on Monday, March 3 at 6pm at Round Table Pizza, 1024 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. March is "Women's History Month." The discussion topic will be on how to help women internationally through The Heifer International, The Fistula Foundation, and Micro loans. Topics from the book "Half the Sky" will also be discussed. ACTNOW covers the Tri-Cities and Tri-Valley areas. All are welcome to attend meetings.

Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, meets 7:30 p.m. March 11. Featured will be Tim Cox speaking on Hard Drive Organization: Making Use of Your Computer File Folders. He will show how to name files for easy identification and make it easy to find the items you have saved. Tim Cox has been a family historian and genealogist for more than 20 years. He is the past Education and Events Coordinator for the California Genealogical Society and Library. L-AGS meets at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct. Pleasanton. Visitors are always welcome. Contact for more information program@L-AGS.org.

Local Scholarships Available, Amador Valley Scholarships, Inc. awards scholarships each year to graduating seniors from Village, Foothill and Amador High Schools. The guidelines and application can be downloaded at www.amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org. Completed applications will be picked up from each school office on Friday, March 21.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., March 1, 55 - 60 miles, conditioning ride for Cinderella Classic, meet 9 a.m. at Draeger's Market in Blackhawk Plaza, Rebecca Wood, rcwood1@sbcglobal.net. Sun., March 2, 40 miles, San Ramon's Central Park to Livermore and back, meet 9:30 a.m., Gail Blanco and Alberto Lanzas, 872-1001. Club meeting Wed., March 5, 7 p.m. Round Table Pizza, Dublin, 6:30 p.m. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Antigone - Greek Tragedy, Tri-Valley Classical Christian Academy (TVCCA) announces its performance of Antigone Feb. 27th and 28th at 7 p.m. at Our Savior Ministries Sanctuary, 1389 S. Livermore Rd.,

Livermore. 4th - 8th grade actors will present this classic tragedy of conflict between man's law and god's law. Entrance is free to the public. There will be a reception following the Friday evening performance where school board members and staff will be available to any families desiring to know more about Livermore's only classical education program.

Crab Feed, April 25, 2014, 5:30 - 10:00pm, Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue. The Livermore High School Alumni Assoc. (a non-profit fundraising supporter for LHS) is working with the LHS Band in this 2nd Annual Crab Feed to raise monies for new Marching Band Shoes. There will be plenty of crab, pasta & salad for guest along with live & silent auction items. Lots of wine, travel & gift items you don't want to miss. Contact the LHSAA lhsalumniassoc@gmail.com or LHS Band <http://livermoremusic.org/index.html>. Reservations may also be made at <http://mkt.com/lhsaa>.

Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW presents: Is Climate Change Gobbling Up Our Food Supply? Meeting 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sat., March 8 at Crow Canyon Country Club, 711 Silver Lake Dr., Danville. Speaker, Fran Moore is a fourth year PhD graduate student at Stanford University. Her presentation will place climate change in the context of other on-going changes in the world food economy such as population growth, economic growth, and biofuels. Also, Fran will tell us about her research and how it relates to the global food economy. Can reserve at <http://daw-ca.aauw.net/> climate or send \$26.00 check (Please note if you prefer the vegetarian option) made to Danville Alamo WC AAUW by March 1, 2014. Mail your check to Danville Alamo WC AAUW, P O Box 996, Alamo CA 94507.

Livermore Library Board of Trustees, meets 7 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 27 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Avenue. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Jewelry Donations Needed. The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in Pleasanton is requesting donations of women's accessories, costume or precious jewelry for its annual jewelry event "Glitz and Glamour" on April 25-27, 2014. Please take a moment to peek in your jewelry box and closet and donate some of your bangles, beads, purses, scarves and shoes. Help make a difference in the fight against cancer. Donations are accepted at the shop during open hours: Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 10-5; Sun 12-5. The Discovery Shop is located at 1989-E Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Contact Sue Duke at 925-462-7374 for more information. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society's programs of research, education, service and advocacy.

Tea Dance featuring The Mellotones Combo Jazz Band, presented by VFW Post 6298, 1 to 3:15 p.m. on March 19, April 16 and May 23. Veterans Hall, 301 Main St., Pleasanton. Music from the American songbook played for listening and dancing for a variety of ballroom experiences. Admission \$10. Food and drink will be provided. Proceeds benefit needy veterans and their families. Information joephylb@att.net or 443-2224; boboliness2@gmail.com or 443-2245.

