



**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.

## Buchanan Discusses Education

# Funding for Schools Should Be Equitable

Funding for schools in California should be returned to former levels before there are discussions about changing the formula on how funds are allocated.

That was one of the messages delivered to an overflow crowd last Saturday by Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan. A second issue had to do with plans to build two tunnels under the Delta to send water south.

The Governor's plan to give more money to districts with a high percentage of students who live in poverty, non-English speakers, and special needs students drew criticism from Buchanan.

She said, "There is a huge achievement gap. If we don't close it we won't prepare these children to enter the work force. There is a moral imperative and an economic interest in closing the gap." However, it should not be at

the expense of other districts. Buchanan pointed out that under the proposal, almost all of the money would go to four districts: Los Angeles, San Jose, San Diego and San Francisco. No school district in the 16th Assembly area would receive more money. Livermore and San Ramon are already below average in funding for schools.

She provided an example of the inequity in the proposal. San Jose educates 33,000

students, 44 percent are in the three target categories. The district would receive \$982 more per student. Santa Ana has an enrollment of 57,000 with 84 percent in the three target groups. It would be given an additional \$8 per student.

Buchanan said after her presentation that no education group supports the Governor's plan. She stated, "The state needs to make funding equitable. It should

not be selective."

More funding is required over all, she continued, citing a Stanford study that concluded that if we want to make a difference in educating students, we need to spend a whole lot more on education, up to \$30 billion more statewide each year. At the same time, the study found that if more money were put into the system and we continue to do things the

(See BUCHANAN, page 5)



**Legendary folk singer Judy Collins will perform at the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Spring Gala on Friday, May 10 at the Bankhead Theater. The concert begins at 8 p.m. She first topped the charts in the 1960s with "Both Sides Now." The gala will include wine, champagne, desserts, plus tea and coffee during a reception in the theater lobby following the concert. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets can be purchased at the theater box office, on-line at [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or by calling 373-6800.**



The Alameda County Science & Engineering Fair was held last Saturday at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Students in grades 6 through 12 submitted science and engineering projects for judging. Pictured is Joe Curtis, who attends Sunol Glen School. His project was measuring heat output by burning different types of wood. Middle school grand prize winners were Claire Abele and Julia Cable, 8th graders at Junction Avenue K-8 School in Livermore. Their project was, "Saving Raptors, One Windmill at a Time."

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

## County Approves Funds for Three Valley Non-profits

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved funding for three community non-profit partners in the Valley.

Open Heart Kitchen, Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley, and ValleyCare Health System received boosts in their grants. Funding sources are from the state and federal governments.

Supervisors voted 4-0 at their meeting March 12. First District Supervisor Scott Haggerty was absent. He is on a trip to Washington representing the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

Open Heart Kitchen received \$43,489 for nutrition services, an increase of 16.7 percent over the original contract. Josh Thurman, staff aide to Haggerty, said that programs have gone without cost of living adjustments for several years. The increased revenue is intended to help compensate for that.

ValleyCare received \$316,000, a rise of nearly 4 percent over the original contract.

Senior Support Services was given a total of \$140,000, about 13 percent more than originally announced.

Senior Support Services provides a variety of senior-connected services. They include a caregiver relief program, disease prevention, outreach to seniors, and coordination of volunteers who help seniors with various needs.

## Task Force Questions Density of Housing

The East Pleasanton Task Force got its first look at development scenarios for the 1000 acres on the eastern border of the city.

About 400 acres are considered developable.

The presentation included an analysis of which alternatives would pay for the needed infrastructure.

Two types of land uses unique to the city are included in all three of the alternatives. The first is "campus office," a large-scale, single-tenant, administrative or medical technology office development planned in a campus-like setting. The second is referred to as "destination use." This might include commercial or public facilities that are specifically suited for a lakefront site, such as a restaurant, retreat, conference center, or interpretative center.

One alternative identifies locations for 1200 housing units along with industrial acreage and parkland. Housing densities range from 5 to the acre, 171 units; 22 to the acre, 171 units; 23 to the acre, 332 units and 30 to the acre, 528 units.

Alternative two would increase the number of housing units to 1760, including 1259 higher density units and 500 single family and small lot or townhouse units.

The final proposal was designed to provide the most valuable type and amount of development with the least costly infrastructure on the

(See TASK FORCE, page 5)

## County Could Lose \$6 Million to Sequestration

The federal sequestration cuts that went into effect March 1 in Washington are expected to impact Alameda County, which could lose about \$6 million in funding.

That \$6 million is included in a county budget of \$2.4 billion, so it is not a major impact, but could still be felt in some programs, said Josh Thurman, staff aide to Supervisor Scott Haggerty.

There could be even more impact on county services, depending on how sequestration affects the county's non-profit community partners, said Thurman.

The county is working on next fiscal year's budget, and will address the sequestration losses during the process. In the past, the county has retained services

(See COUNTY, page 4)

## Council Wants to Look at East Dublin Commercial/Housing Ratio

**By Ron McNicoll**

The Dublin City Council has asked for a relatively quick informational update concerning East Dublin general plan history, in order to gain perspective on three general plan amendments requests seeking to convert commercial zoning to residential.

At its meeting March 5, the council faced its third

request for a general plan amendment in East Dublin. A fourth is in the wings.

That third application for a GPA came from Summerhill Homes for 40 acres along Tassajara Boulevard, north of Dublin Boulevard to Gleason Drive. It would increase the planned number of residential units there from a maximum of 261

(See DUBLIN, page 5)

## Lukewarm Reception for Sunset Development Plan

Neighbors of two sites in Livermore preferred retaining the current commercial/business uses. If there were any change in use, an all single family development would be the choice.

Sunset Development Company owns the two properties. One, the 13-acre

Sunset Office Plaza was built in the early 70s and has more than 75,000 square feet of medical, dental and office space in 10 buildings. It is located at the corner of Concannon and Holmes. The second, the Livermore Financial Center, consists of

(See SUNSET, page 5)



Pictured (from left) are Las Positas College students and veterans Kate Williams (Navy), Danielle Rivera (Army), Ramona Peterson (Navy) & LPC Staff member, and Connie Hildebrand (Navy).

## Program to Honor Women Veterans

The Las Positas College Veterans First Program will feature four distinguished speakers and a panel discussion in its first "Honoring Women Veterans" event on Thursday, March 21. The

program will run from 1-3:00 p.m. in the College's Little Theater, Building 800. The program is timed to occur during Women's Military History Week.

The public is invited to

attend. The college is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

The Veterans First outreach at Las Positas College is a program designed to

(See VETERANS, page 10)

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### PET OF THE WEEK

**Bentley is a year old cattle dog & shepherd mix who is looking for a home with an active, loving lifestyle to match his playful personality. He enjoys walks and play time and will even curl up in your lap if you'd like. Bentley would enjoy an adventurous family who will take the time to teach him some puppy manners that he hasn't yet learned. For more information, call 925-426-8656 or go online to [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org) or [www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety](http://www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety) to see other adoptable dogs and cats. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Photo by Suzanne Edholm**

## Las Positas College to Present Second Talk in Business Speaker Series

Las Positas College will present business speaker, consultant and coach Jody Bagno-Dill at the second event in its new "Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker" Series from 5:00 to 6:15 PM on Wednesday, March 20. The program will be held in the College's Lecture Hall 2420 of the Multi-Disciplinary Building (#2400).



**Jody Bagno-Dill**

"We are excited about showcasing Bay Area business leaders who share their stories about how perseverance and an entrepreneurial spirit helped them reach their professional goals," said Business and Marketing Department Coordinator Lisa Taylor Weaver, Ph.D.

Bagno-Dill, founder of JAZZ Business Consulting, will present "Bottom-Line: What's Vibe Got to do With It?" "Well-run organizations are very similar to great jazz bands," Bagno-Dill explained. "The combination of clarity, competency and chemistry creates a vibe, and great vibe creates great music. People attend shows

because of how the music makes them feel. In a similar way, people choose to do business with particular organizations because of how the experience makes them feel."

"The good news is that great vibe can be intentionally developed, with the end result of increasing productivity, employee engagement, customer satisfaction and profitability," Bagno-Dill noted. She said that during her presentation, she will explain simple ways to improve and develop a vibe in organizations.

Bagno-Dill has started and built small businesses in a variety of industries. Her client list has included Hyatt Hotels, Infineon Raceway, Heffernan Insurance, University of California at Davis, John Muir Health, Crowne Plaza Hotels and the Billy Graham Center. She is on the Board of Directors of the Unity Music Foundation, a charitable organization that uses music to provide assistance to other nonprofit organizations.

"We are delighted that Jody Bagno-Dill will be our second speaker in our new series and we invite students, area business professionals, and members of the community to come and hear her presentation about creating a winning vibe in organizations," Weaver said. She noted that Business and Marketing Department faculty will be available at the event to provide information about the department's programs.

Sponsored by the college's Business and Marketing Department,

the "Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker" Series events are free and open to Las Positas College students and members of the

public. Visitors are reminded that the campus has a \$2 parking fee. Daily tickets are available from vending machines in the campus

parking lots. The College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore 94551. For more information, visit the College website at [www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu).

## VALLEY ROUNDUP

### Tours Available

The public is invited to tour the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) wastewater treatment and water recycling plants on Wednesday, April 10, at 3:00 pm. The free tour lasts 60 to 90 minutes and is open to adults, teens, and children ages seven and up. The facilities are located at 7399 Johnson Drive in Pleasanton. Reservations are required. For more information or to make reservations, visit <http://www.dsrdsd.com/Education/tourrequest.html> or call the DSRSD public information office at 925-875-2282.

Dublin, Pleasanton, and southern San Ramon generate up to 10 million gallons of wastewater every day. Increasingly, wastewater treatment is a resource recovery

operation that generates recycled water to irrigate green spaces and biofuel that can generate heat and electricity. The tour highlights these processes as well as career opportunities in the water industry.

DSRSD offers public tours quarterly on the second Wednesdays of April, July, October, and January. Tours can be scheduled at other times for groups of six or more if staff is available. For more information call the DSRSD public information office at 925-875-2282.

### Correction

The name of the founder of the Hand 'n Hand Career Training Center in last week's Independent was incorrect. The founder is Sharon Van Brunt.



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Stoneridge Creek, the retirement community unlike any other in Northern California, opens in Pleasanton this year. That means life without the hassles of landscaping, housekeeping or maintenance of any kind is close enough to see, with restaurants, an open-air pool, fitness center and spa, art studio, walking trails, performing arts theatre and more, all included. Add in unlimited access to a full continuum of care, if ever needed, and you'll discover you can expect more from retirement.

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Continuing Life Communities Pleasanton LLC, dba Stoneridge Creek Pleasanton, has received authorization to accept deposits from the California Department of Social Services.



## Swalwell's First Bill Aimed at Making It Easier to Start a Business

Congressman Eric Swalwell has introduced his first piece of legislation, HR 952, The Main Street Revival Act.

The bill would amend the tax code so that people starting businesses in qualified HUBzones could delay paying their first-year payroll taxes.

HUBZone is a United States Small Business Administration (SBA) program for small companies that operate and employ people in Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZones).

Instead, the business owners would pay one-fourth of the first year's tax at the start of the second year, another quarter in the third

year, and so on, to the fifth year. The year would begin when the business hires its first employee.

The zones are tied to low income population presence in census tracts, as defined in the bill.

One qualifier for a HUB-zone would be census tracts where at least 50 percent of the population is below 60 percent of median income in the metropolitan area. Swalwell held a press conference in Hayward on March 8 to announce the bill.

Swalwell later said that Hayward lost \$10 million in money when the state eliminated redevelopment districts, "and Livermore was affected by the redevelopment grab. It hurt eco-

nomics development in the area. This is one remedy for what has happened," said Swalwell.

The tax break is only for businesses with 25 or fewer employees. If a business files bankruptcy, all of the deferred taxes would be due at that time.

Swalwell said that the bill is the result of his listening campaign, when he began his run for office last year. He walked the main streets of towns in the district, beginning with First Street in Livermore, and Main Street in Pleasanton.

"With vacancies around them, small businesses have been really hurting, both in foot traffic and business to business transactions. Many

found the credit market so frozen, it was hard to get off the ground, and purchase from other businesses," said Swalwell.

"There is very little the federal government can do to force the banks to lend,

so we have to entice them. It's a private market, but the government collects payroll taxes for Social Security and Medicare that the employee pays," Swalwell stated.

"If we defer spending for

that in the first year, it's one less expense up front that a business won't have to worry about," said Swalwell.

Swalwell said of the bill, "The hard part will be getting support for it."

## Pleasanton Council Votes to Change Speeds on Eighteen Road Segments

Speeds were increased on eleven roadways and reduced on seven in Pleasanton.

The city council approved the changes by a 3 to 1 vote. Jerry Pentin voted "no." He asked, "Are we trading safety for convictions?"

Karla Brown also expressed concerns that some of the speeds would represent a safety issue, but voted for the changes.

Pentin referred to the state law that requires agency's to conduct speed surveys on roads. If posted speeds are not based on a survey, the limits are not enforceable. The city based the proposed changes on surveys. Despite that, Pentin objected to increasing speeds in several locations.

The selected speed is based on the 85th fastest vehicle out of 100. Speeds could be lower than the

survey would indicate if there were special conditions that warrant a reduced speed, such as parking and pedestrians.

Mike Tassano, city traffic engineer, stated, regardless of what a sign says, people drive the speed they feel comfortable. He used as an example Owens Drive. "It has never had a speed sign. People drive about 31 mph."

Councilmember Cheryl Cook-Kallio commented, "We need to give the police the tools they need to be able to enforce speeds."

Examples of some of the changes were increasing the speed on First Street between Stanley and Ray Street from 35 mph to 40 mph; increasing speeds on Valley Avenue between Case and Sunol Blvd. from 25 to 30 mph; and upping the speed on Gibraltar Dr. between Hopyard

and Stoneridge from 35 to 40 mph.

The city council also approved a construction contract of over \$1 million to complete the Staples Ranch Stoneridge Drive and Santa Rita Road intersection improvements.

The contract includes installation of new intersection traffic signals and signs, widening the road to turn lanes, and installation of Iron Horse Trail improvements.

Other projects underway along Stoneridge Drive include a soundwall at Snowdrop Circle, irrigation and landscape improvements at the El Charro/I-580 interchange, and construction of the Staples Ranch neighborhood park.

All of the work is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2013 in time for the opening of the Stoneridge Drive extension to El Charro.

ValleyCare  
Medical Foundation  
Welcomes

**Kuljeet K. Multani, MD**

Board Certified in Palliative Care and Family Medicine

Dr. Kuljeet Multani has joined the ValleyCare Medical Foundation specializing in Palliative Care and Family Medicine.

Dr. Multani has specialized in Palliative Care and Family Medicine at Lodi Memorial Hospital in Lodi, CA since 2007 and served as medical director of Palliative Care Services and Adult Medicine Hospitalist.

Dr. Multani is a graduate of Jawaharlal Nehru College in Wardha, India and completed her residency in Family Medicine at SUNY, Buffalo, NY and San Joaquin General Hospital in Stockton, CA. She has participated in a number of Palliative Care courses at Harvard Medical School, UC San Francisco and the University of Wisconsin.

Palliative Care is the management of distressing symptoms of chronic, medical and terminal illness. Dr. Multani's goal in Palliative Care is to help patients overcome the fears of serious illness by goal planning and symptom care to improve quality of life.



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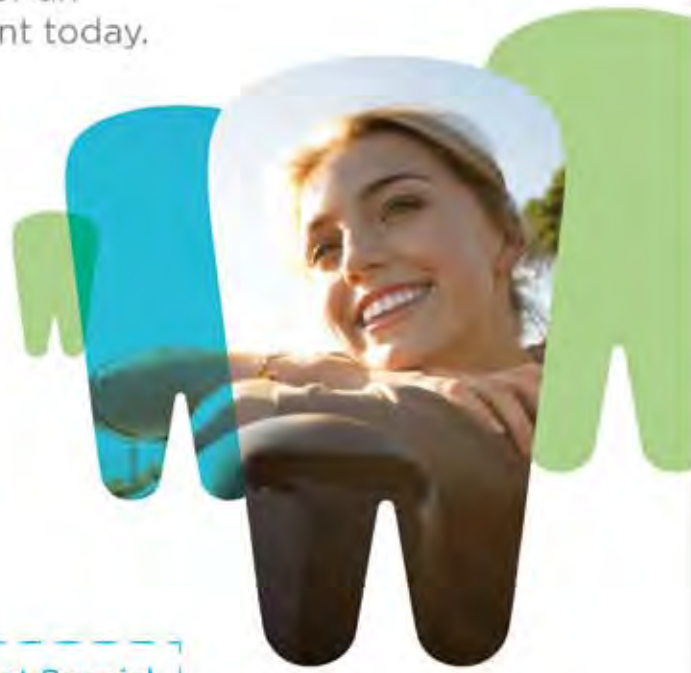


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# EDITORIAL

## Pleasanton City Council: Olivia Sanwong

Pleasanton voters will chose from among four candidates to fill the vacant seat on the city council.

The election, set for May 7, is by mail only.

The candidates in alphabetical order are Mark Hamilton, David Miller, Kathy Narum, and Olivia Sanwong. All are first time candidates.

Mark Hamilton, with his interest in youth and education, would be best suited to serve on the school board. David Miller, a member of the Tea Party, did not provide specifics as to how he would accomplish goals, such as bringing business to the city.

The two strongest candidates are Olivia Sanwong and Kathy Narum. The Independent is recommending Olivia Sanwong.

Narum would bring many years of experience. However, her views are similar to councilmembers already serving.

Sanwong, after participating on the Amador Valley High School "We the People" team, was inspired to become engaged in government.

Her resume includes working as a senior market research analyst at Autodesk. She attended Simmons College - Simmons School of Management and Harvard University.

As a technology professional, Sanwong would bring a different perspective to the council. She stated she would look at using technology to increase civic engagement in government. "Residents would see a 21st century leader using 21st century tools."

When it comes to economic development, Sanwong advocates partnerships that involve government, nonprofits and for-profit entities.

Her views regarding the protection of open space, the ridgelines and the urban growth boundary are in line with the voters who have passed initiatives favoring the protections. She supports higher density housing, where practical, in order to retain the open space while meeting the court's requirement that the city zone for housing. Sanwong pointed out in her interview that development is about making smart decisions and getting out the right message. In her view, "The overall cost to society in terms of infrastructure is less for higher density than if development were sprawled."

Sanwong is young and enthusiastic. She is a product of Pleasanton's outstanding school system. Voters should be proud of what she has accomplished and hopes to accomplish in the future and place her on the city council.

## Pleasanton OKs Plan For Mandated Program Improvement at Two Schools

By Ron McNicoll

Pleasanton school trustees have unanimously approved a plan to move forward with raising the test scores of low-income and special education students at two schools.

The board acted at its meeting March 5, in time to meet the March 18 deadline for submission of the plan to the California Department of Education.

Among the many considerations and tools that will be used in the Program Improvement (PI) plan is implementation of common core state standards. They will be used throughout California and 46 other states, beginning in 2016. The core standards bring an approach that educators say digs deeper into learning, with its message to students to concentrate on the process of solving problems,

and bringing many ways to do so.

Instructional coaches to be added in the next school year are also named on the list of resources. The district recently approved slots for six instructional coaches, including three for literacy.

The district has been in the first year of program improvement at Valley View elementary and Pleasanton Middle schools. Performance fell short on five of 28 indicators on the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) test, which is the test required by the No Child Left Behind Act.

The district did not meet the criteria in two academic categories of socio-economic disadvantaged (SED) students: English Language Arts (ELA) and math. The district also lags behind when it comes to students with disabilities (SWD)

Currently, 56 percent of SED students score as proficient in ELA. However, the target for ELA by June 2013 will be 70 percent, and by June 2014, 90 percent. For math, the current level is 53 percent. That must be raised to 68 percent this June, and to 90 percent by June 2014.

Some 59 percent of SWD are proficient in ELA. The targets are 70 percent this June and 90 percent the following June. In math, currently the proficiency is 55 percent, but it must get to 70 percent in June, and 90 percent in June 2014.

The statistics for SWD lag behind in the California schools exit exam at 79 percent, which is better than most other SWDs in California districts. However, the district needs to raise the exit exam level to 90 percent this year, and 95 percent next year.

Pleasanton's strategic plan goals mesh with the AYP's demands of increasing proficiency, said assistant superintendent Odie Douglas. He quoted the strategic plan's goal that aims to have all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, socio-economic class or gender, be college- and career- ready upon graduation.

Board president Jeff Bowser said that he was pleased that in conducting outreach workshops to parents, the district has conducted them in both Spanish and English. "That's important in outreach," he said.

"I'm also pleased to see the progress you have made with some of our subgroups so far. I'm proud of the work you guys have put together," Bowser said to staff at the meeting.

## Nustar Helps Solve Riddle of Black Hole Spin

An international team including Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory scientists has definitively measured the spin rate of a supermassive black hole for the first time.

The findings, made by the two X-ray space observatories, NASA's Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuSTAR) and the European Space Agency's XMM-Newton, solve a long-standing debate about similar measurements in other black holes and will lead to a better understanding of how black holes and galaxies evolve.

The formation of supermassive black holes is thought to mirror the formation of the galaxy itself, since a fraction of all the matter drawn into the galaxy finds its way into the black hole. Because of this, astronomers are interested in measuring the spin rates of black holes in the hearts of galaxies.

The observations also are a powerful test of Einstein's

theory of general relativity, which holds that gravity can bend light and space-time. The X-ray telescopes detected these warping effects in the most extreme of environments, where the immense gravity field of a black hole is severely altering space-time.

NuSTAR, a NASA Explorer-class mission launched in June of 2012, is uniquely designed to detect the highest-energy X-ray light in great detail. For Livermore, the predecessor to NuSTAR was a balloon-borne instrument known as HEFT (the High Energy Focusing Telescope) that was funded, in part, by a Laboratory Directed Research and Development investment beginning in 2001. NuSTAR takes HEFT's X-ray focusing abilities and sends them beyond Earth's atmosphere on a satellite. The optics design and the manufacturing process for NuSTAR are based on those used to build

the HEFT telescopes.

NuSTAR complements telescopes that observe lower-energy X-ray light, such as the European Space Agency's (ESA's) XMM-Newton and NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory. Scientists use these and other telescopes to estimate the rates at which black holes spin.

"We know that black holes have a strong link to their host galaxy," said astrophysicist Bill Craig, a member of the LLNL team. "Measuring the spin, one of the few things we can directly measure from a black hole, will give us clues to understanding this fundamental relationship."

The team used NuSTAR to observe X-rays emitted by hot gas in a disc just outside the "event horizon," the boundary surrounding a black hole beyond which nothing, including light, can escape.

NuSTAR and XMM-

Newton simultaneously observed the two-million-solar-mass supermassive black hole lying at the dust and gas-filled heart of a galaxy called NGC 1365. The results showed that the black hole is spinning close to the maximal rate allowed by Einstein's theory of gravity.

"These monsters, with masses from millions to billions of times that of the sun, are formed as small seeds in the early universe and then grow by swallowing stars and gas in their host galaxies, and/or merging with other giant black holes when galaxies collide," said Guido Risaliti, lead author of the new study from the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Mass. and the Italian National Institute for Astrophysics. "Measuring the spin of a supermassive black hole is fundamental to understanding its past history and that of its host galaxy."

## COUNTY — MAILBOX

(continued from page one)

by keeping employees.

County employees agreed to pay a bigger share of their medical insurance cost and skipped cost of living increases for the past three or four years to prevent layoffs, said Thurman

The sequestration impacts are spread across seven categories, with the Community Development Agency potentially losing the biggest sum, \$1.8 million. Affected by the sequestration bill would be such things as block grants, a program to suppress lead because of its health effects, and neighborhood preservation.

Also impacted would be federal grants from the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). That would affect the Sheriff's Department, which would lose as much as \$1.2 million over a range of programs, and the district attorney, who would lose \$100,000 in COPS money.

Other departments facing the loss of federal money are Health Care Services Agency, a \$1.5 million loss for public health, mental health and substance abuse programs; Social Services Agency, \$800,000 for Workforce program money; General services, \$100,000 that it uses to coordinate local child care services, and \$700,000 for debt financing for bond subsidies for a recovery zone economic program.

(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](mailto:editmail@compuserve.com).)

