



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

DSRSD To Buy Supplemental Water Over Zone 7 Objection

Despite objection by Zone 7 Water Agency, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) directors have approved an agreement to buy one-time water for this year from a Central Valley water district for the retailer's customers in Dublin and Dougherty Valley in San Ramon.

The water offers the prospect of allowing DSRSD customers to drop from the current 25 percent rationing goal to 15 percent, according to DSRSD general manager Bert Michalcyk. However, that final decision would be up to the board in April or May, when State Water Project allocations are expected to be known fully.

A letter sent by Zone 7 general manager Jill Duerig to DSRSD on March 3 objected to the deal. The letter says that according to terms of DSRSD's contract, the retailer must buy water from Zone 7, or take it directly from the underground water basin. The agreement protects Zone 7's interest, says the letter.

The letter recommends that DSRSD discuss any future plans for water transfers with Zone 7, so that collaboration is "open and transparent," and so a complete discussion of Valleywide needs can be done.

"Please note that Zone 7 reserves all legal rights and remedies in the event that DSRSD proceeds in a manner that is inconsistent with the contract between Zone 7 and DSRSD," says the letter. Directors approved the agreement at a special meeting March 3 to buy 1500 acre feet (AF) of water from the Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA) in Marysville. Even with some evaporation reducing that to about 1275 AF, the water would meet

(See WATER, page 4)

Pleasanton Adds Diversity Film to Cultural Celebrations

By Ron McNicoll
 Some schools within the Pleasanton Unified School District are adding a new dimension to their Diversity Days this month, thanks to a video made by an Amador Valley High School student and district faculty.

The film, "Windows and Mirrors," refers to an educator's published article on curriculum that encourages students to look through windows and learn how others live who are different from themselves. Students see not only differences out those windows, but also see themselves reflected in the things they have in common with others.

The district's high schools and middle schools are showing the video. They also have kept traditional cultural celebrations, which feature food from different nationalities, and entertainment such as music and dance from diverse cultures.

However, teachers and administrators thought that

(See DIVERSITY, page 5)

Legislation Would Remove Cap on School Reserves

Assemblywoman Catharine B. Baker (R-San Ramon) and Assemblyman David Hadley (R-Torrance) introduced Assembly Bill 1048, legislation that will repeal the cap on school reserves.

"Last month I heard from school board members, superintendents, PTA representatives, and parents during a bipartisan education forum I co-hosted in Walnut Creek. They all stated that the cap on school reserves needs to be repealed immediately for the sake of our schools' financial health. It is our job as Legislators not only to listen to the needs of our community, but to act on them. AB 1048 does just that," said Baker.

The cap on reserves was implemented last year in a budget trailer bill despite strong opposition from education leaders. Most recently, the Legislative Analyst's Office stated that capping reserve levels would not be prudent and contradicted the local control. School districts across California have stated they would not have weathered the recent financial crisis under the new reserve cap, and smaller districts, often the most vulnerable, would be the hardest hit.

Anne White, Livermore School Board, stated, "The cap on school reserves is a step backward, and contrary to the spirit of local control. As education leaders, we need the flexibility to plan for fiscal downturns as well as prepare for substantial, but predictable, expenses. The cap on reserves eliminates that common sense approach. I am glad Assemblywoman Baker has listened to education leaders so we



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Dublin High School women's basketball team defeated Carondelet High in North Coast Section Division II title game last Saturday. The Gaels edged the top-seeded Cougars 57-55 at Saint Mary's College. The section title is Dublin's first in girls' basketball in 27 years and second overall. Dublin will take on the winner of the Pleasant Valley-Del Oro game in the CIF regional semi-finals. The Lady Gaels play Sat., March 14 at home at 6 p.m. For another photo, go to page 7.

Vote Delayed on Tourism Pact

The Dublin City Council voted to approve a renewal of services provided by Visit Tri-Valley, which promotes the Tri-Valley as a tourist destination.

Pleasanton administers the district, which includes Livermore, Dublin, and Danville. The recommended changes include the addition of areas of unincorporated

Alameda County and Contra Costa County, which include the communities of Alamo, Blackhawk and Sunol. However, San Ramon, currently in the district, will be dropping out when the current agreement is replaced by the new one in July.

The Pleasanton City Council approved the renewal of the Tri-Valley

Tourism Marketing District at its Feb. 17 meeting.

The Livermore City Council was scheduled to vote on the new agreement at its meeting March 2, but postponed it until April 13.

Livermore City Attorney Jason Alcalá told The Independent that the proposal to the council was written in 2014, but now that it is

2015, it needs to incorporate legal language that was new in 2015. However, the law changes will have nothing to do with the business assessment district, according to Alcalá.

Further, the council wanted to have more time to explore other ways that businesses could be added

(See PACT, page 8)

Dublin Touts 'New American Backyard' Theme

The City of Dublin has a new slogan and an imagery campaign designed to attract more residents and businesses.

The slogan, "The New American Backyard," was devised by North Star Destination Strategies, which specializes in community branding.

North Star CEO Don McCann presented the proposal to the City Council at its March 3 meeting. The focus was on Dublin as a place where residents can relax, relate socially to others in the community, and enjoy the casual atmosphere that is typical of suburban living.

"Backyards are places to enjoy life, separate from the pressures of the day, and to let our hair down. Figuratively, backyards represent the American Dream concerning success, belonging, and family. It's true that America is changing, but what the backyard represents is not changing at all," said McCann.

McCann referred to the (See THEME, page 5)

The Independent recommends:
March 17, 2015 election for State Senate, 7th District:
JOAN BUCHANAN

UC Hires Fresh Counsel To Combat Retiree Lawsuit

In its battle with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory retirees who would like to return to University of California healthcare, the University has hired a law firm that knows a thing or two about fighting: Crowell & Moring LLP, which represented the Blackwater Security Co. after it was accused of unnecessarily killing Iraqi civilians in 2007.

Last week, the University terminated the law firm that had been representing it, San Francisco-based Hanson Bridgett LLP.

Observers wondered whether recent court setbacks prompted the University to make the move was unclear. Rulings in Oakland Superior Court, where the class action healthcare case

is being heard, have tended to favor the arguments of the retirees. The University did not explain or announce the change in law firm other than to file a required notice with the court.

UC's new lawyers are from an international firm with some 500 attorneys and extensive experience in dealing with government contracts. Crowell & Moring is headquartered in Washington, D.C., with offices in San Francisco, New York and London, among other major cities.

After Blackwater employees killed 17 Iraqi civilians in a 2007 Baghdad shootout, Crowell & Moring successfully defended the company (today called Academi) against a range (See LAWSUIT, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

On March 4th, the Livermore Airport celebrated Women of Aviation. The event was to show girls and women that women are involved in aviation and have been for a long time. The former Otis Spunkmeyer DC3 pilot, Candace Harding, has been flying for forty years. The books she is standing in front of were given to her by her mother. She says that reading them inspired her to become a pilot. During her career she flew for some of the inter-island airlines in Hawaii.

Inside

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



PET OF THE WEEK

There's only one way to thaw a frozen heart, and Anna knows it! Adopting this adorable five-month-old calico kitten would be an act of true love that will really make you melt. Don't hesitate! Valley Humane Society has an open door Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm, at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. For more info visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656. Photo - Valley Humane Society/V. Betz

Teacher Recognized by DAR for Her Work in the Classroom

By Carol Graham

East Avenue Middle School teacher Laurie Lesandro has mastered what it takes to be an outstanding educator: the ability to make schoolwork both challenging and fun.

On March 7th, Lesandro was named this year's Outstanding Teacher of the Year by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter.

"Laurie has taught overseas and in other states of the U.S.," said nominating DAR member Kimberly Salch. "She's found her home in Livermore where she continues sharing her gift of teaching. She enjoys the successes of her students as she challenges them to strive for excellence. Her students tell me that she pushes them to attempt difficult tasks and teaches them how to succeed. Student Megan Johnston said, 'She is not an easy teacher but she makes challenging assignments fun.'"

Lesandro, who teaches 8th grade core, is familiar with DAR which each year hosts an American History Essay Contest for students in 5th - 8th grade.

"Laurie has encouraged her students to participate for several years," said Salch. "This year over 40 of her students chose to participate. The quality of her students' work is exceptional. Three of her students have won in the past two years."

At the ceremony, held at the Asbury United Methodist Church, Lesandro was awarded \$250, a certificate, flowers and a DAR pen.

"I was thrilled, and appreciate the recognition by DAR," said Lesandro. "This local chapter has been a great supporter of Livermore students and has been an incentive for many of my students to demonstrate their study of American History and



Pictured, from left, are Kimberly Salch, Pat Baker, Laurie Lesandro and her husband Tim Motken. Photo - Gail Bryan

write for a 'real' audience. I believe it's a teacher's responsibility to teach students productive habits of learning, which includes creative and critical-thinking skills. These skills are lifelong tools that allow students to master the necessary content of academic subjects and prepare students in becoming responsible, caring and creative individuals."

Lesandro graduated from California State University, Fresno in 1986, and began her teaching career in Mendota, a rural town in California's central valley. Five years later, she moved with her husband to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia where she taught at an international school. She returned to the U.S. in 1997, teaching in Atlanta, Georgia before returning to California in 2003.

"Not only did I have the opportunity of collaborating with teachers from around the world, I also experienced a wealth of cultural diversity in the student population," said Lesandro. "Through the many different school settings, curriculum designs

and leadership styles under which I've taught, the foundation of my teaching never changes. I approach teaching with the idea that students benefit from being taught lifelong skills, not just content. I hope students take away from having been in my class the idea that they can achieve all that they plan and hope for in their academic, professional and personal lives."

Each year since 2002, the Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter presents the Outstanding Teacher Award to a teacher who is currently teaching in the Livermore school district. He or she must be an educator who goes above and beyond the normal duties of a teacher and who gives his or her students positive experiences that enrich their lives.

Although Daughters of the American Revolution is a nationwide society, the Outstanding Teacher Award is unique to the Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter, named for the wife of town founder Robert Livermore. The DAR organization was founded

in 1890 with the mission of promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism.

"The Outstanding Teacher Award is to honor teachers who give so much of themselves to help our children be successful,"

said Award Chairman Pat Baker. "What made Laurie stand out is her deep interest in her kids, and how she expects and gets the best

that they can be."

For more information, visit californiadar.org/chapters/jhlivermore.

Brew Crawl This Saturday

The fourth annual St. Patrick's Brew Crawl is coming to Downtown Pleasanton on Saturday, March 14 from 5-8 p.m. Downtown merchants and local breweries will come together for a night of beer tasting. Participants will receive a commemorative glass to sample a variety of craft beer and eat tasty bites at 29 locations on and around Main Street while live music fills the air.

Tickets are available for \$40 online at PleasantonDowntown.net as well as at Redcoats Pub - 336 St. Mary Street and Studio Seven Arts - 400 Main Street for cash or check only. Tickets can be redeemed on Saturday, March 14 from 4:30-7 p.m. at the starting location, Veterans Memorial Building at 301 Main Street.

Participating breweries include 21st Amendment Brewery, Altamont Beer Works, Ballast Point Brewery, Bison Organic Beers, Drake's Brewing, E.J. Phair Brewing Company, Eight Bridges Brewing, Handles Crafted Brews, Lagunitas Brewing Company, Mendocino Brewing Co., Sauced Brewing Company, Schubros Brewery, Sierra Nevada, St. Florian's Brewery, Working Man Brewery and more.

New this year is the Downtown Pleasanton VIP Pass. For \$125, receive admission to all four downtown events for 2015.

A limited number of designated driver tickets for \$10 will be available on the night of the Brew Crawl. This event is proudly sponsored by Goodguys Rod & Custom Association, LocalGruv, Beer Haven at the Alameda County Fair and the Tri-Valley Beer Trail.

For more information regarding Brew Crawl visit PleasantonDowntown.net.

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Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A Bike Rodeo was held at Altamont Creek Elementary in Livermore last Friday. Students learned about bike safety and how to properly ride a bike. The Bike Mobile was on site to do bicycle repairs and teach students how to fix a flat tire. The event was sponsored by the Altamont Creek PTA, Safe Routes to School, Bike East Bay, and Cycles of Change. Presentations included a bicycle safety check, helmet fitting, starting and stopping, signaling, shifting gears, scanning ahead, and obstacle avoidance. Genna Yu helps Ben Perez do some maintenance on his bike.

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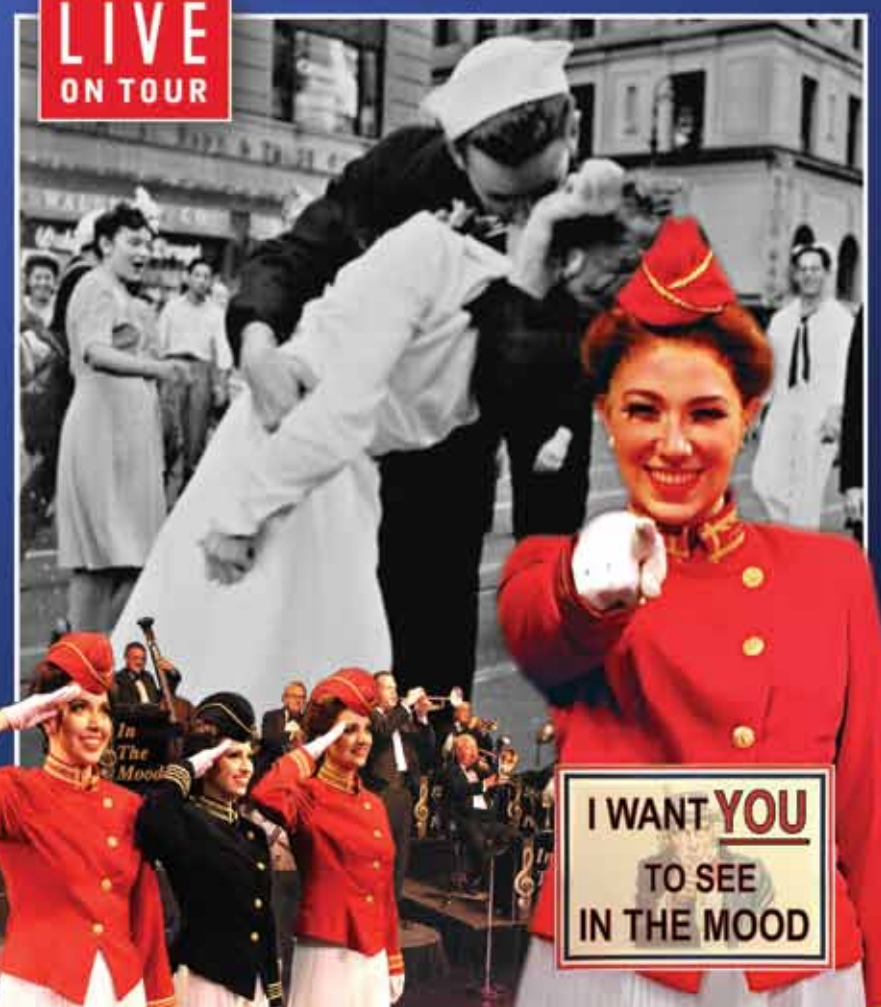
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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Rolling Roundtable

U.S. Representatives Eric Swalwell, a Democrat, (CA-15) and Jeff Denham, a Republican, (CA-10) will hold a bipartisan, joint rolling roundtable meeting aboard the westbound Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) #05 train on the morning of Thursday, March 12, 2015. Both members will be traveling throughout the car to hear from commuters about the issues that matter most and discuss their work in Congress to grow the local economy.

The 10th district includes all of Stanislaus County.

Reps. Denham and Swalwell will board the ACE train from the Lathrop/Manteca ACE station, scheduled to depart at 6:59 a.m. PDT, and will end the trip at ACE's Fremont station at 8:15 a.m. PDT.

For more information, please contact Rep. Swalwell's district office at (925) 460-5100, Rep. Denham's district office at (209) 579-5458, or Karlaa Davies from the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) at (209) 944-6242. A detailed train schedule follows:

Buchanan Endorsed

Clean Water Action, a 40 year old grassroots environmental organization with more than 1 million members nationwide, announced its endorsement of Joan Buchanan in her campaign for State Senate. Buchanan, a former Assemblymember is running for State Senate District 7. Senate District 7 was vacated by Congressman Mark DeSaulnier earlier this year.

"Protecting the Delta and maintaining clean drinking water has always been a priority for me and for residents in the East Bay," said Buchanan. "That is why I am honored to have the support of one of the leading advocacy groups for protecting our precious water resources."

The vote takes place March 17. If none of the candidates receives more than 50 percent of the vote, the top two will be on the May 19 ballot.

Robbery and Assault

Pleasanton Police Officers responded Sunday night to a report of a robbery at Home Depot. A Home Depot Loss Prevention Officer had attempted to apprehend a female who had just stolen several power tools.

The female was being detained in the parking lot when her accomplice drove up in a vehicle and intentionally ran into the officer knocking him to the ground. The female got into the vehicle and the two fled onto Owens Drive toward Johnson Drive. Officers checked the area but were unable to locate the suspects. The officer sustained an injury to his knee and several scrapes and bruises, but is expected to make a full recovery.

The suspects are described as a white male adult and a white adult female, 25 to 30 years old about 5' 6" tall weighing 160 pounds. She was wearing a light colored shirt, black leggings with glitter and white tennis shoes. There was no further information about the male suspect.

Anybody who can assist in identifying the suspects or may have information about this crime is asked to call the Pleasanton Police Department at (925) 931-5100.

Carjacking Attempt

On Sunday afternoon, the Pleasanton Police Officers responded to a report of an armed robbery in the parking lot of the Stoneridge Mall. The victim reported that he was sitting in his parked vehicle in the lot near Sears with his two young children, when the first suspect approached him on foot and stood near his door. A second suspect stood by the rear of the victim's vehicle.

The suspect at the front of the car displayed what appeared to be a shotgun and demanded the victim's vehicle. When the victim told the suspect that his two children were in the vehicle, the suspect instead demanded personal property from the victim and the victim complied. After obtaining the undisclosed personal property from the victim, the suspects got into a waiting vehicle and fled onto Stoneridge Mall Rd.

The descriptions of the suspects are as follows: Pacific Islander/Male/Adult; age: mid-20's; about 5'10" tall; slim build; wearing a black trench coat; Black/Male/Adult; age: mid-20's; about 5'10" tall; slim build; wearing a light colored jacket.

Anybody who may have information about this crime is asked to call the Pleasanton Police Department at (925) 931-5100.

Lab Benefits Meetings Scheduled for March 23

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will hold three meetings at Livermore's Bankhead Theater on Monday, March 23, to explain changes in the way retiree benefits will be administered.

The three 90-minute meetings are scheduled to start at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., the Laboratory announced. All three meetings will cover identical information, according to the announcement.

The benefits themselves are not changing, the Laboratory stressed – just the manner in which they are being handled. The changes will affect only retirees, not active employees, according to a Laboratory spokesperson.

The changes will be effective April 1. They are occurring as a normal part of a "request for proposal" process in which the Laboratory opens contracts to new bidders.

The "most significant change" is that the plan now administered by Aon Hewitt will be administered by a different company, Empyrean Benefit Solutions, starting April 1, according to the Laboratory.

Changes will affect the way in which dental and legal plans are paid as well as Health Reimbursement Arrangements for monthly and prepaid medical programs.

Some Laboratory retirees who received the announcement, in the form of a letter to their homes, said that they found the level of detail difficult to follow.

One statement in the announcement contained the names and acronyms of five separate entities that retirees must be familiar with. It read, in part, "...a representative from OneExchange will be present to discuss the HRA administrator change to Pay Flex from Your Spending Account (YSA), provided by Aon Hewitt."

"It's hard for anyone to understand this gobblede-gook, let alone an 85-year-old living alone or in a nursing home," complained one

exasperated retiree who asked not to be identified.

Like the Open Enrollment meetings in the Fall, the March 23 meetings will not be recorded for later viewing even though many retirees are unable to travel

for medical reasons or live too far away to come to Livermore. The reason is that the vendors involved "do not allow for videotaping of their representatives," a spokesperson for the Laboratory said.

Wind Turbine Appeal Is Continued by County

Alameda County Board of Supervisors continued to an indefinite date an appeal by Altamont Winds, Inc. (AWI) for a three-year extension of a use permit to operate 828 Altamont wind turbines that were due to be phased out by Oct. 31, 2015.

The matter was set for discussion on the agenda March 10, but was continued for further talks between the county and the applicant.

The Altamont is undergoing repowering with new turbines designed to reduce raptor deaths. AWI is planning to replace its 828 turbines with 18 larger machines, and wants a three-year extension from Oct. 31, 2015, in order to accomplish it.

The East County Board of Zoning Adjustment had rejected the AWI application for the extension. The denial was appealed to supervisors.

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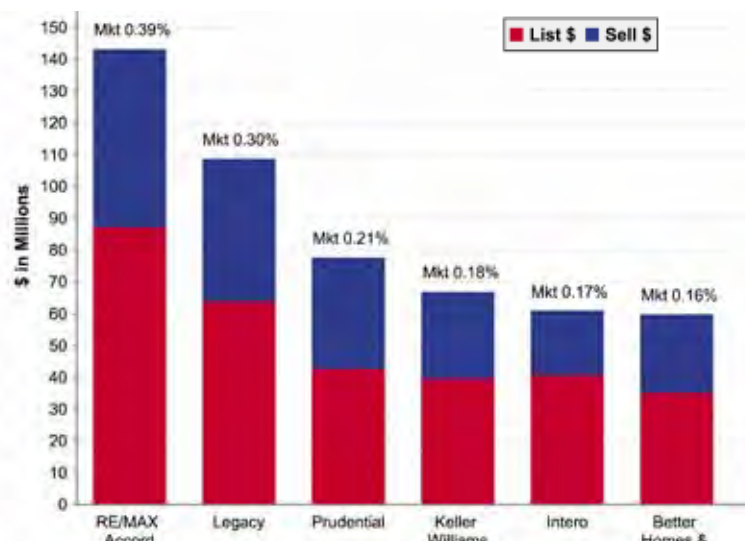


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EDITORIAL

Tolerance and Acceptance

Pleasanton schools have added a new dimension to the Diversity Days that are held each year. In the past, the celebrations included food, music and traditions from other cultures.

The goal was to enrich the annual diversity days with the inclusion of different lifestyles, not just different cultures. This year, the program will include such subjects as race, sexual preference, gender stereotypes, bullying, and religious tolerance.

Students will view a film, "Windows and Mirrors," which allows students to experience how others different from themselves live, then react to what they have seen.

The film was created by an Amador Valley High School student with help from faculty members.

We applaud the Pleasanton Schools. Helping to broaden knowledge concerning differences on many levels is a good step in helping to build tolerance and acceptance.

WATER

(continued from page one)

the normal water needs for 3825 households, at three households per 1 AF, said Michalczuk.

Reached for comment about Duerig's letter, Michalczuk said that what Duerig said applies only to years that Zone 7 can provide enough water. DSRSD has asked for 12,900 AF from Zone 7. In February, Zone 7 told him that Zone 7 said it could not provide DSRSD its full request, he explained.

Michalczuk said that Duerig spoke at the DSRSD meeting in support of the environmental documents for the transfer, but said that Zone 7 opposes the transfer itself. Duerig did not respond for a request for comment by the Independent's deadline.

A press release sent out Tuesday afternoon by DSRSD quotes Pleasanton Operation Services Director Daniel Smith saying that the city has been asking Zone 7 since last year to work on such water transfers, because of the drought. Smith said Pleasanton supports the DSRSD water transfer.

DSRSD will use pipe links from EBMUD, which can take the Yuba water at Freeport, near Marysville. EBMUD will store the wa-

ter, and then dole it out to DSRSD from June 10 to Sept. 30.

