



Photos - Doug Jorgensen
Every one is Irish in March. In the top photo, members of the Brae Sister City Organization marched in the annual parade in Dublin. Below, the Livermore fountain was dyed green in celebration.



National Ag Week Underway

American agriculture is responsible for providing the necessities of everyday life - food, fiber and renewable resources. That's the message of National Ag Week being celebrated March 15-21, 2009. Producers, agricultural associations, organizations, universities, government agencies and countless others across America will gather to celebrate the abundance provided by agriculture.

The Conservation Partnership (Alameda County Resource Conservation District and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service) and the sponsors of Ag Week would like to thank all farmers and ranchers, winegrowers and vintners and anyone involved in Alameda County agriculture for their continued efforts. If you would also like to thank a farmer or rancher you can

(See AG WEEK, page 11)

Saturday Event Celebrates Ag History

Vaquero Day, set for Sat., March 21, will feature a variety of demonstrations and activities celebrating the agricultural history of the Los Vaqueros Watershed.

Activities will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Kellogg Picnic Area, 100 Walnut Blvd., Brentwood.

The schedule includes the following:

10am - Calf Branding Demonstration - Cowboys on horseback will demonstrate how they rope, vaccinate, and mark (brand) their cattle.

10:30am - Sheep Shearing Demonstration - Shepherd will shear a sheep - feel the lanolin in the fresh wool.

11am - Calf Branding Demonstration - Cowboys on horseback will demonstrate how they rope, vaccinate, and mark (brand) their cattle.

11am - 2pm - Horse Drawn Wagon Rides - Take a ride on Los Vaqueros trails in a horse-drawn wagon - bring a lunch to enjoy on the ride.

11am - 2pm - Farm Animal Experience - Get up close & personal with farm animals. Groom a miniature horse, pet a pot-bellied pig, touch a turkey, check out the chickens, ducks, geese & sheep.

11am - 2pm - Hands-on Activities and Displays provided by Alameda Co. CattleWomen including the following:

Branding - Brand a piece of wood and take home a piece of Los Vaqueros history.

Leatherwork - See craftsman

(See HISTORY, page 11)

Zone 7 May Have Stake In Reservoir Expansion

By Ron McNicoll

Expansion of Los Vaqueros reservoir will be the subject of public hearings on the environmental impact report (EIR) next week.

Sponsors of the Los Vaqueros project are the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) and the federal Bureau of Reclamation. CCWD obtains its water from the federal Central Valley Project. CCWD draws the water from the Delta, but at a different point than the Bay where the state water project (SWP) sends its water to Zone 7.

Although CCWD provides water only in Contra Costa County, the agency set hearings in the Valley for two reasons. One is that the area is not far from the project, which is north of Livermore on Vasco Road, said CCWD assistant general manager Greg Gartrell.

The other reason is that Zone 7 is being asked whether it wants to be a partner in the expansion. Furthermore, DSRSD has said that it wants to be informed, too, about the project. As a water retailer, DSRSD is interested in any prospect of improving wa-

ter quality. There is potential for some slight improvement, said Gartrell.

MORE DROUGHT STORAGE AND DIRECT WATER

Gartrell said that the reservoir could offer Zone 7 two things: more storage for water that is acquired from the state in wet months as a hedge against drought, and the potential to obtain more water for direct use.

The direct use would involve building a pipeline from CCWD's Delta intake to the South Bay Aqueduct (SBA), which runs from Clifton Court Forebay in the

Delta. Zone 7 shares the SBA with water agencies in Fremont and San Jose.

Right now, Zone 7's direct take of water from Clifton Court Forebay is affected by the pumping conditions set on the state water project (SWP) by a federal judge's order. The order upholds the federal Fish & Wildlife department's opinion that greatly restricts operation of the pumps during fish migrations, because poorly designed fish screens don't protect Delta smelt or salmon very well. The screens are perpendicular to water flow, and

trap thousands of fish annually. CCWD doesn't have that fish destruction problem. The pumps used to supply CCWD have water intakes that are placed parallel to water flow. They don't suck the fish into them, so CCWD isn't under the shutdown restriction that applies to Zone 7.

CCWD's record on fish kills has been almost spotless. Gartrell said that last year, no salmon and only one delta smelt larva were killed by CCWD's Delta water intakes. Zone 7 has asked SWP to design better screens. So far, (See EXPANSION, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Wildflowers are in full bloom throughout the Valley.

Theater Company Tours Lab to Gain Background for 'Copenhagen'

Science in the 21st century has come a long way since the work of the nuclear pioneers depicted in "Copenhagen." Michael Frayn's prizewinning drama opening April 3 in Livermore. Theater company members who visited the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory last week had a clear view of the distance traveled.

Perhaps most impressive was a March 10 tour of the Lab's huge National Ignition Facility, which houses the latest development in the field of nuclear energy. The day before the group's visit, the NIF achieved its first successful test firing using all beams. Research, using NIF, it is hoped will ultimately lead the way to

clean energy.

"It was astonishing," says Virginia Reed, the play's director. "We got a sense of the enormity and complexity of the work involved at the Lab." For the company, the visit provided an ongoing context for the play they must bring to life. "It brought home the legacy of Heisenberg, Bohr, Oppenheimer, and Teller," said Reed of those influential 20th-century physicists.

Werner Heisenberg and Niels Bohr had been colleagues in Copenhagen and pioneers in the field of quantum mechanics. During World War II they found themselves on opposite sides:

Heisenberg was working on a nuclear fission project for Hitler; Bohr was isolated from the world scientific community in Nazi-occupied Denmark.

"Copenhagen" revolves around an actual secret meeting in 1941 between these two physicists. By recreating the events surrounding the meeting from each character's point of view, Frayn ponders their motivations and what role the meeting may have played in the development of the atomic bomb and in human history.

There is a more direct link between the Lab and the play to be performed just a few minutes (See TOUR, page 4)

Tauscher In Line for State Department Post

An Associated Press story reports that Rep. Ellen Tauscher is being considered for the post of under secretary of state for arms control and international security.

Tauscher has experience in military matters. She chairs the House Armed Services Committee's subcommittee on strategic forces. She has made many visits to Iraq and Afghanistan in that role.

Two major nuclear weapons laboratories, Lawrence Livermore and Sandia, are located within her district. Tauscher represents the 10th Congressional

District, which includes Livermore.

Tauscher's office would neither confirm nor deny the report.

She is head of the New Democrats, a centrist group of House Democrats.

Tauscher was a supporter of Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton when she ran for the Democratic presidential nomination last year. The State Department post requires Senate confirmation.

If she were confirmed for the State Department job, a special election would be held to fill her Congressional seat.

LARPD Beginning Upgrades on Parks

Work will get underway soon on improvements at Karl Wente Park in Livermore.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board approved a construction bid at its meeting last Wednesday.

Assistant General Manager John Lawrence, noted, "Nobody will be happier than nearby residents who have been without a play structure for sometime."

The winning bid of \$127,789 came from Livermore-based GSL Construction. This lowest bid came in at \$70,000 or 35 percent below the original engineer's estimate. The project at Karl Wente Park, located at 1455 Kingsport Ave., calls for the replacement of an existing stairway with an ADA compliant ramp and stairway, construction of new planting areas, a seating area, paved access to the play area and reconfiguration of the existing

irrigation system.

There were 21 bids for the project, all under the estimates.

Director David Furst commented, "It's nice to see bids come in under estimates rather than over."

It was noted by both the contractor and board members that it is commonplace now to have bids come in under estimate. "It's a good buyers' market, for sure."

GSL Construction will also prepare the site at Karl Wente Park for new top lot equipment that will be installed separately. The construction is expected to take place in late spring and early summer.

During the meeting, the Board approved an update to District personnel rules to include servicemember family and medical leave. This will supplement the Family Care and Medical

(See LARPD, page 4)

Restaurants Will Aid UNICEF Clean Water Cause

By Ron McNicoll

Waiters bring glasses of water to diners as a matter of routine at the beginning of a meal.

The clean water to which Americans are accustomed doesn't exist in many parts of the world, so waiters at some Valley restaurants will be bringing a pledge card along with those tumblers of water from March 22 to 29.

Diners will be able to pledge \$1 or more to a special fund sponsored by UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Foundation. The proceeds will go to UNICEF for its work in bringing safe drinking water to the many places around the world that do not have it. Just \$1 can provide clean drinking water for one child for 40 days, according to UNICEF.

(See WATER, page 4)

Haggerty Joins Panel to Discuss Regional Theater

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty will be joining a panel of LVPAC staff, consultants and other community leaders at a special town hall meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 24, at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street beginning at 7 p.m. The purpose of the meeting will be to allow those attending to receive answers to their questions concerning the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center's proposed Regional Performing Arts Theater.

Supervisor Haggerty, who has expressed strong personal sup-

port for LVPAC's regional theater project, is expected to field questions regarding plans for regional transportation improvements that may be of interest to those expected to attend performances at the new theater in Downtown Livermore.

In announcing Haggerty's participation at the meeting, David Dial, LVPAC's Executive Director said, "We are delighted that Supervisor Haggerty has agreed to join us at this important session to help residents of

(See THEATER, page 2)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Pleasanton students at Donlon School and parents donned red in support of district employees facing layoffs.

'Wear Red Day' Bolsters Teacher Lay-offs

Pleasanton residents will be wearing red on Friday (March 20) to show support for the many school district employees who face layoffs because of severe

budget cuts.

Steffanie Gamecho, a mother of three children, is suggesting the idea. The district has a list of some 249 full-time-equivalent

positions, including support staff, teachers, and administrators, that could lose their jobs. Even if a \$233 parcel tax passes

(See RED, page 11)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Welcome to Peyton's place, where this cat rules the roost! This little girl has a temper and is not afraid to tell you how she feels. She would be great as an only cat, in an environment where she can be independent and respected for who she is. To meet Peyton, come to Valley Humane Society's Kitty City, open Tues- Sat from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, visit the website www.valleyhumane.org or call 925-426-8656.

Donation to LVPAC Helps Fund Student Tickets

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) Executive Director, David Dial, announced receipt of a \$50,000 gift to help subsidize the cost of providing increased LVPAC arts programming for local students. It is the second year LVPAC has received the funds.

The donation will underwrite the cost of providing \$12 tickets for students seventeen and under at most LVPAC sponsored performances in the Bankhead Theater. In addition, it helps to finance the presentation of school performances and workshops at the theater and on-site at local schools.

"We are very fortunate to receive renewed support that will continue to provide affordable student access to music, theater and dance presentations," Dial said. "The initial gift started LVPAC's Education Fund. By having these resources available, LVPAC obtained two matching grants to present Red Grammer, a Grammy-nominated children's recording artist. Mr. Grammer visited ten local elementary schools last month, reaching over 3,000 students."

The donor, who prefers to re-

main anonymous, is a Livermore family with children attending Livermore schools. The family has been active in arts and civic activities and felt it was important to continue their support for LVPAC's Education Fund.

"The current budget and economic times are very concerning, and typically the arts are the first thing to go," a family member commented. "We need to remember the value of giving children something else besides classroom instruction. Sometimes you just have to experience education rather than be taught it at a desk. Experience is what really develops appreciation and interest in the minds of young people. We hope that this grant will provide some of those enrichment opportunities."

LVPAC hopes that this donation will serve as an example to other individuals and businesses to enhance and support the arts in our community. Contributions of any denomination can be made to the LVPAC Education Fund c/o Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, 2400 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550 or by calling the development office at (925) 583-2305.

THEATER

(continued from page one)

Livermore gain a better understanding of our proposal to construct a regional theater in the Downtown. The new theater will complete LVPAC's mission to create a multi-faceted performing arts center that brings world-class arts and entertainment to the Livermore Valley and the surrounding region. The March 24th town meeting will provide an in-depth opportunity to answer questions and to encourage greater knowledge of what will be gained - both for the community's arts and cultural profile and the desired downtown enhancement and revitalization. We would like people to hear our answers and decide for themselves on the merits of our proposal."

The meeting will bring together those who have been most involved in developing the key areas of the project, including finance, fundraising, programming, design, and impacts on the downtown. The format of the meeting, which will be moderated by former LVPAC Executive Director Len Alexander, will be shaped entirely by questions from the audience and responses from panel members who will

share current, in-depth information about the project, the projected timetables for funding and construction and insights on the benefits for LVPAC and the City which will accrue from the operation of the theater.

Other panelists, in addition to Haggerty, will include David Dial, LVPAC Executive Director; Steve MacCracken and Hutch Mouridian, architects for the theater; Robert Gamble, senior advisor for Public Financial Management; Nikolai Sklaroff, Managing Director and Head of Cultural Institutions Investment Banking for Loop Capital Markets, LLC; and Tom Reitter and Phil Wente, LVPAC Board Members.

The meeting also kicks-off a new LVPAC grass-roots organization, the Friends of the Regional Theater. The group will help promote the regional theater throughout Livermore and the surrounding communities and will develop and encourage support for the project. A wine, coffee and dessert reception in the theater lobby will allow audience members to visit with the panelists following the formal meeting.

Jean King Named Woman of the Year

Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan (D-Alamo) joined with Assembly Speaker Karen Bass (D-Los Angeles) and other legislators to honor Livermore resident, Jean King, as "Woman of the Year" for the 15th Assembly District. The ceremony was held at the State Capitol.

"Today we honor Jean for decades of service to our community," said Buchanan. "She is an educator, activist, community organizer, environmentalist, supporter of the arts, and pioneer. Her energy, passion, dedication and tireless work on behalf of her community is inspiring."

Jean moved to Livermore in the 1960's when the city was still in its infancy. After earning two mathematics degrees, Jean began

work at Sandia Labs in the brand-new field of commuter programming. She raised her family in Livermore and became involved with groups such as the League of Women Voters, Livermore Cultural Arts Council, Commission for the Arts, American Association of University Women, Livermore Symphony Association, PTA and the Tri-Valley Conservancy.

Buchanan continued, "Through her involvement in the community Jean helped shape Livermore Valley into the livable, workable community it is today. In particular, Jean's countless hours working to preserve open space is commendable. Livermore Valley would not be the same without her persistent call



Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan (left) selected Jean King as the Woman of the Year for the 15th District.

Science and Engineering Fair Set for March 24 to 28

The best and brightest student scientists and engineers will showcase their work when the Tri-Valley Science and Engineering Fair, sponsored by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, returns March 24-28, to the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore.

Each year the fair motivates students to apply creativity and critical thought to the solution of science, engineering and math problems; encourages the exchange of knowledge and ideas; and recognizes student achievement.

This year's participants include 249 students from grades 7-12 attending public, private or parochial schools in Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon and Sunol. A total of 180 projects will be presented; students can work in teams.

Science projects are judged on a wide range of criteria that represents standards of research held by the scientific community. Local scientists and engineers serve as judges, with more than 80 from the Lab.

Research categories cover a wide spectrum of science and include: behavioral and bio-science, biochemistry, botany, chemistry, computer science, earth and space science, engineering, environmental science, mathematics, medicine and health, microbiology, physics

and zoology.

Judging will take place on Wednesday morning, March 25, with an awards ceremony scheduled for 7 p.m. that evening. The public may view the exhibition of student projects at the Robert Livermore Community Center on Thursday, March 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, March 27, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to noon. There is no charge for admission.

The fair is affiliated with the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF), the world's largest pre-college celebration of science. Held annually in May, the Intel ISEF brings together more than 1,400 students from more than 40 nations to compete for scholarships, tuition grants, internships, scientific field trips, and the grand prize: a \$50,000 college scholarship.

Each year Senior Division (9-12th grade) Sweepstakes winners of the Tri-Valley fair have gone on to win top honors at Intel ISEF. This year, Intel ISEF will be presented by Agilent Technologies, May 10-15, in Reno, Nev.

The Junior Division winners are eligible to compete at the California State Science Fair.

For more information about this year's Tri-Valley Science and Engineering Fair, go to the web at <http://tvsef.lnl.gov/>.

for conservation of the land and its resources."

The Woman of the Year ceremony is sponsored by the Women's Caucus of the California State Legislature. The annual Woman of the Year event was started in 1987 by former Assem-

bled Members Bev Hansen and Sally Tanner. In celebration of the contributions to society made by outstanding women throughout California one woman from each Senate and Assembly district is invited to come to the Capitol to be honored for their accomplishments.

BANKHEAD THEATER

2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore

Jil Aigrot
Voice of Academy Award Winner, Marion Cotillard in La Vie En Rose
This famous French songbird inhabits the role of one of her country's most celebrated songstresses, Edith Piaf. Previously an actress, Jil Aigrot has recently thrown herself into the performance that brought her to the big screen in the first place—releasing "Words of Love," a collection which includes Aigrot's interpretations of nearly 20 of Piaf's most noteworthy songs.
Mar 16 • 8pm \$55/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students

Aquila Theatre Company
William Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors"
Aquila's production of Shakespeare's tale of two sets of identical twins whose lives get turned upside down before they are finally put in order relies not only on slapstick comedy, but also on wonderful performances and imaginative staging. Founded in London in 1991 by Peter Meineck, Aquila is now based in New York City.
Mar 23 • 8pm \$45/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students

Musical Pictures
Keyboard Conversations™ with Jeffrey Siegel
Inspiring sights in glorious sound! The sonic splendor of Rachmaninoff's "Etudes Tableaux," Debussy's colorful and exotic "Preludes," and Mussorgsky's astonishing gallery of "Pictures at an Exhibition."
Mar 25 • 8pm \$45/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students

The Marriage of Figaro
Livermore Valley Opera
Mar 20 - 22
\$59/\$49/\$39/\$29

From Spanish Gypsies to Danish Kings
Livermore-Amador Symphony
Mar 28 • 8pm
\$28/\$24/\$20/\$8

David Finckel and Wu Han
Influential Classical Cello-Piano Duo
Mar 29 • 2pm
\$36/\$31/\$26

Tickets 925.373.6800
www.bankheadtheater.org

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Last year, Tri-Valley teens made more than 3,000 visits to our CARF-certified Teen Drug and Alcohol Recovery Program, which is located in our newly-opened Axis Behavioral Health facility at 6666 Owens Drive in Pleasanton.

For more information about our services or to arrange a tour, please call 925.201.6201 or email aisousa@axishealth.org.

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

I-580 Widening

Construction is underway for the Interstate 580 Eastbound Widening Project, from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. each night through March 23 on eastbound I-580, from the Vasco Road Interchange to the Greenville Road Interchange. The following temporary lane closures will occur each week until March 23:

Sunday, Caltrans will close up to three lanes from 9 p.m. to 8 a.m. Monday to Wednesday, Caltrans will close up to three lanes from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. Thursday, Caltrans will close up to three lanes from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Friday, Caltrans will close up to three lanes from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m.

Saturday, Caltrans will close up to three lanes from 10 p.m. to 10:30 a.m.

CHP will be on site for traffic enforcement during the planned temporary lane closures.

Motorists are asked to please be alert and to use caution when traveling along I-580. The I-580 Eastbound HOV Lane Project is the first phase of a multi-phase Tri-Valley Implementation Plan for I-580, Route 84, and I-680 corridors. The project is sponsored by the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation.

Guide for Funding

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) has released a guide that details the availability of funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, commonly known as the economic stimulus package. The guide is intended to assist cities, counties and other local entities as they navigate the process to apply for stimulus funding. It has been sent today to Mayors and County Boards of

Supervisors in the 11th Congressional District. The guide can be viewed on the Congressman's website here: <http://mcnerney.house.gov/pdf/mcnerneystimulusguide.pdf>

"During these tough times, it's more important than ever to invest in the local economy and get people back to work," said Rep. McNerney. "I'm committed to making sure this area gets its fair share of funding for projects that will create jobs, invest in roads and bridges and help our schools."

Along with the guide, Congressman McNerney also announced the appointment of a member of his staff, Eric Halstrom, as the Economic Recovery Advisor for the office. Eric will serve as a point of contact for questions that relate to the opportunities for funds from the stimulus package and can be reached at (202) 225-1947.

The funds detailed in the guidebook are available from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that was signed into law on February 17, 2009.

Outreach to the Military

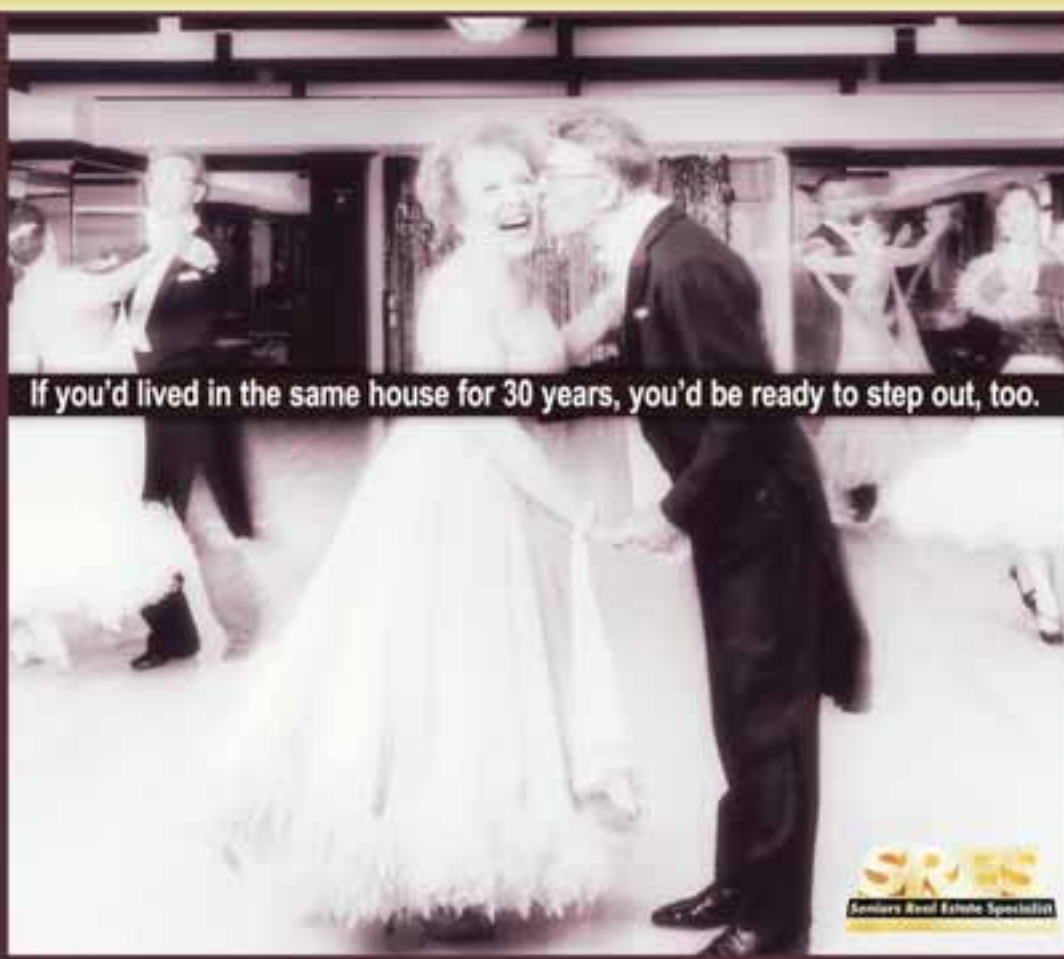
The Livermore and Palo Alto Veterans Medical Centers are conducting an outreach program for veterans and their families. It will be held in Dublin on March 28.

The purpose of the program is to encourage veterans to be informed concerning the benefits for which they are eligible. They include health care, respite care, hospice care, long term care and other assistance, including that related to enrolling for service connected benefits.

Professional VA coordinators and veterans groups will be on hand March 28 to assist with enrollment and to provide information.

Those wishing to enroll, must bring copies of form DD214 or discharge papers.

The event will be held at Moran Hall, St. Raymond Catholic Church, 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.



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EDITORIAL

Facing Climate Change

Both the Livermore and Pleasanton City Councils had major discussions concerning the climate change issue at recent meetings.

Livermore, in a unanimous vote, approved a climate change element as part of the Livermore General Plan.

Next to come will be an action plan, the goal of which will be to meet state-mandated reductions of greenhouse emissions by the years 2020 and 2050.

Meanwhile, Pleasanton has been undergoing a greenhouse audit by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. The report came to the City Council last week. It, too, will lead to an action plan, which will be drafted by the city's new Energy and Environment Commission.

Pleasanton staff reported that if the community continued to practice the same energy use that has been practiced up to now, the emissions from Pleasanton sources would climb by 28.5% by 2020. Determined to reduce energy use, the city is working on several projects, among them energy efficient buildings and conversion of the city's motor fleet to hybrids.

It's encouraging that the cities are rising to confront this critical issue. They seem very serious about meeting those state mandates.