### Disarmament Scott Yundt Livermore

It is estimated that the total costs of the US nuclear weapons complex over the next decade will exceed \$640 Billion! Twenty years after the end of the cold war, the costs and inherent danger of our nuclear weapons program is putting us all at risk of both actual and fiscal annihilation. We need to bring serious public pressure to bear on the federal agencies and private companies involved in the nuclear weapons complex.

We have the ability to bring some of this pressure locally. I will be joining other citizens at the gates of Lawrence Livermore National Lab, our local nuclear weapons research and design facility, to vigil for nuclear disarmament once a month.

The vigil will take place at the Lab's East Avenue

gate (at East Ave. & Vasco Rd.) from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on the Friday following the first Thursday of every month. It is a small spark that can hopefully add to a collective fire to end this nuclear madness.

### Elect Kathy Narum Kurt Kummer Pleasanton

When I look at the candidates seeking Pleasanton's vacant city council seat, one name stands out: Kathy Narum. We served on the Parks and Recreation Commission together with the intent of making Pleasanton top notch not only for our citizens but also for the many sports teams that would utilize them over the years.

Kathy was the one who not only helped highlight the need to renovate the athletic fields at Amador Valley Community Park but she also worked to get the project funded and eventually completed. Her same efforts with the development and completion of Val Vista Park followed.

Her knowledge of every neighborhood in Pleasanton, her interest in Pleasanton's parks, trails and open space along with her knowledge of other Pleasanton issues - financial stability and responsible growth among them - say we should elect Kathy Narum to Pleasanton City Council.

### Community Thanked Tonya Clenny Program Director Tri-Valley Youth Court

On February 20, 2013, the Tri-Valley Youth Court received the honor of being named the City of Dublin's 2012 Organization of the Year. This could not have been accomplished without the amazing support of Dublin Police Services, Dublin Unified School District, the City of Dublin, the Judges who saw the value in our

program, and, of course, our many volunteers, without whom our program could not exist.

My thanks to (in just the last year): Dr. Henry Aboud, James Angst, Sophia Angst, Christian Arana, Kay Barton, Shivi Bhattnagar, Revanth Bodo, Sara Borchers, Nancy Bordes, Chung Bothwell, Shannon Boyle, Kim Burgess, Mrinal Chithothi, Nancy Combs, Chloe Connolly, Ann-Marie Duke, Alice Deng, Kismet Dhaliwal, Michelle Donovan, Brian Dunkel, Uche Ezeh, Ruben Ferrario, Mera Francis, Kathy Gage, Bob German, Bill Gette, Palak Goel, Purvi Goel, Anthony Greenwell, Will Greer, Brock Gustafson, Karen Halfon, Madeline Han, Charlotte Hargrave, Kitty Harvey, Nelson He, Leticia Herrera, Barbara Hickman, Travis Himebaugh, Olivia Ho, Andrew Huang, Ronald Hyde, Ghena Judge, Ellie Jurich, Anisha Kaul, So Hyung Kim, Terry Kirchner, Shilpa Krish, Caroline Lageson, Jennifer Lai, Marion Leach, Bobby Lee, Hans Lee, Janel Lee, Sean Lee, Adam Lerner, Barbara Lucich, Emerald Luh, Kevin Luo, Kelvin McGeary, Patrick McKee, Pratik Mehta, Adriana Morton, Arielle Mourrain, Shrinithi Narayanan, Mina Nayeri, Ally Neeley, Justin Ng, Jonathan Nieman, Alex Nottingham, Lance O'Brien, Christina Ogbu, Alexis Orozco, Mallika Pahwa, Piyush Patil, Mike Perry, David Pinon,

Alyssa Proudfoot, Rohan Punamia, Ross Pytlik, Renuk Ratra, Mihir Reddy, Sameer Reddy, Aviv Redlich, Camille Richey, Kaitlynn Roessler, Gray Ross, Nora Sabhlok, Naomi Shand, Jane Silcox, Ryan Sim, Kathy Stewart, Brian Su, Malcolm Vasquez, Marc Vitale, Jenny Vo, Eric Wang, Tim Webb, Melissa West, Lisa Williams, Arlene Willits, Eric Yang, Julia Yang, Brandon

Ye, Brandon Zhang, Max Zhuang.

### Alternatives to Meat Len Maxwell Livermore

Last week, food safety officials in United Kingdom, France, and Sweden found traces of horse meat in ground beef sold across Europe. Massive recalls and lawsuits are ensuing.

Can it happen here? Horse slaughter for human consumption was banned in the U.S. between 2007 and 2011. But now, a New Mexico slaughterhouse is getting approved by U.S. authorities to slaughter horses for human consumption, and a Philadelphia restaurant has already announced plans to serve horse meat.

I marvel at our hypocrisy of rejecting the notion of horse or dog meat on our dinner plates, while condemning cows, pigs, and chickens to the same fate. Obviously, we have established special relationships with horses and dogs as our companions, protectors, and sports protagonists, rather than as food. But where is the ethical and logical distinction, given that all these animals are endowed by individuality, sentience, and an ability to experience the same feelings of joy, affection, sadness, and fear that we do?

Fortunately, our health food industry has spared us from having to choose which animals to pet and which ones to eat. Their delicious soy and grain-based meat alternatives are available in every supermarket.

### The Best Candidate Pat Lane Pleasanton

As the political season heats up again, let me be among those who support Kathy Narum for the vacant

City Council seat. Kathy has the commitment, dedication and experience to fill this position. From my vantage point as a former Pleasanton Downtown Association Executive Director, I am excited about Kathy's intent to keep our downtown vibrant as well as special and unique with businesses that provide shopping, dining and entertainment.

But this is not Kathy's lone concentration. She urges responsible growth, parks and open space as well as fiscal sustainability for our City of Planned Progress. These goals are not just pie in the sky; they are possible under Kathy's proven leadership in a broad area from being a Planning Commissioner (five years), Parks and Recreation Commissioner (five years), involvement in the East Pleasanton Special Plan Task Force, Heritage Tree Board of Appeals, Housing Element Task Force, Hacienda Transit Oriented Development Guidelines Task Force, Bernal Community Park Task Force and President and Treasurer of the Pleasanton Seahawks Swim Team Board of Directors.

To sum it all up, there is no better candidate for council than Kathy Narum.

### For Love's Sake Marcus Page-Collonge Livermore

This morning I returned to the nuclear weapons laboratory at Livermore to celebrate life while protesting the 88% of their budget spent on nuclear weapons. The last time I held vigil here with several friends was three years ago on my honeymoon vigil for peace.

My spouse and I were betrothed on St. Valentine's Day while living near Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. My

(More MAILBOX, page 10)

THE *Independent*

(INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.)

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# BUCHANAN

(continued from page one)

same way, we will get the same unacceptable results.

Currently, the state ranks 49th when it comes to funding education. Buchanan said that the passage of Proposition 30 stops the bleeding in education. It means districts won't be making deeper cuts. "I credit the Governor with wanting to tackle school funding. It is convoluted and complex."

Buchanan is sponsoring four bills aimed at closing loopholes in the education system.

One relates to capital appreciation bonds. Under the current system, a school district is able to structure bonds to last over a 40 year period. For the first 20 years, there are no payments. From year 21 to 40, payments are made. The interest becomes a capital expense. If you start with \$100 million, residents will pay \$1 billion to retire the bonds. "We have to be good stewards of taxpayer

dollars." Buchanan's bill would limit bonds to 25 years and debt service cost to 4 to 1 ratio. It would require bonds to be refundable and include greater disclosure requirements.

The second bill would provide guidance on teacher evaluations. The goal would be to identify teachers who are not doing well; then provide training that would improve performance. The evaluation would be based on multiple observations and multiple measures. Test scores would not be the criteria. Buchanan stated that test scores should be used to show teachers where they need to improve their teaching. "The idea is to make teachers successful. If there were no progress, the process would move to discipline and dismissal."

A third bill, sponsored by Buchanan, would reduce the time spent to dismiss a teacher. It takes about 18

months now, including all of the hearings. The goal would be to reduce the time to 7 months.

The last bill deals with mandated reporting. Districts are not required to have a policy that mandates reporting on situations where issues arise that should be reviewed. Buchanan's bill would require all districts to have a plan requiring reporting. Every district would have to review the plan each year with its personnel.

Buchanan said of the plan to deliver more water from the Delta to Southern California that she had voted against all of the bills. "You can build all the tunnels and conveyances you want; it won't generate another drop of water. Water is gold. People with more money want to send the water south."

She pointed out that the plan was created and edited by Southern California water interests. There was no input from northern interests. A video she showed included a comment that

showed that theoretically, the proposed tunnels would suck the Sacramento River dry. There is the ability to pump 15,000 cu. ft. a day. The response was there would be a cap on how much water could be pumped each day. However, the previous commented, if you're not going to suck it dry, why build the tunnels with the capacity to do so.

The estimate to build the system is \$14 billion. Operating it is estimated at \$50 billion. One of those interviewed in the video said that the state has refused to prepare a cost benefit study. One private study found the project would cost \$2.50 for every \$1 in benefit to the state. "It has to be one the worst investments ever proposed."

Buchanan pointed out that there has never been a water project paid for by general fund monies. They have been financed by revenue bonds with end users paying extra to finance the bonds. "It is beyond me why

we would take on billions of dollars in debt when funding for our schools is 49th. A lot more work needs to be done on the water project."

A question and answer period raised the issue of educating students to attend college rather than provide vocational training.

Buchanan said the idea is to prepare children to go to college if they want to go. At the same time, with the advances in technology, workers need higher skills in areas such as manufacturing and the building trades. "Every child needs a high level of skills to underpin his or her chosen profession."

Asked if technology could make a difference by providing notebooks for students and on-line classes, Buchanan said many districts provide an i-PAD or notebook to students. What is needed is high quality teachers who are better trained to use technology more effectively in the classroom. "I don't want children to sit in front of a computer

to learn. I want deep learning, an appreciation of the arts and being able to think. Students have to come to school ready to learn. Some living in poverty, are more than economically poor; often they are culturally poor. They have never been read to at home or been to a museum. They need to be given a good start."

The cost of health care was another issue. Buchanan pointed out that the 59 percent who have insurance are supporting everyone else. It's a business model that will not work. Expanding coverage under the Affordable Care Act will help with the ratio. People won't have to use emergency rooms to receive care.

The high speed rail and its cost were questioned. Buchanan said the high speed rail will be needed in the future. Her problem with it is the route that has been selected. In her opinion it should go from Sacramento, down I-5 to Los Angeles.

# DUBLIN

(continued from page one)

to 413. It would do so by eliminating 111,000 square feet of commercial.

The application follows two other such requests in recent months. One came from Blake Hunt, a development firm that was granted a GPA study at the Feb. 5 council meeting. That property is located at Hacienda Drive, southwest of Dublin Boulevard, immediately across Hacienda from Hacienda Crossings.

Another GPA study was granted to Regency for a grocery-anchored shopping center immediately north of the Blake Hunt property.

In addition, attorney Martin Inderbitzen told the council March 5 that his client, James Tong, had just sent the city a letter asking for a broader study of the Promenade area, where Tong owns the Promenade development.

Inderbitzen said that the approach taken on Promenade two years ago in hindsight was too narrow. It would have "made sense to take a more comprehensive approach."

John DiManto, who owns the parcels that Summerhill wants to develop, opposed any delay. He said that he had farmed the land for a long time, and has waited for a total of 26 years to be able

to develop the land.

Councilmembers said that they heard DiManto, but also want to obtain the data concerning how many residential units and commercial designations were spelled out for the East Dublin plan in 1992, and compare it to the residential proposals. In essence, they were postponing his request for about six weeks, the estimated time it will take staff to prepare a report.

On another item, the council authorized three new staff positions. One is a budget manager, which will retain the same employee, but shift the job title from assistant to the city manager to the new designation. There is no change in pay.

The other two involved an entry level clerk and a special projects manager, who will assist the city manager on certain projects.

Hiring of new positions was enabled by a higher revenue stream generated by a \$1.3 million increase from building fees. The money results from more construction than expected, and a 6 percent rise in property tax revenue. The city contracts for building inspectors, and more of them have to be hired to handle the increased activity, said spokesperson Linda Smith.

# SUNSET

(continued from page one)

four buildings on two acres behind the Lucky Shopping Center.

Representatives of Sunset have been meeting with neighbors in an effort to gain consensus on a plan to rezone the sites, one that would be acceptable to them and profitable for the company.

Last Thursday, Chris Truebridge, Sunset senior vice president of planning and entitlements, presented a plan for two story townhouses on the smaller site. There were four different options described for the 13-acre parcel.

There was little comment regarding the all townhouse proposal. One suggestion was to move the tenants from the smaller site to fill empty offices on the larger site; then proceed with building the townhouses at the Livermore Financial Center location. Truebridge said he realized the first choice for the 13-acre office plaza is for no change. He said he was interested in what the second and third choices might be.

One option for 68 single family detached homes and another with 57 single family detached homes drew about equal support. The main difference between the two is a green buffer area between the new development and older homes.

Drawings showing one idea for 93 units, 50 townhouses and 43 single family homes and another for 78 units with 50 single family and 28 townhouses received no support.

Issues regarding the change from business to residential voiced by neighbors include traffic, parking, the size of the lots, school overcrowding, property values, and the loss of a place where small businesses could afford to locate.

Truebridge estimated the homes would sell for between \$550,000 to \$650,000

for single story units and \$650,000 to \$875,000 for two story structures. Townhouse prices would range from \$450,000 to \$500,000. He commented, "I think this development will add value to the neighborhood."

Several neighbors suggested that the lots were too small and the homes too large in comparison to the existing neighborhood and would lower the property values. Proposed home sizes range from 1800 to 3400 square feet, and townhouses from 1400 to 1650 square feet. Lot sizes depended on location. The most prevalent lot size was 5000 square feet.

One neighbor commented that his lot was 10,000 square feet, his home 1200 square feet. He wished the builder had used more of the lot for the home.

The next step is for the developer to contact the city planning department and present the four options. Based on comments from neighbors and the city, Sunset would come up with one plan. Truebridge estimated the process would take up to two months. Neighbors asked that he bring back the final proposal before submitting it to the city. Truebridge said that he would.

Once submitted, studies would be completed. Both a general plan amendment and rezoning would be required. Hearings would be held at the planning commission and city council.

Asked when building might start if Sunset received the go-ahead, Truebridge said it would be no sooner than the fall of 2014, more likely the spring of 2015.

Relocation of tenants would be part of the process. Members of the audience said many of the businesses could not afford rents at other sites in Livermore. They may go out of business or move to another area, such as Tracy. Several

# TASK FORCE

(continued from page one)

least amount of developed land. It includes 93 acres of agricultural land, along with retail, office and commercial. The proposal calls for 2000 housing units with approximately 1400 higher density and 570 single family and small lot or townhouse units.

Janice Stern, Pleasanton Planning Manager, said, "The options are very preliminary. We put some ideas on paper. The specific plan may evolve into something quite different over a series of meetings."

Stern said that task force members questioned the number of housing units. Some were concerned about the densities. They felt that they were higher than the more rural development they had anticipated.

The circulation system drew a number of comments, Stern said. Proposals include connecting El Charro to Stanley and Boulder to El Charro. Boulder currently ends at Valley Avenue.

Other issues raised by the task force included whether or not the city's operations center and Pleasanton Garbage Service station should

or should not be moved. If there should be development on about 100 acres on the other side of the urban growth boundary. Stern explained that the general plan contemplated that the line may need to be adjusted in the area. Although the general plan not say whether a vote would be required to move the UGB, in the past, that has been the understanding.

The economic study was prepared by EPS. It concluded that the third alternative would be the most financially viable plan with the least infrastructure burden.

The study looked at proposed land uses and estimated an aggregate finished market value for each. It then considered the estimated cost burden of infrastructure relative to the finished value of each alternative.

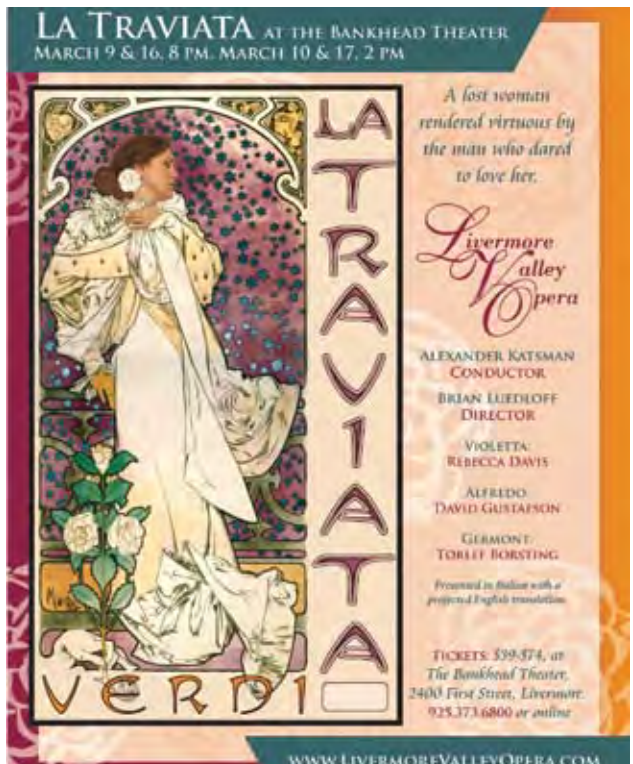
Stern said that the study looked at whether development would be able to cover the cost of the infrastructure for the development. The city will also conduct a fiscal analysis in the future. It would look at expected revenues versus the cost of providing services.



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# SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

**Dublin and Livermore high schools varsity lacrosse players battled in a nonconference game last Thursday. Livermore won 14 to 6.**

## Livermore National LL

Livermore National Little League results:

**AA Division:** Giants vs. Diamondbacks: The stands were full for the first encounter of the Livermore National Little League 2013 season. Diamondback's pitcher Hayden Henry was throwing fastballs off the mound. In the bottom of the 1st inning, Giant's Isaac Romero got things rolling with a great hit to centerfield. Teammate Matthew Ludwig scored the first run. In the second inning, Alex Giles scored the 2nd run of the game. Shane Pollard closed out the inning with a 3rd run for the Giants. In the bottom of the third inning the Diamondbacks came back swinging. With the bases loaded, Wisely started a rally with a superb hit. Wisely III, Kellerly and West each scored a run on the play to tie the game. Henry then brought Wisely in for the Diamondback's winning run.

**A Division:** Giants vs. Dodgers: Tyler Laymon connected for 4 hits including 2 home runs for the Giants. Joey Montoya made an outstanding defensive stop in Center Field holding the runner to a single. For the Dodgers, Carson Kolte hit a double, collecting two RBI's. Nate Keaney made a great play by tagging out a runner trying to score at home plate to end the 3rd inning.

**AAA Division:** A's 2, Giants 4: The Giants won the season opener, defeating the A's 4-2. Giant's pitcher Gabriel Emfinger had an outstanding day on the mound. He pitched 5 strong innings, recording 11 strikeouts and only allowed 1 run. He also scored the first run for the Giants. His performance was matched by Stosi Meafou behind the plate who caught for 6 flawless innings. Rounding out a good day for the Giants was Cooper Wilcox with a RBI Single in the first inning and a Homerun in the fourth inning.

**Giants 7, Rangers 2:** The Giants won their second game this season with solid pitching by Patrick Connolly and Jonah Johnson. Patrick recorded 11 outs with 9 strike outs, giving up 2 runs. Jonah did a great job closing the game. Gabriel Emfinger had a 2 RBI Single and scored a run. For the Rangers Caelob Stimpson pitched 3 great innings giving up 2 runs. Gavin Powers and Joey Mifsud each hit a Single.

**Majors:** A's 4, Diamondbacks 3: A's pitcher Friesen hurled an awesome game and hit a double. Zachary Saal tagged out a runner at second and Blake Burrell had a nice single hit, getting him onto first base. For the Diamondbacks, Cameron Larsson hit a powerful double and made a nice pop fly catch. Dylan Sylvia did an outstanding job behind the plate and had a strong throw out at second base. Grant Gomes caught a line drive at short stop making the third out.

## Granada Little League

Granada Little League results from last week:

**T-Ball:** Rangers vs. Orioles: Top offensive players for the Rangers were: Blake Downs, Jaylen Magee, Jess Wilder and for the Orioles: Lane Curtain, Dawson Kerezi and Carson Williams. Top defensive players for

the Rangers were: Gina Pietro, Conner Mathis, Carter Goralka and for the Orioles: Mason Ravera, Tyler Logeman and Carson Mendonza

**Minor A:** Cardinals vs. A's: Both teams played an outstanding game with a combined total of 51 hits. Cardinal standouts: Mark Bennett handled the lumber like a pro today with two base knocks while Jacob Koelle-Pittel raked at the dish as well as snagging line drives left and right. Red Sox standouts: Ozzy Cervantez smashed a deep 2-run triple his last at-bat and made two stellar plays at third base. Lucian Wolf had two hits including a hard line drive up the middle, and made a nice running catch of a pop-up while playing first base.

**Yankees vs. Cardinals:** Top Cardinal performers include Parker Warner with 2 singles and a big line drive to center field, Alden Schwartz with 2 singles and a big hit in the 5th inning, and Alex Grasso played a great defense with a huge throw from 3rd to 1st for an out and added 2 singles offensively. Top Yankees performers include Armando Cabrera with a stellar catch in the outfield along with 2 hits including a double, Brayden Vash with 3 singles and Dominic Peri with 2 singles and a great job as catcher.

**Red Sox vs. Giants:** The Giants and the Red Sox came ready to play last Saturday. For the Giants, Matt Stiger got his bat going and hit multiple line drives which helped his team to score some runs. Arjun Saroya had an exceptional day fielding the ball including catching a pop-up while playing 1st base. For the Red Sox, Zach Berg showed off his strong throwing arm as the Giants hitters kept him busy in left field during the 2nd inning. Vinny Carbonaro had a stand-out game at 2nd base, making a number of outs for the Sox. A 4th inning surge by the Red Sox wasn't enough to catch the Giants and the game ended with the Giants on top 15-8.

**A's 7, Diamondbacks 6:** Ashton Baswell connected for a clutch two-strike hit in the fourth inning to spark a five-run rally for the Athletics. During that same rally, Connor Rosales had a critical single to keep the inning alive. Lucian Wolf had a RBI smash and Luke Leary also had an RBI single in the A's big fourth inning. Marco Wilde started the fourth inning with a leadoff double and then scored the first run of the inning. Gavin Benitez poked a long single in the third inning but was left stranded on first base. In the second inning Lucian contributed a single to left field. It was the first inning that proved critical for the Athletics. Adrian Vargas launched a double to left field to advance Marco Wilde to third and get himself into scoring position. Ozzy Cervantez torched a long two-out double to right field to score Adrian and Marco. In the end these two runs in the first inning were decisive for the A's as they narrowly secured their first win of the season. On defense, Cervantez had two long throws to first base to hold the runners, and Vargas snagged a high fly at shortstop, to keep the Diamondbacks one run short.

**AAA Division:** Red Sox 13, Phillies 3: Colton Trudeau, Mason Franchi, and Joey Keller led the Red Sox by scoring three runs each. Thomas Young made a good catch in the outfield to stop

a rally by the Phillies. The Phillies were led by Matthew Gomez who scored two runs, Aidan Buenostro who stopped Red Sox hitters by catching foul balls at the plate, and Duncan Maloney with a solid single.

**Farm:** Giants vs. Red Sox: Giants, who stretched out to attempt defensive stops, included Dom Franco, Jack Robbins, Luke Schwarz, and Gavin Bates. The play of the game was made by Lukas Cusimano in the fourth inning when Lukas skillfully gloved a hard smash at third base, which stopped a late game rally by the Red Sox. On another notable defensive play, Natnael Leary scrambled from right field all the way to left field to back-up Alex Maciel. Conner Raridan displayed his eyeback while he pounced on a slow grounder from his second base position. Conner also fielded a close play at second base in the third inning. Alex Maciel covered the left field line very well on a high booming hit from the Red Sox, and held the opponent to a single. Jack Robbins fought off three tough pitches, then jumped on the next pitch up the middle for a solid single. Luke Schwarz crushed a high bounce into left field in the 3rd inning. Thomas Cooper wore out opposing right fielders as he pulled three balls down the line. Gavin Bates had 4 long singles, including two RBI's. Ava Schwarz contributed three singles. Dominic Franco played well behind the plate.

## Pleasanton Cavaliers

Pleasanton Cavaliers Rugby results:

On Sun., March 3, the U10's travelled to Novato to face the Marin Gaels and the Raptors from Pleasant Hill.