DSRSD will pay YCWA \$500 per AF for the water, but that is only part of the cost. Another \$1300 per AF will cover the cost of pumping, treating and storing it, so the total cost will be \$1800 per AF.

The \$1800 is more than the \$1000 per AF that DSRSD pays Zone 7 for water. "It's more expensive, but it is also 10 percent of our normal water deliveries. We can spread it out over normal deliveries, which will add \$175 to \$185 per AF cost to us," said Michalczuk.

Despite the higher cost to DSRSD, the agency would not necessarily raise water rates. DSRSD has a special set-aside rate stabilization fund. The extra cost could be covered by it, said Michalczuk.

The water would be transferred from YCWA into the EBMUD system, which would then store it, and move it to DSRSD. There are inter-ties between EBMUD and DSRSD which would enable the transfer. The water would not be sent through the Delta, which is subject to interruption in deliveries sometimes, because of habitat issues.

LAWSUIT

(continued from page one)

of accusations, including complaints worth more than \$1 billion under the False Claims Act.

The False Claims defense was so successful that Crowell & Moring summarizes it on its website as a case study.

Now it will try to help UC prevail against LLNL retirees.

The retiree lawsuit, first filed in 2010, is intended to return the retirees to UC health care programs. Those programs were available to them from the time of the Laboratory's founding in 1952 until 2008, when a for-profit consortium took over for the University as manager of the national defense laboratory.

The contract change led to industrial style health care coverage, which retirees considered a violation of promises made during their careers at the Laboratory. They formed a grass roots

organization, raised funds and found legal counsel to file suit.

The University has contested the suit from the start. In rulings, the court confirmed, over UC objections, that the retirees have standing to sue. More recently, it allowed the retirees to convert their suit to a class action, which UC opposed.

As of last week, as the window closed for retirees to choose to remain in or to remove themselves from the lawsuit class, only 132 had chosen to "opt out." That left slightly more than 4,400 retirees and surviving beneficiaries for purposes of continuing the suit.

Attorneys for the retirees last week presented a trial plan as requested by the court. University attorneys are expected to present their plan this week. The next conference with the judge is scheduled for April 1.

Independent Expenditures Playing a Role in 7th District Senate Race

Independent expenditures are flowing into the State Senate 7th District race. To date, \$1,539,016 in independent expenditures (IE) have been reported.

Competing to succeed Mark DeSaulnier as representative of the State Senate 7th District are Assemblywoman Susan Bonilla, former Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan, Steve Glazer, and Terry Kremen. They are all Democrats. The lone Republican who filed, Michaela Hertle, withdrew from the race. She endorsed Glazer.

Money spent in support of Glazer totals \$615,218, anti-Glazer expenditures were listed at \$190,860. For Bonilla, \$523,669 has been spent in supporting her; Buchanan's support numbers totaled \$33,260. Funds spent opposing Buchanan and Bonilla came in at \$106,984. The amount reported funding literature for Hertle was \$69,025.

Bill Bloomfield has spent the most with \$439,332 in support of Glazer. The money paid for mailers, consulting and polling, with sixteen of the nineteen mailers in support of Glazer paid for by Bloomfield. Three were financed by Glazer's official campaign. Three mailers against Glazer were sent out by Working Families Opposing Glazer.

Bloomfield is currently acting Chairman of Baron Equities, a real estate investment firm with ownership and management interests in residential, commercial, retail and industrial properties in California and the U.S. Between 2001 and 2011 he spent \$2,231,000 to support candidates and ballot measures in California and spent over \$7 million on his own failed Congressional race in 2012.

Eighteen mailers in support of Bonilla have landed in mailboxes. Seven

are from Bonilla's official campaign; six from union PACs.

Seven mailers favored Buchanan with five coming from her official campaign and two from the CA Building Industry Association, which spent \$33,260.

JOBSPAC, the California Chamber of Commerce political action committee, spent \$50,000 for mailers in support of Glazer and \$106,984 on mailers opposing Bonilla and Buchanan.

Asian American Small Business PAC reported \$87,171 spent on mailers for Hertle and against Glazer. The California Republican Party sued the PAC in federal court last Thursday, claiming trademark infringement because the PAC used the party's elephant logo on its mailers. "The apparent intended effect of the mailers is to unlawfully suppress and divert the votes of Republican voters in Sen-

ate District 7 through fraud, intellectual property theft and chicanery," the suit says.

Independent expenditures reported include the following:

California Charter Schools Association: \$98,138 in favor of Glazer.

California Dental Association IE Committee: \$287,126 for mailers, polling and research, and consulting for Bonilla.

California Medical Association: \$83,438 two mailers for Bonilla.

California Professional Firefighters/CA Nurses Association: \$132,615 for mailers and polling supporting Bonilla.

Edvoice: \$12,447 for phones in support of Glazer.

Independent Voter PAC: \$3,391 for facebook ads for Glazer.

Working Families Opposing Glazer for Senate reported \$172,714 for mailers, polling, research and a website.

SF Plans to Take Trash to Solano County Landfill

San Francisco's plan to send garbage via railroad to a Yuba County landfill is likely over.

Instead, San Francisco plans to send its trash to Recology's Hay Road Landfill in Solano County at the end of 2016.

The city currently dumps its trash at the Altamont Landfill in Alameda County near Livermore. San Francisco's agreement with Waste Management Inc. at that facility is expected to expire at the end of 2016.

The issue is of interest to the City of Livermore, because it receives fees from waste taken to the Altamont Landfill. The fees are used to finance environmental education programs, a performing arts facility in downtown Livermore, and the purchase of open space.

Previously, it was thought that the Solano site would not be able to accept the waste from San Francisco. However, the approval of the state AB845 makes it possible. This bill prohibits an ordinance enacted by a city or county, including an ordinance enacted by initia-

tive by the voters of a city or county, from otherwise restricting or limiting the importation of solid waste into a privately owned solid waste facility in that city or county based on place of origin.

David Tam, a recycling advocate, was asked about bringing in new imports to the Altamont site. Tam said, "It's difficult to see there would be any potential business for imports, because other landfills that charge users much less or nothing for recycling and host community mitigation programs are available.

The San Francisco Planning Department issued a notice that it was preparing an environmental review for the shipping of garbage via long haul semi-trucks to the Solano site.

SF Planner Paul Maltzer said that the department has issued a negative declaration regarding the Hay Road Landfill.

Maltzer said a negative dec is appropriate. "We have found no significant impacts. The landfill is permitted to take the full amount of

solid waste. There will be no changes in San Francisco. The only physical change would be trucks driving to Solano County rather than through Alameda County to the Altamont."

Maltzer said that San Francisco is pursuing both the Solano and Yuba County sites. Yuba County is preparing the environmental document for the Ostrom Road location. San Francisco is participating. The plan to construct a 1.5-mile railroad spur to the Ostrom Road landfill near Wheatland in Yuba County is still in the environmental review phase.

Recology owns both the Yuba County and Solano County landfills. Maltzer said the Solano County option is expected to be available by the end of 2016. Yuba County would take longer.

He added that both San Francisco and Recology consider Solano County the preferred option. If it were approved, San Francisco would no longer pursue the Yuba County option.

At current rates of disposal, it is estimated that the

agreement with Recology to take waste to Solano County would have a term of approximately 13 - 15 years.

The agreement between San Francisco and Recology to authorize the proposed change in disposal sites would need to be approved by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Tam said opposition may be raised during the comment period on the Solano County negative dec. One would be road-wear and traffic impacts from the number of trucks taking waste to the landfill in a rural area east of Vacaville.

Yuba Group Against Garbage founder Rick Paszkowitz, which has a lawsuit pending in court, said his group would likely not fight another similar contract to take waste to the Yuba County site. "We've been doing it for 15 years. We're out of steam.

"I suspect we have done our part by focusing that it's an improper thing to use Yuba County as a garbage dump for San Francisco," he added.

MAILBOX

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

Get Involved
David Williams
Livermore

Thousands of Livermore residents currently have to waste many thousands of hours and gallons of gasoline by driving to Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and beyond to visit various businesses, medical, investment, financial suppliers, contractor services and to commuting to branch offices. Silicon Valley has proven the wisdom of accommodating small businesses.

In spite of this, 14 office buildings in South Livermore with 148 offices totaling 112,350 square feet plus 409 parking stalls have been most deliberately neglected so the 7.6 acres can be sold for high cost housing. Soon the required rezoning will be heard by our Planning Commission and then by our City Council. We, the citizens, stopped the 24/7 corporate jetport and the \$3 billion

downtown BART perhaps in 2066. Get involved.

Don't Miss the Opera
Roger Lake
Livermore

The Livermore Valley Opera will be taking you to the desolate moors of southeast Scotland for a tale of the conflict between the heads of two clans in Lucia di Lammermoor on the weekends of March 14/15 and 20/21. Based on a Sir Walter Scott's novel, it is a fight to the death with no quarter given or asked. It is interwoven with love, lust, deceit, murder, betrayal, forced marriage, insanity - all the things that make opera great. In the tale, Enrico (Henry) the head of Lammermoor (Lamb's moor), has taken the lands of Engardo (Edgar), the head of Ravenswick who has captured the heart of Lucia (Lucy), the sensitive, unstable sister of Enrico. This leads to unforeseen consequences for all.

As long time opera fans my wife and I have been enjoying the rehearsals watching the pieces come together to form a mosaic of drama, emotion and conflict. It is very much a dramatic performance and is very much a challenge for the artists. There is no doubt that these guys absolutely detest each other.

Erin Sanzero is Lucia. This part is one of the most challenging dramatic roles in all of opera and she is

wonderful in it, meeting all of the challenges. She belies the myth that all big voices must come from big people, her diminutive stature hides a phenomenal voice.

We are also fortunate to have a number of LVO alumni return for this performance, Christopher Bengochea, as Edgar, Roberto Perlas Gomez as Henry, and Nikola Prinz as Alisa, Lucia's confidant. They and the other principals are first rate.

The LVO chorus is just great, they have been intensely practicing for the 2 months and have honed their dramatic and vocal skills to give the necessary critical support and credibility to the dramatic scenes. The expanded orchestra is under the baton of Alexander Katsman. The stage direction is under the skilled hand of Candace Evans.

It is in the intimate setting of the Bankhead, is sung in Italian with supertitles in English. So put on your kilt and come to the lowlands of Scotland and enjoy this performance of this great opera.

Anniversary
Jo Ann Frisch
Livermore

March 11th is the 4th anniversary of the Fukushima nuclear reactor meltdowns. The earthquake and tsunami caused many deaths and a huge release of radiation. The effects continue today.

TEPCO recently admitted it concealed an ongoing

radiation leak at Fukushima for nearly a year. The company is still in the process of stabilizing and decommissioning its damaged nuclear power plant. Cleanup is a distant goal that may never be realized.

The nuclear accident and its victims will be remembered at 2:30pm on March 11th, at the Japanese Consulate in San Francisco. You are invited.

If you can't attend, there is a national action you can take from your home or office. It's called "Unplug Nuclear Power." To participate, unplug yourself from the grid as much as possible on March 11th. Thousands will remember Fukushima in this deeply personal way, including me.

Fukushima is not merely a tragedy from the past, it is an ongoing danger today and a warning for the future, nuclear power is too great a risk for people and the environment to bear.

Vote for Glazer
Robert S. Allen
Livermore

Steve Glazer is the only candidate for the 7th District State Senate seat opposing high-speed rail in his ballot statement. Susan Bonilla says nothing about it in hers (although she backs it), and the other candidates didn't even include a ballot statement in the Voter Information pamphlet, even though

(More MAILBOX, page 5)

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DIVERSITY

(continued from page one)

the program would be even richer if students could also look into the lives of other people to see what diversity offers for each of them, said Heather Pereira, an Amador teacher who helped put on the program there.

The film includes short reflection times after each segment during which students can write down the mirror or window they saw for themselves. Later, they can reflect on the thoughts or share them in class, or among themselves.

Amador student Harrison

Misfeldt made the film, with help from a team of teachers from the district's high schools and middle schools, and the leadership of Amador vice-principal Nimarta Grewal, said Pereira.

Harrison's video sampled such categories of diversity as race, sexual preference, different family structures, gender stereotypes and expectations, abilities, and religious tolerance.

Using relevant videos that he found on YouTube, Harrison included such topics as poverty, found in

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

they back the boondoggle.

We don't need cap and trade gas taxes (and who knows what other tax money) to be squandered on the roundabout "Blended Rail" monstrosity.

Steve is right, and he has earned my vote.

Confusing Budget Phyllis Couper Pleasanton

CA State Controller, Betty Yee, stated that California is flush with cash. This seems like good news, but, alas, it is only a drop in the taxpayer's unfunded bucket of burdens. Governor Brown is jubilant in stating he will pay back the billions of dollars he borrowed from schools and community colleges, and \$533 million of local governments' funds. Perhaps those groups could have used that money all along to ease their financial struggles. According to the CAO, California is \$330 plus billion in debt.

Governor Brown wants to pay back billions of borrowed money, and yet seek funding solutions to head off increased tuitions for higher-education? He wants to spend \$200 billion (and rising) on a train, and \$68 billion on a Delta tunnel, and raise the cost of gas via more gas taxes? How about no borrowing, no train, no tunnel, no more gas taxes, nix the non-native Smelt, and use the water for small local and valley farmers who provide food for all of us and to fix our roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.

Governor Brown said the state budget must include responsibility for California's growing aging population in the budget. How about the state stepping away and allowing healthy supply and demand in the medical profession and healthy competition in the insurance field? How about working on Tort reform, which should be an easy fix since most politicians have a law degree.

How about we don't make plans to build, buy, or fix if the money isn't in the bank. How about let's not borrow money at high interest rates to pay back money we didn't have in the first place but obligated the state anyway. How about cutting up the credit cards and cutting the annual budgets for all 7,000+ state agencies, many of which are duplicates.

Governor Brown said the financial promises the state has already made must be confronted honestly so that they are properly funded. The key words here are

"financial promises". It is not the place of our state government to make "financial promises". It is the state government's job to be good stewards of the money received. And in the vein of good stewardship, how about not taking bond money that the tax payers voted in for school and infrastructure and using it for pet projects or "promises".

Governor Brown said: "Californians must make what they have done work." What we tax paying Californians have done is pass bonds. If we would read the fine print about the bonds in the ballot books, there would be fewer bonds passed. The length of the bonds are 20-40 years or more plus enormous interest, yet schools still ask for help and the roads are worse each year.

Government asks us to hand over money with blind faith. We Californians must educate ourselves on issues and candidates to elect fiscally responsible people. We must parent government spending with some very stern "no's" at the voting booth and with our pens!

Thank You Leslie Lemieux Livermore

I would just like to say a big Thank You to the Livermore High School Alumni Association (LHSAA). They are a wonderful group of people who work very hard to support activities at Livermore High. In recent years, the Alumni Association has helped in the purchasing of Soccer Uniforms for the Cowboys. They have helped the Cowboy Marching Band to purchase new shoes, and they have even funded a field trip for the Field Biology class at LHS to the California Academy of Sciences. Many in the class had never had the opportunity to go the Academy of Sciences so it was a great experience.

I am glad and grateful to have such a wonderful organization around helping Livermore High. The Alumni Association holds 3 fundraisers each year, and one is coming up on Friday March 20. It is a crab feed, and we all know how fun they are! If you are a Livermore High Graduate, you ought to consider joining this group of fine folks! If you are a parent of a Livermore High Student, current or future, you ought to consider joining us for the crab feed on March 20th. Details can be found here: <http://livermorehighalumni.com/Events.html>.

Thank you LHSAA for all you do for our students!



The Amador B-Boy club performs.

a "60 Minutes" interview by Scott Pelley of homeless Florida school children sleeping in cars, and a gay African-American couple raising their three daughters in Atlanta.

The pain of being an idle bystander when people are bullied is also part of the film. A woman recalls as a 9th grader, students put swastikas on a blackboard in their Jewish teacher's classroom. She took her seat, and didn't say anything to her classmates.

The teacher walked in. "His eyes welled up with tears. He took a brush and wiped it off the black board, and did not say a word," said the woman. After class, she

apologized to him for not speaking out against her classmates.

The teacher said that she didn't put the swastikas on the blackboard, so it's not her responsibility. She told him that it was her responsibility, because she knew that it was wrong, and did not say anything.

Teacher Michelle Garlit, who advises the Multicultural Club at Foothill, said that club members liked the video, especially a segment about how to act as an ally for someone who is being bullied.

One suggestion from a woman in the video was to be an effective ally by not making one's voice stronger

than the bullying victim. "The idea is to make sure others know that (bullying) is not OK. By being silent, you are allowing it to happen," said Garlit. The woman in the video says, "Speak up, but not over." An ally's job is to support, but not to take credit or upstage the victim.

Village High will hold its Diversity Day on March 12. Vice-principal Julie Calderon said that after the film is shown Assembly, students will go to different workshops to make murals and sculptures, create multimedia work that is filmed that day, take part in a writers' workshop coached by a facilitator, or participate in

culinary activity, a program at Village.

Pleasanton and Hart Middle Schools will stage their Diversity celebrations on March 13. Harvest Park includes segments on diversity throughout the school year on its closed circuit television. Three elementary schools have held their multicultural fairs. Others have them scheduled for later in the spring.



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THEME

(continued from page one)

"sophisticated" but "unpretentious" style of Dublin. "We have it all here in our own backyard, and (don't have to) travel to other places."

McCann showed illustrations of a new Dublin Shamrock logo, where the current, complicated four-leaf clover with images inside each leaf, is replaced with a simple clover with three leaves drawn in simple Valentine-style hearts. In one illustration, the left and right leaves were depicted as green, and the top one red, giving an "I love Dublin" effect. T-shirts and other items showed versions of the design.

Street banners will lend themselves to interesting designs on the theme. The city will phase in new stationery with the logos.

McCann suggested a newsletter, too, which would emphasize "It's Right in Our Backyard." Referring to the Aquatic Center, which will be built in Emerald Glen Park, McCann said, "You can brag about your new water park, saying 'Our backyard pool is bigger than yours.'" It will be one of the biggest aquatic centers in the East Bay.

Mayor David Haubert observed that recent Dublin housing has been built with smaller backyards or none at all. However, McCann's

presentation showed him that "the community is our backyard. When walking up the trails, up to Donlon Point, which I love to do, that's our backyard."

When Dubliners gather at community events, such as the Splatter party or a movie in the park, "that's your backyard. Dublin the community is the backyard," said Haubert.

Dublin's biggest event is the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration, which has drawn as many as 80,000 people for the weekend. McCann's suggestion for a print ad was, "When we throw a party in our backyard, more than 80,000 people come."

The work by North Star represented more than coming up with a slogan and related advertising. The company offered an identity awareness for businesses, and specific marketing projects for the downtown area and the Transit Center.

A citizens committee helped in the formation of the project, as did Vice-mayor Abe Gupta, and Tim Sbranti, when he was mayor. The city budgeted \$136,000 for development of the brand. Implementation will occur over several years. Staff is working on a final budget on the implementation.

HOME OF THE WEEK



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LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

SHARE YOUR TALENTS - GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

The City of Livermore invites applications for appointment to the following Advisory Bodies:

Beautification Committee: The Beautification Committee reviews and recommends to City Council beautification projects for parks, roadsides, medians, city gateways, and standards for landscape maintenance districts. Public outreach achievements include Arbor Day and Annual Appearance Awards. Meets: 1st Wednesday at 6:00 pm, Maintenance Service Center, 3500 Robertson Park Road. Next meeting: April 1, 2015

Commission for the Arts: The Commission for the Arts encourages and facilitates cultural programs that enrich the community. The Commission promotes Livermore as a vibrant and stimulating environment for artists and audiences, young and old, to experience the performing, visual, and literary arts. The Cultural Arts Master Plan guides the Commission's work to create and enhance arts and cultural activities throughout the community. Meets: 4th Tuesday, 4:30 pm, Civic Center Library Board Room, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. Next meeting: March 24, 2015

Human Services Commission: The Human Services Commission provides a forum for discussion of community social needs, monitors the expenditure of Housing and Human Services funds, assists local agencies in procuring grants, and submits an annual report to City Council on the status of social conditions and progress toward achieving solutions to the community's human needs. Meets: 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Multi-Service Center Conference Room, 3311 Pacific Avenue. Next meeting: April 14, 2015

Livermore Area Youth Advisory Commission: The Youth Advisory Commission brings together the youths and adults, and private and public sectors of the community to address responsibility for the care, health, safety, welfare and education of Livermore's young people. Meets: 1st Monday at 7:00 pm, Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue. Next meeting: April 6, 2015

Applicants to City Advisory Bodies are required to attend at least one meeting of the Advisory Body applied for prior to submitting an application and must reside within the City limits. For an application or more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 925-960-4200 or visit www.cityoflivermore.net/advisorybodies.

Applications are due to the City Clerk's Office by 5:00 pm, Friday, April 17, 2015 to be included in the next interview session.

GOSPEL MEETING

We invite you to come hear back to the Bible preaching by

JOE HISLE

March 15-22, 2015

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Sunday afternoons 3pm

Monday-Saturday evenings 7pm

Lunch after Sunday morning service March 22

Early afternoon service after lunch at 1:30pm

SPORTS NOTES



Granada Little League held its opening day on Saturday March 7. The featured speaker was former Major League Baseball second baseman and outfielder Bip Roberts who gave a very encouraging talk. He stayed around to talk to the players and sign autographs afterwards. With temperatures in the mid 70s, it was a great opening day. Photo - Bill Nale



Pictured are Jade Overton and JD Cerruti, who sang the National Anthem as part of the Granada Little League opening ceremonies.



Granada Little Leaguers get ready to take the field.



Pictured are Miranda Heckman and Christopher Jhong of the Pleasanton Seahawks. They were selected to attend the Zone Select Camp at Arizona State University, May 28-31, to represent the Western Zone. This camp is held annually to identify and develop top teenage talent. 28 male and 28 female athletes are selected in each of the four Zones. Selected girls must be age 12-13, selected boys must be age 13-14 at the time of performance. Athletes are selected based on 2014 Long Course Meters (LCM) IMX point scores.

Pleasanton Seahawks

The Pleasanton Seahawks qualified 13 swimmers to represent Zone two at "The Zone All-Star Meet" Santa Clara on March 1, 2015. Representing the Pleasanton Seahawks swim team were Alexis Mesina (7) with one new best time, Aven Lee (10) 2BT, Christina Tsai (10) 3 BT, Jordan Lee (10), Alexander Smedley (10) 2BT, Stephanie Shao (12) 1BT, Gwyneth Wong (12), Jaewoo Kim (11) 2BT, Elisabeth Balicanta (13) 1BT, Emily Claridge (13) 3BT, Mattias Blanco (14) 2BT, Calvin David (13) 1BT and Benjamin Sproul (14) with 2 new best times.

Livermore National LL

Livermore National Little League results:
AAADivision: Athletics 9, Pirates 8. What an opener. It was a shootout and both teams had a great show in the field, on the mound and at the plate. The A's were able score the game winning run to end this nail biter. For the A's, pitcher Thomas Schnapp had an excellent day throwing 4 strikeouts while Dominic Gozzo led the A's offense with 4 hits including two doubles. For the Pirates, Xavier Armas was an ace on the mound throwing 5 strikeouts. Tanner Lee's bat was on fire earning him 2 RBIs.
Red Sox vs. Rangers: Dylan Jones and Cal Duarte, from the Red Sox, both pitched fantastically with 5 strike outs combined, allowing no runs. Austin Araya had a big hit into right field driving one run home. For the Rangers, Enzo Battaglia started the game by making a great play on a grounder to shortstop and a strong throw to first to beat the runner for the first out of the Rangers' season. He played tough defense throughout the rest of the

game, adding a couple more first-rate fielding plays. Trevor Straume hit a ground rule double in the second inning and the Giants showed strong hitting and great defense. For the A's, Matteo Lortie was on fire with an awesome catch at 3rd base to get the runner out and a long hit out to center field. Graham Shawler made a great pop-fly catch while on 3rd base. For the Giants, in the first inning, last at bat with the bases loaded, David Nilmeier hit a line drive to bring three guys home. Brenynn Cardoza caught a fly ball.

