

Art, Community, & Education

Livermore Valley Opera's 'Tosca' Opens Saturday; Cantabella Children's Chorus Members to Perform



Find Out What's Happening

Check out the second section

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

Dublin Plans St. Patrick's Festivities

Dublin's annual St. Patrick's celebration will be held the weekend of Saturday, March 17, St. Patrick's Day and on Sunday, March 18.

Weekend festivities begin with the Annual Firefighter's Pancake Breakfast at Fire Station #16 (located on Donohue Drive and Amador Valley Blvd) at 7:00am on Saturday morning. Green pancakes will be featured. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5 each.

Next head over to Amador Valley Blvd or Village Parkway and find a good seat for the 29th Annual Dublin Lions Club Parade. Bring chairs or take advantage of the bleacher seating available on Amador Valley Blvd near Oil Changers. Over 80 entries including equestrian riders, clowns, marching bands, bagpipes, and more will step-off promptly at 9:30am.

During the parade, Mayor Tim Sbranti and City Councilmembers will be riding in a star-spangled float, representing Dublin's "All-America City" status. There will also be a special "30th Year" float, on which some dignitaries who've represented Dublin very well over the course of the last thirty years will ride.

The St. Patrick's Day Festival will be held on Saturday/Sunday, March 17th & 18th from 10am to 5pm at the Dublin Civic Center. There will be plenty of things to do with up to 200 craft and commercial vendors, an Irish Tea Cottage, an international food court, 3 stages featuring authentic Irish entertainment, and exciting carnival rides and attractions:

The Arts & Crafts area will include an Ireland section where festival visitors can browse booths of Celtic clothing, handmade Celtic jewelry, and historic Irish books.

The International Food Court will serve up various cuisines. The Irish menu will feature bangers and mash, boxty, and corned beef sliders. Other non-Irish items include lumpia, jambalaya, and gyros.

The entertainment at the festival will feature everything from traditional Irish music to Celtic Rock. Tempest, a high-energy Celtic Rock band will headline the Main Stage, with performances on Saturday and Sunday. The Food Court Stage lineup is scheduled to showcase some of the Bay Area's own Celtic artists. On the Dance Stage, McGrath School of Dance will perform non-stop Irish dance for the entire weekend.

Irish Tea Cottage will feature a Celtic Harpist, Irish arts and crafts, knitting and of course, tea and scones.

There is no charge for admission to the festival. Parking is free.

On Sunday morning, the Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk will take place. This is a certified 3.1 mile course with great prizes and pre and post-race activities located right at the festival. The annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk will take place on Sunday, March 18 at 8:30am. Register at www.active.com by March 13.

For more information visit www.DublinStPats.com or call (925) 556-4500.

Pleasanton School District to Send Early Layoff Notices Cutting 75 Positions

The Pleasanton Unified School District will be cutting 75 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions according to a current plan. Teachers and classified persons serving in those jobs will be notified by March 15 concerning potential layoffs for the coming school year.

Some of the positions are shared-time, so the exact number of employees who will be

affected is not yet known. The human relations department will review seniority lists and other factors used in determining who will receive the notices.

The 75 FTE's will represent a savings of \$5.5 million, which the district must cut now in order to send layoff notices to teachers by the March 15 deadline. At subsequent meetings, the board will work on restoring as many

cuts as possible, through employee concessions, parent and community donations, and any positive budget news in mid-May from Gov. Jerry Brown.

The school board made the reduction of 21.7 of those FTE's at its meeting Feb. 28 on a 3-2 vote.

The other 53.5 FTE's cut by the district were on a list of positions that had been restored

from cuts last spring. Although those positions are functioning now, they automatically lapse back into non-existence, unless the board is able to bring them back.

Trustees Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke voted "no" on the motion to make the cuts. They agreed with all the cuts, except for the elimination of the Barton Reading Program (BRP), which

was one of the programs brought back for the current year.

Other trustees said that BRP can be restored later this spring, but Hintzke said there is no certainty of it. It is better to take it out of the cuts column now, to ensure its preservation, she said.

Arkin made an earlier motion, which was defeated 3-2, to keep BRP off of the list of cuts.

(See SCHOOL, page 5)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Saturday, March 3 was opening day for the Livermore Girls Softball Association. Wendy Vasquez, a parent of two of the league's players was selected as a winner in the Chevrolet Diamonds and Dreams contest. It included a field make-over. The field was dedicated as part of opening day ceremonies at Joe Michell School. Pictured is Oakland A's mascot Stomper greeting players. For more information, see sports notes, page 6-7.

McNerney, Garamendi, Stark Blast Water Bill Passage

Local congressional members responded to passage of House of Representative (HR) 1837 with sharp criticism, saying that it will spell economic and environmental disaster for the Delta and the Central Valley.

Although HR 1837 did pass the House on a mostly partisan vote of 246-175, predictions for it are a death in the Senate, where the Democratic majority is expected to aid California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer in defeating it.

In another Delta development, the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) released the routes of three alternate plans that could carry water from northern California water sources through a bypass at the Delta.

Zone 7 Water Agency, the valley's water wholesaler, has been following HR 1837. The agency played a strong role in helping to shape the BDCP plan.

Zone 7 is a state water contractor, and pays for the State Water Project for water. However, Zone 7 also wants to be aware of legislation that affects the other major water project, the federal Central Valley Water Project, which is the target of HR 1837.

On the House floor, Congressmen Jerry McNerney, Pete Stark, and John Garamendi voted against it. They tried to rally others to vote against it. McNerney

(See WATER, page 4)

Legislation Would Provide Tax Incentives for Easements

Legislation that provides considerable tax incentives to landowners who donate a conservation easement on their land, has been introduced in Congress with bipartisan support. The bill, H.R. 1964, has reached 300 co-sponsors and has signatures of co-

sponsors from both Democratic and Republican majorities.

The bill puts in place a more permanent version of a recently expired tax incentive that grants landowners tax relief for protecting their property by donating a conservation easement.

"It is encouraging to see political parties come together in effort to preserve agriculture land and open spaces," said California Rangeland Trust Chief Executive Officer Nita Vail. "Having the support from both sides of the Congressional aisle hits home the

importance of what land trusts do to protect our natural resources and open spaces."

Through voluntary conservation easements, Rangeland Trust works with ranchers to relieve pressures of development and

(See INCENTIVES, page 4)

Livermore Branch Of Curtis Keeps Electric Vehicles Running Smoothly

By Jeff Garberson

A Livermore company that specializes in electric motor controls is among world leaders in providing the technology that allows golf carts, wheelchairs,

forklifts and other electrically powered vehicles to accelerate and decelerate smoothly.

The company is a division of Curtis Instruments, a family-owned, New York-based com-

pany with about 1,000 employees worldwide and 2011 revenues of \$150 million.

The Livermore division employs 68 people. Its influence on the corporation is greater than

its size suggests. The PMC Controller product line developed in Livermore accounts for roughly half of Curtis's revenues.

Accelerating and decelerating electric vehicles may be taken

for granted. However, the technology is sophisticated and has evolved greatly in the company's 27 years of existence, according to Stephen Post, a Curtis vice

(See CURTIS, page 5)

Speaker Says Health System Is 'Broken'

By Carol Graham

Described as a hodge-podge of business arrangements, labyrinthine and irrational, an embarrassment, unsustainable and unethical, California's health-care system took center stage at a Livermore-Amador Valley League of Women Voters' forum on February 29.

"I'm here to tell you it's not really that bad," said family-practice doctor Randolph Clarke. "It's way worse."

With the explosion of corporate-run medical care and insurance, Dr. Clarke noted, "If you punch someone with a needle,

you get money. If you take the time to talk to someone, you don't. The system is broken."

About 50 people attended the forum.

The message, delivered by doctors, legal experts and medical care specialists, was clear: By inserting a third party (for-profit businesses) into the patient-doctor relationship, costs for medical care have mushroomed out of control. Even for those with medical insurance, treatment can result in astronomical expenses or, worse, bankruptcy.

"I'm a little offended," said

(See SYSTEM, page 9)

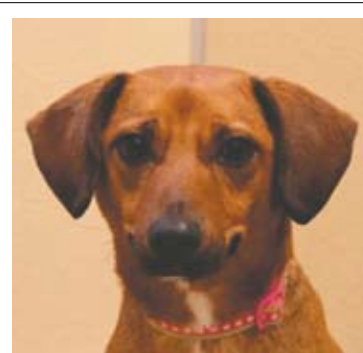


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Clouds add to the color of the scenery in North Livermore.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Hi, my name is Brownie. I'm about 2 years old and a Dachshund/Labrador mix. I may be a little bit shy when I first meet you, but give me some time and I will warm up to you. I love to snuggle, and especially have my belly and sides scratched. I respond to my name, and I am eager to please you. Please come and give me my forever home, I will be a true and loyal companion. Interested in learning more? Call 925-426-8656 or go online to www.valleyhumane.org or www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety to see other adoptable dogs and cats waiting for you. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Photo - Regina Gielier

PROTOSTARS PHOTOGRAPHED IN ORION

NASA reported that it is analyzing a series of infrared photographs of stars being formed from the dust clouds in the Orion nebula, with different wavelengths representing the heating and cooling processes that occur in turbulent regions where new stars sometimes form.

The photos were taken with two orbiting telescopes, NASA's own Spitzer and the European Space Agency's Herschel. Both detect infrared, or heat, radiation, Herschel at longer wavelengths (cooler temperatures) than Spitzer. Output of the two telescopes is shared and more informative than either alone.

Both telescopes were built to operate at near-absolute-zero temperatures to minimize interference from their own infrared radiation, so they require supplies of liquid helium to keep temperatures low. Herschel, launched in 2009, is expected to run out of its coolant in the coming year and no longer be operational. Spitzer, launched in 2003, lost the last of its liquid helium in 2009. Most of its instruments then lost capability. However, two camera modules were designed to keep operating at higher temperatures and have done so.

The region of Orion under study is about 1,350 light years away. Herschel took its pictures a year ago, once a week for six weeks in late winter and early spring. The photographs show very young stars as well as gas clouds that may eventually condense into stars. According to NASA, the brightness of some of the young stars has varied by more than 20 percent in just a few weeks, suggesting that what is being observed is gas at a considerable distance from a star center. "At that distance, it should take years or centuries for material to spiral closer in to the growing starlet, rather than mere weeks," according to a NASA statement.

This work "opens up new possibilities for astronomers to study star formation. We are very excited to have witnessed short-term variability in Orion protostars," said Nicolas Billot, a Spanish astronomer who will co-author a paper on the findings. "Follow-up observations with Herschel will help us identify the physical processes responsible for the variability."

FIRST FOUR-PART FLU VACCINE

The first influenza vaccine intended to protect against four rather than three strains of flu has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The new quadrivalent vaccine is a nasal spray developed by MedImmune, a subsidiary of AstraZeneca. The company expects to market the product in time for the 2013-14 flu season.

Until now, U.S. flu vaccines have contained three strains of virus, two of Type A and one of Type B. The virus is killed for injected vaccines and live but attenuated for nasal sprays. The three strains are chosen in the winter to allow manufacturers time to make enough vaccine for national supplies by the following October, the usual start of the flu season. The World Health Or-



ganization recommends which strains to protect against based on input from influenza centers in more than 100 countries.

A persistent problem has been that two genetic lineages of Type B virus have been circulating in recent years. The choice of which one to protect against has been correct only half the time, according to Robert Belshe, director of the

Center for Vaccine Development at St. Louis University. A four-strain vaccine could contain a strain from both Type B lineages, adding greater protection for the population. Protecting against a second strain of Type B will tend to be most beneficial to pre-school and school aged children, according to Karen Midthun, director of FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research.

Type A virus can infect a variety of animals including birds, pigs and people. It mutates rapidly as genes shift back and forth. New strains spread around the world, often dying out on their own but occasionally becoming epidemics. Type B mutates more slowly, but it changes enough that exposure to one strain does not confer permanent immunity to them all.

Other companies are also working on developing vaccines to add a fourth viral component.

FLU VACCINE BENEFITS FOR SENIORS?

While this year's flu season has been mild to date, some recent studies have raised questions about the value of standard flu vaccinations for older people in any season.

A study published last fall in Lancet Infectious Diseases by researchers from University of Minnesota and Johns Hopkins University sifted thousands of previous studies and reported that the highest in quality found no evidence that flu vaccinations are effective at protecting seniors from the flu.

The vaccinations were moderately effective (59 percent) at protecting younger adults, according to the study.

Now, a study published in Archives of Internal Medicine by researchers from the University of Toronto has found much the same.

The analysts reviewed nine years of data concerning hospitalizations and deaths from influenza and pneumonia in Ontario medical facilities ending with the 2008-9 flu season. About 1.4 million people were involved during each flu season, with a total of 130,532 deaths and 62,913 pneumonia and flu hospitalizations during the nine years.

Using an economics approach called instrumental variable analysis, the Toronto study found that seniors vaccinated against flu had a 6 percent reduction in mortality from all causes during the flu season. This outcome was not statistically different than the all-cause mortality rate among seniors who were not vaccinated.

As with earlier groups, the Toronto researchers made it clear that they believe seniors should still be given flu shots while analysts try to determine why some studies show fewer benefits than others. They also joined other groups in noting the importance of continuing research to develop more effective vaccines for all age groups.



Representatives from the Pleasanton Paratransit Service, which operates the Downtown Route, will be on hand to answer questions about the service at the 7th Annual Transit Fair.

Pleasanton's Annual Transit Fair Set for March 16

The City of Pleasanton will host the 7th Annual Transit Fair at the Pleasanton Senior Center on Friday, March 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the lobby of the center. This free event is open to all ages. It will feature representatives from local transit agencies such as WHEELS, the AARP, the Alameda County Transportation Commission, Pleasanton Paratransit Service, Senior Support of the Tri-Valley Transportation Services, and the ACE Train to share information on transportation options.

Free Car Fit assessments, sponsored by Alameda County Area Agency on Aging and the Pleasanton Senior Center, will also be offered. These free evaluations for those 50 years and up consist of trained professionals leading participants through a 15-minute, 12-point checklist with their vehicle to recommend adjustments and adaptations that can make the vehicle 'fit' better and enhance safety. Those interested in a Car Fit evaluation can call (925) 931-5365 to make an

appointment. Participating transit agencies will also sell their reduced cost senior discount passes and cards during the event. These include the popular passes for AC Transit, VTA, SamTrans, Caltrain and Golden Gate Transit and Ferry. A BART representative will also be on site to answer questions about the Clipper Card.

Also available will be the Pleasanton Paratransit \$30 punch card for residents of Pleasanton, the Pleasanton Paratransit Downtown Route which offers 8 rides for just \$12, Dial-A-Ride's 10 rides for \$35 and a Wheels monthly senior bus pass for \$18.

The Pleasanton Senior Center's 'Snappy Cafe' will offer a St. Patrick's Day meal for \$5 for adults (under 60 years of age) and \$3.50 for seniors (60 years and over). Reservations must be made by 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12. For more information or to make a luncheon reservation, please contact the Pleasanton Senior Center at (925) 931-5365.

Lab Gives Funds to Five Nearby School Districts

Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS), the entity that manages the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), has distributed a \$10,000 gift to each of its five neighboring school districts in the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Tracy—in support of their respective science programs.

The gifts totaling \$50,000 were presented to district representatives at the Laboratory's Science on Saturday lecture series at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

Accepting the gifts were: School Superintendent Kelly Bowers, Livermore Valley Joint

Unified School District; Joan Laursen, Pleasanton school board president, Ken Rocha, principal, Harvest Park Middle School and Tony Dennis, Project Lead the Way teacher, Pleasanton Unified School District; School Superintendent Stephen Hanke, Dublin Unified School District; Stan Hitomi, district director for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), San Ramon Valley Unified School District; and Kirk Brown, teacher, Tracy Unified School District.

LLNS provides funds to non-profit organizations dedicated to science, technology, engineering and math education.

FREE GARDEN CLASSES

Sat, Mar. 10th 10am & Sun, Mar. 11th 1pm
Vegetable Garden Soil Preparation
It's time to prepare for the harvest the organic way. Sponsored by Kelloggs Garden Products

Sat., March 10th 1pm
Honeybees in the Garden
Learn how to attract these valuable creatures. Local Organic Honey Tasting All Day

Sat., March 17th 10am
Sheet Mulching Lawn Workshop
Learn how to tear out your lawn without tearing out your lawn. Sponsored by StopWaste.org

Sat., March 24th 10am
Landscape with Drought-Tolerant Plants
Tips on conserving water throughout your home and garden. Sponsored by Zone7 Water District

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LIVERMORE VALLEY OPERA 2nd ANNIVERSARY SEASON

TOSCA
BY GIACOMO PUCCINI

HER COURAGE BROUGHT DOWN THE TERROR OF ROME

MAR 10, 16 @ 8:00 P.M.
MAR 11, 17 @ 2:00 P.M.

TICKETS: THE BANKHEAD THEATER, BY PHONE: 925.373.6800, OR ONLINE: LIVERMOREVALLEYOPERA.COM

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2194 Elsa Cmn Livermore bd 3 ba 2.5 sqft +/- 1,911 \$464,950 Gorgeous Cherry hardwood floors, new paint, Corian counters & court location! Light & bright! Open flexible floorplan w/ huge master! Second biggest lot in development w/ added parking space. Community pool/spa for summer fun! Convenient shopping & commuting.	Laguna Heights Ct Sunol bd ba acres +/- 10.9 \$1,398,000 Build your custom estate in the gated, master planned community of Laguna Heights! It consists of 9 custom estate sites (3 sold) totaling 40.5 acres. The home sites range from 2.36 acres to 10.89 acres. All sites have sweeping panoramic views of the surrounding hills!	6107 Ledgewood Ter Dublin bd 5 ba 4 sqft +/- 3,844 \$930,000 Views of TriValley, Mt Diablo & Dublin Hills! Dub Ranch Beauty w/ 5 Beds, Bonus/Game Room, 4 Baths, Master & Guest Suite on Main Level. Premium lot location w/ access to open space. Walk to golf course, swim club & award winning schools.	5678 Bellevue Cir Dublin bd 5 ba 3 sqft +/- 2,660 \$559,500 Come see this beautiful home Price to Sell! Desirable two story home with a spacious master suite w/ walk in closets. Corner Lot.	1894 Elm St Livermore bd 2 ba 1.5 sqft +/- 1,150 \$450,000 Great Opportunity for 2 Homes on One Lot. Larger Unit was rebuilt to perfection in 2004 and includes large modern kitchen with gas stove, recess lights, ceiling fans, dual pane windows, gorgeous floors, carpet & paint. Smaller Unit is a 2 bed/1 bath and approx 850 sq ft.	2128 Watercrest Pl San Ramon bd 4 ba 3 sqft +/- 2,373 \$849,000 Beautiful Waterloo model with a great feel and open floor plan. Bed and full bath downstairs. Kitchen with island and wood floors opens to cozy family room with fireplace. Large professionally landscaped rear yard with terrific flagstone patio.
1735 Cottswald St Danville bd 5 ba 4.5 sqft +/- 2,867 \$749,000 Great home, well planned out. Designer touches and custom paint. True luxury living that is close to town and schools. Friendly neighborhood.	8570 Mines Rd Livermore bd 3 ba 2 sqft +/- 1,518 \$699,950 Country Living at its finest! Living the Country Life w/ over 1 Acre of beautiful oak trees. Walk and feel the Tranquility. Inviting Creek where you can enjoy all the Seasons. Completely Remodeled Home. Horse property & more.	2188 McLean Place Livermore bd 3 ba 4(2) sqft +/- 4,062 \$1,179,999 Custom home (Court location), Special lighting system, gourmet kitchen, baking center, office, den, theatre / exercise bonus room w/ half bath and kitchenette above garage, travertine flooring, 3 fireplaces, BBQ pool, and raised - bed garden.	260 Lyndhurst Pl San Ramon Lot and Land Only \$1,199,000 Build Your Dream Home on 4.39 acres in the beautiful Norris Canyon Estates. Panoramic views of Mt. Diablo and Norris Canyon hillsides. Already for your building pad. Private gate on property. Located above existing Norris Canyon Estate Homes.	5 E Harding Way Stockton bd 6 ba 3 sqft +/- 5,500 \$549,950 Historical Landmark can be used as a Business or Residence, many possibilities. At present property is in use as a Bridal Shop. Business can also be purchased along with property at a higher price. Only serious and pre-approved buyers only please.	7121 Briza Loop San Ramon bd 2 ba 2.5 sqft +/- 1,351 \$449,000 Pristine condition. Original owner. Fresh paint. Plantation shutters. Custom pull out shelves in kitchen cabinets. Large low maintenance patio w/ pavers and beautifully landscaped w/ auto drip system. View of hills from Mstr bedroom. Extra storage in garage.
Diane Sass 925.462.2068	Uwe Maercz 925.251.2568	Cindy Engel 925.580.5107	David Azimi 925.251.2580	Corey Green 925.899.6011	Weiner/ McDowell 925.251.2585
Linda Smith 925.998.5112	Sara Lovett 925.518.8177	Patrick Maravelias 925.251.2530	Kristy and Company 925.251.2536	Terry De Luz 925.583.2183	Todd E. Martinez 925.251.2571

Blackhawk East 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300	Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd. Danville, CA 94506 925.736.6000	Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000	Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette, CA 94549 925.385.2330	Livermore 1983 Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 925.667.2100	Montclair/ Piedmont 6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200 Oakland, CA 94611 510.339.4800	Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100 Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000	Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500	Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500
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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Undercover Decoys

The Livermore Police Department will be conducting undercover decoy programs between now and April 2012. Decoy programs are aimed at stopping the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors by businesses licensed to sell alcoholic beverages in the City of Livermore.

A youthful appearing minor will be under the constant supervision of a police officer as he or she attempts to purchase alcohol from licensed businesses. If the minor is successful in purchasing an alcoholic beverage, the person selling the alcoholic beverage will be cited to appear in court. In addition, administrative action may be taken against any business or businesses that sell alcohol to a minor decoy.

If anyone has questions about the decoy program, or if an establishment is in need of further training or education on the sales of alcohol to minors please feel free to contact the Livermore Police Department.

The success of the program is measured by how many employees refuse to sell to the decoy, not by how many sales are made.

School Lock Down

The Livermore Police Department responded to a report from an adult on campus at East Avenue Middle School who reported seeing a male suspect walking through the school hallway armed with a rifle. The call came in last Wednesday.

After a search of the school, the campus and

the neighborhood, the police were unable to find anyone matching the description provided.

There was an after school program occurring on campus and the school immediately went into lockdown. All the students in the program were sequestered in one classroom with an adult advisor. Officers were able to make contact with the students and assure that they were ok. Officers remained with the students as other officers searched the campus.

The parents of the students who were on the campus were directed to a nearby shopping center where they were kept up to date on the progress of the search. The parents and students were reunited as soon as officers determined the campus was safe.

The Pleasanton Police Department and the California Highway Patrol assisted LPD with this call. East Avenue between Jensen St. and Hillcrest Ave. was closed for approximately three hours while the school was searched.

Board Meeting Canceled

The Board of Directors meeting for the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District for Wednesday, March 14, has been canceled.

The next meeting for the LARPD Board is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 28.

The Board of Directors meets in the Cresta Blanca Ballroom at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. For more information, visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us or call 925-373-5700.

Hacienda Seeing Postive Growth

With acquisitions, new product introductions and other innovations, Hacienda businesses have accomplished a lot over the last three months, a time period which has seen nearly 20 companies move into the Hacienda Business Park in Pleasanton.

"The park saw positive growth in 2011. We're pleased that 2012 has gotten off to a fine start," says James Paxson, Hacienda's general manager. "We are expecting more great news to come in the new year."

Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc., a publicly-traded company headquartered in Hacienda, has entered into an agreement to acquire North Carolina company Automatic Stamping in a transaction valued at over \$41 million. Automatic Stamping manufactures and sells a line of high quality truss connector plates. Simpson Strong-Tie designs, engineers and manufactures wood-

to-wood, wood-to-concrete and wood-to-masonry connectors and fastening systems, as well as stainless steel fasteners and pre-fabricated shearwalls. Simpson Strong-Tie also offers a full line of adhesives, mechanical anchors and powder actuated tools for concrete, masonry and steel.

Roche Molecular Diagnostics, the Hacienda-based division of international pharmaceutical giant Hoffmann-La Roche AG, has passed a major milestone with U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of a new Roche test that detects chlamydia and gonorrhea by sensing the presence of the genetic material of those infectious agents. The assays run on the company's automated cobas 4800 System, and "will give labs in the U.S. an efficient solution for offering clinicians chlamydia and gonorrhea screening using the

preferred specimen types," according to Paul Brown, head of Roche Molecular Diagnostics. The test was approved in Europe in 2009 and "has been very well received in labs outside the U.S.," added Brown.

Xerox has launched the Xerox 7600i, a compact flatbed scanner that features Visioneer's One-Touch scanning, a technology from the Hacienda company that allows users to complete their scans by touching just one button. The compact device is priced at \$99.99.

Hacienda has recently welcomed a number of new tenants to the park. Among the new businesses are the following: Coffee Bean Technology; developers of social marketing and social sales solutions; East Bay Regional Park District; Jeepnee, Inc., international employee recruiting firm; and Latex Global.

ValleyCare Expands to Dublin

ValleyCare Health System (VHS) is expanding services to a new, state-of-the-art building in Dublin.

VHS is opening an additional Urgent Care Center and relocating Occupational Health Services to 4000 Dublin Boulevard, Suite 150 (at the corner of Tassajara Road and Dublin Boulevard).

The new Urgent Care Center will be open "after hours" Monday - Friday 5 to 10 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to

6 p.m. The Urgent Care Center currently located at ValleyCare Medical Plaza in Livermore will remain open everyday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Scheduled to open in late March, ValleyCare Occupational Health will relocate offices from Livermore and Pleasanton to the new facility. Hours will be weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. After-hours services will be taken care of at the new Urgent Care Center.

A ribbon cutting and open house for the new Urgent Care Center and Occupational Health Services will be held on Monday, March 12, 3 - 6 p.m., 4000 Dublin Blvd, Suite 150. Remarks and ribbon cutting will take place at 3:30 p.m.

Urgent care centers are primarily used to treat patients who have an injury or illness that requires immediate care but is not serious enough to warrant a visit to an emergency department.

Sandia Offers Summer Institute Program for Graduate Students

Graduate students pursuing careers related to cybersecurity, including specialties in computer science, engineering, law, public policy, economics and social sciences, are being encouraged to apply for Cyber Security Technology, Policy, Law and Planning for an Uncertain Future, a weeklong summer institute at Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore. The program will take place Aug. 5-10. It is open to U.S. citizens and foreign nationals.

Twenty students will be selected. The application deadline has been extended to March 12 (see http://www.sandia.gov/summer_institute for details and the online application.)

Participating students will collaborate in small teams, working side-by-side with leading national experts in the technical, policy and legal cybersecurity arenas.

"The federal government

needs to have a hiring pool of cybersecurity professionals to draw upon," said Susanna Gordon, manager of computer sciences and information systems at Sandia's California site. "They need to be threat-informed and they need to have the skills and tools that can wipe out classes of vulnerabilities, as opposed to today's model, which is very much a 'find a vulnerability, fix a vulnerability' model. Institutes like this one are designed to help prepare that next generation of cybersecurity practitioners, including not only deep technical expertise, but also the policy and legal aspects that are so often critical in making real progress."

Gordon said she hopes the experience will help persuade participating students to consider Sandia as a future place of full-time employment. "We also hope they will spread the word back at their home institutions of the

importance of the work we do at Sandia and the high quality of our staff and facilities," she said.

Students will select from the following technical focus areas: Assured Sharing; Post-WikiLeaks Era Tensions in National-Security Information Sharing and Safeguarding; Information Analytics for Cyber Security; Public-Private Sector Responsibilities and Legal Issues in Our Nation's Cyber Defense; or Trusted Digital systems Designed with Field-Programmable Gate Arrays.