We only hope they don't get overly fixated on the technology factors (though such factors are important). Consultant Rick Walter offered a wise insight when he observed at the Livermore meeting that the new Livermore General Plan emphasizes in-fill, mixed use and high-density development as a way to reduce motor vehicle emissions. "Land use is where the city has the greatest impact," asserted Walter.

Land use is indeed where the cities' power lies on this issue. May those words resonate as Livermore, Pleasanton and other cities decide what's in their power to do.

WATER

(continued from page one)

ing to UNICEF, which calls the campaign the Tap Project, because of the water taps it wants to clean up.

The project last year brought water access improvements in densely populated villages in Ivory Coast, sanitation improvements in Nicaragua, and sanitation capacity-building in Iraq. School sanitation and clean water projects were complete in a region of Belize.

The UNICEF club at Amador Valley High School took on as its project the sign-ups of Valley restaurants. Club members did not have a long time to work on signing them up. A couple of restaurants are in the wings. Otherwise, Gay 90s Pizza is already listed on the Tap Project web site. Wente Restaurant and Grill has also signed up at the \$500 pledge level, said Nadia Mufti. She is a member of the Amador Valley UNICEF club.

AMADOR HAS FIRST HIGH SCHOOL UNICEF CLUB

The Amador Valley UNICEF club is the first and only high school chapter of UNICEF in the United States. All other student chapters are at the college and university level.

The club started last fall, after students returned from the J-8

conference in Japan. The J-8 was the junior version of the G-8 conference, in which heads of state in leading nations huddle to determine cooperative economic policy among their nations.

The students were buoyed up by the conference and its theme of getting active in world affairs. Avani Jariwala was at the J-8 in July. A key motivator to start the club was the "youth action plan" at the conference. "It basically guides us on how we can help address the issues in our own communities. One part of it is to create more awareness, and affect other people around the world. When we came back, we knew we should create the club," said Avani.

The club meets weekly, and draws about two dozen active members. The club has held one fund-raiser. It showed "Invisible Children," a remarkable film about the kidnapped boys in Uganda who are impressed into the Lord's Resistance Army, which is run by a warlord who thinks he is divine.

It was the same movie shown recently at a genocide conference at Amador Valley. Some 40 or 50 students attended the UNICEF Club's showing.

TOUR

(continued from page one)

away. Edward Teller, a co-founder and former director of the Lab (1958-1960), worked on the atom bomb and helped shape U.S. nuclear policy almost until his death in 2003. As a young man, he was a graduate student under Heisenberg at the University of Leipzig and went on to work with Bohr in Copenhagen.

The "Copenhagen" company also profited from a glimpse of "the human side of scientists, joggling around the campus during the noon hour," Reed said. Like the play's characters, real scientists get out and stretch their legs or ski down mountains to help them think more clearly.

The play is a production of Shakespeare's Associates, the Livermore-based professional production company that presents comedies by Shakespeare and modern plays such as last year's successful "Proof," also directed by Reed.

"Copenhagen" was chosen for the season because it is a good fit for a community that respects the contributions of science. It also is completely accessible to

the non-scientist. In fact, Frayn has said the play is less about scientific questions than the impossibility of understanding anyone's heart and mind, including one's own.

The West End Theater at Livermore's Bothwell Arts Center, Eighth and H streets, was selected for the production. The producer indicated that it is an ideal venue for "Copenhagen," where the characters often speak directly to the audience. Performances are set for April 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26 at 8 pm Fridays and Saturdays, 2 pm Sundays. A preview performance will be at 8 pm Thursday, April 2. Audience discussions with Lab scientists are scheduled after Sunday performances.

Tickets are \$30 general, with a \$5 discount for seniors, fulltime teachers, persons with military ID and groups of 10 or more. Tickets for students and all tickets for the April 2 preview are \$20. Seating is limited. Tickets may be purchased online at www.ShakespearesAssociates.org or by calling (800) 838-3006.

Legislation Would Establish Panel to Assess TBI Treatment

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) has introduced a piece of critical legislation to address the needs of men and women in uniform: the Caring for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury Act of 2009.

"Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) are the hallmark injuries of

this war," said Rep. McNerney. "It is incumbent on us to ensure that the Veterans Administration is equipped and ready to provide the ongoing services necessary to fully address the impact of traumatic brain injuries."

The Caring for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury Act of

Planning Commission Paves Way for Theater Approval

The Livermore Planning Commission recommended adoption of the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report, General Plan amendment and Downtown Specific Plan amendment.

The vote was unanimous at the meeting held Tuesday.

The commission discussed minor amendments, which were voted on after the Independent's deadline.

The recommendation will next go to the city council for final consideration.

The amendments to the General Plan and Downtown Specific Plan will increase the size of a proposed regional performing arts theater from 1,500 seats to 2,000 seats; increase the number of movie screens from 12 screens to 15 screens (already built); increase the number of hotel and bed and breakfast rooms in the

Downtown Area to 300 rooms; increase the amount of commercial development from 855,000 square feet to 1,000,000 square feet; increase the amount of office development from 217,000 square feet to 356,000 square feet; include a new second parking structure within the Downtown Core Area; and allow construction of a 2,000-seat Regional Performing Arts Theater on the former Lucky site bounded by Railroad Avenue/South Livermore Avenue.

Tristen Pico asked whether the current parking supply would be adequate without the second parking garage.

Staff said there is ample parking within the Lucky site, with 350 parking places available until the remainder of the site is redeveloped.

Architect Steve MacCracken said the building stands as a monument to the city's commitment to the arts. The goal is to have the lobby and plaza available for a variety of cultural activities. "We want the building active inside and out, even when events are not performed," he added. "It will be a center of energy, vitality and creativity for many future generations."

There was some concern as to how the regional theater would look on the site during the period before other buildings are constructed. Staff and the architect stated their intention to fully address the issue.

Another issue had to do with acoustics. Pico requested an acousticians' report be presented to the commission.

Only one member of the audi-

ence addressed the commission. He owns property at the north-east corner of Railroad and L Street. He said he fully supports the theater. He intends to improve his property to fit in with the project.

Traffic engineer Bob Vinn was asked about the traffic impact.

Vinn replied that the EIR found the theater traffic would cause a one second delay during non-peak hours and a ten second delay at peak hours at the intersection of Murrieta and Stanley Blvd.

Chairman Michel Lea declared, "The quality of the architecture reflects many years of work. It is a great project. I like the design and location. It will be an iconic building in the downtown."

PG&E Programs Can Help with Utility Bills

Economic downturn has hit families in many ways. However, for those who qualify, help in paying utility bills may be no farther away than a PG&E application.

PG&E's financial assistance website lists a variety of programs with names such as REACH, CARE and Energy Partners. Some programs offer help with bills and lower energy rates, some offer energy audits and ways to get more efficient appliances. Customers can apply in English, Spanish, Vietnamese or Chinese.

Applicants may be guided into different programs depending on the outcome of the application process.

To learn about the programs and how to apply online, open <http://www.pge.com/myhome/> and enter "financial assistance." Or, by telephone, dial the central PG&E number, 1-800-743-5000, and work through the voice-activated menu to reach one of the programs listed below. Either approach requires a bit of pa-

tience and care, but both approaches do work.

Here is a summary of some of the PG&E assistance programs:

- CARE (California Alternate Rates for Energy) offers a 20 percent reduction in utility bills for income-qualified households and housing facilities. (There are special rules for group living, homeless shelters, women's shelters, etc.) A PG&E chart shows the maximum income to qualify, from \$30,500 for one or two people in a household up to \$87,600 for 10 people.

- FERA (Family Electrical Rate Assistance) offers to reduce electrical rates for households of three or more people at specified income levels. FERA is an alternative to CARE (you can't participate in both at the same time.) FERA participants must live in the home more than 50 percent of the time. To be eligible, three residents must have a combined income of \$44,800 or less, four must have a combined income of \$54,000 or less, and so on up to 10 residents (\$109,200 or less.)

EXPANSION

(continued from page one)

nothing has happened.

Zone 7 assistant general manager Kurt Arends said that the agency has had a conversation with CCWD staff about the expansion. The agency conducted a study with the Fremont and San Jose water contractors to try to determine whether participating in the cost of Los Vaqueros expansion would pay off for them.

"There are benefits, and questions. Our point is to continue to review and investigate the options. The biggest issue is cost. There are a lot of unknown cost benefits in the project," said Arends.

Using the reservoir for storage of surplus wet-year water from the state is not so important to Zone 7. It already has the underground basin and storage in the Central Valley, by a district that swaps Delta water from the state project with Zone 7.

More interesting to Zone 7 is the prospect of increasing the amount of water directly from the Delta, thereby supplementing its supply at the times the Clifton Court Forebay pumps are shut down. "However, there is still a lot of concern about how much will really be available," said Arends.

On that point, Gartrell told the Independent that the supplement from CCWD pumping wouldn't put Zone 7 back to the levels it had before the judge's decision. However, it would put them back about half-way to where they were, he said.

Financing the project might receive as much as 80 to 90 percent from federal and state sources. Alternatively, the participating agencies could sell bonds. "They might have a better ability to do that than the state right now," said Gartrell.

BIG COST DIFFERENCE IN TWO PLANS

Two plans are being proposed for the expansion. One would bring the lake's storage capacity from the current 100,000 acre feet (AF) to 160,000 AF. The other would expand the lake to 275,000 AF. The third option, which is studied in all EIRs, is to do nothing.

Cost of the smaller expansion would be \$100 million. It would take a year to construct, and provide 1000 to 1500 construction jobs. The larger option would cost \$900 million, take two-and-one-half years for construction. It would generate 3000 to 5000 jobs.

As for environmental issues, Gartrell said the area is covered in a large habitat conservation plan for eastern Contra Costa County. There is some red-legged frog habitat that would

be displaced. However, there would be habitat mitigation for it, he said. Apparently there would be no direct killing of frogs. He said that species had not been seen in the area for many years.

The first hearing be at the Zone 7 Water Agency offices, 100 North Canyons Parkway, Livermore on March 24. The second will be at the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) offices, 7051 Dublin Blvd., Dublin. Both hearings will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The first hour will be informal. Experts will be available to answer questions, and review maps with the public at various places in the room. At 7:30 p.m., the hearing will change to a more formal procedure, with public comments being taken about the EIR.

LARPD

(continued from page one)

Leave already in place at the District. The new rules are specific to family members of military personnel and military reservists called to active duty. Employees will now be able to use up to 12 work weeks of time in any 12-month period for a qualifying situation that may include attending pre-deployment briefings and dealing with financial planning. To care for an injured or ill family member who is part of the military, the employee may take leave of up to 26 weeks in a 12-month period.

BOTHWELL PARK
Renovations to Bothwell Park, operated by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, will be underway soon. The LARPD Board of Directors is expected to authorize the project to go out for bid at its meeting on Wednesday, March 25.

The renovation will include an expanded play area with new equipment, circulation paths, picnic and seating areas, landscaped mounds, new planting, new irrigation and electrical improvements and removal of the

softball field. Teams using the softball field at Bothwell have already been relocated to renovated fields at May Nissen Park and Smith Elementary School. The park plans also include bocce courts as an "add alternate" bid item that could be added if the funds are available based on bids and the project budget.

David Mertes left last week for a return visit to the Republic of Kosovo. While there, he will continue planning to provide medical assistance to the nation.

The three year project is a partnership of ValleyCare Health System and the American International Health Alliance and USAID. Rotary clubs are also involved.

During a visit in January, Mertes said the thinking was that the project would provide retraining for medical professionals. The focus would be on women of reproductive age, infants and children. "We found that they don't need much training. What is missing is infrastructure. There are no patient records. Our goal will be to try to bring people together to find out what can be done to correct the problem."

Mertes and others are visiting the nation's capital, Pristina, as well as several villages. They will meet with locals to develop a plan to determine what type of medical equipment Rotary clubs might like to donate. Mertes said there are seven Rotary Clubs in Kosovo who want to be part of the project.

Bothwell Park is LARPD's only downtown park other than Carnegie Park. Located at 2466 Eighth St., Bothwell Park contains a tot lot and softball field. The building on site was once home to LARPD's Senior Services, now housed at the Robert Livermore Community Center. The park building is now leased

to the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center and is called the Bothwell Arts Center.

The District expects that construction would begin at Bothwell Park in July. For current information, residents can visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us to read the monthly Projects and Issues update from the LARPD General Manager.

Planning Underway to Assist Kosovo

Mertes said he doesn't go into a country with a plan of what he expects to accomplish. He said that other groups work differently. During the recent visit, Mertes said he was asked what he planned to do for Kosovo. "I replied, 'absolutely nothing.' I'm here to find out what you're trying to accomplish and how we can help you achieve your goals," he explained.

"It has to be their project, so that when we leave they can continue without us and replicate what has been accomplished in other parts of the country," Mertes added.

Part of the ValleyCare involvement includes bringing people to the United States for 10 days to two weeks for training. They are expected to arrive in September of this year. Mertes said he didn't know what specialty would be the focus of the training.

This is the third project undertaken by Mertes. Previously, programs were established in Russia and Azerbaijan. The Russian program was sponsored by the Department of Energy. USAID sponsored the second and is involved in the third one in

Kosovo.

Through Rotary, medical equipment has been donated in a variety of places, including Calcutta, Budapest, and Pecs, Hungary.

As a separate comment, Mertes noted there has been a change in attitude towards Americans since the election of President Barack Obama. "When we went to Kosovo in January, the people viewed the inauguration as a very celebratory event. They had put up billboards with Obama's picture. People told us 'you must be so proud.' It was quite different from any experience we had had in the past," Mertes noted.

The American International Health Alliance is a nonprofit organization working to advance global health by helping communities and nations with limited resources build sustainable institutional and human resource capacity. Through twinning partnerships and other programs, the alliance provides technical assistance using the knowledge and skills of experienced physicians, nurses, administrators, educators, allied health professionals, and civic leaders.

Local Blue Devils Ice Hockey Team Heads for National Championships

By Patricia Koning

After an impressive string of victories starting with the early stages of the California State Tournament last month, the Tri Valley Blue Devils Midget 18AA Hockey team finds itself heading for the USA Hockey National Championships in Pittsburg the first week in April.

"This is the coolest thing that has ever happened to me," says Gerrit Davis of Livermore, defensive player for the Blue Devils.

Coach Mike Holmes describes the team as a Cinderella story. The Blue Devils practice at Dublin Iceland, where they get just two sessions on the ice each week, one of which they share with another team. This is the team's first year playing at the AA level.

"We've gone into each game in the playoffs with a little bit of disbelief, but the team has just played outstandingly well," he says.

He says the team's confidence went through the roof early in the

playoffs when they were down 4-1 with nine minutes left in the game. The Blue Devils scored four goals in seven minutes and earned a bye to the State Tournament.

Twice during the State Tournament, the Blue Devils scored in first 11 seconds of a game. They also overcame several power plays, when one team has more players on the ice than the other, to hang onto their victories. They won the Pacific District Tournament with a 4-0 victory over Seattle's Northwest Admirals.

"Nobody expected us to win State," says Davis. "We knew we could do it because we are a great time. In regionals, we were up against teams from Alaska that practice four or five days a week."

In addition to Davis, 17 other young men, all 17 or 18 years old, from Dublin, Danville, Concord, Corte Madera, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon, and Walnut Creek make up the Blue

Devils roster. Many have played hockey together for years.

Davis started playing roller hockey at the rink behind Junction Avenue Middle School when he was five with teammate Ian Seidl. Pleasanton resident Janet Wolfinger's son Christopher also started playing ice hockey in kindergarten after she learned he couldn't play in a roller hockey league until second grade.

Last week, the team was featured on Gary Radnich's sports show on KRON 4 and they've been the Stars of the Week twice during San Jose Sharks games.

The Blue Devils will face the winner of the Central District Tournament on April 1, the Hollydell Hurricanes of New Jersey on April 2, and Great Falls Americans of Montana on April 3. To follow the progress of the Blue Devils, check their webpage at www.tvmh18aa.org/.

The USA Hockey website will have live online scoring of the National Tournament at www.usahockey.com.

Pleasanton Prepares for Census

Pleasanton began laying the groundwork for the 2010 national census Tuesday when the city council passed a resolution in support of the census.

Principal Planner Janice Stearn explained, "The idea is to raise public awareness concerning the campaign."

The census will be conducted on April 1, 2010. Stearn noted that it is important to gain an accurate count because population is used to make a variety of decisions including reapportionment and redistricting. In addition, it impacts the distribution of more than \$300 billion in federal funds.

On a local level, Stearn said the information can be used to help the city plan what services to provide. The census includes such information as the number of children in a household, education and income levels.

The census field office will be located in Pleasanton.

The city will conduct outreach on a variety of levels, including a presence at the Farmers' Market, press releases, and

information on the city's website. The city will help to locate a questionnaire office where people can come and ask questions.

The city council also approved funds to be used to update the youth master plan. The original was completed in 1999.

The consultant, MIG Inc., will conduct stakeholder interviews, conduct outreach through web based surveys and polls and prepare a memorandum that documents key data about the com-

munity and summarizes the results of the outreach activities.

The final document would provide a vision of the ideal future state for Pleasanton's youth resulting from achievement of the community's efforts, desired characteristics of the community and its youth, a broad course of action to achieve the vision, and objectives and strategic directions.

The report is expected to be completed in early 2010.

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Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included.

Free teen workshop, Pleasanton Community Counseling Center offering free teen workshop on body acceptance Sat., March 28, 2 to 4 p.m. Pleasanton Library. Discussion of body image, eating disorders and self image. Snacks and door prizes. Call Jenny to register, 800-9762 ext. 7.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group, meets 10 a.m. Tues., March 24 at Heritage Estates Retirement Community, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome. Information, Lorene Stack, 447-6158, or Ann Laye, 443-4098.

Car Battery and E-waste recycling day, Sat., March 28, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Crosswinds Church from parking lot, 6444 Sierra Ct., Dublin. Bring old TVs, computers, monitors, cell phones, toner cartridges, mp3 players, power cables, video game systems, digital cameras, audio visual equipment, VCRs/DVDs and car batteries for recycling at no charge. Directions www.crosswindschurch.org, call 560-3800.

Livermore Library Board, meets 7 p.m. Thurs., March 26 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Livermore-Pleasanton Elks Lodge 2117, installation of Officers Sun., March 29, 1 p.m. \$5 per person includes hors d'oeuvres and no-host cocktails. Lodge 50th anniversary photographs will be taken at 1:15 p.m. RSVP by March 27 to 455-8829.

Birds of Mount Wanda, Sat., March 21 at the John Muir National Historic Site, 8:30 a.m. Over 100 species of birds have been identified on Mount Wanda. Meet at the CallTran Park and Ride, corner of Alhambra Ave. and Franklin Canyon Rd., Martinez. Wear good walking shoes, trail is steep. Heavy rain cancels. Free. 228-8860.

Livermore Amador Valley League of Women Voters presents its second Spring Fling, Wednesday, March 25 from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at Heritage Estates, 900 East Stanley Blvd. Livermore. The event will include luncheon, raffle gifts and a program provided by Karen Tuohy from TowneCenter Books of Pleasanton. Anyone interested in the League is welcome to join good company and good food for a rewarding afternoon. The luncheon costs \$20. Raffle tickets will be available on site. There is a choice of menu items. For information call Vivian Thorson, (925) 846-5001.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., March 21, 63 miles Cinderella Training Ride, meet 7:30 a.m. at Dublin High School. Karin Ball, featherpedals@yahoo.com. Sat., March 21, 40 miles Cinderella Training Ride, meet 9 a.m. Livermore Airport, Bekki Livingston. Sun., March 22, 32 miles Pleasant Hill to Crockett and Martinez, meet 10 a.m. at Pleasant Hill Community Center, Mike Smith, 628-4333. Wed., March 25, 38 miles Livermore Airport to Pleasanton via Blackhawk, meet 10 a.m., Bill Goodwin, 487-0521. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Sunset Cabana Club is hosting their annual open house on Saturday March 21 and again on April 25 from 11-2 at their facility located at 1777 Cordoba Street in Livermore. Guests are invited to tour the club and enjoy refreshments, while they learn about all that Sunset Cabana Club has to offer this summer. Sunset Cabana Club offers four months of poolside fun and family entertainment with a 25 yard pool, wading pool, snack bar, picnic tables, barbecue, and water fun and safety with 2 lifeguards on duty. Sunset Cabana Club is a non-profit organization and has been a part of South Livermore for over 45 years. For more information call (925) 443-3020 or visit their website at www.sunsetcabana.com.

East Bay Women's Network (EBWN) meets Wed., April 1, 1151 Harbor Bay Parkway, look for signs to the conference room Alameda, 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. \$30 guests; \$20 preregistered members, \$45 at the door if a member. For more information contact: Gail Chadbourne Bark Busters Home Dog Training Email: pr@EBWN.org Phone: 510 228-8973.

Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley is looking for Volunteer Drivers to transport seniors to their medical appointments. The Senior Transportation Program supplements existing public and paratransit services by providing rides via volunteer drivers. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle and carry personal automobile liability insurance. Please contact Jennifer Cullen for more information at (925) 931-5387 or email: ja.cullen@yahoo.com

Scholarships, Activities & Academics Booster Club (AABC) of Foothill High School (Parent Teacher's Club) is offering 6 scholarships of \$500 each to Foothill HS Seniors. The application forms are on AABC site at www.foothillfalcons.org and with Mrs. Bing at the Foothill HS Counseling office. The last date for application is April 13, 2009.

Pasta Feed and Silent Auction fundraiser, Thursday, March 26, Village Alternative Education High School Multipurpose Room, 4645 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton. Event will raise money for student programs. This event will provide a cultural experience while sharing the impact our school has made on the lives of young people in our community.

This small alternative education high school provides at-risk students with the support to become successful citizens. Information contact Denise DRobb@pleasanton.k12.ca.us 925-426-4260

Fall Arrest Systems, Chabot-Las Positas Community College District's OSHA Training Center will offer an OSHA 3110 Fall Arrest Systems course April 14 through 16 to help construction businesses protect workers and reduce fall hazards. The three-day course will provide an overview of state-of-the-art fall protection technology and address OSHA requirements for fall protection. The course also features a one-day field exercise demonstrating fall protection equipment. CLPCCD OSHA Training Center, 5020 Franklin Drive, Pleasanton. For more information and to register for the course visit www.osha4you.com, or call (866) 936-OSHA.

Cruising the Night Away, Donlon Elementary School invites the public to an evening of food and entertainment Sat., March 28, 6 to 11 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel & Spa in Dublin. The night will include a silent auction of memorabilia, trips, family activities & other unique items. Tickets are \$46 per person. For more information, email DonlonAuction@comcast.net. Proceeds from the 2009 auction will help support existing programs and continue to upgrade the school's technology.

Livermore Valley Professional & Business Women (LVBPW) meets 6 p.m. Thurs., March 26 Café Nordstrom in the Pleasanton Stoneridge Mall. Guest speaker will be Pamela McDonald; topic, Women making changes to prevent heart disease, obesity and chronic illness. McDonald, NP, is the author of "The APOE Gene Diet Book." Networking and dinner at 6 p.m., registration at 5:40 pm. Cost for dinner and program is \$20. Pre-registration is required and can be made with Mona at 925-828-3006. The public is invited to attend.

Live Entertainment, music and ballroom dancing, Friday, March 20, Pleasanton Senior Center. Dance to the sounds of Troublemakers. Doors open 7:00pm. Dancing from 7:30-9:30pm. Dessert served. Ages 18 and older. Advance ticket purchase \$78/\$88N, at door \$88/\$98N. Call 931-5365 for reservations. Pleasanton Senior Center 5353 Sunol Blvd Pleasanton California 94566

Granada High School Class of 1989, Seeking all classmates from GHS Class of 1989 for the upcoming 20th year reunion,

which will be held on September 5, 2009. Reunion Committee@GHS1989.com or visit www.GHS1989.NET for more information.

Day Trippers (seniors) - Blackhawk Plaza, April 2, 2009. 10:30am-3:00pm. Visit Blackhawk Museum to view classic autos and a special ode led Smithsonian Exhibit: Art of the Stamp. No host lunch at Blackhawk Plaza. Pre-registration required. \$30 Pleasanton Resident, \$33 Non-resident. 931-5365. Pleasanton Senior Center

Spaghetti Dinner, Rodeo queen contest fund-raiser sponsored by the Livermore Rodeo Foundation. Sat., March 28, Livermore Rodeo Grounds in Robertson Park. 5:30 p.m. no host bar and silent auction; 6:30 p.m. family style dinner; 7 p.m. queen announcements. \$10 adults, \$7 child, age 10 and under. For tickets, call Ann Reese, 371-4059.