T-Ball: Dodgers vs. Rockies Imani Prior made three solid defensive plays in the bottom of the first inning. Seth Fuller hit a super home run as the last up in the second inning. Tyson Headley fielded well playing at first and second base.

Granada Little League

Livermore American Little League results:
Majors: Giants 17, A's 3: A 10-run explosion in the fourth inning



Last weekend marked opening day for the Pleasanton Foothill Little League. Teams rushed on to the field at the Bernal Sports Park to take part in the traditional ceremonies. Amador Valley High student Elizabeth Unpingco sang the National Anthem followed by a rousing rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game." Then it was time to play ball.



The Senior Level Livermore Aquacowboy (LAC) swimmers achieved CA-NV Sectional and Lifetime Best Times at the 2015 Central California Swimming Juanita Allington Memorial Senior Championship Meet February 26 - March 1 in Clovis, CA. This meet was a trials and finals meet. Finalists for LAC were: Dante Demayo swimming to a new Sectional cut for the 100 fly and Sectional bonus for 200 fly; Matthew Hayes and Alex Gonzalez 400 IM, 100 and 200 back and garnering new Sectional bonus times in 200 back; Jacqueline Arnold in 200 breast; Paige Chew in 400 IM and 100 fly; Celine Nguyen in the 100 breast, 200 breast, 400 IM; Addison McLaggan in the 100 breast. Pacific Swimming Junior Olympic cuts were achieved by Tori Carroll, Katie Dabney, Paige DaCosta, Ryan Eckles, Michael Eckles, Chris Gonzalez, and Emma Hayes. New individual best times were achieved by Shelby Diehl, Megan Fairbanks, Ashlyn Hutcheson, Adele Myers, Brandon Siu, Jared Tovera, and Hunter Woffinden.



The Livermore Elite Taekwondo Academy Competition Team had a very successful showing at the Sacramento Invitational TKD Championships last week. Randell Aranador took gold in sparring (15-17 yr. old) black belt division. Alex DeGuzman took gold in both sparring (10-11) red belt division and poomsae forms. Allison DeGuzman matched her big brother by collecting gold in sparring (8-9) blue belt division and poomsae forms. Christian Doucet took gold in sparring (6-7) red belt division and Mauricio Mendiola took silver in sparring (8-9) blue belt division. Pictured are (top, from left) Coach Tharma Karunamoorthy, Aranador, DeGuzman and Coach Jeff Avila; (front) Mendiola, DeGuzman, and Doucet.

hoisted the Giants to a 17-3 win in five innings over the A's at GLL Field two on Saturday. Giants scored in the fourth on an RBI double by Dylan M., an RBI double by Isaiah G., a two-run double by Steven L., an RBI single by Kyle R., a bases loaded walk, a two-run single by Neil S., on a fielder's choice. Steven racked up two RBIs on two hits for the Giants. Miles R. had a hot bat for the A's, going 2-2, driving in one and scoring one. He tripled in the second inning and singled in the fourth inning. The Giants went up for good in the first, scoring four runs on an RBI double by Stephen G., a groundout by Neil. Three A's runs crossed the plate in the bottom half of the second, making the score 4-3. An error, an RBI

triple by Miles, and an RBI single by Nathan L. gave the A's life. Stephen struck out Darren D. to end the threat. Giants tacked on another two runs in the third. Colton T. singled, driving in three. Colton T. singled, driving in two unassisted out at 1B and 2B; Kyle R. hit a tag at 2B, an unassisted at 2B, and an out (P) to Carsen Williams (1B). Offense had 19 hits, 2 RBIs credited to Austin Kralj (2 doubles), Zachary Lindstrom, Lane Curtin, Logan Rothe, James Chow,

Division: Cardinals vs. Royals: Cardinals' defense produced 7 outs in 4 innings of play. Zachary Lindstrom (2B) to Austin Kralj (1B); Lane Curtin with 2 unassisted out at 1B and 2B; Kyle R. hit a tag at 2B, an unassisted at 2B, and an out (P) to Carsen Williams (1B). Offense had 19 hits, 2 RBIs credited to Austin Kralj (2 doubles), Zachary Lindstrom, Lane Curtin, Logan Rothe, James Chow,



Livermore National Little League players pose for a photo on opening day.



The Livermore Phantoms U13 Purple team picked up two more wins over the past weekend. The boys traveled to Berkeley on Saturday and came away with a decisive 11-6 win over the Bears, getting strong play from the middies and attack. On Sunday, the Purple team took on Diablo Scorpion Venom at Cayetano Park. Trailing going into halftime, the boys came out fired up and tallied 4 second half goals to complete the comeback, winning by a score of 7-5. The Purple team had great goalkeeping and strong play by the long pole defenders to hold off the Diablo attackers, keeping them scoreless in the 2nd half. A tremendous effort by the middies to clear the ball and quick passing from the attack punctuated the win. Pictured is the Livermore Phantoms U13 Purple back-up goalkeeper, Dane Winslow, making a great save. The Purple team beat Diablo Scorpion Venom by a score of 7-5 on Sunday.

Yankees vs. Giants: Yankees pulled out a walk-off win over the Giants on Tuesday. There were several notable Yankee highlights in the third. Down several runs, Jake Walton blasted a fly ball over the second baseman and Liam Muir drilled a line drive into right field. Dominic Franco hit a base clearing triple. There were great defensive plays by Jacob Freitas at first (Freitas also had two hits), Jacob Mascari at second and Grady Phillips at third. For the Giants, Gene Ling had his best outing all year on the mound during the first two innings. A.J. Martin hit a sharp 2 run RBI up the middle along with a solid pitching outing. Chase Nadeau's double also scored a run.

Minor AA: Diamondbacks vs. Rangers: The Rangers took the lead 5-0 early on and got some great action from Sean Epps and Gavin Benitez. Diamondbacks' Gabriel Henninger and Christian Skally both pitched fantastic and Cole Camilleri hit a drive out to center. The Diamondbacks came back for a final score of 5-5.

Orioles 16 Yankees 0: Gene Ling pitched a great 2 innings. Braden Jester had nice hit to clear the bases and team mate John ortiz also cleared the bases with a hard hit down the 3rd base line.

T-Ball: Raptors vs Mud Cats: The Livermore American Little League T-Ball division opened its season on February 28. The Raptors played the Mud Cats in a back and forth game. On offense, the Raptors were led by Conner Stewart and Matteo Pineda. Both players collected solid hits in each of their at-bats. Leif Kavanagh mirrored their effort by reaching base in his two at-bats as well. Defensively, Brady Kohl made an outstanding stop on a line drive to third base. The Mud Cats bats were limited by Roman Pavlenko who threw out multiple base runners to first baseman Travis Burnham. Overall, the Raptors played great as a team.

Raptors vs River Cats: The Raptors' bats were hot all day. Ezra

Swenson collected two hits including a highlight line drive double in the second inning. Jaxson Tanner drove in runs on two infield hits where his hustle to first base beat the throw both times. Continuing this trend, Mateo Arroy ran Ricky Henderson's style around the base paths to score two runs. For the second week in a row, Travis Burnham played excellent defense by throwing out four baserunners at first base. Jack Vise was steady at second base. Another great team effort.

Red Sox vs. Cardinals: Both teams played a great game and showed some promising skill for the future. Top offensive players for the Red Sox were Landon Anniccherio at second base, Knox Hooker at catcher, and Ryder Martin at third base. Top defensive players for the Red Sox were Luca Anniccherio, Miles Anderer, and Henry Ostermeyer with some huge hits.

Rockies: These first timers hit the ball hard and ran the bases fast. Great start to their first season. Players include Brayden Costa, Caden Teczon, Elijah Radack, Ethan Rago, Jacob Gates, Jesse Hunziker, Jude Kowal, Levi Ruppert, Myles Rosales and Rylan Boricchio.

Livermore American LL

Livermore American Little League results:
T-Ball: 3/7 - River Bandits vs Raptors: Both the Raptors and the River Bandits were in good form and practiced good sportsmanship. Both teams did well in the field and at bat.
Division: 3/7 - Angels 10, Athletics 8: After falling behind, the Athletics put together a rally. After 2 were out in the bottom of the 6th it looked like it was over. However, the next seven players all had hits, enough to send 3 players home and tie the game. The A's never gave up and that fighting spirit paid off. Ultimately the game was lost in the extra inning. After trailing most of the game, the A's scored 3 runs in the bottom of the 6th to send the

SPORTS NOTES



Livermore Phantom Lacrosse U9 played a great game against the Lamorinda Burst U9 on Sunday, March 8th. They played on the new turf field at Cayetano Park. To start the game off, an excellent assist by Blake Wilkinson to Alistair Bealer resulted in the first score. Perfect display of teamwork by Josh King to Andrei Gran led to another goal. Ryan Doko scored the third and final goal with an assist from Alistair Bealer. Beautiful offensive plays by Pierce Arizpe and Teagan Bailiff and great defensive plays by Sebastian Padilla and Anna Van Essen with an outstanding stick check.



The Livermore Phantom Lacrosse U15 team won both of their games last weekend. On Saturday, the score was 9-2 against Lamorinda Blast. Ryan Patchen scored twice with a goal each scored by Michael Nowaczyk, Alec Faith, Brent Petrik, Greg Short, Ethan Weisbrod, Jace Gersten, and Andrews Choumas. Goalie Shane Grimes had eight saves. On Sunday, Phantom defeated the Diablo Scorpion Pincers 6-0. Alec Faith and Michael Nowaczyk scored twice with one goal each by Jace Gersten and Matthew Hall. Luke van Buuren and Alec Faith each netted one and CJ Alire had two assists. Goalie Shane Grimes had seven saves. Pictured is CJ Alire running with the ball.



Dublin High School women's basketball team is shown in action during its defeat of Carondelet High in the North Coast Section Division II title game last Saturday. The Gaels edged the top-seeded Cougars 57-55.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen



West Coast Wild

Danielle Hanley caught a line drive at third base for the game's first out and was 2-2 batting. Brianna Berstein got a hit and made a nice play at second base. Melodei Brassart had two hits and made a good play at second base. Sarah Deplitch and Jessica Barger also had hits. Barger also pitched an inning.

Orange Crush vs. Blue Streak (3/1): The Orange Crush played against the Blue Streak following a wonderful opening day ceremony for the Livermore Girls Softball Association. Delilah VanderBeek pitched two innings, striking out three and making a nice play. She also had a hit. Joely Wolf pitched two innings with a strike out. She made a great defensive play by throwing out a runner at first baseman Skylee Harris. Wolf also had a good hit. Danielle Hanley, Melodei Brassart, Jessica Barger, Sarah Deplitch, and Addyson Gundry all had base hits.

West Coast Soccer

With high school soccer just ending, West Coast wasted no time preparing their college recruitable soccer players and teams for the first College Showcase of the year. Training for West Coast began at the new lighted turf field at Cayetano Park in Livermore where the U15 Wildfire, U16 Wonder and U17 Wild prepared for the Northern California College Showcase held in San Francisco. The new Livermore based turf field proved to be very valuable as the showcase was played on all turf fields. For the first two days of the showcase, West Coast went 10 games undefeated vs top teams from all over California and the Pacific North West.

U17 West Coast Wild finished top in showcase with 35 points and a 4 game domination over Cal South teams winning the Diamond division. The defending State & National Champions scored 7 goals and allowed no goals against.

West Coast Wonder competed in the U16 Premier bracket and played top teams from Oregon, CA and Nevada. Wonder went undefeated, outscoring their opposition 11-3 and cruising to the top of the showcase bracket with 33 pts. U15 Wildfire WCS youngest college showcase team played in the U15 Diamond Division and surprised some of the very best teams in the state defeating the #3 state ranked MVLA (ECNL) team 1-0 and earned a second shutout with a 0-0 vs Woodland SC.

West Coast proved to be one of the top clubs in the Northern California College Showcase with a record of 8 wins, 2 ties & only 1 loss, scoring 19 goals for and 5 goals against. Players interested in playing for a West Coast College Showcase team should contact their director Troy Dayak for more information on tryouts or go to www.westcoastsoccerclub.com



West Coast Wildfire

East Avenue Wrestling

The East Avenue wrestling team had six medalists at the Bulldog Wrestling tournament on March 7. East Avenue advanced five wrestlers to the championship finals claiming four gold-medals.

Eighth graders Marcus Shepard (109-pounds) and Cheyanne Smith (Hwt), seventh-grader Josiah Ventura (175.) and sixth-grader Ian Richardson (163) each won gold medals in their weight division. Ventura had an impressive tournament pinning all three opponents in route to the championship finals. In the finals he pinned Carson Hickey from Canyon in 36 seconds in the first round. Smith and Richardson also had impressive days pinning both their opponents to claim the gold. Shepard went 3-0 for the day including 5-1 decision over Cameron Stanley from Bancroft Middle School.

Seventh-grader Cole Gibson (105) took second place in his weight division and sixth-grader Matt Anderson (160) took third place. Anderson had a very exciting match edging out Ayden Martinez of Christensen Middle School 4-1 in overtime. Josiah Ventura (176) had the fastest pin for the team pinning one of his opponents in 8 seconds in the first round.

Christensen Wrestling

The Christensen Middle School wrestling team earned 15 medals at last Saturday's Bulldog tournament held at Granada High School. 8th grade team captain Phillip Tran earned his 3rd championship in a row by going undefeated in his 3 matches. He had 2 pins, both in the first round, before winning 13-2 in the finals. His fellow 8th grade teammate Ethan Montesinos was also perfect on the day with 3 wins and came in first. He had one pin. For the 2nd tournament in a row, Joseph Fields made the finals. He finished the day with a record of 2 and 1 and came in 2nd place. 8th grade team captain Stephen Corso-Clark beat a state placer 4-1 in the semifinals, but lost a tough match in the finals 2-0. He went 2 and 1 and came in 2nd place.

First year 7th grader Nick Tran also made the finals and finished in 2nd place with a record of 2 and 1 with 1 pin. 8th grader Angel Romo had 2 pins on his way to finishing in 3rd place. His record was 3 and 1. 8th grade team captain Mya Waechter also had 2 pins and a record of 3 and 1. She came in 3rd place. Her 8th grade teammate Zakiya Clark matched her with 2 pins, a record of 3 and 1 and a 3rd place medal. 7th grader Kyle Erickson came back from a hard 3-4 loss in the semifinals to take 3rd place. He had 3 pins on the day and was 3-1. Fellow 7th grader Spencer Tadokoro matched Kyle's 3 pins and 3rd place medal. He also finished with a record of 3-1.

6th grader Ayden Martinez had 2 pins in the tournament and lost a very tough triple overtime match. He finished with a record of 2-2 and came in 3rd place. 6th grader, Ximena "X" Pulido, wrestled in her first tournament ever. She came in 4th place with a record of 2-2 and had 1 pin on the day. 6th graders Chris Beppe and Anthony Casillas each had a record of 2-2 and finished in 4th place. Chris had one pin and Anthony had 2. Most of the

Run for Education

The 3rd Annual Pleasanton Run for Education, benefiting the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation (PPIE), takes place Sunday April 12, 2015. ClubSportPleasanton returns as Title Sponsor. All races begin and end at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

This year's race offers two new distances to challenge everyone - from the casual walker, to the novice runner, to those training for their first marathon. In lieu of a half marathon option, the 3rd Annual Run for Education offers three race distances: 5K, 10K and 15K. The Kids' Challenge for ages 12 & under has also expanded and will offer two distances: 1/2K and 1K.

ClubSportPleasanton and the Tri-Valley Triathlon Club return this year with pre-race training opportunities. ClubSport members who register for the race can take advantage of their race training programs by calling 925-463-2822. TVTC training programs begin February 1, 2015, and anyone interested can find out more at www.trivalleytriclub.com, or email ppie-run@trivalleytriclub.com.

Last year, the event raised over \$80,000 in net proceeds, all of which benefited the Pleasanton schools. This year, the committee's goal is to raise \$100,000.

To register to run, volunteer or sponsor the event, please visit www.ppie-run.com. To learn more about PPIE, please visit www.ppie.org.

Trails Challenge

The Diablo Trails Challenge will be held Sun., April 19. This trail run includes distances of 5K, 10K, half marathon and 50K.

Hosted by Brazen Racing, this fundraising run for Save Mount Diablo showcases just a fraction of the Diablo wilderness' beauty and helps Save Mount Diablo to preserve, defend and

restore more land for you, wildlife and future generations to enjoy.

The 5K, 10K and Half Marathon will all begin and end at Castle Rock Recreation Area in Diablo Foothills, Walnut Creek. The 50K is a point to point run and will begin at Round Valley Regional Preserve, following the Diablo Trail through Morgan Territory Regional Preserve, Mount Diablo State Park and finishing in Castle Rock Recreation Area. All races will be professionally timed. The 50K starts at 7 am and all other races will begin taking off at 8:30 am. All runners receive medals and T-shirts after the race.

Go to www.savemountdiablo.org/activities for information.

Pace for Peace

Tri-Valley Haven's Spring Pace for Peace-Hope Run will be held Sat., April 18 at 8 am.

The 5K/10K Hope Run course will go through Livermore's wine country. Race day registration starts at 7:00 am at 3663 Pacific Avenue in Livermore. To register online follow the link at www.trivalleyhaven.org. All proceeds go to local survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and homelessness served by Tri-Valley Haven and to our abuse prevention programs.

For more information and to download pledge forms please visit The Haven's website: www.trivalleyhaven.org or contact Lisa at (925) 667-2728. Proxy pledge donations or sponsorships may be sent to: Tri-Valley Haven - Pace, 3663 Pacific Ave, Livermore, CA 94550.

sponsorships may be sent to: Tri-Valley Haven - Pace, 3663 Pacific Ave, Livermore, CA 94550.

Half Marathon

Livermore Half Marathon will be held March 28.

Race organizers encourage runners to register soon for the 13.1 mile race through the scenic vineyards of Northern California.

Recently named the Livermore Destination Event Partner of the Year, the race start, finish and RunLiv Wine and Music Festival will take place in historic Downtown Livermore.

Weekend highlights include the RunLiv Expo and RunLiv Wine and Music Festival featuring wine from local wineries, beer from Eight Bridges Brewing Company, and the best food and music Livermore has to offer.

To register or access more information about the Livermore Half Marathon, visit www.runlivermore.com.

Adult Softball

LARPD is looking for Men's and Coed teams for the Spring Softball Season. If you have a team you would like to register contact Michael Gaza at 373-5731. Men's teams have openings on Monday and Thursday nights, Coed teams have openings on Tuesdays. The registration is \$795 per team, to include 10 games plus playoffs. Registration deadline is March 20. www.larpd.org

West Coast Wonder

game into extra innings. The Angels regained the lead in the top of the 7th on a triple by Andrew Thomas. Solid hitting from the entire Angels' team with outstanding performances from Lucas Bickerton (3 for 4); Diego Villaseñor (3 for 4); Braden Ford (4 for 4, double); Andrew Thomms (3 for 4, double, triple); and Brandon Daoust (3 for 4, double, triple).

3/7 - Orioles 9, Yankees 12: Yankees hosted the Orioles in an early season match up that featured clutch hitting on both sides. The Yankees edged out a win with solid hits from Vincent Betonio, Christian Jose and Chrissy Creeden who was awarded the game ball. Yankees' Star of the Game was Chrissy Creeden. Great hitting for the Orioles. Star hitters were Hunter Chrisp and Tito Pena. Great catch on the infield fly ball by Rylan Kohndrow. Orioles' Star of the Game was Tito Pena.

AA Division: 3/7 - Cardinals 5, Giants 6: After a slow start Jake Blake threw 3 scoreless innings, and recorded 7 strikeouts, to stall the Cardinals' strong offense. Thomas Nicholas got on base 3 times and drove in 2 runs to help rally the Giants. Then Alex Okronglis slammed a 3 run triple in the bottom of the 6th to tie the game. In the bottom of the 7th, Tyler Roe led off with a single and 2 stolen bases, setting up Ryan Gomez to hit in the game winning RBI.

3/7 - Athletics 10, Yankees 11: In a true test of perseverance, the Yankees squeaked out a close one against the Athletics. With the Yankees ahead going into the top of the 6th inning, the A's hitters exploded pulling ahead 10 to 6 before the third out was made by Jaden Vassallo (C) and Riley Durrant (3B) on an attempted steal by Robert Grout. Facing a four run deficit, the Yankees suffered a quick strikeout before loading the bases for Riley Durrant who hit a triple driving in Piper Sullivan, Aiden Grout, and Luther Hart. Sam Rosa followed up with a clutch single driving in Riley to tie the game before Anthony Acosta collected the game winning RBI with a single. Excellent pitching on both sides of the ball dominated the early part of the game. The Yankees' Rylan Sullivan pitched a no hitter through three and a

half innings while Bella Moen pitched a two hitter to start the game for the Athletics. Adam Valentine, Tommy Brown, and Noah Green all contributed solid pitching for the A's while Luther Hart and Nicko Gomez pitched two and a half innings in relief for Sullivan. Star of the Game was Riley Durrant.

2/28 - Athletics 7, Angels 4: There was some great pitching and some timely hitting. Tommy Brown pitched 3 1/3 innings of shut out for the A's. Dillon Wheery and Cole Caney each pitched a hitless, scoreless inning for the Angels. The A's scored two runs in the 1st inning and 5 in the 4th. The Angels scored their runs in the 5th while trying to mount a comeback. Final score A's - 7, Angels - 4. Stars of the Game: Tommy Brown, Anaya Acosta, Robert Grout, A's. Ryan Meyer, Cole Caney, Ethan V. Angels.

AAA Division: 3/8 - Giants 15, Rangers 3: Justin Torres earned a game ball for an amazing hit deep into the outfield. Alec Schlenker also walked away with a game ball for several big hits. Tyler Orth (T.O.) pitched three strong innings. Kellen Hutchings was great at bat with hits that brought in three RBIs.

3/7 - Athletics 11, Orioles 9: It was a nail-biter of a game between the A's and Orioles. Jadon Campagna hit 2 standup triples resulting in 2 RBIs. He was 3 for 3 for the game. Garrett Bozdeck went 2 for 3 at the plate. The A's and Orioles battled back and forth and were tied 8 all in the bottom of the third. Brett Whitelaw shut down the A's batters 1-2-3 in the 4th inning. However the A's scored 3 runs in the 5th for the final score: A's 11, Orioles 9.

Livermore Girls Softball

Livermore Girls Softball Association:

8u: Orange Crush vs. Red Hots (2/26): The Orange Crush girls looked great in the season opener. Delilah VanderBeek was 2-2, including a three run homer! She pitched two innings with two strikeouts, plus made two nice defensive plays. Alexis Tanner was 2-2 at the plate, as was Joely Wolf, who also pitched an inning and made a nice out.

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Take the Bus to the Festival

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, operator of the Wheels bus system, will be giving riders more "green" in cash saved by offering free rides on March 14th and 15th to Dublin's St. Patrick's Day Festival.

BART riders can connect to Wheels Route 10 from the East Dublin/Pleasanton and West Dublin/Pleasanton stations to the festival. Riders need to look for the festival banners at the stations directing them to either the westbound Route 10 bus at East Dublin/Pleasanton station or the eastbound Route 10 bus at the West Dublin/Pleasanton station. Route 10 buses at each station will take them free to the Dublin Civic Center for the festival. Free return tickets will be issued by the Wheels bus operator upon request.

Other Wheels bus riders who transfer at the BART Stations can also take Route 10 to and from the festival for free.