Students will participate in a strategic-planning exercise to discuss technical advances and capabilities that should be pursued to strengthen U.S. defenses against cyberattacks.

Institute participants will be provided housing at a Livermore suites hotel located near Sandia. Transportation and meals also will be provided.

Extreme Commute Makeover Offered

The Tri-Valley Spare the Air Resource Team, sponsored through the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's community outreach efforts, announces "Extreme Makeover: Commute Edition" - an opportunity for employers in Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Pleasanton to receive a makeover for their employee commute programs.

According to a press release issued by Supervisor Scott Hagerty, approximately 20,000 employers, public and private, make their home in the Tri-Valley. Collectively, they employ about 200,000 employees. While this economic activity is welcome, it brings with it traffic congestion on local roads and highways and poor air quality from automobile emissions. Solo driving contributes to long, costly commutes that have a negative impact on quality of life and productivity for Tri-Valley employees.

A successful employee commute program promotes alternatives to solo driving which results in increased use of carpooling, transit and bicycling. It is an attractive benefit to employees, saving them time and money. Plus, it helps reduce traffic congestion.

The Tri-Valley Spare the Air Resource Team is offering free commute program makeovers which include development of a

new program, enhancements to an existing program, and promotion and incentives. The Team is comprised of representatives from local cities, community organizations and businesses.

For more information or to submit an entry for the Extreme

Makeover: Commute Edition contact Stephanie Anderson at sanderson@communityfocus.org. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is the regional pollution control agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area.

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EDITORIAL

Wonderful Resource

Las Positas College is a wonderful resource for the entire community.

The array of opportunities offered by the college range from the arts and forums to special programs for veterans.

The Veterans First Program is designed to assist returning veterans gain training that will equip them to find jobs. Available are such programs as free math tutoring, and help with resumes.

In another program, the college has teamed up with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to present a series of science and engineering seminars.

In addition to the seminars, well known experts are brought in for special presentations. For example, on March 21, Stanford University Professor Robert Sapolsky, world renowned neuroscientist and expert on stress will present a talk on, "Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers: Stress, Health, and Coping."

From March 12 to 16, the annual Cuban Culture Week will offer dance, music, art and discussions each evening.

All of these programs are open to the public. Most are offered at no charge.

To mine this wealth of opportunity visit the website at www.laspositascollege.edu.

WATER

(continued from page one)

offered two amendments, which were rejected.

McNerney, a Pleasanton resident, said, "This bill is deeply flawed. It is a clear case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. It would steal water from the Delta region and send it south, creating a bigger problem and forever devastating the Delta."

Sending the water south would degrade water quality in the Delta, said McNerney, who criticized the bill for its "lack of input from the San Joaquin Delta communities, farmers and businesses that will be devastated by its enactment."

Garamendi, a Delta resident whose district includes Livermore, called the bill "a blatant water grab. He added, "The bill creates sweeping exemptions from federal laws protecting our water and preemptively prohibits state lawmakers from striking a consensus-driven compromise."

Stark declared, he was opposed to the legislation, stating, "It would trample on the state's rights of California and overturn a carefully crafted agreement about how our state's fresh water is allocated. This Republican legislation is a threat to the ecology of the Sacramento Delta and the San Francisco Bay, the safety of drinking water for many Bay area communities, and the many California jobs that depend on productive fisheries and a healthy Delta and Bay."

He continued, "The bill has many losers and the only winners are the large agri-business interests in the Central Valley, who already receive lavish taxpayer handouts in the form of

subsidized water and also crop subsidies."

The Center for Biological Diversity condemned the vote, because changes in fresh water flows into the saltier areas of the Delta would affect recovery of salmon fisheries. CBD estimated that the bill would take 260 billion gallons away from the Delta annually for southern California interests.

B.D.C.P. RELEASES CANAL/TUNNEL PLANS

Also in Delta news, the BDCP released documents totaling more than 10,000 pages about what could be done to restore the Delta's environmental health and produce more water for both federal and state water contracts that use the Delta.

The proposal described in the release involves the creation of three options on carrying water under or around the Delta, instead of through it, as currently occurs. Cost of the whole project could run as high as \$25 billion, with \$13 billion of the cost for construction.

The release is intended to stimulate public discussion long before only one option is picked or an EIR is conducted.

Bypassing the surface waters with the canals and/or tunnels has the advantages of creating purer water for water customers, more water amounts, and better treatment of fish and plant species.

The three alternative routes include a 40-mile tunnel under the Delta, a 42-mile canal and 3-mile tunnel east of that all-tunnel alternative, and a 36 mile canal and 17-mile tunnel west of the all-tunnel alternative.

Dreammakers, Risktakers to Be Honored

The Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce will celebrate innovators whose work is changing the world and the Tri-Valley at the Chamber's annual Dreammakers and Risktakers luncheon on March 27 at Poppy Ridge Golf Course

Among the awardees are Lynn Naylor, Executive Director of World of Children. World of Children is dedicated to dramatically improving children's lives by identifying and recognizing extraordinary individuals who work on behalf of children in need. To date World of Children has awarded cash grants to 84 change makers, working in more than 50 countries who have touched the lives of some 30,000,000 million children.

Chevron Energy Solutions along with Bridgelux has teamed with California cities including Livermore and Dublin to create a unique alliance to promote innovative advancement in LED lighting technologies enabling cities to significantly reduce utility bills and maintenance costs. Under the program, Chevron En-

ergy Solution, the energy services division of Chevron U.S.A. will upgrade streetlights with LED technology often at no upfront cost of cities

County Supervisor Scott Haggerty will receive a Dreammakers and Risktakers award for his effective efforts to promote regionalism.

According to Dale Eldridge Kaye, CEO of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, "Inclusiveness and vision can and should start early. The Junior Dreammakers and Risktakers Award has become a highlight of the ceremony"

This year two Livermore High School Students, Erika Gruidl and Kendall Sanchez will be given the Junior award for their work in initiating and coaching the Shooting Stars Spirit Squad made up of special needs students.

Also presented at this event is the annual Las Positas Sandia Student of the Year. This year the award goes to Jacob Eun Park.

Bridgelux is sponsoring the luncheon event which starts at

Bridgelux, Chevron Team Up to Test LED Technology in Dublin and Livermore

Chevron Energy Solutions and Bridgelux have created a unique alliance to promote innovative advancements in LED lighting technologies, enabling cities to significantly reduce utility bills and maintenance costs.

Under the program, Chevron Energy Solutions, the energy services division of Chevron U.S.A. Inc., will upgrade streetlights with LED technology, often at no upfront cost to cities. The LED streetlights require 50 percent less power and far less maintenance than ordinary streetlights, allowing cities the opportunity to finance the installation with the savings. Additionally, these LED streetlights offer a better quality of light that improves visibility and increases safety and security. In many cases, taxpayers should not be impacted except by improvement in the lighting of their communities.

Livermore and Dublin are participating in the demonstration of this unique LED technology and have upgraded several of their

streetlights with the Bridgelux technology. Bridgelux is located in Livermore.

"The pilot installation has been received with great excitement. We are proud to be a part of a significant advancement in lighting innovation," said Livermore Mayor John Marchand. "We take great pride in seeing our investment in local clean technology companies produce potential fiscal benefits for cities around the world."

Streetlights typically account for 10 to 40 percent of a municipality's energy costs. According to the Clinton Global Climate Initiative, the energy used by street lights amounts to the third largest use of power by local governments today. Many cities in America could see reductions up to 40 percent or as much as \$17 million in yearly energy costs simply by converting their existing conventional streetlights to the Bridgelux LED.

"All cities are facing a similar fiscal dilemma: they need to up-

grade their infrastructure, but lack the capital to move forward," said Jim Davis, President of Chevron Energy Solutions. "Through this new initiative, we can help cities modernize their infrastructure by financing projects through energy savings. These LED streetlights are making a dramatic difference, but they are just the start of what we can do to help cities save on their energy costs."

Tim Sbranti, mayor of Dublin, stated, "Our community is excited about the evaluation we are doing with Chevron Energy Solutions and Bridgelux. All of us in city government look forward to the energy savings and improved street level visibility. We think this could be a successful financing model for many of our infrastructure improvement projects."

The heart of the streetlight is an LED lighting module designed to be installed or upgraded quickly and easily into the existing streetlight head. Designed by Bridgelux, the module contains

the light source and other components most subject to rapid evolution. As the technology advances in energy efficiency and capabilities, it is anticipated that modules could be simply swapped out without having to replace a city's physical infrastructure.

The module also allows cities the potential of upgrading streetlights in the future to incorporate sensing and networking capabilities, giving city managers tools to control their lights and monitor traffic or remote locations, something impossible with conventional streetlights.

"LED lighting is the biggest advance in lighting since Thomas Edison showed off his bulb in 1879," said Bill Watkins, CEO of Bridgelux. "But LEDs and solid-state lighting represent more than just a technical advance. They will usher in new business models and capabilities for running our homes, businesses and cities. Lights are going to become more than just something you screw into a socket."

Maps to Help Clarify Solar Policy Points

The Alameda County planning staff will be working up new maps to make things clearer to the public and stakeholders about just how the installation of solar arrays would impact agriculture, native plant species and animal habitat, and potentially bird deaths in wind turbines in eastern Alameda County.

The planning staff will undertake the mapping as a response to suggestions made at a public meeting on solar policy, which was held Feb. 28 in Dublin.

Landowners, representatives of the solar industry and environmentalists attended the meeting, which was the second in two months. A third will be scheduled, probably in April or May, after the planning staff has time to research and create the maps.

County supervisors have approved two solar installations, Cool Earth Solar and Green

Volts, near Mountain House close to San Joaquin County line. That area has been chosen because it is flat and located near a grid-feeding power line. That makes grid access cheaper, more convenient, and less impactful on the land.

Stakeholders at the meeting gave planning staff their thoughts about what should be contained in the future solar array ordinance that the county will adopt.

The environmentalists present said they wanted to see the future location of wind turbines. Their contention is that the solar installations would disturb the rodent population so much, that they would be driven closer to the wind turbines. That would result in more raptor deaths.

That assertion has been challenged by Mike Clevenger, who represents Pegasus Energy Partners. The firm wants to build

solar arrays on 2200 acres, which is more than 50 percent of the county's prime agricultural land.

The wind turbine locations are west of Mountain House on the peaks of the Altamont. Clevenger said that it's not known whether raptors fly north, east, west or south of the windmills for food.

Raptor deaths in the Altamont must decline by 50 percent, an order by the state attorney general's office. Repowering the area with fewer turbines, some that are as tall as 300 feet, will greatly reduce the number of turbines in the Altamont. The blades on the new turbines move more slowly than the older models. The birds have a better chance to see the blades and avoid them.

A representative of the California Native Plant Society told staff that he would like to see

a map indicating the areas that the organization knows contain endangered plant species.

The one map that was distributed during the meeting showed what a buffer zone ranging from one-half mile to 2 miles around the Altamont would look like. At the 2-mile distance, the zone would clip some of the northeast corner of Livermore. It also appears to reach into some of the Pegasus proposal. The map is only for discussion, said planning staff.

One person at the meeting said there didn't seem to be much point in creating a buffer zone map, until the purpose of having a buffer zone is discussed, especially the science behind it. A buffer zone could have implications for properties outside the county's jurisdiction (in Contra Costa and San Joaquin counties).

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 edit@mail@compuserve.com.)

Round of Applause Mary McMahon Livermore

A large round of applause for the Friends of the Livermore

Library for the Livermore Reads Together 2012. February was a busy month for them presenting numerous and varied programs to go with the theme of "A Bell for Adano" by John Hersey.

There was an activity for every age and interest. What we heard at many of these was the renewal of friendships. It was also gratifying to hear many in the audiences participate in the discussions. Thank you to the Friends for these opportunities.

Heed the Warning Beverly King Livermore

March 11, 2012 will mark one year since the Fukushima disaster.

Going inside the nuclear plant is still dangerous. According to the plant chief the Fukushima nuclear plant is still vulnerable. Workers are allowed in for only a few hours at a time and only for a few minutes at a time in the highest radiation areas.

A remotely-operated robot recently detected radiation at 220 millisieverts per hour in Reactor #2. Exposure to 1,000 millisieverts can cause acute radiation sickness, a level that would be achieved in less than 5 hours.

The cleanup goal is to remove the fuel from the reactors and dismantle them. The Japanese government warns that it could take 40 years.

The people and the environment are suffering terrible damage. Yet new nuclear power plants are being proposed while older ones are leaking radioactive tritium on a daily basis.

Nuclear energy - be it for weapons or power generation - is potentially lethal. Fukushima is the warning we should heed.

Cautionary Anniversary Stephanie Ericson Livermore

March 11 marks the anniversary of Japan's earthquake and tsunami that killed thousands, dislocated tens of thousands and caused meltdowns in three nuclear reactors in Fukushima, spewing radiation into the air and ocean. Heroic efforts by Japanese nuclear workers notwithstanding,

the plant was declared "stabilized" only recently.

Yet huge problems persist. Crushed trucks, equipment and towers remain in place, many repairs are makeshift, and radiation leaks, although much reduced, are still high, peaking at more than 1000 times past levels. It will take 30 years to decommission the reactors. Meanwhile, vulnerabilities remain, and the tanks storing 100,000 tons of contaminated water will run out of space in April.

Global warming is real and potentially catastrophic, but nuclear power is not a green alternative. Our society and government must firmly commit to massive investment in renewable energy sources and conservation. Leaders who do not prioritize renewables over nuclear power deserve our healthy skepticism.

North/South Connection Bill L. Livermore

I hope that the City of Livermore and Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority will consider improving the accessibility of pedestrian and public transit between North and South Livermore.

Currently there is no route that serves riders who need only to get from North Livermore to South Livermore. I understand that most commuters are leaving Livermore but some of us live and work in Livermore and right now there is no practical connection between North Livermore homes and South Livermore/Downtown. I envision another vehicle starting along the route of the #15 line but, instead of making a loop back to BART, crosses over the freeway to south Vasco and making the stops into downtown. A full size bus would not be required or practical for this type of service but perhaps more fuel efficient smaller vehicles could be put into place during the morning and evening commute hours to serve people who need only to get from one side of the freeway to the other.

There is also no safe pedestrian path for getting from North to South Vasco. Every day I see adults and children putting themselves in danger to cross from one side of the freeway to the other

on the congested and dangerous Vasco overpass.

I hope that both of these issues will be taken into consideration.

Bring Back Fireworks Wendy Weathers

LARPD Foundation Chairperson Livermore Fireworks Committee
(925) 290-8295, livermorefireworks.org

I would personally like to invite everyone to the "Help Bring Back The Fireworks" fundraiser.

The LARPD Foundation Livermore Fireworks Committee has been very busy putting this fundraiser together. It will be a lot of fun for everyone who attends. All proceeds go towards the LARPD Foundation Livermore Fireworks. For those who would like to send a check. Please make the check payable to LARPD Foundation with fireworks in the memo/for field.

Mail it to: LARPD Foundation, % LARPD, Attn: Sandra Kaya, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, CA 94550

All LARPD Foundation donations are 100 percent tax-deductible.

I would like to thank the City of Livermore and LARPD. With out their support in this endeavor we would not be able to bring back the fireworks.

Please come out and support bringing back the fireworks on Thurs., March 22 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore. Admission is \$20.

The evening will include acoustic Classic Rock/Folk music performed by Roger Kardinal, Wine and Beer tasting provided by Little Valley Winery, Thomas Coyne Winery, Wente Vineyards and Sierra Nevada. Light appetizers provided by Double Barrel Wine Bar, The Winemaker's Pour House, Flaca's Salsa & Chips and natural dessert sweets provided by GerardZ Honeybees. There will be amazing raffle prizes such as autographed sports memorabilia, diamond jewelry, Livermore Valley wine and more.

For more information call 925 290-8295 or go to <http://livermorefireworks.org>, <http://www.facebook.com/Livermo>

(More MAILBOX, page 10)

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SCHOOL

(continued from page one)

Arkin wanted the district to pay for BRP by having the board delay the implementation of the facilities master plan study until after the November tax election, which could bring more revenue to the district.

The study is costing the district \$263,000. It passed on Oct. 25 on a 3-1 vote, with Arkin opposed and trustee Jamie Hintzke absent. Arkin at that meeting wanted to postpone the hiring of the consultant for the facilities master plan. She said that she wanted to wait to see whether there would be any mid-year state budget cuts that would affect Pleasanton during this current school year.

Board president Joan Laursen said that the board already had voted at that meeting to begin the facilities master plan. Under parliamentary procedure rules, only people who voted to pass that motion, and reconsidered their action, could bring up the item again for a change. Therefore, neither Hintzke nor Arkin could bring that item back, said Laursen.

Later in the board discussion, Arkin said that instead of postponing the study, the district should consider borrowing the money for it from its Sycamore Fund, which has been used by the district as a bank to support various capital expenses, including technology equipment.

The board didn't vote on Arkin's suggestion. However, Laursen said it was worth further discussion. Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi said that she could put the proposal on a future agenda. Arkin said this week that she has learned it is due for the March 13 agenda.

All of the trustees agreed that reading is paramount to academic success, and the BRP is very important. Chris Grant said that he is confident that BRP and many other programs will be brought back, after the district has had time to look at its potential revenue sources.

BRP backers have shown up in numbers at meetings, including on Feb. 28, when a half-dozen or so spoke up. Included was a Walnut Grove third-grader, who

told how much progress she made, as measured by testing. She went from 37 percent to 63 percent in reading comprehension and from 15 to 50 percent in reading rate.

TAX MEASURE CAN SOLVE PROBLEM

The district has \$3.3 million in its reserve, which meets the state mandated 5 percent. Going below 5 percent puts the district "on report" to the county schools, which would require Pleasanton to create a plan to bring the balance back up. If the district plunged into red ink on its reserves, it would be subject to being taken over by a state-appointed fiscal overseer, until it got back on its feet.

If the governor's proposed tax measure passes, the district would have a deficit of only \$150,000, assistant superintendent Luz Cázares told the board. That can easily be covered by the district's reserves.

Brown's plan would raise income taxes on Californians who earn more than \$250,000, and temporarily raise the state sales tax by one-half cent. Revenue would go to public safety and schools.

In addition to Brown's plan, there will be two others on the November ballot. The one offered by the California Federation of Teachers (CFT) would impose higher income taxes on individuals who earn \$1 million. It would benefit schools, social services, road maintenance and public safety.

The other, by the wealthy attorney Molly Munger, would raise the income tax in gradual amounts, up the scale, starting with earners with \$17,000 income, who would pay \$11 annually. It would confine the revenue to K-12 education and child care.

A Field Poll survey in early February showed that 63 percent support the CFT proposal. Brown's taxes also passed, with a "yes" vote of 58 percent. Munger's initiative would not pass, with 48 percent opposed, 45 percent in favor, and 7 percent undecided.

CURTIS

(continued from page one)

president, board member and executive director in charge of the Livermore operation.

Post founded the company, then called PMC, that grew into Curtis-Livermore. Post himself is an inventor. That's not surprising to people who know him, given that he is the son of physicist Dick Post, a prolific inventor at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Stephen Post built his first electric car at age 12 using the six-volt generator from a 1952 Chrysler, which was then a modern car. Many years later, in 1984, he invented the first practical electric motor controller that used a sophisticated transistor technology called MOSFET, which was then beginning to transform integrated circuits.

Post received a career boost through association while working with another inventor, the late William Brobeck. Brobeck played a key role in designing and building cyclotrons for Ernest Lawrence on the Berkeley campus.

Brobeck hired Post and used his motor controller technology in a developmental hybrid car. He helped Post connect with a promising automotive propulsion research project at Lawrence Livermore involving the Laboratory's innovative aluminum-air battery. He also supported a start-up company that Post had created -- PMC, for Post Motor Controllers.

Curtis acquired PMC in 1985 after the little company came to its attention through a common client. Curtis was international by then, with offices in England and France. It had been founded in 1960, with an initial staff of four, by inventors Edward Marwell and Curtis Beusman.

Marwell became president and CEO after Beusman left the company in 1973. The company has remained in the Marwell family.

Curtis has always been known for high quality instrumentation. For example, Curtis instruments monitored electrical performance on NASA moon rover vehicles in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Today, the company's Liver-

more division develops the control systems that enable electric motors to function smoothly. Its products are in demand. The local division hopes to expand from its present staff of 75-80. However, despite the slow economy, hiring is sometimes a challenge.

This is partly because the division has exacting standards, but also because some of its postings have an unusual requirement in the digital age: The ability to work with analog electronics.

Electric vehicles generally come with mechanical throttles. Drivers don't enter a number on a keyboard, they push or pull a lever to speed up or slow down or to move forward or in reverse. This is analog technology, in some ways a relic of the steam age. A fraction of Curtis's Livermore hires have to be very good at working with it as well as

with today's digital technologies. It's a combination of skills that is not easy to find at a time when schools focus on digital.

The PMC controllers developed at Livermore are manufactured at plants in Puerto Rico, Bulgaria and China. They are sold worldwide. They are not simply off-the-shelf equipment but a technology that is increasingly integrated into a customer's final product. The "biggest part of our success" has been engineer-to-engineer interactions with customers, Post says.

Roger White, Livermore Engineering Manager, says, "We're being asked to be more full-service," not just provide a product. Frank Matheis, director of corporate communication in New York, calls the relationship an "absolute partnership" in which

"our engineers from Livermore, especially the applications engineers, go all over the world to interact with customers."

Markets are pretty much everywhere people use electric motors to power small vehicles like golf carts and forklifts and wheelchairs. The major automobile companies tend to use their own equipment for production of very large scale products like the Toyota Prius. However, PMC motor controllers are used in the REVA, India's mass produced electric car.

Andrea Mokros, Division Services Manager in Livermore, says employees tend to stay once they are hired. The average local employee has worked there 12 years, she points out -- a sign that morale and working conditions are good.

Pleasanton Council Recognizes Five Swimmers Heading to Olympic Trials

Five swimmers have qualified for Olympic Trials, four for the U.S. and one for the Canadian team.

Pleasanton City Councilmember Jerry Thorne talked about the swimmers during Tuesday's council meeting.

All have swum for or currently swim for the Pleasanton Seahawks. Thorne said the swimmers are in the pool rain or shine for a total of 24 hours. They swim at least 60,000 yards each week.

Two of the swimmers are now attending college. Catherine Breed is a freshman at UC Berkeley. She qualified for the 2008

trials and will be back in 2012 to compete for a spot. Breed was a member of the U.S. National Team that competed in the Pan American Games last summer. She swam to a gold medal in the 200 meter freestyle and was a member of the 800 meter free relay team.

Tory Houston is attending Arizona State University. She has qualified to compete in the Canadian Trials in the 400 and 200 meter breaststroke.

Allison Brown will attend Stanford in September. She was selected to be a member of the U.S. National Junior Team last

summer in the 200 IM. This will be her first Olympic trials.

Celina La is a junior at Foothill High School. She competes in the 200 and 400 IM and the 200 meter butterfly. This is also her first Olympic trials.

Nick Silverthorn first qualified for the Olympic trials at the age of 14. He has broken records held by two of the nation's top swimmers, the 200 meter free previously set by Ian Crocker and the 400 meter IM held by Michael Phillips.

Thorne also introduced their coach Steve Morsill, noting, "He has built a world class swim team in Pleasanton."

Brew Crawl Planned at 26 Tasting Stations

The Pleasanton Downtown Association's (PDA) St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl is quickly approaching. Like the Halloween Brew Crawl, the St. Patrick's Day event will afford guests the opportunity to sample beer and appetizers in a variety of downtown locations, but several new details have been added to the event.

Scheduled for Friday, March 16 from 6 to 9 p.m., the beer-centric party will feature 26 tasting stations, making it possible to offer more tickets to the public. Guests will have the opportunity to enter a costume contest for the chance to win tickets to the next Halloween Brew Crawl on October 20. Also, Markstein Sales Co., who is sponsoring the event along with the Main Street Brewery and Redcoats, will present a "secret beer" at one of the tasting locations. Guests can test their palette to see if they recognize the top secret brew.

Tickets went on sale on February 21 at Redcoats, Main Street Brewery and Studio Seven Arts for \$30 (cash or check only). They are also available online at <https://pdaevents.wufoo.com/forms/st-patricks-day-brew-crawl-downtown-pleasanton/>

If any tickets are available on the night of the event, they will be sold at the starting location, Museum on Main - 603 Main Street, beginning at 5:30 p.m. for \$35, cash only. In the interest of safety, the PDA will also sell

designated driver wristbands at the starting location for \$10 on the night of the event. These specially colored wristbands will entitle guests to food samples but not beer.

Participating downtown businesses include: Balloons and Beyond, Bicycles! Pleasanton, Cazinha Portrait Design, Clover Creek, Comerica, Divine Skin and Body Care, Domus, Dr. Wong DDS, Gourmet Works, Jewelers Gallery, Knit This Purl That, Lanvie, Main St. Spirits and Deli, Murphy's Paw, Pans on Fire, Prim, Renee Huber State Farm, Rick's Picks, Savvy Seconds, Serenity Stoneworks Fountains & Décor, Sincerely Yours Cards & Gifts, Studio Seven Arts, The Cycle Pros, Therapy, Touch of Elegance Hair

Salon, Towne Center Books, Vision One Optometry and World School of Massage.

Participating beers include: 21st Amendment Brewery, Anchor Brewing, Anderson Valley Brewing, Anheuser-Busch, Samuel Adams, Deschutes Brewery, Dying Vines Brewing, E.J. Phair, Firestone Walker Brewing Co., Modelo, Handles Gastropub, Hoegaarden, Karl Strauss Brewing Co., Kona Brewing, Lagunitas Brewing Co., Leffe, Lost Coast, Mendocino Brewing Co., Pleasanton Main St. Brewery, Pleasanton Main St. Brewery, Pyramid Breweries, Shock Top, Speakeasy and Stella Artois.

Pleasanton Downtown Association information available at (925) 484-2199, www.pleasantondowntown.net.

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Regular price \$18.95 Trucks, Vans and SUV extra. One coupon per vehicle. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Expires 7/31/12. VP140

\$6 OFF

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON

The City of Pleasanton invites you to apply for vacancies on the following commissions and committees:

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails – 1 Youth Member

Civic Arts Commission – 1 Member

Economic Vitality Committee – 1 representative from each of the following categories:

- Business at Large
- Business Park
- Commercial Services Firm
- Commercial Real Estate Broker
- Commercial Real Estate Developer
- Environmental Industry
- Infrastructure
- Medical Technology
- Residential Real Estate Broker

Energy & Environment Committee – 1 Member

Housing Commission – 1 Alternate

Library Commission – 1 Member, 1 Alternate

Youth Commission – Representatives from each of the following categories:

- Village High School Freshman/Sophomore – 1 Member
- Harvest Park Middle School 6th or 7th Grade – 1 Member
- Pleasanton Middle School 6th or 7th Grade – 1 Member
- Thomas Hart Middle School 6th or 7th Grade – 1 Member
- At Large Student 6th to 10th Grade – 3 Members
- Adult Commissioner 18 years old or older – 2 Members
- Alternate Members 6th Grade to 10th Grade – 2 Members

Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) Citizens Advisory Committee
3 Pleasanton representatives

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office, 123 Main Street, or on the City's web site at <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/newcommapp.pdf>. For additional information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027.

Applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 23, 2012.

If you are interested in serving on a commission or committee that has no current vacancies listed, you may register your interest in future vacancies by contacting the Office of the City Clerk at (925) 931-5027 or by completing an interest card on our website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Lots of action marked opening day for the Granada Little League in Livermore. In the photo, the Majors division teams, Phillies and Tigers tested their new found skills.