The U10 Open played a tough first match vs the Raptors with trys scored by Patrick Crandall, Matt Polaski, and Ruairi Dwyer. Man of the Match Awards went to Ruairi Dwyer and Ronan Cook. The 2nd match was played against the Marin Gaels with trys scored by Ruairi Dwyer (2), Leo Farfan, and Jackson Gurule. Man of the Match Awards again went to Ruairi Dwyer and Ronan Cook.

The U10 Light side faced the Marin Gaels for 2 matches. The first match was a tough battle with trys scored by Collin Miller, Duncan Hicks-Frazier, and Crayton McCafferty. Man of the Match was awarded to Crayton McCafferty and Connor Waklee. The 2nd match played was the best match of Rugby that the young U10 lights have played all season. Trys were scored by Collin Miller, Duncan Hicks-Frazier, Liam Maciel, Crayton McCafferty, and Nathan Comiskey. Man of the Match was Awarded to Collin Miller and Connor Waklee. This past weekend, the Cavaliers U10 Open Side hosted the Seahawks at Robertson Park, Livermore. The Cavaliers jumped out to an early lead and never looked back. Speed and cooperation by moving the ball around the pitch gave the boys a large margin of victory. Trys were scored by Ruairi Dwyer (3), Isiah Garrido-Ramirez (1), Leo Farfan (1), and Tanner Lewis (2). Man of the Match went to Isiah Gaio and Ruairi Dwyer.

The Cavaliers U10 Light Side also played host to the Seahawks. A very

evenly matched game was played with tough physical play from both sides. In the end the Cavaliers speed and teamwork brought home a win. Trys were scored by Crayton McCafferty (3), Collin Miller (2), and Angus Hicks-Frazier. Man of the Match was awarded to Crayton McCafferty and Lily Cartwright.

## Livermore Girls Softball

Livermore Girls Softball Association scores:

**Under-8:** Maroon 12 vs. Golden Divas: Maroon 12 played a great season opener against the Golden Divas on Thursday, despite the rain. Mackenzie Wherry connected for two good hits for singles and also played awesome defense at 2nd base. Emma Hatcher pitched well. Cheyenne Harvey caught a fly ball at shortstop.

Maroon 12 vs The Lightning Bugs: top offensive player was Savannah Johnson with two singles.

## Aquacowboys

The Livermore Aquacowboys swim team competed in the Montclair Pentathlon on March 9, 2013 at the El Cerrito Community pool.

This is a meet where swimmers can get times for all strokes and IM in one day. It was open to 14&un swimmers only. Representing LAC were Minnha Kawamura, Annelise Combitis, Chenoa Bordero, Jacqueline Arnold, Katie Dabney, Amanda Butcher, Gabe Akins, Paige DaCosta, Tori Carroll, Paige Chew, Megan Fairbanks, Celine Nguyen, Jared Brandley and Brandon Siu.

## East Avenue Wrestling

The East Avenue Middle School wrestling team had twelve medalists at the Bulldog Wrestling tournament on March 9. East Avenue advanced eight wrestlers to the championship finals claiming four gold-medals.

Sixth graders Marcus Shepard (85-pounds), Marcos Martinez (125), Luca Cuppoletti (165) and eighth-grader Kayla Smith (165) all won gold medals in their weight division. Smith had an impressive tournament pinning all her opponents including a first round pin over Maria Krashna from Albany in the championship match. Marcus Shepard pulled out an exciting victory in the championship finals holding on to a 6-4 win over Jared Sigman from Hart Middle School to claim first place.

Sixth-graders Brandon Trevethan (72), Chyanne Smith (170) and seventh-graders Jose Martinez (175) and Julian Stroud each took second place in their weight division.

Scott Ragatz (145), Landon Paiso (155) and Adam Lebish (Hwt) each took third place and Bryan Torres took fourth. Oscar Guzman (108) had the fastest pin for the team pinning one of his opponents in 10 seconds in the first round.

## Christensen Wrestling

The Christensen Middle School wrestling team had 8 members place last Saturday at the 4th annual Bulldog Tournament held at Granada High. 7th grader Christian Lopez won all three matches, two by pin to take first place.

Wrestling in his first tournament ever, 6th grader William Eads won all three of his matches, one by pin, to take first place. 8th grader Alex Batson also made the finals but came up short losing 3-7 to come in second place. Also making the finals and



**East Avenue wrestling champions Kayla Smith, Marcus Shepard, Marcos Martinez and silver medalist Brandon Trevethan are pictured at the Bulldog Wrestling tournament.**



**Christensen Middle School 8th grader Miguel Castro is shown throwing his opponent in a head and arm at the tournament on Saturday. He won this match by pin.**

coming in second was 6th grader Stephen Corso-Clark. 6th grader Jason Nunez registered 3 pins, all under 30 seconds. His lone loss was by only one point. He finished in third place. 8th grader Miguel Castro had 2 pins and finished in 4th. 6th grader Brandon Bruno also had two pins and finished in fourth place. 6th grader Praneeth Nandamuri had one pin and finished in 4th place.

Three other Christensen wrestlers were at the extremely tough Tournament of Champions on Saturday in Loomis. They qualified for the top 3 at TOC qualifying tournaments last year. 8th Grader Ryan Petersen had two wins and two losses. 7th grader Chris Sanchez had one win and two losses. 8th grader Joey Sullivan lost both his matches.

## Boys Gymnastics

The West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy (WCOGA) boys gymnastics team competed at the High Tech Invitational in Rancho Cordova the weekend of March 2nd and 3rd.

For the Level 6 age 11+ Cameron Levine took 1st on floor, rings and P-bars & 1st All-Around, and in the 7-10 age bracket, Kiran Bhat earned 1st on high-bar and 5th AA while Cameron Higgins earned 1st on vault and took 8th AA. In the Level 7 Age Bracket Evan Young won 1st place on pommel and 1st AA and Will Lavanakul won 1st on rings and high-bar, taking 2nd place AA. In the Level 8 age 11-12 bracket Zion English earned 1st on pommel horse, rings and P-bars, earning 2nd place AA.

In the older Level 8 bracket, Stephen Chan took 1st on high-bar, Robbie Tambunting earned 3rd place AA, Yianni Constantinides earned 2nd on Rings, while Ben Roller earned 2nd place on high bar and vault. In the Level 9 division Bennett Huang won first place AA. Scott Mackanic earned 2nd, Andrew Herrador took 3rd place, and on the High-Bar Thomas Mistretta earned 1st place and 2nd place on vault. In the level 10 bracket Travis Gollott took 1st on 4 individual events and 1st AA, Joshua Romero earned 1st on vault and 2nd AA, Nikita Latman took

A FREE Educational Seminar

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Learn about common ailments.

Thursday, March 21, 2013

7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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Our feet are important to our health and well-being. When they hurt, our lifestyle can be greatly affected or it may be a sign of other health issues. Our podiatrist will discuss some of the most common foot concerns, including plantar fasciitis, neuromas, bunions, and hammer toes. She will discuss the symptoms, causes, and treatments for these conditions. Our physical therapist will discuss exercises and treatment techniques. They will discuss when it is appropriate to seek medical care for your feet, and when you can expect to jump back into your normal activities.



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South Conference Room  
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**SPEAKERS**  
Judianne Walker, D.P.M.  
Podiatric Surgeon  
Matthew Wollaston, P.T.  
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Sunday, April 7th  
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Register Online at [www.AxisAprilFools5K.org](http://www.AxisAprilFools5K.org)

# SPORTS NOTES

## March Madness Viewing to Raise Funds For Local TV

The TV30 Foundation's March Madness Viewing Party will be held Friday, March 22 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at John Madden's Sports Center in Pleasanton. Games will be shown on eight 63" screens. Join the TV30 Foundation for basketball, food, drinks and fun at this special location. "For all who love college basketball and TV30, this is a very special one of a kind opportunity," said Marshall Kamena, President TV30 Foundation. "Immerse yourself in the total Sweet 16 experience. This is NCAA basketball paradise with a very limited number of admissions," he added. Proceeds for the event benefit Tri-Valley TV, channels 28, 29 and 30, non-profit community television stations serving the cities of Dublin, Livermore and Pleasanton. Reservations are limited. Advance purchase is required. The \$60 per person admission price includes viewing, food, drinks and more. Admission may be purchased online at [www.tv30foundation.org](http://www.tv30foundation.org) or by calling 925.462.3030.

4th AA, Wesley Estrada took 5th, and Chris Siebel earned 6th place.

### Pleasanton Jr. Football

Pleasanton Junior Football League (PJFL) is taking registration for the 2013 Contact Football, Flag Football and Cheerleading season. PJFL offers contact football and cheerleading for boys and girls in the 2nd through 8th grades as well as flag football for boys and girls in the 2nd through 12th grades. Everyone plays in PJFL. There are no tryouts and there are no cuts.

Contact Football registration includes a uniform and all necessary equipment. Contact players practice 3 times per week beginning in early August and play games on Saturdays at the Pleasanton Sports Park beginning in early September. Flag Football registration includes a jersey and all necessary equipment. Flag players practice once a week beginning in mid-August and play games on Saturdays at Hart Middle School beginning in mid-September. Cheer registration includes a uniform and training with practice two times per week beginning in late June and cheer on Saturdays at the Pleasanton Sports Park beginning in early September.

For more details and to register a player or cheerleader visit PJFL.com. Follow PJFL on Facebook at [Facebook.com/PleasantonJuniorFootballLeague](https://www.facebook.com/PleasantonJuniorFootballLeague).

### Play Golf, Fight Cancer

Dancers for the Cure (DFC) Relay for Life will host a charity golf tournament on Fri., May 3 at the Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore.

Format is 4 person team scramble, limited to the first 30 teams. Entry closing date is April 18. Start time is 12:30 p.m. with registration between 10:30 and 11:45 a.m.

Fee is \$105 per person. Holes can be sponsored for \$150 each.

The event includes closest to the pin on all par 3 holes, long drive contest, range balls and a special prize for the highest team score.

Following the tournament, there will be a tri-tip/chicken buffet dinner. Dress code: no denim, soft spikes and collared shirt required.

Proceeds will go towards the fight against cancer. For information or to register, contact the tournament chair Larry Troen at 443-7575, 216-1389 or [larry.troen@gmail.com](mailto:larry.troen@gmail.com).

### Jr. Football Signup

Livermore Junior Football League is registering players for the 2013 season.

LJFL is founded under the principle that every Livermore child who wants to play football or cheer should have the opportunity.

Due to its success over its six-year existence and the support of LARPD and the high school football programs, LJFL is expanding to all children aged 7 through 14 (as of September 1, 2013.) Football participants will learn the fundamentals of contact football in a safe and positive environment and play regardless of talent level or ability. Cheer participants will learn the fundamentals, cheer at games and compete locally. All games will be played in Livermore at the high schools. All practices will take place in Livermore. The season begins on August 1 and concludes in early November. Online registration is open at [www.ljfl.org](http://www.ljfl.org).

There is an early registration discount of \$50.00 for football and \$25 for cheer. Registration cost increases after April 30. Each player pays a \$35 refundable volunteer fee. Sibling discounts apply. With the help of local businesses and residents, LJFL has a limited number of scholarships for needy families. Applications are available at [www.ljfl.org](http://www.ljfl.org) and must be submitted by April 30.

Anyone interested in coaching is invited to go to [www.ljfl.org](http://www.ljfl.org) and register by filling out an application to start the process. LJFL provides training for all coaches; no experience



The 2013 Livermore Girls Softball spring recreation season has officially begun on Sat., March 2. A crowd of over 1000 people participated in a full day of softball festivities. Teams arrived starting at 8:30 A.M. to take team pictures, enjoy games and activities from Games 2 U, had lunch available from Texas Roadhouse and the league snack bar. The LGSA Board and volunteers orchestrated a very traditional opening day ceremony which included a parade of all the teams and their coaches. Special guest speaker was softball world sensation and former UCLA All-American catcher, Julie Marshall. The ceremonial first pitch was performed by Livermore Smoke Senior players. The National Anthem was sung by 10U player Morgan Rogge. The afternoon then came to a fitting end by watching the SWAT take on the Titans in the Middle School division and the Wildkatz versus the Ice Wolves in a 10U showdown. [www.livermoregirlssoftball.org](http://www.livermoregirlssoftball.org)



Pictured are members of the Pleasanton Cavaliers Rugby U10's.



Pictured are medal winners from West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy (WCOGA) boys gymnastics team.

necessary. Registration will close when the league reaches 16 teams. No players are ever cut. All players play the entire game on offense or defense. Players are not limited to a few plays per game. Everyone plays the entire game.

For additional information, interested parents should visit: [www.ljfl.org](http://www.ljfl.org). President and Vice-President of LJFL are Rico Richardson and Matt Archer.

### Fusion Soccer

Registration for fall recreational and select soccer now open. Registration for Livermore Fusion Soccer Club is open online. Please visit [www.fusionsc.org](http://www.fusionsc.org). Two walk-in dates have been scheduled as well: Sunday, March 17th and Sunday, April 14th, both 10am-2pm at the Livermore High School Student Union. For questions or more information, please visit us at [www.fusionsc.org](http://www.fusionsc.org) or call (925) 443-7570.

### Help Granada LL

For anyone who has ever been involved with Granada Little League here in Livermore, whether as a board member, coach, umpire, volunteer, parent or player, we need your help. We are looking for any information you may have, including pictures, stories, or documents, that may help us capture the history of Granada Little League that started back in 1967. If you have any information to share, please send it to [glhistory@comcast.net](mailto:glhistory@comcast.net), along with your contact information. Thanks so much for your help.

### Run, Walk

Axis Community Health's first-ever fun, foolish, and fabulous 5K Walk & Run takes to the streets on Sunday, April 7th.

The event starts at the future Axis location, 5925 West Las Positas Blvd., in Pleasanton's Hacienda Business Park.

Axis is the sole provider of affordable, quality primary medical

care in the Tri-Valley. Families turn to Axis for immunizations, prenatal care, chronic disease management, and other needs. By helping people stay healthy, Axis is helping lower healthcare costs by preventing the need for more expensive care, according to Compton. In addition to medical care, Axis offers behavioral health and WIC nutrition services and serves more than 14,000 Tri-Valley residents at its current five sites.

Registration includes a commemorative tech T-shirt. Registration fee is \$30 for adults until April 3, \$35 after; and \$15 for youth (17 or under) until April 5, \$20 after. Event logistics are by On Your Mark Events. Runners can win medals in their age division. Prizes include Best Costume in adult, teen, and team categories, as well as top fund-raiser in each category. The event takes place rain or shine. To register, sponsor or volunteer, go to [www.AxisAprilFools5K.org](http://www.AxisAprilFools5K.org) or call 925-201-6221.

### Run for Education

Pleasanton Partnerships in Education, PPIE will hold its 1st Annual Pleasanton Run for Education on Sunday, April 14, 2013. The event will include a half marathon, 5K and 1-mile Kids' Challenge. Both the half marathon and 5K routes pass through the scenic historic Main Street of Pleasanton and finish at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

The Pleasanton Run for Education is presented by ClubSport Pleasanton and 100% of the proceeds from the half marathon, 5K & 1-mile Kids' Challenge will benefit Pleasanton schools.

PPIE is a non-profit foundation dedicated to supporting Pleasanton public schools by raising funds for programs that are threatened by state budget cuts. "It is our hope that this event will be an annual highlight that will bring the community together to increase support of our education initiatives," said Kelly French, Pleasanton Run for Education chair.

To register for this family-friendly event or to sign-up to volunteer on race day, please go to [www.ppieerun.com](http://www.ppieerun.com).



Group heads for Japan in 2012.

## Sister City Exchange Program Invites Students to Apply

Livermore and Yotsukaido have been sister cities since 1977. A exchange program began in 2001. Livermore Yotsukaido Sister City Organization (LYSCO) has been the overseeing organization since inception. Each March, middle school students from Yotsukaido visit Livermore for a week. They stay with host families with middle school students, attend school with them, and assimilate into the families. In October, Livermore middle school students go to Yotsukaido for similar experiences.

This year, 20 students and five adults from Yotsukaido will arrive in Livermore today, March 14. After meeting their host families and receiving a welcome from Livermore Mayor John Marchand, the students are off for a week of fun and learning. The adults - chaperones, sister city representatives, and teachers - are off to their own host families.

A fun day touring San Francisco is on the agenda for all our Japanese visitors on Friday. Saturday night, all the Japanese guests, their host families, and invited guests will attend the official welcome reception. Students from both Livermore and Yotsukaido will provide entertainment. Traditional

gifts will be exchanged between the sister cities.

On Monday and Tuesday, Christensen, Mendenhall, Junction and East Avenue middle schools and the Livermore Charter School will all play host to the Japanese students.

These exchanges have allowed two cultures to come together in friendship and peace. "I have made friends that will last a lifetime from my experiences with our Yotsukaido sister city. Friends I now call my extended family. We are able to enjoy each other's company, share our lives, and know that we'll be there for each other, says Jeanie Haigh of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, who has hosted guests several times and visited Yotsukaido last year.

Livermore Mayor Marchand adds, "I can say from personal experience that participating in the sister city program provides a wonderful opportunity to share our cultures and create lifelong friendships."

LYSCO members are also busy planning for Livermore's visit to Yotsukaido in October. An informational meeting for Livermore middle school students interested in applying for a student ambassador position, going

to Yotsukaido and staying with a host family, will be held Thursday, March 21 at 7:30PM in the East Ave Middle School Library. All current Livermore 7th graders ( will be in eighth grade for the 2013/14 school year) who are interested must attend with at least 1 parent or guardian.

Dozens of students apply each year, with a limited number of spots available. The chosen students and their families must attend planning and informational meetings and pay expenses. The students must participate in a skit performance and must attend those rehearsals before the October trip.

In October, middle school students from Livermore, along with LYSCO delegates, will travel to Yotsukaido for a week of cultural exchange. The Japanese hosts treat their American guests to traditional foods, sightseeing, and family life.

Middle school students in Livermore are invited to apply for the program in early spring. For more info on the Sister City program, go to [www.lysco.org](http://www.lysco.org) or contact President / Student Ambassador Program Director Keith Jess at 510-501-8652, email [lysco2010@yahoo.com](mailto:lysco2010@yahoo.com)

## SHORT NOTES

### Police Present Series for Parents

The Pleasanton Police Department will host a free speakers series specifically targeting topics of interest to parents of children ages 10 and up. They include the growing use of prescription and over the counter drugs, bullying, cyber bullying, and Internet safety.

Unless otherwise noted, the presentations will take place at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main Street, Pleasanton.

According to data compiled by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, one in 3 teens ages 12 to 17 have experienced online harassment, with girls being more likely to be the victims of cyber bullying.

- Monday, March 18, 6:30 p.m., bullying; for parents of 5th graders.
- Tues., March 19, 6:30 p.m., cyberbullying; for parents of middle school students.
- Mon., March 25, 6:30 p.m., internet safety; for parents of 5th graders.

- Wed., April 17, 6:30 p.m., cyberbullying; for parents of students at Amador Valley and Village high schools; Amador Valley High School library.

- Wed., April 24, 6:30 p.m., cyberbullying; for parents of students at Foothill High School; Foothill multipurpose room.

For more information, please call the Pleasanton Police Department at (925) 931-5100.

### SELF Meeting

Guests are welcome at the annual board meeting of the Student Education Loan Fund, which will be held on Monday, March 18, 2013, at 7:30 PM. The

meeting will be held in Community Room A at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue.

The Student Education Loan Fund (SELF) was established 50 years ago to provide interest free loans to graduates of Livermore high school and to Livermore residents to help them attend community college, trade schools, state colleges, or universities. During that time \$679,800 has been loaned to 535 students.

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

The fund is managed by a volunteer board of thirty Livermore residents. These volunteers do all the necessary administrative work and contribute enough funds to cover SELF's

yearly expenses. Therefore, all incoming donations go 100% into student loans.

For more information about the meeting or about SELF, please call Ruth Gasten at (925)443-7140.

### Foot Pain

San Ramon Regional Medical Center is presenting a free community seminar, "Foot Pain — Learn about common ailments," Thursday, March 21, 2013, from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The seminar will be held in San Ramon Regional Medical Center's South Building in the South Conference Room, located at 7777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon.

Podiatric Surgeon, Judianne Walker, D.P.M., will discuss plantar fasciitis, neuromas, bunions, and hammer toes. She will describe symptoms, causes and treatments for these conditions.

Matthew Wollaston, P.T., hospital physical therapist, will

(continued on page 9)

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 FIRST STREET 443-SHOW	
THE CALL (R) DLP	12:50 3:05 5:25 7:35 9:45		
THE INCREDIBLE BURT WONDERSTONE (PG13) DLP	12:00 1:05 2:20 3:30 4:40 6:05 7:05 8:30 9:20		
OZ: THE GREAT AND POWERFUL 3D (PG) DLP	12:00 2:00 5:40 8:40		
OZ: THE GREAT AND POWERFUL (PG) DLP	2:00 5:00 8:00		
OZ: THE GREAT AND POWERFUL (PG) DLP D-BOX	1:00 4:00 7:00 9:45		
DEAD MAN DOWN (R) DLP	1:20 4:20 6:50 9:30		
JACK THE GIANT SLAYER (PG13) DLP	1:10 4:00 6:45 9:25		
IDENTITY THIEF (R) DLP	1:50 4:35 7:00 9:40		
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) DLP	12:45 3:45 6:45 9:30		
SWITCH (PG13) DLP	12:30 3:50 6:40 9:15		
Z1 AND OVER (R) DLP	2:00 9:00		
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) DLP	11:50 2:00 4:15		
SAFE HAVEN (PG13) DLP	1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50		
PREVIEW, MARCH 21:			
ADMISSION (PG13) DLP	10:00PM		
OLYMPUS HAS FALLEN (R) DLP D-BOX	10:00PM		

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Other Upcoming Classics Nights:

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- THE PRINCESS BRIDE - April 11 @ 7
- 12 Angry Men - April 25 @ 7

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Tommy Lee Jones & Matthew Fox

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Fri - Sun: 1:45 4:45 7:10 9:15

Maggie Smith stars in Dustin Hoffman's directorial debut

**QUARTET**

Fri - Sun: 1:15 4:15 6:45 8:50

Call for Mon - Thurs show times



## SHORT NOTES

(continued from page 8) discuss exercises and other treatment techniques.

Space is limited. Reservations are required. Please call 800.284.2878 or go to Find an Event on [www.OurSanRamon-Hospital.com](http://www.OurSanRamon-Hospital.com).

### LARPD Classes

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is offering a variety of classes this spring. Registration is available online at [www.larpd.dst.ca.us](http://www.larpd.dst.ca.us), by phone at 925-373-5700 or in person at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave.

**Preschool – Tiny Tots and Pre-Kindergarten:** Registration for the fall session opens on March 4. Tiny Tots classes are geared toward the developmental needs of 3-year-olds in a play-based environment. Pre-Kindergarten classes are for 4-year-olds who will be going to kindergarten the following year.

**Preschool – Baby & Me, Wonderful Ones, Toddler Time, Mommy & Me and Terrific Twos:** These classes are available for children ages 3 months to 3 years, providing an assortment of activities at an affordable price. A spring session begins the week of March 25.

There are five location options within Livermore for LARPD's preschool offerings. Registration for these classes is available at 925-960-2486 or at the Preschool Office, 71 Trevarno Road.

**Chinese Brush Painting and Calligraphy:** Youth ages 10 and older can learn an ancient art to create animals, plants, landscapes and Chinese characters. 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday; six-class sessions beginning April 27. \$178.

**California Gymnastics:**

Children ages 3 to 4 can enroll in the Tiny Tumblers class designed to enhance a child's motor development skills, balance, coordination and confidence. Six-class session starts 10:15 to 11 a.m. Friday, April 26. \$81. Children ages 4 to 5 can try Preschool Gymnastics to learn beginning tumbling skills. Spring session begins 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Friday, April 26. \$81.

**Discover the Magic:** Youth ages 7 to 12 can build self-confidence and an ability to talk in front of people by learning to perform magic. Magic I sessions are 9 to 11 a.m. April 6 or May 11, \$48. Magic II sessions are April 20 or May 25, \$48. Both classes for \$80.

**Little Sluggers Youth Baseball:** This class introduces kids 3 to 5 to the world of baseball using drills and fun activities. Bats and balls provided. Beginning sessions start 9:50 to 10:35 a.m. Tuesday, March 19, or Wednesday, March 20. Advanced sessions start 9 to 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, March 19, or Wednesday, March 20. \$75.

