



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Flowers in full bloom carpet the ground at Independence Park in Livermore.

Bill Aims At Cutting Deceptions Over Initiatives

By Ron McNicoll

A bill introduced by Assemblyman Alberto Torrico (D-Newark) would extend civil penalties about giving false or misleading statements on initiative petitions to the proponents of an initiative or referendum, if they know the circulators that they hired are misleading people about the initiative's content or intent.

The new bill would apply not only to statewide initiatives, as Torrico intended, but also to local petitions, as set out in a compromise that Torrico accepted. Including local initiatives would not increase any vulnerability to

lawsuits against proponents of local initiatives, unless they were trying to cover up some kind of deception by circulators, said a Sacramento source.

Torrico, whose 20th Assembly District includes a part of Pleasanton's south side, wrote AB 1914, which passed the Assembly's Elections and Redistricting Committee last week on a 5-0 vote with two abstentions. All five in favor were Democrats. The two abstainers were Republicans.

A source in Torrico's office said that the intention was to "go after the big money efforts" in

statewide initiatives. Circulators are paid from \$1 to \$3 per signature. Although Torrico's office didn't say so, there are those who contend there is motivation for circulators to tell people what they want to hear, in order to collect more signatures.

The law currently can punish misleading statements as a misdemeanor, and can charge civil fines up to \$1000 per violation. However, the proponents, who hire the circulators, currently are immune. Torrico's bill would extend the civil penalties to the proponents, but not the criminal penalties.

The bill would apply to all signature efforts, not just those whose circulators are paid for their work. Essentially Torrico's bill covers situations where people have complained to an initiative's proponents that a circulator told them an initiative does one thing, when they know very well that it covers another, said Ethan Jones, a consultant to the Assembly elections committee.

Currently, the law doesn't command the proponents to report their circulators to the secretary of state (on statewide matters) or county elections clerks

(on local issues). Torrico's bill would require them to report it. Failure to do so could result in fines up to \$1000 per violation.

Currently, all the signatures found to be gathered illegally are still considered valid. Torrico's bill modifies that by requiring the petition proponents to contact each signer to see if they still want their names on the petition. That position is a compromise that Torrico accepted in committee. Originally, Torrico wanted to invalidate all such signatures. Republicans on the committee wanted all the signatures to

(See INITIATIVES, page 4)

Mayor Begins New Phase Of Treatment

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena will begin a more intensive regimen of treatment at UCSF for his cancer. The prognosis looks good, he said.

"UCSF is a pioneer in this field and have had good results," declared the Mayor. He said he has been told there is a 97 percent survival rate. "Of course, I'd like that to be 100 percent."

Kamena has lymphoma, which is an abnormal proliferation of cells in the lymph tissue that is usually malignant. It is one of the four major types of cancer.

(See MAYOR, page 2)



Pleasanton Senior Center.

Open House Jamboree at Senior Center

The Pleasanton Senior Center celebrates its 15th Anniversary with an Open House Jamboree on Friday, April 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The 22,000 square foot Pleasanton Senior Center opened in March 1993 and was built at a cost of \$6.8 million.

There is no admission fee to the event. The public is invited.

The event will feature a variety of class exhibits, including displays by woodcarvers, woodworkers, and arts and crafts classes. Live music will be provided by the South County Western Band, with dancing. A free apple pie dessert will be served from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. A

(See SENIOR, page 2)



Word for Word performs.

Events for All at Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival

In conjunction with Pleasanton's Seventh Annual Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival, City of Pleasanton Civic Arts invites the public to a free performance of *When Tom Smith Caused the 1906 Earthquake* by Word for Word of San Francisco.

The performance will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 6, at the Pleasanton Senior Center. The Festival is co-sponsored by the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council and City of Pleasanton Civic Arts.

When Tom Smith Caused the 1906 Earthquake was written by award-winning Native American author Greg Sarris. It retells a Native American folktale about Medicine Man Tom Smith and his unrestrained desire to be the most powerful medicine man ever. He orchestrates many strange happenings, including talking animals and walking fire, and spreads his strong magic all the way to San Francisco.

Word for Word, a Z-space Studio production, is a San Francisco-based theater company that performs short stories exactly as

(See FESTIVAL, page 8)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Members of the California State Horsemen's Association were on hand for the trail dedication.

New Trail Segment Ready for Use

Equestrians, bicyclists and hikers were on hand for the dedication of a new one mile segment of the Iron Horse Trail in Pleasanton.

The new multiuse trail runs from Santa Rita Road, across Mohr Avenue, to Busch Road in two segments. The trail features a 10-foot wide paved path with a 2-foot wide decomposed granite lane. Other amenities include benches, distance markers, a water fountain, various landscaped sections, and a traffic crossing device at Mohr Avenue.

Speakers at the dedication praised the partnership that made the segment possible. The \$1.6 million project was a cooperative effort among the City of Pleasanton, Ponderosa Homes, East Bay

Regional Park District and the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA). ACTIA contributed \$450,000 in funding for the Santa Rita Road to Mohr Avenue segment of the trail through a grant that was administered by the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD).

Ponderosa Homes donated the design services for the project, and both funded and constructed the Mohr Avenue to Busch Road Segment of the trail as part of mitigation for development.

EBRPD Board President Ayn Wieskamp observed, "I think people in Pleasanton have been using the trail before it was dedicated."

She noted that there is now almost 40 miles of the Iron Horse Trail that stretches from Suisun Bay in Contra Costa County to Livermore, connecting two counties and 12 cities. "Today we are one step closer to creating a trail that runs from one end of the district to the other. It's not just about recreation. It's about real people who get to work and get to school using this trail," stated Wieskamp.

Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman commented, "The trail represents the city's determination to help its population stay as healthy as possible. One way is to offer expanded opportunities to get people out of their cars."

(See IRON HORSE, page 2)

Park District Delays Decision on Rock Gym

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board delayed making a decision on whether to continue operating the Valley Rock Gym.

Board President Steve Goodman said he had come prepared to vote "no." However, he said that after hearing an array of speakers, he agreed with other board members that additional information would be helpful before a decision were reached.

LARPD has been operating the Valley Rock Gym, which is a climbing wall, for the past year. They took over the operations after the owner Kim Grandfield decided to close it down and rock climbers came out to ask the district to operate it.

Over the past year, there has been a net loss of \$48,000. However, Board member Scott Kamena noted there has been a trend upward.

The staff report shows some growth in participation and related revenue. January 2008 showed a significant increase in use.

It was Kamena who asked to

continue the item in order to have the staff provide more information. He wanted to know what happened to cause use to increase during certain periods of the year.

There was also a desire on the part of the board members to have a contract in place they could vote on. Kamena pointed out that the owner had offered to reduce the rent by ten percent. Kamena said the district is not in the business of making money. "If a private group could make money running the rock gym, it would have done so. The district's goal is to get close to break-even. We need to give this a chance to work. The owner is willing to make it work."

Kamena said of the speakers, "It's great that so many of you are here. Democracy is a contact sport. Your coming down makes the gym real for us. If you didn't tell us your stories, we wouldn't know what is important to you. I wouldn't know what to do with my vote."

Beth Wilson said she had not known there were so many

(See LARPD, page 4)

Livermore to Boost Water Rate By 8%

Livermore will be going for an 8.5 percent water rate increase starting July 1, according to city water resources manager Darren Greenwood. The water system serves about one-fourth of the city.

The remaining three-fourths of the population is served by the private California Water Service,

which has asked the state Public Utilities Commission for a 30 percent water rate increase.

The municipal water system's typical residential customer would see a rate hike going from the current average of \$52.10 up to \$57.20 each month. The hike is dependent on a mail canvass

(See WATER, page 4)

Pleasanton Trustees, Council Hear Issues

A look ahead at the Pleasanton general plan revision and a projection of future student enrollments in the school district were taken at a joint meeting of the school board and city council March 31.

The two entities exchange information regularly at liaison committee meetings. This was the first time in two years that all of the elected representatives held a joint meeting.

Trustees at their own meetings had heard their staff report about the city's general plan revision. However, at the meeting they were able to hear directly from city staff about the projections for new homes in various parts of the city. The information is needed to help them determine where to locate any future schools.

City principal planner Janice Stern said that 350 units would go in near the new BART station, 333 in Hacienda Business Park near the old BART station, 250 units in east Pleasanton, and 100 units downtown. There would be "additional units" in the Pleasanton Gardens area.

Also on the topic of potential

new schools, superintendent John Casey said that the district's K-5 enrollment trends have been rising above 6000 students, where before they had dipped below that number. The increase indicates that building Neal elementary school "is vital for this district."

Construction of the school has been tied up in a lawsuit with Signature Properties over terms of a construction agreement between the two parties. The case is expected to be decided by a judge this year.

Overall, the district's enrollment is predicted to stay fairly steady over the next 10 years, said a report from Casey, assistant superintendent Sandra Lepley, and city manager Nelson Fialho. Current enrollment is 14,802. Estimated enrollment for the next school year is 14,731. It's expected to remain a little above 14,700 for the following four years. The prediction for build-out in 2017-08 brings it down only to 14,601.

There is a four-year gap on the chart with no projection. Demographers don't feel that the data

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Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Getting ready to putt during the Pro-Am event on Monday was Rich Barcelo. He will move onto the professional part of the tournament starting today.

Pros Swing into Action at Wine Country Championship

The Livermore Valley Wine Country Championship tees off at The Course At Wente Vineyard, April 3-6.

"As players, we look at this as a major," said Matt Bettencourt,

a Nationwide Tour player from Modesto, who is set to play less than an hour from his front door. "Every player marks this on his schedule."

Last year, veteran Omar Uresti

won with a 72-hole total of 288, even par. It was the second-highest winning total in the 19-year history of the tour.

"The players like tournaments

(See GOLF, page 2)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Snuggles is a senior citizen cat looking for a quiet home to spend her retirement years. She is 11 years old, but is in great health. She is very friendly and loving, just as her name suggests- the perfect lap cat. Who needs a kitten around when you can cuddle up with this friendly ol' gal? To snuggle with Snuggles, or any of our adoptable cats, visit Valley Humane Society at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Hours are Wed-Sun from 11AM to 5PM. Visit web site www.valleyhumane.org, or call .426-8656 for more details.

SENIOR

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barbecue lunch will also be offered through the SPECTRUM lunch program at the affordable fee of \$3.50 for seniors and \$5

for adults. Please call (925) 931-5385 to pre-register for the barbecue lunch by 1:00 p.m. on April 10.

Free blood pressure checks,

Western movies and special door prizes are also on tap for this special event. For more information, please call (925) 931-5365.

The Pleasanton Senior Cen-

ter offers more than 25 classes each week, as well as the administration of the Pleasanton Paratransit Program, which provides door-to-door shared ride services for eligible Pleasanton and Sunol residents (60 years of age and older and those that are ADA certified). On a monthly basis the Center also offers free movies, a lecture series, a vision support group, an inter-generational reading program, a computer users group, a Day Trippers program, an armchair travel program, a Newcomer's Welcome, a dessert dance with a live band, and a lunch downtown.

The Pleasanton Senior Center also partners with agencies and business to provide services that include a weekday lunch program and Meals on Wheels (Spectrum Community Services), health screening and foot care (Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley), a Caregivers Support Group (Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley), free notary assistance (Lynne Stein Legal Documents), legal assistance for seniors, tax assistance (through AARP during tax season), AARP Mature Drive classes (offered quarterly), diabetes education (through Alameda County Health Department), a Parkinson's support group, a quarterly WHEELS transit counselor, and one-on-one computer training.

IRON HORSE

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Framed recognitions of the dedication were presented by Assemblywoman Mary Hayashi and a representative from Congressman Jerry McNerney's office.

Chris Gray represented Supervisor Scott Haggerty. He talked about some of the history behind the trail. In 1984, when Ed Campbell was elected, Southern Pacific announced it was abandoning many of its rights of way. Alameda County and Contra Costa County, along with the Hacienda Business Park, purchased much of them, said Gray.

"We have been able to accomplish many things using the rights of way," noted Gray. They include the historic Niles train, BART to Dublin located at the place where two corridors met, and many trails. "Contra Costa County showed leadership in building the first parts of the Iron Horse Trail. Alameda County has been working with Pleasanton on the corridor south of here. We will continue to make this thing (the trail) go all the way to Fremont."

Pleasanton is in the process

of creating a new bicycle and pedestrian master plan. The city also has a Trails Ad Hoc Committee. President of the committee is Kurt Kummer. "The opening of this segment is something we've been waiting for for a long time. It's not just good for Pleasanton, but for Dublin, Livermore and the whole Tri-Valley," Kummer stated.

Kummer observed that some people say the segment doesn't go anywhere. "Where trails are concerned, you get what you can get when you can." He added that the construction of trails won't stop until people can ride a horse from Staples Ranch to Livermore, start on this segment and walk all the way to the Callippe Golf Course; bike from Dublin to the Marilyn Kane Trail on the Bernal property; or until the residents of the nearby homes could walk to downtown, eat dinner, see a performance at the Firehouse Arts Center and walk back home. Let's go get some more."