Granada Little League

Opening day results for Granada Little League have been reported:

T-Ball: Orioles vs. Giants: For the O's, Scott Lineweber made 2 fantastic diving plays in CF. Ava Schwarz scooped 4 grounders in the 1st inning to record several outs. Dominic Franco and Lukas Cusimano crushed frozen ropes to center and right fields. For the Giants, Jack Bell made multiple great plays at 1st. Shae Vengley and Nate Brown hit solid smashes to left and right fields.

Tigers vs. Cardinals: Top offensive players for the Tigers: Chase Passama, Nolan Lehigh, and Grady Phillips. Top offensive players for the Cardinals: Ricky Jameson, Peyton Richards, Ryan Moore, and Joshua Eichenberger. Top defensive players for the Tigers: Mitchel McCormick, Anthony D'Onofrio, Hunter Allen, and Joshua Katz. Top defensive players for the Cardinals: Joseph Vargas, Colton Williams, and Jack Hsieh.

MinorA: Tigers vs. Rangers: Both teams played a great opening day game with a lot of good hits. Top offensive players for the Tigers: Joseph Ornelas, Armando Cabrera and Brayden Vash. Top offensive players for the Rangers: Carter March, Tyler Trudeau and Hayden Williams. Top defensive players for the Tigers: Darren Dangler, Hollis Sturgill and Maliah Chapman. Top defensive players for the Rangers: Will Christensen, Calvin Seely and Frank Middleton.

Diamondbacks vs. A's: It was a hard fought game that went back and forth until the very end. Top offensive players for the A's: Ryder Rios had a couple booming doubles, Andrew Hofmann and Jason Krakowski each were solid at the plate with some hard hits. For the Diamondback's Gavin Rose had 4 great hits, John Orsini and Tyler Eaton each had a double along with some other great hits. Top defensive players for the Diamondback's: Jacob Sisto with two great triple plays, Michael Straus had a nice catch at third and Ryan Martin played great at outfield and 3rd. For the A's Dennis Derham showed his talent at every position he played, Colin Johnston had some great stretches at first and Sean Nadeau showed off his impressive arm.

AAA Division: Marlins 10, D'Backs 10: For the Marlins, great fielding by James Young. 3rd base out and fly ball catch. Pitcher of the game was Wyatt Moseley striking out 4 players in 2 short innings. Offensive player of the game was Thomas Vi with 1B/2RBIs. Most valuable steals of the game were by

Thomas Vi, Jacob Keeler and James Young which tied up the game at 7-7 in the 3rd Inning. D'Backs: Offensive players of the game were Devin Shah- 1B-2RBI's and Kyle Corriea- 2B-who put them ahead 9-7 in the 4th inning. Caleb Hardesty finished the final 5th inning striking out the last 2 batters with a runner on 3rd-Marlins, holding the score to 10-10.

Orioles 12, Giants 3: Orioles Pitcher Grant Borjon had a very strong, consistent game for an opener. Brandon Harvey made a great play on first base, Ethan Dreger had a terrific catch in left field and RJ Mata had a smooth triple. Giants Pitcher AJ Morais had a shut out inning and Nathan Kamm did a great job on defense.

Rangers 12, A's 2: The Rangers R. Ayala hit a double and two triples, A. Ayala slammed a triple and double, and Scott McPherson hit a triple with 3 RBI, while Zach Parodi pitched two strong innings, giving-up only 2 runs on 3 hits. Jordan Collum hit a double for both the A's runs.

Majors: Cardinals 11, A's 10: The Cardinals and A's battled back and forth for an exciting finish in the bottom of the 6th. Cardinals, Jackson Taylor and Dillon Martinez both hit 2 run home runs to help out with the Cardinals victory. This was the first home run for Dillon Martinez. Alex Gonzalez for the Cardinals had a walk-off hit to win the game. Seth Street pitched a great 4 innings for the Cardinals. The A's Justin Watson had a great hit in the top of the 6th.

90's House Team: Giants 8, Yankees 11: Giant's pitching - John Bailey started

the game and pitched into the 4th inning allowing 5 runs. Brandon Cuy relieved Bailey and pitched the rest of the game allowing 6 runs. The pitchers had some tough breaks, where hit balls found their way through openings in the Giant's defense. Giant's defense-There were some defensive gems delivered by the Giants, most notably by Dominic Stewart at 3rd fielding a line drive and tagging third for a force out. And Christopher Ayon in Center who ran across the field to make a shoe string catch in short left field then having the presence of mind to throw to Sean Dreger (Catcher) at home who nearly tagged the runner out. Giant's offense-It took a few innings to warm up, but the Giants made a game of it hitting the ball hard and filling the bases full several times. Joshua Marty and Sean Dreger were stand outs, hitting the ball hard numerous times for extra bases, while advancing base runners and scoring base runners.

WCOGA Gymnastics

The West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy optional and compulsory gymnasts competed at the Spirit of the Flame Challenge in San Jose, CA on February 25 and 26, 2012. The Level 4 Team finished in 1st place. The Level 5 Team finished in 3rd place.

Optional Gymnasts Highlights:
Level 9: Isabella Orecchia finished in 2nd place on vault and floor, 3rd place on bars and 2nd place all around with 34.650. Level 8: Anna Siebel finished in 6th place on floor and 8th place all around with 34.300. Level

7: Brittany Bates finished in 8th place on bars and 10th place all around with 34.425. Jessica Yen finished in 6th place on bars.
Compulsory Gymnasts Highlights:

Level 6: Sara Ling finished in 5th place on vault. Jasmine Saucello finished in 6th place on beam. Level 5, age 10: Julia Arnold finished in 3rd place on vault and floor and 4th place all around. Level 5, age 9 and under: Lauren Swenson-Lennox finished in 2nd place on floor and 5th place all around. Level 4, age 10 and up: Kamryn O'Reilly finished in 1st place on bars, 2nd place on vault and beam, 3rd place on floor and 1st place all around. Claire Volkman finished in 1st place on beam, 2nd place on bars and floor and 2nd place all around. Audrey Ong finished in 1st place on floor, 3rd place on vault and beam and 3rd place all around. Level 4, age 9 and under: Mariah Murphy finished in 1st place on bars and beam, 2nd place on floor and 1st place all around. Shelby Bates finished in 1st place on beam, 3rd place on floor and 2nd place all around. McKenzie Meyn finished in 1st place on vault and floor, and 3rd place all around. Amelia Liao finished in 2nd place on bars and 3rd place on floor. Naomi Evans finished in 3rd place on beam.

EDGE Gymnastics

EDGE Gymnastics team members competed in the 2012 Byers Invitational at Byers Gymnastics Center in Rocklin, March 3 and 4.

Level 7: Younger: Samantha Fredrickson, 1st floor (9.8); Older: Julia Pfluger, 1st floor (9.575); Serena Chan, 2nd floor (9.55); Senior: Kimberly Smelley, 3rd beam (9.475)

Level 8: Younger: Samantha Durante, 2nd tie bars (9.55); Middle: Kelley Hebert, 2nd all-around (37.925), 1st vault (9.475), 2nd bars (9.425), 2nd floor (9.65); Older: Samantha Jower, 2nd all-around (36.975), 2nd vault (9.15), 2nd tie bars (9.175), 3rd beam (9.225); Senior: Kelsey Ferranti, 3rd all-around (35.3), 3rd beam (9.1); Angelica Leporati, 2nd beam (9.375), 3rd vault (9.05), 3rd floor (9.35)

Level 9: Older: Stephanie Relova, 1st bars (9.175), 2nd tie floor (9.55); Yasmine Yektanarast, 1st floor (9.625); Naomi Albertson, 3rd bars (9.0); Senior: Nicole Corkill, 2nd all-around (36.025), 1st bars (9.225), 2nd beam (8.7), 2nd floor (9.25)

Level 10: Younger: Kara Jones, 1st vault (9.425), 1st beam (9.525), 1st floor (9.6); Older: Kaitlyn Duranczyk, 1st bars (9.375), 1st beam (9.325)

Pleasanton Jr. Football

Pleasanton Junior Football League (PJFL) is now taking registration for the 2012 Contact Football, Flag Football and Cheerleading season. PJFL offers contact football and cheerleading for boys and girls in the 2nd through 8th grades, as well as flag

football for boys and girls in the 2nd through 12th grades. Everyone plays in PJFL. There are no tryouts and there are no cuts.

Contact Football registration includes a uniform and all necessary equipment and contact players practice 3 times per week beginning in early August and play games on Saturdays at the Pleasanton Sports Park beginning in early September.

Flag Football registration includes a jersey and all necessary equipment and flag players practice 1 time a week beginning in mid-August and play games on Saturdays at Hart Middle School beginning in mid-September.

Cheer registration includes a uniform and training and cheerleaders practice two times per week beginning in late June and cheer on Saturdays at the Pleasanton Sports Park beginning in early September.

For more details and to register a player visit PJFL.com. Follow PJFL on Facebook at Facebook.com/PleasantonJuniorFootballLeague.

Jr. Football Expands

Due to its success over its five-year existence and the support of LARPD and the high school football programs, Livermore Junior Football League (LJFL) is expanding to include all children aged 7 through 14 (as of August 31, 2012). Football participants will learn the fundamentals of contact football in a safe and positive environment and play regardless of talent level or ability. Cheer participants will learn the fundamentals, cheer at games and compete locally. All games will be played in Livermore at the high schools. All practices will take place in Livermore. The season begins on August 1 and concludes in early November.

Online registration is open at www.LJFL.org.

There is an early registration discount of \$50. Registration costs increase after March 31. Each player pays a \$25 refundable volunteer fee. Sibling discounts apply. With the help of local businesses and residents, LJFL has a limited number of scholarships for needy families. Applications are available at www.LJFL.org and must be submitted by March 31.

For those interested in coaching, applications are available at www.LJFL.org. LJFL provides training for all coaches. No experience is necessary.

Registration will close when the league reaches 12 teams. No players are ever cut. All players play the entire game on offense

or defense. Players are not limited to a few plays per game. Everyone plays the entire game.

For additional information, interested parents should visit: www.LJFL.org. President and Vice-President of LJFL are Rico Richardson and Matt Archer.

Community Day at A's

Livermore community can support Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) athletic programs by attending the Oakland A's vs. Cleveland Indians game on Sunday, April 22. The National Anthem will be performed by Livermore's own, Granada High Junior, Braden Sweeney. Family packages, field level seats, tailgate BBQ, parking, t-shirts and more are available. Sponsor packages are available and include sponsor name on event signage and t-shirt. The order deadline is March 31, 2012. More information can be found at the LVJUSD website www.livermore-schools.com or by emailing communityrelations@lvjUSD.k12.ca.us.

Local Foursome

Lonnie Burks (Poway), Cory Doucette (San Diego), Dave Schnapp (Livermore), and Larry Weitzen (Del Mar) will be enjoying a chance of a lifetime when these four local golfers compete as a foursome at Pinehurst Resort in Pinehurst, North Carolina, in the Liberty Mutual Insurance Invitational Finals against more than 200 other amateur golfers from across the country.

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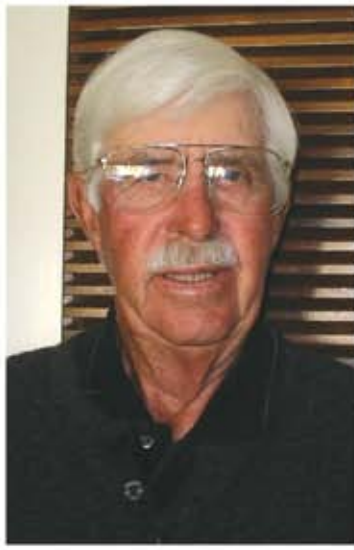
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What Our Readers Are Saying...



Resident of Livermore

Barbara and I arrived in Livermore three months before the first edition of The Independent was published in 1963. I have always enjoyed The Independent's local coverage, which leaves no doubt as to where the newspaper stands on major issues facing our community. For example, it has stood strongly against rampant growth.

When we moved to Livermore, I joined Cask and Mask at the May School Theater. Since that theater closed in 1971 until now, I became involved with the LCAC, trying to bring a performance center to Livermore. Now we have the Bankhead, thanks to The Independent and other strong supporting residents.

Les Edwards

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West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy optional gymnasts competed at the Byers Invitational at Byers Gymnastics in Sacramento, CA on March 2, 2012. Level 9: Isabella Orecchia finished in 3rd place on beam with 9.050 and 4th place all-around with a 34.450. Level 8: Anna Siebel finished in 4th place on bars with a 9.350. Level 7 Older: Brittany Bates finished in 4th place on vault, 5th place on beam and floor, and 4th place all around with 35.475. Megan Quinton scored a personal best on bars. Level 7 Senior: Jessica Yen finished in 3rd place on bars with 9.000. Rebecca Yen finished in 4th place on bars with 8.950. Pictured is Brittany Bates, Level 7.

SPORTS NOTES



The Livermore Aquacowboys senior swimmers competed at the Short Course Senior meet in Pleasanton on March 3, 2012. Pictured are Josh Ledbetter, Stephen Mekanik, Alex Gonzalez, Trent Trump, Shahini Ananth, Christine Kunzler, Haley Hamza, Shelby Swanson, Jenna Chew, Nina Hayes, Sarah Swanson and Katie Kulp. LAC Senior swimmers not in the photo are, Andrew Hayes, Alex Wang and Nathan Boas.



Pictured are West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy Level 4 Team Members McKenzie Meyn, Mariah Murphy, Audrey Ong, Phoenix Cabuay, Amelia Liao, Juliette Gosselin, Kamryn O'Reilly, Mia Reeve, Shelby Bates, Claire Volkman, Deanna Chang and Naomi Evans



The 2012 Pacific Swimming All-Star Meet was held on March 4, 2012 at Indian Valley College in Novato. The 10 year old girls relay team shattered the meet record that had been held for 9 years. Pictured are the Zone 2 All-Stars relay team, Claire Suen from Tri-Valley Aquatics, Asha Johnson from The Oakland Undercurrents, Caroline Eckel from the Livermore Aquacowboys and Erica Francesconi from the Crow Canyon Sharks. The team high point all around meet winner was Zone 2.

Bocce Championships Get Underway

For the first time ever, the California State Senior Games will include the sport of Bocce. The event will be held at California's Campo di Bocce di Livermore, March 11 through 17. This Senior's Championship competition will draw both women and men senior players from five western states to compete in 3 major bocce events, men's doubles Punto Raffa Volo, women's doubles Punto Raffa Volo and 4 player open bocce.

"It's wonderful to see that the third most popular sport in the world is now recognized by the California State Senior Games," said Ben Musolf, Tournament

Director. "Bocce is fast becoming extremely popular in the US, and the West is leading the way in popularizing this age old game. It's fitting that the Western states and California recognize our senior Bocce players by hosting this sport in the 2012 California Senior Games Championships."

Age groups from 50 to 85+ will compete at Campo di Bocce's eight-court facility eight.

The 4-player Open Team event will feature all skill levels of bocce players and teams who participate at parks, clubs and senior centers. There will also be men and women's doubles events for experienced Punto Raffa Volo tournament players.

Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded in nine different divisions, with 5-year age groups from 50-54 through 80-84. Each division is a 1-2 day event. Event schedule and registration information can

be viewed at www.bayarease-niorgames.org

For further information, contact Margaret Shindelus at margaretshindelus@sbcglobal.net or 510-610-2022.

The four local residents earned their place in the Finals by winning the Liberty Mutual Insurance Invitational hosted by Project Concern on August 8, 2011 at Rancho Bernardo Inn.

Larry Weitzen said it's not too early for local amateur golfers to start planning to play in the 2012 Liberty Mutual Insurance Invitational hosted by Project Concern on August 13, 2012 at Rancho Bernardo Inn.

The 18-hole tournament features a scramble format where men and women amateur golfers of all skill levels compete in teams. Members of the winning foursome will receive great prizes from Liberty Mutual Insurance, Nike, Polaroid and Sports Vision Eyewear at a dinner and awards ceremony for all participants at Rancho Bernardo Inn.

The winning foursome will also earn an invitation to compete against other tournament winners from around the country in the Liberty Mutual Insurance Invitational National Finals, which will return to Pinehurst Resort on March 6 - 10, 2013.

All Academic Team

Three Manhattan men's basketball players earned a spot on the 2012 MAAC All-Academic Team for their success in the classroom. Among them was junior center Kevin Laue (Pleasanton, Calif./Amador Valley/Fork Union Military Academy). The Jaspers placed the most players on the MAAC All-Academic Team among all 10 league members.

To be eligible for the MAAC All-Academic Team, student-athletes must have completed at least two semesters at their institution and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or higher.

LGSA Opening Day

It was all smiles and "play ball" Saturday at Joe Michell as the Livermore Girls Softball Association launched their Spring Season.

The day included raffle baskets, 2 brand new G.M. Cars on display, vendors like Rockin' Jump, LGSA Apparel Sales, Games 2 U, and Texas Road House serving up some kickin ribs and pulled pork, the New Snack Bar was in full swing. An All Skills Competition was being run by players from Granada's Girls Softball teams, the D.J. had everyone swaying to the beat, and Shooting Stars were taking team pictures.

All fields looked Amazing especially Field #2. It was recently remodeled when a long time league supporter and Board Member Wendy Vasquez won a Field Makeover from Major League Baseball. The contest was called "Diamonds and Dreams." MLB gave away 20 field makeovers along with lots of other prizes across the United States. This contest was sponsored by General Motors, Scott's Miracle Grow, Major League Baseball, Ripken Design, and Rawlings.

Wendy entered the contest about a year ago. She found out she won over the summer. She and her husband met with Dan Taylor from Ripken Design, Mike Nagel from the School District, Angela Ehrlich the Joe Michell Principal, and L.G.S.A. President Louie Arias to look over the fields at Joe Michell and decide which field needed the most work. Then in November over Thanksgiving break the Joe Michell Field #2 was redone.

Wendy, her husband Aj, their 2 girls Taylor and Savannah, and Wendy's parents were on site on opening day for the field dedication. Field #2 will be named "The Vasquez Family Field." A plaque will be hung at the field in their honor. Wendy's daughter's Taylor and Savannah threw out and caught the first pitch of the season. Stomper, the Oakland A's Mascot, was on hand to help celebrate the festivities.

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COLON CANCER AWARENESS FREE EDUCATION SEMINAR



Presented by:
James Lin, MD
ValleyCare Medical Foundation
Gastroenterologist

Date: March 13, 2012

Time: 7PM

Location: ValleyCare Medical Plaza
5725 W. Las Positas Blvd, Pleasanton
2nd floor Conference Room
Pleasanton

Colon cancer is the third most diagnosed cancer and second leading cause of cancer death in the United States. Death rates in the past 10 years have decreased due in large part to early detection. The best time to detect colon cancer is through early screening before symptoms develop.

Please join us for an evening seminar led by James Lin, MD, ValleyCare Medical Foundation gastroenterologist. Dr. Lin will discuss the importance of colon cancer screening and the methods used to detect polyps/cancer. He will also cover the latest updates in screening, prevention and treatment.

We invite you to register by calling our Health Information Line at 1-800-719-9111 or visit www.valleycare.com/educationseminars.



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SHORT NOTES

Nominate a Champion

Individuals can now nominate themselves or others to be a Breakaway from Cancer® Champion.

Four individuals – one from each of the 2012 Amgen Tour of California communities of Santa Rosa, Livermore, Clovis, and Los Angeles – who have made a positive impact and acted as an inspiration to those affected by cancer within their community will be selected as the Breakaway from Cancer Champions.

Breakaway from Cancer Champions will be honored and have special access at the 2012 Amgen Tour of California. Full criteria and information about becoming a Breakaway from Cancer Champion is available at www.breakawayfromcancer.com/champions.

Nominations are open March 2 – 23, 2012.

The *Breakaway from Cancer* Champion from Livermore will lead the Breakaway Mile through the community during the 2012 Amgen Tour of California in Livermore on May 15.

Annual SELF Meeting

Guests are welcome at the annual board meeting of the Student Education Loan Fund, which will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. The group will meet in the Board Room at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue.

The Student Education Loan Fund (SELF) was established 49 years ago to provide interest free loans to graduates of Livermore high schools and to Livermore residents to help them attend community colleges, trade schools, state colleges, or universities. During that time \$653,245 has been loaned to 500 students.

Funds for loans are obtained through donations by individuals as well as donations by businesses. Donations are deductible as provided under Federal and California income tax codes. As loans are repaid, the money coming in is added to the pool from which new loans are made—so contribution funds are used over and over.

The fund is managed by a volunteer board of thirty Livermore residents. These volunteers do all the necessary administrative work and contribute enough funds to cover SELF's yearly expenses. Therefore, all incoming donations go 100% into student loans.

For more information about the meeting or about SELF,

please call Ruth Gasten at 925-443-7140.

Distracted Drivers

During the month of March, the Livermore Police Department will be focusing its efforts on vehicle safety as it pertains to distracted driving.

Across the nation distracted driving causes crashes which result in injuries and deaths. In 2009, 5,474 people were killed in crashes involving driver distraction and an estimated 448,000 were injured. Drivers who use hand-held devices are 4 times more likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. Sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds, at 55 mph, that's the equivalent of driving the length of an entire football field, blind.

There are three main types of distracted driving: Visual - Taking your eyes off the road. Manual - Taking your hands off the wheel. Cognitive - Taking your mind off what you are doing.

Distracted driving is any non-driving activity a person engages in that has the potential to distract him or her from the primary task of driving and increases the risk of crashing. Texting, cell phone use, eating/drinking, grooming, talking to passengers, using navigation devices, changing the radio station or a CD are all examples of distracted driving that can cause a collision.

During the month of March, the Livermore Police Department will be conducting several targeted enforcement days, where officers will have an emphasis on distracted driving.

The Livermore Police Department Traffic Unit will also be conducting an educational program at both of the Livermore High Schools with the students. The program is specific to distracted driving and designed for teenagers. The Livermore Police Department is committed to traffic safety and the safety of our citizens.

Riparian Birding

Riparian Birding will be the topic of a program led by Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff on Sun., March 11. Meet Ranger Patti Cole at 5 p.m. at Daisyfield Drive across from Hagemann Park.

Last spring, LARPD rangers took a group to Murrieta Meadows for a first-time birding adventure that was anything but disappointing. Nesting woodpeckers, woodland raptors, ducks

and a variety of warblers, finches and more were seen during the walk. This area surrounds the Arroyo Mocho from Stanley Boulevard to Rockrose Street. It includes some areas of trees, thick vegetation and open stream – opportunities for a wide range of bird species. The walk will follow a paved trail, easy for all ages and abilities to travel. Canceled if raining.

A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Be a 'Lucky Fan'

Tri-Valley Community Television (TVCTV) is offering viewers an opportunity to be a TV30 "Lucky Fan." The station will be giving away tickets to various entertainment venues such as the Vine Cinema, Firehouse Arts Center, Bankhead Theater, as well as restaurants and much more.

TV30 viewers go to the website at www.trivalleytv.org to register to be a Lucky Fan. There is no charge. TV30 will randomly pick a winner at various times from the "Lucky Fan" registrations. The winner will be announced on Tri-Valley Community TV's Facebook page and on TV30. A person can enter as many times as he or she wants.

The first drawing will be for two tickets to Jayme Stone, award-winning Banjoist, performing at the Firehouse Theater in Pleasanton on March 16. To be eligible for tickets to the event, "Lucky Fan" registrations must be received by 5pm Sunday March 11.

"We see this as a great way to thank our viewers and inform them about events and businesses in the Tri-Valley," said Melissa Tench-Stevens, Executive Director at Tri-Valley TV. "We hope to offer a variety of tickets and other giveaway items and appreciate the business partners who have made this possible."

For complete rules or to register to be a "Lucky Fan" go to www.trivalleytv.org and click on the "Lucky Fan" icon located on that page.

Imagineate Open

Aiming to demystify the process toward innovation by making its principles accessible, replicable and fun, *Imagineate*, makes its world debut at the Lawrence Hall of Science through April 29, 2012.

Imagineate is an exhibit meant to inspire the spirit and practice of innovation through science. It identifies five guiding themes everyone can use as pathways to innovation, including: *Dream Big, Expect the Unexpected, Collaborate or Compete, Try, Try and Try Again and Look to the World*. Each theme is explored through a number of hands-on, interactive exhibit activities, encouraging participants to immerse themselves in the methods of innovative and critical thinking.

"Math and science can be perceived as difficult or rigid, without much room for creativity. *Imagineate* shows how using science and math in the process of innovation is creative, fun and engaging," said Gretchen Walker, Public Science Center Director at The Lawrence Hall of Science. "The exhibits in *Imagineate* are designed using light, sound, and unique materials that inspire creativity and allow visitors to apply it to science and engineering. It's a deeply engrossing experience and kids and adults are spending hours engaged in the activities."

Within the exhibit are more than twenty activities that appeal to a wide range of interests and ages: In *Sound Lab* visitors can jump and move as they collaborate to make music mixes using giant light up sound panels, In *Racing Irons*, they test the speed of surfaces ranging from Teflon to aluminum foam, and kids and adults of all ages can see if they can come up with new inventions like a hat to wear underwater or a shoe to walk on the moon in *Create Something New*.

"When we were developing the exhibit, our goal was to shift people's perception away from the idea that innovation is meant for the 'elite', which can be intimidating," said Mary Jane Conboy, Director of Science

Content and Design for the Ontario Science Centre in Ontario, Canada that developed *Imagineate*. "We've layered in some inspiring stories but kept many of the experiences very open-ended, so each visitor will approach the exhibits differently."

Imagineate is part of an exciting year of exhibition programming at Lawrence Hall of Science. Following Imagineate will be Tony Hawk Rad Science, May 26 – September 2, 2012 and Math Midway, September 15, 2012-January 6, 2013.

The museum is open daily from 10 am to 5 pm. Admission for Lawrence Hall of Science members and UC Berkeley students and staff is free, and general admission is \$6-12. Children under 3 receive complimentary admission. For more information, call 510-642-5132 or visit www.lawrencehallofscience.org. Lawrence Hall of Science can be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LawrenceHallOfScience

Book Sale

Friends of the Dublin Library spring used book sale will be held March 9 to 11 at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza.

Fri., March 9, 6 to 8:30 p.m., is members only night. Memberships will be available starting at 5:30 p.m.

The sale continues Sat., March 10 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sun., March 11, 1 to 4:30 p.m. is Bag Day. Fill a paper bag (provided) for \$4, or fill a special edition Friends of the Library canvas tote bag for \$8. Totes are also available for \$5, including sales tax.

The semi-annual sale will include bargain books and audio-visual materials. Most prices are \$1 or less. Funds from sales go towards purchasing the Library's materials and supporting its programs. There will be specially priced books that are new or of extra value. A section of teacher materials will be included.

More information is available on the Library's website at www.aclibrary.org, the Friends' website at www.dublinfriends.org, or call the Library at 925-828-1315. The Library is wheelchair accessible.

White House Visit

Two representatives from The Arc of Alameda County joined 150 leaders of Arc chapters from across the country at the White House Friday, February 10 to meet with senior White House officials at a Community Leaders Briefing to discuss issues facing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). The session, held just for The Arc, included an unannounced visit from President Barack Obama. The President spoke of his commitment to people with disabilities saying, "I've got your back."

The Arc of Alameda County serves some 600 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities at locations in Union City, Livermore, Hayward and San Leandro. The agency also serves 35 preschool children with developmental delays at the First Step Children's Center in Hayward. Additional information about The Arc of Alameda County is available at <http://www.arcalameda.org>.

Ronald Luter, CEO of The Arc of Alameda County, stated, "With all the important issues President Obama has to deal with every day, for him to take time to make a personal appearance at the briefing with Arc leaders sends a message of understanding and support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that we haven't seen in quite some time." Luter was joined at the meeting by The President of The Arc of Alameda County Board of Directors, Dr. Marshall Mitzman. Luter noted that Mitzman was able to get the President's autograph as the chief executive left the briefing room.