Quarry Lane School open house on Sunday, March 2. For Jr.K-12: 1 - 4 p.m. at the Dublin campus. For preschool: 3 - 5 p.m. at the preschool campuses in Pleasanton. For additional details, visit www.quarrylane.org/rsvp or call 925.829.8000.

Benefits For Fallen Heroes (BFF Heroes), Benefit Poker Tournament to assist the family of Paul Chenkovich, a retired Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Captain

Military

Air Force Airman Victor Simon graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Simon is the son of Deborah Ritchey of Livermore and Eric Simon of Aptos. He is a 2013 graduate of Del Valle Continuation High School, Livermore.



BULLETIN BOARD

who passed away after a three year battle with occupational brain cancer. Saturday, March 29 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Livermore Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore. Entry donation of \$100 includes \$100 worth of coupons to local merchants in addition to gaining eligibility for the tournament's grand prize of a week-long Hawaiian vacation for four, plus \$500 in gift cards from local merchants. Prizes will be awarded for five player teams. The poker tournament is limited to the first 50 players. Online preregistration is required. For more information, visit www.bffheroes.com, or email info@bffheroes.com.

19th annual Mad Hatter's Tea Party, hosted by Assistance League® of Amador Valley, April 5 from 12-4 at the Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. The event includes tea tables decorated by the members, food, raffle prizes, lucky tea cups, a hat contest and silent auction. The program will feature The Swingin' Blue Stars of the USS Hornet. The tickets are \$50 and must be reserved by March 24. For more information, call Carmen at (925) 216-4203, or go to www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org. This chapter of a national philanthropic organization has many programs that benefit residents of all ages in the Tri-Valley, and the proceeds from the event will provide school clothes and shoes to children in need.

Beginner internet and e-mail classes, Free classes for absolute beginners who have never clicked a mouse, used e-mail, or surfed the net. Learn the basics in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Pleasanton Library, Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Four one-hour classes in each series. Registration is required, as space is limited. Ask at the Reference Desk or call 925-931-3400, extension 4. Library programs are free and open to everyone. An ongoing program. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 ext. 4 for information. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

Birthright of Livermore needs volunteers: Office is open M-Tu-W-F, 10 am-2 pm and Th. eve. 6-9 pm. To discuss a variety of volunteer opportunities please call John M. Kupski evenings at 606-8230 (or Thursday evenings 6-9 pm at Birthright office 449-5887). Birthright offers free pregnancy tests, guidance, adoption and medical referrals, baby and maternity clothing, and more. Those in need of services, please visit the Livermore office at 1520 Catalina Ct., or call (925) 449-5887 during business hours. The 1-800-550-4900 Hotline number is staffed 24 hours a day. Please see our website at www.birthright.org for more information. All Birthright services are free and confidential.

Pain Support Group, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Asbury Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. Questions, call the church at 447-1950.

Bereaved Mothers' Network of the Tri-Valley, offering support, understanding and compassion to mothers who have suffered the loss (past or present) of a precious child. Safe, confidential, non-judgmental environment. Monthly meeting held at 7 PM on the first Tuesday of the month. Livermore Civic Center Library in Community Room "B." Small voluntary donations to help with meeting and outreach costs are appreciated. For further information reach Katie Strube at katiestrube@comcast.net.

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

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), self-help weight loss support group meets in Livermore on Mondays, 6-6:30 p.m., Weigh-in (private); meeting 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Information, contact Phyllis at 443-5943.

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

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

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, please contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-484-1273 for additional information.

Operation: S.A.M. "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued support of deployed troops. Preparation of comfort packages takes place every other week - all year long. Providing morale support for those deployed. All information provided is confidential and is not shared for security purposes. To submit a name and address, inquire about donations or helping, please visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net or call 925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

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

Livermore Military Families, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. All family members are welcome to attend meetings. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the

Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information please call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com.

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel, 10:30 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program. For more information www.fpcl.us or 925-447-2078.

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

Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747 or www.uuclil.org

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Reform, Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Calvary Chapel Livermore, meetings Saturdays at 6 p.m. 5860 Las Positas Road, Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - www.calvalrylivermore.org.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church, 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

United Christian Church, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley, 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worships on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820 for more information.

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

or/ All are welcome.

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. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

Trinity, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday school or Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday nights there is adult Bible study at 6:45 and NRG and Re.Gen for youth, and children's choir for kids. Child care during all events. 447-1848, www.trinitylivermore.org.