Wieskamp said there are more trails to come. "This fall, Dublin

Hills Park will open. That is getting the trail close to Pleasanton Ridge. We will have a ridge trail in the future, as well as the Iron Horse Trail. What is wonderful is that everyone can share the trails," said Wieskamp.

Diane Offutt, trails chairperson of the California State Horsemen's Association, repeated Wieskamp's statement that the trails are there to be shared. "Our goal is to make sure people remember there are equestrians everywhere. A good horse blends well with people and bicycles," said Offutt.

One trail user is former Livermore Librarian Julie Casamajor. She said she became a trail person when she began riding a bicycle up and down the Iron Horse Trail. "I discovered that almost every other city had done a better job than Pleasanton in providing trails. I found that Pleasanton was making a huge effort that I had not been aware of." She became a member of the bicycle and pedestrian committee to help make the goal of more trails a reality.

GOLF

(continued from page one)

where par means something," Bettencourt said. "We don't see that every week on the Nationwide Tour." The first four events this year have been won with an average score of 11.5-under par, although the Panama Championship's winning total was only 5-under.

Besides having the highest scoring average on the tour, The Course At Wente Vineyards last year also produced three of the 10 toughest holes of the year, including the toughest of all, the par-4 first hole, which played to an average of 4.507 last year.

"Every look is different around the golf course," said Joel Kribel, the tour veteran from Pleasanton who has been playing The Course At Wente Vineyards since it opened. "There is no tee shot that looks the same and no approach shot is the same. In tournament condition, any hole can get you. You can't take any shot for granted. On a day that is windy, even-par feels like a 65."

"It really says something about Livermore and Wente Vineyards that so many of those players want to play in this event," said Todd Fischer, who returns home to Pleasanton to compete in the Wine Country Championship.

Other Northern California products in the field include Matt Bettencourt of Modesto, Joel Kribel of Pleasanton, Jeff Brehaut of Los Altos, Matt Hansen of Atwater, Tom Johnson of Weaverville, who through four events is 13th on the money list, Spencer Levin of Elk Grove and Scott Gordon of Sacramento.

The Wine Country Championship also features gourmet food and wine tasting each day in the Food & Wine Pavilion. The Tech pavilion will feature some of the latest gadgets and electronics for business and the home.

Sponsored by Wente Vineyards and co-hosted by the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation, the event is to ben-

efit the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, among other organizations.

Daily tickets are \$5 each for the first two days of tournament play (April 3-4) and \$10 each for the final two days (April 5-6). Admission is free for practice rounds. Children 12-younger are free (limit of two) with a paid adult admission. For tickets and more information about the Livermore Valley Wine Country Championship, visit www.winecountrychampionship.com.

call (925) 447-2200 or fax (925) 447-2900.

Tournament Schedule:
Thursday, April 3: First Round of the WCC (split tees begin at 7:00am)

Friday, April 4: Second Round of the WCC (split tees begin at 7:00am)

Saturday, April 5: Third Round of the WCC (tee-times TBD)

Sunday, April 6: Final Round of the WCC (tee-times TBD); Awards Presentation

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MAYOR

(continued from page one)

He was treated for the cancer previously and had been cancer free for three and a half years. "It came back," he stated.

Kamena, who has been excused from attending council meetings while he is undergoing treatment, said that he has just completed a round of chemotherapy. "I'll be going for more intensive therapy at UCSF."

Kamena will remain at UCSF for a few days. Upon returning home, he will administer white blood cell shots each day for a ten day period. That will be followed by "three weeks of more potent treatment" at UCSF.

Annual Duck Races Scheduled

The 16th annual Livermore Duck Races will take place on April 26 at Robertson Park in Livermore.

The fund-raiser for Livermore schools and nonprofit groups is planned between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Over \$5000 in cash prizes will be given out to lucky duck sponsors.

The Livermore Lioness Club and Livermore Y's Men Club will float the plastic ducks on the Arroyo Mocho in the park.

Carnival booths, food and

beverages will be available. There will be two Little Duckie Races for kids 12 years of age and younger. These races are free with a parent present. Prizes will be awarded, compliments of Livermore McDonalds.

Tickets are \$5 per entry. They are available from some Livermore schools PTAs or write to the Livermore Duck Races, PO Box 48, Livermore, CA 94551. For more information, call 449-1315 or 321-1123.

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Pleasanton Playhouse
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April 4-6, 11-13, 18-20 at 2 & 8pm
Tickets \$21, \$29, \$31



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<p>LIVERMORE REAL ESTATE FOR SALE</p> <p>1001 MURRIETA UNIT 6 \$229,900 Condo. Remodeled kitchen with granite. 2 Bed 1.5 Bath. MICHAEL DELEHANTY 925.251.2516 11 TRINITY CIR \$356,500 Duet. Great "starter" or investment property. 3 Bed 1.5 Bath. MICHAEL DELEHANTY 925.251.2516 3120 ARCADIA CMM Unit 404 \$374,900 Condo. A homey and desirable CopperHill 2 Bed 2 Bath. SHARON WILLIAMS 925.543.2161 982 VENTURA AVE \$375,000 Single Family. Updated kitchen. Near shopping. 6580. 3 Bed 2 Bath WILL BATESON 925.456.0845 1140 NAPA CT \$375,000 Single Family. Great opportunity. 3 Bed 2 Bath. Built 1970. MAX DE VRIES 925.525.0116 5525 HAGGIN OAKS AVE \$450,000 Single Family. Beautiful 1 story home in desirable neighborhood. MAX DE VRIES 925.525.0116 731 NOJAVE AVE \$478,900 Single Family. Bank Owned. 3 Bed 2 Bath. Built 1970. MAX DE VRIES 925.525.0116 2639 VANCOUVER WAY \$539,951 Single Family. Great opportunity to live in Sunset. 4 Bed 2 Bath. MAX DE VRIES 925.525.0116 2163 ROAN CT \$549,000 Single Family. Upgraded. Large Lot & possible side access. 4 Bed 2 Bath. CHRIS NEHR 925.443.6906 254 NADINE ST \$549,999 Detached. Close to schools & shopping. 4 Bed 2 Bath. REBECCA LYNN EVANS 925.443.6906</p>	<p>LIVERMORE REAL ESTATE FOR SALE</p> <p>1744 MONTECITO CR \$74,500 Mobile. Great park location. 2 Bed 2 Bath. LILLIAN COZART 925.580.4549 1375 VIA D'ESTE \$95,000 Mobile. Double wide. 2 Bed 2 Bath. LILLIAN COZART 925.580.4549 5390 SUNDANCE \$114,950 Mobile. Great location across from green belt and pool. 3 Bed 2 Bath. LILLIAN COZART 925.580.4549 842 SUNGOLD CIR \$132,500 Mobile. Close to shopping. 3 Bed 2 Bath. LILLIAN COZART 925.580.4549</p> <p>DUBLIN REAL ESTATE FOR SALE</p> <p>7052 DUBLIN MEADOWS STR Unit B \$339,900 Condo. Bank Owned & Spotted! 2 Bed 2 Bath. Built 1992. MAX DE VRIES 925.525.0116 3245 DUBLIN BLVD UNIT 203 \$419,900 Condo. Great "starter" or investment property. 3 Bed 2 Bath. MICHAEL DELEHANTY 925.251.2516 3157 WHITWORTH Condo. 3 Bed 2 Bath. Built 2005. JOE LEDESMA 925.251.2559 11474 SILVERGATE DR \$649,950 Single Family. This West side home is a stunner! 3 Bed 2 Bath. TODD MARTINEZ 925.784.7000 5234 PERSIMMON DRIVE \$1,149,000 Single Family. 5 Bed 4 Bath, Built 2000. ROBBIE CHARVET 925.251.2520</p>	<p>PLEASANTON REAL ESTATE FOR SALE</p> <p>5411 BLACK AVE UNIT 3 \$522,850 Townhome. Spacious 1690 sq ft beautifully updated close to downtown. TONNI CHANDLER 925.788.7788 4382 FIRST STREET \$699,850 Single Family. Picturesque Carriage home in downtown Pleasanton. TONNI CHANDLER 925.788.7788 307 BRIANNE CT \$1,198,000 Single Family. Pool & spa w/waterfall in private wooded 1/2 +/- acres. DIANE SASS 925.462.2068 3008 BRIGGS CT \$1,549,000 Single Family. Beautiful Pristine Laguna Oaks. 5 Bed 3 Bath. SANG KANG 925.200.3939</p> <p>S.F. EAST BAY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE</p> <p>2001 ASILOMAR DR Antioch \$400,000 Single Family. Spacious and beautiful. Huge backyard. 4 Bed 3 Bath. CESAR PARRA 925.251.2555 5009 DEERSPRING CT Antioch \$385,950 Single Family. Many upgrades! 4 Bed 2 Bath. Built 2000. STACI ARMARIO 925.251.2526 1331 CARLISLE DR Brentwood \$500,000 Single Family. Gorgeous hardwood floors. Gourmet kitchen, & more. DIANE SASS 925.462.2068 19346 BRUSH CT Castro Valley \$469,900 Single Family. Great "starter" or investment property. 2 Bed 1 Bath. MICHAEL DELEHANTY 925.251.2516 3439 PINE STREET Castro Valley \$529,000 Single Family. Castro Valley School District. Close to BART. DENISE IVALDI \$10,325.7997 22759 RANCHO PALOMARES PL Castro Valley \$777,000 Single Family. Gorgeous upgraded 5 Canyons home. 4 Bed 3 Bath. JANE MYRENGET 510.386.2065</p>	<p>S.F. EAST BAY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE</p> <p>7100 CROW CANYON ROAD Castro Valley \$3,500,000 Single Family & Land. Working Horse Boarding Facility. Lot Acres +/- 73. ROBIN DICKSON 925.251.2503 7324 CROW CANYON RD Castro Valley \$4,500,000 Single Family & Land. Large Horse Property. Lot Acres +/- 46. ROBIN DICKSON 925.251.2503 1803 SEAL WAY Discovery Bay \$825,000 Single Family. Deck and dock are Brook Dock. Clear sec 1 6/107. REBECCA LYNN EVANS 925.784.2870 15376 BAYPORT CT San Leandro \$525,000 Single Family. Six Beautiful new homes with 4bed/3bath. SHEILA CUNHA 925.855.4037</p> <p>SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY</p> <p>220 W FAUNA Mountain Home \$440,000 Single Family. Priced to Sell! 5 Bed 4 Bath. Built 2006. MICHAEL J. DUFFY 925.251.2523 360 RODEO WAY Tracy \$299,888 Single Family. Built 1993. 3 Bed 2 Bath. 1,800+/- SQFT. DAVID AZIMI 510.386.4844 2148 BABCOCK LANE Tracy \$399,000 Single Family. 2,800+/- SQFT. 4 Bed 2.5 Bath. Built 2004 AL AYUBI 925.487.1270 1881 OREGANO WAY Tracy \$399,000 Single Family. 2,700+/- SQFT. 4 Bed 3 Bath. Built 2000 AL AYUBI 925.487.1270 2144 W ALBERT DRIVE Tracy \$599,950 Single Family. Horse lovers dream! 1.80+/- LOT ACRES. 4 Bed 2 Bath. CAROLYN FORSBERG 925.583.2166 8780 W FAIROAKS ROAD Tracy \$699,000 Single Family. Remodeled. 1+/- Acre Lot. 4 Bed 3 Bath. MICHAEL J. DUFFY 925.251.2523</p>	

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Nuclear Materials Shipped

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has completed a third shipment of special nuclear material from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, reducing high-security material on site by about 25 percent. The material was moved to the Savannah River Site in South Carolina under high security.

The shipment is part of NNSA's plan to remove high-security nuclear material from the Laboratory. As part of its Complex Transformation, NNSA plans to consolidate nuclear materials at five sites by 2012.

Fewer New Home Starts

New-home starts in California continued to decline in February as homebuilders continued to grapple with problems in the housing and credit markets, the California Building Industry Association reported last week.

According to housing permit data supplied by the Construction Industry Research Board, total housing starts in California, as measured by building permits issued, dropped 28 percent in February when compared to the same month a year ago to 6,855 units.

In February, permits were pulled for just 2,540 single-family homes statewide, down 60 percent from February 2007 and down 5 percent from the previous month. Multifamily housing starts - condos and apartments - totaled 4,315, up 36 percent from February 2007 and up 112 percent from the previous month.

During the first two months of the year, single-family home production was down from the same period last year by 60 percent with 5,215 units permitted, while multifamily home production was nearly identical to 2007 levels with 6,348 permits pulled, down only 0.2 percent. Total new home production was down 41 percent.

CBIA Chief Economist Alan Nevin said the rise in multifamily construction was expected due to increased demand for apartments. He noted that the strongest activity was seen in the Bay Area, Orange County, and Los Angeles markets.

Property Value Scam

Many property taxpayers in Alameda County have recently received a solicitation from a private company that charges a fee for a service that the County Assessor performs for free.

The Assessor is required to assess real estate at the property's Proposition 13 indexed base year value, or at the property's January 1st market value, whichever is less. Most properties purchased over five years ago have Proposition 13 base year values well below current market value, even considering the added effect of the 2% annual state mandated inflation index.