The surprise appearance by the President was the highlight of the day for Luter, Mitzman and the other attendees, along with the opportunity to interact with high level government officials about the critical need for federal support to help people with IDD reach their goal of living in their communities. Over the course of the day, Arc leaders were briefed on topics ranging from Medicaid to education to community living and employment for people

with IDD. Many of the speakers, including President Obama, referenced the impact advocates made during budget negotiations to protect Medicaid, and encouraged The Arc and others to continue these efforts.

"I'm confident, the Obama Administration will do everything it can to protect the rights of the people we serve," said Luter. "Arc leaders presented a clear and persuasive picture of the importance of Medicaid and the tremendous impact it has on the lives of our clients," he added.

Another unannounced speaker was White House Chief of Staff Jack Lew, who reiterated the President's opposition to turning Medicaid into a block grant.

Chocolate and Cabernet

Fenestra Winery will be hosting its annual "Chocolate and Cabernet Weekend" on March 10 and 11 from noon to 5pm, both days. Fenestra red wines are paired with different chocolate dishes, both savory recipes and sweet chocolate treats. The fee is \$12.50 per person (\$10 for Fanatics and \$5 for non-drinkers and children), and includes wine samples, buffet plate, logo glass and a decadent pairing for your taste buds. Wine club members get in an hour early at 11am on March 10th only!

"This is one of our most popular events," says winemaker, Brent Amos. "Chocolate and wine is a great pairing and this weekend attracts a lot of wine and chocolate lovers."

Guest chefs include Blue Sage Catering of Livermore and some homemade recipes from Fenestra's own tasting room staff. Dishes will range from snacks and appetizers to main dishes and desserts, all including some version of chocolate in their ingredients.

"This is a great time of year to visit the winery," says owner, Fran Repogle. "Guests enjoy relaxing at our creek-side picnic grounds surrounded by our estate vineyards. It's the perfect springtime setting to sip on our award-winning wines."

Fenestra Winery is located at 83 Vallecitos Rd., Livermore. The winery is open for tasting and sales every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m. For information, phone 925-447-5246, e-mail us at info@fenestrawinery.com, or consult our web site at www.fenestrawinery.com.

Spring Break

Spring Break programs will be offered at the Livermore Public Library.

Springtime Craft Programs—make a cute Spring decoration at the following locations:

- Civic Center Library, Storytime Room, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue: Monday, April 2, drop in any time between 11:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
- Rincon Library, Meeting Room, 725 Rincon Avenue: Friday, April 6, drop in any time between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.
- On Wednesday, April 4, 10:30 a.m.: join us for a Classroom Safari and marvel at some of nature's finest wild animals: canines, felines, primates and reptiles—eight in all, including an alligator and an ocelot!—at the Civic Center Library, Storytime Room, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

All ages are welcome to these free Library programs. For further information, contact Youth Services at (925) 373-5504 or drop by the Library to speak with one of the staff. You may also visit the website for details: www.livermorelibrary.net.

Park Lighting Replacement

Now through March 30, 2012 the City of Dublin will be replac-

ing existing park lights including poles at Shannon, Kolb and Dolan Parks. While the old fixtures are being removed and new fixtures installed, it is anticipated that there will be brief periods of time in which each park will not be illuminated at night.

The new fixtures will be the energy efficient and long-lasting light emitting diodes, more commonly known as LED's. Once complete the project will improve light uniformity throughout the park sites, reduce energy use by an estimated 42%, reduce carbon dioxide production by an estimated 4,800 pounds annually and last significantly longer than the current light fixtures.

The project is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Energy Block Grant Program and the City of Dublin. Additional information is available by contacting the City of Dublin Parks and Community Services at 925-556-4500.

Workshop Openings

Spaces are still available in workshops offered Mon., March 12 in Livermore.

Collaborative Marketing will take place from 9 a.m. to noon. Participants will learn how to: select relevant collaborative marketing strategies; initiate planning for a collaborative marketing strategy; and locate resources to get started.

Business Planning from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Participants will learn to: track farm financial data to assess profitability of production and marketing choices; improve financial management systems; build people capacity to address business gaps and complement strengths; locate resources, and improve long-term economic viability.

The workshops are aimed at farmers and ranchers with ten years or less of agricultural income, or who are starting a new ag enterprise.

Location is the Martinelli Event Center, 3585 Greenville Road, Livermore.

Workshops are hosted by SAGE, in collaboration with the Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD). To register, visit: www.sagecenter.org. For further information please email: bfworkshops@sagecenter.org. Space is limited, please register by March 8.

These workshops are part of a planned series funded by a "Beginning Farmer and Rancher" grant from USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The workshop series will include a variety of topics relevant to beginning and established farmers and ranchers, as well as opportunities for collaboration and mentorship.

Docents Sought

The City of Pleasanton's Alviso Adobe Community Park is currently seeking volunteer docent applicants to join the Education Program team.

Alviso Adobe Community Park is located at 3465 Old Foothill Road in the western foothills of Pleasanton.

A Volunteer Orientation is scheduled on Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Alviso Adobe Community Park. Staff and experienced volunteers will review the park's school and public program volunteer program and demonstrate various hands-on activities.

Volunteer docents should enjoy learning and leading hands-on activities with school groups and other park visitors. To register online, please visit www.helpfindahand.org. For more information, please contact Stephanie Carman at (925) 931-3479 or scarman@cityofpleasantonca.gov.

Local Rider Enters Mustang Challenge

Justin Mott recently drove from the Bay area to Litchfield, CA where he picked up his draw for the Extreme Mustang Makeover challenge. He named the pretty bay mare, who had never been touched by a human hand, Syringa. Just three months ago Syringa had been running wild with a herd roaming on public lands in Idaho. Now Justin has just 90 days to build a partnership with Syringa, so they can compete together this May in Norco, CA.

To complete the Extreme Mustang Makeover challenge Justin and Syringa must successfully navigate two trail courses and perform freestyle in an arena.

Justin is the first Bay Area horseman to be selected to compete in an Extreme Mustang Makeover event. "My goal for the Mustang Makeover is to highlight my natural horsemanship training and to show that mustangs are wonderful animals. People don't know much about mustangs, but with the right start they have a good and usable place as riding horses. They can work on a ranch or be great trail horses for recreational riders." After the competition, the challenge horses are adopted by bidders. Mustangs who have been featured in the Extreme Mustang Challenge have a 100% adoption rate.

Justin, age 22, grew up on a ranch in Sunol. He started riding at the age of 3, encouraged by his parents who are both expert western riders in the California heritage style. Justin's first attempt at horse training took place at age 11, when he rode a young

colt and managed to "just hang on." Since then, he has studied natural horsemanship, which is based on developing a common understanding between people and horses. Among his favorites, Justin lists reining champion Shawn Florida, Aussie horseman Clinton Anderson and Tom Dorrance, who was one of the first trainers to advocate for "true unity" between horse and rider.

Justin currently trains horses and teaches training and riding at Hillcrest Ranch in Sunol and Chaparral Ranch in Milpitas. He teaches all ages, and has a special interest in bringing natural horsemanship to competitive, performance disciplines, like western reining. Justin recently became a father for the first time.

The Extreme Mustang Makeover showcases the beauty, versatility and trainability of the rugged horses. The Extreme Mustang Makeover event, which is produced by the non-profit Mustang Heritage Foundation, will visit 9 locations across the United States in 2012. The mission of the Mustang Heritage Foundation is to help increase the number of successful adoptions of wild horses taken off the range by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM estimates that about 29,500 wild horses are currently roaming on BLM-managed rangelands in 10 Western states. California has 22 Herd Management Areas supervised by the BLM.

For more information call (925) 209-7152 jmperformancehorse@yahoo.com, www.jmperformancehorse.com

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JOHN CARTER 3D (PG13) DLP THX		2:00	5:00	8:00
SILENT HOUSE (R) DLP	12:40	2:50	5:10	7:20
A THOUSAND WORDS (PG13) DLP	12:10	2:25	4:55	7:10
DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX (PG) DLP THX	11:45	2:00	4:10	6:20
DR. SEUSS' THE LORAX 3D (PG) DLP	12:30	2:40	4:50	7:00
PROJECT X (R) DLP	12:15	2:35	5:00	7:25
ACT OF VALOR (R) DLP	1:05	3:50	6:30	9:00
HUGO 3D (PG) DLP	1:00	4:00	6:40	9:25
THIS MEANS WAR (PG13) DLP	2:20	4:40	7:10	9:35
THE VOW (PG13) DLP	1:20	4:15	6:55	9:30
JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (PG) DLP	11:50	2:15	7:15	
WANDERLUST (R) DLP		4:35	9:40	
SAFE HOUSE (R) DLP		2:15	7:20	
GONE (PG13) DLP		12:00	4:55	9:55
THE SECRET WORLD OF ARRIETTY (G) DLP				12:05

SYSTEM

(continued from page one)

Dr. Clarke, "at how corporations have taken over my profession."

Both the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of California have declared support for quality, affordable health care for all residents.

"Every developed country in the world except the United States has universal health care, which delivers superior results at lower costs," said league member Joyce Wallace. "The U.S., thought of as the leading and most powerful nation in the world, fails miserably when it comes to taking care of the health issues of its population."

California currently spends about \$200 billion annually on a health care system in which 30% of every dollar goes to administration costs, according to Senator Mark Leno, D-San Francisco.

In response, he authored Senate Bill 810, the California Universal Health Care Act. The measure would create a private-public partnership providing every California resident with medical, dental, vision, hospitalization and prescription drug benefits - while allowing patients to choose their own doctors, eliminating the need for multiple coverage-gap policies, and saving the state billions of dollars.

"What's happened in my 30 years of medicine," said Dr. Clarke, "is what military people call 'mission creep.' You start out with one purpose, which was having an intermediary reimburse medical expenses.

Then you become something much bigger - which is what we have now.

"As a family doctor, I have to deal with about 50 different insurance companies, each one with different criteria. It's become a money-maker for a certain segment of the business world, which really adds back nothing of value into my medical practice or my ability to take care of my patients. This is just money sucked out of the system."

Although the LWV is a non-partisan political organization, members do take a stand. "We do not advocate unless we know what we're talking about," said league member Julice Winter. "One of the things about the league is that we study the issues. Some people say we study them exhaustively."

Founded in 1920, the League of Women Voters encourages broad-based citizen participation in the democratic process. "We work to increase understanding of major policy issues, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy," said former LWV president Barbara Hempill.

Any citizen, 18 years old or older, male or female, may become a voting member of the league, which lobbies for outcomes when consensus has been reached within the league. The LWV presents debates and forums, fights for campaign finance reform, works to protect the California coast, advocates equitable financing for schools, and lobbies for clean air and the

clean-up of toxic waste.

Speaker Andrew McGuire, executive director of California OneCare, likens a single-payer plan to "Medicare on steroids. SB 810 would not only cover everyone (not just people aged 65 and older) but it would also provide total, comprehensive benefits."

McGuire said that the two biggest impediments to adopting a single-payer health system are first, that the health insurance, drug, and medical device industries are spending unlimited amounts of lobbying dollars as well as funding disinformation campaigns. Second, the public's false belief that government is the enemy and that a government-run health insurance system would not work. He cites Medicare and the VA system as examples of government-run programs with low overhead and high satisfaction.

"The for-profit business model requires that corporations charge as much as possible and enroll customers that are at low risk of becoming ill," said McGuire. "That's the only way to maximize profits for shareholders and provide high salaries and obscene bonuses for employees."

Dr. Clarke added, "Single-payer defines the financing mechanism, which is public-financed, privately-delivered. This is not government healthcare. These are the same doctors that you're working with now who instead of billing 50 insurance companies are going to bill just one."

For more information, visit: lav.ca.lwvnet.org or go to californiaonecare.org.

Cancer Foundation to Benefit from Champions Party Celebrity Fundraiser

Super Bowl Champion Jerry Rice, PGA TOUR legends Steve Elkington and Scott McCarron, along with a variety of Bay Area sports celebrities, will be among the special guests at the Claremont Hotel Club & Spa for the Champions Party Celebrity Fundraiser and Poker Tournament the evening of April 10.

Hosted by the 2012 TPC Stonebrae Championship and the Northern California chapter of the NFL Alumni, the gala reception and card competition is being held to support the Lazarex Cancer Foundation of Danville.

For a \$500 buy in, guests take a seat at the No Limit Texas Hold 'Em tournament and are eligible for the evening's grand prize, entry in the World's Largest Poker Tournament in Las Vegas. Rebuys are permitted; casino games and the Champion's Party are included. For \$100, guests can watch the poker tournament, enjoy the party and play casino games.

For the Champion's Party and Poker Tournament tickets or information visit www.lazarex.org/events or www.shop.wagevents.com

Lazarex helps fund expenses associated with late stage cancer patients' participation in FDA approved clinical trials.

"At Lazarex Cancer Foundation we like to have fun but we

take our mission seriously. The proceeds from this event will help us fulfill our mission to support the cancer community by providing assistance with costs for clinical trial participation, navigation through clinical trial options, and community outreach and education," said Dana Dornis, President of Lazarex Cancer Foundation.

Besides the No-Limit Texas Hold 'Em tournament, guests will dance to the sounds of The Sun Kings, a renowned Beatles cover band, while enjoying drinks and delicious appetizers. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the poker tournament begins at 8 p.m.

The Champions Party Celebrity Fundraiser and Poker Tournament is held in conjunction with the 3rd annual Jerry Rice Pro-Am driven by Audi, which follows on April 11 at TPC Stonebrae.

Golfers experience what it's like to be a tour pro, as they team up with professional golfers and compete in tournament conditions.

The field features local companies teamed up with Rice, the TPC Stonebrae Championship Tournament Host, and Elkington, the "Tour Ambassador" for the event, as well as McCarron, numerous NFL Alumni and other celebrity figures. Admission to the pro-am is free, with spectators

having informal access with both the golfers and celebs.

The TPC Stonebrae Championship returns to the top of the Hayward hills for its fourth season on the Nationwide Tour. Combining the best in Bay Area sports, entertainment and hospitality, the TPC Stonebrae Championship will showcase world-class golf in a festive atmosphere that is designed to bring together the community at the Nationwide Tour's only Northern California appearance. Competition in the \$600,000 event is April 12-15.

Special Events throughout the week of the tournament are designed to appeal to sports fans of all ages and create a unique and exciting community event.

Events include Women's Day, College Day (students \$10 with a school ID), Family Day (free breakfast Sunday morning, video game venue), and the popular Beer 4 Birdies (at 9th green, where birdies net \$3 beers and eagles net \$2 beers).

The entire week is a community event with the goal of raising \$250,000 for Bay Area charities. All net proceeds will be distributed to select non-profit organizations.

For more tournament information, tickets, and volunteer opportunities visit: www.tpcfun.com

OBITUARIES

Loren Kenneth Hergert

June 23, 1928 - February 19, 2012

Loren Kenneth Hergert, loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather passed away on Sunday, Feb 19, in Discovery Bay, California. Margaret Hergert, his loving wife of 56 years, a son, and three daughters, were present with him at his home. Loren is survived by 12 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Loren was born in San Francisco in 1928, and later moved to Los Altos where he was raised. He served in the Navy during the Korean War, and, upon returning home, he became part owner of WhiteCliff Market. He continued in the grocery business with the opening of Driftwood Market, Los Altos Liquors, and Cherry Chase Liquors, until his retirement in 1985. While residing in Los Altos, he married Margaret Paccioretti, had four children, and was active in the community through the Los Altos Lion's Club.

He and Marge moved to Discovery Bay in 1986 and became active in the community again by serving as an Officer of the Discovery Bay Yacht Club. Along with his love of boating, he and Margaret enjoyed traveling worldwide.

He is remembered for his love of family, flying, and woodworking and leaves a legacy of community service. His days were filled with enjoying his many friends in Los Altos and Discovery Bay, growing his bonsais, and watching his children and grandchildren. Watching the sunsets on his deck at Discovery Bay with a brandy in hand was a perfect finish to his day.

Ivan Rezucha

January 11, 1924 - February 25, 2012

Ivan Rezucha, 88, passed peacefully surrounded by loved ones on Saturday, February 25, 2012. Ivan was born January 11, 1924 in Sereď, Czechoslovakia (now Slovakia), and earned his

Doctorate degree in Economics and Statistics from the University of Vienna in May, 1950.

Upon immigrating to the United States that same year, Ivan received a full scholarship from Portland University to further his education. In 1951, he joined the Electric Steel Foundry (which later became ESCO), where he worked in accounting for seven years. Ivan married and had three sons in Oregon, then relocated with his family to New York in 1958 to begin working for IBM. Within a few years he would unfortunately lose his wife, Jean, remarry, and add two daughters to his growing clan.

Ivan dedicated the next 30 years of his professional life to IBM and developed a passion for computer technology and its many applications. The breadth of his interests beyond computers was vast; his endless curiosity about science, mathematics, languages, world geography, and history inspired him to be a life-long learner in the truest sense.

He is survived by his sister Eva Horacek (John Horacek) of Gold Coast, Australia; his wife Barbara and children, Ivan Rezucha (Jana Swanson) of Fort Collins, Colorado; Paul Rezucha (Michelle Rezucha) of Alameda, California; Tom Rezucha of Billerica, Mass.; Jennifer Pogensee (John Pogensee) of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii; Katherine Rezucha of Livermore, California; four grandchildren: Elizabeth Rezucha-Brown, Palko Rezucha, Iliia Rezucha, and Audrey Pogensee; and several nieces and nephews.

Ivan was remembered at a service were held Friday, March 2, 2012 at Cedar Grove Community Church in Livermore, California. The family suggests contributions in his memory to The Nature Conservancy at www.nature.org.

Arrangements by A Special Touch Funeral and Cremation Services of Dublin Ca.

Karen Rose (Lee) Wilson

Aug 9, 1946-Jan 20, 2012
Resident of Lincoln, CA

Karen was born and raised in Livermore, CA. She was married to her high school sweetheart, Doug, for 44 years.

She is survived by her husband; daughter, Kelly Gilbert (Mark); grand-daughter, Delaney; mother, Renee Lee; sister,

Mary Lattig (Glen); nieces and nephews.

A private family memorial was held at their home in Lincoln.

Katharine "Kemi" Lance

Resident of Livermore
December 6, 1941 - March 1, 2012

Kemi passed away on March 1, 2012, after a short battle with pneumonia. She was surrounded by her daughters, grandchildren and sons-in-law. Kemi was raised in Lafayette, California. She married Chuck Lance in 1960 and moved to Moraga after 2 years on a Naval Base in Japan. They raised their two daughters, ran a paving business, and spent hours of time with the Moraga Horsemen's Association and 4-H Club. They were married 36 years before Chuck passed away and Kemi moved to Livermore to be closer to her daughters and grandchildren.

Kemi was a loving mother to Sheri McRae and Robin Neizman and their husbands, Dave McRae and Joe Neizman. She was adored by her grandchildren, Travis, Tyler, Danielle, Jon, and Todd.

Kemi began volunteering for the ValleyCare Auxiliary in 1997. She unselfishly gave 12,495 hours of service that included the Director of the Thrift Shop, Vice President of the Auxiliary and service on the Nominating Committee just to name a few. Kemi loved to travel with the Hayward Travel Club and her family. She spent a lot of time supporting her grandchildren in their activities. Kemi's sense of humor, infectious laugh and smile will be missed by all.

The service will be Monday, March 12th at 1:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Church in Livermore.

Kemi would be honored if donations were made to any animal rescue organization. She was a real animal lover.

Amy Claire Lewis

Amy Claire Lewis, a resident of Livermore for 37 years, died Feb. 29, 2012 after a 31-year battle with Parkinson's Disease.

She was 77 years old.

A memorial service celebrating her life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 17 at Trinity Baptist Church, 577 Olivina Avenue, Livermore, 94551.

Mrs. Lewis was a woman of deep faith who joyfully joined her pastor husband, H. Roger Lewis, in ministry. As her disease progressed and she could no longer function well without help, she had a succession of more than 12 caregivers working with her starting in 1990.

During their time together, she engaged each of them, demonstrating that her son Andy described as "her profound interest in other people." She routinely discussed Jesus Christ with each of them and, over time, disciplined each of them. Her impact on one caregiver was so significant that she named her daughter for Amy.

Mrs. Lewis met her husband, Roger, while they were both attending a young adults group in New York City. They were married Nov. 25, 1955 and then moved to Berkeley so Roger could attend Berkeley Baptist School of Divinity. She worked in the graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley while Roger attended seminary.

After graduating, they served at Oak Lake Baptist Church in Seattle and First American Baptist Church in Hayward before accepting a call to First Baptist Church (now known as Cedar Grove) in Livermore. Roger served as senior pastor there

for 18 years while Amy raised their three boys and helped in worship.

Amy played the piano during worship services and served as a discussion leader in Bible Study Fellowship for six years. She also directed a number of the Christmas pageants. She had a particular gift for helping and encouraging women.

The family's favorite time together was spent at Mt. Hermon for Christian family camps.

She was born in Cairo, Ill. on Jan. 25, 1935 to Bernice Maud Lafoon and Amos William Sickman.

She attended both Millikin University in Decatur and Hunter College in New York City and earned a bachelor's of arts in sociology.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, the Rev. H. Roger Lewis, her three sons Mark R. Lewis of Burbank, Andrew H. Lewis (Aleta) of Santa Cruz, Paul W. Lewis (Lynn) of Marina, CA, and seven grandchildren: Cassidy, Michael, Joshua, Grant, Phoebe, Julia and Kirk Lewis. Her brother, Charles William Sickman, died in a drowning accident when she was in high school.

The family prefers contributions in her memory to Shepherd's Gate, 1660 Portola Ave., Livermore, 94550 or Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave. Suite 110, Dublin, 94568.

Lois Ann Bedford

Resident of Livermore

Lois Ann was born on Oct. 30, 1933 in Ohio and passed away on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2012 in Pleasanton, CA. She was 78 years old. She was a teacher in the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District for 22 years.

Lois Ann enjoyed building beautiful doll houses, sewing, knitting and gardening.

She is preceded in death by her daughter, Susan Mooney. She is survived by her loving husband, Robert of 59 years, her children David Bedford of Livermore and Leslie Shirley of Brentwood; brother, Robert Daso of Texas and sister, Laverna Filina of Texas, and 6 grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Friday, Mar. 23 at 1:00 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore, CA. Memorial donations can be made to the American Heart Association or the American Lung Association.

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 to receive additional information.



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MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

refireworks, <http://www.twitter.com/livfireworks>

I hope to see everyone there. LARPD Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

DOE Finances Jo Ann Frisch Livermore

Families across America are tightening their belts. But, the Department of Energy's (DOE) overall 2013 budget request is 41% higher than 2012. The request for DOE's nuclear weapons activities is \$7.6 billion. If granted by Congress, it would be the largest in our nation's history.

Livermore Lab's portion of the DOE request is more than \$1 billion. Nuclear weapons activities make up 88% of that. Scarcely 2% would be allocated for cleanup of pollution. And, only 1% would go to renewable energy research.

There are millions of wasted dollars in the budget request. One example is the money squandered on the National Ignition Facility (NIF). Taxpayers have already spent \$7 billion on this mega-laser. Ignition was first promised in 2003. It has still not been achieved. The 2013 request for NIF is several hundred million. Instead, that money should go to cleanup and renewable energy research.

Nationally and locally, we can see that DOE can't be trusted to tighten its own belt. It's up to Congress to bring financial discipline to this agency.

See Website

Kathleen Redmond, R.N.

This letter is in response to the letters from the Assoc. Students President, and another from a long-time LPC student.

Recently I noticed an LPC banner promoting diversity which depicted five young people of varied ethnicities. I am glad that LPC prides itself on the acceptance of diversity, however, I hope this isn't limited to external appearances. True diversity should include the acceptance of respecting diverse opinions.

In terms of PP coming to Las Positas Health Center on Fridays in 2012, my main concern is with the partnership LPC is creating with PP. If you look at recent sting operations conducted by Live Action (which can be found at www.liveaction.org/traffic), and are well documented, it was discovered that in 2011, at twelve PP facilities across the U.S., Planned Parenthood repeatedly violated mandatory reporting laws for sexual abuse.

To respond to the statement that "the health center will not be providing abortion services," emergency contraception and most birth control pills are considered abortifacients. In other words, their effects on the newly conceived life are the same as an abortion.

I ask that the ASLPC and the Board, and any other concerned or interested faculty member, or student checkout the above-mentioned website, and do your research on PP beyond their own website.

Stress Expert to Speak at Las Positas College

Las Positas College will host Stanford University Professor Robert Sapolsky, world renowned neuroscientist and expert on stress. He will present a talk, "Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers: Stress, Health, and Coping," on Wednesday, March 21, 7-9 p.m. in the Multi Disciplinary Building Lecture Hall, Room 2420.

Tickets are on sale at the Bookstore; early purchase is recommended. Admission is

\$10; parking is \$2.

Sapolsky is a MacArthur "genius" Fellow, a professor of biology and neurology at Stanford University and a research associate with the Institute of Primate Research at the National Museum of Kenya. In 2008, National Geographic and PBS aired an hour-long special on stress featuring Sapolsky and his research on the subject. He has been called "one of the best scientist-writers of our time" by Oli-

ver Sacks and "one of the finest natural history writers around" by "The New York Times."

In addition to "A Primate's Memoir," which won the 2001 Bay Area Book Reviewers Award in nonfiction, Sapolsky has written three other books, including "The Trouble with Testosterone," "Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers" and "Monkeyluv and Other Essays on our Lives as Animals." His articles have appeared in publications such as "Discover" and "The New Yorker." Sapolsky was awarded Rockefeller University's Lewis Thomas Prize for Writing about Science for 2008. He currently is working on a book, "Human Aggression, Human Compassion and the Ambiguities of Biology."

"We're really excited about bringing Robert Sapolsky to Las Positas during Brain Awareness Week," said Las Positas College Psychology Instructor Ernest Jones, Ph.D. "Dr. Sapolsky teaches one of the most popular classes at Stanford." Sapolsky's presentation is sponsored by the Psi Beta Psychology Honor Society and the departments of Psychology, Biology and Anthropology.

Jones noted that, each year, the college participates in Brain Awareness Week, a global campaign to increase public awareness about brain research. "Each March, we organize a variety of Brain Awareness Week activities on campus, including the Distinguished Speaker Program, the annual Brain Awareness Fair and exhibits and displays around campus," Jones said.

Brain Awareness Week activities are designed to increase public awareness about the wonders of the brain and nervous system, focus national and international attention on the progress, promise, and benefits of brain and nervous system research, and help people of all ages and backgrounds understand more about the "universe between their ears."

For more information, please visit the Las Positas College website at www.laspositascollege.edu. Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

Teen Job and Career Fair Scheduled

The City of Pleasanton has partnered with the cities of San Ramon and Dublin and the Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club to present a Teen Job and Career Fair on Saturday, March 24, 2012. This free event will take place from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Dublin Senior Center, located at 7600 Amador Valley Boulevard in Dublin.

Teens ages 14 through 18 will have the opportunity to meet with employers and attend a series of workshops on Finance Management; Social Networking and Use of Media; Job Search; Interview Techniques; and Resume Development. The event will also feature panel discussions on Professional Careers and Skills/Trades, and a mock interview session.

LARPD Appoints Oversight Committee Representative

The President of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) Board of Directors appointed a representative and an alternate to the City of Livermore's Oversight Board for Redevelopment.

President Beth Wilson will serve as the representative, with Vice President Maryalice Faltings as the alternate. The seat is designated for the "largest special district taxing entity," which was confirmed by the City to be LARPD.

The new state legislation provides for the establishment of an oversight committee to determine whether a project is enforceable. Projects that are locked in enforceable agreements can be funded.

The oversight board will be comprised of seven members two appointed by the county board of supervisors with one representing the board and one representing the public. Other

committee members will be one each appointed by the mayor, county superintendent of education, Chancellor of California Community Colleges, the largest special district taxing entity (LARPD), and a city employee.