Information on Wheels Bus Route 10 is available at www.wheelsbus.com, or by calling the Wheels Customer Service line at (925) 455-7500.

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visit www.usfca.edu/pleasanton
or email pleasantoncampus@usfca.edu

CHANGE THE WORLD FROM HERE

Livermore District Won't Be Sending Out Any Teacher Layoff Notices

"This is the greatest board item ever," declared Assistant Superintendent Chris Van Schaack.

He made the comment at a meeting of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board of Education meeting last week.

The good news, said Van Schaack, is that for the first time in a long time we won't have to deliver bad news to teachers. The district will not be sending out precautionary lay-off notices.

Van Schaack cited several factors. They are an improved economic outlook,

increased student interest in elective programs, and a number of staff retirements across grade levels.

In another good news item, financial director Susan Kinder told the board that the district will be able to meet all of its financial obligations this year and for the next two years while maintaining educational programs and services.

The board heard a report on attendance through Dec. 18, 2014. Statistics show that the district saw an improvement over last year in overall attendance. However, one area of concern was TK (transitional kindergarten)-3 where the district is seeing an increase in chronic absences.

Those grade levels will be an area of focus on the part of the district. "It is the time when students build good habits that will last throughout their school years," stated Scott Vernoy, Director of Student Services. He added that there is no higher correlation to success in school than attendance.

Board president Kate Runyon suggested that the younger students tended to be sick more often. She wondered if that were a factor in absenteeism.

Superintendent Kelly Bowers said that the Livermore district has much higher attendance at those grade

levels than other districts. Parents tend to see TK as a play-day care program. Livermore has an academic focus.

The midyear report with attendance through December 18, 2014, shows the following:

Combined absence rate (A2A Truant or Excessively Excused) is 11%. This is 5% lower than the average of all A2A districts (those working with the consultant A2A).

Total absence summary shows 76.19% (9,585) of students in the excellent and satisfactory groups who have missed 3.8 days or less of school. A2A typically sees 70% or less of students in these absence categories.

The percentage of students in the Chronically Absent category has improved over the last two years, with 6.8% of students missing 10% of the school year as of December 18, 2014.

District average Save Rate (percentage of students who do not qualify for a second attendance letter after receiving the first) is 66.6%.

That means two-thirds of Livermore Valley School District families change their attendance behaviors after just one attendance intervention. The district will continue to work with parents and teachers to improve attendance at all grade levels.

Transit Authority Seeking Members for Committee

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), operator of the Wheels Bus system and Dial-A-Ride paratransit service in the Tri-Valley, is seeking applications for members and alternates to serve on the Wheels Accessible Advisory Committee (WAAC). Members on the WAAC represent the cities of Livermore, Dublin, and Pleasanton, unincorporated Alameda County and Tri-Valley social/human services agencies.

The committee members are expected to provide a forum and advise Wheels staff on accessibility issues facing senior and disabled residents on Wheels fixed route buses and Dial-A-Ride paratransit services. The committee meets six times per year for approximately 90 minutes.

Candidates must reside in the cities of Livermore, Dublin or Pleasanton and social services agencies must be located in and represent people who use or could use transit services in Livermore, Dublin and Pleasanton. Candidates must be able to solicit and disseminate information effectively to their constituents, be able to meet during regular business hours (typically 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.), and be able to analyze complex issues and reports to make recommendations to the LAVTA Board of Directors. Candidates must currently use Wheels fixed route buses or Dial-A-Ride paratransit services or represent those who do. Candidates do not have to be disabled or over 65 years old.

Interested candidates are required to submit an application to LAVTA. LAVTA's Board of Directors selects and approves the representatives.

WAAC members will receive a free annual Wheels fixed route bus pass. In addition, ADA paratransit eligible members can ride Dial-A-Ride service to and from WAAC meetings free of charge.

Interested candidates should request an application by calling (925) 455-7555 or download an application from the Wheels website, www.wheelsbus.com. The deadline for applications is April 17, 2015.

PACT

(continued from page one)

to the district, if they so chose. A subcommittee of Mayor John Marchand and Councilmember Stewart Gary will explore those possibilities with other mayors. Marchand said at the council meeting that he did not want to be locked into the current agreement for the proposed seven years.

San Ramon's hoteliers voted to leave the organization, saying that it was not a good fit. Many of San Ramon's visitors come during the week, because they are in business. There is not much weekend recreation to pull in tourists.

With San Ramon's departure, the total budget will drop by \$400,000. The number of hotel rooms collecting the fee will fall from 4400 to 3800. However, there will be \$2 million available per year.

About \$1 million in revenue will go to marketing, and \$500,000 to each of two categories, sports and arts, and administration. A newly begun sports committee, chaired by former Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti, will focus on attracting sports tournaments.

Although San Ramon is leaving, unincorporated areas, such as Livermore's wine country, will be entering, as will Sunol, Alamo and Blackhawk.

In the current agreement, hotels with fewer than 35 rooms are not subject to the \$2 per night room fee being charged. The new agreement eliminates the 35-room threshold. The net result is that the current agreement has 36 participating hotels, but with smaller hotels coming into the agreement in July replacing those from San Ramon, the new total will be 37 hotels.

There is an option in the new agreement to raise the \$2 room fee to as much as \$3 sometime over the next seven years. However, only hoteliers' representatives on the Visit Tri-Valley Board may vote to do so.

Visit Tri-Valley collects the fee from the cities, which pass them through from the hotels, after taking a 1 percent charge for paperwork. Pleasanton takes an extra 1 percent for serving as the program administrator.

In Dublin, three of four lodgings totaling 452 rooms signed the pact, said Visit Tri-Valley president Barbara Steinfeld.

Seinfeld said that Extended Stay America did not sign. It is governed by a regional partner. She said that she met with the regional partner, which expressed support, but did not sign the petition document that gives consent to the assessment district.

New Research Could Lead to More Efficient Electrical Energy Storage

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory researchers have identified electrical charge-induced changes in the structure and bonding of graphitic carbon electrodes that may one day affect the way energy is stored.

The research could lead to an improvement in the capacity and efficiency of electrical energy storage systems, such as batteries and supercapacitors, needed to meet the burgeoning demands of consumer, industrial and green technologies.

Future technology requires energy storage systems to have much larger storage capability, rapid charge/discharge cycling and improved endurance. Progress in these areas demands a more complete understanding of energy storage processes from atomic through micron-length scales. Because these complex processes can change significantly as the system is charged and discharged, researchers have increasingly focused on how to look inside an operating energy storage system.

Recent work by an LLNL-led team developed a new X-ray adsorption spectroscopy capability that is tightly coupled with a modeling effort to provide key information about how the structure and bonding of graphitic carbon supercapacitor electrodes are affected by polarization of the electrode - electrolyte interfaces during charging.

Graphitic supercapacitors are ideal model systems to probe interfacial phenomena because they are relatively chemically stable, extensively characterized experimentally and theoretically and are interesting technologically. The team used its recently developed

3D nanographene (3D-NG) bulk electrode material as a model graphitic material.

Discovering that the electronic structure of graphitic carbon supercapacitor electrodes can be tailored by charge-induced electrode-electrolyte interactions opens a new window toward more efficient electrochemical energy storage systems. In addition, the experimental and modeling techniques developed during the research are readily applicable to other energy storage materials and technologies.

Jonathan Lee, an LLNL scientist and corresponding author of a paper was scheduled to appear as the cover article of the March 4 edition of the journal, *Advanced Materials*.

Other Livermore researchers include Michael

Residents Urged to Be Alert for Tax Scams

It is that time of year when people are collecting their documents and W2's as they get ready to file their taxes by the April deadline. However, as community members get ready and prepare for the process, criminals and those who would defraud the public do the same thing. Since

October 2013, more than 3,000 people have lost over \$14,000,000 dollars to tax scams. The Livermore Police Department asks community members to please take a moment and review suggestions to avoid becoming a victim.

The simplest thing to remember: if you think a call might be a scam, hang up. There's no need to engage the caller and no need to give them additional opportunities to make you a victim. Don't give away any personal information over the phone, including your financial information.

Be aware, per the TIGTA, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will never:

- Call to demand immediate payment, nor will they call about taxes owed without first having sent a detailed bill.
- Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question the bill, or appeal the amount they say you owe
- Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card
- Ask for credit or debit card numbers or bank account numbers over the phone
- Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying

If concerned about the legitimacy of a call, contact the IRS at 1.800.829.1040. If you have already become a victim, please visit the following website:

http://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact_report_scam.shtml

Each year during tax season the Livermore Police Department takes numerous reports from community members who have been victims of tax scams. Those with questions or suggestions, please feel free to call Livermore Police Department-Public Information Officer line at (925) 371-4777.

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New EdZone Airing on Local TV

The Dublin Partners in Education (DPIE) has just opened registration for this summer's Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC) approved STEM Enrichment Academy. On a new edition of "The Ed Zone," Dr. Marshall Kamena, TV30 Foundation President, has interviewed Principal Bill Branca, Vice-Principal Maureen Byrne, and Superintendent Janet Lockhart. They are overseeing the first WASC accredited advanced academy of its type locally. The 30-minute program, sponsored by the TV30 Foundation, is currently airing on TV28 and 30.

According to Kamena, "It is with great pride that the Western Association of Schools & Colleges has accredited this academy. The WASC process validates the integrity of a school's program and student transcripts. This academic effort comes at the right time and

place to benefit Tri-Valley students."

Two sessions of the Academy will be offered on the Dublin High School campus this summer to middle and high school students. Semester 1 takes place June 16-July 3 and Session 2 is being offered July 3-7. Students may receive grades and full credit upon completion.

The STEM Enrichment Academy's mission is to maximize learning by offering high school students the opportunity to complete courses during the summer so they might progress through high school at an accelerated pace. For more information about the Academy, and a list of classes, go to www.dpie.org or watch the show on Tri-Valley TV's website at tv30.org and click on "The Ed Zone" button.

"The Ed Zone" may be viewed on Comcast TV Channel 28 and 30 and AT&T U-verse via Chan-

nel 99. For air times, visit the Tri-Valley TV website at www.tv30.org. It's also available 24 hours a day with Video on Demand on the TV30 website.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 FIRST STREET 443-SHOW	
CINDERELLA (PG) -CC	11:50 12:35 2:35 3:45 5:35 6:50 8:35 9:35		
CINDERELLA (PG)		1:50 4:30 7:30	
RUN ALL NIGHT (R)		12:55 3:50 6:45 9:45	
RUN ALL NIGHT (R)-DBOX		12:00 2:50 5:45 8:45	
CHAPPIE (R)		1:15 4:15 7:05 9:55	
MCFARLAND USA (PG)		12:10 3:15 6:30 9:35	
KINGSMAN: THE SECRET SERVICE (R)		12:50 3:50 6:50 9:50	
FOCUS (R)		1:25 4:10 7:00 9:35	
THE DUFF (PG13)		1:20 4:00 6:50 9:20	
SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER (PG)		11:55 2:20 4:50 7:15	
UNFINISHED BUSINESS (R)		11:55 2:25 4:50 7:20 9:50	
PADDINGTON (PG)		11:55 2:20 4:40	
FIFTY SHADES OF GREY (R)		7:00 9:55	
LAZARUS EFFECT (PG13)		9:40	
PREVIEW MARCH 19TH:			
INSURGENT (PG13)-CC		8:00	
DIVERGENT SERIES DOUBLE FEATURE (PG13)		5:20	
GUNMAN (R)		7:00 9:50	
DO YOU BELIEVE? (PG13)		7:00 9:40	

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 Fri - Sun: 12:30 1:45 4:00 6:45 9:00
AMERICAN SNIPER
 Fri - Sun: 6:30 8:55
Academy Award WINNER for Best Actress - Julianne Moore
STILL ALICE Fri - Sun: 4:20
 From Here to Eternity - March 12 @ 7:15

OBITUARIES

Kenneth B. Rhodie

Kenneth B. Rhodie of Discovery Bay, a devoted husband, father and grandfather who created the first comprehensive internal communications program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, died on February 21 following a nine-month battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 79.

Ken's communication effort eventually became one of the most comprehensive in the Atomic Energy Commission/Energy Department community.

Ken was born and raised in Chicago and never lost his affection for the city or its sports teams, especially the White Sox. He met Joy, the woman who was to become his wife and lifelong companion, at Wilson Junior College in 1955. They were married in Chicago the following year. Ken then earned a journalism degree from the University of Illinois, and their son, Jeff, was born in 1958.

Ken worked on trade magazines for Putman Publishing in Chicago before moving to California in 1968 and starting work at Lawrence Livermore. He was the editor of the first employee newspaper at the Laboratory, *Newline*, first published in September 1970. In the early 1970s, he created the Communications Resources Office, which included professional writers and artists who could bring popular communications methods to the Laboratory and supplement a strong technical information program.

Newline evolved into both a magazine and a weekly bulletin. In addition, his office's publications included *The Quarterly* and *Management Newsnotes*. In the years before the internet, his office produced a telephone news service and a television show. It offered multi-faceted communication campaigns to managers who needed to communicate with large numbers of employees on topics ranging from human resources to security.

In the 1990s, Ken was involved in redesigning the semi-technical *Energy & Technology Review* into an easier-to-read format, now called *Science & Technology Review*.

Ken was known for serving the needs of managers who were constantly under pressure to meet technical and operational goals, but he constantly sought ways to connect with rank and file workers in everyday language. He insisted on technical accuracy and high levels of professionalism while encouraging gentle humor such as the use of cartoon characters to convey serious messages. His communication campaigns earned honors from professional organizations such as the International Association of Business Communicators.

On a personal basis, Ken was friendly with everyone. He practiced diversity in hiring, managed with a constructive, collegial style and was sensitive to personal issues that people in his office might be facing.

As important as work was to him, Ken remained a devoted family man. He and his son spoke every day, even after his son moved away and started his own family. They loved to analyze every White Sox game and were thrilled in 2005 when the White Sox won their first World Series in 88 years.

Once every week for 13 years, Ken and Joy traveled across the Bay to spend time with their granddaughter, Julia. That day became affectionately known as "Nana-Papa Day." He and Julia published a book that they wrote together called "Julia's Rose Garden," illustrated by his sister-in-law.

Ken is survived by his wife, Joy; son, Jeff; daughter-in-law Debbie; and granddaughter, Julia. A service was held in late February at the Gan Shalom Cemetery in Briones.

In Loving Memory

Lois E. Glavinos

Oct. 13, 1936 to March 2, 2015
Lois E. Glavinos passed from this life at her home in Livermore, California on March 2, 2015. She was 78 years old.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, she attended West Tech High School. Prior to getting married, Lois was employed by the Air Force where she cherished her work. Lois married Alexander Glavinos in 1956. They moved to Las Vegas in the early 1960s, and then later to Livermore in the 1970s. Together they have three children. Lois' greatest joy was her family. She was a dedicated wife and mother. Lois had a nurturing and caring nature and enjoyed keeping in touch with her family and friends throughout the country, listening to music and doing crossword puzzles. She was loved immeasurably and will be missed more than we can express. Lois is survived by her husband, 3 children, 2 grandchildren and 5 grand-dogs.

Funeral services were private.

I'M FREE
Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took His hand when I heard Him call
I turned to Him and left it all.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Ah, yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow
My life's been full, I've savored much
Great friends, good times, my loved ones' touch.

Perhaps my passing seemed all too brief
But don't lengthen it with undue grief
Lift up your heart and share with me
God wanted me now, He set me free

Alan James Curdy

Alan James Curdy 65, of Gold Hill, Oregon passed away Saturday, January 24, 2015 at Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center.

Alan was born April 17, 1949 in Oakland, Ca. to Frank and Maxine Curdy. He grew up in Pleasanton and graduated from Amador Valley High School.

After graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served in Vietnam.

When Alan returned home he worked in the metal fabrication trade. He moved to the Rogue Valley in 1984 and continued working until his retirement in 2011.

In 1992 he married Sally McCoy.

His love of hunting began at a very early age. He also loved his motorcycles and the feeling of freedom he had while riding.

He is survived by his wife Sally; three children, Jamie Glass, Jeremy Curdy and Colt Curdy. He is also survived by his brother Frank Curdy; sister Joyce Messa and six nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and

sister Leanne Cakus. Services were held January 30, 2015 at Eagle Point National Cemetery in Oregon.

Henry (Hank) Beasley Reeves

July 2, 1922 - Feb. 28, 2015

Henry (Hank) Beasley Reeves passed away peacefully of natural causes in the presence of family at the age of 92 on Saturday, February 28th in Livermore, California.

Hank was born July 22, 1922 in Waldo, Texas, the youngest of 8 children to parents Edward D. and Lovie Mae (Mark) Reeves.

Known to his family as H.B. he grew up on a farm where the entire family worked the fields growing cotton, vegetables and fresh milk from their cows. His father organized baseball teams among the surrounding farming communities. Hank and his brothers played on these teams, which led to Hank's life-long passion for baseball. Another passion of Hank's was music which also began in the Reeves' household. Music always filled their home no matter where they lived. Taught by his father, Hank began playing guitar by ear at age 6 and would continue to play throughout his entire life having never learned to read music.

Hank attended high school in Jal, New Mexico and went on to join the Civilian Conservation Corps. He was then hired as a typist for the New Mexico Port of Entry in Santa Fe. Hank was drafted into service during WWII and reported to duty with the United States Navy on August 22, 1942. He was assigned to the Naval Armed Guard Base, Treasure Island, San Francisco and served aboard various merchant ships. Never without his guitar, Hank lifted the spirits and morale of his shipmates during long deployments at sea. Hank was honorably discharged as a Navy Seaman First Class on December 23, 1945. Hank treasured memories of harrowing adventures at sea and visiting many countries.

While on leave before being discharged from the Navy Hank met the love of his life, Ethel Rae Fenton. Hank and Ethel were married on January 5, 1946. They settled in Hayward, bought their first home and raised two daughters. Hank began driving bakery delivery trucks door-to-door and would love to taunt the housewives with the fresh baked aroma of bread and pastries which often resulted in a good laugh by all and the sale of dozens. Hank had other truck driving jobs before settling in as a warehouseman for many years. He retired from Fleming Foods Warehouse and the Western Conference of Teamsters on July 24, 1984 at the age of 62. Hank was a hard worker and admired for his strength and work ethic by younger co-workers. Growing up in the depression, Hank was very proud to work hard and save, having paid cash for both of his homes and raising two daughters on a single income.

Hank was a member of

the Hayward Bible Chapel and became very active in the gospel worship band and playing the upright stringed bass guitar. He served as Mt. Herman Youth Church Camp treasurer and held a deep Christian belief by loving and following the Lord throughout his adult life. Hank and Ethel had many hobbies and interests, but none greater than each other, their family and baseball. They were long-time Oakland A's season ticket holders, A's Boosters and loyal fans. They were well known, adored and loved by fellow fans, A's and Coliseum personnel.

Hank is preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Ethel (Fenton), father Edward, mother Lovie Mae, siblings Iva Lee (Reeves) Edwards, Vernon Reeves, Gilbert Reeves, Louie Reeves and Clara (Reeves) McGaha, and son-in-law Bill Smith. He is survived by brother Clyde Reeves, Levelland, TX, sister Joyce (Reeves) Ray, Columbus, TX, daughters Jacqueline Blevins (Jerry), Manteca, CA, and Susan Collins (Mark), Livermore, CA, grandchildren Jason Blevins (Aisha), Kimberly Halstead (Shawn), Jonathan Blevins (Jaime), Rachel Moore (Jeff) and Erin Smith, great grandchildren Chance Blevins, Skylar Blevins, Azielle Blevins, Chloe Halstead, William Halstead, Jayna Blevins, Jonathan Blevins Jr, Juliette Blevins, Madison Moore, Shayla Moore, and Cyana Smith.

Friends and family are invited to a Celebration of Life Memorial service at 10 a.m., Friday, March 13th at Chapel of the Chimes, 32992 Mission Blvd., Hayward, CA.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave. Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568 or to an organization of your choosing.

Charles 'Charlie' William Kurtzer

Charles 'Charlie' William Kurtzer passed away in his sleep on March 5, 2015.

Born on April 25, 1933 in Holyoke, Colorado and raised with seven brothers and sisters on a farm in Haxtun. Being quite studious at a young age, he entertained himself by reading the encyclopedia. Charlie graduated early in 1949 from High School as valedictorian of his class. He worked many jobs thereafter; one being as a sales agent with Continental Airlines in Texas.

Charlie enlisted in the Air Force in 1952 and served one year overseas in the Korean War. He returned back home and stationed at Camp Parks Air Force base in Dublin. He served four years active duty and four years in the reserves, and was promoted to E-4 Senior Airman during his enlistment. He married his first wife, Gloria Ann Butts, in 1955 and had two children,

John Patrick and Michael Andrew. He worked as a clerk at Safeway in Livermore before venturing out and buying his own grocery store in Gustine, Ca., known as Soares Market. After a few years he began investing in properties in Livermore and San Leandro, and moved back to the Livermore Valley to establish his career and life passion in Real Estate sales. He began as an Agent for Valley Realty but upon receiving his Broker's license in 1969, he started his own company, Tri-Valley Brokers, with partners Jim and Betty Ward. He was one of the first to be honored in the Board of Realtor's millionaire club by selling over \$1Mil. in property sales in just a couple of years, and Tri-Valley Brokers soon expanded to four offices, over 100 agents and recognition as the largest independently owned real estate agency in Northern California. Charlie retired from Real Estate Sales in 1997 but continued to manage and deal in real estate investments thereafter.

Charlie was known by family, friends and business associates as a very personable, caring and generous man. He was recognized for his honesty and respected by all who had the pleasure of knowing him and doing business with him. He had a keen wisdom on all aspects of life and business, but especially market analysis of homes and investments and was often approached for his financial advice and sales mentorship by many of his company agents. Citizens of the Livermore Valley would see and come to know Charlie through his canvassing of their neighborhoods door-to-door, scouting for business prospects to sell or buy a home. Charlie enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, traveling often back to Colorado, and especially enjoyed his grandchildren's visits for walks to the park and library.

Charlie was predeceased by his parents Robert and Isabelle Kurtzer, brothers Gene, Ken and James Kurtzer, sister Mary Kler and his grandson Ryan Kurtzer. He will surely be missed by all, but especially by his surviving family; his loving wife Barbara, who just celebrated with him their 36th wedding anniversary on Valentine's day; his sons and their spouses, John and Laurie Kurtzer, Michael and Roseann Kurtzer, Jeff and Kelly Skilling; seven grandchildren, Tyler (Jackie), Jessica and Kristen Kurtzer, Jeffrey, Mary, Gabi and Lily Skilling; and one great-grandson, Aiden Kurtzer. He is also survived by his brothers Dave and Dick (Sandy) Kurtzer and sister Marge (Russ) Thoburn, and numerous nephews and nieces.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, please make a donation to Charlie's favorite Charity, the Red Cross. Services will be private.

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In lieu of flowers or gifts, please make a donation to Charlie's favorite Charity, the Red Cross. Services will be private.

Cyril "Niles" Solberg

Dec. 17, 1946 - March 3, 2015

He passed away on March 3rd, 2015 and is already missed by his family. Niles was born in Richmond, CA,



Dec. 17, 1946. He worked for DeSilva Gates for 43 years as their master mechanic until he retired from Local #3 in 2008. Niles enjoyed many things such as feeding the ducks at the local pond, attending Nascar Races, Drag Races, day trips on the Harley but most of all he enjoyed the family gatherings for a "great" BBQ.

He is survived by his loving wife Alice Solberg, brother Nelson and sister-in-law Rose; sons Richard, David, Andrew and Greg; grandchildren Joseph, Chris, Jessica, Niles, Daniel, Kaily and his great grandchildren Brooklyn and Aubree, and Susan Lee who was a special part of his life.