Since real estate values have been declining recently, Alameda County Assessor, Ron Thomsen, would like to inform all homeowners who purchased their property in the past several years that his staff is reviewing their upcoming 2008-2009 Proposition 13 assessments to determine if a reduction can be provided. All property owners will receive a pre-tax bill notification in July, detailing their 2008-2009 assessment and indicating any reduction provided.

The private company mentioned above is charging property owners a \$95 fee for an opinion of value of properties that the Alameda County Assessor is reviewing at no charge, without even being asked.

If property taxpayers wish to request an individual informal review of their property's 2008-2009 assessed value, they may do so by returning a simple, printable form available on the Assessor's website, <http://www.acgov.org/assessor/Prop8>.

For additional information about a possible reduced assessment for 2008-09, the Assessor encourages property owners to call his office at (510) 272-3787 weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Tobacco Sting in Pleasanton

Three businesses in Pleasanton were cited for selling cigarettes to minors as part of a Tobacco Sting Operation conducted by the Pleasanton Police Department.

The operation took place on March 27 and

included the School Resources Officers from the Department's Youth and Community Services Unit. The purpose was to address and educate businesses on one of the identified youth issues of concern raised by parents and youth, results from the Healthy Kids Survey, input from the city's Youth Commission, and the Tri-Valley Adolescent Health Initiative.

Two minor decoys were used. They visited sixteen businesses. Employees at twelve of the businesses ID'd the decoys and refused to sell them cigarettes. At one other business, the officer saw the clerk selling cigars to a minor subject known to the officer. Both the clerk and the buyer were cited in that case.

Businesses cited were Coast Gas on Main St., Arco Gas on Bernal Ave/Utah St., Shell Gas on Pimlico Dr., and Plaza Market & Deli on Springdale Ave.

Businesses where employees did not sell to the minor decoys were informed of the attempt made by the decoy to purchase tobacco.

Robbery Suspects Arrested

Pleasanton Police arrested five male robbery suspects last week. All five are Dublin residents. They are Lamar Fountila and Brandon Snowden, both 18 years of age; and three juveniles. The adults were booked into Santa Rita Jail. The juveniles were booked into juvenile hall on robbery, burglary and possession of stolen property charges.

Police responded to a report of a robbery on Via De La Cruz and Hansen Drive. The victim saw a car stop on the street and five males ran up and surrounded him. One of the males brandished a golf club while a second suspect brandished a large flashlight. They demanded the victim's wallet. He replied that he didn't have one. They searched his pockets and took his cell phone.

The victim went to his home and called police. The officers located the car matching the description of the suspect car, a Lexus, in the parking lot of the Shell Gas Station on Hopyard Road. The five occupants were identified by the victim as the people who robbed him. His cell phone was recovered.

The five were also responsible for two similar robberies in San Ramon on March 24. Stolen property from one of the robberies was recovered from the suspects' car. They also confessed to the residential burglary of a home on Anastasia Court.

Pleasanton Police are continuing the investigation and will coordinate with the San Ramon Police on the their cases.

Optical Fellows

Three Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory scientists - Edward Moses, John S. Taylor and Alan M. Frank - are among 72 new fellows elected this year by the International Society for Optical Engineering (SPIE). Fellows are members of distinction who have made significant scientific and technical contributions in the fields of optic, photonics and imaging.

Edward Moses, principal associate director of LLNL's National Ignition Facility (NIF) and Photon Science Directorate, was recognized "for specific achievement in high-energy lasers."

Moses is responsible for building and bringing NIF, the world's most complex laser system, into operation. When completed in 2009, experiments on NIF will access high-energy-density physics and fusion regimes with direct applications to national security and applications for fusion energy research, high-energy density science and astrophysics. Moses led the development of advanced diagnostics and laser technologies for national security, competitiveness and energy needs.

John S. Taylor, LLNL group leader for Precision Systems and Manufacturing and a senior engineer in the NIF Target Fabrication, was recognized for "precision engineering and specific achievements in optical engineering for reflective extreme ultraviolet optics and assembled systems."

In addition, Alan M. Frank, retired from LLNL, was recognized for his specific achievements in high-speed photography and high-powered lasers. SPIE is an international society dedicated to advancing an interdisciplinary approach to the science and application of light.

Holdener Park Dedication Slated

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) will hold a dedication ceremony for Holdener Park on Saturday, April 5, 2008 at 12:30 p.m. The public is invited.

Following the dedication ceremony, LARPD Ranger staff will lead a guided walking tour of the park.

Because parking is limited, LARPD will provide shuttle service from the Wetmore Rd. parking lot of Sycamore Grove Park from 12:00-12:30 p.m.

It is requested that people planning to attend notify LARPD by April 1 at the number above or via e-mail to gsommers@larpd.dst.ca.us

Holdener Park is the District's newest open space facility. Nestled into a corner of the foothills near the end of Hansen Road, the 55-acre park offers a little bit of wilderness for the residents of its nearby neighborhoods. With a multi-use trail running along the base of the hills, the park is a key element along the South Livermore Valley trail system. Connected by other trail segments, the park's trail connects Marina Avenue with Arroyo Road and beyond. Holdener Park's grassland and oak woodland areas are home to many birds, reptiles and small mam-

mals, as well as many native wildflowers, bunch grasses and blue oaks.

LARPD accepted a grant deed of this property from Hans and Karen (Holdener) Zumbach in

2003. In 2005, LARPD named the land Holdener Park, fulfilling Mr. Lawson's wish to honor the Holdener family, who operated a dairy in Livermore from 1931-1980.

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EDITORIAL

McNerney's Cause

Jerry McNerney in his successful run for Congress two years ago promised to work for renewable energy. It was a natural campaign plank for him, as he had been a consultant in that industry for 20 years. He just went on doing his work, transferring his knowhow and fervor from the private sector to the U.S. Congress, where he's become a leader on the issue.

The Democrat from Pleasanton is currently cosponsoring legislation that would extend tax credits for solar and wind power development. The credits expire this year. The bill passed the House with bipartisan support, but has become bogged down in the Senate.

Rallying support for the legislation, McNerney held a press conference at Walnut Grove Middle School in Pleasanton last week.

He used the occasion to spotlight the participation by seven Pleasanton schools in a PG&E renewable energy project. The schools (Foothill High, Walnut Grove, Hart, Harvest Park, and Pleasanton Middle Schools and Hearst and Lydiksen Elementary) are receiving PG&E grants to install solar panels. It's anticipated the project will save \$125,000 a year over 20 years on the school district's electricity bills.

In highlighting this promising local example, McNerney's press conference quietly made a point about the political struggle in the Senate. While global warming, dependence on foreign oil and other problems cast a long shadow over the nation, the need for power companies like PG&E to develop renewable sources of energy is enormous. The Senate's stalemate over the tax credit extension just doesn't make sense.

LARPD

(continued from page one)

people involved in using the rock climbing gym. "The district wants to be able to provide a wide variety of recreational activities. We do need more data," she declared.

Maryalice Faltings said she really likes alternative sports, such as rock climbing. She told Grandfield that a private business should not be making money off of a public use. She said to those present, "We need to have you bring in more people and possibly be willing to pay more."

Board members mentioned the loss of 48 percent of the district's revenues to the state as a factor that had to be considered in making a decision.

All of the speakers who addressed the board touted the benefits of rock climbing. The benefits mentioned ranged from an increase in physical and mental abilities to its therapeutic aspects, as a way for families to spend time together, and to meet new people.

Jeffrey Hedrick, a Sandia research scientist, told the board, "The people I meet I wouldn't meet otherwise. There are high school kids. We discuss what our lives are like as scientists. We act as mentors."

Several parents who home school their children said the climbing wall is an excellent physical activity. It's also one of the few places where parents can exercise with their children rather than sit and watch.

Eric Sanchez said he had been climbing for six years. He is now a nationally competitive rock climber. He hopes that one day it becomes an Olympic sport.

Karen Carpenter told of her child who was born with motor skill deficiency. The child has shown a marked improvement in physical abilities and coordination since taking up rock climbing. "She feels comfortable, yet challenged."

One person from Tracy, Yvonne Derby, said she has started bringing her friends. "I think there are marketing opportunities that are being missed." She said she is willing to share her ideas.

Board president Goodman suggested formation of Friends of the Rock Gym or some similar group to help promote it. "Please help us. We want your ideas." He urged people to send him their ideas on how to increase use of the climbing wall.

NEW REGULATIONS

The board approved new rules and regulations for the use of parks and facilities. The board was asked to consider changing one rule when it came to feeding feral animals.

The new regulations make it unlawful for any person to feed any feral or abandoned animal in any district facility or park. A second new rule says that the district may seize and impound any dog or cat found without a license or identification tag.

Denise Leddon, head of the Feral Cat Committee for Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, spoke for her

group and other cat rescue organizations.

Leddon said that the groups maintain that feral cats could be discretely fed. They would be spayed and neutered. Those who could feed the animals would have to be from sanctioned groups and approved by the district. Kittens and animals that could be tamed would be removed and placed for adoption.

"We are hoping the district would consider more humane, nonlethal solutions than taking the animals to the pound," declared Leddon.

The regulations will be back before the board on April 9 for a second reading. General Manager Tim Barry said he would look into the request and report back to the board on the issue at that time.

ISSUES

(continued from page one)

allows projecting any specific numbers for the gap. The build-out is on a best-guess basis.

Lepley noted that the district demographer has been conducting block-by-block surveys, and making his projections for nine years. "The data are more reliable than they have been. That makes it more accurate," said Lepley.

Trustee Pat Kernan talked about "how far we've come in nine years." He said that the district nine years ago didn't even know how much of its enrollment was generated by apartments.

The council members and trustees also heard a report about using state money in partnerships of joint use between city and school district in facilities construction. The state money comes from bonds, and is not affected by the current state operating budget crisis.

There was enthusiasm for partnerships, which already have been done in the district. However, trustee Chris Grant cautioned, "We should never build a facility just because we can both use it. We need to have a disciplined approach on every project."

Casey announced at the meeting that the district has had its application accepted for \$6.7 million in construction bond money to add facilities for its career development programs. The district still must go through a set process to obtain the money.

There are six separate grants being sought. They include \$591,000, which would be for the hospitality, tourism and recreation career pathway, \$97,000 for the engineering and design pathway, and \$1.4 million for the health science and medical technology pathway, all at Amador Valley High School. At Foothill High School, the health science and medical technology pathway would get \$1.3 million, and engineering and design would get \$691,000. At Village High School, the hospitality, tourism and recreation pathway would receive \$2.5 million.

Assembly Race Attracting Money

The race for the 15th Assembly District is attracting money as six candidates vie for the seat held by Guy Houston.

Houston is term limited out.

At the end of a major campaign finance disclosure period, March 17, Republican Scott Kamena reported raising \$409,555 for his campaign. That is the most collected by any candidate without having loaned his or her campaign personal funds.

Kamena has raised 52% (\$213,000) of his campaign donations from cities within the district.

"The support our campaign

continues to receive from local community members has been tremendous," said Kamena. "Our campaign has worked non-stop walking door-to-door and talking with voters. Today, we will let the numbers do the talking."

Of the four other Republicans, Robert Rao of Livermore shows the most money, \$553,889, which includes over \$359,000 in loans to himself. He reported having \$299,477 in cash on hand.

San Ramon Mayor Abram Wilson loaned his campaign \$95,000. He has received \$199,927 in contributions.

Workshop Looks at Career Tech Education

As part of its ongoing discipline workshop series, the Tri-Valley Educational Collaborative (TEC) is sponsoring its first workshop focused on Career Technical Education (CTE).

The workshop will be held Thursday, April 10, 3:30-7:30 p.m., at the Chabot-Las Positas College District Office in Pleasanton.

TEC is a regional partnership consisting of Dublin USD, Livermore Valley JUSD, Pleasanton USD, Sunol USD, Tri-Valley Regional Occupational Program (ROP), and Las Positas College. Key community partners in TEC include: California State University-East Bay; employer associations; labor/apprenticeship representatives; parent and student representatives; and partners in educational foundations.

A primary goal of TEC is creating for Tri-Valley students a smooth, coordinated and articulated educational pathway between high school and postsecondary education and career entry.

This CTE Workshop has been planned by teacher and faculty representatives from each of the Tri-Valley high schools, Las Positas College and California State University-East Bay. The

focus of this workshop is to provide educators with a forum to encourage or enhance collaboration in related career fields and to create a framework and action plan for ongoing collaboration and partnership within the framework of workforce and economic development.

Sandia National Laboratories has provided a \$5,000 grant to TEC, which will be used for summer grants to implement action plans developed at the workshop.

In addition to the welcome being given by the new president of Las Positas College, DeRionne Pollard, two statewide

and national educational leaders will be presenting.

Gary Hoachlander, President of Connect Ed: The California Center for College and Career, will discuss the development of multiple pathways by which California's young people can complete high school, enroll in postsecondary education, and embark on lasting success in the world of work, civic affairs, and family life.

Heading the Statewide Career Pathways: Creating School to College Articulation project is Jane Patton, whose presentation will address the goal and achievements of increasing the

Ted Ford reported \$2,140 cash on hand and \$4,030 in contributions, including a \$2,000 personal loan.