Sisters in Service 4th Annual Indian Dinner, Fund-raiser family event to benefit marginalized women and children in India. Event includes special music, food and guest speaker, Kay Strom, co-author of Daughters of Hope. Kay will share her SIS related experiences at the hardest places in the world researching child trafficking for her upcoming book with Michele Rickett, President Sisters in Service. Sunday March 29, 5:30-8pm at Valley Christian Center, 7500 Inspiration Dr., Dublin. Adults - \$10, Children under 10 - \$3. Tickets and info call Gloria @ 925-998-3785. www.sistersinservice.org.

SmARTsunlimited Children's Performing Arts School, open house March 22, 1 to 6 p.m. Piano, voice, guitar, brass, percussion, KinderSmARTS, acting, theater, film, tutoring. Nationally Certified Teachers and Programs. 53 Wright Brothers Avenue, Suite D, Livermore; 925-245-0283.

Community Emergency Response Team Training, 6 to 9 p.m. April 1-May 6. Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Dept., Training Tower, 3301 Busch Rd., Pleasanton. Enroll at livermoreadulted.org, or call (925) 606-4722. Learn how to help your neighborhood when disasters strike. Enroll in Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. Training includes: Disaster Basics, Disaster Medical, Hazards Materials Awareness, Fire Suppression, Utilities Shutoff, Light Search & Rescue, CERT organization, Disaster Psychology and a drill.

Job's Daughters Bethel No. 14, Pleasanton will be having a Pasta Feed and Silent Auction at the Pleasanton Masonic Lodge at Friday, March 27 at 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Tickets

are \$8 for Adults and \$5 for Children under 5. Job's Daughters is an organization for girls between the ages of 10 and 20 years old who have a Masonic relationship. Buy tickets by contacting Debbie Bertolino at 925-913-0163 or debbiebertolino@hotmail.com. Any donation to the auction would be appreciated. Visit www.bethel14.com/ for more info about Job's Daughters. Pleasanton Masonic Lodge, 3370 Hopyard Avenue, Pleasanton.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., Lunch in Dublin, Panera Bakery Cafe, March 26, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by March 23 to Marge, 828-5124. Happy hour in Castro Valley, Don Jose Mexican Restaurant, March 27, 4 to 6 p.m., RSVP by March 25 to Jill, 510-381-3290. Birthday dinner in Dublin, Elephant Bar Restaurant, March 29, 4:45 p.m., RSVP by March 26 to Athene, 846-0111.

RELIGION
Dealing with loss, of loved one, sessions second and fourth Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. March 26. Meetings open to all regardless of religious orientation. Call Mary at 846-5377 with questions.

Lenten Mass of hope and gratitude for Cancer survivors, their family members and their friends. Wednesday, March 25, at 7:30 PM at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton. Father Padraig Greene will be the celebrant. A social and refreshments will follow the service. For more information, call Mary Merucci 846-8436 or Helen Wirtenson 462-3798

Coming Out of the Dark, a drumming circle and guided meditation event to welcome spring will be offered to the community on Friday, March 20, 7:30 p.m. at the United Christian Church 1836 College Avenue, Livermore. The Rev. Paula Bishop Pociucha, will guide the experience. No previous drumming experience necessary. Bring own drum, or there will be some extras provided. For information call 925-449-6820.

Lenten sermon series - "Passion for Creation: Allowing Creativity to Flow Through Us," based on the surprisingly contemporary writings of 13th century mystic Meister Eckhart. Rev. Steve Maynard will expound on these teachings at the March 22 Sunday service, 10 a.m., Tri-Valley Unity, meeting at the Radisson, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. All are Welcome. Ongoing classes and groups. www.trivalleyunity.com, (925) 998-0038.

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SPORTS NOTES

Undefeated Champions

The 7th and 8th Grade Girls Basketball Championships were held March 2-5 at Hart Middle School and Wells Middle School.

Thomas Hart Middle School capped a perfect 8th grade season with a thrilling 2 point victory over the Patriots of Harvest Park. The game went down to the final seconds when a shot by Lindke (Harvest) went in and out of the basket, cementing the championship for the Huskies 25-23. The score was tied after three quarters. The game was well played by both schools. The Huskies were led in scoring by Rodriguez and Lynch, while the Patriots leading scorers were Knell and Hitesman. In the 3rd place game, Pleasanton Middle School wore down the Mendenhall Mustangs 40-27. Cayla Jetter led all scorers with 21 points for the victorious Panthers. The Mustangs were led in scoring by Grace Rosemark and Caitlyn Netzel.

The 7th grade Panthers of Pleasanton Middle School completed an undefeated season with a dominant second half against tournament host, Wells Middle School. Taking a one point lead into the 3rd quarter, the panthers were able to hit key shots while playing good team defense to pull away with a 35-23 victory. They were led in scoring by Cambi Cukar and Nisha Kale with 9 points each. Wells fought hard and was led in scoring by Alyssa Ybarra and Jenna Clingerman. In the 3rd Place game, Hart Middle School surged away from the Junction Bulldogs for a 33-14 win. While the score was close at the half, 12-9, the Huskies dominated the second half by balanced scoring by nearly every player. Ten players scored at least one point, with Johnson leading the Huskies in scoring. Junction was led by Glaviani and Mata in scoring as the Bulldogs played hard the entire game.

Youth Soccer

The Pleasanton Ballistic United U19 Black soccer team advanced to the quarter finals in the 2009 CYSA Association Cup after winning their group this weekend at Cherry Island, Sacramento. Ballistic won all three games by scores of 4-0, 2-0, and 1-0 over Fruitridge Pumas, Mission Falcons 4-1, 5, and Oakland Tepa United, respectively.

Ballistic went through group play without allowing a goal. Goalkeeper Niko Lecco recorded several saves to preserve the shut-outs. The strong defense was anchored by Aaron Lek, Patrick Yee, Eric Burnett, Kevin Phillips, Brandon Lee, and Austin Richwood. The strong midfield play allowed Ballistic to control the area for most of the games. Solid midfield play was led by Tyler Copeman, Nick Navarini, Linus Gehring, Julio Gomez, Brian Johnston, and Mason Ridgeway. David Norton, Justin Dorsey, Nathan Roberts, Stephen LaCommare, Jonathan Ramirez created havoc and had many scoring opportunities.

Dorsey, Roberts, and Norton (2) did all the scoring with assists from Gehring, Gomez, and Johnston against the Fruitridge Pumas. Dorsey scored from a deep left cross by Yee. Norton scored off a long kick by goal keeper Lecco for the 2-0 win over the Mission Falcons. Norton scored the lone goal against the Oakland Tepa United with a feed from Gehring in the second half.

Ballistic U16: In preparation for CYSA State Cup competition at the end of March, the Ballistic United U-16 team played in the Tenth Annual Diablo Cup in Concord last weekend. In its first game against Mustang Red XI, Ballistic struck early with a header by Jamie Somerville off a free kick by James Metz. Playing a hard, physical game, Mustang Red tied the score. Ultimately, Somerville answered back for Ballistic, scoring the winning goal for a 2-1 Ballistic victory. Star offensive contributors were Zac Savoy and Gustavo Rivera.

In its second tournament game, Ballistic faced the Placer Prestige 93. Ballistic put together wonderful combinations of passing to control the midfield. Early in the game, Ballistic went up 1-0. In the second half, Ballistic's Stefan Agustsson headed in a second goal from a quickly taken free kick. The Ballistic lead frustrated the Prestige players, who ended up having two of their players sent off the field with red cards. Ballistic midfielders Brandon Krumback, Joey Pereira, Sam Fox and Zacharias Larangan kept active throughout the game. Goalkeeper Adam Bailey contributed to the shutout with several excellent saves.

Winning its two Saturday games qualified Ballistic for the semifinals, where it faced the ACC Panthers on Sunday morning. Ballistic dominated this game from start to finish, clicking on all cylinders. In fact, this game ranks as one of the team's best performances this season. Ballistic scored three unanswered goals before the ACC Panthers were able to get on the board. Defensive stars were Eddie Schoenagel, Wesley Ostrowski and Evan Larsen. Parker Quesberry and Zac Arellano contributed on the wings by keeping the ball forward for scoring opportunities. Its 3-1 victory earned Ballistic a spot in the U-16 championship game.

In the championship game, Ballistic earned second place after conceding to San Juan Lightning 93 Blue for a final score, 0-4. Next up, Ballistic faces Santa Clara Sporting 92 (nationally ranked), Redwood Juvenets and Fremont United at the CYSA State Cup, beginning March 28-29. The games will be played in Morgan Hill.

Pleasanton Rage U16: In Association Cup play this past weekend, Rage's U16 D3 team out scored their opponents by 17 to 1. The team will advance to the sweet sixteen in Ripon this weekend.

Foothill Little League

Pleasanton Foothill Little League results from last week:

AA Division: Cubs 8, Dbacks 4; Cubs fans braved bone chilling winds to watch the AA Cubs win big against the Dbacks in their first game of the season. Raymond Blasquez led the team off with a single in the 1st inning, followed by Nick Narciso with a double and Luke Valentine with a triple. Nick Palange's single in the 3rd delivered 2 RBIs for the team. Big hitter of the day was Kevin Weist, who slammed a double in the 2nd and single in the 4th inning. Top Offensive Players: Kevin Weist, Raymond Blasquez, Luke Valentine, Top Defensive Players: Nick Narciso, Amav Kouli, Austin Chau.

AAA Division: Nationals 8, Red Sox 13; The Nationals were fired up to face the Red Sox. The final score was 13-8 Red Sox. The game was closer than the score implies. Most valuable players for the game were Aaron Wong - great defense at 3rd base - stabbed a sharp grounder and threw 2nd for the force out; he also had a key hit and RBI in the 4th when the game was still close. Griffin Dees went 2 for 2 at the plate with a stolen base and run scored. Connor Isozaki had a strong start pitching, with 5 strike-outs and a shutout 2nd inning. Top Offensive Players: Aaron Wong; Top Defensive Players: Griffin Dees.

Majors: Angels 6, White Sox 5; The Pleasanton Foothill Little League Major Angels defeated the White Sox 6-5 in a well played, nail bite. Luther Little, Jordan Ott and Kyle Lawrence each had two hits to lead the Angels offensive attack. Kyle Lawrence's lead had a booming triple to right center field driving in a run. Collin Blaney and Zac Shields hit doubles for the Angels. Joshua Ott, Matt Weir and Hayden Berson hit singles



The Livermore Blue Intensity U16 girls soccer team poses with the trophy they won as Division 4 State Champions.

to round out the Angels offensive punch. Kyle Lawrence pitched three innings for the Angels while striking out five White Sox batters. Joshua Ott, Luther Little and Zac Shields also pitched well for the Angels. Zac Shields struck out the last White Sox batter in the top of the sixth inning with the bases loaded. Luther Little threw out a White Sox runner attempting to steal third base, and tagged out another runner out at home from a perfect throw from Joshua Ott. Joshua Ott also made a great stop at second base on a hard hit ground ball. Brock Gustafson made several great plays at first base for the Angels. Top Offensive Players: Kyle Lawrence, Luther Little and Jordan Ott; Top Defensive Players: Luther Little, Joshua Ott and Brock Gustafson.

A's 11, White Sox 2: The A's came out strong in their first game of the season against the White Sox. The A's scored 6 runs in the first inning capped off with Patrick Ronan's over the fence 3 run homer. There was no score in the next 3 innings but great pitching by the A's Scott Ransick and Patrick Ronan. The A's scored 5 more runs and continued outstanding pitching by Andrew Crabbill and Collin Richardson. Top Offensive Players: Patrick Ronan, Collin Richardson; Top Defensive Players: Jaxon Dwong, Ryan Gronlund.

Granada Little League

Granada Little League results from last week:

Junior 90s - Braves 14 Twins 9: The Braves won the season opener over the Twins. The Braves' pitcher Brandon Jeffers dominated allowing 1 run with 6 strike-outs over 4 innings. Enn Clutter led the Braves offense with 2 doubles and 4 RBIs. The Twins battled back with 8 runs in the final half inning. Wes Harmon led things off with a walk scoring twice. Anthony Dondero went 3 for 3 with a double and 3 RBIs to lead the Twins offense.

L.L.L. Giants 13 Twins 2: The Livermore American Giants scored ten runs in six innings. The Giants' Mike Brown closed the game allowing no runs over the final 2 innings while striking out 5. The Twins' Ricky Martinez shut down the Giants in the fourth inning allowing no runs while striking out 2. The Twins Adrian Driver contributed with a hit and a run scored.

Minor AAA - Yankees 4, Angels 15: Top Hitters Yankees: Blake Downey - HR, 2B and RBI; Jordan Mello - 2B, Angels - Luke Hottinger 2 IB, 2B and 2 RBI; Chris Machi 3 IB, Garrett West - 1B, 2B and RBI. Top Pitchers: Yankees: Jordan Mello and Blake Downey; Angels: Jack Walker and Brandon Zaubrecher. The Angels did not stand a chance against the Angels 5 run lead in the first inning. Yankees Connor Glasco, while playing center field, gave the players some hope with his back to back outs, catching pop-up flies, in the 4th inning but it wasn't enough to overcome the Angels' victory.

Giants 5, Rays 9: Top Hitters Giants - Devon Shootridge - 1B, 2RBI, run scored; Randall Young - 1B; Brandon Cuy - 1B. Rays - Austen Moomau - 2 IB; Jason Frost - 1B; Taylor Stultz 2 RBI, run scored. Top Pitchers: Seth Kuhn 3IP, 2R, 2H, 3K; Rays - Conner Swadener 3IP, 1R, 2H, 3K. The Rays had good pitching backed by solid defense to hold the Giants to just 5 runs. The Giants came out swinging in the 3rd with solid hitting but were unable to surpass the Rays in total runs scored.

A's 6, Padres 5: Top Hitters for A's - Wes Katz - 1B, 2B, 2 runs scored; Adam Padilla - 2B, 2 RBIs, 1 run scored; Trey Cortez - 2B, 1 RBI, 1 run scored; Top Hitters for Padres - Michael Stein - 1B, 1 RBI, 1 run scored; Greg Moreland - 1B, 2B, 1 RBI, 1 run scored; Eric Martin - 1B, 3B, 2 RBIs, 2 runs scored. Top Pitchers: A's - Wes Katz and Blake Lesky; Padres - Greg Moreland and J. Campbell. It was a close ball game between the A's and the Padres which went to the bottom of the sixth when the A's pulled it out to win on hits by Trey Cortez and Wes Katz who were then driven in on a double by Adam Padilla as the A's went on to win 6-5.

Home Phillies 2, Visiting White Sox 8: Top Hitters Phillies: Kaleb McTear 1-2B 1-Run, Cody Bray 1-1B 2-RBI, Drew Kujacich 1-1B. Top Hitters White Sox: Alec Foster 1-1B 1-3B 2-RBI 2-Runs, Jarrett Leon 1-1B 2-Runs, Maxwell Wigginton 1-1B 2-Runs. Top Pitcher: Phillies: Johnny Bailey 4-Innings 3-Hits 3-Runs 4-Strike-outs. Top Pitchers: White Sox: Nicholas McClendon 1-Innings 2-Hits 0-Runs 2-Strike-outs. Jarrett Leon 2-Innings 3-Hits 2-Runs 4-Strike-outs.

Minor AA - Rays 9, A's 2: Outstanding offensive players for the Rays were Dylan Tompkins, Samuel Miller, and Nolan McCormick. Rays defenders included Grant Blockley with a double play at third base, Dylan Martinez, and Connor Sweeney. A's offense was led by Dominic Guilano, Brian Mahoney, and Daniel Granados while defensive leaders were Jackson Wysock, Cameron Geyer, and Brian Cuy. The Rays' defense held tight, giving up only 2 runs to the tough A's.

Minor A - Phillies: (offense) Caleb Hardesty, Andrew Hayley, Tre Savino (defense) Aaron Udoutch, Ethan Lux, Jeremy Adams. Giants: (offense) Gabriel Parrish, Ian Rasmussen, Harry Rose (defense) Kinaar Desai, Ethan Dreger, Nathan Kamm.

Red Sox (offense) Elijah Beedles, Nicholas Gregovich, Justin Watson (defense) Logan Finch, Anthony Thomas, Noah Wiesner; Rays - (offense) Quinn Tudor, Peyton Peterson, Caleb Hachler (defense) Cameron McGee, Ryan Leyton, Tyler Rene Emclero.

Angels: (offense) Zachary Parodi, Matt-then Hall, Travis Silva, (offense) Brandon Harvey, Kobe Cortez, Alec Lewis, A's: (defense) Garrett Borba, Andrew Chormas, Robert Sandoval, (offense) Cameron Shrader, Grant Bjorn.

Yankee's (offense) Michael Gauch, Jacob Eijansantos, Jaren Eijansantos (defense) Jeremy Dyson, Cameron Moghadam, Jacob

Morton; Red Sox (offense) Ryan Lortie, Colton Morlan, Anthony Thomas (defense) Trevor Kirby, Wyatt Moseley, Cole Niemeyer.

Farm - Athletics - (offense) Ryan Anderson, Mason Lydon, Grant Thraillkill (defense) Johnny Geyer, Calvin Fletcher, Ryan Stapp, Red Sox - (offense) Anthony Sinsoros, Hudson Steele, Alex Taylor (defense) Luke Moylan, Kevin Plant, Max Silveira, Angels (offense) Christopher Perez, Ty Marks, Cody Ward, (defense) Daniel Bobosky, Jacob Keefer, Austin Lee; Rays: (offense) Caleb Chance, Andy Hankins, Austin Overton, (defense) Henry Kath, Katherine Frost, Jade Overton, Yankees (home) vs Padres. 3 Top Offensive players for Yankees: Colton Trudeau, Shlok Bansal, Ethan Clark. 3 Top Defensive for Yankees: Ben Wiesner, Dominic Shepherd, Max Higgins.

T-Ball - Angels (offense) Nicholas Lydon, Dylan Macdonald, Brandon Pillon; (defense) Brandon Shah, Andrew Bates, Carson Devine. A's (offense) Michael Anolin, Reggie Wade, Aiden Ayres; (defense) Izaiah Lindor, Michael Mal, Christian Silva. Rays (offense) Zach Van Huis, Christopher Meinecke, Kyle Drobick (defense) Ben Sears, Dylan Corker, JD Cerruti. Padres (offense) Landon Paden, Garrett Robb, Ben Wigginton (defense) Will Wentworth, Landon Jansen, Nico.

Granada Junior 90's: Granada, TVLL 4; With a dominant pitching performance from Anthony Olmo, Granada's Junior 90's Gold team cruised to an 8-1 victory over Tassajara Valley Gold Team. Olmo surrendered just one run, while striking out 13 batters in six innings of pitching.

Granada started the scoring by putting up a run in the 3rd inning when Mac Morgan hit a one out double and Scott Emrich followed with a single, knocking in Morgan. Granada kept rolling by accumulating 7 more runs in the next four innings to cap the night. Tassajara scored a run in the 4th and rallied to put up three more runs in the bottom of the 7th, but fell short as Granada's closer, Alex Davis, recaptured Tassajara's final out on a groundout.

Top Hitters: Anthony Olmo 2 for 3, 1 walk, 1 run scored, 2 rbi's; Mac Morgan 2 for 2, 1-2B, 1 walk, 2 runs scored; Scott Emrich 1 for 1, 1 sac fly, 1 hit by pitch, 2 rbi's; Damian Gan 1 for 2, 1-3B, 1 hit by pitch, 1 run scored, 1 rbi; Top Pitchers: Anthony Olmo (6 innings, 1 hit, 1 run, 1 walk, 13 strike-outs); Alex Davis (1 inning, 3 hits, 3 runs, 3 walks, 1 strike-out).

Granada 6, PNL/ Foothill 6: Granada 90's Gold and PNL/ Foothill Gold seemed to mirror each other throughout this game as they battled to tie the score of 6 to 6 after regulation play ended. Granada struck first by putting up five runs in the bottom of the 1st inning with the big blows coming from Anthony Olmo's bases loaded double knocking in one and Alex Davis with a two rbi single. PNL/ Foothill matched Granada by putting up five runs in the top of the third inning. The game remained tied until the top of the 7th, when PNL/ Foothill scored one run to take the lead. Granada was able to match PNL/ Foothill when Matt Richards reached base by getting hit by a pitch. Next, Damian Gan also reached base by getting hit with a pitch, moving Richards to second base. Alex Davis, once again came through with an rbi single to close out the scoring and preserve the tie.

Top Hitters: Alex Davis 2 for 4, 3 rbi's; Anthony Olmo 1 for 4, 1-2B, 1 run scored, 2 rbi's; Damian Gan 1 for 2, 1 walk, 1 hit by pitch, 1 run scored, 1 rbi; Scott Emrich 1 for 3, 1 walk, 1 run scored; David Russell 2 for 4; Jordan Thraillkill 1 for 4, 1 run scored; Matt Richards 2 runs scored, 1 walk, 2 hit by pitch; Top Pitchers: Damian Gan (3 innings, 3 hits, 5 runs, 6 walks, 3 strike-outs); Ryan Flyler (4 innings, 2 hits, 1 run, 6 strike-outs).

Granada 4, PNL/ Foothill 3: With a flair for the dramatic, Granada's Junior 90's Gold Team staged a bottom of the 7th inning rally, to push the winning run across the plate to cap a 4-3 win over PNL/ Foothill Gold in the second game of a double header. PNL/ Foothill was in the lead, 3-1, until Granada struck for two in the bottom of the 5th inning. Damian Gan started the inning with a walk, followed by Anthony Olmo who also walked. Alex Davis came through with a big double knocking in Gan and Olmo. The score stayed tied until the bottom of the 7th inning. Hot hitting Alex Davis came to the plate with two outs and dropped in a single to right. With Rob McLeod at the plate, Davis stole second base. Then on the next pitch, McLeod came through by flaring a single to center, scoring Davis for the win.

Top Hitters: Alex Davis 2 for 4, 1-2B, 1 run scored, 2 rbi's; Jordan Thraillkill 2 for 4, 1 rbi; Damian Gan 1 for 1, 2 walks, 1 hit by pitch, 1 run scored; Scott Emrich 1 for 3, 1 walk, 1 run scored; Rob McLeod 1 for 4, 1 rbi; Ryan Flyler 1 for 3; Top Pitchers: Rob McLeod (4 innings, 3 hits, 2 runs, 5 walks, 3 strike-outs); Alex Davis (3 innings, 1 hit, 1 run, 5 walks, 2 strike-outs).

Amador High Swimming

Amador Valley Varsity Boys: With one event left to go, the 400 free relay, Amador Valley Swimming Coach Jon Pallson pulled his relay teams together and delivered a message: "We're up by one point. It all comes down to this event. Win and we win the meet." The "A" relay of Andrew Seitz, Krishnan Rajagopalan, Scott Arellano, and Kyle Surber went out strong and brought home the 95-88 victory over California High by a two second margin. The "B" relay, Eric Gates, Jake Bahls, Edward Zhang, and Brian Zhang, took third to provide the final margin of victory.

The diving competition took place the night before the swimming meeting and the Dons came into the meet down only 7-6 on the strength of Tyler Pullen's performance. Pullen took the first place spot in the league dive meet against Foothill, Monte Vista, San Ramon and Cal High posting a huge 278.45 score, 73 points higher than the 2nd place finisher and set a new dual meet record and pool record for Amador Valley.

The swim meet started slowly for the Dons. Cal took first and third in the medley relay to expand their lead to 17-10, but Bahls grabbed a first in the 200 free and Seitz followed with a win in the 200 IM to close the gap. Finally, Surber, Arellano and Jason Cunningham went 1,2,4 in the 500 free to give the Dons their first lead of the meet 39-36. Seitz followed with another first in the 100 Fly and with Surber, Arellano, and Cunningham going 1,2,4 in the 100 free, giving Amador a 60-47 lead.

Cal gained four points in the 500 free. Amador got two of those points back in the 200 free relay with a first place finish from Arellano, Seitz, Cunningham, and Surber and split the back stroke 8-8 with Gates getting second, Edward Zhang getting third, and Jack Payan placing fifth. With the score 82-71 and only two events left, things looked good for Amador, but the Grizzlies came on strong in the breast stroke, going 1-2-3 to make the score 85-84 Amador entering the final relay. Surber and Seitz took two individual firsts for the Dons while Bahls and Pullen got a single first.

Amador Valley Girls Varsity: Winning eight of 12 events is always a big help in winning a swim meet as the Amador Valley girls proved against Cal High on Friday. The eight first place finishes propelled the Dons to a 112-79 win over the Grizzlies.