**Little Dribblers Youth Basketball:** Kids 3 to 6 can join this introduction to the basics of the sport and get excited about playing the game. Sessions start March 14 or 16, \$63.

**Adult Fitness:** Try out Core & More or Spin classes offered at the Robert Livermore Community Center. A wide variety of class times and days are available for both of these fitness classes. See page 31 of the winter/spring brochure for details.

**Brushy Peak Adventure / Brushy Peak Tour:** Explore the magical place known as Brushy Peak Regional Preserve. The "Adventure" programs include about a four-mile hike to the top of the peak. The "Tour" program includes a less-strenuous three-

mile hike that does not go to the top. Adventure programs available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 23 and April 7. \$30. Tour program available from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 5. \$25. For more information, call the Ranger Office at 925-960-2400.

### Cabernet Weekend

Fran and Lanny Replogle of Fenestra Winery invite the public to taste a variety of chocolate treats paired with the fine wines of Fenestra at Fenestra's "21st Annual Chocolate and Cabernet Weekend" on March 16 and 17, 2013, Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 5:00 pm.

The award-winning wines of Fenestra Winery will be paired with chocolate—both savory recipes and sweet chocolate treats. Featured guest chefs will be El Sacramento, of Livermore, Incontro Ristorante, of Danville, along with others.

The \$15.00 event charge includes a buffet plate, logo wineglass, decadent pairings, and recipes. Event charge for wine club members, non-drinkers, and children is \$5.00.

Fenestra Winery is located six miles from the Livermore 84 exit off Interstate 680, on the left side of Vallecitos Rd. The winery is open for tasting and sales every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon to 5:00 PM. For information, phone 925-447-5246, e-mail [info@fenestrawinery.com](mailto:info@fenestrawinery.com) or visit the website at [www.fenestrawinery.com](http://www.fenestrawinery.com).

### Films and Futures

Joey Travolta's Inclusion Films and Futures Explored, Inc., a non-profit corporation that provides life skills and work-related training to adults with developmental disabilities, announced that its Practical Film

and Media Workshop is open in Livermore. The introductory spring session will be divided into two 10-week semesters focused on providing adults with developmental disabilities a working knowledge of film production and media. The ultimate goal is to assist students in finding employment and other opportunities in filmmaking or related industries.

"The workshop in Northern California gives us an opportunity to reach more individuals and make a real difference in their lives," said Joey Travolta, Founder, Inclusion Films. "Our program isn't just about filmmaking, it's about building confidence and uncovering talents that will open new doors and opportunities for our students."

The workshop curriculum moves beyond classroom instruction and offers practical, hands-on experience to help students develop valuable social and professional skills. Each workshop can accommodate up to 20-30 students over the age of 18, and participants will work as a team with film industry professionals and educators to create and produce short films. In addition to teaching script writing, acting, directing, editing and lighting, the program will also incorporate film marketing, instruction in graphic design, advertising and sales.

The Practical Film and Media Workshop is open to individuals with autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities. The Livermore location boasts 5,500 square feet of space for filming, set design, editing and classroom instruction. Regular 20-week workshops will begin in the fall, and the cost for students is \$8,500. Funding

may be sourced privately or through the Regional Center of the East Bay.

Community members and aspiring filmmakers are invited to tour the workshop facilities and meet Joey Travolta and team at an Open House on Wednesday, March 20 from 10am to noon., 2021 Las Positas Ct., #147, Livermore.

For information about how to register for the Practical Film and Media Workshop, contact 925-456-0255.

### Hedgerow Workshop

A Farm Hedgerow Workshop and Field Day will be held Wed., April 3 in Sunol.

The schedule includes the following:

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: workshop at Sunol Glen School, 11601 Main Street, Sunol. Presenters are Sam Earnshaw, Hedgerows Unlimited; Jessa Guisse, The Xerces Society; and Alyson Aquino, NRCS – Livermore Office

1 to 3 p.m.: Field day: Tour the filter strip and beneficial insect habitats hedgerow at the 18-acre Sunol AgPark, located in the beautiful Sunol Valley. Learn how the AgPark farmers use hedgerows at the edge of their fields. Hear about Youth Bridging Nature and Agriculture, a hedgerow-work service-learning program for high school students. Sunol AgPark, 505 Paloma Way, Sunol. Presenters are Amy Evans, Resource Conservationist, Alameda County Resource Conservation District; Shawn Seufert, Terra Bella Farm at the AgPark; Aspen Kvicala, Sunol AgPark Site and Education Coordinator

Cost of \$15 for the day includes lunch. Free follow up technical assistance about farm

hedgerows available to a limited number of beginning farmers and ranchers in Alameda, Contra Costa and Santa Clara Counties.

Please RSVP online at [www.sagecenter.org](http://www.sagecenter.org) or email [bfrworkshops@sagecenter.org](mailto:bfrworkshops@sagecenter.org)

### Garage Open

The 1915 Duarte Garage, located on the old Lincoln Highway, will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sun., March 17. The garage is on the corner of Portola and L Streets in Livermore.

The Lincoln Highway was the first transcontinental highway in the United States. It is 3,350 miles long, crossing through 13 states starting in New York and ending in San Francisco.

The Duarte Garage contains memorabilia from the early days of the automobile including a tire shop, old gas pump collection, tools, signs and old license plates. The garage also houses three restored Livermore fire trucks - 1918 Model T, 1920 Seagrave, and 1944 Mack.

The Livermore Heritage Guild operates the Duarte Garage with a volunteer staff. Donations are appreciated and are used for projects at the garage. For more information, call 443-9740.

### Let's Make a Deal

Jaymee Huggins from Livermore, will be a contestant on Let's Make a Deal. Viewers can tune in and watch the show on Monday, March 18 at 9:00am on KPIX (Channel 5).

The one-hour series is hosted by Emmy Award-winner Wayne Brady at the Sunset Bronson Studios in Hollywood.

## OBITUARIES

### Rachel Anne Willis

Rachel Anne Willis, a 50 year resident of Livermore, was born in Yakima, Washington, on October 12, 1938, to parents Harris D. and Frances R. Conrad. Rachel



became a Christian as a young girl and learned the hymns of the faith sitting next to her mother at the piano. She joined Jesus in heaven on March 2, 2013. She is preceded in death by her mother, father, sister, and brother. Rachel is survived by her husband, Alec Willis, two sons, and their families.

Rachel was a devoted and loving wife, mother and grandmother. Rachel attended Yakima Valley Community College, Central Washington College of Education, and graduated from San Jose State University. She taught school in Pleasanton, California, and worked at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory before starting her family. After raising her family, she worked in medical offices and retired from Tri-Valley Oncology.

Rachel made new friends easily and maintained the friendships from her youth. Rachel's friends in the Livermore valley were very important to her going back 40 to 50 years. Rachel loved to sing, and sang in church choirs and with the Valley Concert Choral, starting with the Livermore Civic Chorus in the 1960s. She was a member of Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter of the Daughters' of the American Revolution. Rachel was an outstanding cook, well known for her desserts and candy, which she shared regularly with family and friends.

Rachel met her husband when she was a college student working part time at the Bon Marche department store in Yakima, Washington. One evening Alec

Willis, a U.S. Army officer, stationed at the Yakima Firing Center, stopped at the Bon Marche looking for dishes and met Rachel instead! Alec and Rachel were married on July 9th the following year and celebrated their 50th Anniversary in 2010 with a family cruise to Alaska. Rachel enjoyed world travel with her husband within the U.S., as well as European countries, Israel, and Canada.

A Visitation will be held on Friday, March 22, 2013, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore, CA. 94550

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2013, at 11 a.m., at Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave, Livermore, CA 94551. In lieu of flowers, donations made to Shepherd's Gate of Livermore, California, ([www.shepherdsgate.org](http://www.shepherdsgate.org)), or Samaritan's Purse ([www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org)) would be greatly appreciated by the family.

### Jeanne E. Gardner

Jeanne E. Gardner, born Eugenia Lee Ethridge on December 17, 1929, passed away January 21, 2013 at Surprise Valley Long Term Health Care Facility in Cedarville, CA, where she lived for the past 12 years.

Jeanne was born in Clovis, CA and lived in Fresno, CA throughout her youth. She married Calvin Gardner, also of Fresno, CA in 1947. Jeanne was devoted to Calvin as he worked and went to college to get his PHD in mathematics and physics. Calvin and Jeanne and their two daughters made their home in Livermore from 1954 until 1970 when Calvin died a premature death from heart disease. Jeanne spent the rest of her years as a widow.

Jeanne will be remembered for her engaging smile and her determination to never give up on her dreams and her generosity for wanting to share them with every one she met.

Jeanne is survived by her two daughters, Charlotte Jackson of Bieber, CA and Terri Jacobson of Cedarville, CA, three grandchildren,

four great-children, and five great, great grandchildren.

Remembrances of Jeanne can be made to the Dr. Roberts Fund, Surprise Valley Hospital, Cedarville, CA.

### Thomas Cardenas

Resident of Livermore, Ca Dec. 29, 1928 - Feb. 18, 2013

February 18, 2013 a wonderful man passed away peacefully in his sleep at age 84. He was a loving and caring husband to his wife Beverly;

a terrific father to his precious daughter Laurie and son-in-law Elliot; amazing grandfather to his two adorable and very special granddaughters Sarah and Alexia; and guardian angel to all animals.

Thomas Cardenas attended Washington High in Fremont, CA. His graduating class was 1947. Tom loved learning and reading anything about history! He was a walking book on it. One of Tom's special memories was when he obtained his private pilot's license. He loved to fly over his family's home and dip the wings to his niece and nephews for fun. This beloved man was a proud veteran. He served in the Army during the Korean conflict and was honorably discharged after two years service in 1952. One of the things, as a family, that we loved about him and that he loved about himself was that he always reached high. No goal was unattainable. Anything was possible. Tom had an interest in computer training and attended Diablo Valley College gaining his certificate in computer programming. His last position was a computer tech at Lawrence Livermore Lab retiring in 1993 after 20 years service.

Services were held Monday, February 25th, 2013 at Callaghan's Mortuary.

Thomas Cardenas was put to rest at Memory Gardens.

We will never forget the truly incredible man that we all lost. The memories we were so lucky to share with him, we hold close to our hearts. We dedicate this to you. We know you are up above watching down on us in a much better place. Until we meet again. We love you deeply. From, Your family

### Alfred G. Krebs

Sunrise: April, 11 1936 Sunset: March, 4 2013

Alfred (Fred) was born in Germany, escaped to Shanghai in 1939 and he lived there until 1948, when his family settled in Berkeley CA.

After graduating high school, he joined the Marines where he rose quickly

to Sergeant; thereafter, he worked at several trucking companies working his way up to Director of Commerce and Traffic. He was licensed to represent his company before the Interstate Commerce Commission. During the 70s and 80s, he was a professional lecturer at Golden Gate University teaching motor carrier law.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Diane, the love of his life; his two sons Ken, Tom and their spouses, Leslie and Jerrilyn, and his grandchildren Justin, Katelyn, Joshua, Nick and Tim.

Alfred and Diane have lived in Pleasanton since 1968.

He enjoyed walking, reading, playing the slots, stock trading and playing bridge at the senior center and spending time with his friends. He was a generous and adoring father and grandfather. Family always came first. He was admired and loved by many people and his beautiful smile and handsome face would brighten your day. He will

be deeply missed by all those who loved him.

At Alfred's request, there will be no services. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hope Hospice of Dublin.

### Richard Soren Bertelsen

Resident of Livermore

Richard Soren Bertelsen, 75, of Livermore, passed away on February 26, 2013. He was born and raised in Oakland, CA. He was a

much loved brother, father of 3, grandfather of 14, and great-grandfather of 2,

and uncle to many nieces and nephews in his large, extended family.

He loved the outdoors and working with his hands - enjoying boating, camping, fishing, woodworking, and railroads. He passed that love onto his children and grandchildren. But most of all he loved people. He was known for his quick smile, his kindness to all, his encouraging words, and his fun, unique sense of humor. He was a good listener, and a "come-alongside, hands-on" kind of guy.

He served his country in the United States Army, and the local community as a deputy with the Alameda County Sheriff's Department. He also remained active, until the time of his death, in the local Alcoholics Anonymous and Nicotine Anonymous chapters, having been a member for 20 years and five years, respectively. Having made many friends in those organiza-

tions, Rich always enjoyed having lunch with his "harem," loved being a DJ for AA dances, affectionately known as "Disco Dick."

He will be greatly missed by all his friends and extended family, his sister, Kirsten Griffin, his children, Ray Bertelsen, Gale Anne Tillet and her husband Kevin, Deanna Jones, his grandchildren Alex Bertelsen, Katie Lachman and her husband David, Josiah Tillet and his wife Alyssa, Luke Tillet and his wife Martha, Ezra, John, Grace and Micah Tillet, Heather, Cameron, Marissa and Makayla Jones, great-grandchildren Elijah and Ketzia Anne Lachman. He was preceded in death by his beloved grandson, Timothy Scott Jones.

A Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, March 19 at 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore, CA 94550. A private interment will be held at San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery. Donations can be made in Rich's name to Oakland Children's Hospital or the AA Foundation.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.



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## VETERANS

(continued from page one)

honor and assist Veterans in their pursuit of higher education. Many of the veterans are women who, like their male colleagues, volunteered to serve their country. This event will present the students and staff at the College - as well as members of the general community - an opportunity to honor these special women. As a community outreach effort of Las Positas College, there is no charge for admission but visitors are reminded that the campus has a \$2 parking fee.

"We are proud to honor the special contributions made by women in the military by presenting this event during Women's Military History Week," said Veterans First Program Coordinator, Todd Steffan. He added, "We are very pleased to feature such highly respected speakers who have many powerful stories to share. We know that people will be interested in hearing from these speakers and listening to the panel discussion featuring women veterans from different conflicts."

Scheduled to speak at the "Honoring Women Veterans" event are:

- Colonel Peggy L. Stradford is the Deputy Commanding Officer, Pacific Training Division, 75th Training Command, at Camp Parks, Calif. Stradford was called to Active Duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom where she served as Combat Service Support Trainer for numerous units during their pre-deployment training. She also served as an instructor for the Observer Trainer Certification Course and was selected to attend Operation Earnest Leader in 2004 in Tabuk, Saudi Arabia.

- Lindsey Sin was appointed as Deputy Secretary for Women Veterans Affairs by Governor Edmund G.

Brown Jr. on Nov. 22, 2011. Sin enlisted in the United States Navy in 1997 as a Cryptologic Technician. She completed two tours in Rota, Spain during which time she deployed in support of Operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom and achieved the rank of Petty Officer First Class.

- Star Lara, the Woman Veterans Coordinator for "Swords to Plowshares," an organization that helps women veterans access care and benefits. Lara conducts outreach to women veterans and to related government and community organizations. Lara is an Army veteran who served more than 12 years on active duty including two tours to Iraq.

- Dottie Guy is the Outreach Coordinator for Iraq and Afghanistan era veterans for the Oakland Vet Center. She also serves on the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Commission in the Army National Guard and served in Iraq in 2003.

The Las Positas College Veterans First Program provides veterans with services and resources to help them achieve their educational goals. This past academic year, more than 300 veterans or active duty military personnel were enrolled at the college. The college has been recognized as a Military Friendly School by "G.I. Jobs" magazine, placing the college in the top 15 percent of educational institutions nationwide.

Veteran support services include a full-time program coordinator, priority registration, transfer workshops, a book loan program, a study/drop-in tutorial center, work-study program and an active Student Veterans Organization. For more information, visit the website [www.laspositascollege.edu/veterans](http://www.laspositascollege.edu/veterans).

## MAILBOX

spouse and I are retreat coordinators and farmers who are committing to monthly demonstrations for love and peace at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). We came to LLNL this morning and will be back with more friends on April 5th for the same reason--to support the goodness of choosing life as a solution.

Since Livermore Lab prepares daily for nuclear war and spends \$1,000,000,000 annually on fear-mongering and violence, these first-Friday vigils are the least we can do to oppose the life-wasting immorality of LLNL's 88%. We would love to speak with LLNL employees about the international responsibility they can take for nuclear disarmament. We welcome others to join us at the Lab at 7 a.m. in the spirit of local dialogue on our shared responsibility in this world.

### Rhetorical Question Chelsea Collonge Livermore

In the face of across-the-board cuts to Livermore Lab and federal programs, a government official handed roughly five million unearned bucks to the contractor that manages the lab, on top of the \$39 million they received for their performance last year.

This official also, with no explanation, changed the contractor's "Fail" grade to a pass, handing them a no-compete, extended contract. This money is pure profit, bypassing the budgets of the lab itself. It comes from taxpayers who have already provided billions for mismanaged projects such as the National Ignition Facility. Rewarding mismanagement, covering up failures, eroding oversight; is this hands-off approach to the lab's leadership really the best use of limited national resources?

### Democracy Tom O'Neill Livermore

As "too big to fail" became, under Obama, not just an aberrational dream of the previous administration but the institutionalized policy of our federal government, the availability of federal funds was so commandeered by the leading financial interests of the United States that the funding of many projects traditionally sponsored by the federal government has become problematic and unreliable. In turn, the creation of a stream of revenue from local sources has become a more urgent matter if infrastructure is to be maintained and kept in pace with the demands of a still growing population. To put the matter more directly, just because the recession has taught us we can no longer realistically expect our federal government to act on behalf of our common good, we cannot afford to demonize expenditure for local projects the way our corporatocracy has successfully taught us to demonize federal expenditures.

For this reason I was particularly dismayed by the failure of the measure for a half-cent sales-tax increase on behalf of transportation here in Alameda County. The loss, as all those who followed the matter are well aware, had everything to do with the voter-approved requirement that a vote for an increase in taxes must muster a two-thirds majority in order to pass. To the credit of the people of Alameda County, they came within a whisker of meeting that difficult requirement.

In the aftermath, it is time that we reconsider that two-thirds requirement. It would have been nice if the vote for that itself had required a two-thirds majority, but I doubt it did. Though it was passed democratically, we are now in a position to see how very undemocratic the tendency of such a re-

quirement has turned out to be. Very nearly two thirds of the voters wanted that tax. It would have helped fill the pot-holes of 580, improve the nearly un-driveable parts of some sections of 880, maintain and extend BART, provide better accommodation for bikes and pedestrians, made life easier for the handicapped and the infirm, etc., etc. That the one-third-plus-a-few-hundred (who are somehow more interested in hanging onto discretionary spending money than in meeting these needs) said "no" has kept all of us from enjoying what most of us continue to see as a necessary expenditure. Let me hazard the proposition it is time for a fresh exercise of democracy in which we cancel the undemocratic two-thirds majority requirement.

### Protecting Elephants Gay Maestas Livermore

As a former Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory employee, I can say I am proud of the 30 years I spent there. The combination of outstanding folks has kept us safe and for now, as terrorist free as possible. So, I want to once more commend the Lab for helping on a different front, that of protecting elephants. Vast numbers of these poor defenseless animals are being desecrated for their ivory. Tusks that bring in large amounts of money for engravers, trinkets, religious artifacts, jewelry, chess pieces and now more threatening (for us) terrorists. Before we just didn't give much thought about ivory, where it came from (whales, elephants), but this world has changed and we must protect those that can't protect themselves. Many of us are trying to protect the wild horses here at home. I applaud the Laboratory for giving a helping hand in helping elephants in Africa. If you ever saw how these

animals care for each other, you would understand.

Thank you Bob Greenwalt and Wilthea Hibbard for providing training to the Kenya Wildlife Service. By the way, a 2012 National Geographic article, "Blood Ivory," said about, "25,000 elephants were killed last year."

### Media Bias Pam Hanna Livermore

I have an issue with mainstream media and their reporting of the news by picking and choosing stories that shine the best light on this President and the left's ideology. Where is the objective journalism that was present just 10-15 years ago? This shouldn't be a political issue and we should all be demanding that the news be delivered in a fair and unbiased way. It is sickening the way the media protects this President and his administration by ignoring and assisting in covering up some stories e.g.; Benghazi, Fast and Furious among others that they have an obligation to tell us. The bullying that goes on from this White House is so intimidating that the media are fearful of exposing what really goes on because they don't want to be denied access to future White House news conferences.

I want to commend people like Bob Woodward for having the guts to break through the strong-arming of this government and expose the lies that President Obama is scaring the American people with. I just hope that more of the mainstream media have the guts to tell the news as it happens and not joining in the cover-up that this President is doing. Mr. Obama talks about how transparent he is, but he is the most non-transparent President I can ever remember. We have to remember that this government works for us - not the other way around!

## Rubino Estates Winery Opens Italianate tasting room

by Harry Stoll

A palm lined road off of Vineyard Avenue leads to the winery. Outside, vertically striped green, white, and red flags ripple a welcome over new sturdy curvy carved-top arbors—inside over the sound system, a soloist, perhaps Pavarotti, celebrates a sunny day with a soulful, "O Sole Mio." It's March 1, first day for tasting in the immense tasting room, with, "Ciao bella! Cao bello!" to those lined up at the long tasting bar. Only a space or two remains, probably about right. The bar turns in at each end, forming an elongated U.

Rubino is to specialize in Italian varietal favorites of winemaker Chris Graves, who is here today and glows. "Within six months we will be releasing some exciting varietals," says Chris. Italian varietals will predominate. For right now, six wines are offered: Brut Sparkling Wine, Moscato (Muscat), with a bit of spritz and sweetness; Salute, a more Italian version of Chris's Grapeful Red (a salute to Jerry Garcia); Chardonnay; Cabernet Sauvignon; and a Barbera dessert wine. All but the brut is made from Livermore Valley grapes.

The room is high, wide

and handsome, with a side room holding a long table with curved high back chairs. It is a nice spot for a private event. In the main space, several cabinets with carved doors sit against the walls. Some rustic benches against the walls hold various objects in trying for a relaxed touch among the elegance. The floor is of Italian marble, with the tiles set in a shiny diagonal to the sides for diamonds with Rubino's.

Chris is a principal in Rubino Estates Winery. He is also the winemaker at Ruby Hill Winery at Vineyard Avenue and Isabel Avenue, owned by developer Mike Callahan who is also a principal at Rubino. Livermore Valley soil shows some irony here in that Ruby Hill isn't on a hill but Rubino is, close to the site of the original Ruby Hill Winery that burned down in 1989. A new winery was built in 2002. It included bricks from the original winery. The site was occupied by Mitchell Katz Winery until January 2013.

The tasting room measures out at 8,000 square feet, by far the largest in the valley. The capacious space holds the buzz of the crowd nicely and tasters are obvi-

ously enjoying each other, O Sole Mio, the surroundings, and the wine, with much stylish swirling, sniffing, tasting and nodding.

Rubino wines offered are currently made by Chris at Ruby Hill. He says there will be a full crush here at Rubino and that both the Rubino and Ruby Hill labels will be sold at their respective wineries. For a short time wine will be made at both locations. Chris says, "Within about six months, I'll be offering 2011 Primitivo Livermore Valley Harvest Collection, 2011 Dolcetto North Coast Reserva Collection, and a 2010 Sangiovese Livermore Valley Estate Reserva Collection. By May 4th, at our first Rubino Royalty Release party, I'll be releasing our first club wine blend, my 2010 Primo Vita Super Tuscan style blend." Now that's Italian.

Chris says Rubino will concentrate on Italian varietals and blends, but will also include the usual suspects. The wines are to be predominately from Livermore Valley grapes, but he will go outside the valley if necessary to obtain better grapes or grapes that aren't grown here. Chris is in the process of grafting over the vines in the estate vineyards

to Italian varieties.

Rubino will offer different tiers of wine: Harvest Collection, a lighter, more fruit driven choice; Terroir, relatively inexpensive wine with Livermore Valley characteristics; Reserva Collection, which will be farmed to the highest standards; Famiglia, to be the Wine Club tier; then finally, the Landmark Collection series, super high-end, micro lot wines, "... which I will spare no expense on. These will be wines designed to age."

The Royal Rubino Wine Club has no membership fees. Members receive discounts, access to club-only wines, free tasting for members and some guests, entrance to private tasting areas with dedicated hospitality attendants, reward points for every dollar spent, free admittance to release parties, and many special events, advance notice of limited production wines and special offerings, and barrel tastings and tours at discounts.

The club features four

membership levels, ranging from Baron/Baroness with two bottles quarterly for an approximate cost of \$65, to Club Magnifico, with one, two or six magnums quarterly, with discounts depending on how many you buy. Rubino wines can be shipped or can be picked up at the winery.