A memorial service will be held at 12:00PM on March 14, 2015 at Callaghan Mortuary 3833 East Avenue in Livermore Ca.

In lieu of flowers please donate to a great cause at <http://gofundme.com/ruralaedfund>

Timothy Helm

Sept. 27, 1958 - Feb. 27, 2015

Tim Helm, former resident of Livermore, passed away at Saint Rose Hospital in Hayward. Tim was born and raised in Livermore and attended Joe Michell, Mendenhall, and Granada High School. He loved dirt bikes, muscle cars, river rafting and spending time in nature. He will be remembered as a kind, loving father and grandfather.

He is survived by both parents, his daughter, Tanya, of Fremont, his son, David, of Georgia, his sister, Elizabeth, of Oakley, and his brother, Michael, of Clearlake. He had three wonderful grandchildren: Jeffrey, Alexis, and Adrian. He is preceded in death by his brother Gene Helm.

Services to honor Tim will be held Thursday, March 12th at 1:00 pm in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Livermore.

(More OBITUARIES, page 10)

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

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

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OBITUARIES

Gayl Rey Tschritter

Resident of Livermore
June 10, 1941 – March 4, 2015
 Gayl Rey Tschritter passed away Wednesday, March 4, 2015, at the age of 73. She fought a long and valiant battle with breast cancer.



Gayl was born in Stockton, CA and graduated from Lodi High School. She moved to Livermore in 1964 and worked as an executive secretary at Sandia National Laboratory until the birth of her daughter in 1968. She was a real estate agent for Coldwell Banker in Livermore for 19 years and greatly enjoyed helping many people buy their first home.

Gayl is survived by her devoted husband of 55 years, Kenneth Tschritter of Livermore; loving daughter Lynn Glover (Christopher) of Woodinville, WA, and granddaughters, Kaitlyn and Sophia. She is also survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Walter Huber of Alamo, CA. Her generous loving spirit will be missed by all who knew her.

A private burial was held in Livermore on March 9, 2015. Donations in her name can be made to the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Irene Clarice Nolan St. Clair

Resident of Livermore
March 10, 1935-March 2, 2015
 Irene St. Clair passed away in her sleep on March 2nd.

Irene was born and raised in Oakland. She was the youngest child and only daughter of seven children born to Adelle and George Nolan. Irene graduated from Holy Names High School in 1953 and became a member of the Young Ladies' Institute that same year. She worked as a bank teller off and on for more than 50 years.

In 1955 she married Frank "Pete" St. Clair. She was preceded in death by her husband Pete in 2001. They had four children together, Edward, Adelle, Valerie, and Frank. She was also a proud grandmother to five grandchildren, Quincy, Mitchell, Sage, Sophia, and Gwen. She was the proud aunt of 18 nieces and nephews. She was also a surrogate mom to countless children who were lucky enough to spend time at the St. Clair household.

She is survived by her four children, her children by marriage Frank Jakobka, Kim Nighswonger St. Clair, Malcolm Michael-St. Clair, five grandchildren, Ben and Terri Nighswonger whom she joyously shared her family with, her sisters by marriage Charlene and Maureen Nolan, life-long friend Shannon MacDonald and many other friends and family. We will all miss her pies, cakes, random song lyrics in the middle of a conversation,

and her unconditional love. A private family service was held for Irene on her 80th birthday.

Gary Blaine Kitzmiller

On January 9, 2015, we lost our beloved Gary Blaine Kitzmiller. Gary was born in San Jose, CA on April 16, 1951.



Family and close friends knew that Gary was an animal lover since his childhood. In high school as well as throughout Gary's life he knew how to make any crowd laugh, so much that during his senior year he was voted class clown. In Gary's free time he enjoyed flying with his friends to the beach; his favorite beach being Santa Cruz, CA. Gary proudly served our country with the U.S. Army. When Gary was not making others laugh, he was living life to the fullest.

Gary is survived by his only son Shane Kitzmiller, brother Ken Kitzmiller (Lorelle), brother Brian Kitzmiller, sister Diane George (Maniff), a niece Cory Rivas (Sebastian), and a nephew Brandon Kitzmiller. Gary's contagious laugh, smile, and sense of adventure will be dearly missed.

Please feel free to join us at Gary's memorial Saturday March 14, 2015 1:00pm at Graham-Hitch Mortuary 4167 First Street Pleasanton, CA 94566.

Giving Shape to Black Holes' Intense Winds

By looking at the speed of ambient gas spewing out from a well-known quasar, astronomers are gaining insight into how black holes and their host galaxies might have evolved at the same time.

Using the Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuSTAR), researchers were able to use the X-ray spectra of an extremely luminous black hole (quasar PDS 456) to detect a nearly spherical stream of highly ionized gas streaming out of it.

"By looking at this huge spherical outflow, we can now see a mechanism to explain the correlation between black hole and galaxy formation," said Bill Craig of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Space Science Laboratory at University of California, Berkeley.

The discovery allowed astronomers to measure, for the first time, the strength of ultra-fast black hole winds and show that they are mighty enough to affect the fate of their host galaxies.

The evolution of galaxies is connected to the growth of supermassive black holes in their centers. During the quasar phase, a huge luminosity is released as matter falls onto the black hole, and radiation-driven winds can transfer most of this energy back to the host galaxy.

"We know that black holes in the centers of galaxies can feed on matter, and this process can produce winds. This is thought to regulate the growth of the galaxies," said Fiona Harrison of the California Institute of Technology, the principal investigator of NuSTAR and a co-author on a new paper about the results appearing in the Feb. 19 issue of the journal Science. "Knowing the speed, shape and size of the winds, we can figure out how powerful they are."

Supermassive black holes blast matter into their host galaxies, including X-ray-emitting winds traveling at up to one-third the speed of light. In the new study, astronomers determined that PDS 456, an extremely luminous active black hole, or quasar, has winds that carry more energy every second than what is emitted by more than 1 trillion suns.

That's enough of a punch to affect the entire galaxy and its ability to make stars. NuSTAR and the European Space Agency's XMM-Newton simultaneously observed PDS 456, located more than 2 billion light-years away, on five separate occasions in 2013 and 2014. The space telescopes complement each other by seeing different parts of the X-ray light spectrum: XMM-Newton sees low-energy X-rays and NuSTAR sees high-energy X-rays. Their goal was to look for iron, which is blown from the black hole winds along with other matter.

The researchers looked for scattered light signatures from iron atoms originating from the sides of the supermassive black hole.

The NuSTAR's higher-energy X-ray data, when combined with observations from XMM-Newton, provided the key information, proving that the winds emanate not in a beam but in a nearly spherical fashion.

With the shape and extent of the winds determined, the researchers could then determine the power of the wind and the degree to which they can quench the formation of new stars.

The new report demonstrates that a supermassive black hole and the galaxy that nurtures it are connected by high-speed winds. As the black holes bulk up in size, their winds push vast amounts of matter outward through the galaxy, which ultimately stops new stars from forming.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501049
 The following person(s) doing business as: Pythoness Press, 1968 Jonquil Cmn, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Anne Margaret Manay, 1968 Jonquil Cmn, Livermore, CA 94551
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Anne Margaret Manay
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2015. Expires February 5, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3756. Published February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 2015.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. 446782
 The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Accuvision Optometry, 2580 Old 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550.
 The Fictitious business Name Statement being abandoned was filed on 1/14/2011 in the County of Alameda.
 The full name of Registrant: Viyada Joy Michelsen, 1065 Wesley Ct #6, Walnut Creek, CA 94597
 Signature of Registrant: /s/ Viyada J. Michelsen
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 2, 2015. Expires February 2, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3757. Published February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 500907
 The following person(s) doing business as: Accuvision Eyecare Optometry, 2580 Old 1st St., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Accuvision Eyecare Optometry, 2580 Old 1st St., Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by a Corporation
 The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/01/2015.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ R. John Michelsen, President
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 2, 2015. Expires February 2, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3758. Published February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501198
 The following person(s) doing business as: Passionate About Porcelain, 5793 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Catherine Ann Houf, 5793 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/15/2005.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Catherine Ann Houf
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 9, 2015. Expires February 9, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3759. Published February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 500834
 The following person(s) doing business as: American Custom Contractors, 2121 Westbrook Lane, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kerry Lee Kiernan, 2121 Westbrook Lane, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/3/2002.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Kerry Lee Kiernan
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 30, 2015. Expires January 30, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3760. Published February 19, 26, March 5, 12, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501381
 The following person(s) doing business as: A Cut Above Construction, 2658 5th Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kyle Daniel Plotz, 2658 5th Street, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Kyle Plotz
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 17, 2015. Expires February 17, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3761. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501327
 The following person(s) doing business as: SNR Legal Assistant Services, 546 Tyler Ave., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Susan Randi, 546 Tyler Ave., Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted

by an individual
 The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Susan Randi
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 13, 2015. Expires February 13, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3762. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501380
 The following person(s) doing business as: Totally FUN-draising, 2442 Research Drive, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sherry M. Lemas, 1220 Hillcrest Ave, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Sherry M. Lemas
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 17, 2015. Expires February 17, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3763. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 500531
 The following person(s) doing business as: Law Offices of Matthew B. Ford, 2068 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Matthew B. Ford, 2068 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/29/2000.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Matthew Ford
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2015. Expires January 23, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3767. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501355
 The following person(s) doing business as: Lemongrass Thai Restaurant, 2216 First St., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kanitta Manyasthien, 3029 Carlson Blvd., El Cerrito, CA 94530
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Kanitta Manyasthien
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 13, 2015. Expires February 13, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3764. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501624
 The following person(s) doing business as: Jetson Promotions, 970 Bellflower St., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mark Aaron Handelman, 970 Bellflower St., Livermore, CA 94551
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Mark Handelman
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 23, 2015. Expires February 23, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501624
 The following person(s) doing business as: Jetson Promotions, 970 Bellflower St., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mark Aaron Handelman, 970 Bellflower St., Livermore, CA 94551
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Mark Handelman
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 23, 2015. Expires February 23, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501327
 The following person(s) doing business as: SNR Legal Assistant Services, 546 Tyler Ave., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Susan Randi, 546 Tyler Ave., Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501327
 The following person(s) doing business as: SNR Legal Assistant Services, 546 Tyler Ave., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Susan Randi, 546 Tyler Ave., Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted

The Independent Legal No. 3765. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 500497
 The following person(s) doing business as: Monarch Counseling Services, 2068 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Heather Corbett Ford, 2068 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 6/16/2004.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Heather Corbett Ford
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2015. Expires January 23, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3766. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 500531
 The following person(s) doing business as: Law Offices of Matthew B. Ford, 2068 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Matthew B. Ford, 2068 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/29/2000.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Matthew Ford
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2015. Expires January 23, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3767. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 500531
 The following person(s) doing business as: Law Offices of Matthew B. Ford, 2068 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Matthew B. Ford, 2068 1st St, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/29/2000.
 Signature of Registrants :s/ Matthew Ford
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 23, 2015. Expires January 23, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3767. Published February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 2015.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. HG15760177
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

1. Petitioner: Rajan Sohal
 filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 Present Name: Ahana Monga Sohal
 Proposed Name: Aahana Monga Sohal

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

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How to Prepare Your Home for Sale

By Cher Wollard

The unusually warm weather we have been experiencing makes it tough to differentiate one season from another this year. But there is one clear sign that we are in the "real estate season": Buyers are out in force.

For those who have decided that now is the time to sell your property, here's a piece of advice that transcends the season: A little prep work will help you sell quickly and for top dollar.

Don't be daunted. Take it one step at a time and follow these five important steps:

1. Declutter.

This is the single most important thing you can do to prepare your home for sale.

Start with plenty of trash bags and heavy-duty boxes. Take it one room at a time. You'll be putting almost everything you won't need for the next few months (except for large items) into those bags and boxes.

Divvy everything into three categories: Things to keep, things to sell or give away, things to throw out.

Things to throw out go into the garbage bags to be recycled or trashed. Arrange for a special pick-up if you have more than will fit in your regular containers. Most garbage services allow customers one or two free special pick-ups per year, so take advantage of that.

Be aware that certain items require special handling. Watch for notices of electronics pickups in your area. Toxic items such as paints and solvents must be dropped off at a hazardous waste facility. In the Tri-Valley, the nearest facility is at 5584 La Ribera St., Livermore. Check the website for stopwaste.org or call 800-606-6606 for days and times of operation.

Carefully pack "things to keep" in the boxes. Label each box. You'll be happy you did when you move into your new home.

You can store some items in closets, but remember that "adequate storage space" is a great selling feature. Potential buyers may be put off if every closet and cupboard is filled to the brim.

You can rent a storage space or portable storage unit to store the furniture and boxes you want to keep.

Some things can be stored in the garage, if you have adequate parking elsewhere.

If you do store items in your garage, place them in the center. Pest and home inspectors will need access to the walls.

Securing valuables such as jewelry, cash, collectible coins and stamps, and small firearms in a safe deposit box at your bank. Make a habit of putting medications away in drawers or, better yet, carrying them with you. Most of people who tour your home are honest, but it only takes one bad apple to cause you heartache and loss. Plus, some buyers may have children in tow. Little hands can innocently grab small objects that appeal to them.

Usable items you no longer want can be given to charity or sold at a garage sale, on e-Bay or Craig's list, or - for quality items in excellent condition - placed at a consignment shop.

2. De-personalize.

Decluttering does not mean stripping your home of all personality. Good quality decorative items add charm - in moderation.

Less is better, and less personal is better still. You may have the world's cutest kids, but potential buyers need to envision THEIR children's photographs on the walls. That's harder to do if the space is filled with family photos.

Potential buyers should be able to imagine their trophies, diplomas and souvenirs on the bookshelf. They don't need to see yours.

If you collect something - Hummels, dolls, refrigerator magnets, model airplanes - keep no more than one or two on display. The rest should be put away. Any of those items that are especially valuable or fragile should be carefully wrapped, boxed up and stored in a safe place.

3. Clean and Repair.

Do the extra stuff: Wash the windows inside and out. Clean cabinets and wood trim with a good wood-care product. If there are scratches or scuff marks, use a furniture marker or stain to touch up problem areas. Clear out the junk that's piled up in the side yard.

Clean all appliances inside and out. Scrub the grout in tiled surfaces and the corners of linoleum floors.

Polish fixtures, doorknobs and drawer pulls - or replace them if they are worn or outdated.

Don't forget the high places - ceiling fans and light fixtures are notorious collectors of dust.

Deep clean carpets and rugs.

You may want to schedule a professional cleaning service to come in a few days before your home goes on the market.

As for those repairs you intend to get to "someday"? Someday is now.

Tighten loose faucets, lubricate stuck locks, replace ripped screens.

Replace burned-out light bulbs, inside and out. A well-lit home is more inviting to potential buyers.

Weed the garden. Fertilize the lawn. Make necessary repairs to decks, sprinkler heads and exterior lights.

Ask your Realtor if you should order pre-inspections and have necessary repairs completed before putting your home on the market.

4. Paint.

You probably don't need to shell out big bucks for expensive upgrades, but do invest in the one thing that is sure to pay off: fresh paint.

Paint the interior in warm neutral colors. Unless you have an eye for decorating - or plan to consult a stager or professional decorator - stick with the same color walls throughout the common areas of the house.

If you want to be a bit adventuresome, you might add an accent color - deep red or brown - on one wall or partial wall of a room.

Painting ceilings a lighter shade gives the illusion of height and will make rooms seem larger.

Baseboards, molding and trim may be stained or painted a few shades darker or lighter in a glossier finish than the walls.

Before buying paint, bring samples home and test them on your walls. Colors are affected by changes in light, notice the effect at different times of day.

If you don't want to paint the whole house, at least paint the entry, kitchen and master bedroom, as these are the rooms most buyers will focus on.

Don't forget the exterior. A fresh coat of wood stain or paint on the front door and trim makes a great first impression.

Your Realtor or stager can help you decide what's right for your property.

5. Stage.

Some staging techniques are simple: Open the blinds, turn on all the lights, angle the furniture for easy movement through the house.

Others are more subtle: A painting or mirror over the fireplace to show off the custom mantle. Cheery towels in the kitchen to suggest warmth. A few strategically placed pillows to connote comfort.

If your garden isn't blooming yet, add some colorful potted plants.

The purpose of staging is to show the home's features to best advantage.

Some Realtors offer staging services. Most can refer you to a good professional stager.

If you are thinking about selling this year, contact your local Realtor today.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Drysdale Properties, in Livermore.

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: 5/8/2015
Time: 8:45 AM
Dept: 503
b. The address of the court is: **Hayward Hall of Justice**
24405 Amador Street
Hayward, CA 94544

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 Newspaper
2250 First St
Livermore, CA 94550

Dated: February 26, 2015
/s/: Winifred Y. Smith
Judge of the Superior Court

The Independent
Legal No. 3768.
Published March 5, 12, 19,
26, 2015.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. HG15760185

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

1. Petitioner: Supriya Sohal filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Supriya Sohal Proposed Name: Supriyaa Sohal

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: 5/8/2015
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Hayward, CA 94544

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2250 First St
Livermore, CA 94550

Dated: February 26, 2015
/s/: Winifred Y. Smith
Judge of the Superior Court

The Independent
Legal No. 3769.
Published March 5, 12, 19,
26, 2015.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. 483430

The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: California Hair - Nails, 4082 East Ave, Livermore, CA 94550.

The Fictitious business Name Statement being abandoned was filed in the County of Alameda.

The full name of Registrant: Duyen To, 2742 Merchant Ct, Tracy, CA 95377
Signature of Registrant: /s/: Duyen To

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 2, 2015. Expires March 2, 2020.
The Independent Legal No. 3770. Published March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501738

The following person(s) doing business as: William Anderson Construction, 11475 Silvergate Drive, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): William Anderson, 11475 Silvergate Drive, Dublin, CA 94568

This business is conducted by an Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on February 15, 2015.

Signature of Registrants /s/: William D. Anderson
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 24, 2015. Expires February 24, 2020.

The Independent Legal No. 3771. Published March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501783

The following person(s) doing business as: Sun Pointe Services, 5643 Charlotte Way, Apt. 161, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Phillip Yecny, 1727 Lucretia Ct, San Jose, CA 95122 (2) Eric Yecny, 5643 Charlotte Way, Apt. 161, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by a General partnership
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrants /s/: Phillip Yecny
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 25, 2015. Expires February 25, 2020.
The Independent Legal No. 3772. Published March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501232

The following person(s) doing business as: Eastern Medical Center, 5933 Coronado Lane, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Teresa T. Shen PHD LAC Inc. A professional Acupuncture Corporation, 5933 Coronado Lane, Suite 100, Pleasanton, CA 94588

This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/22/2009.

Signature of Registrants /s/: Teresa Shen L.Ac CEO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 10, 2015. Expires February 10, 2020.

The Independent Legal No. 3773. Published March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501224

The following person(s) doing business as: Affordable Custom Signs, LLC, 5675 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Affordable Custom Signs, LLC, 5675 Arlene Way, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by a Limited liability company
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrants /s/: James Miller, Manager
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 10, 2015.

Expires February 10, 2020.
The Independent Legal No. 3774. Published March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501734

The following person(s) doing business as: Spools & Seams, 3908 Madeira Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Shawna DeLucio, 3908 Madeira Way, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an Individual
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrants /s/: Shawna DeLucio
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 24, 2020. Expires February 24, 2020.
The Independent Legal No. 3775. Published March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 501690

The following person(s) doing business as: Fit For Life, 2525 Secretariat Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeffery King, 2525 Secretariat Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566

This business is conducted by an Individual
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 2/10/2010.

Signature of Registrants /s/: Jeffery King
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 24, 2015. Expires February 24, 2020.
The Independent Legal No. 3776. Published March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2015.

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

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

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

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

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SHORT NOTES

Creepy Critters

Creepy Critters is the topic of a Sat., March 14 Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger program. Meet Ranger Darren Segur at 10 a.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 5049 Arroyo Road.

This is the time of year when Sycamore Grove Park begins to wake up from its winter sleep. In addition to the green hills, budding trees and wildflowers, snakes, spiders and ticks are also waking up. Come get the lowdown on these and other sometimes feared and often misunderstood critters as we learn about their niche in the web of life. Canceled if raining.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$3 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Scholarships Available

National Security Technologies, LLC (NSTec) together with the Livermore Valley Education Foundation, continues to invest in future engineers and scientists through the gift of scholarships for outstanding Livermore High School seniors.

Up to two scholarships in the amount of \$5,000 each will be awarded to eligible students who apply. The award program, an extension of the NSTec education outreach and community engagement philosophy, was launched in 2007. To date, it has provided over 190 scholarships and \$920,000 to high school seniors across the country planning an education in engineering or science. NSTec is the management and operating contractor for the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) and its related facilities, such as Livermore Operations.

"Students who excel in science, technology, engineering and math are vital to the future of our nation, particularly in

the area of national security," says NSTec President Raymond J. Juzaitis. "Having worked in the university system, I can attest to the tremendous need for graduates in these fields and their value as future leaders in government and industry. Their skills are particularly valued at facilities like the NNSS, where cutting-edge technology is continually being tested and evaluated." Prior to joining NSTec, Juzaitis was head of the Nuclear Engineering Department at Texas A&M University.

Scholarship requirements include a minimum 3.5 GPA and a plan to attend a four-year college or university to major in engineering or science. Application deadline is April 24, 2015. For more information, go to www.NSTec.com.

Scholarships Available

Chapter FX, of the P.E.O. Sisterhood (a philanthropic and educational organization promoting women's education)

has applications available for its annual \$1000 Marcia M. Howie Memorial Scholarship.

The awards are open to any female who is a graduating senior intending to further her education by attending an accredited college, business school, cosmetology or nursing course. Applicants must be residents of Livermore.

Financial need, as well as scholastic achievement and extracurricular activities are considered in awarding these scholarships. Letters of recommendation and official transcripts must be attached to the application.

Applications are available from high school scholarship advisors or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Chapter FX, P.E.O., 655 Canterbury Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550. If there are questions, please call 447-6685.

Applications must be post-marked no later than April 10, 2015.

Donate to Foundation Fund

Wood Family Vineyards will donate a portion of Wine sales on March 14, 2015 in Memory of Dale Vaughn Bowen to help fund the Dale Vaughn Bowen Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship fund was

established in memory of Pleasanton resident Dale Vaughn-Bowen who lost her battle with cancer in March of 2010. Her service and dedication to her community and Soroptimist International is memorialized by an annual gift to a deserving

high school student who has lost a parent to cancer.

Wood Family Vineyards is located at 7702 Cedar Mountain Rd., Livermore. For information, go to woodfamilyvineyards.com or call (925) 606-7411



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Stoneridge Creek opened to rave reviews just over a year ago. Hundreds of local seniors are now enjoying life without the hassles of housekeeping or maintenance, with the convenience of restaurants, fitness center and spa, walking trails, performing arts center and more, on campus and included. With the new homes nearly gone, reservations have started for the community's final phase — expected to open in 2017.

Call 1-800-830-4703 to schedule a tour or simply get the facts about what's available now and what's coming soon.



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THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A



Pictured (from left) are Brenna Lonner, Anna Molnar, Imani Wilson, Maggie French, Karin McCarty, Sara Kim, Talisa Solorzano, Curtis Newton and Sashark Sreedar; (at right) is Sashark Sreedar.

Young Musicians Featured at the Firehouse Arts Center

Here come the 90's! The Firehouse Arts Center hosts the 13th Annual Youth Music Festival in two performances on Saturday, March 21, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Eighteen young Pleasanton musicians, ranging from ages 10-18, will be on the program. This year the Youth Music Festival is taking a musical journey from 1990-1999.

All music is "live," according to the Festival's director Mark Duncanson, with no karaoke or backing tracks. In addition, this year two bands join the Festival to offer more musical accompaniment options to the solo artists:

Backdraft band members attend middle school, and Lies in the Silence band members are high schoolers.