LARPD Directors approved an amendment to the existing easement agreement with Wente Vineyards and the Crane Ridge Mutual Water Company.

The amendment allows for an enlarged easement space to include an area repaired for drainage. The trail segments run west from Vasco Road and Charlotte Way through a subdivision and vineyards, then along Tesla Road to Concannon Boulevard.

Due to a lockdown at nearby East Avenue Middle School on Wednesday night and precautionary police activity at the Robert Livermore Community Center, the Board meeting was not able to be televised as usual.

See local photos of our Valley only at www.independentnews.com



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LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 460105

The following person(s) doing business as: XO Pandora Online Broadcasting, 3107 Independence Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Jacob Stansky, 5177 Peony Drive, Livermore, CA 94551 (2) Jarrod Anders, 6960 Reno Drive, Arvada, CO 80002 This business is conducted by Co-partners The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/1/2011. Signature of Registrants: s/ Jacob Stansky / Co-owner This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 11, 2012. Expires January 11, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3181. Published February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 461540

The following person(s) doing business as: Automax, 3785 First Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Fazli Auto Sales Inc, 1006 Natwick Way, Brentwood, CA 94513 This business is conducted by a Corporation The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: s/ Farhad Fazli, CEO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2012. Expires February 14, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3183. Published February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 460312

The following person(s) doing business as: Rockstar Audio, 3111 Independence Drive Unit A, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Scott Wood, 1046 Sunrise Ridge Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549

This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/17/2012. Signature of Registrants: s/ Scott Wood This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 17, 2012. Expires January 17, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3184. Published February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 460352

The following person(s) doing business as: Vapor Warehouse, 7697 Hawthorn Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Interlaid Ventures, LLC, 7697 Hawthorn Ave, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 461078

The following person(s) doing business as: D and D Fabrication, 592 Sonoma Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): David Abbley, 592 Sonoma Ave, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 461095-96

The following person(s) doing business as: (1) All Pro Fire Protection (2) All Pro Pumping Services, 1020 Ventura Ave, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Edward Gonsalves, 1020 Ventura Ave, Livermore, CA 94551

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 454509

This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/1/2004. Signature of Registrants: s/ David Abbley This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 2, 2012. Expires February 2, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3186. Published February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2012.

The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Cal State Smogs, 3985 First Street, # F, Livermore, CA 94551. The Fictitious business Name Statement for the Partnership was filed on 7/29/11 in the County of Alameda. The full name of Registrant: Harjit Deo, 595 Bourne Lane, Danville, CA, 94506 This business was conducted by: Harjit S. Deo Signature of Registrant: /s/ Harjit S. Deo This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 10, 2012. Expires February 10, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3187. Published February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 461497

The following person(s) doing business as: Cal State Smogs, 3985 First Street, Suite F, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Hardeep S. Sanghera, 4998 Moorcroft Cir, Stockton, CA 95206 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2/10/2012. Signature of Registrants: s/ Hardeep Singh Sanghera This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 10, 2012. Expires February 10, 2017.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 461540

The following person(s) doing business as: East Bay Rabbit Rescue, 1945 Fifth Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joan Wegner, 1945 Fifth Street, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/2009. Signature of Registrants: s/ Joan Wegner This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 25, 2012. Expires January 25, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3190. Published February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2012.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. HG12617224 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

1. Petitioner: Amy Burchett filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Molly Rose Wilson Proposed Name: Molly Rose Burchett 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING a. Date: 04/20/2012

The Independent Legal No. 3189. Published February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 460725

The following person(s) doing business as: East Bay Rabbit Rescue, 1945 Fifth Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Joan Wegner, 1945 Fifth Street, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/2009. Signature of Registrants: s/ Joan Wegner This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 25, 2012. Expires January 25, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3190. Published February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 2012.

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Time: 8:45 AM Dept: 504 b. The address of the court is: 24405 Amador Street Hayward, CA 94544 Hayward Hall of Justice 3.a. A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county. The Independent Dated: February 15, 2012 /s/ Winifred Y. Smith Judge of the Superior Court The Independent Legal No. 3193. Published February 23, March 1, 8, 15, 2012.

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS

Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612. NET-WORKING/NORTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE RFP #900979 for County-wide Multifunction Devices, Tuesday, March 13, 2012, 2:00 p.m. - General Ser-

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS



THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY/NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION IS CONDUCTING A FIVE-YEAR REVIEW FOR THE LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY'S LIVERMORE SITE

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration has begun the fourth Five-Year Review of its environmental cleanup at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's (LLNL) Livermore Site.

THE REVIEW PROCESS

Superfund law requires that the protectiveness of cleanup actions be evaluated every five years when contaminants remain at the site above levels that allow unrestricted access. The purpose of the Five-Year Review is to evaluate the progress of the cleanup remedy towards achieving the Site's cleanup objectives, and whether the remedy continues to be protective of human health and the environment.

The Five-Year Review report summarizes the nature and extent of contamination and describes DOE's progress in cleaning up the Livermore Site. DOE's draft Five-Year Review report for the Livermore Site is now available to the public at the LLNL Environmental Repository in the Livermore Public Library located at 1188 South Livermore Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, [tel. (925) 373-5500]; the LLNL Discovery Center, Greenville Road at East Gate Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, [tel. (925) 422-4599]; and online at <http://www-envirinfo.llnl.gov/>. Upon completion of the review, a copy of the final report will be placed in the information repositories listed above and a notice will appear in the newspaper announcing the completion of the Five-Year Review Report.

SITE HISTORY

LLNL's Livermore Site is an applied science laboratory operated by Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC. The Livermore Site is located approximately three miles east of the downtown area of Livermore, California. The 800-acre Livermore Site was converted from agricultural use into a Navy flight training base and aircraft assembly and repair facility in 1942. In the 1950s, the Atomic Energy Commission converted the site into a weapons design and basic physics research laboratory. Initial hazardous materials releases occurred at the Livermore Site when the site was the Livermore Naval Air Station. There is also evidence that localized spills, unlined landfills, and leaking tanks and impoundments contributed volatile organic compounds, fuel hydrocarbons, metals, and tritium to the ground water and unsaturated sediments in the post-Navy era. By 1987, a plume of VOCs had migrated offsite about 2,200 feet west of the current LLNL property. These past operations resulted in the Livermore Site being placed on the EPA National Priorities List in 1987. A Record of Decision was signed in 1992 that established the cleanup remedies and cleanup standards for the Livermore Site. Previous Five-Year Reviews were completed in 1997, 2002, and 2007.

CLEANUP OBJECTIVE

The Livermore Site remedial action objectives are: (1) prevent future human exposure to contaminated ground water and soil, (2) prevent further migration of contaminants in ground water, (3) reduce contaminant concentrations in ground water to levels below Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), and reduce the contaminant concentrations in treated ground water to levels below state discharge limits, (4) prevent migration in the unsaturated zone of those contaminants that would result in concentrations in ground water above an MCL, and (5) meet all existing permit discharge standards for treated water and soil vapor, and to treat vapor so that there are no measurable atmospheric releases from treatment systems. The remedy at the Livermore Site is protective of human health and the environment for the site's industrial land use. The cleanup standards for ground water are drinking water standards. Because drinking water standards do not differentiate between industrial and residential use, the ground water cleanup remedy will be protective under any land use scenario upon completion.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For further information, please contact: Phil Wong, Federal Project Director, Livermore Site Office, P.O. Box 808, L-293, Livermore, CA 94550 (925) 422-0765 or phil.wong@nnsa.doe.gov

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 461683

The following person(s) doing business as: Connoisseur Music Group, 1721 Morning Glory Rd., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1)Patrick C. Anderson, 2179 Chestnut St., Livermore, CA 94551 (2)Kyle T. Cecil, 1721 Morning Glory Rd., Livermore, CA 94551 (3)Randall Chase Thomas, 1995 Monterey Dr., Livermore, CA 94551 (4)Carlos A. Velaquez De Leon, 689 Moraga Dr., Livermore, CA 94551 (5)Shawn D. Zak, 1848 Newport Ct., Tracy, CA 95376 This business is conducted by a General partnership. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on February 16, 2012. Signature of Registrant(s): Patrick C. Anderson This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 16, 2012. Expires February 16, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3197, Published March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2012.

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

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.

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.tv-ar.org.

EMPLOYMENT

65) HELP WANTED

JANITOR / FLOOR TECH Evening Shift. Must have own transportation and clean driving record. (925)245-0595

56) ADULT CARE

Independent Contractors Wanted, Senior Home Health Care. Must have experience. Senior Solutions, Inc 925-443-310

160) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

BE WRARY 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
MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE Saturday, March 10th 8:00AM - 3:00PM 89 Terra Way, Livermore Lots of women's clothing, Sofas, Baby items, Exercise equipment, Glassware, Tools

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE Saturday, March 10th 9:00AM - 4:30PM 3958 Kern Court, Pleasanton Furniture, Clothes, Small appliances, Videos, Toys

127) LOST/ FOUND
FOUND Small, male, black & white **CHIHUAHUA** (luxe) found in Livermore near Rincon/Olivia. Looking for his home! Please contact Theresa (925)918-3028 or theresa.angelcare@yahoo.com

LOST **Red Poinsetta Clip Earring** Lost downtown Livermore, Friday 12/16. If found, please call (925)447-1762

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.



Having Your Offer Accepted Amid Multiple Bids

By Cher Wollard
The kind of multiple offer frenzy that places like Mountain House have been experiencing for a couple of years is spilling over into higher-priced housing.

Why? Buyers are back, lured by bargain-basement prices and historically low interest rates.

That, combined with a dearth of inventory – there were only 131 of single family homes in Livermore, 153 properties total, offered for sale through Multiple Listing Service as of Tuesday—means all those eager buyers are scrapping for the few homes available.

Many well-priced properties in good locations that are in excellent condition are garnering two, three, even a dozen offers the first week they are on the market.

How can a buyer compete in such circumstances?
1. Be prepared.

Talk to a mortgage specialist early. It's important to know how much you can qualify for as well as how much you feel comfortable with, not how much an online mortgage calculator says you can afford.

A good mortgage specialist is familiar with various loan programs and can help you figure out the one that fits your needs. He or she can also advise you on how to resolve any credit issues you may have.

You will need a pre-approval letter from your mortgage specialist. Anyone can give you a pre-qualification letter, which merely states that someone with your income and amount of debt can afford so much in mortgage payments. But before a pre-approval letter is issued, the loan officer must look beyond income and assets to creditworthiness, job security and other pertinent factors.

If you don't know a good mortgage specialist, ask your Realtor to refer you.

Research neighborhoods, so you have a sense of areas you might want to live in. Again, your Realtor can provide guidance.

Be clear about what is important to you. Don't be lured by a beautiful home with all the wrong features for your family.

2. Understand how multiple offers work.
A multiple offer scenario means the seller has received two or more offers to purchase the property. The seller may accept one of the offers, reject all of them or respond with counter offers to one or more of the buyers.

While the seller is awaiting responses to the counter offers, other bids may be presented and the seller can choose to accept one of those.

Successful offers are cleanly written, complete and professionally presented. They are strong in terms of the price offered, and do not ask for a lot of extras from the seller.
They include a pre-approval letter from a reputable bank or mortgage brokerage as well as evidence that you have enough funds to cover the downpayment and closing costs. They often include a cover letter providing a synopsis of price and terms, and perhaps a little information about you as a buyer. They do not include personal information or photographs that could be used in an illegally discriminatory way.

Price is not the only consideration. Sellers also look at how strong the financing is. An all-cash offer is more attractive than an offer in which the buyer has 100 percent financing.

3. Move fast.
If this is the house or condo you want, make an offer today.
If you move fast enough, you may get your offer accepted before "the crowd" is even aware of it, thus avoiding competition.

That's why it is important to do your homework upfront. Then go for it.

4. Understand what a list price is.
Some sellers price homes high to see if anyone will bite. Some price low in hopes of "bidding up" the price. In fact, most homes sell for fair market value.

List price, or asking price, is simply a number a property owner offers to sell for. In the case of short sales, it may or may not be a price the mortgage-holder will accept.

Before making an offer, ask your agent what comparable properties in the neighborhood are selling for. That should give you a sense of the true fair market value.

5. Be flexible.
Sellers want to get as much money for their property as possible. But sometimes sellers want other things too. A savvy buyer will try to meet those conditions.

Perhaps the seller wants the option to rent back the property for a short while. Or maybe he or she prefers a particular title company. Maybe you can shorten the time needed for inspections and other contingencies.

The one thing you don't want to do is waive your right to get professional inspections of the property.

6. Open strong.
You may not get a second chance.
In a multiple-offer situation, if the fair market value of the property is \$450,000-\$470,000, don't offer \$430,000. You'll lose.

As for really low offers, forget it. Even in sluggish markets, lowball offers are rarely accepted. In a market like this one, they have no chance.

The more offers received and the higher the price of the property, the more over list price it will sell for.
That house priced at \$450,000? If it gets multiple offers, chances are it will sell for \$470,000 or more.

7. Be patient.
With so little inventory, it's possible you will not get the first home you make an offer on. Or the second, or the third. Keep at it. Refine your position. Maybe you need to broaden the types of properties you will consider. A diamond in the rough could be a bargain, if you have the time and the skills to put into it.

You'll also need to be patient if you are bidding on short sale properties. Step one is getting your offer accepted by the seller. Step two is getting it accepted by the lender, which can take months.

Approximately 50 percent of initial short sale agreements fail because the buyer gets tired of waiting for an answer.

8. Be willing to take a back-up position.
If you don't get the house, don't lose heart. Ask to be put in a backup position. Then, if the first buyer does not complete the sale, you can step in to purchase the property.

Being in backup does not mean you cannot continue to look for another home, and most Realtors would advise you to do so. But it could mean you get the home even if you are not chosen first.

9. Don't fall in love.
A home that shows well can capture your heart. Just don't allow it to cloud your judgment. You will have to live with location, price and conditions of sale for a very long time.

Think long-term. What do you really want and need from a home, and how much can you afford to spend? More than one property will likely suit your needs.
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Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.

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Save Mount Diablo Adds to Its Marsh Creek Holdings



The area of protected Marsh Creek has tripled in length with the preservation of Save Mount Diablo's Marsh Creek 7. Photo by Scott Hein

Save Mount Diablo just preserved its most recent creek parcel, Marsh Creek 7 near Brentwood. The pace of creek preservation is increasing. The organization has announced purchase of two other creek parcels in the past six months, Marsh Creek 5 and 6. The organization has preserved more than a mile of Marsh Creek on such properties in just the past few years. It is a strategy that Save Mount Diablo says will not only protect a critical resource and wildlife corridor but will save millions of dollars.

Marsh Creek 7 is adjacent to another nine acre property owned by Save Mount Diablo, Marsh Creek 1. The new property protects the neighboring 460-foot section of the creek, tripling

the length of the protected area. Marsh Creek is one of the Diablo wilderness' most important features, defining and connecting the area east of Diablo, the second longest, least disturbed creek in the county and one of its most important wildlife corridors. A new state park, the former Cowell Ranch two miles downstream, has been named Marsh Creek State Park.

The park's new name and focus will help Save Mount Diablo's program to protect segments of Marsh Creek upstream. In total, 8.5 miles of the creek have been preserved upstream of Brentwood, including 1.2 miles of creek on property preserved by Save Mount Diablo.

Stream preservation and restoration is becoming increasingly

widespread for a host of reasons from resource protection to fish migration. However stream restoration projects around the Bay Area can cost millions of dollars even for short segments of creeks. "We bought 10 creek parcels averaging 650 feet of creek for an average purchase price of \$300,000", Seth Adams, Land Programs Director explains.

According to Save Mount Diablo short stream restoration projects elsewhere in the Bay Area cost millions of dollars. Ron Brown, the organizations Executive Director pointed out, "By protecting creeks instead of letting them be destroyed we're saving tens of millions of dollars."

Marsh Creek 1 and 7 stretch from Marsh Creek Road across

the toe of a rocky blue-oak wooded ridge into the grassland valley to the west that connect to Round Valley Regional Preserve. Several years ago Save Mount Diablo volunteers built a small loop trail on Marsh Creek 1 but it is somewhat steep. The new property will allow a realignment and expansion of part of

the trail. Save Mount Diablo purchased vacant Marsh Creek 1 in 2007 hoping that the neighboring parcel would become available. Now the owner has sold Save Mount Diablo the neighboring 7.6 acres, including a home, for \$550,000. The owner will continue to live in the house for the

next several years. The first public tour will be held on Saturday, March 31st, from 9:30 am to noon. The second opportunity to see Marsh Creek 7 will be Sunday, April 8th, from 9:30 am to noon. Space is limited and RSVP is required. Visit SaveMountDiablo.org for more details.

Meet the Author at Special Book Signing in Pleasanton

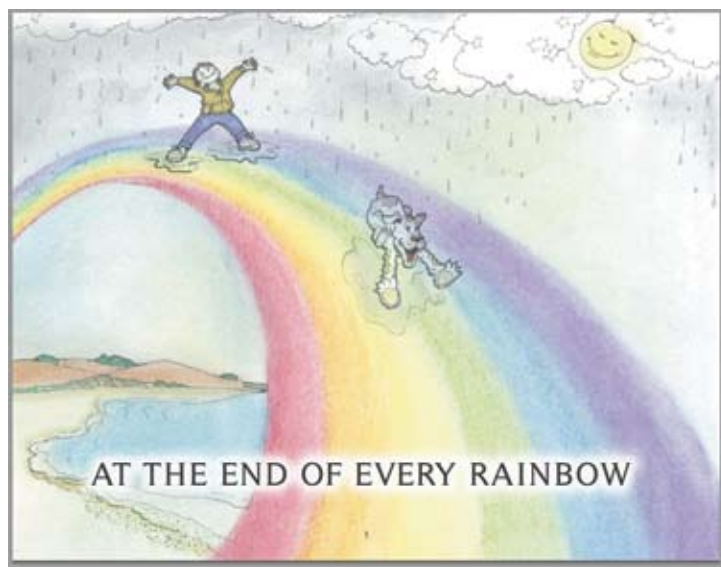
Pleasanton Author Emily Wagner and Pleasanton Illustrator Diane DeCoite to Appear at Towne Center Books

The national release of "Asleep Under the Moon" took place last fall. Now Pleasanton children's book author Emily Wagner will greet local patrons and other guests at an Open House and Book Signing at Towne Center Books on Thursday, March 15. Joining her will be the book's illustrator, Diane DeCoite. The event will get underway at 7:00 p.m. at 555 Main Street, Pleasanton

"Asleep Under the Moon" is a charming bedtime story about Gavin and Buddy's adventures at the beach in Carmel-by-the-Sea, California. Wagner introduces young readers to the magic of nighttime and sleeping under the stars. Buddy falls asleep under the moon and takes a trip to meet the man on the moon.

Wagner is also the author of "At the End of Every Rainbow" which also chronicles the adventures of Gavin and Buddy at the beach.

Emily Wagner lives in Pleasanton with her husband Gary. They enjoy spending time at the beach with their grandsons Gavin and Devin. Her books are a collection of their adventures at the beach. In addition to writing children's books, Wagner serves



as the Finance Director for the City of Pleasanton.

Diane DeCoite is an accomplished artist who lives in Pleasanton with her husband Ed. She has two grown children and a grandson, Brady. She enjoys sharing her love of reading and books with them.

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Art, Community, & Education

Livermore Valley Opera's 'Tosca' Opens Saturday; Cantabella Children's Chorus Members to Perform

By Heidi Massie

This Saturday, the first of four performances of Livermore Valley Opera's production of Giacomo Puccini's operatic masterpiece *Tosca*, opens at the Bankhead Theater. The opening night performance is the culmination of months of preparation and an especially tough week of nightly rehearsals known as "tech week" when all the finishing touches are made to the sets, music, costumes and performers' fine-tuning their voices.

"It's a tough week because you have almost zero time to yourself. You do nothing but eat and breathe the show for the entire week," explained Elizabeth Wells, LVO's Executive Director, who knows this first hand from her own opera career. "It's actually the greatest part of the rehearsal process. The long hours and late nights can be grueling, but there is also a wonderful incubation that takes place in the absence of the audience as you wrap yourself in the creative cocoon that the stage, lights, props, set and costume provide."

The principal singers, soprano Marie Plette as Tosca, tenor David Gustafson as Tosca's lover Cavaradossi, and bass baritone Phillip Skinner as the evil Scarpia are seasoned performers who have withstood the stress of tech weeks many times over. For weeks, they have rehearsed together at the Bothwell Arts Center until this week when they were in full costume, under full lights and with orchestra every night at the Bankhead Theater.

"We have a very talented group of principal singers for *Tosca*," said Wells. "Each role is demanding physically and emotionally. The casts has what it takes to deliver powerful performances."

Members of the award-winning Cantabella Chorus have been preparing for their part in *Tosca*. A select group of the chorus's singers who will perform in Act I as altar boys, have been studying Italian and Latin to enhance their performance.

Two of the chorus members, Irene Kim and Lena Costello, will share a solo role in the opera. Kim, a junior at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, will perform opening night and the next day's

matinee performance. Costello, an eighth-grader at St. Raymond's School in Dublin, will perform the following weekend March 17 and 18. Cantabella Chorus, also celebrating its 20th anniversary, has

sung with LVO before including *Carmen*, *Elixir of Love*, *Marriage of Figaro*, *The Tales of Hoffmann*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *The Magic Flute* and *La Boheme*.

The March production of *Tosca*

is the second opera of LVO's 20th anniversary season. It is one of the most frequently performed operas throughout the world. With its true historical references of a time when Roman citizens rebel against Napoleon's occupation, and its characters based on real people, its scenes reflective of true Roman locales, matched with the dramatic and powerful arias and music of Puccini, LVO's *Tosca* promises to deliver.

Performance details are as follows: March 10 at 8:00 p.m. Opening Night Gala celebration dinner at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, 4:30 p.m.; March 11 at 2:00 p.m., Ice Cream and Opera; March 17 at 8:00 p.m.; March 18 at 2:00 p.m., Ice Cream and Opera.

Gala ticket includes dinner at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, followed by a dessert reception in the Bankhead Theater. The welcome reception begins at 4:30 and seating at 5:00 pm at Uncle Yu's, located one-half block from the theater. Guests will have a chance to meet the Stage Director Olivia Stapp and Alexander Katsman, LVO's Artistic Director and Music Director and Conductor. Gala Tickets are \$75, and are available through Bankhead Theater box office.

Sunday matinees of Livermore Valley Opera productions offer an extra tasty treat with ice cream for all at intermission.

Included in the ticket price are pre-opera talks held one hour prior to curtain. LVO's traditional artist's reception is held in the lobby immediately following each performance. Stage Director Olivia Stapp will share her vision of *Tosca*.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets are adults \$39-\$74, students 18 years and younger \$10 off on all days, all seating sections (student ID required). They may be purchased at the Bankhead box office, 925-373-6800, or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org.



Marie Plette as Tosca placing candles and cross on Scarpia played by Phillip Skinner.

(Photo Barbara Mallon)

Classical Series Features Young Concert Sax Player

Charismatic young concert saxophonist, Ashu, is next to perform in the Firehouse Arts Center's Classical Series, Sunday, March 18 at a 3:00 pm matinee.

The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

At 26 years of age, Ashu "possesses a deep musicality which pours through his playing and hooks the audience," wrote the Chicago Tribune. The young saxophonist will perform both original and arranged works with pianist Kuang-Hao Huang, including his interpretations of Rachmaninov, Korngold, Ibert, Italian film composer Morricone, Argentinean tango master Piazzolla, and more.

Ashu, who was born and raised in California, began playing the saxophone at age 10 and soon began entering competitions. These afforded him a wide range of opportunities, notably his recital debut which took place at Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall and his concerto debut at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. Since then, he has performed solo throughout Western Europe, the West Indies and the United States, with upcoming concerts scheduled in Australia, New Zealand, and the Baltic.

Even though the saxophone seems to be a common, and much beloved instrument in America, the full extent of its expressive powers is not yet widely known. Like the human voice, it ranges from most tender utterance to full-blast roar, its single reed allowing the player to control the intensity of vibration with great accuracy.

A late newcomer to the brass family, patented in 1846 by the Belgian wind instrument maker Adolphe Sax (1814-1894), the saxophone was rapidly adopted into French military bands and recognized for its superior qualities by the influential Paris-based composers Berlioz, Halevy, Rossini and Meyerbeer. Unfortunately, the inventor's triumph turned most of the establishment against him, hampering full acceptance of this new family of instruments and of his other ingenious improvements in wind instrument manufacturing during his lifetime.

After World War I, an "epidemic of saxophone mania" swept over America, and the instrument gained prominence in jazz in the 20's and in the big bands of the 30's swing era. Its stature as a clas-



Ashu

sical instrument also grew, somewhat under the radar, as original concert pieces and transcriptions enriched its literature and revealed its extraordinary tonal compass and capacity for nuance.

While the saxophone is rarely featured in concert music, Ashu has begun to change this. He says, "It's really an incredible instrument. It can play with such emotional intensity, sing like a voice, and effortlessly project in the largest of halls. It's capable of a lot of really beautiful things."

According to Ashu, his love for performing and reaching people is his driving force. "For me, there's just no feeling like walking up on stage and getting to share myself with an audience. It's an absolutely incredible feeling that is so humbling and thrilling at the same time."

Ashu has demonstrated that the concert saxophone can reach beyond stylistic categorization to diverse groups of people. He has attracted younger and new listeners into the concert hall with his instrument by offering a fresh experience for classical audiences.

Earning a reputation for his engaging stage presence, critics have raved that he's "just as much fun to watch as he is to listen to" (Dallas Morning News) and "Riveting, Brilliant, Pizzazz to Burn!", after being featured on NPR. What drives him, ultimately, is his love for performing and reaching people.

On March 18, he will perform works by Ibert, Rachmaninoff, Korngold, Piazzolla, Morricone and Demersseman, assisted by pianist Kuang-Hao Huang, professor of Piano at Roosevelt University in Chicago.

Tickets are adult: \$16, \$20, \$24; child: \$12; senior: \$20. They may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance.

The entrance to free parking is on Spring Street near First Street.

Cuban Week at Las Positas Features Performance, Poetry, Art and Discussions

The 5th Anniversary of Cuban Culture Week will feature a variety of events from March 12 to 16 at Las Positas College in Livermore.

The events are held in the evenings from 7 to 9 p.m.

Cuban Culture Week is an annual festival hosted at Las Positas College in Livermore. Cuban talent from the Bay Area and beyond gathers to showcase the culture and share a week of fun and learning with the community. All performances take place in the Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts on campus including art exhibitions, live music and dance, poetry readings and a discussion panel.

Every year an Orisha, which is a spirit or deity from the Yoruba religion, is celebrated. This year the focus is on Elegguá. Africans from Yorubaland brought Elegguá and a host of other orishas with them when they were brought to the Caribbean and Americas as captives. Elegguá is a spirit of Chaos and Trickery and plays frequently by leading mortals to temptation and possible tribulation in the hopes that the experience will lead ultimately to their maturation. In this way, Elegguá is a difficult teacher, but in the end is usually found to be a good one. He is identified by the number three and the colors red & black and is seen carrying a cane or shepherd's crook as well as a smoking pipe.

Following is a list of events:

Mon., March 12: 7 p.m. Welcome!/Bienvenidos! "Elegguá" dance performance featuring Alain Soto, Drum and song accompaniment featuring Carlos Rredoble and Erick Barbéria. Art Exhibitions: "Ventana a Cuba/Window on Cuba" Paintings and Etchings by new artists from Santiago De Cuba, graduates of La Academia de Artes Plásticas José Joaquín Tejada.

Tues., March 13: 7 p.m. Classical Ballet and Contemporary Dance performed by Alejandro Urgell Reyes and Andrea Mia. 8 p.m. The Poetry of José María Heredia performed by Joel and Anna-María Olivier.