In other campaign news, the California Democratic Party endorsed Assemblywoman Loni Hancock for the 9th State Senate District. Hancock won 90 percent of the vote from Democrats based in her region. The other Democrat running for the seat, Wilma Chan, received 10 percent.

The 9th State Senate is currently represented by Don Perata, who is termed out of office.

WATER

(continued from page one)

by the city of all its municipal water customers, because of rules in Proposition 218.

If more than 50 percent of those who receive notices oppose the increase by the time of the public hearing May 12, the rate hike would not go into effect, said Greenwood. However, since the increase is relatively small, it's unlikely that the required thousands of people would protest it, said Greenwood. The city has not had a water rate increase since 2006.

Residents have also been notified of an increase in their sewer fee. That will go up by 5 percent, from \$37.70 to \$39.70 per month for the average home. Greenwood cited increasing cost of many things, including salaries, electricity cost, gasoline charges, and chemicals. "If their costs go up, and we don't raise rates, we are using up the money we could spend on local things," said Greenwood.

Part of the increased Livermore water cost goes to cover a pass-along cost from Zone 7 Water Agency, the Valley's water wholesaler. The city absorbed an 8.5 percent increase last year without raising its rates. However, Zone 7 is adding another 8.5 percent this year to cover its cost. The city can't absorb two years consecutively, he said.

Some of the cost has to do with a "Delta surcharge," which will cover Zone 7's increased expense in dealing with factors in Delta water management. The Delta is the conduit for water

coming to Zone 7 and 28 other contractors in the state water plan.

WATER SAVING TO BE ENCOURAGED

Zone 7 will be encouraging a 10 percent water conservation effort this year in the Valley, partly to meet the complex problems of Delta water management shifts, and partly to make up for the lack of rainfall this year, and a smaller snowpack in the Sierra last year.

The reservoirs aren't where the state hoped they will be this year, so the Department of Water Resources will deliver only about 35 percent to 55 percent of Zone 7's state-authorized allotment. Normally Zone 7 receives 75 percent of its legal allotment. The state water plan launched by the late Gov. Pat Brown was never completed, so all water contractors receive 75 percent of what they were promised in the 1960s, when the plan started.

In addition, there is the ongoing crisis of the Delta smelt, an endangered species, which requires the state to cut back on its water to Zone 7 at certain times, notably in late May and June, so that the smelt will have better conditions for its migration in the Delta.

Zone 7 will huddle with the four water retailers to come up with ideas to enlist more voluntary water conservation from residents and business people. The water wholesaler and the retailers already have had ongoing efforts encouraging consumers to

use water wisely.

The decline in Zone 7's water sales would be offset in 2009 by using \$5 million in revenue stored up from years of high water sales. That would mean that water rates wouldn't have to be increased. However, that source of funds would be gone after calendar year 2009.

PLEASANTON WON'T BOOST RATES THIS YEAR

In Pleasanton, part of the water source comes from wells owned by the city. The city can only pump a certain amount, a quota set in an agreement with Zone 7. Any water conservation in Pleasanton would come out of its Zone 7 supply, said director of public works Rob Wilson.

No water rate increase is contemplated for Pleasanton for the coming fiscal year, said Wilson. "We'll be looking at water rates and sanitary sewer rates toward the end of the (calendar) year (for the 2008-09 fiscal year)" he said.

Pleasanton found in studying water consumption for a proposed tank on Vineyard Avenue that some large-acreage properties were consuming more water than the city had projected, largely for landscaping. Part of the Vineyard Avenue tank will be used for fire suppression.

The city enlarged the tank's capacity to 1.2 million gallons. It has been filled by a water service to check for leaks. It is not operational yet. There has been discussion of implementing a separate rate for high water users.

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Letter Policy: The Independent will not publish anonymous letters, nor will it publish letters without names. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed.)

Thank You Sheila Burginyon Livermore

What a wonderful evening the Livermore Rotary provided for Livermore seniors on Saturday, February 16. We were served a delicious dinner in fine style by the Rotarians in the Cresta Blanca room in the Robert Livermore Community Center. Following this, they had arranged for the Jack Ryan Band to entertain with several hours of lovely dance music. It was a wonderful evening. Thank you Livermore Rotary.

Lab Security Darwin Stephenson Livermore

I agree with the assessment of the security concerns cited in the Report by the Project on Government Oversight disclosing the Lawrence Livermore National Lab is riskier than other nuclear facilities or weapons labs. As one of the homeowners in the Ladera Estates community, my neighbors across the street have their backyards adjacent to the Lab. While I doubt that my neighbors are terrorists I wonder about the Lab's security protocols every time I see their security vehicles circling out on Vasco road. From Vasco they're only able to monitor activities in the vineyards behind my house. But it is the internal streets that provide direct access to the Lab's property.

With such a large facility to monitor I can't fathom why they wouldn't keep their patrol cars as close to the perimeter as roads allow.

The Project on Government Oversight released a report saying that Lawrence Livermore poses graver security threats than any other nuclear facility or weapons lab because of its unique location in the heavily populated San Francisco Bay area, near residential neighborhoods and schools.

Tattoo Parlor Not OK? Diana Harden Livermore

I am just catching up on the last two issues of The Independent due to family illnesses, so please excuse the tardiness in addressing this issue. Tattoo parlors are not welcome near downtown, but a porn shop smack dab on First Street is perfectly fine with the City of Livermore? I have been very happy with the way things have been going here in my lovely little town until now, but really, I am not a fan of either, but if I had a choice I certainly would not choose the porn shop.

What's the matter with this picture? I have not been happy walking my kids and grandkids down First Street passing "Not Too Naughty" for years. Now I have to wonder if money is changing hands somewhere to make that very difference between tattoo and porn. This is the first time in 25 years that I have been ashamed and amazed at the city council. Let's get real.

Where's the Outrage? Bill Rasnick

Concerned Pleasanton voter

I can't express how disappointed I was upon reading our local newspapers last week. Where's the outrage? Don't they

see the big picture? Our whole Referendum process is in grave jeopardy.

A large group of Pleasanton residents collected over 5000 signatures from registered voters in a little more than 20 days to require a city-wide vote on the Oak Grove project. This is the Referendum process at its best. But then a group of very wealthy developers and high-priced lawyers found a misguided judge who would overturn this referendum for no logical reason. To comply with his ruling each signature gatherer would have had to carry over 14 pounds of documents while trying to collect signatures. Essentially this means that any developer can circumvent the Referendum process by creating a mountain of paperwork that no citizen's group can carry or afford to copy. This is setting a very dangerous precedent.

During these hearings there has been a deafening silence from the Mayor, three of the City Council and the City Attorney. Even though these city officials approved the documents that the signature gatherers carried, they have not said one word to defend the will of the Pleasanton voters. On camera, these people declared how strongly they support the Referendum process, but off camera they have done everything they could to subvert it. This even included trying to stop voters from signing our petitions. The voters of Pleasanton have made it very clear that they wanted the Oak Grove Referendum on the ballot and whether we carried 14 pounds of paperwork or not had absolutely nothing to do with that. The Mayor and three of the City Council have turned a deaf ear to the voters, but I expect that the voters will return the favor in November when the Mayor and some of the others come up for reelection.

Meetings to Provide Information about Catholic High School

Parents and parishioners are invited to a series of information meetings to be held over the next several weeks to learn more about the new Catholic high school being built in Livermore. Most Reverend Allen Vigneron, Bishop for the Diocese, will kick off the meetings on April 8th at St. Raymond

Church in Dublin at 7 PM. Rick Kruska, Superintendent of schools for the Diocese, as well as members of the new high school's steering board will make presentations, answer questions and showcase a model of the future school in Northeast Livermore - the first Catholic high school to be built in the East Bay

in more than 40 years. Other meetings are: April 22nd at 7 PM - St. Michael's & St. Charles at the Hall; April 28th at 7 PM - St. Isidore at the Cardeli Center; May 5th at 7:30 PM - Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) at St. Elizabeth Seaton; and May 12th at 7:30 PM - St. Joan of Arc at the gym.

SHORT NOTES

Book Events

Towne Center Books is offering the following programs:
 Monday, April 7: 7 p.m. Monday Night Poets with Pleasanton Poet Laureate Martha Meltzer. All poets are welcome. Free.
 Wed., April 9: 7 p.m. Towne Center Bookclub will discuss *Pillars of the Earth*. Free and open to the public.
 Friday, April 11: 11:00-12:30. Join author Elizabeth Strout for coffee, tea, and a discussion about her latest collection of short stories *Olive Kitteridge*. Elizabeth is the author of Amy and Isabelle and Abide with Me. Free.

Carden West Fundraiser

Carden West School will host its annual fundraising dinner/auction on Friday, April 25, at the Mitchell Katz Winery/Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The public is welcome. The benefit event will begin with appetizers, drinks and a cocktail auction at 6:00 p.m., followed by an elegant three course dinner at 7:30 p.m. A live auction, music and dancing will follow dinner. Auction items include a Lake Tahoe vacation, tickets to sporting events, collectibles, unique gifts and many personalized items made by Carden West students.

"Because Carden West is a non-profit school, all proceeds from the auction will benefit educational projects, classroom improvements and playground expansion at the school," says Cynthia Rocha, president of the Parent Teacher Organization, which is sponsoring the event. "The dinner and auction provide an excellent opportunity to have an enjoyable evening with friends and neighbors and to invest in our community's future, our children, at the same time."

Individuals and businesses are invited to contribute to this event. Donations of goods or services are welcome and are tax deductible. All donors will be prominently acknowledged. Contact the school for information, 925-463-6060.

Individual tickets, which include the dinner/auction and two drinks, are \$80. They may be purchased at Carden West School during regular school hours, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., or by calling 925-463-6060.

Funding Sought

Students studying Spanish at Las Positas College will take the foreign language department's first-ever cultural immersion trip to Spain this summer.

The 10-day study-and-travel trip will allow students to visit cities from Madrid to Barcelona. Spanish instructor Catherine Suarez is organizing the trip through EF Tours.

Ten students have signed up for the trip and some of them could use scholarship help to offset the cost. The college is seeking donations through the Las Positas College Foundation.

Tax-deductible gifts, payable to the Las Positas College Foundation, may be sent to the foundation, attention Ted Kaye, at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore 94551. To contact Kaye, please call (925) 424-1010.

Suarez said the students will spend most of their time in El Paas Vasco (the Basque region of Spain) and some time in Cataluaa as well. The trip begins in Madrid and continues on to Bilbao, Pamplona and San Sebastian, ending up in Barcelona.

The students will visit the Prado Museum in Madrid, the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao and all of the famous architectural sites in Barcelona that were created by Gauda. Students will also be immersed in the Spanish language and the Spanish culture for 10 days.

In order to help these students participate in this educational trip, contributions must be received no later than May 16. For more information about the trip and the students, please call (925) 424-1212 or email csuarez@laspositascollege.edu

TV30 Programming

Tri-Valley Sports Final with hosts Ian Bartholomew, George "Dr. B"

Baljevich, and Dennis Miller. This weekly show covers team and individual high school sports in the Tri-Valley. Friday at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m., and Monday at 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. on Channel 30.

TV30 News Live at 4. The Pictures. The Stories. Your World. Community news focusing on the Tri-Valley with anchors Tom Morrison and Melinda Meza. Live on Channel 30 Monday-Thursday at 4 p.m. Repeat broadcasts at 7 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. (same day)

Local Charity Nominated

The Taylor Family Foundation became one of five finalists for the first Twist On Politics (T.O.P.) Charity Fundraising Event, sponsored by Nicholas Gerber, the Republican Congressional Candidate for CD-10. For T.O.P., local residents nominate their favorite local not-for-profit and the one with the most entries will receive \$1,000 plus the proceeds from a SCRABBLE® Tournament fundraiser scheduled for Sunday, May 25th at the Lafayette Veterans Hall.

One thousand dollars can go a long way. For the Taylor Family Foundation it means two children with either a life-threatening illness or disability can experience a week at Camp Arroyo. It covers their food, lodging and medical expenses. Camp Arroyo is a place where these children, many of whom have had to keep their illnesses a secret from their teachers and school friends, can play with other kids and not have to hide their feelings or who they are. For these children, camp can be liberating.

Native Californian Class

A multi-media Saturday morning class on the First Californians will be held April 19 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM at Village High School in Pleasanton, Room 602.

Participants will be able to feel hands-on material, taste some of the food which native Californians ate, see how they lived on the land, respecting it. Hear how they met European explorers, missionaries, and the Gold rush settlers, and learn about the situation of California native people today. Instructor is Patricia Belding, and the class fee is \$25, which includes an optional half hour DVD after the class.

To register, go online at www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted and look under Enrichment for Class # 258601. They Were Here First: In Introduction To California Native Culture, or call 925/426-4280 and ask for the same number and title.

Cartoons Come to Life

Ever see a cartoon strip come to life before your very eyes? Cartoonist and storyteller Joe Wos brings his unique blend of storytelling and cartooning to the Pleasanton Public Library on Friday, April 4 at 4:00 p.m.