"I am a huge fan of 90's music, so much so that I set aside my bass clarinet in 1994 and taught myself to play drums thanks to Carter Beauford from Dave Matthews Band," says Duncanson. "When the musicians (from last year's 80's themed Festival) requested a natural progression to a 90's theme this year, I was selfishly eager to get started," noted the ever-enthusiastic director.

(continued on page 2)



Harmony, Humor, and Musical Hijinks Abound in Big Juke-Box Era Show

Recording artist Laura Ellis headlines a delightful romp through the hits of 1958-63, including a little R&B, a little Pop, and a little more Rock 'n Roll. Kit & The Kats features three singers, a four-piece band, lots of retro video clips, and over 30 numbers in a high-energy live show on stage at the Firehouse Art Center Theater on Sunday, March 22, at 3:00 p.m.

Reserved seating tickets for Kit & The Kats are \$25 - \$35. They can be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Featuring Laura Ellis as "Kit" and her singing "Kats" and band, the show's theme according to Ellis is "dating, dancing, and romancing," plus a hearty helping of "remember when?" Songs include Peggy Sue, The Twist, Mama Said, Johnny Angel, and many more.

Hailing from Kansas City, singer and recording artist Ellis is a protégé of Alan Paul of the Grammy-winning vocal ensemble The Manhattan Transfer. She has performed in concert, festival, and cabaret venues across the country, including frequent appearances at the famed Noir City film festival in San Francisco. Fans will remember Ellis from her 2011 Firehouse Arts Center outing in "Femme Fatale." Among her many media credits, is her performance as the character of Kat on the video game "Contrast," which was released in 2013 and had over one million downloads in the first several months.

"Laura's voice is amazing, and harkens to mind the classic jazz greats



Kit & Kats with mic. Photo - Shannon Brooke

of old...Her delivery is superb," noted a review by Tristan Smith in Jazz Ambassador Magazine.

"The Kats" are Von Cleve Lewis and Nick Tubbs, two noted performers in their own rights. As a jazz vocalist, Lewis has performed with the Memphis Jazz Trio, John Van Dyke, and The Blue Moon Jazz Band, as well as countless solo gigs on both coasts, including a current engagement at the Greenbrier in West Virginia. Nick Tubbs appears in musicals throughout greater Los Angeles, and performs in the doo-wop group The Flashbacks.

Kit & The Kats Emmy Award-nominated music director, arranger, and pianist John Rodby is a veteran of television and film. Rodby was music arranger and keyboardist for Frank Sinatra, Liza Minnelli, Rita Moreno, Tiny Tim, Connie

Francis, and Carol Lawrence (wow!). He also served as music director for Dinah Shore and Al Martino. In the television world, Rodby has performed with Chuck Berry, Janet Jackson, Little Richard, James Brown, Patti LaBelle, the Pointer Sisters, and Donna Summers. In the "real" world he has played with Don Ellis, Richie Cole, Chet Baker, and Jimmy Witherspoon to name a few.

MUSICIANS (continued from front page)

Riffing on his role, Duncanson continued, "As director of the Festival, I am simply facilitating the creative process by offering a space to perform and the opportunity for the young musicians to collaborate with one another." He clarifies that he does not (ever) stand in front of the group

A Cabaret Celebration of Irving Berlin's Music from the Classic Film

The Firehouse Arts Center, in partnership with Esses Productions, presents Easter Parade in Concert, a cabaret tribute to the songs and scenes from the classic holiday film starring Judy Garland and Fred Astaire.

Four singers, two dancers, and music director Joe Simiele come together in this production for the whole family. Presented in Cabaret style, the new revue revisits favorite songs which have endured through generations, including Steppin' Out With My Baby, Shakin' the Blues Away, A Couple of Swells, It Only Happens When I Dance With You, and of course the classic Easter Parade.

Two performances will be presented on Saturday April 4, one at 2:00 and a second at 7:30 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Reserved seating tickets are \$15.00-25.00. Tickets can be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Featuring World of Webber's Tielle Baker, along with Bay Area Theater stars Robert Dornaus, Shelby Deans-Flegel, and Tom Flegel, the show includes special guest dancers Brandon Freeman and Rachel Furst, with Music Director Simiele at the piano.



Easter Parade in Concert.

The most financially successful picture of their careers for both Garland and Astaire, Easter Parade follows the story of the seasoned nightclub performer who hires the naïve chorus girl to become his new dance partner in order to make his former partner jealous. The 1948 film score by Irving Berlin features some of the pair's best-known and best-loved songs.

Astaire was coaxed back from "retirement" to play the starring role of Don

Hewes, when Gene Kelly, who was originally cast as Don, broke his ankle playing volleyball. The consummate dance-man Astaire would retire and "un-retire" several more times over the following decade, making a number of wonderful musicals.

This show is part of the Firehouse Arts Center's Cabaret Series, produced and presented by Esses Productions. The series concerts always sell out, so advance ticket purchase is recommended.

with a baton. "My goal is to meet the young artists where they are, and have them draw from their experience and musical education to create together... This is truly a youth-driven Youth Music Festival in every sense, where they inspire each other."

The Youth Music Fes-

tival started 13 years ago as a way for young area musicians to share the love of music in a supportive and non-competitive way. According to Duncanson, it was "during a time when 'battle of the band' type events were everywhere." The Festival represented an alternative to the heavy

competitive environment young musicians were experiencing.

Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 students. They are available online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, or in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Lucia di Lammermoor

One of World's Most Popular Operas Opens at the Bankhead

By Heidi Massie

Many people think of opera as a lot of singing in a foreign language, elaborate costumes and a story that takes place centuries ago with no relevance to today. But if a person reads the storyline, or libretto, of an opera, they will discover that the story revolves around people dealing with relationships, emotions, behavior, struggles and tragedy that exist today though in different form. This is the case for Livermore Valley Opera's (LVO) production of Donizetti's opera Lucia di Lammermoor, which opens this weekend. It tells a story that has relevance for today's human experience. Coupled with beautiful, soaring music and arias that launched the careers of the world's most famous divas, Lucia is an opera not to miss.

Stage Director Candace Evans' vision of Lucia is to bring to the audience a story that is relevant, meaningful and relatable, as basic human emotion is timeless.

"When thinking about directing Lucia, I ask myself, how could a work based on a novel written in 1819, depicting life in 1669, still resonate in our world of internet, Twitter and instant gratification? How could it have anything to say to us? Yet it does as this story is a study of a family in transition, facing tragedy, death, financial ruin and love denied."

Written and performed in Italian, Lucia di Lammermoor is loosely based upon Sir Walter Scott's historical novel The Bride of Lammermoor. It is a tragic story that serves as a protest against deceitful tactics and a practice of forced marriage that is unfortunately still current in some parts of the world.



Stage director Candace Evans and stage manager Bethanie Baeyen direct a rehearsal.
Photo - Barbara Mallon.

Lucia is a beautiful young woman deeply in love with a young man from a family hated by her villainous brother. Her brother forces her into a political marriage for his own benefit, using deceit, lies, and forgery.

"It is never my business to impose a conclusion on the audience," adds Evans. As a stage director, I work to clarify characters and story through the "physicalization" of great music. Each observer will then receive the opera through their own current experience," explains Evans.

Lucia is a classic of soaring music, detailed in a perennially pertinent story. "As in all great operas, it draws together sound, vision and deep emotion, to provide an audience member with the opportunity to be fully transported. It is one of the great bel canto operas, using stunningly long and languid phrases, ornamented by demanding quick passages," explains

Evans.

Tenor Christopher Bengochea, an LVO favorite, (Carmen 2013; Madama Butterfly 2011), will perform the role of Edgardo alongside soprano Erin Sanzero as Lucia. LVO Advisory Board Member Dr. Susan DuPree talks about the two singers and why Lucia is a "must-see."

"The music of Lucia will showcase our newcomer, coloratura soprano Erin Sanzero as she performs the arias that created the divas of the opera world such as Maria Callas and Dame Joan Sutherland. Also an actress, she brings great drama to the role with charisma and emotion and is definitely a diva-in-the-making. Equally matched is tenor Christopher Bengochea whose own charisma melds perfectly with that of Erin's. When performing, the chemistry that is apparent between the two is palatable."

The relatable story and

familiar music of Lucia lends itself as an opera for novices and enthusiasts.

"An opera novice will find this an easy story to follow, which eliminates the anxiety of 'I don't speak that language,'" says Evans. "The music is impressive and involving. Like all opera, it requires a 'giving over' to this way of storytelling, but if I was sitting next to a first time audience member, I would say this, 'think of it as watching of a Netflix series about a dysfunctional musical family in Scotland.'"

"But most of all," adds Evans, "Lucia di Lammermoor offers a five-star experience in its classic example of bel canto singing, a heart-stopping sounds that is still prized in our modern ballads. There is nothing outdated in the desire to hear a glorious orchestral score and exquisite voices."

Performances are March 14, 7:30 p.m.; March 15, 2

p.m.; March 21, 7:30 p.m.; and March 22, 2 p.m.

Opening Night Gala celebration dinner at Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, 4:30pm.

Tickets are \$39-\$84. Students 18 years and younger \$10 off on all days, all seating sections (student ID required).

Opening night Gala tickets are a separate ticket purchase of \$85.

The opera will be presented at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets may be purchased at the box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800.



BANKHEAD THEATER 14/15

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Winchester door by Carole Hilton (upper left); Vase by Eugenia Zobel (lower right); and Boat by Judy Rice (upper right).



Boutique Benefits Paws in Need

The Animal Lover's Boutique, which is located year-round in the lobby of the Feline Medical Center, 3160 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton, will hold the annual Spring Fling on Saturday, March 21, 2015.

Proceeds from the 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. special sales event will benefit Jackie Barnett's Just Like New (JLN) Fund, which aids sick and injured pets.

Celebrate the first day of Spring by attending this one-day sale offering animal-themed gift items such as planters, garden art, wind chimes, ornaments, home and kitchen decor, purses, jewelry, greeting cards, handmade items and much more.

The Just Like New Fund was founded in 1995 by Pleasanton animal advocate Jackie Barnett, who passed away in 2009. The fund, administered by Paws In Need, provides financial assistance to Tri-Valley residents who cannot afford urgent one-time, lifesaving veterinary care for their pets. Since its beginning, the JLN Fund has helped save the lives of nearly 500 companion animals.

For more information, please contact Cindy Ferrin (925-323-8517) or visit the Paws In Need website at www.Paws-In-Need.org.

Craft Sessions at Rincon

The Livermore Public Library Rincon Branch will host three (3) fun craft programs for children at the Rincon Branch Library, 725 Rincon Ave., Livermore.

Bring a friend and take part in the following free events in March, May and June:

Make Your Own Windsock – Friday, March 20, 2015, 3-4:30pm, for ages 5 and up

Celebrate May Day and Pot Flowers – Friday, May 1, 2015, 3-4:30pm, for ages 4 and up

Make a Pinecone Bird Feeder – Friday, June 26, 2015, 11am-3pm, for ages 4 and up

For further information, please call 925-373-5540, or visit the library's website www.livermorelibrary.net.

Pleasanton Art League Show at Museum on Main

Pleasanton's Museum On Main will host "Imagination Expressed 2015," the Pleasanton Art League's ninth art exhibit at the museum.

The community is invited to join in exploring the imaginations of Pleasanton's art community. The exhibit, which runs March 11 – May 3, includes paintings, photography, baskets, pottery, porcelain and jewelry.

The public is invited to a reception on Sunday, March 15, 2 - 4 PM. Refreshments will be served.

The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street, Pleasanton CA 94566. Museum hours are Tue. - Sat 10 AM - 4 PM, Sun 1 PM - 4 PM.

Pleasanton Art Walks Begin Again This Saturday



Nancy Harrington discusses one of the works of art on the walk.

On Saturday, March 14, Nancy and Gary Harrington will begin their 4th year of leading free tours of public art in the Pleasanton downtown area. Tours begin at 8:30am starting from 200 Old Bernal Ave, at the Pleasanton Civic Offices' parking lot.

The 2015 Spring Schedule walks is as follows: Northern Art Walk, Saturday, March 14th, 8:30am; Southern Art Walk, Saturday, April 11th, 8:30am; Northern Art Walk, Saturday, May 9th, 8:30am; and Southern Art Walk, Saturday, June 13th, 8:30am

Walkers will receive a brochure containing a map of the Pleasanton Art Walk, with locations of the art, its name, and the artist. These walks are in partnership with World Walk to Wellness.

Since 2010, Nancy, Gary and the Harrington Art Partnership has brought 17 public art pieces to Pleasanton. One new piece will be installed in 2015, plus a possible new sculpture in Livermore.

For information on the Harrington Art Partnership and how to help bring future public art to the area, email nancyrh1@sbcglobal.net.

Holocaust Survivor who Spied on Nazis to Speak at Bankhead Theater



Marthe Cohn was a devoutly religious 19 year old French Jewish girl when the Nazis invaded France in 1939. Her life then took a turn so extraordinary that it could have been pulled straight from a Hollywood movie script.

While the rest of her family fled south Marthe decided to fight back. After graduating from nursing school she joined the French resistance and, on account of her perfect German accent and Aryan appearance, was recruited to be a spy. Carrying forged identification papers, she

infiltrated German territory in the guise of a German nurse desperately searching for a fictional fiancé (by this time her real-life fiancé had been executed by the Nazis).

During the next year she mingled freely with Nazi troops, on many occasions caring for injured Nazi soldiers in order to maintain her cover. She gathered invaluable information on troop positions which she secretly relayed to Allied commanders. Her intelligence gathering was instrumental in allowing the Allies to break through

the Seigfried line and enter German territory 1945, leading to the end of the war.

On Tuesday, March 17, at 7:30pm Marthe Cohn will share her remarkable story at the Bankhead Theater in an evening coordinated and sponsored by Chabad of the Tri-Valley, a Pleasanton-based Jewish community center.

“As the number of holocaust survivors dwindles, we feel it our duty to bring these individuals and their stories to life for our community – especially for our youth. It’s literally touching such an important piece of history”, says Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, Chabad’s director.

Following the event, Marthe Cohn will be available to sign copies of her memoir, *Behind Enemy Lines: The True Story of a French Jewish Spy in Nazi Germany*.

For ticket information go to www.JewishTri-Valley.com or call (925) 846-0700. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore.

Ravenswood's Reading Features Nationally Known Poet

Nationally known poet Ellen Bass will be the featured poet at the March 15 Poetry at Ravenswood.

The City of Livermore and Poet Laureate Kevin Gunn present the latest in this continuing series from 2 to 4 p.m. at Ravenswood Historic Site in Livermore.

Featured readings begin at 2 p.m. Open Mic follows, after a short break

Ellen Bass's poetry includes *Like a Beggar* (Copper Canyon, 2014); *The Human Line* (Copper Canyon, 2007), named a Notable Book by the San Francisco Chronicle; and *Mules of Love* (BOA,

2002), winner of the Lambda Literary Award. Her work has been published in *The New Yorker*, *The American Poetry*



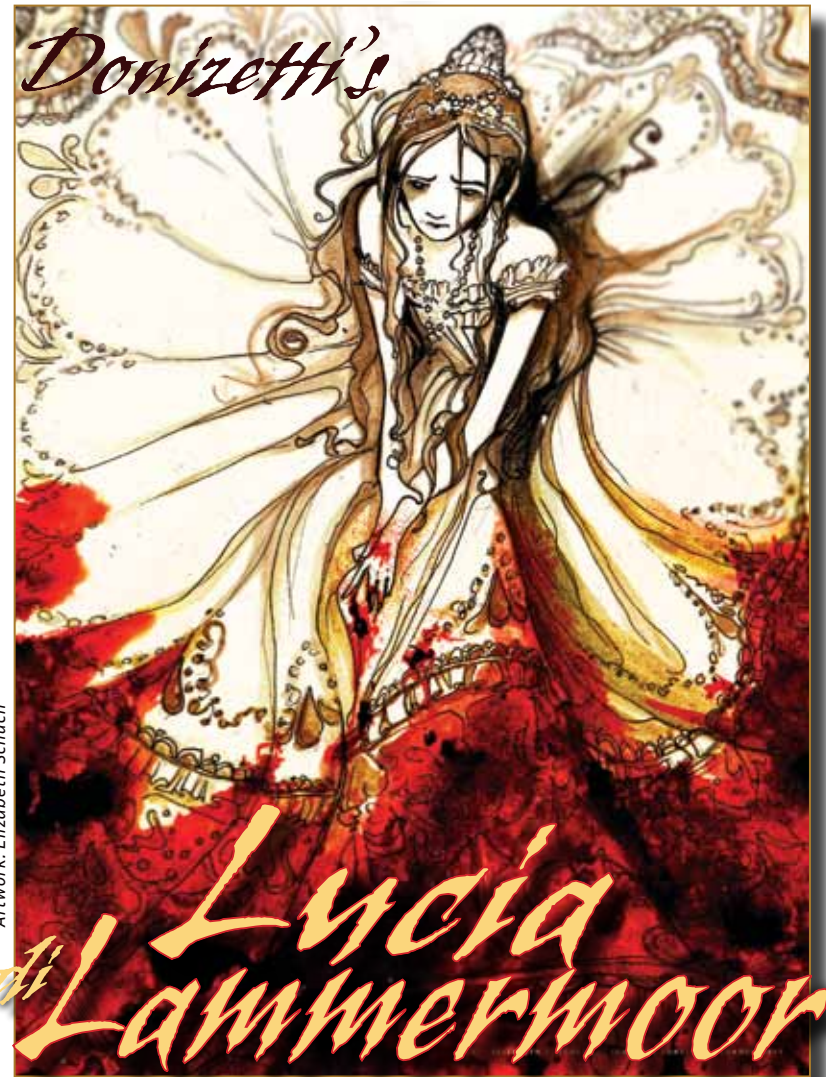
Ellen Bass, Photo - Irene Young

Review, *The New Republic*, *The Progressive*, and *The Kenyon Review*. She coedited, with Florence Howe, *No More Masks! An Anthology of Poems by Women*. Her nonfiction books include *Free Your Mind* and *The Courage to Heal*. She teaches in the MFA program at Pacific University.

Admission is \$5. Light refreshments will be served. Ravenswood is located at 2657 Arroyo Road, Livermore

For information, contact Kevin Gunn at livermore-poetry@gmail.com or 216-1891.

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Tickets: \$39 - \$84
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Commentary

Fifty Shades of Downton Abbey, Season 5

By Linda Milanese

Yes, “Downton Abbey” got downright racy this season. No evidence of masks or handcuffs (except for Anna’s on her way to prison). However, love relationships, as well as revelations from the past, add plenty of spice to this year’s series.

Lady Mary’s affair with Gillingham proves the most brazen. Mary delegates the embarrassing task of purchasing birth control to Anna to prepare for the hotel tryst in which she auditions Gillingham for the role of future husband. After their encounter, she spends the next few episodes trying to discourage his interest in their marriage. I guess he wasn’t up to snuff. Even the Dowager plays a role in the risqué department. Turns out that back in her prime, she almost left her late husband to run away with a Russian prince. When Prince Kuragin turns up in England and wants to pick up where they left off so many years ago, she’s really tempted. Lady Cora, too, finds herself in an awkward situation when her art historian friend misreads her signals and makes his way into her boudoir—to be interrupted by the unexpected return of Lord Crawley. Lord Sinderby, the father-in-law of Rose (former wild child), provides another dramatic revelation when his mistress and love child appear in a drawing room celebration.

Actually, with the exception of the romance between Isobel and Lord Merton, the Upstairs role models are mostly tabloid material this year. Downstairs, however, the understated passion between Carson and Hughes emerges refined and admirable.

Aside from the love dramas, this season resolves some continuing storylines.

The Edith saga is most notable. Gregson’s death in Germany is finally confirmed, and Edith’s mourning spurs her to briefly take charge of her life. She admits that Marigold is her child, takes her from the pig farmer’s family, and leaves for London to work at the publishing company she’s inherited from Gregson. It looks as if Edith is going to pursue a career in journalism and distance herself from her family, but then she caves. Lady Cora talks her into returning to Downton with Marigold where Edith will apparently pursue a career as helicopter mom. Her mother knows about Marigold, Tom guesses, and even her father figures it out and is fine with it. Somehow the two-year-old Marigold resembled Gregson enough to tip off Crawley. Mary is the only one who doesn’t know about Marigold. Of course she doesn’t—she’s too self-absorbed with her new hairdo and love interests.

By the way, I know where Gregson really is.

I saw him in San Francisco playing opposite Angela Lansbury in *Blithe Spirit*. He seemed a lot happier than I remembered him—but it was a comedy.

Anna, poor Anna. The script keeps piling on Anna, everyone’s favorite character. She’s so pure, she still calls her husband Mr. Bates. We worried that Bates had murdered Green, but he’s definitely been cleared. This season the police focus their attention on Anna leading to her arrest and imprisonment in the same place Bates was a few seasons back. In addition—as if Anna hasn’t suffered enough—we find out that years ago she’d defended herself by stabbing an abusive stepfather. So to make things worse, she has a record. In any case, Anna is out on bail for the Christmas finale, and things are starting to look a bit more hopeful for her and Mr. Bates.

Because I know it’s going to come up again, I want to go on record here with the prediction that Gillingham is responsible for Green’s death. He did it for love of Lady Mary—hence, his incredulous reaction to her rejection.

Rose’s wedding to Atticus, who happens to be Jewish, creates dysfunctional family dynamics between (and within) the bride’s and groom’s families. To sum up without an overload of details: his mother, Lady Sinderby, and her father, Shrimpy, save the wedding from disaster. Rose has grown up this season. She used to be the crazy teenager sneaking out of the house and always on the verge of disgracing the family. Now she’s Snow White doing charity work with the displaced Russians and planning an ecumenical wedding out of character with the anti-Semitism of the times.

Thomas Barrow continues to conjure up our ambivalence. Once again, he either enlists our sympathy or our indignation. This season he causes great unease for Anna and Mr. Bates plus much grief for Baxter. On the other hand, he helps a naïve footman get his money back after being victimized by Denker, the Dowager’s maid. We feel for his continuing struggle with his sexuality—his attempt to cure himself with a quack remedy of toxic injections. The season finale shows Thomas creating behind-the-scenes havoc at the Sinderbys’ party, but we excuse him because we enjoyed the outcome. Always ambivalence.

One thing that stands out about this past season: the terrible dinner scenes. Miss Bunting wrecks every dinner she attends. Lord Merton’s sons are always rude. One of his sons expresses his aversion for his father’s marriage to Isobel with a sweeping criticism of most of the table: “a chauffeur, a Jew, and a middle-class woman after my father’s title and money.” Ignoring the changing times, the family continues to get dressed in their tuxedos and gowns to make polite dinner conver-

sation, and their guests insult them. What fun is that?

A few characters could have been eliminated from Season 5 and no one would have missed them—like the Dowager’s servants, Spratt and Denker. I think they were intended to be comic relief, but their bickering and tattling to the Dowager get tiresome. The chicken broth challenge is especially silly. And, Sarah Bunting—what was her role? She seems to be getting on with Tom, but she is so unnecessarily rude to the Crawleys, even Tom is happy to see her leave town. A good tutor for Daisy, Miss Bunting builds Daisy’s self confidence, but her newfound talent for numbers seems to have gone nowhere. Daisy will stay with Mrs. Patmore for another season.

It’s the end of 1924, times are changing and the lines are blurring between the classes. The Crawleys seem more open minded and accepting than they first appeared—definitely more than Rose’s in-laws. Lady Sinderby actually says something about the Crawleys being more “welcoming” than her own family. Robert Crawley is mellowing. He genuinely likes Tom, he accepts Marigold, he compromises on the housing development, and he changes his mind regarding a memorial for Mrs. Patmore’s nephew. Cora keeps Baxter on as her maid despite her having spent time in prison for stealing from a previous employer.