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

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

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

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. Sunday Services: Contemplative Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:20 a.m. Choral Eucharist with choir 10:30 a.m.; child care for children under 5 available at 10:30 service.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ at 4481 East Avenue, Livermore, worship service 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Sundays, all are welcome. 925-447-4333 (a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

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

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

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. worship service. Bible Study/Sunday School 10:20. Bible Basics Class, which explores the main teachings of the Bible, meets at 7:00 Sunday night. Call 371-6200 or email pmjrmuel-ler@gmail.com for more info.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, 4481 East Avenue, Livermore; 447-433.3 www.trivalleychurch.org. Update on classes for The Story 9 to 10:00 a.m.. Worship Service 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

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

Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services: 9 a.m. blended with choir and band. Childcare offered for infants through age 6 and children start in the worship service. 10:40 a.m. contemporary worship led by a band. Sunday school for children and middle-schoolers. www.centerpointechurch.org 925-846-4436.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Philosophers' Café/Culture Chat, an informal gathering to discuss ideas, 10:45 a.m. at Café Rumi, 4799 Heyer Ave., Castro Valley. The topic is "Can Judaism survive without a strong Orthodox community?" Philosophers' Café/Culture Chat is an activity of the Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, a Secular Humanistic Jewish community, but is open to the entire community. (Non-members are asked to donate \$5 per session.) Further sessions are scheduled for March 2, and April 13 with topics to be announced. For information, please contact (925) 240-5612.

Lynnwood United Methodist, Worship services are 9:00 and 10:30 am with childcare at both times and Sunday school at 10:30 am. 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer, pastor. 925 846-0221, www.lynnwood.org.

Grief Journey, Grieving people need time

and space to honor their grief. Each person's grief journey has its own path and its own time. Although there is no right or wrong path, there are stepping stones that are part of each grief journey and will be explored in this eight-week series of workshops at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. March 13th. through May 8th. For further information please call Mary Hagerly at 925-846-5377

Movie Night, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews' occasional movie night series continues on Saturday, March 8 in Castro Valley with "When Do We Eat?" a 2005 comedy in which an old-fashioned Jewish father vows to bring his stubborn family together after being slipped a dose of ecstasy during the annual Passover celebration. There will be a separate movie for kids. The 4 p.m. movie will be followed by a potluck dinner, so bring a dish to share. A \$5 donation is requested from non-member adults. Please call 510 888 1404 for directions and more information. Tri-Valley Cultural Jews is a Secular Humanistic Jewish community serving non-religious Jews in the Greater East Bay and is affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews will be holding a secular Purim celebration on Sunday, March 16 from 10:30 - 12:30 at the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore. We will make hamantaschen, have crafts, games, and fun for all ages, and present our annual Purim skit. Attendees are welcome to come dressed as their favorite Purim character. This event is free for TVCI members, and costs \$10 for non-members (which can be applied to a membership if someone wishes to join). The Bothwell Arts center is located at 2466 8th St. in Livermore.

Unity of Tri-Valley - Sunday sermon theme for the upcoming weeks based on the book The Untethered Soul by Michael Singer. March 2 title: "Access Unlimited Energy." All are welcome. Rev. Karen Epps. Ongoing small groups, classes, and children's church. 9875 Dublin Canyon Rd., 2 miles west of Stoneridge Dr. 925.829.2733. www.trivalleyunity.com

Community HU Chant is the theme of a non-denominational prayer activity Saturday March 1st at 1:00 PM. The Community HU Chant is held once a month each 1st Saturday at The Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue, Pleasanton. For More Information contact <http://eck-ca.org/> by computer



Tri-Valley Conservancy

Donate your old car, truck, RV or Boat. It's fast, easy & you get a tax deduction!

 +
  =
 

Call 1-888-686-4483

or visit www.trivalleyconservancy.org

Donations help preserve land for future generations.

Trivalleyconservancy.org | 925.449.8706

Milestones Community

Pleasanton Police Department Honors Officer and Staff Member

The Pleasanton Police Department announced the 2013 "Officer of the Year" and "Professional Staff Employee of the Year," as part of its longstanding annual recognition program for superior performance.

Employees throughout the organization nominate their peers based on their contributions, which are then reviewed by a committee, with a final selection made by the Police Chief. This year the members of the Pleasanton Police Department have honored Detective Matthew Lengel with the distinction of Pleasanton Police Officer of the Year and Community Service Officer Shannon Revel-Whitaker as Pleasanton Police Professional Staff Member of the Year.