Once Upon a Toon® shines a spotlight on creativity. This interactive program combines original stories and live cartoon illustration for an experience that children and adults of all ages will enjoy. Joe Wos relates his heartwarming and hilarious rendition of folk tales and fairy tales with a twist. Each turn of the tale and stroke of the pen produces a new drawing, and all drawings are given to the audience.

This free program, about 45 minutes long, is best for those ages 5 and older. For more information please contact the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 ext. 8, or visit the library's website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library. The Pleasanton Public Library is located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton.

Prostate Cancer

The Prostate Cancer Support Group at San Ramon Regional Medical Center invites the community to learn about issues related to life after prostate cancer. The seminar will be held Tues., April 8.

Urologist, Parminder Sethi, M.D., will discuss surgical and non-surgical treatments of these side-effects. Family risk is another concern. Dr. Sethi will discuss the risk of prostate cancer in

sons, brothers and other close relatives. He will explain when male relatives should seek screening and testing for the cancer.

The physician will be prepared to answer questions on other medical topics related to life after prostate cancer. Partners and family members are invited and encouraged to attend.

The Prostate Cancer Support Group meets the first Tuesday of the month from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., and the community is welcome to attend at no charge. Space is limited. Reservations are required. For reservations, call 800-284-2878 or on-line at www.sanramonmedctr.com.

Immunization Clinics

Axis Community Health has scheduled its free spring immunization clinics for children on April 5, May 3 and June 7, 2008, from 9:00-11:30 a.m. The clinics will take place at Axis' Pleasanton Clinic only located at 4361 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

Saturday Immunization clinics are open to all Tri-Valley families who are low income or uninsured, including those enrolled in Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal Managed Care. Parents should bring child's immunization records and information about family income and medical insurance. There is a fee for some immunizations.

Immunization appointments are also available at (925) 462-1755.

Casino Night

The 4th Annual Hats Off America Casino Night will be held on Saturday, April 19 from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Sycamore Clubhouse, 635 Old Orchard Drive, Danville.

The evening will include hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, a drawing, poker, pai gow, dancing to the music of DJ Steve Fox, and a no-host bar. Must be 21 years old. Tickets are \$40 per person. Dress is business casual. Proceeds benefit Hats Off America, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization to raise awareness and money for families of military killed in Afghanistan and Iraq. Call Sparky George at 925-855-1950.

Proceeds from Hats Off America, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, benefit the families of the brave American soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For information or to register or volunteer, contact Sparky George at (925) 855-1950 or thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com Visit www.hatsoffamerica.us. The site includes links to other organizations that support our troops. Hats Off America is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Hats Off America fund-raising events are held each year and include Casino Night on April 19; the Muscle Car, Hot Rod, and Art Fair on May 16,17,18; the Red T-Shirt 10K runs/5K walks on June 7, September 13 and November 8, and the Danville 4th of July Parade.

Healthy Kids Day

On April 12, The Tri-Valley YMCA will host Healthy Kids Day, a nationally celebrated YMCA event. It will be an activity-filled festival that celebrates the day's key call to action, "Put Play in Your Day." Parents can get connected, too, by participating in activities with their kids and receiving free YMCA brochures with tips on raising healthy kids.

Healthy Kids Day highlights the Tri-Valley YMCA's delivery of mission-based programming for kids. This event is free to all attendants and will feature many activities for kids including: a jump house, health screenings, stage performances, arts and crafts, healthy snacks and many other fun activities.

Tri-Valley YMCA Healthy Kids Day is part of YMCA Activate America, a national long-term initiative focused on developing and implementing community-based solutions to help all Americans improve their health and wellness.

For information, please call the Tri-Valley YMCA at (925)475-6107.

Event to Showcase Higher Education Opportunities

Catalino Tapia of the Bay Area Gardeners Foundation will be the keynote speaker when Las Positas College reaches out to the Spanish-speaking community with Learning to Triumph II/Aprendiendo a Triunfar II on Saturday, April 12 on the college campus in Livermore.

The Las Positas event is designed to showcase higher education opportunities for Spanish-speaking high school students and their parents. Las Positas sponsored a similar event two years ago that drew more than 250 people.

New Las Positas College President DeRionne Pollard will welcome those attending. The day will include both presentations and workshops on financial aid and English-as-a-Second Language. There will also be a presentation by a student panel as well as tours of the campus.

The program begins at 10 a.m. and will include lunch. There is no charge to attend. Families are

encouraged to attend, all ages welcome.

Tapia joined with fellow gardeners in 2002 to found the Bay Area Gardeners Foundation in Redwood City to raise money to provide scholarships for low-income students. In order to receive a scholarship, students must have at least 2.5 grade-point-average and perform 20 hours of community service over the course of the year.

When Tapia launched the foundation in 2002, he and his fellow gardeners asked clients for gifts and quickly raised about \$10,000. When the foundation reached \$45,000 in 2006, it gave its first \$1,500 scholarships.

Fundraising took off after Tapia and the foundation were profiled in the San Francisco Chronicle last October. The story was picked up by National Public Radio and the CSB Evening News. More than \$137,000 poured in, allowing the foundation give away 15 scholarships

of \$1,500 each this year.

Tapia was named a Jefferson Award recipient by the American Institute for Public Service. This prestigious award, founded by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, U.S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr. and Sam Beard, was created to recognize the "Who's Who" of outstanding Americans. On the local level, the Jefferson Award recipients are ordinary people who do extraordinary things without expectation of recognition or reward. By honoring the Jefferson Award recipients, it is the goal of the American Institute for Public Service to inspire others to become involved in community and public service.

For further information, please contact Gilberto Victoria, Counselor/International Student Advisor at (925) 424-1477 or email gvictoria@laspositascollege.edu. Transportation will be provided. Please contact Gilberto Victoria to make arrangements.

Nominations Sought for Character Award

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative announced that it has established an award to honor Pleasanton citizens for their involvement in addressing community issues.

The Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award will recognize citizens who consistently display sensitivity to relevant social issues and exhibit the kinds of behaviors 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.

"We want to help build responsible, knowledgeable citizens of Pleasanton," said Ellen Pensky McGraw, president of the Community of Character Collaborative. "We all want citizens who volunteer whenever volunteers are needed, who are ready to help others, play fair and treat

people with respect. We anticipate that honoring model citizens will inspire and encourage others to become involved in the community."

The first Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award recipients will be announced May 29, 2008 at the Community of Character Collaborative Celebration at the Hilton Hotel in Pleasanton.

The Collaborative is seeking nominations. Anyone wishing to nominate a person who has dem-

onstrated a commitment to quality volunteer work in the community may pick up a form at The Pleasanton School District office, 4665 Bernal Avenue; The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce office, 777 Peters Avenue; or at www.communityofcharacter.org. Forms may be turned into the Chamber office or faxed to 925-846-9697 or turned into the School District office or faxed there at 925.426-7146.

Deadline for submitting nominees is May 1, 2008.

Scouts Sponsoring Re-Use a Shoe

Dinners Galore, is supporting Pleasanton Junior Girl Scout Troop 32072 with its Bronze Award Project, Re-Use A Shoe. In conjunction with Nike, this program helps recycle your old shoes as part of the Let Me Play campaign (www.letmeplay.com/reuseashoe).

One of Nike's longest running environmental and community programs, worn-out athletic shoes of any brand are collected, processed and recycled into material for sport and playground surfaces.

Please bring used athletic shoes of any brand (no metal eyelets, no cleats, and preferably clean) in plastic bags to Dinners Galore, 51 Wright Brothers Avenue, Livermore, between April 1-14 during business hours (see www.dinnersgalore.com for business hours). The shoes will be recycled by the Girl Scouts.

Additional supporters and shoe drop off locations: Butterfly Life, 7723 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin; Butterfly Life, 2267 Las Positas Rd., Livermore; Fleet Feet, 310 Main Street, Suite C, Pleasanton; and downtown Pleasanton's Farmers Market, Saturday, April 5th and 12th.



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SPORTS NOTES

Youth Soccer

Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club (BUC) U-14 United returned to action after the long Winter break last weekend. In the first round of the State Cup they played host to Mountain View Los Altos and Lamorinda at the Val Vista complex in Pleasanton.

On Saturday they opened with a fine 3-1 victory against the highly rated MVLA team. After an early scare when MVLA hit the crossbar, Ballistic settled down and took the lead after ten minutes when Alex Lutz fired from inside the penalty area. MVLA looked the more dominant team for most of the first half. Ballistic needed several timely interceptions from sweeper Erik Knaggs and goalkeeper Michael Viebeck to preserve their lead. Ironically it was Ballistic who scored five minutes before halftime when Colin Hartland scored at the near post off an assist by Edgar Henriquez. The setback seemed to deflate the MVLA players and Ballistic gained in confidence as the second half progressed. A third strike for Ballistic, this time by Edgar Henriquez cutting into the box from the right wing seemed to settle the issue. However MVLA did succeed in scoring a late consolation goal when a clinical through ball sliced open the Ballistic defense and the MVLA forward gave Viebeck no chance.

On Sunday Ballistic faced a familiar foe in league-rival Lamorinda. In contrast to Saturday's contest, this turned out to be a rather pedestrian affair with precious few highlights. Play was even until the twenty-third minute when a Ballistic corner led to a header from Dane Shaffar. The keeper only succeeded in parrying the ball to Edgar Henriquez who gratefully converted the opportunity. Ballistics lead was short-lived when Lamorinda equalized just before half-time. Again the Ballistic back four was caught square and the speedy Lamorinda winger scored before the defense could catch him. Other than two superb long-range shots by Suchi Kuo, that was the end of the excitement. The second half provided little entertainment and the game ended 1-1. Ballistic had to wait until late Sunday afternoon to learn that they had made it to the second round of State Cup for the first time ever. MVLA's 1-0 victory over Lamorinda, who had to play twice in one day, guaranteed their passage to the next round in two weeks time.

The Pleasanton Rage U16 - Division 1 AC found themselves undefeated but were unable to advance in their season ending State Cup appearance over the weekend. With a record of 1 win, 2 draws and no losses, the Rage ended their Cup chances, on Sunday, with a hard fought 0-0 draw against Lamorinda United 91 Blue team, the eventual bracket winners.

On Saturday morning, the Rage played to a 1-1 draw with County Line Heat. The Heat score came on a penalty kick early in the second half, forcing a Rage foul in the 18-yard box. Kira Cappacioli scored the tying Rage goal off a free kick on a low shot that found the far post corner.

In the afternoon game, the Rage took a controlling halftime lead of 3-1, over San Francisco Viking Typhoons. The Typhoons scored first on a free kick and 3 consecutive Rage goals; one by Brittany Carroll and three goals by Aisla Smith followed that. The Rage then held on for the 5-4 victory, with Smith adding the game winner to her goal total of four.

Livermore National LL

Livermore National Little League results:

Majors: Diamondbacks 4, Cardinals 9: Cardinals were off to a good start with an early lead in the 1st and 2nd innings and continued with top offensive player, Jared and an impressive pitching team, Matthew and Brian. The Diamondbacks battled with Tim hitting 2 singles, scoring and making a great play at 2nd base. Joseph and Connor had one single each. Joseph also made a great play at 2nd base and Connor had one RBI and struck out two batters. Other mentions: Nima Jafarkhani pitched 2 innings and Zach Rosas smacked a double. Top Players: Diamondbacks: Tim Harris, Joseph Inzerillo, Connor Spalding; Cardinals: Matthew Wells, Brian Martinez, Jared Roberts;

AAA Division: Giants 1, Diamondbacks 15: The Diamondbacks came out strong and stayed strong through out the game. The Giants had some scoring opportunities in the 4th and 5th innings but were stopped on base. For the D-back's, Chris Moussa had 3 RBI's and Robert Choino had 6 stolen bases. For the Giants, Vincent Rizzo did some great pitching in the 6th, and Scott Newby's single set up the Giants only run by Taylor Silva who then stole home. Top Players: Giants: Scott Newby, Taylor Silva, Vincent Rizzo; Diamondbacks: Chris Moussa, Robert Choino, Gabriel Culever;

AA Division: Padres vs. Cardinals: Padres: Zack Ostrander batted well with 2 hits, Youki Chiva played good defense, catching a fly ball for an out. Jacob Rasmussen struck out the side, collecting 3 strikeouts. Cardinals: William Bretz had a great day at the plate, hitting a triple and scoring a run. He also played very solid as our catcher, Jake Gutierrez went 1 or 2 at the plate and had a nice day pitching, striking out 2 batters. Dylanger Rucker went 1 for 2 at the plate, knocking in an RBI, and pitched brilliantly. Top Players: Padres: Zack Ostrander, Youki Chiva, Jacob Rasmussen; Cardinals: William Bretz, Jake Gutierrez, Dylanger Rucker;

A Division: Dodgers vs. Padres: It was an exciting game as both teams made some big hits and the fielding was outstanding. Top Players: Dodgers: Wyatt Calkins, Nolan Smith, Zachary Voisin; Padres: Jack Wilson, Caden Wmyr, Ian Humes; Diamondbacks: Daniel Lloyd, Jacob Sale, TJ Testerman; Black Giants: Grant Ikeda, Colby Smith, Todd Neizman; A's: Sidarth Bokka, Jeremy Snyder, Daniel Loderhose; Cardinals: Jaren Dietsch, Jack Altman, Charles Fillipucci; Cardinals vs. Dodgers: The Cardinal and Dodger T-Ball teams met up on the Major's field for an exciting Spring Break Game of showmanship! The Cardinals brought their A-game with Sean Pascual dazzling the crowd at pitcher and 1st base. The home team had an unbelievable show of team inspiration though, when Mateo Moncada connected with Joshua Spencer to bring home what the great game of baseball means to these kids. Top Players: Cardinals: Sean Pascual, Joshua Spencer, Mateo Moncada; Dodgers: Shaun Smith, Anthony Miller, Jacob Bramell.