On Opening day, most tasters stand at the tasting bar, but the room is large and invites moving around. It's nicely done, but not stuffy, a nice balance, which is what Chris's wines promise to be. There is a couch facing a fireplace. A few more places to sit might be in order. With all those Italian varietals and blends offered, plus what Chris calls the usual suspects, this bueno spot is a ruby shining on a hill among vineyards in the rubyesque soil, that gave the area its name.

Buonigiorno!  
Rubino Estates Winery: Open daily 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 1188 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton, 925.484.1699, [www.rubinoestateswinery.com](http://www.rubinoestateswinery.com)



**Andrew's Advocates are preparing for the annual fundraiser yard sale. Andrew needs a pediatric wheelchair, multiple therapies, and medical equipment not covered by insurance or other programs. Estimated out of pocket expenses are projected to exceed \$11,000 this year. Andrew battles the struggles against 13 birth defects, which have impacted his sight, hearing and major organs. Residents can assist Andrew by donating gently used or unwanted new items (no clothing please) for this Livermore area event, coming this April. Please contact Shawna Sargis (454-8827) or Beth Hewitt (606-6251) for donation drop off information.**

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**LIVERMORE LISTINGS!**

**1048 Sherry Way**  
Just Listed - Sensational Southside Single Story home with 4 bedrooms/2.5 baths, approximately 2,147 square feet, meticulously maintained with upgraded granite kitchen counter tops, hardwood flooring on a spacious corner lot with a swimming pool and spa. Offered at \$735,000. OPEN SUNDAY 3/17, 1-4PM

**1071 Innsbruck Street**  
Coming Soon - Sunset East Single Story home with 4 bedrooms/2 baths, approximately 2,024 square feet with large open kitchen and family room overlooking backyard swimming pool and spa. Oversized garage with electrical vehicle hook up capability. Close to schools. Offered at \$615,000. OPEN SATURDAY 3/16, 1-4PM

**9355 Patterson Pass Road**  
4.75 acres located close to town with current rental income. Property features 2 homes, cottage, 75' X 54' barn with stalls and hay storage and a separate 3,200 square foot shop with adjoining office and/or storage with a potential hilltop building site or vineyard? Offered at \$1,050,000. OPEN SUNDAY 3/24, 1-4PM

**10133 S. Flynn Road**  
Rare Ranch offering of 112+/- acres featuring a country home with a wrap around porch for capturing sunset and city light views. Barns & a workshop with 5 separately fenced pastures and an arena for your horses. Co-listed with Brad Slabaugh. Offered at \$1,499,000. OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 3/16 & 17, 2-4:30PM

**Saturday, May 4th, 10am-6pm & Sunday, May 5th, 10am-5pm**

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS**  
Help us make a difference in Downtown Livermore

**Join Our Team!**  
Volunteers are needed to assist with this year's Livermore Wine Country Festival. Volunteering as a couple, group, company, friends or neighborhood, just adds to the fun. To ensure that you all get to volunteer together, sign up early!!

With our collection of restaurants, shops, live entertainment venues and unique experiences, we have a lot to be proud of. The successes of our events are due to Volunteers. The one thing we all have in common is our dedication to our pride and joy... Downtown Livermore!!

We hold a mandatory Volunteer Training Meeting (That makes our Insurance Company very happy!) that is not only informative for the event, but will really showcase all the great things your downtown has to offer! Join the team! It's always a great time!!

**Thank You!**  
Livermore Downtown Inc. will thank volunteers 21 years of age and older with a Special Volunteer Wine or Beer Tasting Package to be used that weekend when not on duty! Volunteers under 21 will also receive a thank you gift for helping us out.

**For more information go to [www.LivermoreDowntown.com](http://www.LivermoreDowntown.com)**

# LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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## LEGAL NOTICES

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### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474770

The following person(s) doing business as: Koko Fit Club Livermore, 4485 First Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AG Professional Group Inc, 691 New Well Ct, Lathrop, CA 95330  
This business is conducted by a Corporation  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Aminder Sandhu - VP  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 7, 2013. Expires February 7, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3406. Published February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474754

The following person(s) doing business as: Sweet Dee Photography, 726 South K Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Danielle Courtney Norheim, 726 South K Street, Livermore, CA 94550  
This business is conducted by an individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Danielle C. Norheim  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 7, 2013. Expires February 7, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3407. Published February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474573

The following person(s) doing business as: Caddis, 2245 South Vasco Rd Unit B, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christopher J. Sorensen, 4336 Baylor Way, Livermore, CA 94550  
This business is conducted by an individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Christopher J. Sorensen  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2013. Expires February 5, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3408. Published February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474781

The following person(s) doing business as: VB Property Management, 403 Junction Ave #117, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Victor D. Baldi, 55 Headland Ct, Danville, CA 94506, Livermore, CA 94550 (2) Cynthia M. Silveira, 6204 Deljen Ct, Pleasanton, CA 94588  
This business is conducted by a General partnership  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on January 1, 2013.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Victor Baldi - General Partner  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 8, 2013. Expires February 8, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3410. Published February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474506

The following person(s) doing business as: Mark's Truck and Auto Repair, 248 North I Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mark W. Lemke, 15827 Ash Avenue, Patterson, CA 95363  
This business is conducted by an individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Mark Lemke  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 1, 2013. Expires February 1, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3411. Published February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474361

The following person(s) doing business as: Restoration Chiropractic, 1682 First St., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lessard Chiropractic Inc, 1682 First St., Livermore, CA 94550  
This business is conducted by a Corporation  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Scott R. Lessard, Presi-

dent  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2013. Expires January 29, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3413. Published February 28, March 7, 14, 21, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474748-9

The following person(s) doing business as: (1)Bitmore (2)Bitmore Horses, 1286 Geneve Ct, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Bitmore Horse Services LLC, 1286 Geneve Ct, Livermore, CA 94551  
This business is conducted by a Limited liability company  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/24/2007.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Brian Bogie, Owner/Officer  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 7, 2013. Expires February 7, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3415. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 475383

The following person(s) doing business as: Bar K Z Management Trust, 739 Caliente Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kenneth Nather, Trustee / Kenneth & Nancy Nather Trust, 739 Caliente Ave, Livermore, CA 94550  
This business is conducted by a Trust  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5/18/2012.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Kenneth Nather, Trustee / Kenneth & Nancy Nather Trust  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2013. Expires February 27, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3416. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474755

The following person(s) doing business as: White House / Black Market #3595, 5663 Bay St., Emeryville, CA 94608, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): White House / Black Market, Inc, 11215 Metro Pkwy., Fort Myers, FL 33966  
This business is conducted by a Corporation  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Kevin R. Schockling, VP-Tax  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 7, 2013. Expires February 7, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3419. Published March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2013.

### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

**RICHARD A. VAN KONYNENBURG**  
Case No. RP13664323  
1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of:  
**RICHARD A. VAN KONYNENBURG, also known as RICHARD ARIE VAN KONYNENBURG**  
2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **DIANA G. VAN KONYNENBURG** in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA.  
3. The Petition for Probate requests that: **DIANA G. VAN KONYNENBURG** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
4. (X) The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court  
5. (X) The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
6. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:  
Date: April 2, 2013  
Time: 9:30 AM DEPT: 201 at:  
**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, County of Alameda**  
2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
Probate Branch  
7. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your

### objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

### 8. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

### 9. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

### 10. Attorney for Petitioner: **TERRY CAMPBELL WALLACE** 2125 Wylie Drive, Suite 7 Modesto, CA 95355 (209) 529-4800 The Independent Legal No. 3420. Published March 7, 14, 21, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474961

The following person(s) doing business as: AMS Precision, 2127 S. Vasco Rd, Unit B, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Alejandra Landa-Delgado, 1569 Ellis Lane, Manteca, CA 95337  
This business is conducted by an individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Alejandra Delgado  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 14, 2013. Expires February 14, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3421. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 475379

The following person(s) doing business as: Caloveforia Designs, 1006 Pardee Street, Berkeley, CA 94710, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Daniel Guy Garon Wilson, 6616A Telegraph Ave, Oakland, CA 94609 (2) Jeffrey Lloyd Pavich, 640 Ruth Way, Livermore, CA 94550  
This business is conducted by Co-partners  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Dan Wilson  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2013. Expires February 27, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3422. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2013.

**NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS**  
Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612  
**NETWORKING BIDDERS CONFERENCES for RFP #901112 New Beginnings Fellowship Program South County - Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 2:00 PM** at Fremont Public Library, Fukaya Room A, 2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont, CA and **North County - Friday, March 29, 2013 at 10:00 AM** at General Services Agency, Room 1107, 11th Floor, 1401 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, CA  
**Responses Due by 2:00 pm on April 19, 2013**  
County Contact: **Ryan DeCoud** at (510) 208-9619 or via email: **ryan.decoud@acgov.org**  
Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County GSA Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org.  
3/14/13  
CNS-2456344#  
THE INDEPENDENT Legal No. 3423

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 475676

The following person(s) doing business as: K! Realty, 186 South K Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kay French, 186 South K Street, Livermore, CA 94550  
This business is conducted by an individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Kay French  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2013. Expires March 6, 2018.

### The Independent Legal No. 3425. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2013.

### 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.tv-ar.org](http://www.tv-ar.org)

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

### FERRAL CAT FOUNDATION

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

### EMPLOYMENT

### 65) HELP WANTED

### 56) ADULT CARE

**Independent Contractors Wanted. Senior Home Health Care. Must have experience. Senior Solutions, Inc (925)443-3101.**  
**BE WARY** of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

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Call (925)243-8000

### NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 155) NOTICES

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

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**Inland Valley Publishing Co.**  
Client Code:04126-00001  
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The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPCC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

21, 28, April 4, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 475676

The following person(s) doing business as: K! Landscaping, 186 South K Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kay French, 186 South K Street, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Kay French  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 6, 2013. Expires March 6, 2018.

The Independent Legal No. 3425. Published March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 2013.

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**PLUMBING**

# Renee Dobson and Brooke Rittman headed to Air Force Academy

By Patricia Koning

Last summer, Granada High School seniors Renee Dobson and Brooke Rittman traveled together to the Summer Seminar at the U.S. Air Force Academy outside of Colorado Springs, Colo. Against great odds, the young women will be making a return trip to Colorado Springs in June—only this time as cadets to start their freshman year at the prestigious military institution.

Out of over 12,000 applicants, only about 1,000 are admitted each year. Of those, only about 20% are female. The Air Force Academy is free of charge. Cadets receive fully paid tuition, cost-free room and board,



Renee Dobson

medical care, and a monthly stipend.

Academy graduates must serve as commissioned officers in the Air Force for at least eight years, five of which must be active duty. Attending flight training extends this commitment.

The two young women took different paths to the academy and envision different futures for themselves. Renee's goal is to become an aeronautical engineer; Brooke wants to become a pilot. "I'll design the planes she flies," jokes Renee.

Renee learned about the Air Force Academy several years ago when she was researching colleges. "I knew it was the place for me be-

cause of the academics and the quality of people there," she says. "The best decision I ever made was to apply to the Air Force Academy. I really had to challenge myself and I think it made me a better person."

She rearranged her academic schedule to double up on science and take more advanced math to get those critical classes earlier. She also joined Granada's cross-country team to achieve the level of fitness required by the Academy.

Brooke gained entry to the Academy through soccer. She honed in on the Academy last year after her older sister was recruited by the Academy's Division I soc-

cer program, among several other schools. Brooke's sister chose to attend Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Coming in as an athlete didn't make the application process much easier for Brooke. "The application took months, where most other college applications I finished in a matter of days," she says.

Attending the summer seminar sealed the decision for both young women. "It really won me over," says Brooke. "I had a great experience. I just loved the environment. It's supposed to be scary, but I really liked being pushed that hard."

After finishing the four years at the Academy, Brooke hopes to continue

in the flight program. Renee expects to attend graduate school.

"Graduating from the Air Force Academy gives you so many benefits and opportunities," says Renee. "It's very exciting to be doing this, even more so with a friend."

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# Disagreement on Zone 7 Independence

By Ron McNicoll

Clear messages have been sent to both sides of the discussion concerning Zone 7 Water Agency's drive toward total independence from Alameda County.

County Supervisors Scott Haggerty and Nate Miley held the Transportation and Planning Committee special meeting at the County Public Works building in Dublin on March 5 to learn what the public wants in regard to Zone 7 independence.

By the end of the meeting, several things were clear. If Haggerty were to accept independence, it would be only with a board that is elected by districts. Currently the board's seven directors are elected at-large by voters throughout the 245-square-mile Zone 7 area.

Haggerty said that district elections would ensure that San Ramon, which receives its water through Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD), and Zone 7 its wholesaler for approximately 9500 units in Dougherty Valley, would have a voice on the board.

Haggerty added that Livermore would have the same guarantee with district elections. "We want to make sure that people in Livermore are not blocked out, either because we don't have district elections."

Miley, whose district includes Pleasanton, said that if Zone 7 wants independence, it must initiate the process through the Alameda County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), which is necessary for special districts. Contra Costa LAFCO would be working jointly on the process, he said.

The Independent asked Miley whether he supports

the idea of district elections, as Haggerty suggested. Miley said that it is too soon to make a judgment. He said that he would consider all of the information at the appropriate time.

Haggerty said he was surprised that some people were missing from the audience March 5, namely people who had e-mailed his office in opposition to independence when Sen. Mark DeSaulnier introduced a bill for Zone 7 independence in the Legislature last year. That bill was dropped in May, after both Alameda and Contra Costa county officials notified DeSaulnier of concerns regarding flood control.

Several people spoke in favor of Zone 7 separation. DSRSD vice-chair Georgan Vonheeder-Leopold read a letter from the board into the record that expressed its continued support for independence.

Vonheeder-Leopold said the change would allow Zone 7 to bill Dougherty Valley residents directly for water, instead of going through what is now a

standby district. Further, it would be "a positive move toward local control."

Independence would reduce administrative costs for Zone 7, and improve efficiency by "eliminating the need for duplicative county services and oversight," said Vonheeder-Leopold.

A consultant's study commissioned by Zone 7 showed that savings of \$300,000 annually could be achieved directly, and perhaps as much as \$1 million, if indirect benefits were included, Zone 7 general manager Jill Duerig told the supervisors' committee.

San Ramon resident Roz Rogoff also spoke up for independence. A candidate in 2010 for the DSRSD board, Rogoff said that for years she has been advocating the change, and the inclusion of

Dougherty Valley.

Duerig and county Public Works Director Daniel Woldesenbet both said at the meeting that they have held conversations about ironing out any difficulties that might stand in the way of a solution. Those talks will continue. Woldesenbet said he felt that agreement can be reached, although it may take some time.

The major sticking point on the technical side of independence has been the future of flood control administration. Zone 7 has a fairly strong degree of independence in planning and design already. However, the county wants to be sure communication will be clear about meeting all of the county's needs and procedures for its flood zone south of the Valley.

**Janice Pementel**  
 "Thanks Dad"  
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# DeSaulnier Sponsors Incentive Legislation

Senator Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord) has introduced SB 673, legislation that requires that when local governments offer a business an incentive valued at over \$1 million, in exchange for coming to the city or county, the business must pay for an independent cost benefit analysis of the incentive.

DeSaulnier noted, often local governments are promised jobs and sales tax revenue that encourages the local entity to agree to the incentive without actually knowing whether the promises will come to fruition.

"In today's global economy it is imperative that our cities have the best possible data as they negotiate with large corporations," DeSaulnier said. "Under SB 673 local governments will receive the necessary cost benefit analysis and have an opportunity for important independent review before agreeing to give incentives and subsidies to businesses. We need to ensure our local governments have all the facts before entering into such large and financially risky agreements."

# THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Rebecca Jones, a first grader dressed as the "Cat in the Hat," works on her project during the family reading night. At right, students select books to take home.



By Carol Graham

On the evening of March 6th, Arroyo Seco Elementary students came to school for the second time that day.

With them came mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and grandparents.

"This is Arroyo Seco's Third Annual Family Reading Night," explained teacher Lisa Wilson. "My most successful students year after year are those who enjoy reading."

Family Reading Night encourages students to value, share and enjoy reading while also promoting positive relationships between teachers and parents. It opens the door for families to contribute to students' success in school.

"The evening was designed to create enthusiasm and interest about reading as a family," said Joy Hamilton, a retired teacher who continues to help facilitate the event. "Activities were created around a theme of how reading is used in daily activities. It's essential in every aspect of life including reading recipes and shopping lists, passing a test for a drivers' license, filling out a job applica-

tion, using the Internet to access information, becoming an informed voter, traveling to places far away both in distance and time, and finding a fulfilling job that will provide financial security."

Students and families participated in two half-hour classroom activities chosen from a list of 16 that included reading with furry friends from PAWS to Read, storytelling under the moon, learning speed reading, and Mad Libs on computers.

"Many popular presentations provided 'gifts.' The Home Depot donated work aprons and project kits. Many teachers provided crafts and projects," said Hamilton. "I was impressed by the enthusiasm and dedication of the presenters as well as the respectful and eager participation of families."

Pleasanton author and archeologist Jennifer Amiel spoke to students about how to write a novel, covering everything from choosing characters' names to knowing what characters would do after school, before passing around 1,800-year-old pottery pieces for family members to hold and inspect.

## Evening at Arroyo Seco Encourages Love of Reading

Wilson offered a presentation showing parents how to use the Internet to view students' progress in the Accelerated Reader program. "Students take comprehension tests on books they read. Parents can use the online program at home to track their student's points," she said. "They were impressed that all this information is available to them."

At the end of the two-hour program, students selected a new book to take home with them. "By giving a book as a reward for attending it was evident that both reading and the activities were rewards in and of themselves," said Hamilton. "People need to read for meaning in order to work, play and thrive."

Event chairperson Constance Ormond said she hopes students will take away the importance of reading, and knowing that the family can get involved. "Students don't always have to go read silently," she said. "We hopefully provided many ways to make connections between the books students read and follow-up activities."

Added Hamilton, "Reading is the key to freedom and success. If you can read, you can do anything."

## Pleasanton Chamber Players Perform 10th Anniversary Concert

Celebrating 10 years of professional classical music performances, Pleasanton Chamber Players present their 10th anniversary concert at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton on Sunday, March 17, at 2:00 p.m.

The program will consist of a "German half" and a "French half," featuring favorites and rare gems from the late romantic classical era, showcasing a variety of instrumental combinations. Local professional musicians include Marie Flexer, violin; William Harrington, French horn; Danielle Naler, piano; Kris Palmer, flute; Dominique Piana, harp; Paul Rhodes, cello.

Tickets are \$12-\$25, and available online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), by phone at

925-931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton.

The loosely-knit professional performing organization was founded in 2003 by local composer, music publisher and harpist Dominique Piana with the support of the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, of which she was an active board member at the time. The inaugural concert was held on April 13, 2003, and the centerpiece was Schubert's beloved Trout Quintet. It all began as an ensemble of professional musicians based in Pleasanton, later extending to the Tri-Valley and neighboring communities, and eventually attracting artists from the greater Bay Area.

The chamber music format allowed the group to grow naturally without requiring the big budget or organization of an orchestra. At the time when founder Dominique Piana moved to the Tri-Valley area from Southern California, she had found a strong, well-established amateur scene, but missing was opportunity for professionals.

According to Piana, highlights of the last nine years include performances of famous and unusual chamber music, always favoring eclectic instrumentations with the goal of delighting and occasionally surprising. One memorable example, recalls Piana: "In 2008 we commissioned and

(continued on page 4)



Chamber Players are Marie Flexer, violin; Dominique Piana, harp; Paul Rhodes, cello; Kris Palmer, flute; Danielle Naler, piano; and William Harrington, French horn.

## Greg Kihn and Band Rock into Pleasanton for Firehouse Performance

In a newly produced show, Greg Kihn and his band line-up to present their first concert of the year. It is the first since Kihn's much-discussed departure from KFOX. The productions are brand new.

Two big shows are slated for the Firehouse Arts Center Theater, Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23, both at 8:00 p.m.

Kihn's Wikipedia blurb describes him as "American Rock Musician, Radio Personality, and Novelist," but as his website says, "who exactly is Greg Kihn?" In his words, he "was a baby boomer who learned a few chords on the guitar as a kid and started writing songs. . . It was a cool way to appear intelligent and impress girls." When he was in high school, his mother secretly sent a tape of one of his original songs to the talent contest of the big local Top 40 radio station in Baltimore, and he

won the contest. The prizes were three things that would change his life: a typewriter, a stack of records, and a Vox electric guitar.

A year later he came to California and kept trying music while working at the iconic Berkeley shop Rather Ripped Records alongside future band mate and Earthquake guitarist Gary Phillips. He connected with Joel Turtle and Matt Kaufman, who founded the legendary Beserkley Records in the mid-1970s. Kihn started making records, got a lot of air play on the radio, and seven albums later (on Beserkley label) did the mega-hit "The Breakup Song," followed by international smash "Jeopardy," which has been parodied by just about everyone. Kihn continued throughout the 1980s with the famous series of pun-titled albums, including Kihntinued (1982), Kihnspiracy (1983), and Citizen Kihn (1985).



Greg Kihn

Along the way, Greg rocked the fledgling music video business, pioneering the earliest examples of "concept videos," notably with the groundbreaking "Jeopardy" video with its 'Night of the Living Dead' theme which spawned countless imitators.

Touring constantly in the 80s, Kihn's band opened for arena-sized shows including Journey, the Grateful Dead, and the Rolling Stones, and logged TV appearances on Solid Gold, American Bandstand, and SNL. Many of Rock's great musicians began passing through the Greg Kihn Band over the years, and are represented on the cuts and albums.

Greg's radio career got its kick-start when Kihn found himself seated next to sports radio great John Madden, who told Greg "Do it, jump on it. Be the first. Someday all DJs will be ex-musicians." Seventeen years later (2012) Kihn's career

took another fast turn, when he parted company with KFOX after growing his radio DJ gig from a mom-and-pop late night broadcast to national morning program heard by millions. "I love talking about the recording experience, and songwriting, and all the other things that make classic rock so appealing," says Kihn.

The same year he started in radio, Kihn published his first of four novels to date, "Horror Show," which was nominated for the prestigious Bram Stoker Award for Best First Novel. He has also written two screenplays, and is in negotiations for a TV series and feature film.

Tickets are \$40-\$50. They are available online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), by phone at 925-931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton. Free parking is available.

# Students Invited to Hear Astronauts Discuss the Space Program

Two former NASA astronauts, Tammy Jernigan and Jeff Wisoff, who now live in Pleasanton and work at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, will present the program, "Destination: Space Station and Beyond." The talk will be on March 27.

This is a special Rae Dorough Speakers Series event. It is free to students (17 and under) and an accompanying adult. Tickets are available for pickup in advance, on a first-come, first-served basis, at the Bankhead Theater ticket office only, 2400 First Street, Livermore.

The two will talk about their spaceflight experiences: building the International Space Station, conducting spacewalks, and living in space at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Using video and photographs, the two astronauts will take the audience through a mission



**Tammy Jernigan**

from Shuttle launch to docking with the International Space Station (ISS) to returning home again.

The presentation, which is geared towards students, begins at 7:30 p.m.

Jernigan entered the NASA Astronaut Corps in 1986 and retired in 2001. She flew on five Space Shuttle program missions (three on Columbia and one each



**Jeff Wisoff**

on Endeavour and Discovery) and logged 1512 hours in space. Her last flight to space was on STS-96 aboard Discovery and launched on May 27, 1999. It was the first mission to dock with the International Space Station. After Jernigan performed a nearly eight-hour spacewalk, the crew landed back on Earth on June 6, 1999. She currently serves as a Deputy

Principal Associate Director for LLNL's weapons program.

Wisoff graduated from the University of Virginia and Stanford (MS and PhD, applied physics) before becoming an astronaut in 1990. Selected by NASA in January 1990, Wisoff became an astronaut in July 1991. He qualified for flight assignment as a mission specialist. A veteran of four space flights and three spacewalks, STS-57 in 1993, STS-68 in 1994, STS-81 in 1997 and STS-92 in 2000, Wisoff logged a total of 42 days, 56 hours, 1 minute and 48 seconds in space, including 19 hours and 53 minutes of EVA time in three space walks. He now serves as the Principal Deputy Associate Director for LLNL's National Ignition Facility.

For information, go to [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org).

## 'Forever Plaid' Opens in Danville

Forever Plaid will be performed weekends March 22 to 30 at the Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville.

The production is presented by the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre.