The Dons came into the meet with a lead from the diving competition the night before. Their divers scored huge at the five school league meet placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd against all schools except San Ramon (which took the 1st place spot in direct competition). Alexa Hernandez placed 1st with 177.65 points, Emma Rigel with 166.95 took 2nd and Lisa Grau with 163.60 took 3rd. The large, 50 diver meet included San Ramon, Cal High, Monte Vista, Foothill.

Amador set immediately to enlarging their margin. Danielle Stuckler, Tory Houston, Catherine Breed, and Jenn Docto started the meet off on the right foot winning the medley relay. Natalie Wong, Cassidy Booe and Casey Coughlin followed up with a 1-2-3 sweep of the 200 free and after Breed, Houston and Chelsea Finn went 1-3-5 in the 200 IM, the Dons were up 46-13.

In one of the few events (50 free) the Dons didn't win, they still managed to split the points with Docto, Nicole Pihlal, and Lindsey Baxter going 2,3,5. Cal managed to take 12 points in the 100 fly, but the Dons countered with a 1-2-3 sweep in the 100 free with Marie Schmidt, Stickler, and Docto doing the honors. Following the 100 free, Breed and Schmidt went 1-2 in the 500 free. Houston later won the 100 breast and the 400 free relay team of Wong, Schmidt, Houston, and Breed capped the meet with a final Amador first place finish.

The Amador Valley JV boys got out to a fast start and never looked back against the Cal High Grizzlies. The Dons picked up first place in three of the 11 events, losing points in only two events showing a depth that Cal could not match, winning 43-77. Although first place was hard for the Dons to attain, they went 2-3 in six of the events.

The Dons went 1-2 in the medley relay and James Cheney took the 200 free. Swimming for the winning relay were Sam Martin, James Cheney, Mahir Kalra, and Nick Wee. Taking second were Alec Grotgeu, Alec Psnakis, Seneharth Mukherjee, and Chris Mowry. Nick Janota placed second in the 200 2B, 1 walk, 2 runs scored; Scott Emrich 1 for 1, 1 sac fly, 1 hit by pitch, 2 rbi's; Damian Gan 1 for 2, 1-3B, 1 hit by pitch, 1 run scored, 1 rbi; Top Pitchers: Anthony Olmo (6 innings, 1 hit, 1 run, 1 walk, 13 strike-outs); Alex Davis (1 inning, 3 hits, 3 runs, 3 walks, 1 strike-out).

After the 1M, Grotgeu and Mukherjee finished 1-2 in the 500 free, followed by a second place finish by Sam Martin in the fly. Grotgeu and Wee then went 2-3 in the 100 free. Janota and Ben Sorsen also went 2-3 in the 500 free that followed. Keeping the 2-3 habit going, the 200 free relay teams also went 2,3. Finally, the Dons did something different, but it was all good with Psnakis and Kalra going 1-2 in the 100 back. Getting back to 2-3 form in the 100 breast were Cheney and Mowry and, the 400 relay teams also went 2-3.

It's always nice to start the meet up by 16 points, and the Amador Valley JV girls dive team was able to provide that to the swim team versus Cal High. The Dons took that head start and ran with it, completely dominating the Grizzlies in a 124-65 victory.

The JV Divers finished 1-2 against San Ramon, Cal, Monte Vista and Foothill in the 500 free, five school league meet at Amador on Thursday. Taking first was Marina Mihov (161.20) while Nicole George (136.85) took second. Alex Nottingham finished fourth with a 118.05 score.

On Friday, the Amador swimmers took up where the divers left off. Jessica Choi, Monica Bello, Laura Vandiver, and Kavya Madhavapadi began the meeting by winning the medley relay. Michelle Schirle and Lani Cohen then went 2-3 in the 200 free. Christian Zhang won 100 IM and Elle Surber took the 500 free. Cal managed to take 13 points in the 50 fly, but the Dons got back in the groove going 2-3 (Schirle, Kayla Miler) in the 100 free before going 1-2 in the 500 free (Surber, Sarah Tuner).

The 200 free relay team of Choi, Elizabeth Lopez, Schirle, and Miller won their race followed by Vandiver, and Erica Efigenio winning the 100 back and breast respectively. Amador capped the meet by winning the 400 free relay by almost 14 seconds. On the winning relay squad were Zhang, Surber, Cohen and Schirle.

Pleasanton Girls Softball

Pleasanton Girls Softball League results: **T-Ball:** Liberty Mutual vs. Contra Costa Co. Public Auto Auctions: Liberty Mutual was on top of their game despite the cold weather. All of the girls hit the ball and ran the bases well. The girls fielded the ball well, with outstanding efforts by Peyton Williams and Emma Chandler.

Micro Division: State Farm Insurance-Leslie Wolf vs. Borg Fence: State Farm Insurance-Leslie Wolf had excellent hitting by Asia Brown and Savana Cairns. Great Fielding by Emily Ferry. Borg Fence had solid hits by Madison Beyer and Chenoa Bodero. Excellent fielding by Megan Bouchard. Top Players: State Farm Insurance-Leslie Wolf - Wolves - Asia Brown, Savana Cairns, Emily Ferry; Borg Fence - Madison Beyer, Chenoa Bodero, Megan Bouchard.

Friends of PGSL vs. Valley Plumbing: Top Players: Friends of PGSL - Julia Balastrelli, Lucy Becker, Julia Camello, Valley Plumbing - Madelynn Crimi, Aynslee Roberts, Cortelia Stewart.

Res-Com Insulation Inc. vs. Pleasanton

Glass: Pleasanton Glass smacked the ball and fielded like pros. Megan Rae was serious about playing 3rd base. She fielded and threw the runners out. Alexis Neely was a heavy hitter. She slammed the ball into the outfield. Zoey Castillo wore the catcher's gear and guarded home plate. She scrambled quickly to get the ball. Top players: Zoey Castillo, Alexis Neely, Megan Rae.

Pacific Dental Care vs. City Beach: The girls did a great job trying to record 3 outs each inning. Each player also did an outstanding job on hitting. Top Players: Pacific Dental Care - Kristina Allard, Makena Densmore, Gianna Lyng; City Beach - Madison Hildebrand, Megan Reilly, Hannah Swain.

Mini Rec Division: CTS vs. Accurate Impressions: CTS did a great job in the field making a number of good plays. CTS also showed they were coming up to the plate to swing the bat and be aggressive against Accurate Impressions' pitcher. CTS had hits from Hanna Fleshman, Keara Greenan, Angelina Murillo and Paige Alexander. CTS scored their first run of the season after Paige drove in Angelina in the 3rd inning.

Accurate Impressions' first big hit came from Hannah Yozzo. We saw excellent pitching from Kami Kodama and Maya Nozaka, who also provided the last out of the game. Kallie Emerson made a big hit in the last tie-breaking inning, which brought in a home run. Both teams played an excellent first game and should be proud of their play. Top Players: Kallie Emerson, Kami Kodama, Maya Nozaka.

Ogden Costa Creative Group vs. Zaballos Construction: The game was tied until the 3rd inning. Both teams played tough. Sidney Vaeth went 1 for 2 with an RBI for Zaballos Construction while Allison Stowell went 1 for 1 scoring the winning run for Zaballos Construction. Nadine Cobb pitched a no hitter with three strike outs in the 3rd inning. Top Players: Nadine Cobb, Allison Stowell, Sidney Vaeth.

Pleasanton Police Officers Association vs. Pilates on Spring: Alexis Bianco hit a single in the first inning scoring 2 RBIs. Alexis also had an outstanding ground stop on 2nd base. Hayley Swingler had a base hit. Kamryn Brown hit a single. Samantha Dondero had a strong play at 3rd base fielding a ground ball and then chasing down a runner for a tag out. Jenna Reitsma, playing catcher, had a long throw to 2nd base which just missed catching the runner. Top players: Alexis Bianco, Samantha Dondero, Jenna Reitsma.

TransPak 3, AMS 0: TransPak's Skye Horner scored the first run of the game sliding into home. Hunter Garcia, the starting pitcher had several strike outs and Molly Digrolamo caught a deep fly ball to center field. AMS pitchers Adrianna Harris and Serena Carmona-Hester had four strike outs each and Samantha Coufal hit a ball to deep center giving her a double. Top players: TransPak - Molly Digrolamo, Hunter Garcia, Skye Horner; AMS - Serena Carmona-Hester, Samantha Coufal, Adrianna Harris.

Livermore Girls Softball

Livermore Girls Softball highlights:

Middle School Black division: Brent Bowen Photography Lady Tek No 14, DA Crew 9. Lady Tek- No exploded with timely hitting to pull away for the win. Mia Volpatti and Morgan Meyer both had two-run singles, and Rachel Schley made key defensive plays. For DA Crew, Megan Manning had a solid hit knocking in a run and great plays at first base. Shannon Melrose pitched two strong innings and a hard shot to center field for a hit, and Hailey Schultz started the game off with a great catch in left field, knocked in a run with a solid hit and a stolen base.

DA Crew 13, Outlaws 6: For DA Crew, Kristen Pauluzzo had a triple and two RBIs along with solid defensive plays at third base, Sara Novell pitched three scoreless innings with four strike-outs and she scored two runs, and Alex Villanueva scored two runs along with two stolen bases along with a great defensive play at third base to start the game.

Brent Bowen Photography Lady Tech No 8, BADI 1: For Lady Tek- No, Courtney Fields and Paige Walker both pitched exceptionally well with two and three strike-outs, respectively. The offense was paced by Lindsey Lucivero, who hit an RBI double and a single, and scored two runs.

Middle School Red division: Carl's Jr. of Livermore The Force 13, The Black Widows 5. The Black Widows played well as a team in their first game. Kelly Wright caught two infield balls for outs. Anastasia Gould had a single, an RBI and got two defensive put-outs, and Shalena Anderson pitched two solid innings allowing only three runs.

G.R. Dahl Construction Base Raiders 10, RedHots9: Among the Base Raiders who reached base every at-bat in this closely-contested game were Maureen Thaeue who doubled and walked, and Brittany Reposa who singled and walked, while Taylor Dahl pitched the final inning and struck out the side for the win.

G.R. Dahl Construction Base Raiders 12, The Black Widows 3: For the Base Raiders, Stephanie Rucker, Erica Smith, and Kayleigh La Grutta were among four Base Raiders reaching base all three at-bats. Rucker also pitched three solid innings, and Smith had a double and four RBIs.

10-Under: Thomas Marcel, DDS & Kolka Furniture Lil' Devils 2, Nummi Red Hot Sliders 0. The Lil' Devils defeated the Red Hot Sliders 2-0 in a hard fought pitcher's duel. Madison Kahway and Jennifer Connolly combined on a no-hitter for the Lil' Devils and Heather O'Brien had a hit and scored a run for the Lil' Devils.

Livermore Police Officers Association Valley Villains 14, WIN Home Inspection Hot Shots 8: The Valley Villains were led to victory with the great pitching and catching team of Nicole Pauluzzo and Sophia Pearson, and great defensive plays by second baseman Alyssa Rosa.

Thomas Marcel, DDS & Kolka Furniture Lil' Devils 15, AP Concrete Xtreme Heat 2: The Lil' Devils won their fourth game of the season, and Tori Nicolo led the offense with three runs, a hit, and two RBIs, and Kyle Martinez and Morgan McMahon scored two runs each.

Kolka Furniture Lightning Bolts 7, AP Concrete Xtreme Heat 4: The Lightning Bolts' Kellie Hughes and Allie Sauer combined for five strikeouts in their win against Xtreme Heat, and Peyton Woelk added a key RBI.

Kolka Furniture Lightning Bolts 15, WIN Home Inspection Hot Shots 4: The

Lightning Bolts were led by Britney Meyer's three-run triple, while Taylor Stephenson had a single and played great defense, and Chloe Rodriguez added two stolen bases and a run in this well-played game.

Burton Family Livermore Crew 11, Nummi Red Hot Sliders 7: For the Livermore Crew, Riley Heffron hit a line drive to outfield for a double, Shannon Blockley made a great play at second base, and Mattie Thompkins made several put-outs from third base to home. Savannah Vasquez laid down a bunt to get the game started for The Red Hot Sliders, while Sue Yi played very well at first base, and Megan Halliwell was a strong catcher behind home plate.

Burton Family Livermore Crew 22, Chiropractic Lil' Rebels Lil Rebels 10: For the Livermore Crew, Laura Duterle led the team with three RBIs, Jessica Bennett displayed great offensive by stealing two bases, and Mallory Jones made great fielding plays throughout the game.

8-Under: Brian Emrich, DDS Black Widows vs. Austin Precision Bubble Gum Girls. Coaches' selections - Grace Masingale, Jenny Stoner, Nicole Fairbanks (BBG), Abramson & Thae, LLP Xtreme vs. Jack in the Box Red Hawks. Coaches' selections - Isabella Addington, Tori Borgha, Olivia Volponi (X); Sarah Sanchez, Ashley Yamamoto, Kendall Yamamoto (RH), Nummi Scorpius vs. Chili Peppers. Coaches' selections - Emmie Poe, Abby Andrews, Jordan Beakley (S), Nummi Scorpius vs. Cottage School American Girls. Coaches' selections - Chelsea Warner, Camille Best, Tiara Birdsong (S).

Jack in the Box Red Hawks vs. Austin Precision Bubble Gum Girls. Coaches' selections - Megan Shehab, Sarah Wenzel, Olivia Tabor (BBG), William D. Thompson Mighty Tigers vs. Hot Tamales. Coaches' selections - Alicia Dias, Alexis Diaz (MT); Rebecca Anderson, Amelia Sobrepene, Jamison Gray (HT), William D. Thompson Mighty Tigers vs. Brian Emrich, DDS Black Widows. Coaches' selections - Samantha Thomas, Skylar Vinton, Hot Tamales vs. All Pro Mortgage Shooting Stars. Coaches' selections - Jenna Jorgenson, Tori McKenzie, Julia Rocha (HT), Abramson & Thae, LLP Xtreme Xtreme vs. Chili Peppers. Coaches' selections - Jaden Husser, Lauren Moore, Heather Woelk (X).

SPORTS NOTES

wrestling tournament this past weekend at Granada High School. Out of the 22 wrestlers that Mendenhall had competing, 16 came home with medals. Leading the way for the Mustang 8th graders was Kyle Campiotti, who won the 120 lb championship by the score of 11 - 4. Marshall Peters, wrestling at 160 lbs, came away with a 2nd place medal and Valenciano took 3rd in the 99 lb class. The 7th grade wrestlers for Mendenhall had a great tournament as Casey Soltis, Dominex Kovacs and Brian White each won their respective divisions. Soltis wrestled three tough matches at 125 lbs, with the final score being 6 - 4. White won the 115 lb class and came away with a 11 - 2 win and Kovacs won the 100 lb class by a narrow 2 - 1 victory. Nick Campiotti won two matches before falling in the championship match in overtime at 90 lbs. For the 6th graders, the 105 lb final was all Mendenhall as Michael Bohl won the title over Austin Brooking by the score of 7 - 1. After losing his first match of the tournament, Jeffrey Brinkley fought to take 2nd place in the 140 lb round robin division. Clay West lost a tough 2nd round match in overtime but battled his way back in the consolation bracket to take 3rd.

Pleasanton American LL

Pleasanton American Little League highlights:
T-Ball: Yankees vs. A's: The Yankees came out today to play some serious ball. They ran hard, fielded like pros, and smacked the ball across the field. Spencer Scranton was a power house when he hit the ball. He ran hard and slid into first base. Thomas Babati ran like lightning and rounded the bases with ease. He used his fielding skills to throw the players out. Zach Higgins kept his eye on the ball and was able to slam the ball into the outfield. He ran hard and scored a run for the team.
Orioles vs. Twins: The Orioles had a great opening game on March 14 at the Pleasanton Sports Park against the Twins. All ten players played great defense and had hits each time they were at bat. This season the Orioles include players Michael DeLucia, Lukas Arellano, Shane Burke, Kyle Cavanaugh, Tyler Chen, Matthew Hong, Elan Murray, Haison Park, Ali Tout and Daniel Wu. They are led by coaches Mike DeLucia, Tom Burke, and James DeLucia.
Farm B: Angels vs. White Sox: The Angels are off to a fast start to the 2009 baseball season. The bats were out Tuesday evening with every player getting on base with at least a single. Tyler Lopez had a great offensive game with two doubles in the 1st and 5th innings. The defense met the challenge with great defensive plays. Will Carlson and Carter Pierce stopped the scoring streak of the White Sox by Will one handing the ball and throwing it to the reliable 1st baseman, Carter Pierce, who came off the base to catch the ball and tag the approaching runner for an out.
Farm A: Yankees vs. Angels: Opening day showed off some great batting and fielding skills. Iman Talbe was on fire with 5 base hits to lead the team. Kyle Rel amazed us with 3 base hits, an RBI, 2 line drive catches and a grounder to get the runner out at first. Joseph Smith batted in 3 runs and made 4 outs in the field, 2 back to back.
Minors AAA: White Sox vs. Yankees 6: The White Sox came out with a strong start and dominated the game until the Yankees came back to win in the last inning. Logan Caton and Luke Hazen each showed great pitching to start the season and held the Yankees for four innings. Luke Hazen was the first to bring in a run in the first with a steal to home, but notable large hits also came from Logan Caton, David Kozuch, and Mark Molz.
Majors: A's 7 vs. Indians 1: The PALL Major A's defeated the Indians Saturday 7-1. Parker Moberg started the scoring off with an RBI double in the 1st inning. Jacob Kinney added an RBI triple and Jack Geasa an RBI single. The A's picked up the scoring again in the 4th inning with 3 walks followed by RBIs by Jacob Kinney and Ronnie Jones. Scoring finished in the 6th when Michael Bretones had an RBI single. The A's pitching (Michael Bretones, Kevin Crispell & Jacob Kinney) and defense held the Indians to 3 hits and 1 run.

LHS Lacrosse

The Livermore High School varsity boys lacrosse team defeated Northgate to finish the Non-League games undefeated at 4 - 0. Livermore scored 5 goals in the first quarter led by Tommy Parker's (4) goals, Marc Acosta added one for the 5 - 0 lead in which Livermore never trailed. In the second quarter once again goals by Parker and Acosta would maintain a 7 - 2 lead at the half. Ben Jacobson scored (2) goals in the 3rd and 4th quarter to give the Cowboys the 11 - 3 victory. Assists were by Acosta (3), Parker (2), Harrison Wood (2) and Paul Warnke added (1).
 The defense was led by Chris Hill, Ryan Stark, Rusty Schmidt and Craig Cofer. LSM was led by Travis Cyronke, John Yoon and Ryan Wilkerson. Gavin Herr stopped 12 goals to get his 4th victory in non-league games. On attack were Tommy Parker, Ben Jacobson, Jerrod Martinez, Marc Acosta, Eric Loberg, Jake Heston and Morgan Linn. Middles Harrison Wood, Paul Warnke, Kyle Kline, Brian Hicks, Vince VanBinsbergren, Nate Loberg, Matt Holzschuh and Andrew Finster. This gave the Livermore Cowboys a 4 - 0 record in non-league games.

Pleasanton Seahawks

The Pleasanton Seahawks swim team members turned in a top effort at the Orinda A+IO - Last Chance Swim Meet March 7 and 8.
 Many new and best times were achieved, including numerous Far Western and Junior Olympic cuts. Cassidy Boone achieved three new Junior Olympic times in the 100/200/500 free. Chloe Bantock realized a new Far Western time in the 200 breast. Jon Ong burst into the Far Western category with his first 11-12 Far Western times in the 100/200 back. Nick Johnston completed a new Far Western cut in the 100 back. Cate MacGregor

knocked off two new Far Western times in the 200/500 free. Katie Woods swam her first 11-12 Far Western cut in the 500 free. Kayla Lindsay added two new Far Western times. Chris Dourov recorded 100% best times. Cody Chang and Michelle Wang completed their IMX Challenge events. Regis Lachance exemplified team spirit by staying late to count for his teammates in the 500 free.

Pleasanton National LL

Pleasanton National Little League results:
T-Ball Division: Mets vs. Giants: The Mets played a great game against the Giants' on Opening Day. All the Mets played great defense and had terrific hits. Great game Mets. Outstanding players: Samantha Chilton, Christian Rowland, Conor Dobbs.
A Division: Diamondbacks and the Pirates got together on opening day to play an exciting first game. The Diamondbacks were led offensively by the big bat of Ricky Juarez and on defensive by two Nicolas Maestes unassisted put outs.

More Than a Game

On Sunday, March 1, 2009, the Livermore Blue Intensity U16 Girls Division 4 soccer team completed an incredible season run with a perfect 24-0 record. Their undefeated record is reflected in their winning of the AI Caffodio Division 4 traveling league championship, the Petaluma Harvest Moon Shoot Out Tournament, Newark Orange and Black Classic Tournament; and their incredible 6-0 run to become state champions of the prestigious CYSA-North Founders' Cup tournament. They reached their final goal by defeating a very talented and determined Clovis FC Rebel Stars team 1-0 in the rain drenched championship game at the Morgan Hill Soccer Complex.
 Although the Blue Intensity team members will savor for years to come the friendships, dedication, and hard work that it took to get them to their final championship game, these players, coaches and parents will also remember that soccer is more than just a game.
 Playing in this championship game, the Blue Intensity players will remember one of life's difficult lessons from their opponent, the Clovis FC Rebel Stars. The Rebel Stars had dedicated their season and this final game to one of their own fallen players, number 13, 16 year old M'Lynn Bardwell. Only hours before the championship game, the Rebel Stars players had heard that M'Lynn passed away, losing her long battle with leukemia. Prior to the opening kick off, everyone in the stadium and the girls on the field held a moment of silence in remembrance of M'Lynn. After the game, during presentations, the Rebel Stars players, coaches and parents were grieving, not from what just happened on the field, but for who they were playing for. Their coach stated, "M'Lynn will always be a symbol of dedication, courage and strength for all of us."

The Livermore Blue Intensity players, coaches, and parents only knew M'Lynn through the spirited play of her teammates, and they should be proud of the way they handled themselves with honor both on and off the field. More importantly they will remember that soccer is just a game that provides us the opportunities to learn life's lessons of love, friendship and dedication. Congratulations Livermore Blue Intensity and Clovis FC Rebel Stars.

Judo Tournament

Amador Judo & Jujitsu Studio's NorCal team continued to dominate at local judo tournaments. Most recently, twenty players competed against players from all over Northern California at the annual Cupertino Judo Classic.
 Placing for Amador were the following:
 1st place: Victoria Burke, Livermore, 13, female, purple belt; Jackson Butler, Pleasanton, 8, male, orange; Rachael Butler, Pleasanton, 11, female, yellow; Camaryn Butler, Pleasanton, 9, female, white; James Stonecipher, Dublin, 6, male, white.
 2nd place: Kevin Takeshita, Livermore, 17, male, brown; Justis Olsen, Livermore, 14, male, purple; Angela Ross, Livermore, 15, female, purple; Kendyl Post, Livermore, 12, female, blue; Rodney Gonzales, Livermore, 21, male, blue; Nicholas Chua, Dublin, 9, male, white; Monique Shah, Danville, 11, female, white.
 3rd place: Maddyson Post, Livermore, 16, female, black; Devon Shah, Danville, 8, male, white; Kelly Mui, Dublin, 6, female, white.

West Coast Gymnastics

The West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy (WCOGA) Girl's Optional Team competed at the Novato Classic in Novato this weekend (3/14-3/15). The Level 7/8 team placed 3rd out of 16 teams competing. All the gymnasts have qualified to compete at the Norcal State Championships that will be held later this month.
 The results are as follows: Level 7 Alicia Woo: Floor- 9.275 (3rd), Beam- 9.525 (2nd), Bars- 9.45 (1st), Vault- 9.25 (1st), AA- 37.5 (1st) Level 8 Jr Age Group: Katelyn Kleinhertz: Floor- 9.175, Beam- 9.05, Bars- 8.95, Vault- 8.975 (6th), AA- 36.15 (5th) Stacia Sackett: Floor- 9.3 (2nd), Beam- 9.55 (1st), Bars- 9.225 (3rd), Vault- 8.85, AA- 36.925 (2nd) Sr Age Group: Erin Gray: Floor- 9.175, Beam- 8.6, Bars- 9.2 (4th), Vault- 9.05 (3rd), AA- 36.02 (4th) Level 9: Patricia Aubel: Floor- 8.825, Beam- 8.8, Bars- 8.9, Vault- 8.75, AA- 35.275 (3rd).