Livermore Mystics

Livermore Mystics AAU girls basketball club competed in the Annual Recreation tournament in San Francisco this past weekend. Three of the clubs teams played. Varsity



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore played host to the 10th annual Livermore Stampede at Robertson Park last week. Top softball teams from the North Coast Section were on hand for the 16-team tournament. Livermore defeated Foothill 1 to 0 in the consolation game. The title went to Sheldon of Sacramento, who won all five of its games. Winding up for the pitch was Jessica Varady from Livermore High School.

girls team won second place with a record of 2 wins and 1 loss. Taylor Borba was top scorer dropping in 26 points for the tournament. Erica Schell scored a whopping 13 points in Saturdays game. Really great efforts by Veronica Garza (13 pts), Brittany Silva (17 pts) and Ryan Rober (13 pts) helped put the defense on their heels. Pounding and rebounding for the Mystics was Margaret Donovan, Stephanie Quon (4 pts) and Laura Linden. Playing great defense were Gabby Barbalinardo and Kayla Webber.

8th grade girls recorded 2 wins and 2 losses to take home 3rd place in their division. Great offensive efforts by Brittany Campiotti (19 pts) and Nicole MacDougall (20 pts) during the tournament helped keep opposing defenses in check. Mindy Moretini (9 pts) and Ashley Holmes (10 pts) moved the rock around for the Mystics. Sprinting the court on defense was Claudine Seriani (3 pts), Alyse Kline (4 pts) and Krissy Rollins (3 pts). Pounding and rebounding were Katy Jones (10 pts), Cassidy Sherman (5 pts) and Jessica Beckwith (2 pts).

7th grade girls played in their second tournament and showed signs of improvement. Racking and attacking for top scorer was Sara Marquez with 31 points for the tournament. Great passing by Sierra Cassels and great hustle by Jennie Harmon kept the defenses working for the opposing teams.

Maroney Wins Again

Coming off his come from behind win at the Yosemite St. Patrick's Day Tournament, Granada High School freshman varsity golfer Kenny Maroney became the first two-time winner this season on the Junior Golf Association of Northern California tour by winning the Humboldt County Easter Tournament.

Fighting the rain and strong winds, Kenny shot a 6 over par 78 at the scenic Baywood Country Club in Arcata, CA over the weekend and successfully defended his 2007 title. Maroney also helped Coach Matt Robles and his Granada High teammates win their first EBAL varsity match against Dougherty Valley High School.

Amador JV Swimming

The Amador Valley JV Swimmers put on an impressive display at the inaugural Tom Wilson Invitational held last Saturday. Both teams took first place in every event with the girls posting 730 points and the boys close behind with 693.

Leading the way for the girls were Chelsea King, Sarah Turner, and Melissa Wee. All three girls won two individual events and also participated in a winning relay team. Other first place finishers for the girls were Alya Deri (200 Free) and Brittany Gallagher (100 Breast).

Justin Sun (100 back, 100 Free) and James Cheney (200 Free, 100 Breast) were the double winners for the boys. Sun set a JV record in the 100 back in the process. In addition to Sun and Cheney, Chris Johnston (100 IM), Joey Silva (50 Free), Sam Martin (50 Fly), and Ryan Belles (500 Free) all grabbed top honors.

Final JV Results: JV Girls: 730 - Amador Valley, 160 - Piedmont, 159 - El Cerrito JV Boys: 693 - Amador Valley, 119 - El Cerrito, 25 - Piedmont.

JV Girls: 200 MR - Amador Valley 'B' (Nicole Martin, Kelsey Ackman, Lizzie Baggett, Olivia Windell) 200 Free - Alya Deri (AV), Talia Greenwald (AV) 100 IM - Melissa Wee (AV), Brittany Gallagher (AV), Lillie Allen (PM) 50 Free - Chelsea King (AV), Lizzie Lopez (AV), Emily Truax (AV) 50 Fly - Melissa Wee (AV), Lizzie Baggett (AV), Fiona Oh (PM) 100 Free - Chelsea King (AV), Kelsey Ackman (AV), Lizzie Lopez (AV) 500 Free - Sarah Turner (AV), Alya Deri (AV), Talia Greenwald (AV) 200 Free Relay - Amador Valley 'A' (Lizzie Lopez, Chelsea King, Melissa Wee, Olivia Windell) 100 Back - Sarah Turner (AV), Nicole Martin (AV), Gianna Sabatini (AV) 100 Breast - Brittany Gallagher (AV), Emily Truax (AV), Lillie Allen (PM) 400 Free Relay - Amador Valley 'A' (Talia Greenwald, Brittany Gallagher, Lizzie Lopez, Sarah

Barracuda's USA Short Course Swim Meet at Mills College on March 29 - 30. The team was led by six swimmers who achieved new personal best times in each of their races: Christopher Gonzalez, Taber DaCosta, Andy Lee, Cheyenne Higgins, Elizabeth Bukus and Shahimi Ananth. Bobby Lee dropped 23 seconds in the 200 free while Catherine Elliot dropped 16 seconds in the 100 back. Nina Hayes earned new Junior Olympic times in the 200 back and the 200 free. Kylie Clark swam to a new Junior Olympic time in the 400 IM.

Boys Results: 6 and Under: Christopher Gonzalez — 25 breaststroke, 5th, 48.99, 25 fly, 4th, 31.39; Paige DaCosta — 50 breaststroke, 4th, 01:01.3, 25 free, 4th, 20.19, 50 fly, 1st, 57.88, New B, 100 IM, 7th, 01:51.8; Taber DaCosta — 25 free, 11th, 30.25; Andy Lee — 25 free, 11th, 31.01, 25 back, 10th, 44.23; 8 and Under: Matthew Hayes — 50 back, 5th, 46.74, 100 free, 4th, 01:39.2, 25 breaststroke, 1st, 29.74, New B, 50 free, 7th, 44.43; 9-10: Alex Gonzalez — 50 breaststroke, 16th, 50.0, 50 free, 3rd, 35.54, 100 free, 13th, 01:20.3, 100 back, 1st, 01:22.1; 11-12: Bobby Lee — 100 back, 6th, 01:39.9, 200 free, 5th, 03:02.1, 100 IM, 9th, 01:33.1, 50 free, 7th, 35.33, 100 breaststroke, 5th, 01:46.5; 15-16: Evan Carlo — 200 breaststroke, 1st, 02:35.9, 100 breaststroke, 1st, 01:14.2, 200 free, 3rd, 02:01.1, 200 fly, 1st, 02:18.8, 100 free, 4th, 55.76, 50 free, 3rd, 25.87, 400 IM, 1st, 04:39.7, New JO, 200 back, 3rd, 02:09.4.

Girls Results: 9-10: Allie Clark — 50 breaststroke, 9th, 48.34, 50 free, 9th, 40.67, 50 back, 17th, 49.98; Catherine Elliott — 100 Breast, 16th, 01:50.7, 100 free, 15th, 01:24.0, 50 back, 9th, 43.16, 100 IM, 9th, 01:29.3, 100 fly, 5th, 01:39.6, 50 breaststroke, 23rd, 51.56, 50 free, 13th, 36.51, 100 back, 3rd, 01:29.4, New BB; Cheyenne Higgins — 100 free, 16th, 01:43.9, 100 back, 9th, 02:16.5; Elizabeth Bukus — 100 breaststroke, 11th, 02:02.8, 50 breaststroke, 8th, 55.57, 100 free, 19th, 01:56.4, 50 back, 20th, 01:02.7, 50 free, 21st, 49.68; Moriah Simonds — 50 back, 4th, 41.4, 100 IM, 4th, 01:24.6, 200 IM, 4th, 03:06.6, 50 free, 3rd, 34.14, 50 breaststroke, 4th, 43.48, 100 fly, 3rd, 01:29.2, 100 free, 1st, 01:14.5, 200 free, 1st, 02:42.5, New BB; Sarah Swanson — 50 breaststroke, 7th, 45.06, 100 fly, 6th, 01:44.0, 50 free, 6th, 34.29, 50 back, 5th, 41.87, 100 IM, 5th, 01:25.4, 100 free, 5th, 01:18.1, 100 breaststroke, 4th, 01:35.9, 100 back, 4th, 01:30.9; Shahimi Ananth — 50 free, 13th, 41.09, 100 free, 13th, 01:36.3, 50 back, 9th, 49.15, 100 breaststroke, 14th, 01:48.2, 50 breaststroke, 1st, 48.71, New B; 11-12: Kylie Clark — 100 free, 11th, 01:06.2, 50 fly, 9th, 33.94, 100 IM, 7th, 01:14.7, 200 free, 4th, 02:21.9, 50 free, 18th, 31.57, 100 breaststroke, 1st, 01:17.4, 400 IM, 1st, 05:26.7, New JO; Nina Hayes — 50 free, 1st, 27.71, 100 free, 1st, 01:00.9, 100 IM, 4th, 01:11.6, 100 breaststroke, 3rd, 01:23.1, 50 fly, 1st, 31.13, 200 back, 4th, 02:34.9, New JO, 200 breaststroke, 1st, 02:54.3, New A, 200 free, 1st, 02:15.9, New JO; 13-14: Shelby Swanson — 200 free, 3rd, 02:18.8, 100 fly, 3rd, 01:09.7, 100 free, 6th, 01:02.2, 50 free, 6th, 27.85, 100 breaststroke, 3rd, 01:24.6, 200 back, 6th, 02:38.4, New BB, 200 breaststroke, 5th, 02:59.5, New BB, 200 fly, 1st, 02:40.8, New BB.

Ballistic Registration
Ballistic United Soccer Club registration is underway. On-line registration is open for the 2008-2009 season is now open. Please visit our www.BUSC.org for fees and instructions on how to register.

Soccer Camp Registration
The Development soccer cycle begins in April with a two month Keep'em Playing Camp. The camp exposes players to a number of Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club (BUSC) coaches through creative small-sided games and training sessions. The final session of the camp allows players to practice their skills in World Cup-style competition. The camp is offered for one day a week for 1.5 hours of training. At this point players may continue in the program by registering for the training component.

The cost is \$150 for 9 Camp Days. Camp is 1.5 hours on Tuesday for the month of April

Youth Lacrosse

The powerful Pleasanton girls lacrosse Twister team showed its force with a 9-6 victory over the Diablo Scorpions at Blackhawk Field in Danville on Saturday, March 29. Cambi Cukar led the team in assists and goals. Other top scorers were Lauren Hall and Tori Larsen. Evan Murphy had a great game of sliding into position and checking to stop the Scorpions' run. Excellent job by Rebecca Dumanski of blocking the Scorpions' shots. Outstanding ground balls by Kira Ewanich, Lindsey Kail and Sarah Monard. Goalies Molly Grozier and Lexi Nicholas also did a great job of stopping the Scorpions' shots on goal. The Twister team kicked off the season on March 15 with a 12-3 victory over the Livermore Phantoms and 12-5 victory over the Lamorinda Flash. Coach Richard Murphy moved this 6th grade team to a 7th/8th division to give them more of a challenge, but they still remain undefeated.

Baseball Camps

Matador Baseball Summer Camps, ages 5-14. Weekly skills-based camps at Granada High School Varsity field run by Varsity coaches and players. Camp dates: June 16-19 (incoming 7, 8, and 9 grades only), June 23-26, and June 30-July 3 from 9-12 each day. Cost is \$140 per camp (if registered by June 1, \$150 after June 1). For more information and registration, go to www.granadabaseball.org.

Golf Tournament

The first annual Safe and Sober Golf Tournament will be held April 18 at the Poppy Ridge Golf Course in Livermore.

This is a fund-raiser for both Livermore and Granada high schools grad nights.

A \$175 per person fee for the tournament includes golf, cart, range balls, lunch and a BBQ dinner. This is a 4-player scramble format tournament. There will be a raffle and live and silent auctions during dinner.

For more information, call 980-9832, email zxo331@gmail.com or visit Granada or Livermore school websites to download registration forms. Sponsorships are available.

Place-Kicking Camp

Registration is open for the final place kicking camp in Pleasanton. Amador Valley High School Varsity Football Kicking Coach, and former AIF-

PAC-10 and NFL Place-Kicker, Steve Jordan will instruct participants in basic place-kicking skills and techniques. Participants will gain accuracy and power on P.A.T.'s, field goals, and most importantly kickoffs. Participants will learn proper kicker sideline etiquette. Campers will need to bring kicking cleats or soccer shoes, plenty of water, and a game winning attitude each program day. Footballs and other kicking equipment will be provided. Beginners are welcome. Space is limited.