Forever Plaid is an off-Broadway musical revue written by Stuart Ross in New York in 1990 and now performed internationally. The show is a revue of the close-harmony "guy groups" (e.g. The Four Aces, The Four Freshmen) that reached the height of their popularity during the 1950s. Personifying the clean-cut genre are the Plaids. This quartet of high-school chums dreams of recording an album, but the dream ends in their deaths in a collision with a bus filled with Catholic school girls on their way to see the Beatles' American



**Cast members are Frankie- Scott Maraj; Smudge- Burton Weaver; Sparky- Daniel Quezada; and Jinx- Glen Riggs.**

debut on The Ed Sullivan Show. The play begins with the Plaids returning from the afterlife for one final chance at musical glory.

The songs they sing during the course of the musical include: "Three Coins in the Fountain," "Undecided," "Gotta Be This or That,"

"Moments to Remember," "Crazy 'Bout Ya, Baby," "No, Not Much," "Sixteen Tons," "Chain Gang," "Perfidia," "Cry," "Heart and Soul," "Lady of Spain," "Scotland the Brave," "Shangri-La," "Rags to Riches," and "Love is a Many-Splendored Thing."

The cast includes Frankie (Scott Maraj); Smudge (Burton Weaver); Sparky (Daniel Quezada); and Jinx (Glenn Riggs).

Caleb Haven Draper is director and choreographer; Evan Alparone is musical director, and the producer is Kathleen Breedveld.

Ticket information is available at 925-314-3400 or [www.danville.ca.gov](http://www.danville.ca.gov)

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## Save Mount Diablo Sponsoring Student Photo Contest

Save Mount Diablo is calling for student photo submissions for its first scholastic photography contest.

"The photo contest will showcase our amazing Diablo wilderness, support local student talent and help raise awareness about lands that are still at risk. If you are a student or know local students, we hope you'll join us and share the contest to win great prizes like a \$1,000 Apple store gift card, having your photo published in Diablo Magazine and more," explained Save Mount Diablo's Communication Manager Beryl Anderson.

Alameda and Contra Costa County students grades Kindergarten through 12, can submit their original photos from one of the Diablo parks, listed on the contest website, that showcases why he or she enjoys Mount Diablo's lands and thinks they should be protected for a chance to win prizes, have their art displayed and more. All photography shall be submitted no later than April 30th in order to be considered in this contest. Winners will be announced the week of June 3rd.

Among the prizes students can win are photo publication in Diablo Magazine, display in local businesses, an iPod Shuffle and a \$1,000 Apple store gift card.

Visit [www.SaveMountDiabloContest.com](http://www.SaveMountDiabloContest.com) for more information or to enter.

## Alameda County Taking Applications for Artist Registry

The Alameda County Arts Commission invites artists from the 9 counties of the San Francisco Bay Area to apply for potential inclusion in the 2013 Artist Registry, a prequalified artist pool that will be used for upcoming public art opportunities associated with Alameda County capital improvement projects.

The public art opportunities may include exterior and interior projects, be appropriate for artists working in a variety of materials and styles, and have a range of project budgets. Many of the opportunities will be for artists to make a new series of smaller artworks in the studio. Therefore, artists who make two-dimensional, low-relief, or wall sculptural artwork are encouraged to apply.

Specific project sites include: San Lorenzo Library, East County Hall of Justice (Dublin), Highland Hospital (Oakland), and other sites to be determined.

Three information meetings for artists interested in applying are scheduled: Tuesday, March 19, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin; Thursday, March 21, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Lakeside Plaza Building, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Oakland; and Monday, April 1, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the San Lorenzo Library, 395 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo.

Complete application information is available at [www.acgov.org/arts](http://www.acgov.org/arts) (click on "Opportunities") or call (510) 208-9646 to receive the information by mail. To be considered for these opportunities, artists must register and submit an application through the CaFÉ website, [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org) (search for "Alameda County" in the list of current calls).



**The Foothill High School Band Boosters invite everyone to attend the annual Winter Guard, Percussion and Drum Major Competition on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at Foothill High School. This event traditionally showcases the region's top talent. The top finishers here typically dominate the awards podium at Championships the following weekend. Over 100 performances are scheduled for this day-long event. Drum Majors start the day at 8:00 a.m. in the stadium with awards at 4:45 p.m. In the large gym, the Percussion competitions begin at 9:00 a.m. followed by Winter Guard at 1:00 p.m. Awards presentation at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds from the event benefit the Foothill High School music program.**

## CHAMBER PLAYERS

(continued from page 2)

premiered the piece "... softly through the night ... memories of music. ..." by Fremont composer Helena Michelson with the help of funding by a Community Partnership Grant from the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of American Composers Forum."

The March 17 program will introduce an instrument new to the group: the robust French horn. The first "German" half of the concert will feature late-romantic works: the Brahms Trio Op. 40 for piano, violin and horn, with its hunting-horn calls and love-of-nature theme, as well as the short Nocturne by the verismo (Italian "realism" style of the late 1800s) composer Ferdinand Hummel and Gondellied ("Gondolier Song") by harpist Alfred Holy.

The second "French" half will start with Aubade (music to greet the dawn), a collaborative work by Bochsa, Tulou, Dupont and Puzzi who were each fa-

mous virtuosos on their respective instrument (harp, flute, cello and horn) and performed this early morning potpourri in front of the French Royal Family (Louis XVIII and gang after Napoleon's exile to Alba) at the time of the first French Restoration. Louis Ganne's Extase (Ecstasy) for violin, cello and harp will show a more traditional treatment of a mood for which his contemporary Debussy is celebrated (C'est l'extase for voice and piano). The program will end with Fauré's Trio in D minor Op. 120, for violin, cello and piano, a stunning masterpiece of his old age.

This 10th Anniversary Concert features six local talents in an interesting variety of pieces and instrumental combinations.

The artists will be available after the performance for an informal chat with audience members.

Violinist Marie Flexer has served as Concertmaster

## Steve Seskin Performs Benefit for San Ramon Arts Programs

Steve Seskin and fellow songwriters will sing and share their experiences writing some of the world's most popular songs on March 16 at the Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center. The show begins at 8 p.m.

All proceeds from this show benefit the San Ramon Arts Foundation who supports arts programs in the City of San Ramon and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District.

Steve Seskin is an American songwriter whose compositions have been recorded by Alabama, Kenny Chesney, Peter Frampton, Waylon Jennings, Brian McComas, Neal McCoy, Tim McGraw, John Michael Montgomery, Colin Raye, Tebey and Mark Wills. The debut single from McGraw's Set This Circus Down, "Grown Men Don't Cry", was nominated for a 2002 Grammy award and also garnered the #1 position on the Billboard Country Single Chart in June, 2005. While Steve is best known for writing hits, he is also a successful performer and recording artist.

"Don't Laugh at Me" which was recorded by Peter, Paul and Mary, became the impetus for the Operation Respect/Don't Laugh at Me project, a curriculum designed to teach tolerance in schools.

Tickets are \$25 adults, \$15 youth under 12. They may be purchased at [www.sanramonperformingarts.com](http://www.sanramonperformingarts.com) or call (925) 973-3343.

of the Livermore-Amador Symphony, and Livermore Valley Opera. She is currently principal 2nd with Stockton Symphony, and member of 1st violin section with San Jose Chamber Orchestra.

French hornist William Harrington has been active in the Bay Area classical performance scene for the past 30 years, including assignments with the San Francisco Opera and Ballet Orchestras. He is currently principle horn with West Edge Opera.

Flutist Kris Palmer made her New York recital debut at Carnegie Hall in 2001 as a winner in the Artists International Competition. Palmer performs regularly on flute, alto flute, and recorder.

Paul Rhodes has served as principal cellist of the Napa, Modesto, and Vallejo Symphonies, and Fresno Philharmonic. Currently Rhodes serves as Assistant Principal Cellist with the Sacramento Philharmonic,

and member of the Oakland-East Bay Symphony and Carmel Bach Festival Orchestra.

Pianist Danielle Naler is a frequent concerto, recital, and chamber music performer throughout the Bay Area and beyond. Recent performances include Bella Sorella, Livermore Valley Opera, Pacific Masterworks Chorus, and of course Pleasanton Chamber Players.

Harpist and PCP Founding Director Dominique Piana grew up in Belgium and studied at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Brussels. Piana is currently on the music faculty of Holy Names University in Oakland. As concert soloist, she tours regularly throughout Europe and North America, specializing in historical recitals of the harp repertoire as well as her own compositions.

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





## Author to Present Program

The program, "Growing Up In a Frank Lloyd Wright House," will be presented by author Kim Bixler at the Pleasanton Library.

The talk will be at 5:30 p.m. on Mon., March 25.

Bixler spent her childhood in a beautiful house designed by renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Her stories about growing up in an historical landmark are detailed in a new book titled "Growing Up In a Frank Lloyd Wright House." Her multi-media presentation will take the audience through the joys and pitfalls of owning a Wright-designed home. She



**Kim Bixler is the author of 'Growing Up in a Frank Lloyd Wright House.'**

will share family photographs, personal anecdotes and explain the tumultuous history of the house.

All library programs are free and open to the public. No registration is required.

For more information, please contact Kim Bixler at [kimbixler@earthlink.net](mailto:kimbixler@earthlink.net).

## Friends of Pleasanton Library Book Sale Scheduled

The Friends of the Pleasanton Public Library will host the Spring Book Sale 2013 on Friday, March 22, Saturday, March 23, and Sunday, March 24 in the large meeting room of the library.

The Friday night sale will run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. for members only of the Friends of the Library, (you can join and pay the reasonable membership fee at the door); then the sale is open to everyone on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Due to limited aisle space, no strollers are allowed. Electronic

devices are also prohibited at the event.

More than 40,000 donated books of all types from bestsellers to biographies to children's picture books will be for sale, with paperbacks costing 50-cents and hardbacks and large-format paperbacks a dollar. The books are in good to perfect condition and are a great bargain. There will also be videos and other media for sale.

The Friends of the Pleasanton Library is a 501c3 non-profit organization created to support the Library. All revenues from the Book Sale support new materials



programs and equipment at the library.

The Friends are seeking adult volunteers to help set up the sale and during the

# Poetry Reading Set at Ravenswood

The City of Livermore and poet laureate Cher Wollard invite the public to attend an afternoon of poetry at Ravenswood Historic Site on Sunday, March 17, at 2 p.m.

Susan Wilson of Livermore and Robert Eastwood of San Ramon will be featured readers. An Open Mic will follow.

The event is open to the public. Admission is \$5; students with ID will be admitted free.

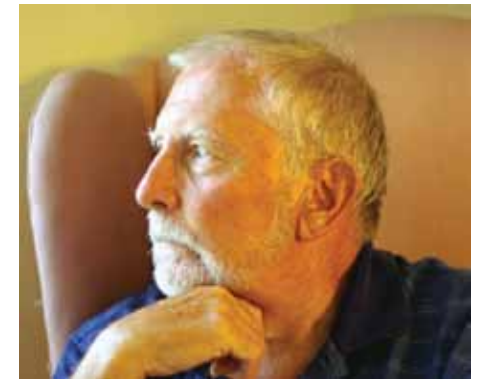
Wilson, *Medicine Dreaming Woman*, is of Cherokee, Choctaw, English and Dutch ancestry. She is a trained Medicine Woman practitioner, teacher and an award winning writer, poet and playwright.

Her writing has been published in several anthologies, literary magazines and websites, and local newspapers, including: *Gems of Wisdom-A Book of Elder Poetry and Prose*, *Bread of Life Anthology*, *Language and Culture.net*, *Bitter Root*, *Rising Sap: University of Kentucky*, and *August Candlelight: University of Kentucky*.

She was awarded the



**Susan Wilson and Robert Eastwood are the guest poets.**



Lydia Wood prize in 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2012, and was the 1997 winner of the Stanford University Medical Center Poetry Award. Wilson teaches creative writing and meditation classes in Livermore and the greater Bay Area. She is currently working on a collection of poetry, a memoir, and a novel.

Wilson lives in Livermore and Crockett.

Eastwood began writing poetry and fiction in college.

His work has appeared in many journals, online and in print. Recent publications include *The Dirty Napkin*, *Fiction 365*, *Full of Crow*, *Softblow*, *The Legendary*, *Wild Goose Review*, *Loch*

*Raven Review*, and *eunoia* review.

His poetry has won numerous prizes, including the Berkeley Poets' Dinner Grand Prize and the Ale-house Prize. He has twice been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Eastwood's three chapbooks, *The Welkin*

*Gate*, *Over Plainsong*, *Night of the Moth*, were published by Small Poetry Press.

Ravenswood is located at 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

For more information, contact Cher Wollard at [cherw@livermorelit.com](mailto:cherw@livermorelit.com) or 925 824-4824.

## Niles Canyon Train Rides Begin in April

The Niles Canyon Railway kicks off its spring season with an all steam weekend on April 6 and 7. Two trains will run between Sunol and Niles (Fremont) through scenic and historic Niles Canyon. Featured is the public debut of the newly restored Clover Valley #4 as well as the Quincy #2.

Built by Baldwin in 1924 for the Clover Valley Lumber Company the #4 has just completed a multi year restoration and federal inspection. It is the only operating mallet type locomotive based on the west coast.

The NCRy will run public excursions on the first and third Saturday's and Sunday's each month through August. A steam and diesel locomotive is scheduled to operate on each weekend. Trains from Sunol Station depart hourly between 10:30am and 2:30pm and Niles from 11:20am and 2:20pm. The round trip takes approximately an hour and a half. Diesel locomotives



**The Quincy #2 in Niles Canyon**

will operate on a reduced schedule in September and October on the first and third Sunday's only.

The Niles Canyon Railway is a preserved segment of the original 1869 transcontinental railroad on the National Register of Historic Places. It is an operating railroad museum run by volunteers of the Pacific Locomotive Association, a 501c3 non-profit. More information on the web at [www.ncry.org](http://www.ncry.org)

sale hours.

For book sale or volunteer information, please call Nancy Bering, (925) 462-4362.

## An Artist Guiding Artists Intense Creativity at el Sol Winery

by Harry Stoll

Could be a Monet, a Manet, or a Man Ray at one of these easels in an anteroom at el Sol Winery in Livermore, where a group of inexperienced artists are to create a representation of the painting of the el Sol label set in the open end of the U of tables. They are not copying it. A representation of an object is not the object, it's a creation unique to itself.

Muralist and art teacher Sharon Costello guides them. She says she has been creating art, "forever and ever." She talks about the tools of the trade in front of each of them: four red-handled brushes of various sizes and one blue-handled brush, considerably wider than the others. She says the brass band securing the brush to the handle is a ferrule. A small matter, perhaps, but useful in getting the artist to be at ease with the tools.

Sharon talks about the palette with dabs of gel watercolors each artist will be using. "Get your brush wet," says Sharon, "and always take from the side of the color."

Also there is an amber ruler, an essential tool. The process starts rather mechanically, with the ruler. The el Sol label features most of a bright orange sun in the upper right hand corner. Sharon says to take the ruler, measure 4 1/2 inches in, make a dot and repeat for 4 1/2 inches down. Then measure 3 inches in and 2 3/4 inches down and make another dot. She then makes an arc of orange, connecting the dots, and there's the boundary of the sun. The ruler is used to spot other parts of each artist's painting—distant gold mountains, rolling green hills, a purple bottle



Budding artists with easels lined up.

with and orange or yellow label. The final touch is the filling in of an expanse of blue sky.

Sharon moves among them, mixing praise, criticism, and advice, sometimes holding up an artist's work for the group to admire. During the mechanical phase of the dots, Sharon points out that although measurements are taken, eventually, "What comes out is your style."

Co-owner and winemaker Hal Liske is introduced. He welcomes the artists and says several wines will be poured, including a Sauvignon Blanc, a Pinot Grigio Rosé, a Tempranillo, a Merlot, and a Cabernet Sauvignon. At first the artists are so into their work, they pay scant attention to the wine, which is being poured at each place by Olivia Little, who says she is "... a long time friend of Sharon."

The room is pretty much

silent with eyes narrowed at the easel in front with the original, then back to their work, with something in their brain sending the message of what they want along the nervous system to their arms, hands, and fingers, and miracles take shape.

Sharon's easy laugh sometimes borders on raucous. This artist is personable but definitely not gushy. She talks of the importance of the subtlety between shadow and light, and points out that in the painting in front of them, "The light comes from the top."

"Always clean your brush," says Sharon. Each place has a glass container of water and a paper towel for that purpose. "If you need clean water or another towel, ask and Olivia or I will bring them." That happens often. The artists are fastidious about their brushes as they change colors to create the

gold mountains and the green hills.

Kyle Kurpinski is the only male artist at this session. He's a scientist at UC Berkeley. "I signed him up," says Stephanie Eistetter, who is at the easel next to him. Sharon gives him a hand for being the only male and puts him at ease. His arm and hand make nice long smooth strokes as he creates the green hills, with dark spaces between them, and light at the top, the way Sharon said it should be.

"Don't be afraid to make mistakes," says Sharon, noting that mistakes can sometimes turn into a brilliant idea.

A few artists take time for a sip of wine. Hal has also provided some nice snacks, including five cheeses, one of which is Manchego that pairs well with the Tempranillo, the everyday wine of Spain. The Manchego is a

sharp tasty cheese from La Mancha, Spain, where Don Quixote tilted the windmills. The artists keep steadfastly to their task.

When it's time for the artists to put in the bottle, Sharon says, "Don't be afraid to use the ruler if you think you can't draw a straight line." Many versions of the bottle emerge. "That looks like a Ranch Dressing bottle," says Sharon about one of the bottles. She points out that the bottle's sides are not perfectly vertical but are a bit wider at the shoulder than the bottom.

Only two of the artists have tried to paint before and the talent that emerges is inspiring. Sharon as a teacher is a nice balance between encouraging creativity and insisting on discipline. Finally—among the yellow sun, gold mountains, green hills, and purple and green bottle—the artists fill in the blue of the firmament.

Proud artists, all smiles, posed for a group picture with their creations. They are Katie Baker, Lynda Ballard, Kyle Durpinski, Stephanie Eistetter, Daun Elmore, Stacy Hudson, Louise Jones, Cynthia McMahan, Lori Pavich, Norma Jean Robles, Carol Turner, and Brook Witherspoon.

They received three hours of dedication and inspiration (and wine and snacks) for \$45. The plan is to teach painting at el Sol every four weeks.

Sharon offers these sessions regularly at many different venues. She provides the canvas, easels, paint, brushes, and aprons. To schedule an event or join one, contact her: Sharon Costello. 925.321.0214, [www.BrushstrokesAndWineNotes.com](http://www.BrushstrokesAndWineNotes.com)

### Glimpse of History Offered in 'Livermore' Book

The Livermore Heritage Guild will present a program featuring the authors of the new book, "Images of America - Livermore." Loretta Kaskey, book project leader, and John Christen collaborated to bring the book to publication. They will be the guest speakers on Wed., March 20.

This pictorial history includes more than 200 vintage images, along with the story of how Livermore has changed over the years. The book covers a period of time when growth brought tremendous changes to the Livermore valley. In 1930, the population was around 3,000. By 1965, there were 25,300 residents due to the arrival of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory and Sandia Corporation in the early 1950's.

Several other big projects brought people and jobs to the area, such as construction of the Hetch Hetchy Dam, 1927-34. Also in the 1930's, the WPA and other work projects helped to develop Livermore's infrastructure and downtown area. Livermore's first airport built in 1929, was used to train pilots during WWII.

The history lecture will be held at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the lecture starting at 7:30 p.m. Come early for conversation and refreshments. The lecture is open to everyone. A \$2 donation is suggested.

For more information, call 443-9740.

'La Traviata' Review

## Opening Night Belonged to Violetta

by Sarah Bobson

Opening night of Livermore Valley Opera's current production of Giuseppe Verdi's "La Traviata" clearly belonged to Rebecca Davis singing the role of Violetta and to Stage Director Brian Luedloff's contemporizing.

As for Ms. Davis, I can't remember a Livermore audience breaking into such rousing applause and whistles after the soprano's first aria. How could they not after the way she sang the famous, extremely difficult "Sempre libera" in Act I. It's an aria that requires superhuman feats of the voice. Davis was up to the task. She sings with a rich, full-bodied, velvety voice, with dramatic low notes, beautiful pianissimos and forte high notes, coloratura runs, and a high E flat that not only sounded effortless but as though they'd been dipped in honey. She looked and acted the emotionally challenging dual role of the 23-year-old with tuberculosis and the hospital patient.

Luedloff has contemporized the traditional opera of the worldly Parisian courtesan Violetta Valery, who falls in love with a young man, Alfredo Germont, only to be forced to give him up. In traditional productions, "La Traviata" is set around 1700. Luedloff begins and ends the opera in 2013 and frames it within a literary context. In the Prologue and in the final scene in Act III, a woman is seen lying in a hospital bed hallucinating in a morphine-induced state as she reads passages from *La Dame aux camellias*, *The Lady of the Camellias*, by Alexandre Dumas, fils, the novel upon which the opera is based. These scenes book-



Performing in 'La Traviata' are Rebecca Davis as Violetta and David Gustafson as Alfredo.

end the scenes in between, which take place in 1848, the original time period in the book.

It's tricky business to play with time. There's the risk of not only obscuring the original intent of the story, but of making it difficult for the audience to decipher which time sequence they're viewing. In the LVO production, we know the time frame because of the contemporary dress of the nurse in the hospital scenes in the Prologue and the third act, as well as the supertitles and the program notes. The time shifts rather seamlessly except for an occasional rip that brings one out of the context of the opera. Here are two examples: In the hospital room at the end of

Act III, Alfredo joins Violetta but they never touch. They can't because he represents the character in the book, and because she's hallucinating. Still, it's a rip.

This production is rife with the layering of symbolism meant to show the hypocrisy of 19th century Parisian life. We see this in the display of various curtains downstage and in an upstage scrim, and in the layers of Violetta's clothing. In Act I, after her guests leave, Violetta disrobes down to her underwear (this can't be easy to do while singing), thus peeling away not only layers of clothing but also layers of the societal pretense of the demimonde in which she, her fellow courtesans, and their pa-

trons live. By the end of the opera, the layers completely disappear, leaving a broken, vulnerable woman dying alone on the floor in a thin hospital gown.

Given Luedloff's intriguing interpretation, it almost seems a sacrilege to mention a few trouble spots in the production. Some of the staging, for example, seemed awkward or unfinished. Although the chorus members sounded very robust, and they looked deliciously lusty as denizens of the demimonde, there were too darn many of them on stage. This resulted in their standing in indistinguishable clumps or herding on and off stage, all of which had the effect of contradicting the elegant, stylized look of

the opera's quieter moments. Perhaps that was deliberate, but the same effect could have been achieved with fewer bodies on stage.

Two other trouble spots are also worth mentioning. Sometimes the supertitles ran off the teleprompter, while at other times they appeared before anyone was actually singing. Then there were the long, silent delays between the two scene shifts, when the stage was dark. It was hard to tell whether this was planned or there was trouble backstage.

In addition to Ms. Davis, the production has a wonderful selection of singers. Tenor David Gustafson can disarm with his voice and his acting. Although in Act I his transitions from piano to forte often seemed abrupt, with his fortes sounding pushed to achieve a larger, more powerful tone, by Act II, his strong voice had achieved more balance. He gave a full emotional range to Alfredo, the love-sick puppy who morphs into an enraged, spurned lover.

Torlef Borsting's rich baritone voice and subdued acting gave the role of the despised father a nuance that isn't always seen in "La Traviata." Germont can be played as a stern, tough patriarch who will stop at nothing to make good matches for his children, even if that means preventing the final happiness of a dying young woman. But in this production, Borsting breathes compassion and humanity into the character from beginning to end.

Bettany Coffland is delicious in the small role of party guest Flora Bervoix. The other singers in supporting roles – Jennifer Mitch-

ell, Christopher Sponseller, Jason Sarten, Christopher Rogers, David Zelenka, and Julio Ferrari – do admirable jobs in their all-too-brief appearances.

The orchestra, under the baton of Maestro Alex Katsman, produced some exquisitely beautiful sounds, especially the violins in the opening bars, where they rendered heart-wrenching tenderness laced with pathos.

The stark sets in the hospital scenes in the Prologue and Act III (a real hospital bed is used) and the lush Paris salon scenes in Act II were exquisite. The period costumes were a sight to behold, even if the low-cut corsets pushing up bosoms made the female choristers look self-conscious to the point of draping shawls across their chests every chance they got.

All performances take place at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore.