Livermore American LL

Livermore American Little League highlights:
T-Ball: National vs. Orioles: The power hitters were out in force on March 9th as the T-Ball Division Nationals took on the Orioles. After clearing the dirt from home plate, the Nationals' Hunter Barbero hit a line drive down the first base line. The Orioles' Brett Whitelaw also hit an impressive line drive and was safe at first. Infielders for both teams

were on their toes. Jeffrey Fairbanks excitedly played third base for the Nationals, while Jaryd Borges played impressively at second base for the Orioles. Both teams had power players in their pitching positions. The Nationals' Drake Devine, made a great throw to first for an out, while the Orioles' Sebastian Valencia skillfully fielded numerous hits.
Texas Rangers vs. Giants: Texas Rangers: Chambers, Mikey Christian, Ethan Durns, Nolan Durns
A's kicked off the new season on a high note with a great game against the Twins. Top players for the A's on the cold and windy Saturday March 14 game were Matt Polanski, Tua Asifoa, Aiden Bartlett, and Tyler Emmanuelle.
Texas Rangers vs. T-Ball Brewers: Top T-Ball Players: Branden Harvey, Justin Lam, Austin Lane, Stone Stephenson
Orioles vs. Giants: Orioles: Tommy Butler did a great job playing short stop, getting the ball to third base. Mikey Duperly flew to first base after hitting the ball. Jaryd Borges did a really good job playing first base, getting a couple of Giant's players out. Giants: Cameron Winter hit the ball with Gusto and made a safe play to first base. Thomas Cowels did a great job hitting the ball and run like lightning to home plate. Parker McKenzie made an enthusiastic home run.

A Division: Red Sox 16, Braves 7: For the Braves, Mike Bryson and Jacob Engemann turned a double play in the top of the 5th inning. Jacob Engemann skillfully caught a pop fly in the top of the 6th. Tyler Naumann had 2 hits with several RBI's. For the Red Sox, Mike Bryson and Jacob Engemann each had 3 hits, including 2 doubles each. Top 3 players for Red Sox: Mike Bryson, Jacob Engemann, Tyler Naumann. Top 3 players for Braves: Colin Barnett, Nathan Frazier, Trystan Lemas.
Braves 17, Devil Rays 8: Top Braves players: Daniel Tolentino, Jackson Brown, Parker Hughs, Devlin Rays: Matthew Hagan, Samuel Bush, Nick Hill.
Red Sox 12, Orioles 1: For the Red Sox, Luke Soransen, Logan Church, and Nick Herman each had several hits in the game resulting in big 6 run innings for the Red Sox in the 1st and 3rd innings. Top 3 players for Red Sox: Luke Soransen, Logan Church, Nick Herman. Top 3 players for Orioles: Ryan Wilkins, Reece Wilkins, Cameron Meier. Top defense by Ryan Wilkins and Reece Wilkins in the 5th inning.
AA Division: Tigers 4, Rockies 1: Top Players for Tigers: Brandon Williams: awesome pitching, Grant Murphy outstanding play at third; Aaron Aguilera: Catcher. Rockies: Grant Hrdlick had a strong hit up the middle; Adam Lebish sent a nice hit to the outfield; Michael Hollach pitched for 3 strong innings.
Reds 8, White Sox 8: Reds Top Players: Brendan McCallerty, Avneet Singh, and Conner Johnson.
Cubs 5, Indians 3: Braden Jackson pitched 2 1/3 strong shutout innings for the Indians' which included five strikeouts. The Indian's took an early lead with hits from Bo Cole, Braden Jackson, and Sean Constable. The Cub's tied the game in the third inning with a key hit from Hunter Burke. They took the lead for good with back to back to back hits from Chase Dunn, Austin Brown, and Sammy Grossano. Ryan Escover closed out the game with two shutout innings and three strikeouts. The defensive play of the game came from the Indian's Richard Crogo where he threw out a runner, from deep right field, trying to advance to second base. Cubs Top Players, Hunter Burke, Chase Dunn, Ryan Escover; Indians: Braden Jackson, Richard Crogo, Sean Constable.
Cardinals 3, Pirates 2: Cardinals top players: Travis Palma, 1 single, 2 steals; Christopher Kilday, 2 singles (1 RBI), 1 steal; Mason Arnold, 2 singles (1 RBI). Pirates top players: Noah Reno, pitcher; Dominic Bartoni, playing at 3rd base; Ryan Durrant, catcher.
Tigers 3, Astros 1: Tigers top players: Carson King: Pitching was outstanding; Austin Toland: Run Batted in; Nick DeLisle: Great Play at 3rd Base, Astros top players: Tristen Mulrooney hit for a Triple; Shane Clifton and Chris Powell pitched very well.
AA Division: Angels 6, Padres 2: The Padres and the Angels were tied going into the 5th inning. For the Padres, Justin Dalin pitched 4 strong innings of shutout ball, striking out 8. Defensive standout was John Langerud. Offensively, the Padres were led by Conner Parkerson, who went 2 for 2 with a run scored. Bryce Disbro started off strong hitting by the Angels, in the 5th inning and Cole Escover kept it going with his double hit. Carter Dickson also played a tough outfield for the Angels, holding a strong hit by the Padres to a double. All in all, it was a very exciting game, with the Angels winning 6-2. Angels top players: Bryce Disbro, Cole Escover, Carter Dickson. Padres top players: Justin Dalin, John Langerud, Conner Parkerson.
Angels 11, Giants 9: The Giants and the Angels were tied up going into the 4th inning. For the Giants, Cameron Dickson had a base hit and RBI, and scored two runs. Ryan Grewoll had a run-scoring double hit and pitched really well. Jacob Hole had a base hit and an RBI. The Angels came back with aggressive base running by Nathan Coats and Matt Shezif. Bobby Cantelina shut the game down in the last inning with his pitching. It was a very close game, but the Angels pulled ahead with the win 11-9. Angels top players: Nathan Coats, Matt Shezif, Bobby Cantelina. Giants top players: Cameron Dickson, Ryan Grewoll, Jacob Hole.
Athletics 24, Giants 3: The Athletics dominated the game against the Giants. A's top defenders were Joseph Dominguez playing 2nd base and Jacob Kerling playing first base. Logan Cole had a flawless game hitting 2 doubles and walking twice. Logan made a spectacular play at home diving to get the runner out. The Giants big bats were Patrick Schwartz and Austin Hosmer with singles and Seth Higby with a double.
Mariners 10, Padres 6: Padres started the 1st inning with 4 runs but the Mariners came back with 4 runs of their own on the bottom of the 1st inning. Mariners pitcher Jarod Heise kept the Padres at bay holding them to their 4 runs on the top of the 4th. During bottom

of the 4th inning Jake Ledbetter hit a two run homer into deep center field. On top of the 5th the Padres rallied to score two more runs with a homer of their own. On top of the 6th Chris Roessler for the Mariners close out the game with a 3 and out shut down of Padres hitters.
Majors: Red Sox 5, Giants 0: Red Sox shut out the Giants in the opener behind strong pitching by Dylan Guilin and Kyle Constable. Dylan threw 3 and 2/3 innings collecting 6 strike outs and only allowing 1 hit. Kyle Constable threw 2 2/3 inning collecting 3 strike outs and not allowing any hits. The Red Sox went led at the plate by Jesse Robles who went 2-2, Dylan Guilin 1-2 with 3 RBIs and Nick Penrod 2-2. Daniel Cavallari collected the Giants only hit of the day. Aaron Spiller made a great defensive play in center to prevent a would be hit from the Red Sox.
A's 8, White Sox 3: The majority of the offensive action for both team was in the second and third innings. Jacob McCall and Mathew Calcagno hit in key times while the bases were loaded that produced half of the runs batted in for the A's. White Sox took advantage of passed balls but also had good offensive hits from Andrew Ruth and Ben Parker with a couple hits a piece that kept them in the game. Vincent Bartoni helped the A's break the game open by hitting hard and scoring couple of runs. A's top players: Vincent Bartoni, Jacob McCall, Mathew Calcagno; White Sox top players: Andrew Ruth, Ben Parker, Collin Shetron.
JR 90 House Division: A's 14, Mountain House 2: The Junior 90's A's Jackson Mancieri gave a strong pitching performance; Matt Stoebe kept the scoring rolling with a double and 5 RBI's. Matt Puhls hit a monstrous homerun.
Junior 90 A's 13, PNLL Cubs 3: The A's got great pitching from Matt Puhls. Matt kept Pleasanton off balance holding them to 1 run in 6 innings, and also chipped in with 4 hits and 5 RBI's, Joe Halliwell had a great game going 5-5 with 2 doubles and 5 RBI's. Matt Stoebe caught the entire game and went 2-4 with 3 RBI's.

LALL 190s Red Sox 5, LALL 190s A's 5 (game to be finished later date): Kyle Wallbridge pitched eight innings with at least eight strikeouts to keep the A's in check for the Red Sox debut 2009 game. Ryan Faulk played a sharp game behind the plate throwing out a runner attempting to take third. Faulk also got the Red Sox offense started with a sixth inning double, scoring the Red Sox' first run on an RBI base hit by Devin McMahon. Noah Robbins tied the game with a seventh inning in-the-park home run, scoring three.

Football/Cheer Signup

Livermore Youth Football and Cheer Livermore Youth Football and Cheer (LYFandC) is starting registration for the upcoming season.
 This is a full contact football league that has been established for 36 years. The league's motto is "children first, game second." The goal is to teach the fundamentals of both football and cheer needed to make the transition into high school. The league works together with the local high schools to ensure its participants are learning the fundamentals needed for their very competitive football and Cheer programs. LYFandC's emphasis is on proper technique and fundamentals, responsibility, accountability, and most importantly being a good person and teammate.
 All coaches are required to attend coaching clinics each year to strengthen their knowledge of the game.
 Football and cheer squads have been very successful in the highly competitive Diablo Valley Youth Football Conference (DVFYC). Registration will be held April 16 from 6-8 pm at Round Table Pizza 1024 East Stanley Blvd. Discounts are available at January and February dates. Information go to website www.eteamz.com/lyfc or email lyfc@onebox.com/lyfc
 The league is currently accepting applications for both football and cheer coaches for the upcoming season.
Jr. Football Signup
 Registration is underway for the upcoming Livermore Junior Football League (LJFL)

challenging 100-K route (62 miles) will offer cyclists views of Mt. Diablo via Clayton and the Morgan Territory. Cyclists will descend into Livermore and return via Danville and scenic Blackhawk. The final 100-M route (100 miles) will have serious cyclists taking the 100-K route and then adding to the challenge with a jaunt to Castro Valley, followed by a climb up Redwood Road to Moraga.
 All three routes conclude with a return ride to the CCJCC, where a barbecue luncheon and commemorative t-shirt will await registered riders.
 Rest stops will be stocked with water, fruit, and snacks. Support and Gear vehicles will be traveling throughout the course to assist riders, aiding with mechanical breakdowns and providing transportation as needed.
 The Diablo Century will take place come rain or shine. Start time for the 100-K and 100-M routes is from 6:30 to 8:00 am. The 25-M route begins at 8:00 am. Individual registration fee for all routes is \$45 per person. Tandem for all routes is \$85 per tandem and additional luncheon tickets for nonregistered riders are available for \$10.
 To register for the Diablo Century or to learn more, please visit www.ccjcc.org/diablo or call 925.938.7800. To learn about volunteering opportunities, please contact Kathryn Winogura at kwinogura@jfc-eastbay.org.

Due to its success over its two-year existence and the support of LARPD and the high football programs, LJFL is expanding to all children aged 9 through 14 (as of December 31, 2009). All football participants will learn the fundamentals of contact football in a safe and positive environment and play regardless of talent level or ability. All 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.
 In person sign-ups will take place on Wednesday, April 22, 6 to 8 pm, Saturday, April 25, 2 to 4 pm, Saturday May 9, 2 to 4 pm and Wednesday, May 20, 6 to 8 pm at Round Table Pizza, 4098 East Ave., Livermore.

The registration cost is \$265 for football and \$100 for cheer. Registration will close when the league reaches 260 players. Players who are not able to register with LJFL will be given instructions to Pleasanton Junior Football League registration. LJFL intends to expand in the future to accept all Livermore children who wish to play contact football or to cheer.
 For additional information, interested parents should visit: www.LivermoreJuniorFootball.com. President and Vice-President of LJFL are Jim Burke and Bob Adelman.

Ultra-Marathon

A 50K Diablo Trail Run hosted by Save Mount Diablo will be held Sun., March 22. Start time is 8 a.m.
 The Diablo Trail 50K is a point-to-point ultra-marathon starting at Round Valley Regional Preserve in Brentwood and follows the Diablo Trail to Castle Rock Park in Walnut Creek. The trail winds through Round Valley, Morgan Territory, Mount Diablo State Park and Shell Ridge Open Space. The course is challenging and fully supported. The event includes post race lunch and t-shirt for all participants. All runners must check in at the start in Brentwood between 7:00 and 7:45 am.
 To register or for more information go to www.savemountdiablo.org.

Diablo Century for Cyclists

Cycling enthusiasts are invited to register for the first annual Diablo Century to be held on Sunday morning, April 26 at the Contra Costa JCC (CCJCC) in Walnut Creek. The trail winds through the CCJCC and Jewish Family & Children's Services of the East Bay (JFCS/East Bay).
 Three routes, all beginning at the CCJCC on Tice Valley Blvd. in Walnut Creek, will accommodate various cycling levels: the 25-mile route will take casual cyclists through the scenic hills of Danville and Alamo to the foot of Mt. Diablo and back. The more

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Sick of your kid's crooked teeth?

Local orthodontist gets high marks for customer service

BY JENNIFER KOCISCO
 Freelance Health Correspondent

(Livermore, CA) — If you're a parent, sooner or later you are going to have to come to grips with the idea that *your kids need braces*. You've probably begun to see your child's classmates wearing them and you might be wondering when is the right time to get started or where you should go for the best treatment or how much it's all going to cost.

First of all, you don't want to be the parent who lets their kid leave home for college with a mouth full of crooked teeth. It's 2009 for crying out loud; why would you buy your kids high-end haute couture or send them to private school but let their teeth go to seed? Their clothes may say Abercrombie & Fitch but if their mouth says "Appalachian mountain-child" then you've got priority issues! Crowded teeth are a life hindrance.

There's plenty of choices out there and there are a lot of factors to consider when shopping around for a good orthodontist, but I wanted to share with you a gem of a place that sparkles amongst the constellation of local dental practices. "Wild Smiles by Dr. Kapus" is hands down, the very best place to go for braces in the Tri-Valley area and I'm going to spell out exactly why:

- They're open on weekends.** If you are a busy mother you know how hard it is to get your kids to the doctor. I *defy* you to find any other orthodontist open on weekends. Go ahead and call, I'll wait! When you're convinced, come back and finish reading this article...
- They have the most incredible facility you've ever seen.** When you first see it you'll say "it doesn't look like a dental office" and the staff will then thank you for that observation. It wasn't designed to be sterile and boring. Orthodontics can take up to two years! At Wild Smiles that's going to feel more like a spa membership than a prison term. Don't believe me? Direct your web browser to: www.WildSmiles.org and look at the office photos.
- Dr. Kapus is obsessed with details.** Men aren't usually this fastidious but spend some time with the good doctor and you'll soon understand his "magnificent obsession". If you're going to trust anyone with your children's teeth, let it be an *artist* who will be personally offended if the results don't blow you away.

4) **Patients get to see the doctor, not the assistant.** You're going to spend too much time and money at the orthodontist's office to have the majority of the work done by some hair-tossing twit who's half your age. If the office "everyone goes to" is too busy to give your child the attention they deserve, GO SOMEWHERE ELSE.

5) **Three words: Fresh baked cookies.** I'm convinced these people are trying to sabotage my diet. Every day at Wild Smiles, there's a platter of fresh baked cookies on the front counter and free espresso for the asking. My kids get straight teeth and I get my sugar and caffeine fix for the afternoon. Talk about "one stop shopping"!

6) **It's just more fun.** True passion isn't something you can fake. Pay a visit to Wild Smiles and you'll discover a tight-knit group of folks running a family-owned business who love what they do and it shows. Even in today's economy a business like this can excel because it's built on a foundation of *exceeding customer expectations*. All this and they throw in the superior quality results at no extra charge. That's the very definition of "value".

P.S. You CAN afford this valuable service for your children and you CANNOT afford to make the wrong decision about where to go...

Here's What to do Right Now

If your children are between the ages of 7 to 14 and their teeth aren't straight enough for your liking, pick up the phone and call Wild Smiles for a FREE consultation. (925) 443-3800. Or if you're feeling shy you can go to www.WildSmiles.org and click "Request an Appointment". Either way, they'll arrange for you to visit the office, get free x-rays, a comprehensive examination and a clearly explained treatment plan. And they'll even send you off with a nicely wrapped stack of those scary-fantastic cookies they're always baking.

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OBITUARIES

Kenneth James Furrer

Kenneth James Furrer died March 11, 2009. He was born Aug. 4, 1960.

Ken was a strong, gentle man, with a great sense of humor. He was a journeyman carpenter by trade and home mechanic to his much loved Ford muscle cars. Ken was a wonderful and loving father to two beautiful girls. He loved to take his girls camping, fishing, riding on trains, going to Disneyland, and to just play in the yard. Ken was known as "Uncle Dude" to his nephew and niece, Kevin and Alison, whom he adored.

He was the husband of Sarah Furrer, father of Elizabeth Boyd (stepdaughter) and Amanda Furrer, son of Robert and Clara Furrer, brother of JoAnne Watson and Mark Furrer, brother-in-law of Mark Watson and uncle of Kevin and Alison. Beloved son-in-law of David and Kathy Milne. Ken was much loved by his aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother Clara Furrer and his brother Mark Furrer.

A funeral was held on March 17th at St. Augustine Church in Pleasanton.

In lieu of Flowers, Donations can be made at any US Bank for the Furrer Family Fund.

Arrangements by Graham Hitch Mortuary.

Rick C. Rae

Rick C. Rae died peacefully, surrounded by family, after a courageous battle with cancer, March 11, 2009. He was born September 20, 1946 in Berkeley, CA to Clinton and Anne Rae.

He received an MBA from California State University, Hayward, and pursued a career in accounting and finance. He served as the treasurer for Raley's for the last 12 years of his career. Rick enjoyed spending time with his wife of 40 years, Nancy, and his children and grandchildren. He also loved to spend time working in his garden, and had a true appreciation for the beauty of the outdoors. Rick and his family have been Pleasanton residents for the past 35 years. Rick was a devout member of St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton. He was a devoted husband, father, brother and friend. Rick will be greatly missed. He always sought opportunities to help others in need, and was an inspiration to those who knew him.

He is survived by his wife Nancy, his children David (Nicole) Rae and Kelly (Paul) McEntee, grandchildren Kevin, Megan, Kaityn, Ryan and Kira. He was the brother of John (decd.) (Diane), Ron (Linda), Charles (Pat), and Gary (decd.), his mother-in-law, Irene Petri (Alfred) (decd.), sisters-in-law Jean Egan (Don), Janet Tringale (Joe), and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral mass was celebrated March 16 at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Cancer Society or a favorite charity.

Arrangements by Graham Hitch Mortuary.

Erna Knott

Erna Knott joined her Heavenly Father on Monday, March 9, 2009 in Livermore, California. Her family was at her side. Born Erna Bell on July 7, 1915 in Sayer, Oklahoma, the fourth of five children to Ernest and Annie Bell, died Monday, March 9, 2009.

After growing up on the farm, Erna graduated from Weatherford Teachers College and began teaching school in Oklahoma in 1936. Erna went on to earn her Masters Degree from Oklahoma A & M. In February of 1943, in addition to teaching school, Erna was serving as a Junior Hostess at USO Dances in Oklahoma City where she met and danced with her future husband Lester J. Knott who was stationed at Will Rodgers Field in Oklahoma City. Erna and Les were married a year later in Fresno, California on February 1, 1944 while Les was stationed at Daggert Army Airfield. After taking some time off to give birth to three children and moving from California to Washington State and then to Livermore in 1953, she became a Charter Member of Our Savior Lutheran Church. Erna returned to teach-

ing in 1954 and continued until her retirement from teaching in 1976.

During her retirement Erna enjoyed playing and teaching Bridge; traveling to Hawaii, Spain, the British Isles, Morocco, Switzerland, Italy, Germany and Alaska with Les; teaching Sunday School and English as a Second Language classes at Our Savior Lutheran Church/Ministries as well as folding bulletins for services; and playing with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Erna is survived by her husband of 65 years, Les Knott; their daughter and son-in-law Kay and Chuck Godfrey, their two sons Don and Ron Knott and their wives Kathleen and Pam, eight grandchildren, Joshua, Tabitha, Jacob, Luke, Adam, Jessica, Alex, Austin; four step-grandchildren, Dana, Jill, Aileen, and Anne; and seven great grandchildren, Monica, Garin, Olivia, Michael, Ashlyn, Shaylyn, and Adrian. Erna was preceded in death by two brothers Willis and Cliff, two sisters Edna and Floy, and one grandson James.

Funeral were arranged by Callaghan Mortuary. There held at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries in Livermore on Saturday March 14.

The family has requested donations to the Our Savior Lutheran Ministries Building Fund, 1385 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore, California 94550 in lieu of flowers.

Wesley B. Estill

Wesley B. Estill, 84, of Livermore, California, passed away peacefully March 8, 2009 surrounded by his family. Wes Estill was born in Enid, Oklahoma on March 24, 1924.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years Marilyn R. (Rita) Estill, six sons Robert (Caroline), Wesley, Thomas, Paul (Candice), John (Paula), Shannon (Kathi), daughter and youngest child, Mary Ellen Childress (John), 13 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Margey Pfiffner in 2008, Brother Shannon Eugene Estill in 1945, granddaughter Jennifer Estill in 2004, daughters-in-law Peggy Estill (Tom) 1998, and Mary Estill (Wes) 1984.

Wes Estill served in the US Navy on an anti-aircraft cruiser in WW II and was deployed to the South Pacific. Wes received an MS degree in Chemistry and was employed at Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, New Mexico and Livermore, California for 37 years before his retirement in 1994.

He will always be remembered for his love and devotion of family, country, and the church.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated March 16 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Livermore. Interment services followed at St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery, Livermore.

George Michael Damoulos

George Michael Damoulos of Livermore, died peacefully on Saturday, March 7, 2009, after a long battle due to complications of surgery. He was surrounded by his family.

George was born in El Paso, TX to Marguerite and Michael Damoulos on April 4, 1932.

George attended Oakland Technical High School and then entered the Air Force. Upon his return from service he continued his education, graduating from Sacramento State. He went on to receive his MBA from UC Berkeley in 1962. George worked in Human Resources Management for over 40 years retiring as the HR Deputy Director for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1993.

He is survived by his sister, Betty Danska of Pleasanton, his wife of 26 years, Lisl Damoulos, his children, Tina Pierce of Vancouver, WA, Michael & Chris Damoulos, Sacramento, CA, Kim Gregory, Livermore, Kathy Asmusen, Pleasanton, and Dan Dorsey of Martinez, GA. He also has 10 grandchildren, Colton 19, Brittani 16, Abby 15, Brock 13, Mac 13, Amy 7, George 6, Kenna, 5 Nicole 4, and Halle, 18 months.

George was an avid sports fan with a special admiration for foot-

ball. He was instrumental in establishing the Pop Warner Youth Football Program in Livermore. He also enjoyed bowling and played on a league team at Granada Bowl for over 20 years. George has always given back to his community including serving as a board member for LARPD. He was a member of the Tri-Valley Church of Christ where he was an integral part of their church family.

George especially cherished his time spent with family and friends. George will be sorely missed as a wonderful husband, father and Papoo. He was a dedicated servant of God and safety net to many, especially his family. We will always remember him for his fun, loving ways and his light hearted spirit.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 21st at 1:00 PM at the Tri-Valley Church of Christ in Livermore. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Tri-Valley Church of Christ in George's name to assist with projects close to George's heart. Tri-Valley Church of Christ 4481 East Ave., Livermore, CA 94550.

Richard Lopez

Livermore resident Richard Lopez died March 7, 2009. He was born July 5, 1939 in Raton, New Mexico.

His family moved to Pleasanton when he was 2 years old and later moved to Livermore. He lived with his sister Lucy Perez and enjoyed the upkeep of her flowers and yard. He loved playing his guitar, dancing and especially loved challenging his friends to a game of Chess or Dominoes at May Nissen Park. He will be truly missed at the park. He was carefree and kind-hearted and always fed the stray animals and tried to find them homes. He also shared what little he had with his friends. He especially visited his friends when they were sick and would cook or tend to them and even cut their hair in their time of need.

Richard is now reunited with his parents Mike and Sara Lopez, sister Pauline Gomez and brothers Joe and Tony Lopez.

He is survived by his siblings Albert and Ralph, Lucy Perez, Jenny Lopez, Helen Jacques and many nieces and nephews, all of whom were very dear to him.

Cremation was entrusted to Callaghan Mortuary; final resting place will be at the family home. At Richard's request services will be private.