The Dowager seems less intimidating now that she clearly has a past. She and Isobel both have experienced flattering late-life romances that didn’t work out, but their comforting friendship has deepened. Mostly, the Upstairs residents are becoming as human as the Downstairs characters. (although they still haven’t learned how to dress themselves.) And the Downstairs folk are moving on and making plans for the future for when they won’t be at Downton. Mrs. Patmore, Carson and Mrs. Hughes, Bates and Anna—all are planning to be landlords with an eye to their economic futures. Even Daisy—she’s not leaving right away, but she has dreams.

Season 5 ends on a positive note with Christmas carols and toasts around the tree. Edith is enjoying motherhood and sometimes even smiling. Carson and Mrs. Hughes are planning to get married. Lady Mary has briefly met Mr. Talbot, a promising candidate to tame the Crawley shrew. Robert’s health scare is over. Tom is leaving for Boston to start a new life (evidently he doesn’t know how much it snows in Massachusetts). And, Anna and Bates appear to be (kind of) off the hook for the murder of Green.

It all looks so hopeful.

But after five seasons of “Downton Abbey,” we’ve learned we can’t get too comfortable.

Nominations Sought for Pleasanton Community of Character Juanita Haugen Award

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative is seeking nominations for the 2015 Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award. This award was established in 2008 to recognize Pleasanton citizens who consistently model high ethical and moral standards of behavior and are dedicated volunteers who contribute their time to our community. Candidates for this award should exhibit traits chosen by the Citizens of Pleasanton and Advocated by the Collaborative: Compassion, Honesty, Respect, Integrity, Self-Discipline, and Responsibility.

This award is named in honor of a longtime community volunteer and Pleasanton Unified School District Board Member, Juanita Haugen. Haugen, a co-founder of the Pleasanton Community of Character program, believed that part of Pleasanton's success is due to its compassionate citizens, folks who exhibit good character traits and those people who volunteer throughout our community. Her vision

was to remind people to model ethical standards of behavior within their communities, businesses, home's and to extend these traits outside our community as they travel and meet other people throughout the world.

Anyone wishing to nominate an individual or a non-profit group demonstrating a commitment to our Community of Character traits through their volunteer work within our community a nomination form is available at our website www.communityofcharacter.org. Completed forms may be mailed to The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce 777 Peters Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566 or submitted to our email address at PleasantonCommunityofCharacter@gmail.com.

The deadline for submission is April 13, 2015.

Nominees must be Pleasanton residents or non-profit groups conducting their volunteer work within Pleasanton while exhibiting the community established character traits.

Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award recipients will be honored at the May 13, 2015 Community of Character Collaborative Luncheon 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Veteran's Memorial Building 301 Main Street Pleasanton. The luncheon reservation form will be available online at the Chamber of Commerce website www.pleasanton.org or through the Community of Character website at www.communityofcharacter.org.

Businesses, groups and individuals wishing to sponsor the event may do so by contacting Community of Character Board President Kelly Dulka at (925) 263-4444 or email at kdulka@ymcaeastbay.org

Each year three high school students are recognized with Juanita Haugen High School Community of Character Scholarships. Contributions can be made to the Community of Character Collaborative Scholarship Fund care of Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce 777 Peters Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566.



Patrick Ball

Pleasanton Library Presents Celtic Harp Concert

Patrick Ball, one of the premier Celtic harp players in the world and a captivating spoken word artist, will perform a special St. Patrick's Day program at the Pleasanton Library on Saturday, March 21.

This free family concert, best for ages 5 and older, is scheduled at 2:00 p.m. Two hundred tickets will be distributed in the children's area of the library beginning at 1:30 p.m. on the day of the performance.

Patrick Ball is a rare artist with nine instrumental and three spoken word albums that have collectively sold more than 500,000 copies internationally and won national awards in both the music and spoken word categories. The San Francisco Chronicle refers to him as "an American master of the Irish instrument, a modern day bard."

For more information about this and other library events, please call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400, extension 3, or visit www.pleasantonlibrary.org.

LHSAA Crab Feed – Crab, Music, Wine & Sousaphones

Wondering what crab, music, wine and Sousaphones having common? The Livermore High School Alumni Association (LHSAA 3rd Annual Crab Feed will be held on Friday, March 20, 2015 at the Robert Livermore Community Center and is open to the public.

This year's recipient is the Livermore High School (LHS) Band. The funds raised will be applied to repair and retrofit their Sousaphones. Nothing typifies a marching band more than their huge, shiny Sousaphones swaying in the background as the band marches along. There are

over 80 students who participate in the band. "They have been selling cookie dough, candy, 'dining out,' anything they can think of to just raise monies to hire buses for transportation, let alone repairing these large instruments. This repair requires a skill that is only offered in few locations in the U.S. The instruments must be crated and shipped by truck to Ohio. New, "Sousaphones can cost up to \$10,000 each" says Band Booster President, Janine Mains.

Cheryl Perry, LHS Class of '67, said, "We had great times participating in band and all of the extracur-

ricular activities associated with it. It opened up such a variety of cultural experiences for so many of us. School buses took the band to all the out-of-town football games, parades and trips, but it isn't that way now. With all of the cuts in school funding, the students and parents desperately fund raise for nearly all of their needs. This is another perfect opportunity for the LHSAA to step in and lend a hand. The LHS band and their parents assist in providing us with "staff" that a large event such as our Crab Feed requires. They are much vested in this event

also".

The Livermore High School Alumni Association was created seven years ago with a two-fold mission. Focusing on occasions that bring alumni and the community together, the purpose is to raise funds for LHS. Any school department that has a financial need may submit a Funding Application to the LHSAA Board. The goal is to support Livermore High's academic and extracurricular activities so current and future generations will get the superior high school education Livermore is known for.

The LHSAA events typ-

ically include a Crab Feed, Golf Tournament (May 29) and a fall "Social." The plan this year is for the Fall Social to become the anniversary festivities of the first LHS/GHS football game on Nov. 6. These Alumni events are rapidly becoming an "All Class Reunion" with more than 50% of the attendees LHS Alumni from various years. Go to www.livermorehigh-alumni.com

"This is our opportunity to give back, says Livermore High alum Ray Alsdorf, Chairperson of the Crab Feed. There will be live music, plenty of crab, pasta, salad, bread

and dessert, plus wonderful opportunities to bid on both silent and live auction items; vacation stays, wine, tours and tastings and plenty more." Beer, wine and soda will be available for purchase along with plenty of gift baskets on which to bid.

The LHSAA Crab Feed will be held Friday, March 20th at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, from 6 10:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:30. Tickets are \$45. They can be purchased by contacting: Ray A. 925-606-5518; Cheryl P. 925-443-3375; or going to www.mkt.com/lhsaa.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT



Mosaic by Liz Messer

LAA Gallery Features Work of Two Artists in March

Featured Livermore Art Association Gallery artists for March are Liz Messer and Carolyn Ramsey.

Messer creates mosaic art and functional pieces using glass and variety of other materials. Her subject matter ranges from modern abstract to scenes from nature. Common themes are symmetry and the interplay of colors to create a positive expression.

Ramsey's watercolors let the viewer's imagination leap into some of the most beautiful landscapes and architecture of the Livermore Valley. Her unique style of realism exudes an impressionistic flair; creating scenes that are as alluring as they are captivating.

Along with the featured artists the gallery carries works by many other local artists. Displays are changed every few months so there is always fresh art for you to see and purchase.

The LAA Gallery is located at 2155 3rd St., Livermore between J & K in the Carnegie Park. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday 11:30 to 4:00. Admission is free.

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

Call for Artists, Livermore Art Association Art in the Vineyards to be held May, 24 at Wente Vineyards is accepting applications from LAA members and non-members, 2 dimensional art, Photography and pottery. Request applications at ekeele@sbcglobal.net

Special Exhibits: Firefighter Homage and Mt. Diablo 2014 Vistas. February 25 through April 4. Thematically related installations at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Oil painter Vincent Liu, currently from Saratoga, exhibits a series of works depicting firefighters. Concurrently, watercolor

artist Robin Purcell of Danville exhibits a collection of paintings featuring Mt. Diablo after the 2014 wildfires. The public is invited to explore and enjoy the exhibits during Firehouse Arts Center open hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Donations always appreciated. For more information, contact Gallery Director: JFinegan@cityofpleasantonca.gov, or call the gallery: 925-931-4849.

Order & Chaos, An Abstract Art Exhibit featuring a variety of media at the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse

Arts Center in Pleasanton. Open to the public March 7 through April 11. The group of 7 South Bay artists known as "The Abstract 7" joins sculptural artist Melissa Woodburn in an interesting new exhibition. Media includes acrylic skins, chine colle, photography, collage, paper-folding, pine needle and clay sculpture, and watercolor. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Donations always appreciated.

Celebrate Women! Art Show through March 31, Building 2400 at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore.

Spring Art Show, Livermore Art Association, April 11 and 12 at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Open 10 to 5 each day. Public reception, April 11, 7 to 9 p.m. Food, live music, and plenty of art to browse, plus a gift shop. No admission charge. www.livermoreartassociation.org

7th Annual Essential Nude Art Show, Livermore Art Association, April 24, 25, 26, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Reception, 7 to 9 p.m. April 23. Public invited to attend.

Artists' Flea Market, Sat., April 25, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. adjacent to the Farmers' Market, Delucci Park, Pleasanton. Pleasanton Art League. Paint, canvas, frames, easels, paper, books, etc.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

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

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

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

Preschool Art classes: Thursday mornings 9:45 - 10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join this class. Classes cover drawing, painting, print-making,

sculpture and ceramics. For further information, contact Thomasin Dewhurst at (925) 216-7231 or thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit <http://children-sartclassesprojects.blogspot.com/>

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

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the 2nd and last Saturday from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First St., Livermore. Confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$5 fee to cover meeting costs.

Pleasanton Art League, drawing workshop led by Francesca Pastine on May 2 and 3 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. The workshop fee is \$199 early bird before March 15, 2015 or \$209 after that. To register online, go to www.palworkshops5.eventbrite.com To register by mail, please provide name, address, phone, email and mail it with your check payable to Pleasanton Art League, c/o Workshops, P.O. Box 23, Pleasanton, CA 94566. For more information, go to www.pal-art.com

Colored Pencil - Basics and Beyond

- Classes are for beginners and intermediate students. Classes start Mon., March 30th, 9:30 to noon for five weeks and Tues., March 31st, 6:30 to 9PM for five weeks. Instructor Maryann Kot, Location, Bothwell Art Center 2466 8th St. Livermore. Sign up, Way Up Art and Frame 925-443-3388

WINE & SPIRITS

Charles R Vineyards is celebrating the luck of the Irish with a wine release this St. Patrick's Day weekend. On March 15th taste the SF Chronicle Award winning 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon, 11:30am -4:30pm with more award winning wines, Irish rhymes and jokes, you may even be able to Kiss the Blarney Stone. 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore.

Thomas Coyne Winery, taste a special red blend from the barrel on March 21 & 22 from 12 pm to 5 pm. This is a work of art blended from grapes from the 2013 harvest. Meat and Treats BBQ will be just across the street on Saturday the 21st. 2405 Research Dr., Livermore. (925) 373-6541, <http://thomascoynewinery.com>

Wood Family Vineyards, Livermore, open noon to 4:30 p.m. March 21 and 22 for barrel tasting. Livermore Valley Winegrower's 7th Annual Barrel Tasting Weekend, Taste wines right out of the barrel, meet winemakers, and more. Two different barrels at Wood Family Vineyards. Zinfandel futures will be available for purchase. This is a fundraiser for the LVWA. Participants must have an event glass to sample from the barrels. Attendees pay \$40 advance

available now through March 20th at 2 pm on the website, \$45 day of. Visit www.LVwine.org to purchase advance tickets and for all additional information. www.woodfamilyvineyards.com

Barrel Tasting Weekend, noon to 4:30 p.m. March 21 and 22. Taste wines right out of the barrel, meet winemakers and more. Each winery will host a unique experience during barrel tasting weekend including at least 1 barrel sample for each ticket holder. \$40 advance/ \$45 day of event Tickets and more information is available at the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association website: www.lvwine.org/event/1192/Barrel_Tasting_Weekend.html

Eckert Estate Winery, barrel tasting weekend, March 21 and 22, noon to 5 p.m. Taste the 2013 Petite Sirah. Barrel Wood type demonstration of several woods at different toast levels. Rockin' Dough Pizza will be whipping up wood-fired pizzas and great sandwiches. 5963 Graham Court, Suite D, Livermore. (925) 371-8606, www.eckertestate.com

Las Positas Vineyards special events, Sunday, March 15th celebrate St. Patrick's Day a little early with a special Irish cheese & wine pairing flight. \$10 for club members & \$15 for non-members. Tasting room hours are 11:30-4:30pm For more details contact the winery at 925-449-9463 or email curt@laspositasvineyards.com. Saturday & Sunday, March 21st & 22nd Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association Barrel Tasting Weekend. Meet Winemaker Brent Amos and buy "futures." Tickets are \$40 in advance & \$45 day of and are good for both days. Tickets are available at LVWine.org. Sunday, March 21, Comedy Night featuring Michael Manicini. Cover charge is \$20 for the general admission & \$35 for dinner and show. LPV wine club members receive a \$5 refund at check in. Dinner 6:30-7:30pm and show starts at 8pm. Purchase tickets by visiting www.laspositasvineyards.com under the section "happening"

MUSIC/CONCERTS

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

Free Concert by Beyond Standard Jazz Group, Pleasanton Library, rock, pop, Latin and soul, 2 p.m. March 15. 400 Old Bernal Ave. No admission charge. Information at 931-3400 ext. 4.

"Yea for the 90's!" Youth Music Festival. 18 young Pleasanton musicians come together in the 13th Annual Youth Music Festival Show. Back up bands include Backdraft (middle school) and Lies in the Silence (high school). Two performances: Saturday, March 21, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. \$10 general admission, \$5 students. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Box Office at the center.

Kit & The Kats: "Put a Nickel in the Jukebox!" Sunday March 22, 3:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Recording artist Laura El-

lis headlines a delightful romp through the hits of 1958-63: a little R&B, a little Pop, a little Rock 'n Roll! Three singers, a four-piece band, plus vintage video clips in this energetic live production. Songs include Peggy Sue, The Twist, Mama Said, Johnny Angel, and many more. Reserved seating tickets are \$25.00-\$35.00, available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

In The Mood, Hop aboard the "Chattanooga Choo Choo" to "Tuxedo Junction" and get "In the Mood" to hear a "Moonlight Serenade" performed by a 13-piece Big Band and six singer-dancers with some hot boogie woogie! In The Mood is a fully staged tribute to Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, The Andrews Sisters and big band greats of the '40s. March 24 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Women of Ireland, music and dance. 7:30 p.m. Wed., March 25. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

BOSTYX: All the Hits of Boston & Styx featuring David Victor of Boston, 8 p.m. March 27 and March 28. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Led Zeppelin Live Experience, The Ultimate Rock Tribute To Led Zeppelin 8 p.m. March 27. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Del Valle Fine Arts, Stanislav Kristenko, piano. 8 p.m., March 28. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Jan & Dean's Beach Party, 8 p.m. Fri., April 3. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Easter Parade in Concert: A tribute celebration of Irving Berlin's Academy Award-Winning Musical Score from the classic holiday film starring Judy Garland and Fred Astaire. Four singers, two dancers, and popular music director Joe Simiele come together in this delightful holiday production for the whole family. Presented in Cabaret style. Two performances, Saturday, April 4, at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Reserved seat tickets are \$15.00 - \$25.00 Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Craicmore, Contemporary Traditional Celtic Music, April 10, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Livermore-Amador Symphony, presents Fantastic Flute featuring Annie Wu, soloist. 8 p.m. Sat., April 11. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Arlo Guthrie, 7:30 p.m. Tues., April 14. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Pacific Chamber Symphony, 2 p.m., April 19. An Italian Feast. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Hotel California, a salute to the Eagles. 8 p.m. Sat., April 18. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Dark Side of the Moon, classic albums live - Pink Floyd. 8 p.m. Sat., April 25. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

ON THE STAGE

The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe.

Lively youth theater production presented by City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company in partnership with Bay Area Children's Theatre. Opens March 6 at the Firehouse Arts Center Theater in Pleasanton. The timeless story of siblings Lucy, Edmund, Susan, and Peter, and their adventures in Narnia. March 6 - 15. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6-\$18, available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. If not sold out, tickets are also available 2 hours prior to the performance at the box office.

Sunol Repertory Theatre. How the Other Half Dies, mystery, Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. March 6 to 28. Sunol Glen Auditorium, 11601 Main St., Sunol. www.Sunol.net/SRT

Las Positas College, One Act Plays. March 18, 1 p.m. and March 20, 8 p.m. Black Box Theater, Performing Arts Center, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. <http://laspositascollege.edu/performingarts>

San Francisco Shakespeare Festival - As You Like It, 2 p.m. March 29, Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. No admission charge. 931-3400 ext. 4.

The How and the Why, Douglas Morrison Theatre staged reading, third in Bare Bones series. Mature language and subject matter. Appropriate for ages 16 and up. Monday, March 30, 2015, 8 p.m. Douglas Morrison Theatre, 22311 N. Third St., Hayward. \$10 open seating. (510) 881-6777; www.dmtonline.org

Las Positas College, Cabaret, April 10-19, 8 p.m., Fri. and Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Main Stage, Performing Arts Center, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. <http://laspositascollege.edu/performingarts>

Fiddler on the Roof, Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, April 17-May 5. Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Of Mice and Men, by John Steinbeck, April 17-May 3, weekends. Village Theatre, Pleasanton. www.village-theatre.org or 314-3400.

Play On! a comedy by Rick Abbot, presented by the San Ramon Community Theater. Comedy about a theater group trying desperately to put on a play, as they deal with the maddening interference from a haughty author who keeps revising the script. Performances

will be held at the Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon, weekends April 17 to May 3; curtain 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday. For information and tickets, go to www.sanramoncommunitytheater.org

Hank Williams: Lost Highway, April 17-26. Douglas Morrison Theatre, 22311 N. Third St., Hayward. Program and facility of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District. www.dmtonline.org or 510-881-6777.

Best of the Best, Las Positas College, celebration of the arts and fund-raiser for Las Positas College Foundation, April 25. 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. <http://laspositascollege.edu/performingarts>

COMEDY

Las Positas Vineyards, Saturday, March 7th Evening in the Vineyards Comedy Nights featuring our Headliner Mike E. Windfield. Cover charge \$20 for general admission & \$35 for dinner & show. LPV wine club members receive a \$5 refund at check in. Dinner is from 6:30-7:30pm and the show starts at 8pm. Purchase tickets at www.laspositasvineyards.com under the section "happenings." For any other questions contact the winery at 925-449-9463 or curt@laspositasvineyards.com

The Second City, 7:30 p.m. Thurs., March 26. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Mark Nizer: Live in 3D, juggling and comedy. 2 p.m. Sun., April 12. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

MOVIES

Classic Film Series, First Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. through June 2015 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Mar. 5, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid; Apr. 2, Dog Day Afternoon; May 7, Coal Miner's Daughter; June 4, My Left Foot. Theme Almost True, presented by Las Positas College coordinator of the Humanities Candace Klaschus, a film historian. Pleasanton Library meeting room. The programs are free and all are welcome to attend. Note that some films are mature in content and may not be suitable for children. 931-3400, ext. 4.

DANCE

Dance for a Difference - The Tale of Romeo and Juliet. Presented by Tiffany's Dance Academy, Bay Area Dance Company and Con Danza. Saturday, March 21, 2015 at 7pm, Livermore High School Theater, 600 Maple Street, Livermore. For more information please contact Robbie Teruya at robbie@tiffanydance.com or (925) 583-2806.

Square dancing for all ages 8 years and up, Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm at Del Valle High, 2253 5th Street, Livermore. Families and friends welcome. September classes are free to new dancers. Questions? Margaret 925-447-6980.

AUDITIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Auditions, The King and I for Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production. Auditions at 1020 Serpentine Lane, Ste. 101, Pleasanton. Adult and teen 14+, April 11, 6 p.m. on April 13, 7:20 p.m.; children ages 4-13 April 18 vocals 9:30 a.m. dance 11 a.m.; callbacks April 19. Prepare brief Rodgers and Hammerstein ballad; for more information regarding requirements and character breakdowns, go to www.trivalleyrep.org/

CHORAL

Masterworks of Yesterday & Today performing Faure Requiem, Valley Concert Chorale. March 14, 7:30 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton; and March 15, 3 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore. www.valleyconcertchorale.org

OPERA

Lucia, Livermore Valley Opera, March 14, 15, 21, 22. Lucia di Lammermoor is a tragic story that serves as a protest against deceitful tactics and a practice of forced marriage. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

MISCELLANEOUS

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*.
Storied Nights: An Evening of Spoken

Word. 2nd Thursday of each month. Features local authors reading their work 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea, 152 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Sponsored by LVPAC and Peet's. Information go to <http://facebook.com/StoriedNights>

St. Patrick's Day Celebration, Dublin, March 14: pancake breakfast, parade, festival; March 14-15 festival and Shamrock 5k fun run and walk. www.dublin.ca.gov, 556-4500.

Pi Day (3 14 15!), March 14, 8:00pm Black Box A Music, Math - life celebration! Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets are available at the door, when space allows.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author, historian, and journalist Garry Wills. Prolific and controversial, New York

Times multiple-Bestselling author Garry Wills discusses his latest book, *The Future of the Catholic Church with Pope Francis*. Wednesday, March 18, 12:00 noon at the Firehouse Arts Center Theater, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 online at www.firehousearts.org, and in person at the Firehouse Box Office: 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, or 925-931-4848. Books are available to purchase at the event, courtesy of Towne Center Books.

Livermore Half Marathon, March 28, 8 a.m. start and finish in downtown Livermore. <http://runliv.com/>

Dionysus Dash 5k, Sunday, April 12th, Start time 8:15am, Course runs throughout the Concannon Vineyard estate. The Dionysus Dash will raise money to support a great local charity in our community, Exceptional Needs Network. To register <http://www.dionysusdash.com/livermore.html>

John Mather, Nobel Laureate and Astrophysicist: The Story of our Universe: Beginning to End. 7:30 p.m., April 16. Rae Dorrough Speaker Series, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org, 373-6800.

The Museum on Main 2015 Ed Kinney Speaker Series An Evening With... A Rebel Soldier, Tuesday, April 21st, 7pm: Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the close of the Civil War and the disbanding of Confederate troops, including Mosby's Rangers, Fred Rutledge takes the stage as a Confederate Cavalryman. Rutledge shares the tactics, weapons, and equipment of the time. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets may be purchased online at www.museumonmain.org, at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766.

Women and Technology Topic of March 19 Talk

Carol Kinnard, a master teacher for the nation's leading provider of engineering curriculum, will be the featured speaker on Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 South Livermore Avenue.

Kinnard will speak about "Women and Technology" in celebration of Women's History Month. The event is co-sponsored by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the Livermore Public Library. This program is free for all ages. No registration is required.

Kinnard is a computer science teacher at Livermore's Granada High School and was recognized by the White House for her work with Project Lead



the Way (PLTW) as one of 100 teachers making a difference in the field of computer science. The goal of the national organization, PLTW, is to build interest in computer science and educate the country's future workforce.

Kinnard is the technical leader for Google for Education at Granada High and serves on the district technology team. She is

a dedicated teacher who inspires her students and helps them understand the fundamentals of computer science. Kinnard was awarded Sandia National Labs' STEM Teacher of the Year Award in 2014.

Kinnard began teaching in 2004 after working as a computer engineer for 15 years at companies such as Lockheed, Sun Microsystems, and Lawrence Livermore National Lab.