Wed., March 14: 7 p.m. "Bembaténia" Cuban Rap and Digital Sound by Rafael Arzuaga, Wanda Kruda and Rafael Matos. Catherine Suárez, Cuban Week Director Presents: "Fiesta Del Fuego 2011" and "Amor y Esperanza (Love and Hope)" an art therapy program by Jesús Carrete for children and young adults with Down Syndrome in Pinar del Río, Cuba. 8 p.m. Música en Vivo/Live Music - Pasión Habanera.

Thurs., March 15: 7 p.m. "West Meets West" - Learn about the formation of Cuban percussion instruments and the development of Cuban and Afrocuban rhythms. Step across to the Americas and see how these same Afrocuban instruments and rhythms gave birth to Latin Jazz music. Presented by Osvaldo Carvajal. 8 p.m. Over the Body - T-shirt Art Performance by Rafael Arzuaga. Discussion Panel: "Una Mirada Desde Adentro y Fuera/Looking Out - Looking In" featuring Cuban Experts and Artists Saily Rivas Hung, Eira Arrate, Grettel Arrate, and Estela Estevez.

Fri., March 16: 7 p.m. "El Carnaval de Santiago de Cuba" presented by Grettel Arrate Hechavarría. Licenciada en Historia del Arte y Artista de la Plástica. "Los Caperos" Dance performance featuring Yussef Breffe Rodríguez, Alejandro Urgell Reyes and Andrea Mia. "Elegguá" Dance performance featuring Alain Soto. "El Manicero" Dance performance featuring Alejandro Urgell Reyes. 8 p.m. LaTropaSon - Cuban Music Group CD Release. Featuring Osvaldo Carvajal, Niobél Cintra, Ara Anderson, Jeremy Pathfield, Sage Baggott, Ruskin French, Julio de la Cruz, and Liván Montoya.

Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore. For more information visit laspositascollege.edu or semanacubana.org or contact Catherine Suárez at 925-424-1212.



Trout Fishing comes to the Bankhead.

Quirky Musical Duo Brings Family Entertainment to the Bankhead

For more than three decades, the musical duo Trout Fishing in America has charmed audiences of all ages and now brings their blend of folk/pop and family music to the Bankhead Theater on March 15, 2012.

An award-winning musical partnership between Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet, the music of Trout Fishing in America springs from influences as diverse as reggae, Latin, blues, jazz and classical, and expresses the joy, humor and quirks of everyday life. The San Jose Mercury News described the group's universal appeal as the ability to combine cheeky lyrics and soulful harmonies in "kids' songs that grown-ups can share without feeling embarrassed ... and grown-up songs that don't bore kids." Tickets for their performance are "family friendly" at just \$32 for adults and \$14 for students.

Trout Fishing in America has collected three National Indie Awards, multiple Parents' Choice Gold Awards, four Grammy nominations, and was named the "Best Musical Group" by the American Academy of Children's Entertainment in 1996. For Idlet and Greenwood however, industry

awards are far less important than the opportunity to share their love for the world of music with young people. They have made cultivation of the arts in schools a high priority. In interactive songwriting workshops, they demonstrate the creative process and help young people experience for themselves how art and music can be inspired by the most ordinary of events.

Their unusual name, taken from a novel by Richard Brautigan, is nearly as incongruous as a photograph of the duo standing next to each other. Ezra Idlet, on guitar, stands six feet nine inches and Keith Grimwood, on bass, comes to just five feet five and one half inches tall. Musically however, they are ideally matched. It has been ever since they met, these two friends still get up every day and look forward to playing music together. Grimwood was already sitting in with jazz musicians as a teen, and landed a position in the Houston Symphony after graduating from college with a degree in music. Idlet played basketball in college before deciding to pursue a life in rock and roll. The two came together in Houston while playing in an eclectic folk rock band called

St. Elmo's Fire. When that band broke up in 1979, Trout Fishing in America was born.

Grimwood and Idlet have also collaborated with illustrator Stephane Jorisch on two whimsical picture book/music CD sets about a cat named Chicken Joe and his friends. Trout Fishing in America will captivate audiences of all ages with a single unforgettable evening of fun at the Bankhead Theater on March 15th at 7:30 p.m.

While some shows at the Bankhead Theater are especially tailored to younger audiences, such as Trout Fishing in America or MatheMagic earlier this season, student tickets are available for virtually every show, making music, dance, theater and other performing arts more widely accessible to young people in the community. Throughout the rest of the 2011-2012 season, audiences of all ages can experience a variety of shows including, among others, the traditional American folk music of The Jay Ungar and Molly Mason Family Band on March 23rd, authentic Mexican mariachi music by Mariachi Sol de Mexico on April 27th, the imaginative choreogra-

(continued on page 4)

BANKHEAD THEATER

**endless variety,
exciting entertainment**

SATURDAY NIGHT & SUNDAY MATINEE!

Tosca by Giacomo Puccini

Mar 10-18 Sat/Sun at 8/2pm
Livermore Valley Opera

**Trout Fishing
in America**

Mar 15 at 7:30pm
Silly Songs to Serious Music for All Generations

Lizz Wright

Mar 21 at 7:30pm
A Rising Star in the World of
Contemporary Blues and Jazz

**Jay Ungar & Molly Mason
Family Band**

Mar 23 at 8pm
The Heart and Soul of
Traditional American Music

**Home from NY:
Laura Hamilton**

Mar 24 at 8pm
Livermore-Amador Symphony

**The Importance of
Being Earnest** by Oscar Wilde

Mar 28 at 7:30pm
Aquila Theatre's Production of the
Brilliant Tour de Force Comedy of Manners

An Evening with
Rita Coolidge

Mar 30 at 8pm
One of Rock and Pop's Most Admired Singers

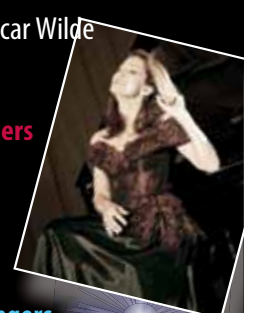
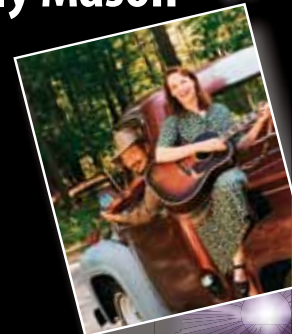
**Atlantic Brass
Quintet**

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Del Valle Fine Arts

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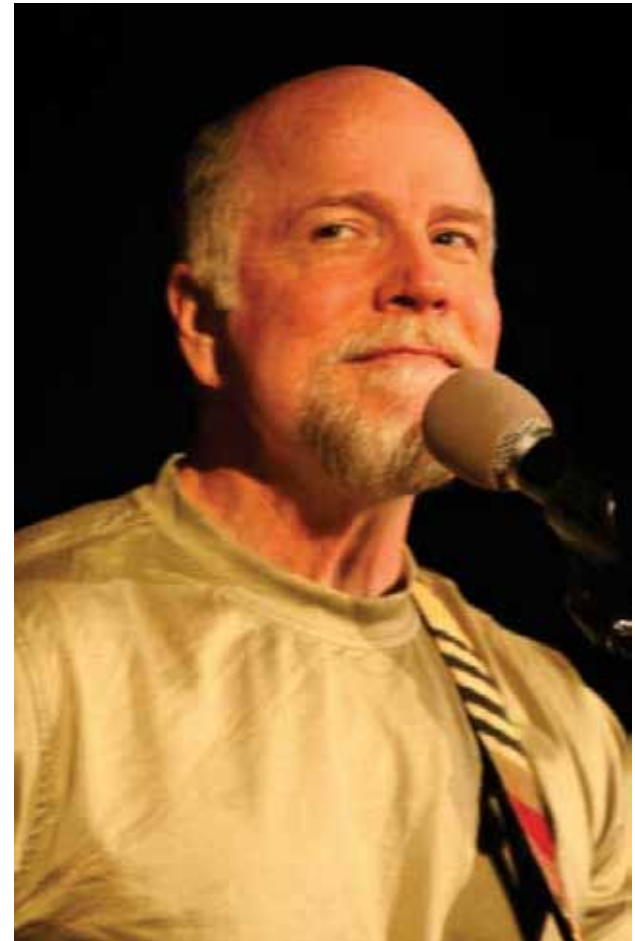


John McCutcheon, Folk Music Master, in Concert at Asbury

One of America's best known and most prolific folk artists, John McCutcheon, will be in concert for the Asbury Live Presents Concert Series at 4 p.m. on Sun., March 18. This will be the only Bay Area appearance on this short California tour.

McCutcheon, whose annual trips to northern California over the past three decades have generated a legion of faithful fans, is a Wisconsin native who now makes his home in North Carolina. Johnny Cash once called him "the most impressive instrumentalist I've ever heard." With over thirty recording collections in his career, and a hundred concerts annually around the country and internationally, McCutcheon has emerged as one of our most respected and loved folksingers. As an instrumentalist, he is a master of a dozen different traditional instruments, most notably the rare and beautiful hammer dulcimer. His songwriting has been hailed by critics and singers around the globe and he has received seven Grammy nomination.

Gifted as a live performer McCutcheon's ease with people of all ages makes his concert performances engaging theater; and now, for the first time, he is using his gifts to create a one-man stage production. Gifted with a storytelling style that has been compared to Will Rogers and Garrison Keillor, The Washington Post described John as folk music's "Rustic Renaissance Man," and the Dallas Morning News once said of him "Calling John McCutcheon a 'folksinger' is like saying Deion Sanders is just a football player..." People of every generation and background seem to feel at home in a concert hall when John McCutcheon takes the stage, with what critics describe as "little feats of magic," "breathtaking in their ease and grace..." and "like a conversation with an illuminating



John McCutcheon

old friend." Information on John McCutcheon can be found at his web site www.folkmusic.com.

Asbury United Methodist Church is located at 4743 East Avenue in Livermore. Tickets are \$15 in advance, for students and seniors and \$20 at the door.

Tickets may be purchased during the week at the church office open M-F, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 – 3 p.m. Doors open at 3:15 – seating is limited. For concert details and ticket purchasing on-line see the concert website at www.asburylivepresents.com.



Pictured is Lois Ann Flood as Isadora Duncan.

An Evening with . . . Features Isadora Duncan

This March, in honor of Women's History Month, spend *An Evening with Isadora Duncan*, the early 1900s dancer famous for both her modern poetic dance style as well as her unusual and untimely death.

The Museum on Main's annual Ed Kinney Lecture Series programs "*An Evening With...*" welcomes Isadora Duncan, portrayed by Lois Ann Flood, on Tuesday, March 13 at 7 p.m. The event is sponsored by an anonymous donor.

Eighty-five years since her tragic death, the world still credits Duncan as the creator of Modern Dance, bringing free-flowing costumes, bare feet and loose hair to stages throughout America, Europe and into Russia. Duncan died as dramatically as she had lived, strangled and nearly decapitated when her long trailing scarf was entangled in the spokes of a wheel of a sports car.

"*An Evening With...*" is a speakers series where audiences come face to face with people making history today as well as actors who look and sound as if they have stepped out from the pages of history books. The presentation by Flood is both culturally enriching and entertaining. Flood delivers a rare opportunity to witness the vi-

tality and force that made Duncan a world famous dancer. Duncan's choreography, reflecting on her stunning choice of classical music, expresses a range of styles from lyrical to dramatic to revolutionary dances.

The speakers series takes place monthly January through October at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Tickets may be purchased at the door or reserved in advance by calling the Museum on Main at (925) 462-2766. Ticket prices: \$10 General Admission, \$5 Members & Seniors, \$3 Students/Teachers with ID. All tickets are paid at the door. Cash, check, Visa and MasterCard accepted. All tickets are open seating and after 6:45pm any unclaimed reserved tickets will be released for sale.

QUIRKY

(continued from page 3)

phy of Alonzo King LINES ballet on April 28th, and on June 9th, toe-tapping western swing by Asleep at the Wheel. Student tickets for these shows and other LVPAC Presents performances are offered for only \$14 through the Bankhead Theater box office or online.

The Bankhead Theater is lo-

cated at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. The ticket office is open Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. On performance days the ticket office remains open through intermission. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org.

Jungle of Jewels Benefit American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in Pleasanton will host its annual jewelry event, "Jungle of Jewels," on March 9, 10 and 11. Along with a dazzling array of high-end jewelry, precious and semi-precious gems, and costume jewelry, the event this year features animal-print clothing, jungle-themed decor for the home, and much more.

The Discovery Shop is located in the Mission Plaza Shopping Center at 1987-A Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Shop hours are: Monday to Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-5, Sunday 12-5. Contact Monda Wiseman, Mgr. at (925) 462-7374 for more information.

All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society's programs of research, education, service and advocacy.



Rosalila - Temple 1

Watercolor Realist Explores the Art of the Maya at the Bankhead Theater

The Bankhead Theater presents an exhibition of Art of the Maya – From Copan to Comalcalco, works by Dennis Collins. It will be shown in the Founders' Room for the month of March. The exhibition travels from the Mexican Consulate in Las Vegas, Nevada, and explores the art of the classic Maya. A reception for the artist will be held from 6-8 p.m. on Wed., March 14, shared with the lobby exhibition, "Staying in Focus."

An Art and Anthropology major, Collins visited the Ruta Maya in 2008 and photographed the architecture and sculpture and art of the southern Mayan cities including Copan, Quirigua, Caracol, Xunantunich, Tikal, Yachilan, Bonampak, Palenque and Comalcalco. Fascinated by the beauty of their artwork, Collins began the

series from his photographs on the Maya in 2010 and finished the 32 paintings in 2011.

The works are a tribute to the Mayan artists who created them. Collins intends the exhibition to serve as an introduction to a rich culture that ultimately destroyed itself, leaving behind its monuments and artwork as their legacy to the history of world cultures.

Collins is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society and has been a community college instructor for 25 years. He also begins teaching his first realistic watercolor class at the Bothwell Arts Center on March 24. Information about this and other art exhibitions at the Bankhead Theater and classes at the Bothwell Arts Center can be found at www.livermoreperformingartscenter.org.

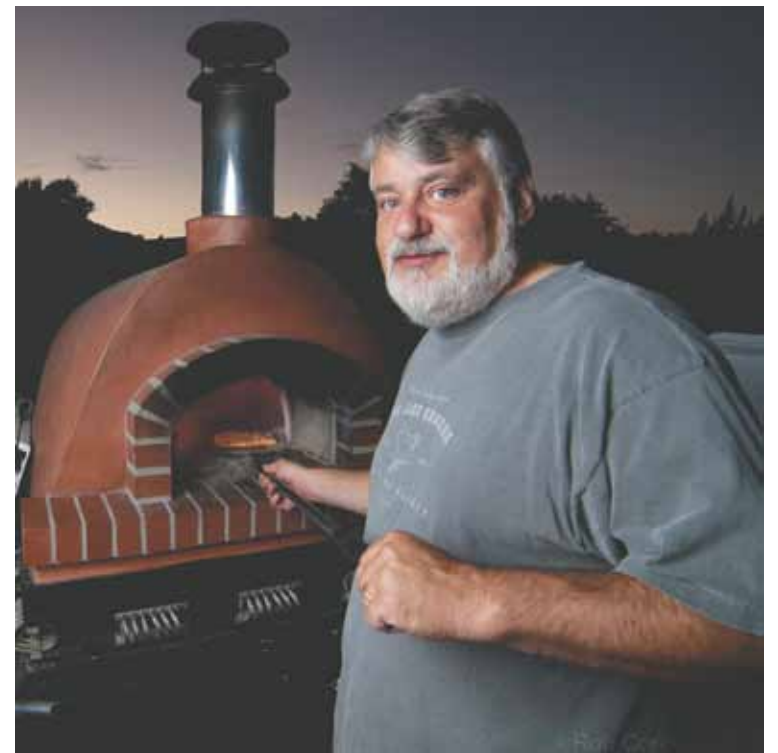
Art Happens Features "Art of Cooking" At Blacksmith Square

Art Happens is a monthly Downtown Livermore event sponsored by Bothwell Arts Center that is held on the second Thursday of each month in downtown Livermore. From 5:30 – 8:00 P.M., this coming Thursday, March 8, Artistic Edge will be hosting "Art of Cooking" at Blacksmith Square.

Several local businesses will be participating providing educational demonstrations, tips and tricks. Victorine Olive Oil will provide tastes and learn how to create culinary treats using artisanal olive oils and balsamic vinegars. Uncle Yu's will be providing a "how to" with one of their famous dishes, Gerard's Honeybees will be giving "honey" cooking recipes and tips, Let 'em Eat Cake will be showing off their unique decorations of their special desserts, and representing wine country, "My Sister's Wine Fudge" will have infused Little Valley Pure Decadence Port.

The "Traveling Pizza Guys" will have a Pizza Oven at the Square.

Artistic Edge, owner Dana Klebes said the newly made monthly event is really catching on with the community and she is working hard to focus on making it fun and educational for everyone. Art means a lot of different things depending on who you are. Art is everywhere around us and in-



Pizza Guy will be on hand.

cludes, music, culinary, dance, etc.

"Art of Cooking" is just the beginning, every month is a different theme, and April is "Art of Photograph" to help people to understand how much technology has evolved providing exciting images. May will focus on the

"Art of Fashion" showing new fashion designs and artsy accessories. June will be the "Art of Wine" focused on how the wine labels are designed and the meaning behind the label.

Artistic Edge is at Blacksmith Square, 21 S Livermore Ave.

Linda Ryan Featured at Bothwell Downtown Studios

The next Art Happens event will be held today, Thurs., March 8 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Several downtown locations will open their doors for an evening of art exploration and making. This new monthly event is coordinated by the Bothwell Arts Center, with significant help from the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC).

March happenings include "Abstracted," an exhibition from several award-winning and emerging local artists at the Wild Vine, with a reception from 6:00 to 7:30 pm; open studios at Firehouse Art Studios in the historic Firehouse building across from the Bankhead Theater as well as at

the Downtown Art Studios, "The Art of Cooking" at Artistic Edge at Blacksmith Square; Meet-the-Artists at Figurehead Art Gallery, and artisan projects like creating a fused flower holder at Art Glass Studios and learning paper masking glazing techniques at Café Art.

A full 6 month calendar and location map of art offerings through June can be found at www.bothwellartscenter.org. It includes a listing of other places to see art in downtown Livermore.

The featured artist for Art Happens at the Bothwell's Downtown Art Studios this month is Linda Ryan. She will be showing her work as well as demonstrating her

signature style, with a twist: This time, she will be demonstrating using acrylics on plexiglass as well as her standard abstract figurative work. Her demo will also include tips on using acrylics and a display of several uses of gels and will start at 6 p.m. on March 8.

Linda Ryan is a professional award-winning artist whose works are in collections across the United States and in England. She is represented by the Figurehead Art Gallery. She manages the Bothwell Arts Center, founded and directs ArtWalk Livermore, Art Happens, manages the exhibition program at the Bankhead Theater and several downtown sites, and works

on many art-related projects and events in the area.

She just began teaching an acrylics class with fees benefitting the Bothwell Arts Center.

Information on Art Happens can be found at www.bothwellartscenter.org; Ryan's work can be viewed at www.lindaryanfineart.com.



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'entwine' at Wente: Tour the winery, taste the new brand

by Harry Stoll

One year ago Wente Vineyards collaborated with the Food Network, and presented a new wine line: "entwine." Wente makes the wine and the label carries the imprimatur of the Food Network. Their idea is that the wines are produced to pair with certain foods in mind. What's in it for the country's wine and food lovers is wine for less than \$13.

Additionally, what's in it is a tour of the Wente Winery—where entwine is produced—followed by a taste of its four varietals. The tours are held on the third week of each month, Thursday through Saturday.

On a mid-February late morning, visitors headed to Wente on Tesla for the tour. Underneath the arbor on the north side of the winery, sat a white tablecloth table. Each place featured a cloth napkin, silverware, small square plates, four wine glasses all narrow, and a square shallow box with a grained lid.

Tour leader Meredith Wheeler greeted the visitors. She wore a black T-shirt with white lettering: "entwine" on the back, and "Hello, my name is Delicious," on the front. The tees are available for purchase. Upended glasses stood on an upended barrel, along with a bottle of entwine Pinot Grigio glowing golden green. Delicious poured a glass for those who could walk and taste wine at the same time.

Walking the walk and talking the talk, well-informed Meredith

always directing her clear voice toward the trodding sippers—occasionally doing the defensive-back walking-backwards walk. She was a marvel of balance. Two of the touring tasters were Livermore residents, Linda Jarrell and Cristina Celotti. When Meredith mentioned the collaboration with Food Network, Linda said, "Oh, I love Paula Deen."

The first stop was the gigantic crush pad, whence Wente wines are launched. Meredith said all entwine varietals are handled separately from the time the grapes come to the crush pad. The grapes come from both Wente vineyards and other growers in California appellations.

She was a regular eno-docent, explaining how red and white wines are handled differently. She interspersed information about the de-stemmer/crusher, the towering steel-jacketed fermentation tanks, punching down and pumping over, spreading the pumice on the vineyard, the clanking bottling line, the barrel room, and plenty more—with information about how the collaboration between the Food Network and entwine came about. Meredith said the Food Network wanted to include wines in talking about food. After a thorough search they chose Wente.

The Delicious tour was appropriate for the non-professional, with plenty of basic information. It ended in the barrel room. Then she opened a door to the outside and the splendid table. The invisible hillsides beyond were a child's



painting of brown cows grazing in green pastures under a sunny blue sky trimmed with white puffs of clouds. Although not needed today, pole-mounted heaters stood at alert.

The guests sat at the table for pairings of simple food from the mysterious box of four divisions to pair with the four entwine varietals. When Meredith said entwine eschews some traditional descriptors such as, "Barnyard," Linda said, "Good, I don't want dirt."

The pretty ivory-colored labels are inscribed, "entwine" in lower case, and the Food Network logo shows prominently. entwine's stated aim is to simplify the enjoyment of wine. Beginning the brand with a lower case 'e' evokes e.e. cummings rendering of his name to show he was a poet of the people.

The four entwine varietals lean toward the acidic to prevent

the fruit from stealing the show. The varietals can be purchased at Safeway, on-line at entwine-wines.com, or during the tour. entwine's Beth Harnish, assisting Meredith, poured the wine with an easy grace.

2010 Pinot Grigio California. The lime and green apple flavors also sing soulfully of a taste of honey. The label suggests guacamole, Asian takeout, whitefish, hors d'oeuvres, evenings on the porch, and salty cheeses. One quadrant of the box held Parmesan cheese and it liked the Pinot Grigio and the touring tasters liked the pairing.

2009 Chardonnay California. Meredith said, "The entwine Chardonnay is not a big oaky Chardonnay." It's aged in used American, French, and Hungarian barrels. She suggested Kettle Chips from the magic box, and the tasters were left with a right-on pairing. The label also suggested grilled cheese sandwiches.

2009 Merlot California. Cristina said it would be right for her cooking, which uses much nutmeg. The label said it tasted like summer plums and among the suggested foods were grilled pork, wild salmon, pizza, tomato sauces, and mac and cheese. The grapes were fermented in upright steel containers. The touring tasters liked it.

2009 Cabernet Sauvignon California. "Boom," said Cristina. "Jewelry in a glass," said Linda. The tannins are well under control, yet present, in this fruity and herbaceous version. It gives the raspberry and the thyme. Cheese

straws from the box got chewed with it. The label suggests steak and potatoes, roasted carrots, bleu cheese—and keeping with the proletarian stance—burgers and backyard barbecue.

The woman whose t-shirt said her name was Delicious handed each touring taster a red envelope containing discount coupons for tasting at Wente brand tasting rooms and for purchase of entwine wines—and four fetching colored recipe cards from the Food Network Kitchens, one to pair with each of the varietals: Seasoned potato chips and Chardonnay—tapenade crostini and Pinot Grigio—sautéed asparagus with fennel and gorgonzola for the Merlot—and individual skillet meatloaves for the Cabernet Sauvignon.

The recipe cards were of a size to fit into Cristina and Linda's recipe boxes—that may have been passed down from Grandma. They looked at the cards and chatted. "We're planning a girlie get together to cook and taste," said Linda. Leave your platform shoes in the trunk so you can walk the walk and not trip over the hoses. Put on one more layer of clothing than you think you'll need; the wind could whip up and sections of the winery are cold.

Wente Estate Vineyards, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore: Tours and simple pairings the third weekend of each month, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday. Cost is \$25 per person. Sign up online at entwine-wines.com or by phone 925.456.2305

Rotary to Host 'Grease' Sing-a-long to Raise Funds for Nonprofits

The Tri-Valley Rotary in association with Open Heart Kitchen will be presenting its third sing-along fundraising event. This is a chance for audience members to create a disturbance inside a movie theater and not get thrown out.

It will be an opportunity to sing-a-long to the songs from the movie "Grease" on Sunday, March 25 at the Vine Cinema in Livermore. Pre-event social will be at 4:45 p.m. followed by the 5:30 p.m. sing-a-long screening.

The audience will be able to sing out loud to popular rock and roll songs like "Greased Lightning," "Summer Nights," and "You're the One That I Want."

If singing is not your thing, then

just sit back relax and enjoy the show. For those who do want to sing, the screen displays subtitles during the music portions of the film.

The Tri-Valley Rotary Club periodically hosts fundraising events throughout the year. The sing-along pre-event starts at 4:45. This is an opportunity to socialize or relax with food and wine and maybe win a few prizes. Rotary members will conduct raffles, auctions and a costume contest.

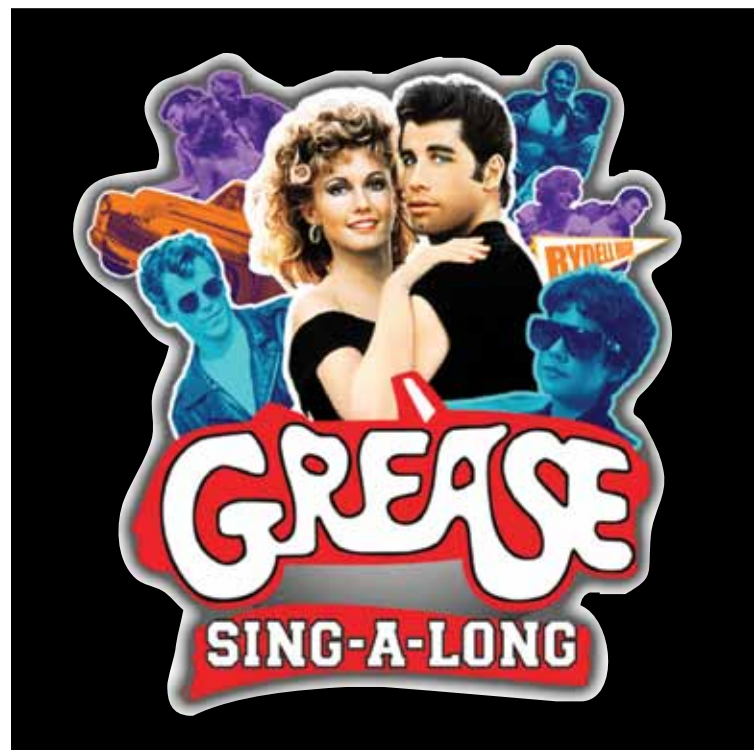
Proceeds benefit Open Heart Kitchen, Rotary International's End Polio Program, Tri-Valley Rotary's annual Livermore VA Hospital Veteran's BBQ and other local and international Rotary

programs.

The Vine Cinema, is located at 1722 First Street in Livermore.

Some restaurants participate in the after the movie dining program are committing portion of the sale to the OHK. The movie concludes at 7:30 p.m. Contact openheartkitchen.org for more information about the dining out program.