The camp is open to all in 6th to 9th grade. The camp is April 12-13, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Camp fee is \$125.

For registration contact the City of Pleasanton's Parks and Recreation Department at 931-5340 or see page 48 of the Spring 2008 City of Pleasanton's Activities Guide, or contact Steve Jordan directly at (925) 200-8661.

Swim Clinic

Livermore area athletes will have a unique chance to enhance their competitive swimming skills by working with two of the country's greatest swimmers, Josh Davis and Kim Vandenberg. The Livermore Aquacowboys Swim Team will host a Mutual of Omaha Breakout! Swim Clinic on Saturday, April 26 at the Livermore Valley Tennis Club, 2000 Arroyo Road in Livermore.

The Mutual of Omaha Breakout! Swim Clinic was developed by Olympic gold medalist Josh Davis and Mutual of Omaha to inspire and motivate a new generation of swim stars. Davis, who earned three gold medals in the 1996 Olympics and two silver medals in the 2000 Olympic Games, is a master clinician and motivational speaker. The event is a four hour in-water stroke technique clinic from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. for ages 8 to 18 year olds. The cost is \$85 per swimmer (lunch included). The swimmers will hear a talk from Olympian Josh Davis and US National Team member Kim Vandenberg. Immediately following, they will hit the water with Davis and Vandenberg for in-water demonstration and instruction on swim strokes and techniques. Some participants may even have a chance to test their strokes in a race against the Olympic champions. Concluding the event, the swimming champions will be available for autographs and photos.

Registration for the Mutual of Omaha Breakout! Swim Clinic is currently open. To register, contact Dave Clark at info@lacswwimming.com or call 925-443-7700 and ask for Emily Horst LVTC Aquatics Director.

Soccer Camp Registration

The Development soccer cycle begins in April with a two month Keep'em Playing Camp. The camp exposes players to a number of Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club (BUSC) coaches through creative small-sided games and training sessions. The final session of the camp allows players to practice their skills in World Cup-style competition. The camp is offered for one day a week for 1.5 hours of training. At this point players may continue in the program by registering for the training component.

The cost is \$150 for 9 Camp Days. Camp is 1.5 hours on Tuesday for the month of April

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The cost is \$150 for 9 Camp Days. Camp is 1.5 hours on Tuesday for the month of April

and in May 4:30 - 6:00 pm. To register, visit "player camps" page at www.BUSC.org.

YMCA Golf Tournament

The Tri-Valley YMCA 2008 Golf Tournament will be held at Poppy Ridge Golf Course in Livermore on Mon., April 28.

The \$195 per person fee includes lunch, dinner and refreshments, a round of scramble golf, raffle, and live and silent auctions. The tournament will benefit the Tri-Valley YMCA.

For more information, call the YMCA at 475-6108 or email mcpaser@ymeastbay.org. Register before March 19 for a discount. There are opportunities for group and corporate involvement in this event.

Track and Field

Athenian Athletics Track Club invites youth athletes ages 7-18 to participate in track and field practice sessions to prepare for the 2008 track and field season. The club is preparing for USATF Meets and AAU meets. Practices will be held on a voluntary/drop-in basis Monday through Friday. For club membership, practice times and locations, please visit www.athenianathletics.com or call Coach Rik Richardson at 925-518-9356.

Youth Soccer League

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) is offering a youth soccer program designed for all ability levels, taught by Make Me a Pro Soccer (MMAPS) staff. Parent volunteers are important to the program success. Parents are encouraged to take part as Coaches and/or Officials and will be trained by certified MMAPS instructors.

Program meets twice weekly for 8 weeks. Each session consists of a 45-minute practice during the week, with games scheduled to play on Saturdays. Go to the LARPD website at: www.larpd.dst.ca.us, or Make Me a Pro Sports website at: mmapsports.com for more info.

As this is a non-competitive recreational league, players will be randomly placed on teams. There are no tryouts. Players receive a team jersey, and will be notified or given a practice & league schedule prior to the 4/5 start date for league play. No play 5/24. The fee is \$152 for the sessions that run April 5 to March 31. The league is divided into three age groups, 4 to 5, 6 to 7, and 8 to 10.

For more information, call LARPD at (925) 373-5707.

Baseball Clinic

Tigers Baseball is holding an open clinic for high school players ages 15-18 years of age. This event will be held at Bill Payne Sports Park, Sunday April 20, 2008 (2-5pm) for all players interested in participating on either our 16U or 18U summer teams. This event is free to all players. Players selected will pay an additional fee which includes gear package, nine tournaments through Labor Day 2008.

Players interested in participating in this event should go to the Tigers Baseball website: www.rteamsite.com/baseball/tigersbaseball download the event registration form, fill it out then fax their registration form to the program manager. Registered players will be notified via email with additional details. Tigers Baseball is a non-profit baseball program that works in cooperation with well known collegiate coaches and professional players to teach dedicated young players who wish to play baseball at a higher level. Tigers Baseball is not affiliated with or in any way associated with the Detroit Tigers or any other Major League Baseball related entity.

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Q Are plastic drinking cups made from unsanitary recycled plastic? **Eve**

A To keep American citizens safe, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not allow manufacturers to use recycled materials to make consumer food-service products. Therefore, there's no need to worry that plastic cups, plates or utensils contain recycled plastic.

Important: The following plastic containers from nonhazardous household products are accepted in your WM curbside Recycling cart or multifamily bin: narrow neck bottles and jugs #1-7 and wide mouth tubs #2, #4, #5.

Q Do you know if Livermore has any Earth Day celebrations on the horizon? **Mara**

A The City of Livermore and Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) are sponsoring a **2008 Earth Day Fair and City Cleanup**. This fun event will be held on Saturday, April 19, from 8:30 am to 2 pm at Robert Livermore Community Center on 4444 East Avenue. Cleanup volunteers signing up at 8:30 am will receive a free breakfast, lunch, drinking water, and roundtrip transportation to one of five cleanup sites: Arroyo Las Positas, Arroyo Mocho, Altamont Creek, Sycamore Grove or Veterans Park. Festivities at the center include arts and crafts, exhibits, games, children's activities, and live music. **More information:** (925) 373-5700 or larpd.dat.ca.us. Remember to celebrate Earth Day by recycling at every opportunity!

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

Bipolar Advantage, Monday, April 7, talk by Tom Wootton - The Bipolar Advantage, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. (925) 931-3400. An educational talk about new insights on bipolar and depression. Sponsored by DBSA California, a 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organization. For more information, visit: www.bipolaradvantage.com Call toll free (877) 231-HOPE (4673)

Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated, Republican Jim Hartman will speak about the state and local political scene at the Thursday, April 10 dinner meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Pleasanton Hotel, 5990 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Pleasanton. New members and visitors are welcome. Reservation deadline is April 7. Call (925) 426-1995. Hartman began his political involvement by walking precincts for Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan in 1964 and 1966 and has been a delegate to many California GOP state conventions.

AABC (Activities & Academic Booster Club) Scholarships: Four Scholarships (Two for \$1000 each and two for \$500 each) will be awarded in May 2008. Foothill High School seniors who will attend an accredited institution of higher learning must submit a completed application to Mrs. Bing in the FHS Counseling office by Monday, April 14, 2008. See FHS counseling (Mrs. Bing) for an application or online at <http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/foothill/pub/foothill/aabc-scholarship.pdf>.

Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind, meets Saturday, April 5 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. We meet in Cafeteria Room 2 at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore, 1111 Stanley Blvd. Do you know anyone who is blind or is experiencing vision loss? Our organization can help people to adjust. Any visually impaired or blind person is urged to attend. Call, Carl, 449-9362 for more info.

Old Fashioned Family Fun Night, Jackson Avenue Elementary School annual spring fun and fund-raiser Friday, April 11th at 5:30. Admission is free. There are games to play, food for purchase, and gift baskets and other items to bid on. There will be an old-fashioned cake walk, snow-cones and popcorn. Bid on items from parents, teachers, and the community. Sponsored by Jackson's Parent-Teacher Organization, money from the spring fundraiser pays for much-needed items at Jackson Elementary School. Jackson Avenue Elementary is located at 554 Jackson Avenue in Livermore.

The fun runs from 5:30 til 8:00 p.m. on Friday, April 11th.

Rummage Sale, Fairlands Elementary School, 9th annual rummage sale Sat., April 12, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the multipurpose room, 4151 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton. Cash only please. Items in good condition can be donated for the sale on Fri., April 11, 3 to 8 p.m. Proceeds to benefit Fairlands PTA fund. Questions, call Laura Barnett at 461-5321.

Pleasanton Senior Center VIP Club, sponsoring a Napa-Sonoma wine tour Wed., April 28. Cost is \$65 members, \$67 non-members. Wineries to be visited are Nonsa Winery, Sutter Home Vineyards, and Beringer Vineyards. Lunch at Compdres at Vintage 1870 in Yountville. Contact the Senior Center travel desk at 931-5370 for more information and reservations.

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network: Reduce, Reuse & Recycle On Monday, April 21, at 7 p.m., the Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network will hold a meeting in honor of Earth Day. Monthly meetings are held on the third Monday of each month. Please note there is a new meeting location provided by a local business: In My Nature, 4725 First Street, #270, Pleasanton. The building is located in Civic Center Station between Bernal & First St. in Pleasanton. Please park in the lot facing Bernal. There is no charge for first time visitors or for Chapter members. For further information, please visit www.holisticmoms.org or e-mail Tri-ValleyHMN@hotmail.com.

The U.S. Vs. John Lennon will be shown Sat., April 19 at 7 p.m. at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. This film examines the period in John's life when he and Yoko became involved in peace and social justice issues and how officials in the United States reacted to this. This event is open to the public, free/\$3.00 donations accepted, wheelchair accessible. Refreshments are served. Meet & greet begins at 6:30 PM. A short discussion about the film follows. For more information, call 925-462-3459.

Fashion for a Cure, Charity Fashion Show at Granada High School, 100% of proceeds benefit American Cancer Society. Fri., April 18 at 7 p.m. Clothing from Chinese Laundry, David and Goliath, L-R-G, Orghipchick, Diva in U, Pursue Party, Magnel, Bride's Corral, Styles, and the Edge. \$2/ticket, all clothing and accessories will be auctioned off after the show. Granada High School, 400 Wall Street, Livermore.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., April 6, swap meet ride 25/35 miles Dublin to Sunol, meet 10 a.m. at Dublin High School, Peter Rathmann, 828-1973. Sun., April 6, giant Bay Area swap meet, Dublin High School, 8151 Village Parkway, Dublin, 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Tues., April 8, 25 miles TnT ride, meet 6 p.m. Shannon Center, Dublin, Jim Duncan,

209-1369. Wed., April 9, 30 miles from Shannon Center to Palomares Canyon and back, meet 9 a.m., Alaine Nadeau, 577-6586. Thurs., April 10, 25 miles TnT ride, meet 6 p.m. Shannon Center, Jim Duncan, 209-1369. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Wildflower Walk, Sat., April 5, John Muir National Historic Site. Two hour walk begins at 9 a.m. with a gentle saunter up Mt. Wanda. Meet at the CalTrans Park and Ride, corner of Alhambra Ave. and Franklin Canyon Rd., Martinez. Bring water and Binoculars. Wear good walking shoes, trail is steep. If rains heavily, the walk is cancelled. For information, call 228-8860.

Livermore Community Blood Drive - Friday, April 18, 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue in the Gym. There is a severe shortage of blood in the Bay Area, and only 3% of the eligible people give blood. Please help save a life by giving blood. The process takes 1-1 1/2 hours, and snacks and refreshments are served after you donate. You must be 17 years old, and have a form of identification with you. To sign up, go to www.GiveLife.org, and use ASBURY as the sponsor code. For information contact Tom Petty at 925-980-8164 ore-mail BloodDrive@asburylive.org.

Free seminar on The East Bay Is On Sale, hosted by the McDaniel Callahan Real Estate Team at J. Rockcliff Realtors on Tuesday, April 22, 6:30-7:45 PM at the Danville office of J. Rockcliff Realtors, 15 Railroad Ave. The seminar covers: Four strategies to sell your home. Three secrets to enhance your property value. Two hot money makers: REO's and Foreclosures, and One proven way to buy below market. Reservations are required. Call 925-838-4300.

Be the Boss of Your Bladder, Many people experience bladder control problems as they get older, and accept it as normal part of aging. In fact, people of all ages experience these problems. Frieda Alessi of Extensions Physical Therapy will share the myths, the truths, and offer solutions for incontinence. Join us at the Pleasanton Senior Center - 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton on Tuesday, April 8, 10am to 11:30am. \$1.50 Residents/ \$2 Non-residents.