According to the Police Department, over the past year, Detective Lengel has demonstrated the qualities that make him one of the most valuable members of this police department. His attention to detail and his unmatched work ethic have benefited not only the Criminal Investigations Unit but the department and City as a whole. Detective Lengel is currently the most experienced and senior member of the unit and this experience brings a level of professionalism and credibility that has enabled him to be very successful in his duties as a detective. "He is highly intelligent, possesses an impeccable work ethic, and has an inquisitive mind; these traits coupled with his experience make him an



excellent investigator."

During 2013, Detective Lengel has been the lead investigator or involved with every major investigation the department has faced. He has not only worked at the highest level as a detec-



Matthew Lengel (left) and Shannon Revel-Whitaker were honored.

tive, but has contributed to the department by participating as an instructor / facilitator in Citizens Academy, Teen Academy and various other community outreach programs. He has always answered the call when he is needed and continues to contribute to the mission of the department and Chief Spiller's vision.

CSO Revel-Whitaker has served the organization as the Crime Prevention Community Service Officer since

January 2007. "Her ongoing and outstanding commitment to the community was demonstrated with exceptional distinction in 2013," according to the department.

"She is recognized as one of the great resources in our organization with extensive knowledge and expertise that serve as a platform where evolution and transformation takes hold. She is driven to find the formula for engaging with the community in new and innovative ways." CSO Revel-Whitaker has devoted much of her time in 2013 to advancing the police department's community outreach efforts through social media. Her creativity and willingness to take risks has resulted in a Facebook and Nixle following of over four thousand people. Leaders in the Bay Area Law Enforcement Social Media Group have complimented our organization's professionalism and this is attributed to her efforts.

The department notes, "Possessing a remarkable ability to connect with people, CSO Revel-Whitaker values the power of relationships. She is a standard bearer of integrity and character, earning her the respect of her peers and supervisors. Fostering relationships with members of the organization has resulted in a more enthusiastic participation of our crime prevention programs where partnership and teamwork thrive." She was instrumental in executing several very impactful programs including National Night Out, Teen Academy, Citizen's Academy, Crime-Free, Social Media, Nixle, Neighborhood Watch, web-casting and a multitude of community events seamlessly and with little assistance.

"CSO Revel-Whitaker has long exemplified a high level of commitment and customer service and it is for these reasons she has been named 2013 Professional Staff Member of the Year."

Chavez New President of Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union

As of March 1, 2014, Robert Chavez (pictured) will take on the job as the new President/CEO of Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union, replacing Christopher T. Jillson, who retired effective February 28, 2014.

Chavez has overseen the Credit Union's operations since 2000 and has served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer since 2002. He holds a BBA degree from New Mexico State University and an MBA from the University of New Mexico, and has over 27 years of experience in financial institutions. He is active in the community, having served on the Board of Trustees for the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History and as a member of the Sandia Science & Technology Park Advisory



Council. Chavez is a graduate of both the Leadership Albuquerque (1995) and Leadership New Mexico (2008) programs.

Within the credit union industry, Chavez served on the Board of Directors for the Credit Union Association of New Mexico

(CUANM), actively volunteered on the Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) for CUANM, and currently serves on a Regional Advisory Committee for the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). In 2012, Chavez completed a two-year assignment on the Filene Institute's credit union think-tank, i3, during which he worked to identify and evaluate innovative concepts to bring to the credit union market space.

In making the announcement, Board Chair Joseph Fink said, "Robert Chavez has proven himself to be a capable and intelligent leader, overseeing most areas of the Credit Union for the past 14 years. We're confident that he has the experience and vision to guide SLFCU into the future."

Dublin Selects Citizen, Young Citizen and Organization of the Year

The City of Dublin has selected the 2013 Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, and Organization of the Year.

They are Citizen, Jacob Collins; Young Citizen, Caroline Nolan; and Organization, The Rotary Club of Dublin.

The winners were announced at an evening ceremony on Wednesday, February 19, at the Shannon Community Center. The purpose of these awards is to recognize outstanding individuals and groups who have contributed to the quality of life in Dublin this past year. Nomination criteria for both the Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Awards are based on the Dublin Pride – Integrity in Action Program's 10 Characteristics: Responsibility, Respectfulness, Caring, Giving, Positive Attitude, Trustworthiness, Cooperation, Doing One's Best, Honesty, and Self-Discipline. The Young Citizen of the Year recognizes the volunteer service of Dublin's youth in 1st – 12th grade.

Award recipients will be recognized at an upcoming City Council meeting. The Organization of the Year will receive a \$500 cash prize, and a \$300 donation will be given to each of the Citizen and Youth Citizen of the Year's favorite non-profit organization.

Information on each of the award recipients can be found on the City's website – www.dublin.ca.gov.