Tickets are \$10 kids, \$15 adults. They may be purchased online at trivalleyrotary.org or call the ticket hotline (925) 272-1603. Visit www.singalong.trivalleyrotary.org to find more information or purchase tickets in advance. You may also purchase tickets at the theater box office on the day of the event, if available.



'Food for the Soul' Concert to Benefit Open Heart Kitchen

The First Presbyterian Church, at Fourth and L Streets in Livermore, will host "Food for the Soul," an afternoon of Chamber Music to benefit Open Heart Kitchen, on Sunday, March 18th at 4 pm. The program will include a variety of music from many places and in many combinations.

A string quartet with violinists Jamie Klang and Phillida Cheminais, violist Kathleen Fasenfast and cellist Alan Copeland will perform Schumann's 2nd String Quartet. Members of the quartet will join sopranos Janet Holmes and Sharon Surrena in two movements from Vivaldi's "Gloria." Harpist Anna Lorenz will play three contemporary pieces by Albert Zabel, Carlos Salzedo and Nancy Gustafson and will join soprano Sharon Surrena in Gounod's beautiful "Ave Maria."

Two relatively obscure 20th century composers writing for

winds (mostly) and piano will open and close the concert. Phyllis Harding, clarinet, and Alan Copeland, cello, will join pianist Janet Holmes in the opening work, Paul Juon's "Trio Miniaturen." The concert will conclude with the lively "Sonatine Humoresque" by French composer Jean Hubeau played by Sue Waller, flute, Phyllis Harding, clarinet, Roy Pollock, horn, and Janet Holmes, piano.

There is no charge for this concert, but donations will be gratefully accepted for Open Heart Kitchen, which serves prepared nutritious meals to hungry people in the Tri-Valley area every day of the week. Founded in 1993 as an interfaith effort, Open Heart Kitchen serves more than 200,000 meals annually.

For more information contact Phyllis Harding at 925-447-8630 or Janet Holmes at 925-829-0244.



Performers to present Food for the Soul Chamber Music Concert at 4 p.m. March 18, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church Livermore, Fourth and L Streets. Pictured clockwise from upper left are Sharon Surrena, soprano; Phyllis Harding, clarinet; Sue Waller, flute; Roy Pollock, horn; Anna Lorenz, harp; Phillida Cheminais, violin; Jamie Klang, violin; Alan Copeland, cello; Kathleen Fasenfast, viola; and Janet Holmes, soprano and piano.

East Avenue Middle School Staging 'Romeo and Harriet,' a Spoof on Shakespeare's Play

By Carol Graham

It takes sass to put the "shake" in Shakespeare, but that's just what East Avenue Middle School (EAMS) students will be doing on March 9 and 10.



In the musical "Romeo and Harriet," quarreling chorus members Oregano, Carpaccio, Risotto, Prosciutto, Antipasto, Pesto, Mayo and Romano help create a delectably funny spoof of Romeo and Juliet.

Set in modern day New York City, clerks of the swanky Montague's Department Store and the second-rate Capulet's Discount Mart meet to trade insults. Naturally, the two heirs to the retail empires fall in love. Only in this case, the ending is a happy one.

"We look for scripts with larger or easily expandable casts so we can include as many students

as possible in the productions," said Kelly Cartwright, one of the two parent volunteers who run EAMS' after school drama club, Acting Up!

Following September auditions, cast members met weekly to rehearse, bumping it up to twice weekly through February. "We purchase the scripts, rights, costume and set design pieces using donations and help from the East Avenue Boosters," said Cartwright. "We receive tremendous support from the EAMS' parents, staff and administration."

Admission is free. The play begins at 7 p.m. both nights. "We'll also be putting on a special assembly for Jackson Avenue Elementary 4th and 5th graders who will walk here on March 12," said Cartwright.

Seeing Romeo in a white leisure suit a la John Travolta's Tony Manero, along with an outrageous parody of the most romantic scene in literature, will likely make quite an impression on the audience. An eclectic collection of musical num-

bers adds to the musical-tragedy-comedy's playfulness.

"We are two parent volunteers who love the theater, music and working with young people," said Cartwright of herself and partner Stephanie Fish. "Together we've directed 10 musicals - 6 at EAMS and 4 at Arroyo Seco Elementary School. Stephanie takes the lead on the musical numbers, I design the sets and costumes, and together we muddle through the choreography. We both help the students learn to project and express themselves."

Debra Olson said her 8th grade daughter has learned much from her experiences performing with Acting Up! over the past few years. "She's gained confidence onstage which has in turn helped her in everyday life," said Olson. "She's learned that if you want to do something well, you have to practice . . . a lot!"

Cartwright added, "We receive a lot of satisfaction from directing these productions."

The school is located at 3951 East Avenue, Livermore.

Swankville Authors Plan Book Signing

S.B. Fried and Georgie H. Ikuma, co-authors of *Tales From Swankville*, will be signing their much-talked-about book at Barnes & Noble located at 1149 S. Main Street, Walnut Creek, California, on Saturday, March 31 at 3 p.m. A portion of the sales of all books sold that day, including *Tales From Swankville*, will go toward the purchase of Nook books for Children's Hospital of Oakland.

This collection of essays about competitive parents and their subsequent "bad" behaviors, set-off a firestorm of controversy. From the Pleasanton Patch to the Huffington Post, Bay Area television to the radio airwaves, *Tales From Swankville* continues to make headlines on both the local and national levels.

"We are thrilled to participate in a Barnes and Noble event that is focused on improving the lives of children in our community," said S.B. Fried, author of *Tales From Swankville*. "Ultimately, this has been our message all along."

"It's time we look in the mirror and check our own behavior before we push our children to their breaking points," says author, S. B. Fried. "Mirrors are inanimate objects capable of silently expressing brutal honesty. A mirror, however, only reflects our outer appearances. What if we had mirrors that reflected our words, actions, and behaviors so that we could see what we're really like and how we treat other people?"



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ART & ENTERTAINMENT



'Abstraction' Exhibit at The Wild Vine

Six local artists invite viewers to an "Abstraction" experience at the Wild Vine in Livermore. Vibrant colors and mysterious patterns give a unique perspective of the internal human experience.

Each artist brings a different philosophy, experience and presence to this show. The artists featured in the show are:

Joanna Crawshaw is a graduate of Boston's Art Institute. Her paintings and collage pieces provide a glowing and, emotionally charged atmosphere. Joanna's passionate work communicates immediately with the viewer.

Julie Hayward is a graduate of San Jose State University in graphic design. She uses multimedia to explore the contemplative human experience. Her internal dream-scapes smolder with ancient and sacred themes.

Edmee Keele, born and raised in Panama, is now living in Livermore. She uses visual abstractions to reveal emotional experiences, turning them into expressions of harmonious resolve.

Lela Witherspoon, a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado is a traditional based artist, a master of oil paints and pastels. Her subject matter is thought provoking and vivid.

Nicole Wakeman believes that art connects us, to our environment, our community, and each other. She wants the viewer to experience a new perception of the world through textures and layering of colors.

Linda Jeffery Sailors operates a fine arts business in Livermore. She strongly supports the fine arts in the Tri-Valley area. Linda has a deep understanding of the power of color in her work.

The "Abstraction" show will be on display March 1 through April 5 with a reception taking place on Thursday, March 8, 2012, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Wild Vine, 2187 First Street, Livermore.

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

Expressionist painter Marco Rosales Shaw works are on display at Prudential California Realty through March 15. Prudential California Realty is located at 1790 First Street, Livermore. The show is open for viewing during regular business hours or by appointment. Contact Cher Wollard at 925 824-4824 or cherw@cherw.com for information.

Freeze Frame, top 25 photos from Tri-Valley Conservancy contest on exhibit at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave., March 1-31. On view during regular library hours.

Art Happens! Thurs., March 8. Open stu-

dios at the Firehouse Art Studios 142A McLeod Street will take place from 5:30 to 8:00 upstairs. This is across the street from the Bankhead Theater on the corner of McLeod and 1st Streets. Art on view will be by Lynne Shephard, Claudia Willis, Martha Eddleman, Valerie Daft, Regina Leyva, and Linda Beach, and ranging from pastels, prints, encaustic, oils to acrylics in both traditional and contemporary styles. Contact Lynne Shephard (lynnesc32002@yahoo.com) for more information, or like us on Facebook.

Passion for Pastels, Harrington Gallery, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. March 14-April 4, 2012. Opening reception, Wed., March 14, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. Group of pastelists reside in the bay area. www.firehousearts.org.

Livermore Art Association, Spring Art Show, March 31 and April 1, The Barn, Pacific Avenue, Livermore. Awards event Saturday night. www.livermoreartassociation.org

The Wild Vine, Vibrant colors and mysterious patterns invite you to explore the visions of six local artists: Joanna Crawshaw, Julie Hayward, Edmee Keele, Lela Witherspoon, Nicole Wakeman and Linda Jeffery Sailors. Exhibition March 1-April 5. Reception 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thurs., March 8. 2187 First Street, Livermore.

Artists' Flea Market, sponsored by the Pleasanton Art League. Saturday, April 28, 2012; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Delucchi Park, First Street at Neal, Pleasanton. New and used art supplies and equipment, frames, mat board, canvas, pottery seconds, discounted original artwork, art books and tapes, photography, craft supplies, new and used brushes, watercolor and oil paints, colored pencils and lots more.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Pleasanton Art League and Livermore Art Association general meeting, Mon., March 19, 7:30 p.m. Guest artist is pencil artist Peggy Magovern. Cultural Arts Building, 4455 Black Avenue, Pleasanton. Public is invited. No charge.

Everything Poetry (in two parts), Second Saturday Soup-workshops 2nd Saturday of every month, 10 a.m.-12 noon Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton; Third Tuesday Trope-poetry critiques 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Towne Center Books, 555 Main Street, Pleasanton. Contact Cynthia Bryant at PleasantonPoetry@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

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 email Barbara Stanton for more info about the workshop, 925-373-9638 - microangelo@earthlink.net.

Art in Public Places, join a local group of artists and paint on selected Friday mornings around town. ACC/Art Critique and Coffee invites artists to express themselves in watercolor, acrylic, oil. For more details check out the website for Poetry On Canvas Pleasanton or contact Claudette at PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com ~ ACC Meets each Friday at various locations.

Girls Night Out Classes, Make family memories by attending a class together. Painting, jewelry making and paper art are now available to experience locally. Classes led by artist Claudette McDermott. For more information e-mail or call to sign up for classes 510 543-4776 PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com ~ Individual and group classes available.

Make It & Take It, 2nd Thursday of each month, with guest artists and demos. March is "Fuse Flower Holder" only \$15 Art Glass Studio, 174 South L St., Livermore. Contact Roberta Jones at 925-447-1962 www.artglassstudio.weebly.com

Beginning Stained Glass, start and finish a small stained glass window (14" x 14") using cutting and manufacturing skills. Learn how to use basic glass tools. Limited to 8 students. Additional studio hours are available at a daily, weekly or monthly rate. Tools and supplies are \$174. Does not include glass. 5 week class, 2.5 hours each. Your choice of: Weds 10-7, Thurs-Sat 10-9, Sun 10-4. Classes are ongoing. Art Glass Studio, 174 South L St., Livermore. Contact Roberta Jones at: 925-447-1962 www.artglassstudio.weebly.com

WINERY EVENTS

Wood Family Vineyards, featured Thursday, March 8, 5 - 8 pm. at First Street Wine Co, 2211 1st St. in downtown Livermore. Join Rhonda sample Wood Family Vineyards wines. Extended Family "Club" members who purchase wine this evening will receive credit towards

their membership purchases. www.woodfamilyvineyards.com

Chocolate and Cabernet, Fenestra Winery, March 10 and 11, noon to 5 p.m. Wines paired with different chocolate dishes, both savory recipes and sweet chocolate treats. \$12.50. 83 Vallecitos Rd., Livermore.

Gold on Greenville, Charles R, Bent Creek, McGrail, and Wood Family wineries are on the Leprechaun wine trail celebrating "Gold on Greenville" on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, noon to 4:30. Gold Medal Wine tasting and delectable desserts will be featured. Be sure to enter the Greenville Gold Gift Basket Raffle. \$5 tasting fee at each winery.

Cedar Mountain Winery, March 17, "Corned Beef and Cabernet" - 12-4 p.m. help celebrate St. Patrick's Day & "All things Irish." Cabernet Sauvignon paired with Corned Beef. This is an annual event. Corned Beef compliments of Cedar Mountain Winery. Tasting fees apply. March 18, BYOB, fill your own bottle, noon to 4 p.m. Earl has created a special "Red Blend" table wine for this event only. Bring a clean 750 ml wine bottle, fill, and cork and label it for only \$8.00 per bottle. Use a winery bottle for \$9.00. If you fill 12 bottles we will pay the sales tax. 7000 Tesla Road, Livermore.

Barrel Tasting Weekend, March 31, 2012 - April 1, 2012 at over 35 Wineries throughout Livermore Valley, noon to 4:30 p.m. Chance to taste wines before they have been bottled, getting a behind the scenes look into the winemaking process. Meet winemakers, bottle your own wines, enjoy food pairings, and other activities that vary by winery. Tickets are \$30 advance (\$35 event day) and include 2 days of barrel tasting, exclusive discounts, keepsake glass, and special activities at each winery. For a list of activities, participating wineries, and to purchase tickets, visit www.LVwine.org.

Charles R Vineyards Annual Tax Day Dart Board, Saturday, April 14 from Noon to 4:30pm. Bring a sense of aim and have taste buds ready to enjoy "Empty Cupboard Beans with Wine & Dart Board Fun." It's a game of chance (and skill). Also look for some wine specials to ease the pain of Tax Day. 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore, (925)454-3040, www.charlesvineyards.com

4th Annual Wine Tasting Silent Auction, Sun., April 22, noon to 4 p.m. Purple Orchid Inn & Spa, 4549 Cross Road, Livermore. Benefitting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Hosted by HIKE members of Team in Training. Local wineries will showcase their wines for tasting. There will be finger food, music, inspirational speakers, and raffles. Silent auction items to fit every budget. http://winehike2012.ticketleap.com/winehike/ Use code: SUPPORT or call 925 413 7788 for tickets

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Music every Saturday in the tasting room from 12 to 4; open every day if the gate is open and for sure on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 11 to 5. Red Feather Winery, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Information at 449-1871 or www.redfeatherwinery.com

Tri-Valley Medieval and Renaissance Collegium playing session for amateur musicians, Peter Maund, director. Mondays 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7600 Dublin Blvd., suite 370, Dublin. \$25. Information collegium2011@gmail.com or 925-424-1209 or 925-984-4395

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band, plays at the Sunol Jazz Cafe (In the Center of Sunol) the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month 7:30-9:30 p.m. The band features real Jazz from the 1920's, 30's.

Mission Peak Brass Band, presented by Ohlone College Music Department, Fri., March 9, 8 p.m. Smith Center at Ohlone College, 43600 Mission Boulevard, Fre-

mont. Pieces covering a wide variety of musical styles. Included will be "Send in the Clowns" by Sondheim, featuring Flugelhorn Soloist Cliff Mercer; "Suite from Porgy and Bess" by Gershwin, the "Die Fledermaus Overture" by Strauss, "The Beatles Go Brass" by Lennon and McCartney, and more. Tickets: \$8-\$15. Parking: \$2. 510-659-6031 or smith-center.com

Youth Music Festival, 10th annual festival Sat., March 10, 2 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. For tickets, visit www.firehousearts.org.

Pinkalicious presented by Bay Area Children's Theater, March 10-18, Fridays 7 p.m., Sat. and Sun. 2 and 4:30 p.m. Front Row Theater. www.sanramon.ca.gov

Trout Fishing in America, March 15, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Jayne Stone, Banjoist Extraordinaire, March 16, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Molly's Revenge, Fri., March 16, 6 to 9 p.m. St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Molly's Revenge is returning to St. Clare's for St. Patrick's Day Dinner. Molly's Revenge is a dynamic, acoustic Celtic band known for its unique and infectious enthusiasm. Tickets are \$40 per adult, \$20 for children under 12. That includes a dinner of corned beef and cabbage with beverages. Members of the public are invited. It is not necessary to be a member of St. Clare's to buy tickets. Tickets are available at the church office. For more information call 925-462-4802.

Music Dept. Benefit Concert with Wake the Dead, Fri., March 16, 8 p.m. Las Positas College, Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119

Ashu Classical Saxophonist, March 18, 3 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Food for the Soul, a Chamber Music Concert to benefit Open Heart Kitchen on Sunday, March 18, 2012 at 4 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore. Information contact Janet Holmes, at 925-829-0244 or Phyllis Harding at 925-447-8630.

Lizz Wright, jazz, March 21, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Jay Ungar & Molly Mason, March 23, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Piano and organ concert, featuring concert pianist Daniel Glover and organist Jerome Lenk, Fri., March 23, 7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, Livermore. Featuring the music of Liszt, Bach, Franck and more. Tickets for this event may be purchased for \$25 in advance or at the door. www.brownpapertickets.com.

Livermore Amador Symphony, concert Sat., March 24, 8 p.m. featuring violin soloist Laura Hamilton; works by Wagner, Mendelssohn and Dvorak. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Larry Carlton, four time Grammy Winner, March 22, 8 p.m., Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Children's Variety Show, Sat., March 24, 1 p.m. Dublin Heritage Park and Museums, Donlon Way, Dublin. Featuring Amazing Mr. Pete. A former Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus Clown. \$5 youth. www.ci.dublin.ca.us

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Top Shelf's Disco Fever, Motown revue, March 24, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Pleasanton Community Concert Band, spring concert, March 25, 2:00 - 3:15. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. 447-7270.

An Evening with Rita Coolidge, 8 p.m. March 30. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Dunwell's Pop Rock Band from Leeds, England, 8 p.m. March 30, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Atlantic Brass (Quintet) March 31, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts Concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Bill Harley, 2-time Grammy winner, Sat., March 31, 2 p.m. matinee and 8 p.m. late show. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Wesla Whitfield, April 1, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

John Denver Tribute with Ted Vigil, April 6 and 7, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Jazz Concert featuring guest guitarist, Mimi Fox, April 7, Las Positas College, Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119.

Pacific Chamber Symphony - a professional symphony orchestra. 8:00 p.m. April 14 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Program: Handel/Mozart - Water Music, Symphony #41 "Jupiter." www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Sista Monica Contemporary Blues Artist, 8 p.m. Sat., April 14, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Pleasanton Chamber Players, April 15, 3 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Better Than Ezra, April 20, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

Edgar Winter, April 21, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

ON THE STAGE

Moon Over Buffalo, by Ken Ludwig (of Lend Me a Tenor fame), is a wild and wacky backstage farce ably helmed by award winning director Jim Colgan. Chanticleers Theatre's first show of the 2012 season, Feb. 24 to March 18, 8 p.m. Fri. and Sat., 2 p.m. Sundays. Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Ave., Castro Valley. General admission \$18, seniors, students, military \$15. Tickets www.chanticleers.org, reservations@chanticleers.org or 510-SEE-LIVE (510-733-5483)

Douglas Morrisson Theatre presents "Dividing the Estate" by Horton Foote, a darkly comic portrait of a family divided. Directed by Susan E. Evans. Performances through March 18. Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third St., Hayward. Post-play discussion March 10 matinee. Tickets \$10 preview, \$20 Sat. matinee; \$28 evening performances and Sunday matinee. (510) 881-6777; www.dmtonline.org.

Sunol Repertory Theatre Melodrama, "Rogue of the Railway," Fri. and Sat., 8 p.m. March 9-24. Sunol Glen School, 11601 Main St., Sunol. Tickets by mail

go to sunol.net/srt or call 925.862.0664.

Play On!, a comedy by Rick Abbot. March 10-11, 16-17, 2012. Friday-Saturday 8 p.m. Sunday 2 p.m. Doors open 20 minutes before show time. Tickets \$10. General admission. Buy online at www.asburylivepresents.com or at the door. Asbury Players, Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave, Livermore. (925) 447-8699.

Grease, Amador Valley and Foothill High School production, March 17-24, 7:30 p.m., Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets at www.firehousearts.org.

Godspell, March 23, 24, 25, 30 & 31 and April 1, Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. Las Positas College, Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119

The Importance of Being Earnest, March 28, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Shout, pop anthems and ballads performed weekends April 13 to May 5 at the Studio Theatre, Pleasanton. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production. www.trivalleyrep.com.

The Mikado by Gilbert & Sullivan, April 13 - May 5, Role Players Ensemble, 8 p.m. Th., Fri., Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Village Theatre, 233 Front St. Danville, www.ci.danville.ca.us

Beauty and the Beast, presented by California Theatre Center, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore on Wed., April 25. Recommended for grade K-5. 9:30 a.m., 122 seats available; 11 a.m. class size openings. www.ctcinc.org/1112tour/1112Tour_Order_Form.html or call 800-606-0424.

Best of the Best, Las Positas College, April 28, Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119

COMEDY

Comedy @ Firehouse Arts with Mike Pace, March 8, 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Night at the Improv, March 24, 8 p.m. Tickets \$10. Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

Comedy @ Firehouse Arts with Darren Carter, April 12, 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Paula Poundstone, April 13, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Impuls-ible Film Project, Friday, April 20, Pleasanton Teen Improv troupe Creatures of Impulse return to the Veterans Memorial Building stage at 7:30 p.m. to present a revival of a format made popular by the Un-Scripted Theater Company in San Francisco. Three teams of improvisers will take to the streets of Pleasanton to shoot three improvised short films based on your suggestion. Tickets are also \$5 per person, and all tickets are available at the door. 301 Main St., Pleasanton. (925) 931-4828.

DANCE

Swan Lake, Friday, April 20, 2012 at 7 p.m. and Sun., April 22 at 3 p.m. Bankhead

Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Featuring Le Tableau Magnifique, premier ballet company with Livermore School of Dance. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Alonzo King LINES Ballet, April 28, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Friday Night Dance Parties, themed parties each Friday night from Salsa to Swing, includes a group dance lesson at 8:15. \$15 cover charge, 8:15 dance lesson, 9:00-10:30 for dance parties. It's All About Dancing, 171 So. J Street, Livermore. 925-449-9292, or studio@itsallaboutdancing.com.

MOVIES

Documentary film Autumn Gem will be shown at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 11, 2012 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. Meet the "Chinese Joan of Arc," Qiu Jin, a radical women's rights activist. There is no charge for this event. The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

Jewish Cultural Film Series, "An Article of Faith," Sunday, March 11, 3:30 p.m.; "Kaddisch Fur Einen Freund (Kaddish for a Friend)," Sun., March 11, 7:15 p.m.; "Mabul (The Flood)," Thurs., March 15, 7:30 p.m. Vine Cinema, 1722 First Street in Livermore. To purchase tickets online or for more information: www.eatbayjewishfilm.org or call 510.318.6456

Classic films at the Pleasanton Library, Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Public Library present the series. Theme this year is "Three Great Directors." Admission is free. The series is hosted by Candace Klaschus, Professor of Media Studies at Las Positas College. Klaschus offers a brief talk about each film prior to the screening. The three great film directors featured in this year's series are Howard Hawks, John Ford and Alfred Hitchcock. Refreshments are served. A complete list of the "Three Great Directors" films is available at the Pleasanton Public Library. Movies will be shown the first Thursday of each month through June 7, 2012. No registration required. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

CHORAL

Valley Concert Chorale, March 10, music from weddings and coronations. www.valleyconcertchorale.org.

Broadway Chorus, March 30 - April 1, 2012 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. 8 p.m. March 30 and 31; 2 p.m. April 1. www.trivalleyrep.org.

OPERA

Broadcast from the Met, Dublin Regal Hacienda Cinema. Ernani, March 14; Manon, April 7 and 25; Turandot, April 14, May 2. First date is a morning showing, second date afternoon. Check for exact curtain time. 560-0900.

Livermore Valley Opera presents Puccini's Tosca, March 10, 11 and 17, 18, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Recital, featuring tenor Marco Stefani. March 17, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Information at www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

MISCELLANEOUS

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs,

history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions

We're Talkin' Books! Club is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required- share your insights or just listen in! Contact Susan at 337-1282 regarding the *We're Talkin' Books! Club*.

Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton events: **Gem Faire**, March 9-11, Fri, 12pm - 6pm; Sat, 10am - 6pm; Sun, 10am - 5pm. Adults \$7 weekend pass, Child under 12 free accompanied by adult. Gems, Jewelry, Crystals, Beads, Lapidary Equipment, Silver, Gold, all your jewelry needs under one roof. Classes and demonstrations. www.gemfaire.com

Museum on Main, preschool pre-literacy program, M.o.M.'s Reading Time. For ages 2 to 5 and families, free reading program, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Reading at 10 a.m. with theme crafts following. Donations appreciated. No reservations required. Large groups or playgroups please phone in advance: 925.462.2766 or email: education@museumonmain.org. 2012 M.o.M.'s Reading Time Dates and Themes: March 14, The End of the Rainbow; April 11, Art Smart; May 9, Please and Thank You; June 13, Flag Day; July 11, We All Scream for Ice Cream; August 8, It's A Circus; September 12, Fiesta; October 10, Creepy Critters; November 14, Thank You, Veterans; and, December 12, Light Up the Seasons. The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street in historic downtown Pleasanton.

Murder by Merlot, a wine tasteless event. Interactive Mystery Dinner Theatre presented by GibsonHouse Mystery Performers at Sunol Valley Golf Club. Fri., March 9. Wine tasting attire most welcome. 3-course gourmet meal and farcical mystery play, all for \$59 per sleuth, tax and gratuity included. Seating begins at 7:15 p.m. The Sunol Valley Golf Club, 6900 Mission Road, in Sunol. Reservations required at (925) 862-2408. www.SunolValley.com.

5th Annual Cuban Culture Week: March 12-16, 2012. Musicians, Singers, Dancers, Writers. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. www.semanacubana.org for times and locations of events. Information contact Catherine Suarez at CSuarez@laspositascollege.edu or 925.424.1212.

Ed Kinney Lecture Series, 7 p.m. An Evening with Isadora Duncan, Tues., March 13. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. \$10 General Admission, \$5 Members & Seniors, \$3 Students/Teachers with ID. All tickets are paid at the door. All tickets are open seating. Information www.museumonmain.org or (925) 462-2766.

Trout Fishing in America, March 15, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

St. Patrick's Day-themed Brew Crawl on Friday, March 16 from 6-9 p.m. hosted by Pleasanton Downtown Association. Costumed guests will sample local

craft beer and appetizers in a variety of downtown businesses. Information is available from the Pleasanton Downtown Association (925) 484-2199, www.pleasantondowntown.net.

Mad Science of Mt. Diablo brings its traveling science fair to the Pleasanton Public Library on Saturday, March 17 at 2:00 p.m. The programs are hands-on and inquiry based, and provide a strong educational focus in a fun environment. The program will be held in the library meeting room at 400 Old Bernal Avenue. No registration is required. Free admission tickets will be distributed in the Children's reading area beginning at 1:30 p.m. For more information on this and other library events, please visit the library's website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/services/library, or call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 ext. 8.

2012 Dublin St. Patrick's Day Celebration, March 17 and 18, festival at Civic Plaza, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parade, March 17, 9:30 a.m. Dublin Blvd. Shamrock 5K Fun Run & Walk, Sun., March 18, 8:30 a.m. Civic Plaza. www.ci.dublin.ca.us.

Goodguys 30th All American Get-Together, March 24 - March 25, 2012, Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Avenue, Pleasanton. Over 3,000 All American or American Powered Rods, Customs, Classics, Muscle Cars, Street Machines and Trucks, Vendors and Exhibitors, Indoor and Outdoor Car Show, Swap Meet and Cars 4 Sale Corral, Model and Pedal Car Show, Arts and Crafts Show, Kids Play Area, Pin Strippers Brush Bash and Auction. For more information visit www.allamericangettogether.com.