Tickets for next Saturday evening's performance, March 16th, at 8:00 p.m., and next Sunday's matinee, March 17th at 2:00 p.m., are available at the box office, at 925-373-6800, or at [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

Prices are: adults \$39-\$74; students 18 and younger \$10 off on all days, all seating sections (student ID required). Included in the ticket price is a pre-performance lecture one hour prior to curtain. A traditional artist's reception is held in the lobby immediately following each performance.

For more information about LVO, visit [www.livermorevalleyopera.org](http://www.livermorevalleyopera.org).

## ART &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

**ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS**

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

**Art Happens**, 2nd Thursday of each month, 6 to 9 p.m. March 14, April 11. Downtown Livermore. Art displays, poetry, entertainment, special events. For the brochure go to [www.bothwellartscenter.org](http://www.bothwellartscenter.org).

**California: Earth, Air, Water, Fire, Life.** Exhibit at the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, March 2 through April 6. Exhibition interprets and honors nature in California, and features painter Engela Olivier-Wilson, photographer William Hackett, and sculptor/designer Matthew Nylander. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12-5 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Admission is free, donations always appreciated.

**Art Show**, Livermore artist Maryann Kot is showing her art at the Wente Winery tasting room at 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore for the month of March. Hours 11 AM to 4:30 PM

**Livermore artist, Gloria Sayers**, is exhibiting her paintings at the café at Garre Winery, 7986 Tesla Road, Livermore for the months of March and April. The café is open weekdays 11 am to 2 p.m. and weekends 11 am to 3 p.m.

**Seasons of the Valley**, an exhibit of the art of Bettie Goosman is displayed at The Purple Orchid Inn, 4549 Cross Rd., Livermore. Art can be viewed daily from 8 am to 6 pm. For more information call (925) 606-8855

**Cuda Ridge Wines** features work of local photographers, Jennie and Chuck McGregor featuring Livermore landscapes, runs through March 31st. The winery is located at 5385 East Avenue in Livermore. The art is on display, and available for purchase, during normal tasting hours from Fri.-Sun., 12:00 - 4:30.

**Paper Cuts of Livermore Wineries and Vineyards** features the work of Madelynn Ellis. Second floor Pleasanton Art League Wall at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton from March 5 through April 2. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Saturday 12-5pm and Saturdays 11am to 3pm. There will be a reception on Wednesday evening, March 6 from 7 to 9 pm open to the public. Inquiries regarding the show can be made by contacting the artist by email at [mtellis@pacbell.net](mailto:mtellis@pacbell.net) or by telephone at (925) 462-7964.

**Relatively Speaking**, an exhibit featuring artists who are related, will be on display at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street in Livermore, from March 6 to May 7. An artist reception will be

held during Downtown's Art Happens on March 14 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Artists include Louise Gray, Andrew Roberts-Gray, Jonathon Miler, Joanna Crawshaw, Ronald Rigge, Lisa Rigge, Linda Ryan, and Grace Ryan.

**Livermore Art Association**, spring show, April 6 and 7, The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Reception and awards ceremony, Sat., April 6, 7 to 9 p.m. Public is invited. No admission charge.

**Essential Nude Figurative Show**, April 18-21, Bothwell Arts Center, 8th and H Streets, Livermore. Reception on April 18, 7 p.m. No admission charge. [www.LivermoreArtAssociation.org](http://www.LivermoreArtAssociation.org).

**Fresh Work III**: Open Juried Exhibit, Harrington Gallery, April 24-May 25, reception and awards April 27, 1 to 3 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**MEETINGS/CLASSES**

**Livermore Art Association, Pleasanton Art League**, meeting Mon., March 18, 7:30 p.m. Cultural Arts Building, 4455 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Patti Heimburger, will present a program on textual art. [www.LivermoreArtAssociation.org](http://www.LivermoreArtAssociation.org).

**Drawing Classes** at the Figurehead Gallery taught by Ozell Hudson Jr., MFA. Tuesdays, Portrait Drawing, April 9 through June, 11, Morning Series 9-11AM, Evening Series 7-9PM. Wednesdays, Head Drawing, April 10 through June 12, Morning Series 9-11AM; Evening Series 7-9PM. The series of 10 classes is \$250.

Contact 925-353-0419 or email [ball@figureheadgallery.com](mailto:ball@figureheadgallery.com) to register. The Figurehead Gallery is located at 2222 2nd St., Livermore. Visit [figureheadgallery.com](http://figureheadgallery.com) for more information.

**Introduction to Analytical and Observational Perspective Drawing Classes** at the Figurehead Gallery taught by Carolyn Lord. No prerequisites. Offered 4/21 through 6/10. 8 consecutive weeks, skipping Memorial Day. Two sessions offered: Sunday evenings, 6-8PM or Monday mornings, 9-11AM. All materials and art supplies included. Class fee is \$200. Contact 925-353-0419 or email [ball@figureheadgallery.com](mailto:ball@figureheadgallery.com) to register. The Figurehead Gallery is located at 2222 2nd St., Livermore. Visit [figureheadgallery.com](http://figureheadgallery.com) for more information.

**Fine Art on Friday**, 10 a.m. with Art Critique & Coffee at the Corner Bakery Cafe, Pleasanton Gateway Plaza. Professional, Local and Emerging Artists of the San Francisco Bay Area. Contact Claudette for more information 510 543-4776.

**Classes, Colored Pencil Classes "Basics and Beyond."** Instructor Maryann Kot. Starting at 6:30 PM-9:00 PM on Tues., March 19th for five weeks. Classes will be held at the Bothwell Arts Center 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Sign up at Way Up Art and Frame, Livermore. 925-443-3388. Space is limited. See Maryann's paintings at Wente Winery, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. March 1st through March 28th

**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](mailto:microangelo@earthlink.net).

**WINERY EVENTS**

**Live music and special events, Winemaker's Pour House**, 2241 First St., Livermore. [www.winemakerspourhouse.com](http://www.winemakerspourhouse.com). March 14, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Meredith McHenry Rock; March 15, 7 to 10 p.m., Joey T; March 16, 6:30 to 9 p.m., Chris LeBel; St. Patrick's Day at the Winemaker's Pour House, 5 to 8 p.m. Sun., March 17. Live music with Pog Mo Thoin, Gabe Duffin, Celtic and Irish folk music, special Irish menu.

**Charles R Vineyards**, 8195 Crane Ridge Rd., Livermore. March 16 and 17, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Find a gold medal Zinfandel served with gold and green mini tarts (while supply lasts). Paintings by Livermore teen, Jesse Moore, will be on display. He blends a broad range of style and colors in abstract qualities with impressionism. [www.CharlesRVineyards.com](http://www.CharlesRVineyards.com)

**21st Annual Chocolate and Cabernet Weekend**, March 16 and 17, 2013, Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 5:00 pm. Fenestra Winery, Livermore. Wines paired with chocolate—both savory recipes and sweet chocolate treats. Featured guest chefs will be El Sacromonte, of Livermore, Incontro Ristorante, of Danville, along with others. The \$15.00 event charge includes a buffet plate, logo wineglass, decadent pairings, and recipes. Event charge for wine club members, non-drinkers, and children is \$5.00. For information, phone 925-447-5246, e-mail [info@fenestrawinery.com](mailto:info@fenestrawinery.com) or visit the web site at [www.fenestrawinery.com](http://www.fenestrawinery.com).

**Barrel Tasting Weekend**, noon to 4:30 p.m., March 23 and 24, 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 one barrel sample for each ticket holder. Chance to pre-purchase wines before they have even been bottled (aka "futures")! Tickets are \$35 in advance/\$40 event day and includes barrel tasting at over 30 wineries on Saturday and Sunday, a logo wine glass and wine tasting map. Visit [www.LVwine.org](http://www.LVwine.org) for tickets and a list of participating wineries.

**MUSIC/CONCERTS**

**Chris Bradley's Jazz Band** will appear at The Castle Rock Restaurant in Livermore/at Portola Ave. Band performs 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Dance Floor, Small Cover.

**Story Road, featuring members of Molly's Revenge**, concert 7

p.m. Sat., March 16, St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Great music, Good Food - traditional Irish Fare. Child care will be provided. Tickets are \$40.00 for adults, \$25.00 for children. Membership in St. Clare's is not required. To purchase tickets, please call the Church office: 925-462-4802 or e-mail [david.wildy@gmail.com](mailto:david.wildy@gmail.com), [www.stclarepleasanton.org](http://www.stclarepleasanton.org)

**10th Anniversary Concert for Pleasanton Chamber Players**. Sunday, March 17, 2:00 p.m. Celebrating 10 years of classical chamber music, PCP presents a varied afternoon program. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. Tickets \$12-\$25 available at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), 925-931-4848, or at the Box Office at the center.

**Steve Seskin & Friends** The Songwriters sing, March 16, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, Albion Rd., San Ramon; [sanramonperformingarts.com](http://sanramonperformingarts.com). 973-3343.

**Archetti Baroque String Ensemble**, Del Valle Fine Arts concert, March 23, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Beatles tribute**, the Sun Kings, March 30, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**Jesse Cook**, April 5, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Livermore-Amador Symphony**, April 6, 8 p.m. guest conductor potpourri: Dawn Harms. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Joni Morris: A tribute to the Legendary Ladies of Country Music**, April 6, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**Pleasanton Community Concert Band**, Spring Concert, "A Concerted Effort," 2 p.m. April 7, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Free admission.

**Kathy Mattea**, April 11, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**The Beatles Concert Experience**, West Coast Performing Arts Presenters, April 14, 3 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankhead-theater.org](http://www.bankhead-theater.org) or 373-6800.

**Arlo Guthrie**, April 22, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**The Paris Combo**, April 24, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**The Lettermen**, April 26, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Debussy Trio**, Del Valle Fine Arts concert, April 27, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [\[headtheater.org\]\(http://headtheater.org\) or 373-6800.](http://www.bank-</a></p>
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**ON THE STAGE**

**Tickets for the 32nd year of the Sunol Repertory Theatre** are on sale at Ellis-ton Winery, 463 Kilkare Rd. Tickets can be purchased for \$15 on Sat. & Sun. between 11am-4pm. This is a first for the theatre "Murder in the House of Horrors" A Who Done It Mystery. Performances are Fri. & Sat March 15, 16, 22 & 23 at Sunol Glen School 11601 Main St. Sunol. Doors open at 7:30. Performance starts at 8 p.m. Beverages are sold at intermission by charitable organizations.

**Ivy and Bean, The Musical**, March 9-17, 11 a.m., 2 and 4:30 p.m. Front Row Theater, Dougherty Station Community Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon; [sanramonperformingarts.com](http://sanramonperformingarts.com). 973-3343.

**Student One Acts**, Mar. 20, 12:30 p.m. and Mar. 22, 8 pm. Black Box Theater, Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. 424-110.

**Forever Plaid**, March 22 - 30, Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. Presented by the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre. 925-314-3400, [www.danville.ca.gov](http://www.danville.ca.gov)

**Menopause The Musical**, April 10, 7:39 p.m., April 12 and 13 8 p.m. and April 13 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Includes lesson guide. [www.ctcinc.org](http://www.ctcinc.org), 800-606-0424.

**Hair**, spring musical, Las Positas College, April 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21. Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. \$10 students/seniors, \$15 general admission. [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com) or 1-800-838-3006.

**She Loves Me**, Pacific Coast Repertory Theater, weekends April 12-28, 8 p.m. Fri. & Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**Cinderella**, April 19 - May 5, Presented by San Ramon Community Theatre, Front Row Theater, Dougherty Station Community Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon; [sanramonperformingarts.com](http://sanramonperformingarts.com). 973-3343.

**It's Magic**, April 21, 3 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Best of the Best**, Sat., April 27, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, showcasing performing arts students. Las Positas College Foundation fundraising. 424-1100.

**Reach for the Stars**, Livermore Valley Education Foundation fund-raiser for arts in the schools, April 28, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Requiem for a Heavyweight**, Role Players Ensemble, April 26 - May 18, 2013: Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville. \$20-\$28: [www.village theatreshows.com](http://www.village theatreshows.com), or 925-314-3400; or the Community Center, 420 Front St.

**COMEDY**

**Creatures of Impulse**, teen improv troupe, presents Improv Face Off, in three different performances all at 7:30pm. Each unique show is based loosely on a Hunger Games-styled theme, and each features a different guest opponent troupe. Thursday, 3/14 with Think Fast from Granada High School; Friday, 3/15 with Improv the Nation from Dublin High School; Saturday, 3/16 with professional troupe The UN-Scripted Theater Company from San Francisco. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Students \$5 advance, \$8 door; adults \$10 advance, \$15 door. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), 925-931-4848, or at the Box Office at the center. Free parking.

**MOVIES**

**Free Classic Film Series**, Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, 1st Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. through June 6, 2013. The program is hosted by Candy Klaschus, a film historian who coordinates the Humanities program at Las Positas College. The programs are free and all are welcome to attend. Penny Johnson at [925/931-3405](http://925/931-3405).

**Annual International Film Series**, Vine Cinema and Alehouse, 1722 First St., Livermore. Final film, "Le Concert," will be shown at 7:30 p.m. on Thurs., March 14. (France/Russia, 2009, 100 Minutes, Russian/French with subtitles). Purchase tickets online at [eastbayjewishfilm.org](http://eastbayjewishfilm.org) or 510.318.6484, or at the door. Co-sponsored by Congregation Beth Emek, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, Temple Beth Torah, Tri-Valley/Tri-Cities Midrasa, Jewish Federation of the East Bay.

**Gitme Shelter**, film is about the 1969 Altamont Concert featuring the Rolling Stones. The movie will be shown at 7 p.m., March 27, Vine Cinema and Alehouse, Livermore. Presented by the Livermore Heritage Guild. There will be a Q&A with Ron Schneider, 1969 Rolling Stone's USA tour manager and executive producer of the film. \$10 at the door. 1722 First St., Livermore. [www.vinecinema.com](http://www.vinecinema.com).

**DANCE**

**Las Vegas Contemporary dance theatre**, April 13, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, Albion Rd., San Ramon; [sanramonperformingarts.com](http://sanramonperformingarts.com). 973-3343.

**Friday Evening Group Dance!** Learn how to dance with great instructors from It's All About Dancing, new dance every week from Salsa, Tango, Swing and more. Group lesson starts at 7:30, followed by open dance until 9:45 in our new location at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore; 925-449-9292. \$15.

**VOLUNTEER**

**Firehouse Arts Center Volunteer Program Orientation:** The Firehouse Arts Center has a dynamic, award-winning volunteer organization, and is holding its Spring Orientation on

# ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, March 28, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Firehouse Theater, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton. Positions include usher, greeter, and gallery docent. Attending orientation is mandatory prior to serving. Must be age 16 or older. For more information and to pre-register, contact program coordinator Jen Koch, [jkoch@cityof-pleasantonca.gov](mailto:jkoch@cityof-pleasantonca.gov) or 925-931-4846. RSVP appreciated.

## AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

**Livermore Shakespeare Festival**, auditions Saturday, March 16, 2013 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at The Train Depot (east entrance near the farmer's market) at 22 South L Street in Livermore. Male actors age 45-70 are needed for the role of Vincentio, and understudy and ensemble roles. High school and college age students are needed for paid college apprenticeships in acting, management and production, and non-paid high school internships. Students may receive community service hours for their involvement. College students can arrange college credit through University of the Pacific if desired. Email [Lisa@LivermoreShakes.org](mailto:Lisa@LivermoreShakes.org) to schedule an appointment, or call 925-443-BARD (2273).

**Children's Choir Auditions.** Galina's Music Studio is currently holding open auditions for its youth choir ages 7 to 17 on Friday, March 15th, 6-7 p.m. and on Friday, March 22nd, 6-7 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 2222 Second St., Suite 2, Livermore. Please submit an audition information form online at [www.galinasmusicstudio.com](http://www.galinasmusicstudio.com). For more information go to [www.galinasmusicstudio.com](http://www.galinasmusicstudio.com) or call (925) 960-1194.

**Auditions - Oliver**, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre. Vocal auditions April 8 and 9, kids 13 and under 7 to 8 p.m., adults 8 p.m.; dance auditions April 11, kids at 7 p.m., adults 8 p.m. Callbacks April 13 at 11 a.m. Open auditions. No appointments. Please prepare 32 bars up-tempo Broadway. Please bring sheet music in your key. No transposing, no a cappella. 1020 Serpentine Lane Suite 101 in Pleasanton. [www.trivalleyrep.org/auditions.php](http://www.trivalleyrep.org/auditions.php)

## CHORAL

**Valley Concert Chorale**, Songs of Serenity: Featuring the music of two of the choral world's most creative contemporary composers, Las Positas College Chamber Choir will join the Chorale in performing Durufle's beautiful Requiem, and Lauridsen's moving Lux Aeterna. Sat., April 13, 7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 4th & L Streets, Livermore. Tickets are \$20 advance, \$25 at the door. High school and college students \$10 with valid student ID. Children 12 and under are free. [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org) or (925) 866-4003

## OPERA

**La Traviata by Verdi**, presented by Livermore Valley Opera. Sat., March 16, 8 p.m.; Sun., March 17, 2 p.m.. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St.,

Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Opera San José** continues its 29th season with Suor Angelica & Gianni Schicchi, a double-bill of Giacomo Puccini operas with libretti by Giovacchino Forzano. Eight performances are scheduled from April 13 through 28 at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San José. Tickets are on sale at the Opera San José box office, online at [operasj.org](http://operasj.org) or by phone at (408) 437-4450. The Suor Angelica & Gianni Schicchi production is made possible, in part, by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San José.

**Metropolitan Opera Schedule**, screening at Regal Hacienda Cinema in Dublin: p.m.; Parsifal, March 20, 6:30 p.m.; Francesca da Rimini, March 16, 9 a.m., April 3, 6:30 p.m.; Giulio Cesare, April 27, 9 a.m., May 15, 6:30 p.m.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**New Lindsay Wildlife Museum classes**, 3-week long Saturday classes run from March 9-March 23 and April 13-27. The Signs of Spring class in March lets children discover how plants bloom, insects hatch, reptiles move, birds migrate and mammals get ready for babies as California awakens from the winter. The Water Explorations class in April lets young children have fun discovering the mysteries of water and water mixtures, and get a little wet in the process. Classes are 10-11 AM for age 2.5-5 with an adult, and 3-4:30 PM for age 4-6 (and teacher's helpers age 9-14). Register online at [www.wildlife-museum.org](http://www.wildlife-museum.org)

**Political Issues Book Club** meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions

**We're Talkin' Books! Club** is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Susan at 337-1282 regarding the *We're Talkin' Books! Club*.

**St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl**, March 15, 6 to 9 p.m. downtown Pleasanton. Downtown merchants, restaurants and local breweries. [www.pleasantondowntown.net](http://www.pleasantondowntown.net)

**St. Patrick's Day Festival**, March 16-17, Civic Center, Dublin. Parade on March 16. [www.ci.dublin.ca.us](http://www.ci.dublin.ca.us)

**Dunsmuir Hellman Historic Estate's "Great Egg Hunt"** on Saturday, March 30th, from 12:00pm - 3:00pm. Gates open at 11:00am. The event will feature scrambled hunts for collection of colored eggs, games, picnics, pet adoption, entertainment, face-painting and crafts; as well as pet-adoption, petting zoo, Mansion Tours, gift shop, kid's café, dancing bunnies, entertain-

ment by children's clown stilt-walkers and the celebrated appearance of the Easter Bunny. Adults \$5, ages 4 and up \$3, ages 3 and under free. For additional information, please call 510-615-5555. [www.dunsmuir-hellman.com](http://www.dunsmuir-hellman.com)

**An Evening with Titanic Expert Richard Shaw**, Tues., April 2, 7 p.m. Museum on Main Ed Kinney Lecture series, Join Titanic Expert Richard Shaw for stories of day-to-day activities on the Titanic as well as the famous and not-so-famous tales of passengers and crew. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**18th annual Mad Hatter's Tea Party**, hosted by Assistance League® of Amador Valley, will be held on April 13

from 12 - 4 at the Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. The event includes charming tea tables decorated by the members, delicious food, raffle prizes, lucky teacups, a hat contest and silent auction. Penny Warner will be the guest speaker. She is an award-winning author, family life columnist and child development educator. The tickets are \$50 and must be reserved by March 29. Proceeds from this event provide school clothes and shoes to children in need. For information, call Annette at (925) 462-5275, or go to [www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org](http://www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org).

**Run for the Parks**, April 14, 2013 - Sycamore Grove Park. 10K starts 9 a.m. - fee \$30 by April 12/\$35 on Race Day, 5K starts 9:10 a.m. - fee \$30 by April 12/\$35 on Race Day; kids' 1 mile fun

run starts 9:30 a.m. - fee \$10 by April 12/\$15 on Race Day; Special Family entry of \$25 per person is available to families of 4 or more. Funds raised go to support new trail development and park maintenance for the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District. Race day festivities will start and end at the Wente Vineyards Wine Garden area located at the main vineyard on Arroyo Road. [www.larpd.dst.ca.us/](http://www.larpd.dst.ca.us/)

**History Lecture**, Livermore Heritage Guild, speaker Henry Bailey, "The California State Guard." Wed., April 17, doors open 7 p.m. talk at 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation \$2. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

**Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club annual Plant Sale** on Saturday, April

27, 9am to 1pm at the parking lot of Amador Valley High School, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. All plants are grown by members of the garden club and are sold for low, low, prices. There will be an assortment of annuals, perennials, roses, succulents, vegetables and garden related items. Garden club members will provide expert advice. For more information call Bev at 925 485 7812.

**5th annual Wine Tasting Fund-raiser**, Sat., April 28, noon to 4 p.m. The Purple Orchid, 4549 Cross Rd., Livermore. Silent auction, wine tasting, finger food, live performance by John Lee Hooker, Jr. \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. Benefit for Leukemia and Lymphoma Societies. <http://winehike.ticketleap.com>. 413-7788.

## Livermore Police Officers to Ride in Unity Tour

On May 9, hundreds of law enforcement officers from across the United States will take part in a four day, 300 mile bicycle ride that starts at various locations and culminates at the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington DC. The primary purpose of the Police Unity Tour is to raise awareness for Law Enforcement Officers who have died in the line of duty. The Police Unity Tour also raises money for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial and Museum located in Washington DC.

The Livermore Police Department will support two of their officers who will be taking part in this event. Officer Cindy Moore, a 15 year veteran, is riding for the 2nd time. Officer Elaine Briggs, a 14 year veteran, is participating in the event for the 4th time. Officer Briggs and Officer Moore are riders with the Chapter 13 Northern CA Police Unity Tour. On May 9th, they will begin their ride in Hanover, New Jersey. On May 12th, they will join other officers from across the nation and ride as one to the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington DC.

Officer Briggs and Officer Moore have vowed to raise \$2,500 each to support the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Officers Moore and Briggs are asking for the community's support in their efforts to represent the City of Livermore and the Livermore Police Department in the Police Unity Tour.

Those who would like to support the officers and donate to the Police Unity Tour, there are several ways to do so. Donated online at [www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/livermore-policedepartment](http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/livermore-policedepartment), or write a check payable to the Police Unity Tour. Please write "Chapter 13" & "Livermore Police Officers" on the memo line of the check. Checks can be mailed to the Livermore Police Department, c/o Cindy Moore, 1110 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550. All donations are tax deductible.

On Thursday, March 21st, the Casa Orozco restaurants in Livermore and Dublin will be helping to support Officer Moore and Officer Briggs in their efforts to raise money for the National Law Enforcement Memorial. Patrons who present the attached Police Unity Tour flier to their Casa Orozco server will have 15% of their proceeds donated to the cause.

You may also get the flier from the Livermore Police Officer's Association Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/LivermorePOA](http://www.facebook.com/LivermorePOA)) or download it directly at <https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B4BiItBp1ZNmUmpRN2R3bVBXaDA/edit?usp=sharing>.

## Authors of Children's Books to Present Program at Library



**Lisa McMann (left) and Jennifer Nielsen to speak.**

On Thursday, March 21, the Pleasanton Public Library and Towne Center Books in Pleasanton will present New York Times best-selling author Lisa McMann, author of the popular children's Unwanted series and the Wake trilogy, and author Jennifer Nielsen, author of the exciting Ascendance trilogy.

McMann is launching Infinity Ring Book 4: The Trap Door. Nielsen is celebrating the release of The Runaway King, the second book in a trilogy. Both books will be available for purchase and autographs at the event.

The event will take place in the children's area of the library at 4:00 p.m. For more information on this and other library events, please visit the library website at [www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/services/library](http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/services/library), or call (925) 931-3400, ext. 8.