In memory of Richard, his family asks that you continue his path, in giving to others as he would have.

Carol Suzanne (Sirany) Flint

Carol Suzanne (Sirany) Flint passed away peacefully on Friday, March 13, 2009 after a two and a half year long battle with cancer.

She will be deeply missed by daughter Lindsay Flint and son, Jason Sirany. She is also survived by sisters Pam (Matt) Batory, Joanne (Jim) Tagney, Ginny Sirany, Mary (Frank) Davis, Dana (Ray) Alston, brothers Peter and Joseph Sirany, granddaughters Hannah and Meriah Sirany, and 10 nieces and nephews. Carol was born in Minneapolis, MN and passed away in Livermore.

Special thanks to our friends for their unending support and help, with special recognition to Joyce Delawyer, Lori and Bruce Ragan, Suzanne Nicholson and Jacki and Mike Auer for continually going above and beyond to help Carol's journey. You will always be loved and appreciated.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 20, 2009 at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton. Viewing is at 10 a.m., Mass at 11 a.m. followed by a reception at noon. Burial will take place following the reception at 2:00 p.m. at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, 1965 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette, CA.

In-lieu of flowers, Carol requested that donations be made to the education fund for her children, Lindsay and Jason.

Arrangements by Graham Hitch Mortuary.

Stephen Laine Sisty

Stephen Laine Sisty born January 8, 1948 in Pontiac Michigan; passed away on March 14, 2009 in Squaw Valley California. Stephen moved to Livermore in 1958 where he attended Granada High School. In 1970 he married the love of his life Susan Escott. Their union was blessed with three children, David, Jennifer, and William. In addition to being a loving husband, and devoted brother, Steven was a loving father, and grandfather, whose spirit of strength and support will be greatly missed by each and every one of his children.

Stephen is survived by his wife Susan, sons David and William, daughter Jennifer, daughter-in-law Renee, seven grandchildren Michelle, Melissa, Michael, Makala, Douglas, Rebecca, William Sisty Jr., and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

A viewing will begin at 1 p.m. and a memorial service will take place at 2 p.m., on Friday, March 20, 2009, at the Sisty residence, 37639 Squaw Valley Rd., Squaw Valley, CA 93673.

Kelly Sue Helstrom

Kelly Sue Helstrom died peacefully on February 23, 2009 in the arms of her beloved Carolyn in San Francisco after a five-month battle with colon cancer. She was 51.

Kelly was born on November 3, 1957 in Los Angeles. She grew up and attended

High School in Livermore. She obtained an A.S. degree in General Science from Diablo Valley College and a B.S. degree in Natural Resources Planning and Interpretation with a focus on Applied Geology from Humboldt State University. She spent the last 20 years of her life in the home of her heart, Humboldt County.

Kelly thrived on the spirit of exploration and adventure. She was a world traveler, had a deep love of rivers, the ocean, fishing, camping, and geology. She was a strong swimmer, a scuba diver and an avid kayaker. She had recently visited the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador where she delighted in swimming and playing with the sea lions and penguins, and leading Carolyn on daring snorkeling adventures in and out of wild ocean coves. Kelly loved music, was a former member of the Arcata Interfaith Gospel Choir, was an excellent dancer, a formidable poker player, had a great sense of humor, laughed easily and was known as the barbecue queen.

Kelly loved to scout out new places. She adored maps, and loved to explore the back roads

in her 4-wheel drive truck. She especially liked to share the extraordinary places she would find with friends and family, like a treasured travertine vein in the Eastern Sierras, or a unique rock outcropping up Maple Creek Road. Kelly never went anywhere without multiple flashlights, and first-aid kits and she had excellent survival skills.

Among her many and diverse careers, Kelly worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, drove a package delivery truck for UPS, was a member of the Teamsters Union, drove a taxicab in San Francisco, worked as a raft/river and sea kayak guide and took care of horses on an Arabian horse ranch.

In Humboldt County Kelly worked in the field of geomorphology and watershed restoration. She worked for the United States Forest Service, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, Redwood National Park, and the Northern California Indian Development Council where she pursued her love of caring for the environment and was instrumental in developing successful watershed restoration programs for the Yurok and Karuk tribes. Kelly's efforts to protect and restore watersheds helped to heal many sacred places that she cherished and revisited over the years. She was particularly proud of her work to protect the Sally Bell Grove in the Sinkyone Wilderness and in her work to coordinate and fund the removal of Steinacher Road above Wooley Creek, a tributary of the Salmon River.

Kelly's final career was as a tax preparer. She developed and single-handedly ran her own thriving tax practice. Many of her clients affectionately called her the "tax guru." She loved numbers, solving problems, and helping people navigate the confusing and frightening waters of the tax world. Kelly cared deeply about her clients, took pride in the quality of work that she offered, and in the quality of the relationship she had with her clients.

Kelly had many passions and a huge heart. She loved big and had a deep impact on those whose lives she touched. She surrounded herself with beauty, and from the home she loved, enjoyed a majestic view of the Pacific, and the ever-changing mouth of the Mad River. Protecting the beauty and health of the earth was a driving force in her life, along with being generous to others with her love and attention. Kelly was a loyal and generous friend and her passing leaves a monumental hole in the lives of all who knew and loved her. Kelly was taken from us too soon. Her extraordinary humanity and presence on the planet will be sorely missed.

Kelly is survived by the love of her life, her wife, Carolyn Ruth, her cherished mother, Dulce Helstrom, her brother Greg Helstrom and his wife, Carol, her sister, Zel Maloney and her husband Brian, and her precious nieces and nephews Soren, Astryd, Makai, Kaelo, Alex and Carlo. Many cousins, aunts and uncles, and a very large circle of friends also survive Kelly. Kelly was preceded in death a year and a half ago by her father, Lyle, and at the age of one, by her biological mother, Barbara Ann (Chappuis). Kelly's beloved yellow Labrador Saja followed her in death one week later.

Kelly's family would like to thank all of the many doctors at UCSF Medical Center who provided her with attentive and compassionate care. You will

never be forgotten. In particular, Dr. Emily Bergsland and Dr. Katie Kelley, the oncologists, and Dr. B.J. Miller, Dr. Meredith Heller and Denah Joseph, members of the UCSF Palliative Care team who in the last two months of Kelly's life ended up being Kelly's life savers.

A memorial service for Kelly will be held on May 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at the Humboldt Unitarian Fellowship on 24 Fellowship Way in Bayside. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in Kelly's memory be made to UCSF Palliative Care Service, 521 Parnassus Ave, Suite C-126, San Francisco, CA 94143.

Alden Derby

Alden Derby died March 11, 2009, joining his wife, Wynona who passed away in Dec. 2008 just three weeks before the couple's 70th wedding anniversary.

Alden was born Nov. 6, 1915 in Byers, Colorado, where he grew up on a small farm and attended a one room school house. His family later moved to Denver where he graduated from high school in 1934. As teenagers, Alden and Wynona were active in their church youth group and began dating at that time. They were married on Jan. 1, 1938. Alden's first employer was Montgomery Ward in Denver where he worked his way up from filling orders for the catalog to purchasing agent of auto parts. His career was interrupted by World War II during which he served in the Navy as a radar technician. After the war, he continued working for Montgomery Ward in Denver while attending Denver University. He graduated in 1932 with a degree in business administration. The family moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1955. Alden began working as a purchasing agent for Sandia National Laboratories. He was transferred to Livermore in 1959. He retired in 1981, looking forward to more time on the golf course.

Family was always important to Alden. Serving the Lord through church activities was always part of his life. He loved playing his saxophone and singing in gospel quartets, choirs and singing duets with Wynona in his younger years. He held many church leadership positions wherever he lived. He was an active leader at Cedar Grove Community Church in Livermore and the Big Sirs organization. Alden and Wynona enjoyed many years of travel to foreign destinations and motor home trips around the U.S. and Canada.

He is survived by daughters Pam Glossup (husband Dwan, recently deceased) of Pleasanton and Marsha Funk (husband Bob) of Bakersfield, grandchildren, Kelly Glossup, Lance Glossup and wife Jeney of Livermore, Corey Funk and wife Jill, and Joel Funk, and one great grandson, Miles Funk.

The family is especially grateful to Elena Tongohan, who cared for Alden and Wynona the last four years.

A viewing will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thurs., March 19 at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore. A memorial service is set for 11 a.m. Fri., March 20 at Cedar Grove Community Church in Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be sent to Cedar Grove Community Church or to Shepherd's gate.

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Students swing out with their version of "Lolliepop."

Ms. Holcomb's Swan Song

By Patricia Koning

On Thursday and Friday, Sunset Elementary School fourth grade teacher Marilyn Holcomb will sit in the audience for the last time watching her students perform. Her class of 32 nine and ten year olds will sing, dance, and act their way through "Rock and Roll is Here To Stay."

After 39 years of teaching, 38 of which have been in Livermore and 28 at Sunset, Holcomb is retiring. "I've thoroughly enjoyed being a teacher," she says. "It's been an amazing experience."

As far back as she can remember she wanted to be in the classroom. "Teaching can be very enjoyable much of the time, but it's also probably one of the most challenging occupation out there," says Holcomb. "Like so many teachers, I've wanted to make a difference. The rewards come with the kids, to see a child begin to understand, to learn new skills, to grow in confidence and learn responsibility for his or her actions."

Holcomb has always made a point of challenging herself to supplement the standard curriculum, both to make school more interesting for the students as well as for herself. This includes the Word of the Day program she developed and has shared with many other teachers through Asilomar conferences and classroom musical performances.

For the past 15 years, she's staged a production with her class each year. She wrote this

year's production, "Rock and Roll Is Here To Stay," a musical revue and history lesson featuring the music of Bill Hadley and the Comets, Elvis, Buddy Holly, Connie Francis, the Chordettes, the Coasters, and the Beach Boys.

The students audition for the parts they want, but everyone is expected to play at least two roles. "Every year there are kids who want nothing to do with the show," says Holcomb. "This year five of my students did not audition for anything, but now they are up there performing with smiles on their faces."

Jean Mirando, whose high school aged children were in Holcomb's class years ago, has served as choreographer for the past nine years. Becky Kanuth, a Sunset parent and afterschool choir teacher, provides musical accompaniment on the piano. But there is no adult on the stage with the kids and when it is time to perform, they are on their own.

"The kids have to learn to cooperate with each other and solve problems that occur during the performance," she says. That includes mishaps with props and costumes, forgotten lines, and missed cues.

Holcomb recalls a performance of Oliver Twist years ago when a student wasn't on stage to deliver her line. After a momentary pause, so short that the audience wasn't aware there was a problem, another student jumped in, said the line, and the play continued.

"The experience really bol-

sters the shy kids and the more active kids gain direction and focus," says Mirando, who works as a school counselor in San Ramon. Her teenage children have fond memories of their own performances—Oliver Twist and Tom Sawyer—and like to come back to Sunset to watch the productions each year.

One reason she's been able to stage the productions year after year, says Holcomb, is because of the tremendous support from parents. She jokes that she keeps her parents even after their students move on, as proven by Mirando's continued involvement. Parents designed the sets and fashioned the elaborate costumes—poodle skirts, caveman outfits (you have to see the performance to understand how this fits in), grass skirts, Hawaiian shirts, and 50's style rolled up jeans and white T-shirts.

Interaction with the parents, along with the students and her colleagues, is what Holcomb says she will miss the most. But she also doesn't expect to have any trouble filling up her free time. She plans to travel, garden, join a book club, volunteer with the Regional Center for the Arts in her hometown of Walnut Creek, and all the other things she hasn't had time to do.

Holcomb's class will perform for Sunset students during the school day on Thursday, March 19, and Friday, March 20. On Thursday, there will be an evening performance 7 pm that is open to the public and free of charge.

Talk Hawks Come Home with Trophies

The Las Positas College Talk Hawks recently participated in the Northern California Forensics Association's Spring Championship Tournament at CSU Chico.

More than 28 colleges and universities participated, and the Talk Hawks earned the 1st Place Sweepstakes Award as the top performer out of all Community Colleges. They also finished 1st Place among all competing schools in Individual Event competition and 2nd Place among all schools in all event categories. Every participating LPC student won an award and the College had the top two speakers of the entire tournament.

Some of the schools participating at the NCFCA Championship included UCLA, Pepperdine University, UC Davis, Cal Poly, Cal State Chico, Chabot College, Contra Costa College, De Anza College, DVC, Los Rios Colleges, Modesto JC, Ohlone College, UOP, San Francisco State, San Joaquin Delta, San Jose State, Santa Rosa JC, and Yuba College.

The LPC Talk Hawks results are listed below:

Natalie Kellner of Brentwood 4th Place - Open Prose Interpretation 4th Place - Open Duo Interpretation 5th Place - Open Dramatic Interpretation

Stacy Shaw of Castro Valley 1st Place - Open Speech to Enter-

tain 2nd Place - Open Informative Speaking

Birney Young of Dublin 3rd Place - Novice Informative Speaking 4th Place - Top Junior Parliamentary Speaker

Jacquie De Fremery of Livermore Top Speaker of NCFCA Tournament 1st Place - Open Informative Speaking 1st Place - Open Prose Interpretation 2nd Place - Open Communication Analysis 2nd Place - Open Persuasive Speaking 4th Place - Open Duo Interpretation

Christoph of Livermore 5th Place - Novice Informative Speaking

Tiffany Lee of Pleasanton 1st Place - Open Communication

Analysis 3rd Place - Open Poetry Interpretation 4th Place - Open Informative Speaking 5th Place - Open Persuasive Speaking 2nd Place Speaker of the NCFCA Tournament

Masi Quorarshi of Tracy 1st Place - Novice Informative Speaking

Group awards: Junior Level Parliamentary Debate Semi-Finalist Team Anthony Passero of Livermore, Birney Young, Masi Quorarshi Team Award 1st Place Sweepstakes Award - Community College Division

The LPC Talk Hawks Forensics Team is coached by Jim Dobson and Tim Heisler.

New Board Members Added

Shakespeare's Associates, producer of the Livermore Shakespeare Festival, has added Patricia Munro, Garry Rodrigue and Rachael Snedecor to its Board of Directors. They join Chair Philip Manwell; President and Producing Artistic Director Lisa A. Tromovitch; Secretary Elizabeth E. Trutner, Esq.; Treasurer Charles Hartwig; Director of Education Russ Marcel and Peggy Riley.

Munro is a doctoral candidate in Sociology at UC Berkeley looking at building community

in religious congregational life. Rodrigue is the winemaker and owner of Rodrigue Molyneux Vineyard and Winery in Livermore. Snedecor is the Executive Director of Livermore Downtown Inc. and President of the California Main Street Alliance.

Shakespeare's Associates will produce Michael Frayn's "Copenhagen" at the Bothwell Arts Center from April 2nd to April 26th.

For tickets and information visit www.ShakespearesAssociates.org or call (925) 443-BARD.

Sex Chordae Performs at Las Positas

By Nancy O'Connell

If viewers came to see a play or an enactment of risque sex scenes, they would have gone away disappointed, but in the Las Positas College Library on March 14th, the audience was more knowledgeable than that. Many college students were present, curious about the instruments. The adults from the area were a sedate group, but very enthusiastic in their love for early viol music. The words sex chordae refers to the six strings of the viol family, although on this evening Farley Pearce's bass viol had 7 strings, so that he could play down to a low A, two notes below the low C of the cello.

The viols had frets as well, as are found on guitars, so that it is easier to play chords and double stops on these instruments than on a modern viola or cello. The program notes indicated that viols were prevalent in homes and in the English court from 1504 until the reign of Charles II when violins became popular instead. "Educated people of the time (prior to the reign of Charles II) regarded the ability to play a viol at a competent standard a necessary part of being a 'complete gentleman.'"

A little known fact to the American public is that Prince Charles, Queen Elizabeth's son, studied and played the cello for years, so perhaps musical knowledge is still regarded as important to being a noble gentleman.

The music heard Saturday night was from Late-Renaissance England and was of a very high quality. Each of the four performers could be a soloist. They listened carefully to one another and to the soprano. When Robin Fisher was singing she enunciated each word clearly. The other three musicians often glanced up at her to make sure that they were accompanying her and listening to her every nuance.

John Dornenburg, the founder of this group, talked about some of the instruments in the viol family. The strings are made of sheep gut, which means they have to be tuned more frequently than the aluminum-wound gut found on modern cellos, violas, and violins. The viols were resting on the players legs - hence the word da gamba. Another difference is in the bow. The bow is held in an

underhand grip, and the 3rd finger presses against the hair to determine the tension, rather than the modern tightening of the hairs at the frog. For emphasis the viol player uses what modern string players call the "up" bow, rather than the "down" bow, which is stronger for those who play the instruments in the violin family. On the viols, it is called the "push" bow or the "pull" bow.

The piece, "Four Arms, Two Necks, One Wreathing," composed by Thomas Weelkes (1576-1623) was a madrigal, which is usually sung by voices without instrumental accompaniment. Here the two upper viols, and later the bass viol, joined the voice in a delightfully light hearted work. I was surprised to see that all three viol players used vibrato throughout this work. One purist, Putnam Aldrich, Ph.D., former Professor at Stanford, used to admonish string players to never use vibrato when playing the music of this early period. But at that time we were playing on modern instruments, and he wanted us to approximate the sounds of the pure-sounding viols.

In "Weep You No More Sad Fountains" by John Dowland the viols were all plucked very near the finger board. Robin Fisher's voice soared above the strings. Dowland, the composer, played the lute and was a famous writer of madrigals. Shakespeare made him immortal by referring to him in one of his poems.

William Byrd (1543-1623) composed "Fantasia No. 4," which was for string trio. It was improvisatory in style and probably had many ornamentations that in Byrd's time would not have been written out, but would have been left to the individual player to interpret, much as is done in modern jazz. Given the figured bass, played by the bass viol, the upper voices could add their own ornamentation - trill, a mordent, etc. Julie Jeffrey on the tenor viol played brilliantly, as did her colleagues, in this challenging work.

There were two compositions by Thomas Campion on the program. I glanced at the bass viol part. It was a complete score such as a conductor of today would use. Afterwards Farley Pearce told

me that his own part was very tiny and difficult to read. Mr. Pearce also performs on the baroque cello, and like the other accomplished musicians on this program, has concertized in many countries. Music is indeed an international language.

Bevin's "Browning" was just for the viols and was based on a very popular song of this time, much as Beethoven and other famous composers have borrowed songs which the public would have been familiar with. Composers from Beethoven to Bartok and Kodaly have used folk songs and have enriched and elaborated upon them.

For one of the songs in the second half, Ms. Fisher explained that in no way did their group endorse the words of the song which was Tobias Hume's "Tobacco." In that period tobacco was very new, and the lyrics compared it to love. The words were repeated in various ways, but the message was clear -Tobacco is like love. Much as at a later time, Bach's "Coffee Cantata" deals with the newly discovered coffee which is being imported into Europe. Here the message is the opposite. An irate father forbids his daughter from drinking it because it is seen as evil and will lead to her moral downfall.

All of these pieces would have been heard in private homes, usually where the host or hostess would have joined in on one of the viols or as the singer.

The library at Las Positas lends an intimacy to these concerts. As I left one young girl was trying out one of the bass viols, and earlier many extra chairs had to be set up to accommodate the growing audience. Word is spreading, and several in the audience were from the Hayward and Castro Valley area. We owe thanks to the many volunteers who work behind the scenes at Las Positas and to the Early Music Board of Directors. Marilyn Marquis, who gives the Thursday night lectures prior to the concerts, deserves a huge round of applause for bringing in such superb ensembles and filling a vacuum in the Tri-Valley. Renaissance music is seldom heard, and it represents a fascinating period of musical history.

Circle the date of April 18th for "Mosaico," the final concert of this season.



Frances Dinkelspiel

Author to Speak on 'Towers of Gold'

Frances Dinkelspiel, author of "Towers of Gold," will speak at the Pleasanton Library at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 22.

Towers of Gold follows the life of Isaias Hellman, who, in a classic American rags-to-riches story, came to Los Angeles from Germany in 1859 with almost nothing and went on to build up three of the West's most important banks—the Farmers and Merchants Bank in Los Angeles, the Nevada Bank in San Francisco and Wells Fargo Bank.

The book brings to life the transformation of California from a frontier society whose economy was driven by the barter of hides and exchange of gold dust into a vibrant state with the strongest economy in the nation.

The program is free and open to all. No registration required. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 925/931-3405.

Savor the Flavor II On Calendar

Savor the Flavor II will be held this Sat., March 21 at Poppy Ridge Golf Course in Livermore.

This event is a one day program dedicated to showcasing the variety, versatility and quality of American sweet and fortified wines. There will be a morning seminar on marketing beginning at 9:30 a.m. Luncheon will feature a pairing of dishes with sweet and fortified wines. The after seminar, beginning at 1:30 p.m. will explore wine fortification issues, techniques and products. Seminar registration fee is \$50.

The Savor the Flavor tasting, from 4 to 8 p.m., is open to the public for a fee of \$25. It includes unlimited tasting accompanied by finger foods specially selected to showcase the wines. Winemakers and winery representatives from throughout the country will be on hand. Tasters will also receive a recipe book.

For information, call 916-258-7115 or email sweetandfortified@sbcglobal.net

Saturday Salon Set for March 21

4th Street Studio Saturday Salon invites writers to read and listen to on Saturday, March 21st at 7:30 p.m. 4th Street Studio is located at 2235 Fourth Street, in Livermore. Everyone has up to 10 minutes to share.

4th Street Studio celebrates literary artists—writers who are dedicated to the art and craft of writing. Saturday Salons provides a venue for writers to read their work and hear how it sounds as spoken word, and for everyone to listen to what writers have written. All literary forms are welcome: fiction, creative non-fiction, memoir, poetry, monologues, whatever.

In addition to hosting literary readings, 4th Street Studio has published four annual anthologies. The most recent, 4th Street Studio's Saturday Salon Literary Harvest, was published in October. Submission deadlines for the

2010 Anthology will be announced later this month.

Bring a nosh and something to drink to share.

Salons are held on the third Saturday of each month at 4th Street Studio, 2235 Fourth Street.

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KNOWING (PG13) DLP	12:20	1:40	3:15	4:30	6:20
			7:15	9:10	9:50
I LOVE YOU, MAN (R) DLP	12:15	1:10	2:40	3:35	5:00
		6:35	7:20	9:00	9:40
DUPLICITY (PG13) DLP		12:45	3:45	6:45	9:35
RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN (PG) DLP	12:05	1:05	2:20	3:20	4:40
		5:40	7:00	8:10	9:15
LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT (R) DLP		1:30	4:15	7:10	9:40
WATCHMEN (R) DLP		12:00	3:30	7:00	
FIRE UP (PG13) DLP		1:20	9:20		
HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU (PG13) DLP			3:40	6:30	
TAKEN (PG13) DLP		12:40	2:50	5:10	7:25
				9:45	
CORALINE (PG) DLP		12:10			
PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) DLP		2:30	4:50	7:05	9:25
GRAN TORINO (R) DLP		12:30	4:00	6:50	9:30

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 Mon - Thurs: 2:30 7:20
CONFESSIONS of a SHOPAHOLIC
 Fri - Sun: 12:15 2:20 Mon - Thurs: 5:00
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SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (PG)
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 Mon - Thurs: 2:15 4:40 7:10
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<http://www.ci.livermore.ca.us/ArtsALIVE/2009PoetLaureateposting.pdf>
 to download a copy of the Position Available Notice, or call Clarice Douglas @ (925) 960-4141.

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Figaro (Robert Stafford) and Susanna (Jennie Litster) sing about their upcoming wedding.

A Star Shines in Livermore

By Sue Steinberg

Eugene Brancoveanu singing here in Livermore? I couldn't believe it! The international star who won rave reviews at San Francisco Opera and headlined SFO's West Coast premier of "The Little Prince"?

Believe it or not, Livermore Valley Opera has actually engaged this bravura artist for ALL PERFORMANCES of Mozart's "Marriage of Figaro," and Livermore is truly on the opera map.

This is not a paid "puff-piece," but a heartfelt tribute to a company that continues to astonish with magnificent productions on a limited budget, a multi-tasking Board of Directors, and a cadre of hard-working volunteers. All of them deserve a curtain call as resounding as the cast's ovations on opening weekend.

The production itself is a perfect gem, from principals through choristers, with no weak links in singing or acting. With memories dating back to Cesare Siepi at the Old Met, this reviewer cannot recall a more thoroughly enjoyable "Figaro."

The opera shows Mozart at his sparkling best, with wonderful arias and ensembles, plus Lorenzo da Ponte's wittiest libretto. Based on Beaumarchais' 1778 play which helped foment the French Revolution, it is a trenchant social indictment of the imperious aristocracy cloaked in surface courtesy and elegant manners.