Ed Kinney Lecture Series, 7 p.m. California Secretary of Resources John Laird, Tues., April 10. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. \$10 General Admission, \$5 Members & Seniors, \$3 Students/Teachers with ID. All tickets are paid at the door. All tickets are open seating. Information www.museumonmain.org or (925) 462-2766.

Prose & Poetry Workshop, Sat., April 14, 3 p.m. Dublin Heritage Park and Museums, Donlon Way, Dublin. Learn how to use voice control, tone and body mechanics to help deliver a message. Poets from all backgrounds and levels are welcome. There will be a \$5 entry fee at the door which includes refreshments. Please contact Jonnie McCoy-Howell, the City's Poet Laureate, at (925) 452-2105 or email poet.laureate@dublin.ca.gov for more detailed information.

Run for the Parks, Sun., April 15, 5K, 10K, kid's 1 mile fun run. Benefit for Livermore Area Recreation and Park District. Registration information email info@finishlineproduction.com.

City of Dublin All American Car Show, Sat., April 21, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Heritage Park and Museum, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. Classic, muscle, tuners, exotic, imports, custom cars, trucks and motorcycles. DJ, food trucks and vendors will be on site. Free admission. 556-4500 for information on entering show.

Mariachi Sol de Mexico, April 27, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

THE
NEPTUNE SOCIETY
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

2177 Las Positas Court, Ste. K, Livermore CA 94551

(925) 454-1974

www.neptune-society.com

Angie Apolar, Branch Director

FD#1823

Do You Remember?



By Anne Homan
Livermore City Historian

Francis Sadoc Fennon

One of the main sources of money for Livermore Valley ranchers and farmers between 1900 and 1914 was raising large draft horses. To exhibit the results of their efforts, local men organized horse shows.

In 1904, a typical horse show in Livermore featured a parade of over 20 blocks long that exhibited not only the heavy work-horses—Normans, Clydesdales, Percherons, Belgians—but also horses that were roadsters, trotters, and carriage horses. About 2,000 out-of-town visitors came for the event.

Francis “Frank” Fennon was the Grand Marshal for at least seven of these horse shows. Today our rodeo parade’s grand marshal is an honorary office, but Frank’s duties were far from honorary. He was in charge of the horse parade, planning the order and route through the streets. He had to choose knowledgeable friends who could help him set up and control the parade of horses, most of them stallions, and keep them quiet in front of the reviewing stand at the corner of Lizzie (now Livermore Avenue) and First Streets. In 1901 Fennon himself showed two horses he owned—“Reno” and “Carson.”

Frank Sadoc Fennon was born in San Pablo, California, in 1865. His parents had immigrated from Longford County, Ireland, sometime before the birth of their

first child in California in 1861. His father died of tuberculosis when Frank was only 14. His older brother and his father were butchers; presumably, Frank learned the skills of that trade from them. He came to Livermore at age 23, probably at first working in one of the butcher shops in the community. In January 1897 he took over the butcher shop of Collier and Burns and called it the Grand Central Meat Market.

The Livermore Heritage Guild has an early photo of such a Livermore shop, showing large carcasses hanging from a ceiling track (an overhead trolley) and smaller carcasses hanging from a wall track. Two butchers stand ready to serve their customers. They are wearing capacious bib aprons; one of them has protective cuffs on his wrists. There are thick wooden butcher blocks for cutting the meat. One man stands behind a marble-topped counter that displays various cuts of meat.

On the morning of 26 November 1891 Father Power married

Frank and Annie McCormick, daughter of a well-known valley ranching family, at St. Michael’s. After the ceremony her parents hosted a dinner at their home. In the afternoon the newly-married pair left for their wedding tour. In 1907 they bought one of my favorite houses in Livermore, the Victorian cottage at 2221 Third Street. They had eight children, born from 1892 to 1902.

At Christmas time in 1897 the *Herald* acknowledged that Fennon, the newcomer to the butchering business in his Grand Central Meat Market, had out-rivaled all other butchers in town with his display: “Fatted calves, young stall-fed steers, porkers, mutton, and lambs are there in galore. Upon a raised platform are two huge porkers . . . they are as fat and round as butter balls. On the center of the table is a miniature snow-covered wagon to which are hitched four roast-ers. A wee pig attends to the driving . . . ‘Bound for the Klondike’ is written on the wagon’s side.”

Earlier in December, Fennon hung a beef and gave his

customers a week to guess at its weight—only one guess per person. Out of 1,104 guesses made, six customers guessed 625 pounds: Mrs. O’Leary, Dan Teeters, William Munos, William Dolan, John Callaghan Sr., and L. Van Horn. The prize for the closest guess was a prime rib roast; the actual weight was 625 ½ pounds. We’ll never know how Fennon solved his dilemma—the extant newspapers do not tell us!

In April 1903, according to the *Herald*, Fennon added to his butcher shop equipment a “computing scale that is a marvel of mechanical ingenuity.” The article adds, “Mr. Fennon has also one of the latest model cash registers and taken altogether his shop is thoroughly up-to-date.”

In December 1904 William Stoeven opened a new butcher shop in Livermore, called the California Market, on the south side of First Street between McLeod and Lizzie Streets in the Connelly building. The main feature of his shop was a cold storage system. It was about 15 feet square and located in the middle

of his shop. Rather than using the traditional ice, a Cyclops refrigerating machine was driven by an electric motor to keep the shop’s meat cold. He put a window in one wall of the unit.

The March 10, 1906 issue of the *Herald* ran a front-page article about the disappearance of Mr. Stoeven, who had evidently absconded from his creditors, his wife, and his children. Two weeks later, W.H. Martin and F.S. Fennon bought Stoeven’s business from his creditors for \$1,800 and carried on their butchering business in both Pleasanton and Livermore. In 1908 Fennon bought out his Pleasanton partner; he was left with his two shops in Livermore. One year later, he sold his original shop to Moy Brothers. In 1914 he closed the Stoeven shop.

Fennon often traveled to Reno to purchase cattle that he shipped back to Livermore by train. On his trip in the fall of 1918, he became ill and spent several weeks in a hospital there. He returned home and everyone assumed he was better, but he died several weeks later on October 18 in Livermore. He had been active as a volunteer firefighter and as a Native Son of the Golden West. Annie died thirteen years later.

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

Harvest Park Middle School Students Give Back to Their Community

On March 9, 2012, Harvest Park Middle School has a minimum day schedule. After school lets out, students and staff will conduct multiple small-scale service projects. Students will organize, implement and carry out a multifaceted beautification project. This will be one of many service days that will occur over the next few years.

“Our student projects are the beginning to many wonderful things. In times of having less money, our resourcefulness is incredibly important. We are tying

in academic lessons to our gardening, artwork, service projects and more,” Principal Ken Rocha stated. “It is amazing to see so many groups of people come together for a common purpose. I’m excited for our students and community. Also, all of these projects are generated from donations and volunteer time.”

The projects include the following:

Eagle Scout: 8th grader Ammar Campwala is coordinating the planting of dozens of new flowers around the perimeter of the school

library. The flowers will represent the school colors in red, white and blue. Ammar has raised money and volunteered time by seeking help from Harvest Park’s Student Council, Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA), California School Employee Association (CSEA), local businesses, and community members.

Local Artist: Parent and Local Artist Tatianna Salvator has been selected to restore and bring to life two old rusty utility boxes. She will paint a nature scene mural on each box. This is the first of many

local artists that will help infuse appreciation for the Visual and Performing Arts at Harvest Park. The school plans to incorporate local artists and students in painting several murals on campus.

Leadership class: Leadership teacher Annie Bauman is helping guide students by creating a new flowerbed design that will be a focal point on campus. Students are working in the school’s greenhouse and are growing their own flowers with help from the ecology club. They will also create a large “HP”

tile mosaic to symbolize school spirit and pride.

School Assembly: In mid-March, Ceaser Chavez’s grandson, Anthony Chavez, will talk with Harvest Park students about his grandfather’s legacy and the importance of giving back to your community through Service Learning. He will urge students to do little things to make the community better for others. The leadership class is preparing lessons for teachers ahead of time that focus on character education and service learning.

Milestones

Military

Army Reserve Pvt. Albert A. Muscat Jr. has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla. Muscat earned distinction as an honor graduate and was recently promoted to the rank of private first class. He is the nephew of Carlos Muscat of Fairfield, and Vivian Y. Garcia of Livermore. The private first class is a 2009 graduate of Granada High School, Livermore.

Education

Several local residents made the academic Dean's List at Azusa Pacific University. These students are honored for a fall semester 2011 academic standing of a 3.5 or better grade-point average. They are joined by more than 1,750 other students receiving the same honor. Livermore residents are: Psychology major Christopher M. Armienti; Athletic Training major Amy A. Dykes; Music and Worship major Joel A. Jaeger; Liberal Studies major Kaila V. Long; Liberal Studies major Chelsea Marriott; Biology major Katelyn McMenamain; English major Adam C. Nunez; Accounting major Kimberly D. Trautloff. Pleasanton residents are: Nursing major Julianna M. Haykin; Marketing major Nicole M. McIntosh; Business Administration major Nickolas J. Pickering; Liberal Studies major Amanda C. Schultz; Liberal Studies major Mariah K. Worley; and Liberal Studies major Emily Young.

Cornell University's Curran Reddy of Dublin has been placed on the Dean's List of the College of Arts and Sciences for Excellence in Scholarship for the Fall 2011 semester. The College of Arts and Sciences is Cornell University's largest undergraduate college.

Community

Hebert Selected for National Post

Linda Hebert, president of Diversified Marketing and Communications in Pleasanton, was installed as the 2012 regional trustee of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Professional Women in Building (PWB) Council this month NAHB International Builders' Show in Orlando, Fla.

As regional trustee, Hebert will serve as oversight for the PWB Council area trustees and designated committees and working groups. She will also serve as vice chair of the council, supporting PWB Chair Alicia Huey in managing the council's business and representing the interests of council members throughout NAHB.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Professional Women in Building Council in this capacity," Hebert said. "As the home building industry continues to emerge from a difficult period, I look forward to working with members at the local and national level on issues that are important to the industry."

Hebert has over 25 years of experience as a sales and marketing consultant for both large and small builders and builder associate companies. As a national speaker on marketing, the female buyer, social

media, the art of networking, green building and communication, she enjoys sharing her experience by mentoring and training others to help achieve their highest level of success.

As an active member of the Home Builders Association of Northern California (HBANC), California Building Industry Association (CBIA) and NAHB, Hebert has chaired and served on numerous committees. She was named both local and regional 1999 Associate of the Year for the HBANC and received the President's Award from the HBANC Sales and Marketing Council in 2001 and 2004. She received the 2010 Chairman's Award for outstanding service to the BIA Bay Area. Nationally, Hebert was named the NAHB PWB Woman of the Year as well as Trustee of the Year in 2010. The NAHB Professional Women in Building Council is the voice of women in the building industry, dedicated to promoting professionalism and supporting its members at the local, state and national levels with networking and educational opportunities, legislative awareness and outreach, and professional and personal development.

Community

Girls Learn about Careers in Technical Fields

Girls in grades 6 through 9 designed replicas of wind turbines, programmed LEGO robots, dismantled computer hard drives and dusted objects for fingerprints.

These were only a few of the activities that were part of the long-running "Tri-Valley Expanding Your Horizons" (EYH) conference whose goal is to spark girls' interest in science, technology engineering and math careers, held last Saturday at the Diablo Valley College, San Ramon Campus.

More than 300 girls participated in the 33rd annual conference entitled, "Your Future is Within Your Grasp," which featured keynote speaker Dr. Alexandra Burgar, of Tri-Valley Orthopedic Specialists. Dr. Burgar performs arthroscopy and micro-vascular surgery and treats conditions affecting the bones, muscles, nerves, and tendons of the hand, wrist, and arm.

"How do you expand your horizon?" she asked. "Try something new, be curious, study and learn."

She discussed why she chose her medical profession, the effort it took to reach her goal, and statistics of women in medical fields. Today, 30 percent of medical school students are female, and one in 20 orthopedic surgeons is a woman, she said.

Dr. Burgar also spoke about her interest in science, which was spawned by her family and her belief that "science was fun."

"I remember attending an event similar to this (EYH) when I was young," she said, encouraging the girls to participate fully in the day's activities.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Director Parney Albright was among a group of visitors, including local elected officials, Lab managers, and education and community leaders who toured the workshops, and spoke with students and presenters.



Lab Director Parney Albright joins school Superintendents Kelly Bowers of Livermore (seated) and Parvin Ahmadi of Pleasanton at the PC Maintenance and Repair workshop at EYH. See a video of the day's events. Photo Jacqueline McBride/LLNL

The day also featured 15 workshops, several provided by LLNL scientists, including: Modern Alchemy -- How Livermorium Came To Be, presented by Nancy Stoyer; Green Power, by Sonia Wharton; PC maintenance and repair, by Merry Carter; the Physics of Angry Birds, by Tom Luu; and Amazing Every-Day Chemistry, by Carolyn Koester and Fowzia Zaka.

A special group activity assigned teams to build a small catapult made from everyday items such as cardboard, rubber bands, and plastic spoons, and then test the product for its ability to propel an object into the air.

At a career fair held during the lunch hour, participants visited booths and met representatives from companies and organizations, including the Lab's National Ignition Facility and Engineering Directorate. In addition, the Lab's Fun with Science show and hands-on demonstrations drew a crowd.

"We are happy that the conference was a success again this

year," Susan Springer, EYH co-chair said.

"We continue to reach out to girls who might not otherwise attend in order to expand the diversity portfolio of the conference attendees," Springer added.

"This is the second year that we provided registration scholarships and bus transportation to girls who attend Livermore's Junction Avenue School. To encourage attendance, we sent bi-lingual letters in English and Spanish to parents. Our Hispanic attendance climbed to 13 percent and the girls were excited to come back again this year," she said.

EYH is organized and sponsored by Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC; Sandia National Laboratories/California; American Association of University Women; and Diablo Valley College, San Ramon Campus.

For more information about the EYH conference, go to the Website. See a video of the day's events.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Volunteer opportunity. Firehouse Arts Center Volunteer Program Orientation: Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 pm. RSVP required. Join our fantastic team of volunteers for an inspiring and rewarding experience in the arts. Positions include Theater Usher, Will Call Window, and Gallery Desk. Theater volunteers must be at least 16 years old, and gallery volunteers at least 21. For more information, or to RSVP, please contact the Volunteer Program at 925-931-4855, or jonofafe@ci.pleasanton.ca.us

CASTING CALL for Movie Extras, hiring for long filming days on May 1 and May 8, possible dates in-between. Ages 25-50 yrs. clean cut Male & Female Business Types. Casting Sat., March 17, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Courtyard by Marriott Pleasanton Conference Room, 5059 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Absolutely no phone calls, please. Bring a pen, know your current sizes and be well groomed. Photos taken at no charge.

Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind meeting on Saturday, March 10, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Cafeteria Room 2 at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore, 1111 East Stanley Blvd. Any visually impaired or interested person is urged to attend. Call, Carl, 449-9362 for more info.

Rummage Sale, St. Michael School benefit, March 17, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the school yard, 345 Church St., Livermore. Includes 6th grade Earth Team recycling booth that includes a craft station where children can make crafts out of recyclable items. The 8th grade will operate a bake sale booth.

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will meet on Thursday, March 8, 7:00 at Alisal School's multipurpose room 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Tom Bressen of Urban Farmer will speak on irrigation for the garden and lower water use plants. Visitors are welcome. For more information call Bev at 925-485-7812 or visit www.lavgc.org.

Amador Valley Quilt Guild meeting on Saturday, March 10, at 1:30 pm at the Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Avenue, Pleasanton. The meeting is open to all those who are interested in the culture, history and artistry of quilting. Judy Sisneros is an innovative quilt artist from Rocklin. In 2009, she went to Cambodia for three weeks to teach young girls to hand quilt. These girls were rescued from the sex slave trade, and quilting was part of their recovery, which you will learn about in the presentation. Judy will also present a trunk show of her own creative quilts.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., March 10, 32 to 51 miles, Pleasanton, Danville, Livermore loop, meet 8:45 a.m. at Jakroo in Pleasanton, Kathy Strain, 785-4355. Sun., March 11, 38 miles San Ramon to Blackhawk, meet 10 a.m. at Central Park, Peter Rathmann, 336-0973. Mon., March 12, 30 miles from Heather Farms up northside of Mt. Diablo, meet 9 a.m. Wed., March 14, 23/47 miles Benecia and Carquinez Bridges with two starting points, 9 a.m. at Heather Farms, 10:15 a.m. Martinez train station, Richard Skow, 939-6949. Wed., March 14, 30 miles Livermore to Lake Del Valle, meet 9:30 a.m. at the airport, Alberto Lanzas, 510-825-9581. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Donate books, March is a month that focuses on children's literacy. The Kumon Math & Reading Center of Vallejo will show its commitment to children's literacy by partnering with Reading Is Fundamental (RIF, www.rif.org). Please drop off gently used books at the Livermore Kumon Math and Reading Center, 1094 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore (located in the Trader Joe's parking lot). chitrafrench@ikumon.com, (925) 371-1996

Bingo, fund-raiser for Christensen Middle School (CMS) 8th grade students for their DC/NYC trip. Bingo Ranch date for this event is Thursday March 15. Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Call 925-606-

7777 for more information.

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

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., Friendly bridge in Hayward, March 18, 1 p.m., RSVP by March 13 to Elma, 510-582-1308. Lunch at DVC culinary facility in Concord, March 22, noon, RSVP by March 18 to Ruby, 462-9636. Champagne brunch in Pleasanton, March 25, 11 a.m., RSVP with check by March 18 to Jill, 510-881-4788. Happy hour in Pleasanton, March 29, 5 p.m., RSVP by March 27 to Kathy, 398-8005. Lunch in Pleasanton, March 31, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by March 27 to Marge, 828-5124.

Tri-Valley Democratic Club, meeting Mon., March 19, 7 p.m. IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Kevin Fagan of the SF Chronicle will be discussing the Occupation, 99%ers and how the media covers these events. Refreshments, Q&A.

East Bay Singles Charity Ball, Saturday, March 24, 2012, 8pm-Midnight, at the Marriott Hotel Bishop Ranch, 2600 Bishop Ranch Drive, San Ramon. 100% of the donations will go directly to the Sight Project of The Seva Foundation, located in Berkeley. A donation of \$20 at the door is requested, which is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. The Ball features dancing to today's hottest hits and the greatest songs of yesteryear. Adults of all ages are welcome. Everyone is encouraged to dress in their finest for this elegant soiree. The Ball is co-sponsored by Society of Single Professionals, Singles Supper Club, Wine Socials, BayAreaSingles.com, MatchYourKey, East Bay Singles Over 45, Doctors of San Francisco Meetup, and many other organizations in the Bay Area. Anyone wishing more information about this and many more events for singles may visit www.ThePartyHotline.com or call 415/507-9962.

Tack Sale, Trash for Trails and Tri-Valley Trailbazers, Inc. are holding a Tack Sale of horse equipment and donations of baling twine which is recycled to make outdoor furniture. This event is Sunday, March 11 from 10am to 5pm (rain date is April 1). Limited space available for sale tables. So RSVP as soon as possible to dianeocr@sbcglobal.net or call Dianne Offutt at 1-855-OWL-CROSS. This event is at Owl's Crossing Ranch, 7890 Camino Tassajara, Pleasanton. Refreshments will be available. Be ready to buy and sell tack. Plus bring baling twine, there is an award for the most twine delivered. The twine is recycled and the proceeds are all donated to the improvement of local trails.

Armchair Travelers, a monthly program, will take place at the Livermore Civic Center Library on Thurs., March 8, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Frank Rainer will show digital photographs of the trip he and his wife Sigrid recently took to Korea. Adults are invited to this free program held on the second Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. For additional information please call 925 373-5500.

Spring Break SAT Prep Class in Livermore - LARPD is offering an intense SAT prep class April 2-5 from 9 am - noon each day. Classes will be held at Robert Livermore Community Center 4444 East Avenue, Livermore. Register at larpd.dst.ca.us or 373-5700, or go to susanprep.com for additional information.

Scholarships available for Amador, Foothill and Village seniors: In 1965 a group of Pleasanton educators and business people got together for the purpose of raising money and awarding scholarships to graduating seniors. 47 years later Amador Valley Scholars, Inc. has awarded \$469,000 in scholarships. Amador Valley Scholars, Inc. awards its general scholarships as well as 8 memorial scholarships to graduating seniors from Amador, Foothill

and Village High Schools. Applications for the scholarships can be downloaded at www.amadorvalleyscholarsinc.org

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, is sponsoring a candlelight vigil, 7 p.m. Wed., March 14 in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main Street, downtown Pleasanton. Participants will reflect on the human and monetary costs of the war, honor veterans who have sacrificed, and visualize ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, March 28, between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Questions? Call Cathe Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowding@pacbell.net. www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org

Spring Boutique, Our Savior Lutheran Ministries will be hosting a Spring Boutique on Saturday, March 24 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will take place in the gymnasium at Our Savior, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue in Livermore. Everyone is invited to attend. Spring into shopping for Easter, Mother's Day, graduations, weddings and more. Please contact the church office with questions, 925-447-1246.

Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated, Linda Paine, Co-founder of the Election Integrity Project, will be the guest speaker. Luncheon is on Saturday, March 10, 11:30 a.m., at The Rock House Restaurant, 1840 Portola Avenue, Livermore. Cost of lunch is \$20 per person. For reservations or information call Phyllis at 925-462-4931 or email couplan1962@pacbell.net.

American Legion Post 237, is looking for new members. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Veterans Hall, 301 Main St., Pleasanton. Those served in the military between the following dates you are qualified for admission into the American Legion. WW II Dec 7, 1941 - Dec. 31, 1946. Korean War Jun. 25, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955. Vietnam War Feb. 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975. Lebanon/Grenada Aug 24, 1982 - Jul 31, 1984. Panama Dec. 20, 1989 - Jan 31, 1990. Gulf War/ War on Terrorism Aug 2, 1990 to present. Bring a copy of discharge document DD-214 to a meeting. Mailing address is Amer. Leg. Post 237, P.O. Box 823, Pleasanton, Ca. 94566.

Livermore Lions Club, 2nd Annual Crab (renewal) Feed or Corned beef and cabbage (for non-crab eaters) on March 24. The event is being held at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. The \$45.00 ticket(s) is good for all you can eat Crab or Corned beef and cabbage. The ticket also enters the purchaser in a change for a door prize of a Nook reader. During the event various other fund raising functions will be held (50/50, raffle). Dessert will be provided for a donation to the Livermore Lion's Club. The event runs from 5:30 PM to 9 PM with food served during event by the Lion's and the Leo's. The proceeds of the event go to support the Livermore Lion's services to the community. Ticket purchases contact Lion Ben Barrientos at 925 449 9974 or bbarrientos@earthlink.net. Livermore Lions' 87 years and still in support of the Livermore community. Some tickets may be available at the door.

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club invites new and long-time residents to its monthly luncheon on March 15 at Faz Restaurant, 600 Hartz Ave., Danville. The speaker will be Harry Hubinger, an author of a monthly column "Stamps on my Passport." The cost is \$21. Call Grace, 828-8554, for reservations or information.

Citizenship Process, The Hindu Community and Cultural Center, of Livermore (Shiva Vishnu Temple) will be conducting a free Citizenship Process and Related Issues presentation on Sat., March 10, 2 to 3:30 p.m. This presentation is open to all. Shiva-Vishnu Temple Assembly Hall, 1232 Arrowhead Ave, Livermore. This will be a presentation/talk by Aruna Venkidu ESQ on how to obtain US Citizenship and related issues. For more information contact Suman Jain at suman1218@yahoo.com or call the temple 925-449-6255.

Free income tax help, Feb. 1-April 14. AARP tax aide volunteers, trained and certified by IRS.. Serving seniors and low-middle income taxpayers. Available at Livermore Library, Dublin Library and Pleasanton Senior Center. For information on schedules go to aarp.org/taxaide or call 1-888-227-7669.

Alameda County Master Gardeners. Visit the Earth Friendly Demo Garden in Livermore Valley wine country and hear Master Gardeners from the eastern county share their knowledge about the following topics: March 10 - Planting Drought Resistant Containers; and April 14 - Spring in the Garden. Master Gardeners are on duty at the Garden on the second Saturday morning each month. This Earth Friendly Demonstration Garden is full of drought tolerant plants. Its purpose is to provide an educational experience featuring "Water Wise" plants as an alternative to the traditional home landscape. It is located at 3575 Greenville Road next to the Martinelli Event Center in Livermore. For more information visit <http://acmg.ucdavis.edu> or call (510) 567-6812.

Jungle of Jewels, March 9, 10 and 11, 2012. The Discovery Shop is located in the Mission Plaza Shopping Center at 1987-A Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Contact Monda Wiseman, Mgr. at (925) 462-7374 for more information. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society's programs of research, education, service and advocacy.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the second floor conference room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community. The address is 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome. Contacts are: Sandra Grafrath 443-6655 or Lee Parlett 292-9280.

Creating A Happier, Healthier You, series of free seminars at the Pleasanton Library presented by Dr. Christine Dickson. They are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Topics include: March 15, go on a low information diet; April 19, build your emotional intelligence; May 17, move beyond your mind; June 21, become an optimist. Dickson holds a Dual Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and Industrial-Organizational Psychology, and received her training at the National Naval Medical Center's Department of Internal Medicine. Library programs are free and open to everyone. Call Penny Johnson at 925/931-3405 for information. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

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 operation-sam@comcast.net or call 925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

RELIGION
Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747.

Congregation Beth Emek, 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.

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. 8:30 a.m. worship (semiformal); 9:45 a.m. adult Bible study/ Sunday school; 11 a.m. worship (informal). For information, call 925-447-1246.

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

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; workshops 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/ 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. Incessary 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.

Stepping Stones on Grief Journey workshop, bimonthly event. St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7:30 p.m. March 8 & 22, 2012. No preregistration is necessary. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Mary Hagerty at 925-846-5377 for more information.

Catholicism, St. Michael Catholic Church in Livermore will screen all ten episodes of Father Robert Barron's groundbreaking "Catholicism" series, followed by a question and answer session led by Suzanne Slupesky, Catholic theology scholar. One episode will be featured per night for 10 consecutive Mondays through March 12, 2012, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in St. Michael Parish Hall located on the 300 Block of Maple Street, Livermore, California. Admission is free. Father Barron's series visit www.catholicismseries.com. St. Michael Parish, 458 Maple Street, Livermore, 925-447-1585.

Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services: 9 a.m. blended-style with choir and band, family worship. 10:30 a.m. contemporary led by band, Sunday School for children and middle-schoolers. www.centerpointechurch.org; 925-846-4436.

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Sunday service at 10 a.m. For details please see our website at www.stinnocent.net or call Fr. Leo Arrow-smith at 456-0845.

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. All are welcome and worship, whether or not you feel called to participate in any other way in the community. For more information call the church office 925-462-4802.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday school during the 10:30 a.m. service. For more information call the church office at (925) 447-3289 or SaintBartsLivermore.com.

St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church follows the traditional 1928 Book of Common Prayer. 193 Contractors Avenue, Livermore. Sunday service at 10 a.m. Sunday school provided. Fr. Ben Brown at 925/906-9561.

Lenten Retreat, "The Fruits of the Holy Spirit: Tools to Transform Your Life From the Inside Out" presented by Fr. Tom Allender, S.J. at St. Charles Catholic Community, 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore March 12-14. Fr. Tom will give two identical sessions each day 9:45-11:00 am and 7:30-9:00 pm in the church. Monday's topic is "Love within that brings us true Joy and inner Peace." Tuesday's topic is "Fruits developed within the attitude of Patience, Generosity, and Kindness." Wednesday's topic is "We live lives of Faithfulness in our families, in our parish, and in our work." All denominations are invited to join St. Charles in a spiritual renewal. For more information contact Julie at upcatholic@aol.com or 925-447-4549 ext 114.