By counting through the Murray Township U.S. census for 1880, I have determined that Irish immigrants were in the majority. Second to them were the Germans. One of the problems in understanding the German immigration is that they were not all from the same country. When the Holy Roman Empire disbanded in 1806, central Europe, from Denmark south to the tip of the Italian "boot," contained many territories. Some of them were only a few square miles, others were much larger. In what is now called Germany, there existed the Grand Duchy of Baden, the Kingdom of Bavaria, the Electorate of Hesse, the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the Duchy of Nassau, and the Kingdom of Prussia as well as others. Prussia was by far the largest and, through diplomacy and war, managed to persuade many of them to join together. However, when early immigrants from Germany came to this country, many of the little territories were still legitimate entities, so when the census taker came calling in 1880 and asked for their country of origin, they rarely named Germany.

Prussia led the list of homelands of those coming to Livermore. Its ruler, Frederick William IV, insisted on ruling Prussia by "divine right." He strictly monitored the press, took away many previously won civil liberties, and drafted thousands of young men into his army. Samuel Levy at age 19 fled from the draft in his native village of Miloslaw (now in Poland) to the United States. Here in the Livermore area about 1871, he peddled merchandise from a

## Do You Remember?



By Anne Homan  
Livermore City Historian

### German Immigration to Livermore

wagon that was fitted with shelves and drawers like a store. When he had saved enough money, he built a two-story building at the southwest corner of First and J Streets, where he ran a general merchandise business.

Rostock was an important port on the Baltic Sea in Prussia. The Schrader family left in 1851 when Frederick "Fred" Schrader was ten years old. Perhaps they had older sons to protect from the draft, or maybe they were just thinking ahead for Fred's benefit. The family settled in Illinois and after learning his trade, Fred traveled around, settling in Livermore about 1887. Eventually, he bought property and opened his blacksmith shop, now the location of Blacksmith Square.

In 1866, Prussia fought against the Danes and won the two Danish territories closest to Prussia—the Duchy of Schleswig and the Duchy of Holstein. Many immigrants came to Livermore



Cecilie Lodge #10, April 3, 1910 in front of Odd Fellows Hall, Livermore.

from Holstein. The parents of Henry Mohr came here from Holstein in the 1850s, when Holstein was still a part of Denmark, so perhaps they should be considered Danes rather than Germans. They immigrated to Mt. Eden Township and acquired land. Their farm prospered. So many friends and relatives followed them from the old country that the area

was called "Little Copenhagen." Henry inherited 685 acres in Pleasanton when his parents died. He raised grain and sugar beets there. He also ran cattle and had a Holstein dairy herd. In 1910 he had 50 horses in his stable and was known for his breeding of Clydesdale and Shire draft horses.

Many of these men and their wives banded together

to form local branch #13 of the Sons of Hermann (Order der Hermann's Sohnes) in 1887. The matching Cecilie Lodge #10 was organized for women about the same time. Hermann was an early German folk hero who, with his army, defeated three invading Roman legions. There is an enormous statue of him near Detwald, Germany. The Sons of Hermann's motto was "Friendship, Love and Loyalty." The organization began selling life insurance to its members in 1875.

Carl Wentz immigrated to the U.S. because of the primogeniture laws still in effect in the Kingdom of Hanover. He had an older brother who would inherit all the land of their parents. So Carl came to California sometime in the 1870s looking for opportunities. He worked as a cellarman for Charles Krug in Napa County. There he gained knowledge in the winery industry and later met his future wife, Barbara Trautwein. They married and came to Livermore in 1883, where Carl eventually bought a 30-acre vineyard. In 1912 Barbara was the outgoing president of the Cecilie Lodge in 1912.

In 1897 the treasurer of the Sons of Hermann was Wendell Jordan, who was born in the Kingdom of Bavaria. He had come

to Livermore in 1874 and took over the running of the Livermore Brewery. His ad in the Herald said, "Beer delivered by the keg, or bottled, throughout the township." Fred Schrader built a "splendid" new brewery wagon for Jordan's business. By 1882 the brewery capacity was 400 barrels per year. Jordan helped to organize Livermore's Fire Department and acted as foreman for more than 20 years. He also served as a town trustee for six years, including two years as mayor.

Herman Goecken was a native of Aurich in the Kingdom of Saxony. He came to San Francisco in 1876 and to Livermore two years later. The family had a home and business in San Francisco as well as a ranch up on the Old Altamont Road. Southern Pacific built a railroad spur to Goecken's ranch so that he could easily ship horses, cattle, and hay to his San Francisco business. In 1906 the earthquake caught the family in the city, and they swiftly hitched up horses to their wagons, salvaged their furniture and personal belongings, and moved the family to Livermore. Their San Francisco home and business burned down, but they were safe. It took them three days to drive the wagons to Livermore.

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

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# BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to edit-mail@compuserve.com. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

**Tea Dance.** The Pleasanton VFW Post 6298 will host Tea Dance on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM, at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 301 Main Street, Pleasanton. Dance to the music of the 30's and 40's played by the Mellotones Combo. Cost is \$7, including refreshments. The Mellotones combo has been playing for various activities (private parties, celebrations, etc.) in the Tri-Valley area for the past several years. They play popular tunes of stage, screen and radio, plus all-time favorites from the Swing Era of the 1930s and 1940s.

**Ukulele Circle.** A new Ukulele Circle is being formed here in Livermore. All ages are welcome. Beginners are welcome. First meeting will be Saturday, March 30th, 12-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 2222 Second St., Suite 2, Livermore. Please submit a request form online at [www.GalinasMusicStudio.com](http://www.GalinasMusicStudio.com) or call us at (925) 960-1194. Ukuleles available for purchase. Small \$5 fee to cover costs.

**2013 Summer Youth Volunteer Program.** June 20-July 4, 2013, Sichuan, China. This two weeks volunteer program will help autism kids and teach English for the local under-privileged children. The volunteers will help in developing the local community websites with English translation. The web development training will be provided by the largest Chinese software provider, Neusoft. Contact info Cindy 925-523-3098; Judy 925-478-3970; Email: [info@chinawayusa.com](mailto:info@chinawayusa.com) www. [www.chinawayusa.com](http://www.chinawayusa.com)

**Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment (Tri-Valley CARES).** founded in 1983 in Livermore, California by concerned neighbors living around the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Tri-Valley CARES' overarching mission is to promote peace, justice and a healthy environment. All are welcome at the monthly meeting at the Livermore Civic Center Library Thursday, March 21 from 7:30pm to 9pm. For more information call Tri-Valley CARES at (925) 443-7148 or visit our website at <http://trivalleycares.org>

**50 Shades of Red,** casino and auction evening benefit the Livermore and Granada High School Safe & Sober Grad Night. April 12, 7 to 11 p.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Evening includes light appetizers, raffle prizes, starter chips for gaming, dancing, silent and live auctions. \$45 in advance, \$50 at the door. [www.lhsgradnight.org](http://www.lhsgradnight.org) or [www.gradnight.org](http://www.gradnight.org).

**Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club.** Sat., March 16, 50/65/75 miles. Feather Pedals ride starting at Sycamore Park and Ride in Danville, meet 9 a.m., Rebecca Wood, 577-3842. Sat., March 16, 45 miles from San Ramon to summit of Mt. Diablo, meet 9:30 a.m. at Central Park, Alberto Lansas, 510-825-9581. Sun., March 17, 30-55+, St. Patrick's Day ride, meet 9:30 a.m. at Bollinger Park and Ride, Susan O'Neer, 389-6279, Mark O'Neer, 408-687-8640. Wed., March 20, 32 miles down Foothill Rd. to Sunol RR station, meet 9 a.m. at Livermore Cyclerly in Dublin, Jane Moorhead, 980-9889. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

**Scholarship, Chapter FX, of the P.E.O. Sisterhood** (a philanthropic and educational organization promoting women's education) announces that applications are available

for their annual \$1500 Marcia M. Howie Memorial Scholarship. Open to any female graduating senior intending to further her education by attending an accredited college, business school, cosmetology or nursing course. Applicants must be residents of Livermore. When awarding these scholarships, financial need is considered, as well as scholastic achievement and extracurricular activities. Letters of recommendation and official transcripts must be attached to the application. Applications may be obtained from high school scholarship advisors, by email request to [bingyoung@comcast.net](mailto:bingyoung@comcast.net) or by sending a stamped, self addressed envelope to: Chapter FX, P.E.O., 1961 Evans Street, Livermore CA94550. If there are any questions, please call (925) 366-5567. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 12, 2013.

**Scholarships.** Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated presents its sixth annual college scholarship program. The 2013 awards are directed toward all eligible high school seniors throughout the Tri-Valley who will be attending two or four year academic colleges in September, 2013. Three non-partisan scholarships shall be awarded -one for \$1,000 and two at \$500. To qualify, students shall submit an original essay of not less than 500 words on the following theme: Why Do People From Other Countries Want To Come to The United States? Submit essays in Microsoft Word format to [mrs.w@comcast.net](mailto:mrs.w@comcast.net) during the week of April 15-19th, or mailed no later than April 19th to Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated, 6 La Sonoma Drive, Alamo, CA 94507. Include home telephone number and name of school attending or type of schooling being received. Winners will be decided by May 10, 2013.

**Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club** will meet on Thursday, March 14, 7 p.m. at Alisal School's multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Robin Parer, owner of Geraniaceae will speak on hardy and tender geraniums and pelargoniums. Visitors are welcome. Information call Bev at 925-485-7812 or visit [www.lavgc.org](http://www.lavgc.org).

**Pleasantonians for Peace.** Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, March 27, between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Call Cathie Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at [mj57882@gmail.com](mailto:mj57882@gmail.com); or [kdowning@pacbell.net](mailto:kdowning@pacbell.net). [www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org](http://www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org)

**Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA.** lunch in San Ramon, March 19, noon, RSVP by March 16 to Janet, 443-3317. Happy hour in Pleasanton, March 21, 5 p.m., RSVP by March 10 to Marge, 828-5124. lunch at DVC culinary facility, March 27, 11 a.m., RSVP by March 17 to Ruby, 462-9636.

**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](http://www.PleasantonNewcomers.com)

**Garage sale,** Tri-Valley Church of Christ, Livermore, (4481 East Ave) is hosting a community garage sale on Saturday, April 13th to raise money for a youth mission trip to Guatemala this summer. For only \$30, community members are invited to rent a 10' x 18' space in the parking lot to sell items or represent/advertise an organization. The garage sale starts at 8:00am and ends at 3:00pm. There will be vendors, music, hot dogs and sodas, and all proceeds go toward sending students to San Cristobal, Guatemala. Anyone interested in renting a space (first come, first served), contact Orinda Weiss at (925) 606-7598 or [orindalee@gmail.com](mailto:orindalee@gmail.com).

**Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club** annual Plant Sale on Saturday, April 27, 9am to 1pm at the parking lot of Amador Valley High School, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. All plants are grown by members of the garden club and are sold for low, low, prices. There will be an assortment of annuals, perennials, roses, succulents, vegetables and garden related items. Garden club members will provide expert advice. For more information call Bev at 925 485 7812.

**Two local networking groups GNON** (Girls Night Out Networking) and B2B Gathering Inc. once again join forces in Pleasanton on March 27th to provide the community with a networking seminar and tradeshow. The event, sponsored by Saunders Accountancy Corporation, will allow attendees the opportunity to network with 150+ in one night and have the opportunity to visit trade show booths. In addition to the tradeshow, participants will attend the B2B fast paced 90 minute networking seminar. March 27th, 2013 from 5-8:30 pm at the Four Points by Sheraton (5115 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton) ALL for only \$5/pp. RSVP to [gnoners@gmail.com](mailto:gnoners@gmail.com). Information, contact GNON Founder/Director, Frances Hewitt at (925) 487-4748 or at [gnoners@gmail.com](mailto:gnoners@gmail.com).

**Foothill High School's Academic & Activities Booster Club (AABC)** is offering 6 scholarships of \$500 each to the graduating seniors. Applicants must attend a higher education college/university. Three of these scholarships are on academic basis and other three are based on need. Application forms are available with Mrs. Bing at the Counseling Desk at Foothill HS. Awards will be based on effort, activities and interests both in and out of school. Consideration will be given to students who have demonstrated academic improvement during the past four years. The last date of application is Friday, April 19, 2013.

**18th annual Mad Hatter's Tea Party.** hosted by Assistance League® of Amador Valley, will be held on April 13 from 12 - 4 at the Castellow Country Club in Pleasanton. The event includes charming tea tables decorated by the members, delicious food, raffle prizes, lucky teacups, a hat contest and silent auction. Penny Warner will be the guest speaker. She is an award-winning author, family life columnist and child development educator. The tickets are \$50 and must be reserved by March 29. Proceeds from this event provide school clothes and shoes to children in need. For information, call Annette at (925) 462-5275, or go to [www.amadorvalleyassistanceleague.org](http://www.amadorvalleyassistanceleague.org).

**Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour.** Registration for the Sunday, May 5, 2013 tour is now open. A variety of bird- and butterfly-friendly, pesticide-free, water conserving, low maintenance gardens that contain 60% or more native plants will be open on Sunday, May 5, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at various locations throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties. More than 40 garden talks will be scheduled throughout the day. Native plants will be sold at numerous locations over the course of the weekend of May 4 and 5. [www.bringingbackthenatives.net](http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net)

**Writing Club for Young Adults.** open to all skill levels, taught by published Young Adult author J.L. Powers at the Livermore Public Library. The Club will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays, March, 21, and April 18, 2013 in the Storytime Room at the Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore. The event is free and no registration is required. For more information, please visit TEEN SPACE on the library's website: [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net), or contact Jennifer at 925-373-5500, extension 5576.

**M.I. Hummel Club.** San Francisco Bay Chapter, meets second Saturday of each

month at 1 p.m. at a member's home. Guests always welcome. Topics include sharing of Hummel figurine news and information. For information, contact Joan Mumma, club secretary, 447-5164 or [www.mumma.org/hummel/](http://www.mumma.org/hummel/)

**Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group** meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the second floor conference room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community. The address is 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore All are welcome. Contacts are: Sandra Grafrath 443-6655 or Lee Parlett 292-9280.

**Operation: S.A.M.** "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued support of deployed troops. Preparation of comfort packages takes place every other week - all year long. Providing morale support for those deployed. All information provided is confidential and is not shared for security purposes. To submit a name and address, inquire about donations or helping, please visit [www.operationsam.org](http://www.operationsam.org), email [operationsam@comcast.net](mailto:operationsam@comcast.net) or call 925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

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

## RELIGION

**First Presbyterian Church.** 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel, 10:30 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program. For more information [www.fpcl.us](http://www.fpcl.us) or 925-447-2078.

**Unitarian Universalist.** 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747 or [www.uuclil.org](http://www.uuclil.org).

**Congregation Beth Emek.** 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. **Tri-Valley Cultural Jews.** affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 485-1049 or [EastBaySecularJews.org](http://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. (925) 447-2946.

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church** Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

**Our Savior Lutheran Ministries.** 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. worship (semiformal), 9:45 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school; 11 a.m. worship (informal). For information, call 925-447-1246.

**Asbury United Methodist Church.** 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. Sunday worship. Information 447-1950.

**Calvary Chapel Livermore.** Sunday Services 10:30 a.m. 545 No. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - [www.calvalrylivermore.org](http://www.calvalrylivermore.org).

**St. Matthew's Baptist Church.** 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult

Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

**United Christian Church.** celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worships on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820 for more information.

**Granada Baptist Church.** 945 Concanon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

**Seventh-day Adventist Church.** 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462. services on Saturday; Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. [www.livermoresda.org/](http://www.livermoresda.org/) All are welcome.

**Faith Chapel Assembly of God.** 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m.; Worship 10:30 a.m.; Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

**Trinity.** 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday school or Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday nights there is adult Bible study at 6:45 and NRG and Re.Gen for youth, and children's choir for kids. Child care during all events. 447-1848. [www.trinitylivermore.org](http://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 LaScala at 447-9800.

**Centerpointe Church.** 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services: 9 a.m. blended with choir and band. Childcare offered for infants through age 6 and children start in the worship service. 10:40 a.m. contemporary worship led by a band. Sunday school for children and middle-schoolers. [www.centerpointechurch.org](http://www.centerpointechurch.org) 925-846-4436.

**St. Innocent Orthodox Church.** 5860 Las Positas Rd., Livermore. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details please see [www.stinnocent.net](http://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.

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church.** 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Sunday services with Rev. Joyce Parry Moore, Rector: 8:00 am Contemplative Eucharist with Taize music; 10:20 am Godly Play for children; 10:30 am Sung Eucharist with choir (child care available). Youth Group meets Sundays from 4 to 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall for "Rite 13" and Journey to Adulthood" programs. [www.saintbartholomewlivermore.com](http://www.saintbartholomewlivermore.com) for more information.

**St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church** (1928 Book of Common Prayer), 193 Contractors Avenue, Livermore. Sunday services: 8:45 a.m. (Low Mass) and 10 a.m. (High Mass with Sunday School). Other Holy Days as announced. For information, call msg. center at 925/906-9561.

**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](http://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](http://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 [prjmueler@gmail.com](mailto:prjmueler@gmail.com) for more info.

**Tri-Valley Church of Christ,** 4481 East Avenue, Livermore, 447-433.3 [www.trivalleychurch.org](http://www.trivalleychurch.org). Update on classes for The Story 9 to 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

**Lynnwood United Methodist Church,** 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Sunday worship at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. with childcare and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. (First Sun. of month 9 a.m. is traditional with organ, 10:30 a.m. is informal with guitar.) Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer minister. All welcome. [www.lynnwood.org](http://www.lynnwood.org), 925 846-0221.

**St. Michael's Centennial celebration.** mass and dinner, April 27, at St. Michael Church. Mass at 3 p.m. followed by a celebration dinner with two seatings: 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tickets for dinner are available in the rectory and at the school. For additional information, please email Jacki Tyler [jtlyer@csdo.org](mailto:jtlyer@csdo.org) or Sister Emmanuel sr. [cardinale.op@gmail.com](mailto:cardinale.op@gmail.com).

**Lenten Series.** St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. All are welcome at 6:00pm potluck dinners and 7:00pm Evening Prayer services with discussions led by guest speakers. "Women Mystics," led by St. Bart's rector, the Rev. Joyce Parry Moore, on March 20. 925-447-3289.

**Tri-Valley Cultural Jews' annual community seder** will be held on Saturday, March 30 at 5 pm at the Bethwell Arts Center in Livermore. The hour-long English haggadah is secular and progressive, and includes music, along with ritual elements with Humanistic explorations. The ceremony is followed by a non-kosher-for-Passover potluck dinner. To make a reservation and claim a potluck assignment, please call 510-888-1404. Canned and boxed food for the food bank will be collected at the event. Free to members and children. A \$10 donation is requested from non-member adults (13 and over) to help defray costs of rent and ritual foods. 925-485-1049. <http://trivalleyculturaljews.wordpress.com>

**Unity of Tri-Valley Church.** Sunday services are at 10:00 a.m.; all are welcome. Ongoing small groups, weekly activities, choir, classes, and Children's church. 9875 Dublin Canyon Rd., Castro Valley (2 miles west of Stoneridge Mall). (925) 829-2733. [www.trivalleyunity.com](http://www.trivalleyunity.com) Rev. Karen Epps.

**Eckankar.** "Creative Imagination: A Blessing from God" is the theme of the next ECK Worship Service, Sunday, March 17 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 (about 2 blocks south of the I-580 Hopyard exit). For further information, Please contact <http://eck-ca.org/> by computer.

**Bethel Family Christian Center,** 501 North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m.; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m., nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; 925-449-4848.

**Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day.** Sun, April 7, 6 to 7 p.m. Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Community is invited to attend.

# Milestones Community

## Two Young Residents Recognized as 'Hometown Heroes'

Erika Gruidl of Livermore and Claire Williams of Pleasanton will be honored as "Hometown Heroes" with Oakland Mayor Jean Quan on March 14. Gruidl created a cheerleading team of special education students and Williams created a reading program at the Pleasanton Library.

The "Hometown Heroes" initiative, launched in May 2008, is designed to recognize individuals in the Bay Area making

a positive impact in their communities, yet go unrecognized. The "Hometown Heroes" partnership aims to highlight people in the community who are remarkable individuals, encourage volunteerism, and raise the visibility of local nonprofits and key causes. To learn more about the honorees, visit the Hometown Heroes website at <http://www.insidebayarea.com/hometownheroes> or view the "Hometown Heroes" video

segments via Comcast's On Demand platform.

Erika Gruidl of Livermore has been selected as one Hero. School spirit is on the rise thanks to Gruidl, a former student and coach of the "Shooting Stars Cheer Team" at Livermore High School. The cheer team is comprised of students in the special education day class. Gruidl wanted them "to feel like they were a part of the school," who are now well known around campus and

easily making new friends. In addition to creating and coaching the Shooting Stars, Gruidl was on the school's track team, danced ballet and maintained a 3.8 GPA.

Claire Williams of Pleasanton is among the heroes. Teaching has always been a passion of Williams who was inspired to create "Read to a Teen." The program invites elementary students to the Pleasanton Library once a week to read to teen volunteers. Her literacy crusade

started when she earned her Gold Award in Girl Scouts. "How is anyone supposed to get through life, if they cannot read?" said Williams. With state budget cuts af-

fecting education, Williams began her program. Now on her way to college, Williams wants to be an English teacher and then a school district superintendent.



The ABC Music Children's Choir performed selections from "The Sound of Music" on a recent Sunday at Heritage Estates in Livermore for residents and their families. Pictured, from left, are Kayla Williams, Madison Cormier, Daelyn Cerruti, JD Cerruti, Jade Overton, Maddy Goard and Mikayla Ellis.



Our Savior Lutheran Middle School Cheer Squad of Livermore recently competed in the Redeemer Roundball Festival Cheerleader Competition at the College of San Mateo. The squad turned in a top performance in placing second in the competition.

## Sturgill Named Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year

Following the Firebird tradition of excellence, Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Sturgill of Civil Air Patrol's East Bay Cadet Squadron 18 has been honored by the Air Force Association as their California Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year.

Sturgill is a Livermore resident.

The Air Force Association's Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year award winner is selected annually from a group of outstanding cadet candidates who excel in the Civil Air Patrol cadet program, demonstrate leadership both within and beyond Civil Air Patrol and who demonstrate a personal commitment to their education.

By the age of 18 years old, C/LtCol Sturgill has served in numerous challenging leadership positions within Squadron 18 including Cadet Commander for the years 2010 and 2011, overseeing the weekly op-



**Kenneth Sturgill**

erations of dozens of cadets and squadron staff and coordinating numerous activities. He has been recognized with multiple achievement awards, 2 Commander's Commendation awards and most recently was chosen as Squadron 18's Cadet Officer of the Year in December.

Sturgill has attended three sessions of the National Emergency Services Academy in Indiana, is credited with multiple "find" awards and a "life save" award in 2010. Sturgill's Emergency Services Quali-

fications include: Advanced Communications, Community Emergency Response Team, Communications Unit Leader, Ground Team Member Level 1, Mission Radio Operator, Mission Staff Assistant and Urban Directional Finding.

Outside of Squadron 18, Sturgill has been extremely active within California Wing's Cadet Programs and has served as staff at a total of 5 Civil Air Patrol encampments, including 4 in California Wing, most recently serving as the Director of Training in 2011. Sturgill has served as the Cadet Commander for a Cadet Non-Commissioned Officer's School and was a member and advisor to the California Wing Color Guard from 2008-2013.

Sturgill has attended and staffed numerous activities across the nation and overseas, including: Para-Rescue Jumper Orientation Course in 2010, Advanced Para-Rescue Jumper Orienta-

tion Course in 2011, Security Forces Familiarization Course as a student in 2010 and instructor in 2011. In addition, Sturgill is a graduate of the 2012 Pacific Region Cadet Officer's Basic Course and traveled abroad to Belgium in 2012 as part of the International Cadet Air Exchange, an incredible opportunity for Cadet Officers to expand their knowledge and experiences on an international level.

Outside of Civil Air Patrol, Sturgill is a model student at Livermore High School with ambitious aspirations of joining the U.S. Air Force and serving his country as a PJ (Para-Rescue Jumper, US Air Force Special Ops). Sturgill is a certified first responder and volunteers countless hours at the Livermore-Pleasanton Elks Lodge working with veterans and handicapped children.

For more information, visit [www.gocivilairpatrol.com](http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com).