The public is invited to attend this very special event. For further information contact either AAUW at www.aauw-lpd.org or (925) 443-7957, or the Livermore Public Library at (925) 373-5500.

For additional Library events, go to www.livermorelibrary.net.

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Livermore Library Presents 'Astronomy for Everyone'

Retired astrophysicist Kevin Manning will give a special presentation: Astronomy for Everyone: Size and Scale of the Universe on Thursday, March 12, 2015, 6:30pm, at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. All ages are welcome. There is no charge for this event and no registration is required.

This family program is about the universe—from the very small to the very large. It is presented by award-winning astronomer and consultant to NASA, Kevin Manning. He is the founder of Look Up to the Stars, a program dedicated to scientific literacy (<http://www.lookuptothestars.com/>).

During the hour and a half program, participants will learn about the size and scale of the universe, the stars and other celestial wonders, using hands-on activities and assorted visuals. Enjoy images and discover the beautiful mysteries of space. Kevin will be available to field a meteor shower of diverse questions, and following the indoor formal presentation, participants will go outdoors (weather permitting) to view celestial objects in the night sky, such as the rings of Saturn, craters on the Moon and more, through a powerful handcrafted telescope.

This program has been underwritten by the Friends of the Livermore Library. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

Tri-Valley California Writers Club Offers Program on the Memoir

Kevin Thaddeus Fisher-Paulson will guide participants through the art and craft of the memoir as the guest speaker for the California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch on Saturday, March 21, at the Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard, Pleasanton.

Kevin Thaddeus Fisher-Paulson lives with his husband Brian, their two sons, and their four rescue dogs in San Francisco. When not writing, he serves as Captain of the Honor Guard for the San Francisco Sheriff's Department.

He earned a degree in American Studies from the University of Notre Dame in 1980 and subsequently studied writing with Dorothy Allison, Jessica Hagedorn and Steve Abbott and has attended courses at the University of Iowa and the University of Oregon. Kevin contributed regularly as a writer to The Sentinel, and his stories and poems have been seen in The James White Literary Review, Amethyst, Oberon, RFD and Suburban Wilderness. His essay, "Virtue Enough for Miss Grrrl" was published as part of an anthology, When Love Lasts Forever, by Pilgrim Press. His plays and monologues have been produced in the ODC Summerfest, Theater Rhinoceros, and the National AIDS Theater Festival. Kevin contributes irregularly to the National Public Radio Perspective Series.

The CWC Tri-Valley Branch invites writers of all genres and experience levels to learn about their craft at its monthly meetings. The meeting will be Saturday, March 21, 2015, 2:00- 4:00 p.m. (registration at 1:30). The cost for CWC Members is \$12, nonmembers, \$17. Anyone interested in the program or the organization may attend with no obligation to join. For reservations, email reservations@trivalleywriters.org no later than Wednesday, March 18, 2015.

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

BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to 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.)

Become a Volunteer Tutor at the Livermore Public Library. Literacy tutors help adults who want to improve their basic reading and writing skills or learn English as a Second Language. No previous experience necessary. After successfully completing Tutor Training, volunteers are paired with an adult learner. Pairs typically meet at the local library once or twice a week for an hour to two hours each meeting. Next tutor training: 6pm – 8:30pm: Monday, March 30th, Wednesday, April 1st & Monday, April 6th. For more information or to sign up for Tutor Training, contact (925) 373-5507 or literacy@livermore.lib.ca.us.

Bras for the Cause "Diamond Jubilee" Breast Cancer Walk, Tri-Valley SOCKs (Stepping Out for Cancer Kures). 5/9/2015, 5:30pm registration, 7:00pm walk start. www.trivalleysocks.org. Registration fee & minimum \$200 in donations required; register link on website. A fun evening 10k walk through downtown Pleasanton with most participants in decorated or themed bras. Bra judging contests, raffle baskets, goody bags & a fun Finisher's Party included. 100% of funds raised are donated to local Bay Area beneficiaries.

Federal employees and retirees are invited to attend a monthly lunchtime meeting on Thursday, March 12th, at Vic's All Star Kitchen, 201 A Main St. in Pleasanton, to learn about a national association that advocates for them. The Tri-Valley Chapter 397 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) will hold the meeting. Attendees need not be NARFE members. A no host luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m., and a business meeting will follow at 1 p.m. Look for chapter signs at the restaurant side entrance. To request more information, directions or transportation to the meeting, please call Gary at (925) 373-6758. Background on NARFE is on the Web at <http://www.narfe.org>.

Event for seniors, Hindu Community and Cultural Center (HCCC) Human Services presents "Annual Senior Day, Theme- Significant Work Experience. Seniors to the Annual Seniors Day to join fun filled activities and celebrations. Share your significant work experiences for about 3 minutes with rest of group. March 14th 2015 from 10:30 to 4 PM at Akella Assembly Hall, Shiva Vishnu Temple. 1232 Arrowhead Ave Livermore CA 94551. Check In 10:30 a.m., Work Experience 11 a.m. to noon, Lunch noon to 1 p.m., Cultural Program 1 to 2 p.m., Fun Activities and Raffle 2 to 3 p.m., Tea, snacks, social 3 to 4 p.m. Please register to the event by joining hcc-seniors@googlegroups.com or call temple at 925-449-6255 or just walk-in or email to karun.hccc@gmail.com.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA, March 19, 5 p.m. happy hour in Pleasanton, RSVP by March 17 to Mary, 736-2350. March 21, 1 p.m., friendly bridge in Dublin, RSVP by March 14 to Marge, 828-5124. March 22, 11 a.m.,

bunch in Livermore, RSVP by March 20 to Ruby, 462-9636. March 25, 1 p.m., lunch in Pleasanton, RSVP by March 22 to Gloria, 846-8320. March 28, 5 p.m. family dinner in Oakland, RSVP ASAP to Gino, 243-1282.

Livermore Community Blood Drive: Friday, March 13, 1-7 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue. Every day, Bay Area hospitals need hundreds of units of blood to keep sick and injured patients alive. Only 3% of the eligible donors in the Bay Area ever give blood, so we need you! Please come donate, and bring a friend or family member to the drive. There's no easier way to help save a life than donating blood. Register at www.redcrossblood.org and use ASBURY925 as the Sponsor Code, or call Thomas Petty at 925-980-8164 for more information.

Twin Valley Mothers of Twins Club's Used Clothing & Equipment Sale, Saturday, March 14, 2015, 9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton. \$2.00 per adult and \$1.00 per child entrance fee Free Parking - Pleasanton Ave Parking Lot. Enter Fairgrounds through the Yellow Gate. 1/2 off sale starts at 1:30 pm. Shoppers are not allowed to bring strollers or carts into the sale.

NAMI Tri-Valley Parent Resource & Support Group meets monthly for parents/caretakers of children ages 5-17 years with (or suspected of having) emotional/psychiatric disorders. It meets the third Tuesday of the month from 7-9pm at Pathways to Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 114, Pleasanton. The group is drop-in and free. Contact person is Marsha McInnis at 925-980-5331.

Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated meets 6:30 p.m. Thurs., March 12. Guest speaker will be Bill Hodges, Past President of Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA). Bill has been a member of VVA for 25 years, having served as president twice and secretary twice. He also serves as a delegate to both VVA National and VVA California State Council. Bill is involved with learning of the toxins that have and are affecting veterans and their families, and chaired the Agent Orange/Toxic Substances Committee for VVA CSC. He has served for two years as president of the Alameda County Members Council for the National Rifle Association, and is currently on its executive board. In his spare time, Bill is a senior docent on the USS Potomac, FDR's Presidential Yacht. Bill's wife is also a Vietnam-Era Veteran. Cattlemen's Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Road, Livermore. Social hour 6:30 pm, dinner 7:00 pm. \$30 for members, \$34 for guests. For reservations, contact Linda Krikorian, krikorianpublishing@yahoo.com or phone 925-426-1474 by Monday, March 9.

Armchair Travelers at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center on Thurs., March 12, 2015 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.. Doug and Lindy Webb will share photographs and stories of a trip they took down the California coast. The trip included a roundtrip cruise from San Francisco with ports of call in Ensenada, San Diego, Long Beach, and Santa Barbara. Adults are invited to this free program 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.

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will meet on Thursday, March 12, 7:00pm at Alisal School's multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Ernesto Sandoval, Director of the Botanical Conservatory at UC Davis will speak about plant hormones and how they contribute to better plant growth and propagation. Visitors are welcome. For more information call Bev at 485-7812 or visit www.lavgc.org.

Donations Needed, The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in Pleasanton is requesting donations of necklaces, bracelets rings and watches as well as women's accessories for its annual jewelry event "Glitter and Glamour" on April 17-19, 2015. Donations are accepted at the shop during open hours: Mon.-Fri. 10-6; Sat 10-5; Sun 12-5. The Discovery Shop is located at 1989-E Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Contact Kelley Meno at 925-462-7374 for more information. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society's programs of research, education, service and advocacy.

British Awareness Day, It's a Bad, Bad Day, sponsored by Daughters of the British Empire Northern California. Afternoon Tea and Royal Baby Shower with Strictly British Bingo. 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on April 27, 2013. Castlewood Country Club, 707 Country Club Circle, Pleasanton \$30.00 (donation amount \$15.00). Bring a baby gift to add to a baby shower gift box. Proceeds go to the British Home, Abode Services, PUSD Horizon, and Martinez County Hospital. To purchase tickets contact: Edith Caponigro @ (925) 998-3500 or do4dbe-western@yahoo.com

"Let's go fly a kite!" The San Ramon Art & Wind Festival, is scheduled for Sunday and Monday, May 24- 25, 2015 in San Ramon's Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd. from 10am to 5pm both days. Vendors are sought in the following categories: Non-profit Food and Beverage; Businesses, Children/Family Activity Vendors and Non-profit information vendors. Eligibility rules and application form at www.artandwind.com. For more information, call Mary Ann Wilkman at (925) 973-3210 or visit website at www.ArtandWind.com

Assistance League of Amador Valley 20th Annual Mad Hatter's Tea Party on Saturday April 11 at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. Starting at noon, tea, sandwiches and cakes will be served. Participants will be seated at beautifully decorated tables. Award winning author, Margaret Zhao will present the program. She is the of "Really Enough: A True Story of Tyranny, Courage & Comedy." Zhao, along with co-author, Kathleen Martens, won the Sharp Writ Book Awards Best Biography Memoir for 2012. Tickets are available for \$50 per guest beginning February 1st and ending March 31 (the reservation deadline.) Call Assistance League 925-846-8490 for reservations and payment options. Seating will be available for 300 guests. Castlewood Country Club is located at 707 Country Club Drive.

Livermore High Calculus Students are gearing up to go to Calculus Camp, April 11-13. Donations would be greatly appreciated to offset the cost of this trip for these hardworking students and can be made at: www.gofundme.com/LHS-CalcCamp

Walk MS Tri-Valley, to be held on Saturday April 19, 2015 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, raises money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. For more information about the event, check out the event website at <http://walkcan.nationalmssociety.org>

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

Dionysus Dash 5k, Sunday, April 12th, Start time 8:15am, Course runs throughout the Concannon Vineyard estate. The Dionysus Dash will raise money to support a great local charity in our community, Exceptional Needs Network. To register <http://www.dionysusdash.com/livermore.html>

Green and White Gala, March 13, Begin the St. Patrick's Day weekend's festivities in Dublin with dinner and dancing to live music at the Annual Green and White Gala hosted by the Dublin Sister Association. The Gala begins at 6:00 pm with an "Irish Happy Hour" at the Shannon Community Center. Dinner and dancing to live music will follow. To purchase tickets or for more information call (925) 899-4771.

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

Birthright of Livermore, Mon., Tues., Wed., 10-2; Thurs. 12-4; 1st, 2nd & 4th Saturdays 10-1. Birthright offers free pregnancy tests, guidance, adoption and medical referrals, baby and maternity clothing, and more. Livermore office at 1520 Catalina Ct., or call (925) 449-5887. 1-800-550-4900 Helpline is staffed 24 hours a day. Website at www.birthright.org/ Livermore for more information. All Birthright services are free and confidential.

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

Tea Dance featuring The Mellotones Combo Jazz Band, presented by Veterans of Foreign Wars Pleasanton Post 6298, 1 to 3 p.m. Veterans Hall, 301 Main St., Pleasanton. Dates in 2015 include March

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18, April 15, May 20, June 17, Sept. 16, and Oct. 21. Music from the American songbook played for listening and dancing in a variety of ballroom experiences. Cover charge is \$8 and includes refreshments. Proceeds benefit needy veterans and their families. Information joephylb@att.net or 443-2224 or bobolness2@gmail.com, 443-2245.

Fertile Groundworks offers opportunities to volunteer in a community educational garden each Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00-noon and Fridays from 3:00-6:00. Additional volunteer opportunities are available the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 9:00-noon. The organization provides organically grown produce to local food programs for those in need, as well as serving as a teaching garden. Those interested to visit www.fertilegroundworks.org and like us on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/FertileGroundWorks) to sign-up for volunteer opportunities. 4743 East Ave., Livermore (directly behind Asbury United Methodist Church).

American Legion Post 47 in Livermore is looking for veterans in the Livermore area who are interested in performing community service for young people and promoting veterans affairs. Interested veterans will meet with other like-minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veteran's causes. The American Legion is the largest federally chartered veteran's organization that is the veterans lobby and voice to congress. The Livermore American Legion Post 47 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street, Livermore. Enter the building from the ramp on the 5th Street side. For more information go to <http://www.calegion.org/> or contact Bill Bergmann at calegion.post47@gmail.com or (925) 443-2330 or Roy Warner at 925-449-6048.

Crab Feed, sponsored by the Livermore High School Alumni Assoc. on Friday, March 20, 2015. Event supports programs, students, & faculty at Livermore High School. More info to come. Want tickets? Want to help? Contact livermorehighalumni@gmail.com or Ray at 925-606-5518.

Eric's Corner is a free support group for people who are dealing with a diagnosis of Epilepsy. Meetings are held at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., second floor, Pleasanton. We meet from 6:30-8:00 on the third Thursday of each month. For more information please visit us at ericcorner.org

Pleasanton Lions Club - welcomes visitors to come experience a great time while making a difference in our community & beyond. Dinner meetings every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. The Regalia House, 4133 Regalia Ct., Pleasanton. www.pleasantonlionsclub.org

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

Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military

support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net or call 925-443-7620.

Shepherd's Gate Thrift Store, 1362 Railroad Avenue, Livermore. Open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Last Friday of every month 50% off most of the store sale. For more information visit www.shepgate.org/holiday

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

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

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

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the third floor movie 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.

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castletown Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-484-1273 for additional information.

Pleasanton Military Families is a Pleasanton based support group for those who have a loved one serving in the Military. The group gathers at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share concerns, fears, and to celebrate the joys that are experienced. There is no better support than being surrounded by others

who know what you are going through. Three times per year, the group collect supplies and sends care packages to the troops. Contact PMFSG.ca@gmail.com for the location of the next meeting.

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

Good News Bears, nonprofit with a mission to distribute stuffed animals to social services, emergency services, medical facilities and anyone who needs a hug. Based in Livermore, the group reaches around the Bay Area and the world. Volunteers needed to hold collections of gently used teddy bears and other stuffed animals, assist with fund-raising and deliver the animals to organizations supported by the group. www.goodnewsbears.org or call 373-7982 for more information.

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program. For more information www.fpcl.org or 925-447-2078.

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

Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747 or www.uucil.org

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Reform, Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. Rabbi Dr. Lawrence Milder, www.bethemek.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Calvary Chapel Livermore, meetings Sundays at 10 a.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - www.calvarylivermore.org.

United Christian Church, www.uccilv.org, a gay-welcoming congregation offering community and spiritual encouragement for questioners, seekers and risk-takers. Worship on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; call 449-6820 for more information.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Cannannon 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 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Senior adult ministries meet every other month. Call the office at 846-8650 for more information.

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

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

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

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

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. Church: Service Schedule: 8:00 a.m. Contemplative Eucharist; 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study (check web-site); 10:25 Sunday School (Godly Play); 10:30: Sung Eucharist with choir, child care provided. 1:00 p.m. Youth Group. www.saintbartslivermore.com

Tri-Valley Church of Christ at 4481 East Avenue, Livermore, worship service 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Sundays, all are welcome. 925-447-4333 (a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

Little Brown Church, United Church

of Christ 141 Kilkare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org 925-862-2580

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

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. worship service. Bible Study/Sunday School 10:20. Bible Basics Class, which explores the main teachings of the Bible, meets at 7:00 Sunday night. Call 371-6200 or email pmjrmueller@gmail.com for more info.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, 4481 East Avenue, Livermore; 447-433.3 www.trivalleychurch.org. Update on classes for The Story 9 to 10:00 a.m.. Worship Service 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

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

Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services 9 a.m. blended with choir and band. Childcare for infants through age 6 and children start in the worship service with their parents. 10:30 contemporary worship led by a band. Sunday school for children and middle-schoolers. www.centerpointechurch.org (925) 846-4436.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. Interpretation for the deaf at 9:00. 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org

Valley Bible Church, Livermore, Meeting at Altamont Creek Elementary School, 6500 Garraventa Ranch Road, Livermore. Services at 10:00 a.m.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedargrove.org or call 447-2351.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

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

Lynwood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Worship at 9 or 10:30 a.m. on Sundays with Sunday school for youth and adults at 10:30 a.m. and childcare at both services. Children are welcome in all services. Con-

tact Rev. Heather Hammer at 846-0221, send an email to office@lynwood.org or visit website at www.lynwood.org.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: 9050 Mocho St., Livermore. 3rd ward 9 a.m., 2nd ward 11 a.m., Mocho branch (Spanish) 2:10 p.m. 1501 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore: 1st ward, 9 a.m.; 4th ward 11 a.m., Springtown ward, 1 p.m.

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

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

Livermore Quakers: Unprogrammed worship, Mondays at 7pm, 1886 College Ave. (United Christian Church). More information: LivermoreQuakers@gmail.com or (925) 315-7170.

Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. 10:00 Sunday service; children's program available. All are welcome. Ongoing classes, groups, and activities. Rev. Karen Epps, minister. <http://www.unityoftrivalley.org> 925.829-2733.

Grief Workshop, Bimonthly workshop to help with healing. St. Elizabeth Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Pleasanton. Second and fourth Thursdays evenings at 7:30pm. March 12th & 26th 2015. No pre-registration is necessary. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Mary Hagerty at 925-846-5377 for more information.

Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley, people from all faith traditions, cultures, races and sexual orientations are welcome. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Meeting place 1617 2nd St., 2nd Floor, Livermore. For more information contact revharrist1@yahoo.com.

St. Francis of Assisi, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) - 8:30 AM. Communion - 9:30 AM. 925-906-9561 stfrancisanglican.church.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, annual Community Potluck Second Seder on Saturday April 4, from 5 pm - 7:30 pm. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St. in Livermore. Kid-friendly (but not kid-centered) haggadah is secular and progressive with lots of singing. After the hour-long ceremony, participants will share a potluck dinner. Please call Jamie at 510-888-1404 to let us know you are coming and what you'd like to bring for the potluck. Call by March 31 so we can be sure to have enough eggs, charoses, celery, and - of course - wine.

Eckankar, "Soul, the Real You" is the theme of the next Eck Worship Service, Sunday, March 15, at 11:00 AM. The Eck Worship Service is held once a month on the third Sunday at the Four Points Sheridan, 5115 Hopyard Road. For further information, please contact <http://eck-ca.org/> by computer.

Milestones

Community

Quarry Lane Student Named California National Geographic State Bee Semifinalist

Quarry Lane School (QLS) Quarry Lane student Rhea Mittr has been notified by the National Geographic Society that she is one of the semifinalists eligible to compete in the 2015 California National Geographic State Bee. The competition will be held at the California State University Fresno on Friday, March 27th, 2015.

Rhea, who won has won

third place at the state finals for the second consecutive year in 2014, is the Quarry Lane School's All-School Geography Bee winner. She took the state qualifying test in early February. The National Geographic Society selects the top 100 test scorers in each state and invites them to participate in the state bee competitions.

"We are thrilled that

Rhea made the state cut and is in California's top-100 who will be participating in the state bee in Fresno," says Mahatha Mittr, Rhea's mother. "Rhea will be preparing full-steam now; she loves this geographic journey."

Each state champion will receive \$100, the "National Geographic Atlas of the World, 10th Edition," a medal, and a trip to Washington, D.C., to represent their state in the National Geographic Bee Championship to be held at National Geographic Society headquarters, May 11-13, 2015.

Quarry Lane School is located in Dublin.

Vice Chancellor Receives State Award

Wyman Fong, vice chancellor of human resources for the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District has received the statewide Progress in Diversity award from the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA).

The award recognizes the outstanding achievement of individuals or organizations who make an effort to expand the concept of diversity in the wider higher education community.

"The particular reason I support Mr. Fong's nomination for this award in Diversity is the tremendous leadership he has shown

as President of Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE)," said David Bugay, vice chancellor for human resources with the North Orange County Community College District. "This organization was effective within this constituency but in the last two years has almost exploded in membership and activities."

Criteria for the award includes:

- Documented support from colleagues or those within the organization that attests to the unique contribution of the individual or organization; or
- Research or a docu-

mented presentation at the state or national level that has impacted, enhanced or represents a contribution toward the goal of diversity in higher education; or

- The creation -by a district or organization- of an unprecedented example of inclusion through district policy, activities on campus and within the organization, or organizational documentation that represents effective actions taken by the organization toward inclusion.

Fong has served as vice chancellor at the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District since 2010.

Education



Isabel Gonzalez-Velarde of Livermore, California was invited to compete for additional scholarships at Simpson Scholarship Day on Sunday, February 15 at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. Participants who attended this prestigious event interviewed with a panel of judges and composed an essay as part of the competition. Isabel is pictured at left with Simpson College President Jay Simmons.

Joshua D Valdix of Pleasanton, was named to the Fall 2014 dean's list at Samford University. Valdix is a junior Political Science major.

Samford University releases dean's lists after the close of the fall and spring semesters each academic year. To qualify for the dean's list, a student must have earned a minimum 3.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0 while attempting at least 12 credit hours of coursework. Dean's List is the highest academic recognition given by the school at the end of each semester.

The following students were named to the Dean's List for the fall 2014 semester at Washington University in St. Louis:

Samantha Pei-Shin Chen of Pleasanton. Chen is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences.

Allison Marie Ricart of Pleasanton. Ricart is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences.

To qualify for the Dean's List in the College of Arts & Sciences, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 14 graded units.

Applications Sought for High School Senior Arts Awards

The City of Livermore's Commission for the Arts announces the 2015 High School Senior Arts Awards Program. The awards are designed to identify, recognize, and encourage talented high school graduating students in the disciplines of the Arts.

Up to ten \$500 awards will be given to graduating students from the following High Schools: Granada, Livermore, Del Valle, Phoenix, Vineyard, and Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory. Applicant must be a graduating student and in good standing at his or her school. Awards will be granted based on accomplishments in the Arts at their school.

Applications are available online at the City of Livermore Arts web page

www.cityoflivermore.net/citygov/cd/arts/default.asp, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District website at www.livermoreschools.com, and the Livermore Valley Preparatory High School website at www.lvcp.org. Hard copy applications may be obtained at each high school career center or the Curriculum and Special Projects Department at the District office located at 685 East Jack London Blvd.

A complete application, teacher's recommendation letter, and sealed official transcript must be received no later than 5:00 P.M. on April 24, 2015. Applications may be delivered or mailed to: City of Livermore, Community and Economic Development Department, Commission for the Arts,

1052 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550

Award recipients will be notified by May 16 and will be honored at a Livermore

City Council meeting in June, as well as at Senior Awards Night at a time and place selected by each high school.

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