A true "Upstairs, Downstairs" of the late 18th Century, it describes not just the simple love story of two servants planning to marry, but also their struggle to fend off their noble lord, who aims to enjoy his "droit du seigneur" with the bride on her wedding night.

The helpless plight of this servant class leads to the indignation and fury that would soon topple their masters (or at least their heads) into the gutter. No wonder Louis XVI decided to forbid the original play until his wife, the short-sighted (and short-lived) Marie Antoinette, lobbied for its performance.

In the first scene, the Countess's maid Susanna alerts her fiancé Figaro, the Count's servant, to their master's scheme. Figaro, in a bold declaration of war, sings menacingly, "So he wants to dance, does he? Well, I'll play the music and make HIM dance to MY tune!"

Nothing so revolutionary had ever been staged before, and Figaro's ability to humiliate the Count in the final scene would have been a startling shock to the audience. In this production, the Count actually shakes his servant's hand, as much a symbol of "the world turning upside down" as the American patriots' victory over mighty England a few years earlier.

The opera presents all classes of society, from peasants to nobility, each with appropriate costumes, manners, and even singing styles. Across the board, everyone's Italian is uniformly impeccable (as attested by native speakers), with the chorus unusually well-blended. Kudos to Music Director Alex Katsman for his superb conducting, harpsichord playing and coaching in pronunciation and enunciation.

Great applause to Director Jose Maria Condemni, whose attention to detail produced such a lively show, with stage business illuminating every nuance of the plot and text. English super-titles can only represent a fraction of the action, but audience response proved their instant comprehension of Condemni's "non-verbal script."

Particularly outstanding is the preening of elderly spinster Marcellina (a delicious creation by Carrie Hennessey), as she plots to trap Figaro into marriage, and trades smiling insults with his beautiful young fiancée Susanna.

For ultimate over-the-top comedy, watch veteran Michael Mendelsohn as the smarmy music teacher and pandering go-between Don Basilio. His nasty smirks, obsequiously exaggerated bows, and manic "conducting" of the chorus evoked appreciative laughter from the audience.

Jasen Sarten plays a magnificently pompous Dr. Bartolo, eager to help force Figaro's marriage to Marcellina. When Figaro is revealed to be their love-child, and Bartolo realizes that he himself must be the old lady's groom, his facial reactions show his emotions even better than his words.

A bouncing, scatter-brained young girl, Barbarina, is realistically acted and beautifully sung by vivacious Jordan Trommter. She is partnered by the similarly hormonal teenage "page-boy," Cherubino, played with equal excellence by Erin Neff and Evgenia Chaverdova. Gifted with two of the opera's most memorable arias, each brings the believable excitement, awkwardness and confusion of male adolescence to this "pants role."

Other wonderful arias go to principals Figaro and Susanna, played alternately by Robert Stafford and Sascha Joggerst, Jennie Litster and Sepideh Moafi. I've seen both casts, and it would be impossible to choose between these gifted singing actors, who bring beautiful voices, engaging personalities and boundless vitality to their roles.

Watching Susanna's outrage upon seeing Figaro embrace Marcellina (his newly-discovered mother) or pretend to woo the countess (his own fiancée in disguise) is great fun, but her fury also awakens true sympathy — especially from women. Similarly, Figaro's horrified despair when he learns of Susanna's pretended rendezvous with the Count, strikes a chord in anyone who has known infidelity. Mozart has refined gold from both situations, writing an aria of lyrical beauty for Susanna ("Come quickly, my love") and for Figaro, the show-stopping diatribe against faithless women, ("Men, open your eyes!").

The give-and-take between the Count and Countess is also painfully realistic. The Count still loves his Rosina, but is unreasonably jealous, while secretly pursuing the extra-marital pleasures he feels entitled to enjoy. The Countess, sadly faithful to her philandering husband, is reduced to desperately trying to trap him into a tryst with Susanna, hoping that he will repent and reform.

Kaileen Miller, who heroically sings all performances, is every inch the Countess, with noble carriage, statuesque beauty, and the ability to wring a listener's heart with her plaintive laments for lost love. Gorgeously robed by expert Costume Designer Vicky Nebeker, with courtly wig by Denise Gutierrez, she seems the new incarnation of Kiri te Kanawa, famous worldwide in this role. Listen for her floating silvery tones, ravishing pianissimo, and outbursts of dramatic emotion, and watch her impressive breath control over long legato phrases.

Eugene Brancoveanu as the

Count instantly commands the stage with his imperious bearing. A consummate actor, he switches effortlessly from sly seduction of Susanna to towering fury at being thwarted, murderous jealousy over his wife's suspected infidelity to tender supplicating pleas for pardon when he is proved wrong.

His nervous agitation trying to make a cup of tea to calm his offended wife is a finely-crafted example of stage artistry few singers develop so skillfully. And his heart-stopping "moment of truth" in the final act is unexpectedly moving and convincing. Combined with the wide range of his rich powerful voice, Brancoveanu's performance left listeners reaching for new superlatives!

The production's overall excellence includes Jean Francois Revon's technical directing and Yannis Adoniou's spiritual choreography, with a gorgeous set created for a major Canadian opera company.

Nearly-full houses for opening weekend suggest a likely sell-out for next week's final performances, when many (including this enthusiastic reviewer), plan to return. Advance reservations are strongly advised. Tickets are available at the Bankhead Theater box office on First Street, Livermore, or by calling 925-373-6800 or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Final performances will be Friday March 20 at 7:30 PM, and Saturday March 21 at 8PM, and Sunday March 22 at 2PM, with an introductory talk one hour before curtain time. Frugal Friday features discounted tickets for all ages, with special low prices for students through college.

Civil War Exhibit Opens at Museum

"The Civil War: The California Connection" exhibit opens Friday, March 20 at the Museum On Main, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton and runs through July 19.

The exhibit will focus on themes including Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday, the role of California in the war's origins, the contributions of California troops to the Union war effort, and the research of Dick Finn into experiences of Civil War veterans who settled in the Tri-Valley after the war.

The exhibit will also examine California's role in the origins, course, and aftermath of the Civil War, from the debates over slavery in newly-conquered California to the gold and troops California provided for the war effort to the settlement of veterans in the Tri-Valley area after the war. There will be objects on display from the State Parks Department and from private and the museum's collections.

The opening reception will be

By Leonard Pirkle

The California Independent Film Festival holds its annual film festival in Livermore. This year is the Festival's 11th anniversary and the 8th event held in Livermore. We are very excited about this year's line up and want to thank The Independent for giving us the opportunity to begin reaching the audience in advance, with reviews of some of the wonderful films you can see at this year's festival.

The first film for your consideration is, "Adopt a Sailor." This film was written and directed by Charles Evered and stars Emmy award winner, Peter Coyote, Bebe Neuwirth an Emmy and Tony award winning actress from television shows such as Cheers and Frasier, and Ethan Peck, the grandson of one of the Silver Screen greats, Gregory Peck. It tells the story of a wealthy couple living in New York City who volunteered to host a sailor in town during Fleet Week. The knock at the door and subsequent realization of their long forgotten commitment, turns an evening for three people into a moment in time that will change their lives in a way that none will soon forget.

A script that centers almost entirely on three people in an apartment, this film demonstrates rather successfully that it's not necessary to have multiple locations, big explosions or a huge cast to hold an audience and keep them entertained. At the same time it provides moments that make you smile, the film delivers very thought provoking gems that will stay with you after watching this lovely little story.

The writing is very endearing. The performance by Peck as a young man from a small town in Arkansas exposed to the sophistication of "the big city" will warm your heart and make you believe that being genuine is sometimes smarter and more insightful than years of existential teachings. Honesty and the lack of pretentiousness on the part of the young sailor, makes this a performance that many will remember and hopefully leave the screening with more than when they arrived.

Neuwirth as an art gallery owner and wife of "film" maker Coyote is very delightful in this role. While watching, I couldn't wait for the next time she smiled or laughed — which brightened the entire screen. A lovely and believable performance that draws you into her character. The film exposes current concerns with the war in Iraq and

enjoy this film whether you are a dove or a hawk.

I highly recommend this film. While there is some strong language, the film is appropriate for most but younger audiences. The film will be screening at the Vine Cinema on Saturday April 18th from 12 noon until 1:30 pm.

The Festival will be held April 16th through the 19th in downtown Livermore with screenings at the Vine Cinema and the Livermore Cinemas, both on First Street. Check out our schedule of events at www.caindiefilmfest.org and keep reading The Independent for more California Independent Film Festival news and information.



Adopt a Sailor



Centerpointe Presbyterian Church in Pleasanton will display the orthodox icons of Father Leo Arrowsmith in the narthex during March and April. Fr. Arrowsmith is the priest of St. Innocent Orthodox Church in Livermore. His icons are written in acrylics. Small giclee copies of his icons may be purchased at the St. Innocent bookstore or at Proctor's on First Street in Livermore. The public may view the art on Sundays. The church is located at 3410 Cornerstone Ct., Pleasanton; information 846-4436.

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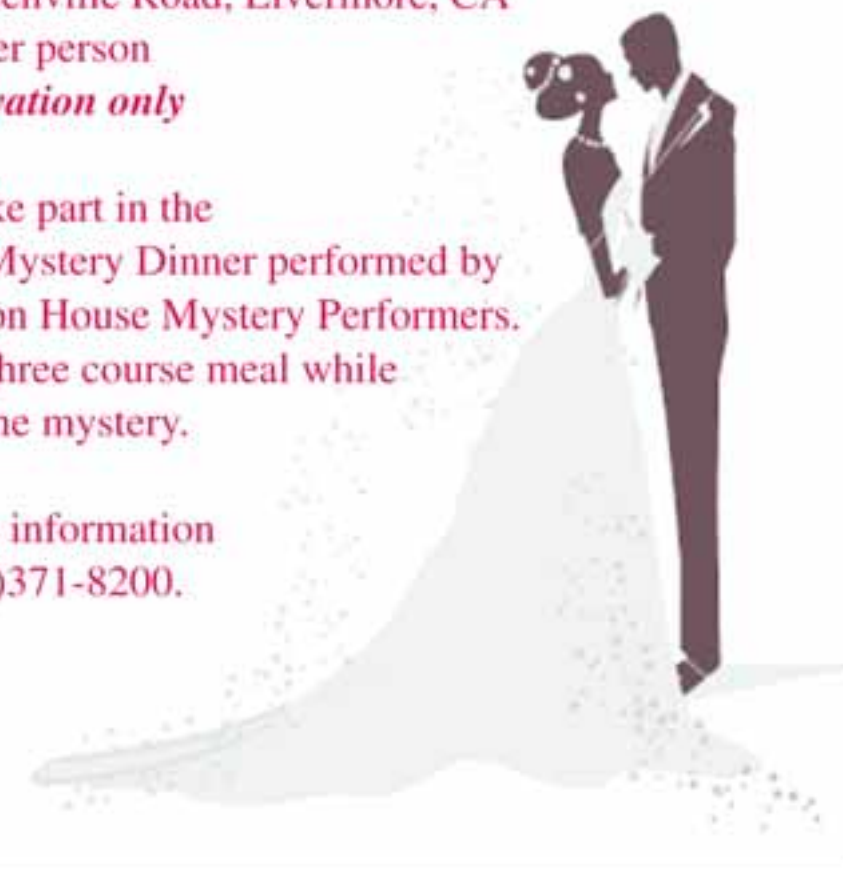
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ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Music at Retzlaff, Roger Kardinal will perform March 20, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Retzlaff Winery at Blacksmith Square in downtown Livermore. He plays the acoustic guitar and plays a wide range of music. There will be wine and appetizers. \$5 cover charge.

Artists' Flea Market, Saturday, April 25, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., DeLucchi Park, First St. & Neal, Pleasanton. Great place to buy paintings, frames, canvas, art books, etc. Clean out the hobby room or studio: sell extra art supplies, equipment, bargain art, etc. 10' x 10' spaces \$25. No commission. Sign up by calling Dorothy Maestas 925 846-6726. Sponsored by Pleasanton Art League. Non-PAL artists welcome.

Dublin New Talent Film Festival, hosted by the City of Dublin at Frankie, Johnnie & Luigi's Restaurant on Dublin Blvd. in Dublin, on Monday, April 13. Young film-making talent ages 12 to 21 from Dublin and the Tri-Valley area are invited to submit short films (10 min.) filmed, acted, and edited by them. The event will be held in connection with the premier of a film by Morgan Finley King, age 18, "Smell the Coffee." This is a half-hour film suitable for young people 16 and older. To enter a film and for more information see the web site, DublinTalent.com.

First Annual Barrel Tasting, hosted by the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association on March 28 and 29, noon to 5 p.m. Over 20 wineries will be participating. This Association fundraiser event is \$20 online prior to March 27 or \$25 at the barrels. Fee includes a Reidel crystal logo tasting glass. www.lvwine.org.

The Sunol Repertory Theatre, 2009 production of the melodrama, "A Million Dollar Baby or A Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight." Performances March 20, 21, 27, 28, Sunol Glen School Theatre, corner of Main and Bond streets. Curtain 8 p.m. Tickets \$15 reserved seating (assigned on first come, first served basis). Proceeds to Benefit Sunol Glen School. www.sunol.net.

The Marriage of Figaro, Livermore Valley Opera, March 20, 21, 22, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org

Honk, a contemporary re-telling of the story of the Ugly Duckling, to be staged by Christensen Middle School. Performances are held at Livermore High School Performing Arts Theatre in Livermore. Tickets on sale for evening performances Saturday, March 21 at 7pm. One matinee performance is offered on Sunday, March 22 at 2pm. Tickets are \$6-\$8 and can be purchased in advance by email at tix4honk@gmail.com or at the door 30 minutes prior to the show.

Bye Bye Birdie, Amador Valley and Foothill High Schools performance, March 19, 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28, 7:30 p.m. Ticket : \$10 for students, \$12 for adults. 931-3444, www.civicartstickets.org.

Youth Dance Festival, Over 80 youth from the Pleasanton Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

Saints will perform in a dance festival entitled, "A Brand New Year." on March 21, 7 PM, in the Dublin High School gymnasium, 8151 Village Parkway, Dublin. Performances will include the waltz, country swing, the salsa, and other specialty numbers. The performance is free of charge and the public is invited.

Ohlone Community Band, concert 8 p.m. Wed., March 25 featuring Jacob Guillbeau, euphonium, performing Herbert L. Clark's "From the Shores of the Mighty Pacific," the Community Band's horn section performing Joseph Willcox Jenkins' "American Overture for Band," Richard Wagner's "Eisa's Procession to the Cathedral," from the opera "Lohengrin" and other band favorites. Adults \$15, seniors/staff/students \$10, youth under age 12, \$8. Smith Center at Ohlone College, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont. (510) 659-6031 www.smithcenterpresents.com

Guard and Percussion Show, Foothill High School band is hosting a winter guard and percussion show Saturday, March 28, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the large gym. This competition will feature more than 55 groups from all over Northern California. The admission fee of \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors. Food will be available for purchase. For more information about this upcoming show go to www.foothillband.org/Events/FGP/fgp.htm.

Working, Las Positas College spring musical. Performances March 27, 28, April 3, 4, 5, 17, 18, 19. Musical based on the book by Studs Terkel. Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m., Sunday at 2:00 p.m. in the theater at Las Positas College, 3033 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. \$10.00 general admission, \$7 seniors/students. Information 925-424-1100 or www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts.

Las Positas College Orchestra Concert with Livermore-Amador Symphony, Sat., March 28, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org

From Spanish Gypsies to Danish Kings, March 28, 8 p.m. Livermore-Amador Symphony. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets, call 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org

Diablo Symphony, "Symphonic Treasures," concert featuring Anni Hochhalter, French horn soloist and winner of the 2009 young artist competition, in Horn Concerto No. 1 in Eb by Strauss. Orchestra will play Schumann's "Manfred Overture," and music from "Romeo and Juliet" by Prokofiev. 2 p.m. March 29, Center for the Arts, 1600 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. \$12-\$18-\$20. 943-7469, www.lesherartscenter.org.

David Finkel and Wu Han, cello-piano duo, March 29, 2 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets at 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Copenhagen, science, politics and controversy, performances April 2-26,

Bothwell Arts Center Theater, 8th and H Streets, Livermore. Tickets 1-800-838-3006, Shakespeare's Associates production.

A Tale of Three Cities, Thurs., April 2, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Livermore Speakers Series features David Kennedy, Pulitzer Prize winner, speaking on how the US won WWII. \$40 and \$30. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Beppe Gambetta and Dan Crary, Friday, April 3, - 8 p.m., Tickets \$35/\$25/\$20/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org

The American String Quartet, April 4, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org

Livermore Art Association Spring Show, April 4 and 5, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Barn, Pacific Ave., Livermore. Reception Sat., April 4, 7 to 9 p.m.

The Pleasanton Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival, full-day celebration of poetry, prose and visual arts includes workshops, events, contests and people. This year's keynote speaker will be Dana Gioia, poet, critic, best-selling anthologist, past N.E.A. Chair, teacher and winner of the American Book Award. Sat. and Sun., April 4 and 5, 931-3444.

Spring Band Concert, April 5, The Pleasanton Community Concert Band 2:00 p.m. in the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Free. Information: 925-846-5897 or www.pleasantonband.org.

The New Orleans Jazz Orchestra All Stars featuring Irvin Mayfield, Sun., April 5, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets \$55, \$40, \$35, \$30. Student tickets (17 and younger) are available for \$12.00 by calling (925) 373-6800 or by purchasing tickets in person at the Bankhead Theater. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org

Marcus Roberts Trio, Thursday, April 9, 8 p.m., imagination and quick musical reflexes project a style that is powerful, rhythmic, and free. Tickets \$55/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org

Spring Rose Show, April 11, Dublin Senior Center. Presented by the Mount Diablo Rose Society. Sanctioned by the American Rose Society. Entries at 7:30 a.m. Judging begins at 10 a.m. Public welcome to enter roses. Information, Vicki Shore, 200-6972.

Spencer's Theater of Illusion, Sat., April 11, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd. \$34/\$19 youth under 12. Tickets available at www.SanRamonPerformingArts.com, 973-ARTS.

Contra Costa Wind Symphony, Scandinavian Connection concert features music of by Nordic countries including works by Grieg and Sibelius. Guest conductor Jerker Johansson, Sweden; pianist Nancy Rude and flugelhorn virtuoso Noel

Weidkamp, 7:30 p.m. April 15, Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. \$18 regular, \$15 seniors, \$12 students, 943-7469 www.lesherartscenter.org.

California Independent Film Festival, April 16-20 downtown Livermore, various venues. www.candiefilmfest.org.

At the Bankhead



Aquila Theatre Company performs William Shakespeare's The Comedy of Errors on Mon., March 23 at 8 p.m.

Aquila's production of Shakespeare's tale of two sets of identical twins whose lives get turned upside down before they are finally put in order relies not only on slapstick comedy, but also on wonderful performances and imaginative staging. Founded in London in 1991 by Peter Meineck, Aquila is now based in New York City. "A classically trained, modern hip troupe..." The New York Times

Tickets are \$45/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students

Keyboard Conversations(r) with Jeffrey Siegel, pianist, will have the theme of Musical Pictures on Wed., March 25 at 8 p.m. Siegel takes listeners on an intimate journey through classical music and its masters. Siegel creates a unique learning experience, providing lively commentary about the music before performing each work in its entirety. The program includes Rachmaninoff's "Etudes Tableaux," Debussy's "Preludes," and Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition."

Tickets \$45/\$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students.

For tickets are available at 373.6800 or online at www.bankheadtheater.org

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore

AG WEEK

(continued from page one)

post a message on the blog on the Conservation Partnership website at www.acrcd.org. The message will be forwarded to the farmers and ranchers in Alameda County.

The Conservation Partnership and the sponsors of Alameda County's Ag Week Celebration including, Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, Freitas Rangeland Improvements, Alameda County Farm Bureau, Cattleman and CattleWomen Associations and Livermore High Schools 4H and FFA Clubs, hope to increase awareness of the pro-

ducers of agriculture in their community. The goal is to encourage people to select locally grown wine, olive oil, and other products, when possible and visit the local farmer's markets. Many locally grown products are also available in local supermarkets.

Alameda County farming includes hay, grain and pasture, livestock and poultry, orchards, viticulture and nursery. Agriculture in Alameda County as reported in the 2007 Ag Commissioners Crop Report was valued at \$ 23,130,000.00

AG WEEK

(continued from page one)

hand tool leather & stamp your own leather necklace to take home.

Roping - Try your hand at roping a "dummy" steer.

Chuckwagon - Check out the chuckwagon and see some old-fashioned Dutch Oven cooking.

All about BEEF - Learn about Beef-by-Products and how cattle help the environment.

The Alameda County CattleWomen organization was established in 1956. The club's

objective is to develop educational awareness about beef and to promote a better understanding of the various roles the beef industry plays in the environment and the national economy. For information, go to www.alamedacountycattlewomen.com, or contact Allison at 240-2360 or abatteate@ccwater.com.

There is a parking fee of \$4 for CCWD ratepayers; \$6 for non-ratepayers.

RED

(continued from page one)

June 2, only 126 of those positions would be saved.

It is definitely a time for Pleasanton residents to show they care about the local education employees, said Gamecho.

Gamecho said that she chose the color red because most people have red in their wardrobe. Further, "it's a bold color, and we would like to make a bold shout. Also, red is the color of love," she said.

The demonstration isn't directly affiliated with efforts to pass the parcel tax. "However, we support their message," said Gamecho. She would refer anyone interested in the parcel tax to the Save Pleasanton Schools web site, which is

savepleasantonschools.org.

Gamecho said that her hope is that the tax will pass "and save jobs. People can come together as a community. It seems the times are hard. It is not just about looking out for number one. Everyone is in the trenches together."

"The layoffs are a hit to our community. I moved here, and most people moved here, for the quality of education. We have so much tied up in this. It's about keeping class sizes down, and in general, taking care of children in our educational system," said Gamecho.

There is no name or web page for the "Wear Red Day" effort, and no thought about whether it will recur, said Gamecho.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 421137

The following person(s) doing business as: Tri Valley Notaries, 5643 Charlotte Way #37, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Laura Brooke Smith, 5643 Charlotte Way #37, Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by an individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/Laura Brooke Smith
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 18, 2009. Expires February 18, 2014

The Independent Legal No. 2456. Publish March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 421595

The following person(s) doing business as: OPUS Mobile Technologies, 2192 Grape Leaf Lane, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Christophe Therene, 2192 Grape Leaf Lane, Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by an individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/Christophe Therene
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2009. Expires February 27, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2457. Publish March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 420980

The following person(s) doing business as: Ethereal Designs, 2076 Vintage Lane, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Shelley Buchberger, 2076 Vintage Lane, Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by a General partnership
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on December 1, 2008. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Shelley Buchberger
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 11, 2009. Expires February 11, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2460. Publish March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 421632

The following person(s) doing business as: Her Smooth Voice, 1147 Mataro Ct., Pleasanton

CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ann Marie Richardson, 1147 Mataro Ct., Pleasanton Ca 94566

This business is conducted by an individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/Ann Marie Richardson
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 27, 2009. Expires February 27, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2458. Publish March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 421489

The following person(s) doing business as: Schwan Violins, 205 D Mains Street, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Schwab and Sons LLC, 4328 Valley Ave. Apt F, Pleasanton Ca 94566
This business is conducted by a Limited liability company
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on February 10, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s/Shuen Sheng Jeng
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 25, 2009. Expires February 25, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2459. Publish March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 420980

The following person(s) doing business as: Ethereal Designs, 2076 Vintage Lane, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Shelley Buchberger, 2076 Vintage Lane, Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by a General partnership
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on December 1, 2008. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Shelley Buchberger
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 11, 2009. Expires February 11, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2460. Publish March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 2009.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 421776
The following person(s) doing business as: Broker's Choice Property Management, 2300 First St., Ste 316, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jennifer Malakoff, 2927 Hansen Rd., Livermore CA 94550
This business is conducted by: an Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/Jennifer Malakoff
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 4, 2009. Expires March 4, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2462. Publish March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 2009.

ORDERTO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. RG08381525
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
1225 Fallon Street Oakland, CA 94612-4280
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner: Aaliyah Samar filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present Name: Aaliyah F. Samar
Proposed Name: Frenetta Y. Hendrix
2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING
a. Date: 5/1/2009
Time: 11:00AM Dept: 31 Room: 201
b. The address of the court is: 201 13th Street, Oakland, CA 94612
3.a. A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county. The Independent Dated: March 13, 2009 /s/Yolanda N. Northridge Judge of The Superior Court The Independent Legal No. 2461. Published March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 2009.

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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, both dogs and cats are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin from noon to 4 and the Pet Food Express in Livermore from 1 to 4. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and PetCo in San Ramon from 11:00 to 3:00. For more information, call TVAR at (925) 803-7043 or visit our website at www.tvlar.org.

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NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

151) ANNOUNCEMENTS
Axis Health Center
4361 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Serves Valley residents with emphasis on those with low income. The center has general medical services, family planning, well baby, prenatal and maternity programs, social services, blood pressure checks, WIC food supplement programs, premarital blood test, sports/camp physicals, TB screening, free transportation available. 925 462-1755

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Saturday School in Galt. Train Hands-on. 209 403-6483 www.schoolofdentalassisting-stockton.com

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

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Women Have Made Great Strides in Real Estate Industry

By Cher Wollard

In the early part of the 20th century, when real estate agency was a young profession, only a very small percentage of agents were women.

"Women in real estate did not get paid like men did. They got maybe a bottle of wine and some flowers," said Penny Christensen, president of the Southern Alameda County of the Women's Council of Realtors.

Now, women comprise 60 percent of the membership of the National Association of Realtors, and they are paid commissions just like their male counterparts. Female Realtors work primarily in the residential field, with women still very underrepresented in commercial real estate.

As in other fields, change began in our state, when the California Real Estate Association - the precursor to the California Association of Realtors - created a women's division in 1924.

Fourteen years later, NAR formed the national Women's Council of Realtors, based on the California model. The WCR is now the 12th largest women's organization in the country.

"It all started with a small group of women and expanded throughout the United States. Each year it has evolved," said Christensen. "Our mission and vision are to promote women as entrepreneurs in a professional industry, to promote growth personally and professionally, to educate our members."

Christensen, whose term as president began in January and runs for one year, is herself a veteran of the industry. She worked for title companies for 16 years, then became a loan officer. She has been an active real estate agent since 1995 and is currently with J. Rockcliff Realtors in Livermore.

She is also a CAR director for the Bay East Association of Realtors.

"I really am a person who believes in giving back. And I'm at an age where my family situation is such that I can do it," she said.

Christensen lives in Livermore with her husband, daughter and grandson.

She said the purpose of the local chapter is to grow leadership. Like most of her predecessors, Christensen rose through the ranks in WCR. Since becoming a member in 1992, she has served on several committees and chaired a few before becoming a line officer.

"You seem to climb up the ladder. You learn how the organization works," Christensen said.

She previously served as president in 1998.

At one time Christensen headed up the Golf Tournament committee. This major annual fundraiser is now held at Poppy Ridge. The group also holds an annual fashion show to raise funds for its charitable causes.

"We try every year to give back to the community," she said. Among the group's charitable causes are Wardrobe for Opportunity, Open Heart Kitchen, Tri-Valley Shelter and the Taylor Family Foundation.

"The charitable giving is important, but our main focus is building leadership," she said.

Membership in the national and local WCR includes both Realtors and affiliates - professionals in affiliated industries such as lending and title who are members of the Bay East Association of Realtors.

The local group holds a luncheon meeting one Tuesday a month at the Radisson Hotel in Dublin for networking and educational programs.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Jez Namayan gets help from her son, Jaden, in demonstrating how to sample dipping chocolate.

Stay at Home Mom Becomes an Entrepreneur

By Victoria Kamerzell

In just four months, Livermore resident and stay-at-home mom Jez Namayan has become an entrepreneur.

Last fall, Jez read an article in a parenting magazine about four stay-at-home moms who also ran successful businesses. One of them worked as an independent chocolatier, selling premium grade Dove chocolates, not available in stores, at small parties. As the daughter of a minister, Jez grew up in a household that was always entertaining guests, so the idea of being a professional hostess, and still being able to stay home with her kids, really appealed to her.

Jez contacted the woman in the article for help. Since starting her business, Jez has thrown 4-6 parties per month and while she wouldn't disclose her profits, she describes herself as "very satisfied" with the amount of money she brings home.

The chocolate products range from chocolate mousse to a martini mix to truffles. They generally cost more than chocolates purchased in a store. However, Jez emphasizes the quality is higher, more akin to the chocolates bought at a bakery than a grocery store. However, the higher prices have not detracted her customers. Jez actually partially credits the success of her business to the state of the economy; people are looking to escape and chocolate is a pleasurable one. Chocolate also contains Tryptophan, which is an amino acid known to cause sleepiness. Tryptophan is present in turkey and often blamed for those late afternoon Thanksgiving Day naps. The Aztecs used chocolate in religious ceremonies conferring it to nobility and priests. Phenylethylamine, sometimes referred to as the love chemical, is also present although its affect in chocolate remains controversial.

Jez's business works by utilizing hosts who agree to throw a party and provide Jez with "the dippables," (i.e. marshmallows, Rice Krispie treats, etc.) also purchasing food from her. Dove Chocolate Discoveries essentially offers two types of products: premade treats that need little or no set-up such as chocolate-covered graham crackers and desserts that can easily be made using their products. The company provides customers with a variety of recipes. Jez says that hands down the favorite one at parties is the Truffle Berry Brownie Mix, a decadent and artfully designed chocolate and berry dessert. When hosts buy the ingredients Jez will put together the desserts for free. She also delivers all of the products ordered by the hosts. The company offers hosts substantial discounts on their products with an opportunity, depending how much is sold at the party, for free chocolate.

Before starting this business Jez had no professional culinary experience. In high school she liked to make candy but before she had children she worked as a third-grade teacher. Jez has a very close family and wanted to have a business that would integrate them. The themes of the hosts' get-togethers range from bachelorette parties to family reunions to neighborhood gatherings. Jez said that she sometimes asks her clients if she can bring her family. Most of them don't have a problem with that.

For our interview, Jez proudly donned a shirt in her signature color: chocolate brown. In her tastefully appointed home she explained how her family loved her new business while her husband snacked on a truffle fudge brownie and her son politely asked for a second homemade chocolate ice pop.

Jez's four-year old demonstrated how to eat the chocolate fondue. Just as he was reaching for a marshmallow, Jez asked him, "What about the dipping?" Her son dutifully replied the golden rule of fondue. "No double dipping." To reach Jez Namayan you can visit her website at <http://www.dove-chocolate-discoveries.com/sites/jez>. She will be one of fifty vendors at the upcoming 3rd Annual San Francisco Chocolate Salon.

Tee off for a Safe and Sober Graduation

By Patricia Koning

For the past 21 years, high school seniors in Livermore have celebrated graduation night by partying with their friends until the break of dawn—safely partying, that is, thanks to the Safe and Sober Graduation Night. The event has become a Livermore tradition, attended by hundreds of graduates each year.

"I'm thrilled with the growing popularity of the on-campus grad night parties," says Granada Principal Chris Van Schaack. "Not only do they give students an opportunity to spend their graduation evening with so many of their friends in a safe environment, they also provide a great opportunity for parents and the community to get involved. We have several hundred students attend each year and the event seems to improve with each graduating class."

Graduation night is an exciting, emotional, and a risky time for teens who might take chances

they ordinarily would not. Statistically, it's also a dangerous time for teens to be on the road. Automobile accidents are the number one cause of death for ages 15 to 20, and studies indicate that the highest number of teen drunk driving fatalities occur on graduation night.

On June 12 from 10 pm to 5 am, two simultaneous parties will be held on the campuses of Livermore and Granada High Schools. The parties are not lock downs, but once students leave, they cannot return.

Students spend the evening playing casino games, singing karaoke, dancing, eating, playing in bounce houses, getting henna tattoos, sumo wrestling, indoor bungee jumping, tricycle racing, and enjoying the entertainment of cartoonists, hypnotists, and other performers. Each year, the entertainment, decoration, and themes are entirely up to the parents and other volunteers—in fact the entire event is

driven by volunteers.

Livermore High parent Denise Gill, who is on her third Safe and Sober Grad Night, says that some parents complain initially about having to help out in the middle of the night. "Once you are there, the time goes by so quickly and you don't want it to end," she adds. "There is so much excitement and energy. The kids really have such a great time."

At the Livermore High party, over \$10,000 worth of prizes will raffled off over the course of the evening. The prizes include laptop computers, dorm-sized refrigerators, toaster ovens, gift cards, beach towels, and cash. The goal, says Gill, is to send every one home with something they can use in their post-graduation endeavors.

The Safe and Sober Grad Night parties are not inexpensive to put on and both schools have been holding fundraisers all year.

On April 3, Livermore High and Granada will jointly host a golf tournament fundraiser at Poppy Ridge. The cost is \$175 per golfer, which includes range balls, green fees, a polo shirt, lunch, BBQ dinner, and goodie bag. The cost to attend the dinner and auction is \$25.

The driving range for the golf tournament opens at 10 am and registration begins at 11 am. There is a putting contest at noon, shotgun start at 1 pm, followed by dinner at 6 pm and the auction at 7 pm. To register and for more information, contact Denise Mueller at 925-455-6822 or email mueller39@aol.com. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

For more information on the Safe and Sober Grad Night parties, including pictures from past years, visit www.lhsgradnight.org for Livermore High School or www.granadagradschool.org for Granada High School.



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 KATHLEEN MINSER
 WASTE REDUCTION SPECIALIST
 OFFERS ADVICE ABOUT THE 4RS:
 REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, ROT (COMPOST)

Q Do the terms rot, biodegrade and compost mean the same thing? Tania

A Yes, all three terms describe the process that occurs when enzyme-secreting microorganisms use oxygen and water to break down organic materials (including food waste, food-soiled paper and yard waste) into soil-enriching fertilizer. Consumers use this fertilizer to improve soil structure, conserve water and control aeration corrosion.

Eco-Fact: You can place food waste, food-soiled paper and yard waste in your Green Waste cart so that WM can transport it to composting facilities.

Q Since donation sites won't accept my son's old car seat, do you know the best place to recycle or dispose of it? Michelle

A Car seats aren't usually recycled because they may not offer the newest safety features. However, here are several disposal options:

- WM curbside customers can call Customer Service at (925) 447-1300 to schedule a Special **Curbside Cleanup** — three free pickups are available each year for specific non-hazardous throwaways.
- Take the car seat to one of these Livermore landfills for a fee:
 - Republic Services Landfill**
4001 North Vasco Road
(925) 447-0494
 - Altamont Landfill & Resource Recovery Facility**
10840 Altamont Pass Road
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GREEN TIPS:

Julie Wild, health coach, offered the following tip: This may be different due to my living in the Midwest. We have a very large steel container that collects water from the air conditioner. We use that water for house plants and outdoor plants. During an unusually dry Summer, we were able to keep outdoor plants alive and not have to rely on community water resources. We saved money on our water bill and the extra effort/work of managing the water supply was also good exercise!

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SHORT NOTES

Health of Night Skies

Globe at Night 2009 is the topic of a Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff program on Sat., March 21.

Meet Ranger Glen Fore at 7:30 p.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. The group will be participating in the international effort to determine the health of night skies. By observing the night sky, the rangers will determine and report the level of light pollution. Afterward participants can go home and see how skies around the world compare to the those in Livermore. Be prepared for a walk into the park to gain access to the darkest skies available. Dress warmly. Canceled if raining.

There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call 925-960-2400 or visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us for more information.

Award Nominees Sought

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative is soliciting nominations for the Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award.

The Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award was established in 2008 to recognize Pleasanton citizens who consistently model high ethical and moral standards of behavior chosen by the people of Pleasanton which the Collaborative advocates: Responsibility, Compassion, Self-Discipline, Honesty, Respect and Integrity.

The award is named in honor of longtime Pleasanton Unified School District Board Member, Juanita Haugen. Haugen, co-founder of the Pleasanton Community of Character program, believed that Pleasanton should be a community of compassionate people. This year's Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award recipients will be announced May 28, 2009 at the Community of Character Collaborative Celebration at the Hilton Hotel in Pleasanton.

Deadline for submitting nominees is May 1, 2009. Anyone wishing to nominate a person who has demonstrated a commitment to our Community of Character traits through their volunteer work may download the form and return it to the Pleasanton School District office, 4665 Bernal Avenue or the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce office, 777 Peters Avenue. For more information about the Community of Character Collaborative visit www.communityofcharacter.org.

Passport Program

The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association is offering organizations an opportunity to raise funds through its Passport program. The Passport program is designed to showcase the best restaurants, wineries, boutique retail stores, spas and golf and recreation activities within the Livermore Valley.

The winegrowers will produce, advertise and execute the program as well as solicit businesses for program participation. Passports will retail for \$45. Organizations will be able to keep \$10 from each passport sold.

For additional information, contact Andrea Branton at the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association before March 23, 447-9463 or abranton@LVwine.org.

Spring Fling Open House

In honor of National Nutrition Month's "Eat Right" campaign, Diners Galore will be hosting a "Spring Fling" open house Thursday, March 19 from 6-9 PM in their Livermore location at 51 Wright Brothers Ave., Suite E. Guests can sample local wines from White Crane Vineyards and shop Livermore vendors such as Woopsiedaisies/All About Me Kids Salon, Purse Party, Shear Beauty Salon, Curves, Cookie Lee Jewelry, Mary Kay, and Avon. Those who register early can sign up to prepare two delicious and nutritious family-sized meals to take home for only \$50.

This year's National Nutrition Month theme is "Eat Right." National Nutrition Month is a nutrition education and information campaign created annually in March by the American Dietetic Association. The campaign focuses attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical

activity habits. For more information about this event or Diners Galore, call Diners Galore at 925-456-3257 or go to dinersgalore.com.

Essay Contest Winners

Each year, Optimist International, a service organization whose goal is to bring out the best in youth, hosts an International Essay Contest. The topic this year was "The Power of Youth."

The Newark Optimist Club's winners were honored Tuesday Evening, March 3 at a dinner meeting at the Newark IHOP. The winning contestants were asked to read their essays and were presented with certificates, medallions and gift cards.

The winners were: First Place: Carolyn Chang—Mission High School, Fremont; 2nd place, Mitra Fazel—Newark High School, Newark; 3rd place, Abhiraj Chowdhury—Foothill High School, Pleasanton.

Chang's essay has advanced to District Competition. The winners of the District competitions will move on to International competition. Scholarships are awarded to winners at both the District and International competitions.

Farming for Flavors

The purpose of the Quest for Excellence series, presented by the Tri-Valley Conservancy and the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, is to assure the highest quality wine grapes and wines are produced by Livermore Valley winegrowers and vintners.

The next meeting is Wednesday, April 1st from 5:30 to 8:00 pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore.

The guided wine tasting and discussion will feature Syrah. Doug Adams - UC Davis; Randal Graham - Bonny Doon Vineyard, and Stan Grant - Progressive Viticulture, will speak on the topic of Farming for Flavors.

Please RSVP online at www.lvwine.org by March 30. The session will have a participation fee of \$10.00.

International Arts

The Chabot College Children's Center will present an International Arts Performance recital on Wednesday, March 25th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the College's Performing Arts Center, Building 1300.

This event theme is a "cultural journey" around the world representing through dance and music various cultures such as Greek, Afghan, English Morris, Indian, Korean, Latino, Hawaiian, Chinese, Native American, Japanese and African.

The public is invited to attend the recital. Advanced tickets are: \$7 Adult, \$5 Child (3-12 Years). Tickets at the door are: \$10 Adults, \$7 Child. Chabot College is located at 25555 Hesperian Boulevard in Hayward.

To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Vicky Tsakoyias-Mendes at (510) 723-7534 or vtsakoyiasmendes@chabotcollege.edu. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Chabot College Children's Center.

Amador DECA

Amador Valley DECA, students completed the State Career Development Conference held this past weekend at the Santa Clara Marriott. There were 850 students, who competed in role playing, written projects and Quiz Bowl. Amador dominated the competition.

Quiz Bowl: Trevor Landas, Justin Sun, Uggi Lee and Ruiqi Mao - 1st place Team

Apparel and Accessories: Jennifer Yan - 2nd place overall, Christine Huang - 3rd place overall, Tonya Carter - top 8 overall, Christina Zhang - top 8 overall, participants: Nicolle Villanueva, Ruiqi Mao

Accounting Applications: William Chen - 2nd place overall, participant: Justin Sun

Auto Services: Rohin Pendekanti - 3rd place overall, Jeremy Liu - top 8 overall, Nandor Laszik - top 8 Exam

Buying and Merchandising Team: Amrita Kulkarni & Ryan Terri - 1st place overall

Business Services: Uggi Lee - 1st place overall, Steven Ryo - top 8 overall, Tanay Jael - top 8 overall, Jamie Vellinger - top 8 overall, Ting Li - top 8 overall

Food Marketing: Megha Lumbh -

3rd place overall, Bora Yuh - top 8 overall, Emily Truax - top 8 Role Play #1, participant: Tarun Palapati

Hotel Lodging Management: Nina Saleh - 1st place overall, Katie Hume - 3rd place overall, Sharon Jiang - top 8 overall, Meera Nathan - top 8 Exam, Simar Pannu - top 8 Role Play #2, Sunny Lee - top 8 Exam, participant: Marie Schmidt

Hospitality Management Team: Stephanie Lanning & Louisa Liu - 3rd place overall, Joseph Hasjim & Paul Martin - top 8 overall, Rebecca & Stephanie Mackenzie - top 8 overall, participants: Shelby Barraza & Sarah Maze

Internet Decision Making Team: Brandon Cruz & Mark Thomas - top 8 overall, participants: Rishi Mukhopadhyay & Michael Roesch

Marketing Management: Mike Chen - 1st place overall, Royce Gee - top 8 overall, participant: Stephan Zhang

Quick Serve Restaurant Management: Christian Schlachte - 3rd place overall, Prasad Radhakrishna - top 8 overall, Trevor Landas - 1st place Exam, participant: Caroline Hsia

Restaurant Full Service: Andrew Bondale - top 8 overall, Dhruv Dhall - top 8 Exam & Role Play #2, Gayani Kadurugamuwa - 2nd place Role Play #2, Lauren Morton - top 8 Exam, Melissa Wee - top 8 Exam

Retail Services: Noelle Malidzak - 2nd place overall, Conor McLeod - top 8 overall, Alex Foss - top 8 Role Play #1

Sports Marketing: Marie McCoy-Thompson - 2nd place overall, Helen Cai - top 8 overall, Leslie Watson - top 8 Exam, Leslie Watson - top 8 Exam, participant: Jonathon Cailles

Sports & Entertainment Team: Ben Billings & Dillon Mullaney - 1st place overall, Cailin Desmet & Linda Xie - 3rd place overall

Travel & Tourism Team: Kristin McNeil & Paul Diggins - 3rd place overall, James Galt & Matt Ready - top 8 overall

Written Project: General Marketing Research - Sharon Jiang & Bora Yuh & Mike Chen - 1st place Team, Ryan Terri & Stephanie Mackenzie & Rebecca Mackenzie - top 8 Project

Written Project: Community Service Project - Shelby Barraza & Sarah Maze - 1st place team, Gayani Kadurugamuwa & Lauren Morton - 2nd place Team

Written Project: Creative Marketing Project - Tonya Carter & Nicolle Villanueva - 1st place Team

Written Project: Entrepreneurial Written - Caroline Hsia - 1st place Team Written Project: International Business Plan - Jennifer Yan - top 8 Team Written Project: Entrepreneurial Franchise - Sunny Lee - 3rd place Team Written Project: Entrepreneurial Independent Business - Alex Foss - top 8, Nina Saleh - participant Written Project: Hospitality Market Research - Melissa Wee & Kristin McNeil & Marie Schmidt - top 8 Team Written Project: Business & Financial Research - Dhruv Dhall & Stephan Zhang - participants

Math Exam: William Chen - 2nd place overall Econ Exam: William Chen - 2nd place overall

The top 3 students from each category move on to the International Career Development Conference, over 16,000 students will compete for college scholarships. Internationals will be held in Anaheim, April 29-May 3rd, 2009. If you would like to donate funds help students travel to the International Competition, checks can be made out to Tri-Valley ROP Amador DECA Program, or contact Advisor Joan Thomas at joanithomas@hotmail.com.

Livermore DECA

Livermore DECA Students recently completed the State Career Development Conference held March 5-8, 2009, at the Santa Clara Marriott. There were 850 students competing in tests, role plays and written projects; and yet again Livermore students succeeded and will advance to the next level.

Livermore winners:

Written Event: Entrepreneurship Participating Event, Franchising a Business. 1st place went to Mark Larik.

Sports and Entertainment Team Decision Making Event: The unstoppable team of Mark Larik and Brandon Lazar took 2nd place.

Written Event: Fashion Merchandising Promotion Plan, Kaitelyn Nicholson and Jessica Sweet took 3rd place.

Sports and Entertainment Marketing Role Play Series: 5th place went to Shayna Dreher.

Retail Merchandising Series Event: Alyssa Moore placed 7th.

Written Event: Advertising Campaign Event, the team of Theresa Cadigan and Alyssa Moore took 7th

place.

The top 3 students from each category move on to the International Career Development Conference. Internationals will be held in Anaheim, California from April 29 to May 3rd, 2009. To donate funds to the International Competition, checks can be made out to Tri-Valley ROP Amador DECA Program, or contact Advisor Denise Merlin.

Donate Food

During the month of March, Curves of Livermore will participate in the 11th Annual Curves Food Drive to benefit local food banks at the Tri-

Valley Haven, Interfaith Sharing and CAPE. Over the past five years, nearly 5 0 million pounds of food was distributed to local communities all over the world through the various Curves.

Curves of Livermore will waive its normal service fee for any new member who brings in a bag of nonperishable groceries and joins now through March 28.

Others wishing to donate may drop off nonperishable food items at Curves, Monday through Friday during business hours during the month of March. For more information, call Sara Dobson at 960-9199 or go to www.CurvesLivermore.com.

Janice Pementel

"Thanks Dad"

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<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">SUNG CHUN (510) 468-4814</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">5455 Black Avenue, Pleasanton \$419,000 End unit townhouse in great location. Open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, skylight, fireplace, spacious master suite, garage, front patio. Well-maintained complex, close to downtown & parks.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">PINKY K. SOHAL (510) 421-9668</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">1475 Germania Way, Pleasanton \$1,175,000 Huge lot with two sets of plans 6,500 sq. ft. and 8,200 sq. ft. approved Mediterranean style plans. Build your dream home on this huge lot. Only one lot left on Germania street.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">STEVE ANDRE (510) 552-5572</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">2135 Calibrie Court, Livermore \$899,950 1-story w/attached 3 car garage w/club-level in VINEYARD. Over 1/2 acre lot. Open & bright, elegant entry, family formal living & dining rooms, skylights, high ceilings, whole lot a model.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">GREG MUNOZ (510) 744-3536</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">20850 Mines Road, Livermore \$900,000 240 prime acres just 26 minutes from Tola Rd. Electricity, phone, septic, lot paved, 2 barns on property. Possible building sites. Fenced. The best of the Sierra Foothills right here in the Bay Area!</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">BILL ABOUMRAD (510) 744-3555</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">362 Lucerne Street, Livermore \$750,000 Stone floor entry, hardwood floors, granite counters, upgraded appliances, 1 bed 1.5 bath downstair, 3 car garage, side access. Deluxe master suite, A/C, pool, bonus room, waterfall & more.</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">JERI JORGENSEN (925) 998-5718</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">29373 S. Chrisman Road, Tracy \$2,650,000 554,554 sq. ft. located in the newly established Tracy Hills Appaloosa wine region. 5,300 sq. ft. on 41+ acres. 3 fireplaces, pool and spa. Deschutes river. 1,500 Sq Ft. 3rd w/ private office w/ kitchen/bath.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">KAREY FINN (925) 846-3466</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">167 Cobblestone Lane, San Ramon \$795,000 4 bedroom 2.5 bath. Beautifully updated home located on a quiet court featuring Travertine tile entry. Updated kitchen with Maple and Cherry cabinets & Stainless Steel Appliances.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">JOHN NICHOLS (925) 922-4009</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">279 Via Cima Court, Danville \$825,000 3 bedroom/2 bath. Ranch style home. 1,694 Sq Ft. Home. 18,929 Sq Ft. Lot. Hardwood Floors. Updated bathroom. Large lot perfect for entertaining w/ views of Mt. Diablo. A Must See!</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">DAN FLORES (925) 455-2455</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">122 Estates Street, Livermore \$529,000 4 Bedroom/2 Bath. Two Completely renovated homes on one lot. New Kitchens and baths in each unit. Custom lighting and crown moldings, granite and tile work. Very private in-law unit.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: green;">DAVE DEBUS (925) 577-4619</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: gray;">42221 Woodcrest Court, Fremont \$548,888 5 Bedroom/2 Bath. 2 story home with water heated pool. Kitchen has granite counters and stainless steel app. Dual pane windows. Slab granite fireplace. Crown molding. Newer Roof. Much More!</p>

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