Women of Power and Influence, presented by the Women's Council of Realtors, Southern Alameda County Chapter. Tues., April 8, Dublin Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Panelists will include Elaine Taylor, founder and president of the Taylor Family Foundation; Fain L. McDaniel, adult partner with KPMG; Janet Lockhart, Dublin Mayor; and Colleen McKeown, VP and area manager with Kaiser Permanente; emcee will be Faith Alpher. 11:15 a.m. \$22 members, \$27 nonmembers and guests. Sponsor Mary Anne Rozsa, Coldwell Banker, Livermore office. RSVP by Fri., April 4,

847-2207 or Rhonda @RhondaFee.com.

Armchair Travelers, Livermore Public Library - Civic Center on Thurs., April 10, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.. Douglas Wright will show photographs and short films of his journey to Mt. Everest's base camp during his program "Mt. Everest: All the Way Up to the Bottom." Adults are invited to this free program in the Community Meeting Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. For additional information please call 925-373-5500.

2008 Northern California Firefighter Recruitment Fair, sponsored by California Commission to Recruit Women for the Fire Service will be held Sat., April 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 6723 Sierra Court, Suite G, Dublin. Meet firefighters and fire department recruiters. Learn about an exciting career in the fire service. Check out the Physical Abilities Test. For more information call 916-648-1717 or email womens-commish@cpf.org. Northern California Firefighter Recruitment Fair is part of a statewide campaign to bring more women into the California Fire Service. The Fair is open to all, but the program is geared toward women.

Amador Valley Quilt Guild will meet on Saturday, April 12, at 1:30 p.m. at the Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Avenue, Pleasanton. Quilt teacher and author Brenda Henning will present a lecture entitled, "How Did I Get Here?" Rose, a self-described compulsive quilter, will conduct her workshop "Quilt As You Go Stained Glass Table Runner" the following day. The guild is a non-profit educational association for quilters of all skill levels. Anyone interested in quilting may attend. For further information about the guild or upcoming speakers, please visit our website, <http://amadorvalleyquilters.org>.

Senior outing, April 4, the evening begins with dessert at the Pleasanton Senior Center, followed by seeing "The Music Man," at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. 6:30pm-11:00pm. Cost \$41.00 residents or \$47.00 non-residents. Please contact the Pleasanton Senior Center for more info. 931-5365.

Free computer training, Livermore Library: Introduction to the Internet class, Sat., April 5, 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Searching the Internet class, Sat., April 12, 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Searching: Google & Beyond on Sat., April 19, 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Classes are hands on, first come first served, and take place in Community Meeting Room B. Stop by the Civic Center Library adult information services desk, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., or call 373-5505 for further information about the classes.

The Tri-Valley SOCKS (Stepping Out for Cancer Kures), third annual "Bras for the Cause" breast cancer walk in downtown Pleasanton. Sat., May 20, 7 p.m.

Details and registration information at www.trivalleysocks.org.

Free e-waste day, Cheer Xplosion is hosting a free electronic waste recycling fundraiser. All computer and electronic equipment will be accepted including desktops, laptops, PDAs, monitors, televisions, printers, copy and fax machines, computer systems, mice, keyboards, stereos, radios, DVD players, telephones and cell phones. Items may be dropped off on Sun., April 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cheer Xplosion in the Plaza 84 Shopping Center, 50 Wright Brothers Ave., Livermore. Information, 245-1552.

Swimstrong for Team KC, swim-a-thon benefiting the Team CK Trust, Sun., April 20, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center Pool, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Collect pledges for laps will swim in 30 minutes, bring a towel and personal swim gear. Deadline to register is April 11. Information about swimstrong fund-raiser at www.korrinecroghan.blogspot.com. Registration may be left at the community center pool, or send request to korrineSwimStrong@comcast.net.

Livermore Amador Genealogical Society, general meeting Tues., April 8, 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton. Ron Willis, guest speaker, "Detecting Date of Historical Photographs." Visitors welcome. No charge. www.L-AGS.org.

Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Saturday, April 19th, 12:00 to 4:00 pm. Assistance League of Amador Valley hosts their 13th annual afternoon tea. Members and guests enjoy an afternoon of tea, music, opportunity prizes, an interesting speaker and musical entertainment. This year's featured guest speaker is Juliette Goodrich, a KPX News Anchor and Emmy Award winner, on "Finding Balance." Guest vocalist is Eric Ribiero, a Bay Area performer since 1988. This annual fundraiser supports many projects including Operation School Bell, in which hundreds of school children are clothed each year. Reservations are now open and tickets are available at \$45 per person. For ticket information, please call Annette at 925-462-5275 or Rickie at 925-846-3922.

St. Michael's Parish - annual dinner, dance and auction, "Under the Tuscan Sky," April 5th, 5:30-11:00pm, Robert Livermore Community Center. Tickets \$45. Proceeds benefit St. Michael K-8 grade school, Youth Ministry, Hispanic Ministry, English and Spanish Faith Formation Programs and Adult Education. For tickets and donations, contact St. Michael's Church rectory at 925-447-1585.

Youth employment program, April 7, May 5, June 2, Pleasanton Public Library invites youth, ages 14 to 21 looking for a job, to drop in to speak with a career counselor from the Tri-Valley One Stop Career Center

the first Monday of each month until June. No registration required. The program is free. Library located at 400 Old Bernal Ave. For more information please contact Teresa Parham : tparham@ci.pleasanton.ca.us or 925-931-3404.

RELIGION
Community Second Seder, The Tri-Valley Cultural Jews' Passover seder celebrates the heroism and courage of the human participants in the original freedom struggle of the Jewish people and in all struggles for freedom throughout the world. TVCJ, an affiliate of the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations, will hold its annual community seder on Sunday, April 20, at 5 pm at the Bothwell Center, 2466 Eighth St. in Livermore. The seder is potluck and reservations are required. A donation of \$10/adult (over 13) is requested. For reservations and food assignment, call (925) 485-1049.

Revelation - God's Gift of Hope, is the theme for St. Charles St. Michael Easter season's Monday Night Bible Study series. It begins April 7 and runs through May 19. In this book, John stirs our hope by giving us insight into the life that God prepares for those who are faithful. The evening sessions are held at St. Charles, 1315 Lomitas Ave., and they begin at 7:30 pm in the Pope John XXIII room. All of the Valley community is invited to join. For more information or to reserve a spot contact Julie at upatholic@aol.com or 447-4549 ex 114.

Care for the World, Sunday, April 13. A festival service of readings, prayers, and music focusing on creation, the environment, and our responsibility as stewards of God's creation. St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hayward Road, Pleasanton. Free. 925-462-4802. www.stclarepleasanton.org.

The Medicine of Christian Science, a free lecture on spiritual healing by Scott Preller, member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship. Tues., April 8, 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. First Church of Christ, Scientist, 2164 Central Ave., Alameda. Information 510-522-5110.

Tri-Valley Unity Church, "A New Earth, A New You" - April message theme by Richard Southern, special speaker. Meeting at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin, 10:00 a.m. Sunday service. Message for April 6: "I'm Waking Up: Finding Your Spiritual Path." All are welcome. (925) 829-2733.

Garden Club Plant Sale This Weekend

The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale on Sat., April 5 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The sale will be held at Amador Valley High School, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton.

All plants offered have been grown by club members. They include a wide variety of perennials, shrubs, trees, herbs, vegetables and more. Most plants are in the \$1 to \$10 range. Expert gardeners will be available to assist with plant advice and selection.

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OBITUARIES

Keith A. Stribling

Keith A. Stribling died March 24, 2008. He was born May 24, 1956 in Lodi, CA. He has lived in Livermore since the age of 10.

Keith attended Marilyn Avenue School, East Avenue Middle School and graduated Livermore High in 1974, then attended Chabot College. Keith worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as a machinist and as a project manager at Nelson Drywall. He also owned Stribling Engineering.

Keith's hobbies were open wheel racing, starting with go-cart racing in the 70's & 80's and currently pit crew working with Midgets and Sprint car race teams starting in the 90's.

He is survived his parents Shirley W. and Phyllis Stribling of Livermore, his children Jessica Stribling and Jennifer (Ephraim) Stribling-Servin both of Livermore, Nicholas Stribling (fiancé Katie Rice) and his wife-friend and life companion Jeriann Burton all of Las Vegas, NV, Rachael (James) Boswell, Kristi Tennis and Becky (Sean) Murphy all of Livermore, his sisters Lori Stribling of San Jose, Lisa Stribling of Martinez and Lynette (Jorge) Loera of San Jose, his three grandchildren Clayton, William and Meirabella. Keith was predeceased by his brother Rod Stribling in 1991.

Funeral services were held March 30 in Livermore

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Linda Lou Nannetti

Linda Lou Nannetti, a native of Chaffee, MO, born Feb. 11, 1938 to Lawrence and Pansy Shackles, died on March 24, 2008 at the age of 70 in Livermore.

Mrs. Nannetti was a 43 years resident of Livermore. She worked as an executive assistant with EBMUD for 37 years, retiring in 1993.

She is survived by her husband, George of Livermore, sons Joe Nannetti of Dallas, TX, Jim Nannetti of Oklahoma, and David Rose of Livermore; brothers Robert Shackles of El Sobrante and Donald Shackles of Pinole; grandchildren Samantha Nannetti and Candice Rhoton and great grandchildren Joshua and Payton. She was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Jenna Nannetti, in 2003.

Celebration of Life services were held March 29 at the family home.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Margaret E. Acebo

Margaret E. Acebo (Fisher) died March 25, 2008.

Born in Fresno, August 10, 1932, Marge was one of three children to Dougald and Mabel Fisher. Marge grew up in Alameda, where she graduated Alameda High School in 1950. She raised four children: Becky, David, Timothy and Michael.

Marge was very involved in the community of Alameda. She volunteered her time working with The Alameda Boy Scouts. She was Scout Master in charge of Camp Stevens Summer Camp cafeteria for a number of years, feeding and nurturing all the attendees. Marge was one of three to have ever received the Silver Fawn Award from Boy Scouts of America. Marge was also very involved with the Alameda Recreation Department. She taught Cake Decorating for many years through their community support program.

Marge later became owner of Wedding Cakes by Hiser in Hayward. She made and delivered hundreds of wedding cakes to many East Bay residents.

Marge loved history. She traveled the world to see and touch the many places she studied. She most loved her travels in Scotland, where her family had im-

migrated. Throughout her life she held close to her Scottish roots. She loved to attend the Scottish games yearly.

In her later years Marge worked and volunteered her time at the Pleasanton Senior Center in Pleasanton. She was a member of the VIP Club and the Red Hat Society. She loved spending her time with her many friends as they attended all the functions associated with senior life.

Marge is survived by her husband of 56 years William F Acebo Jr., her four children, nine grandchildren, and 6 great grandchildren.

The Family will be holding a "Celebration of Life" at the Pleasanton Senior Center on April 13, from 1-5 p.m. All Margaret's friends are encouraged to attend. Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Joan Carol Farrington

Joan Carol Farrington passed from this earth on March 21, 2008, after a long, courageous battle with breast cancer.

Born on August 17, 1948, in Philadelphia, to Ralph Farrington and Carol Cornish, Joan grew up in Needham, Massachusetts. After attending Mitchell Junior College and Wagoner, Joan graduated from Suffolk University with a BA in Psychology. In 1981, she married Paul Adler and moved out west to Livermore, California, her adoptive home where she raised her two sons and many pets with immense love and warmth.

A selfless servant of God all her life, Joan held a very dear place in her heart for her sister Diane Farrington and the hundreds of seniors and disabled in

her exercise classes at the Hayward Adult School. A lifelong love of music, an adept artistic touch, a green thumb, and a passion for Native American culture characterized this special woman. But what truly distinguished Joan was her determination, her unflinching faith in humanity - summed up by her credo, "people are people" - and, most of all, her love, respect and compassion towards everyone and her devotion to her two boys.

She is survived by her sons Kevin Farrington Adle and Kristopher Evans Adler and their father Paul, her sister Diane, her brother Bruce Farrington, cousins Sally Farrington-Clute, Barbara Farrington, and June Merwin, and many wonderful friends and relatives. She will be missed dearly.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Pauline Lara Huerta

Livermore resident Pauline Lara Huerta passed away on March 31, 2008 from complications of Diabetes, she was 81 years old.

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CLOTHING DRIVE

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11th Anniversary Celebration Benefits Autism Research

Blue Agave Club, a downtown Pleasanton restaurant specializing in Alta Cocina (high cuisine) Mexican food, will celebrate its 11th anniversary in Pleasanton with a fundraiser to benefit autism research on Sat., April 12 from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Fifty percent of the proceeds from tickets sales to the event and all proceeds from raffle sales will benefit PAR (Providing Autism Research) for Kids' Sake. PAR for Kids' Sake raises funds for the M.I.N.D. Institute at U.C. Davis, the premiere research center in the U.S. dedicated to investigating causes and treatments for autism and other neuro-developmental disorders.

The party, which will be held in a heated tent behind the restaurant at 625 Main Street, will feature dancing to live music from Zebop, a Santana tribute band; a wide variety of finger foods ranging from calamari rings and potato flautas to jalapeño poppers and chicken taquitos; and a selection of beer, tequila, and margaritas.

The \$40 ticket price includes food and entertainment. Alcohol is extra.

Many of Blue Agave's vendors have donated food for the fundraiser as well as such raffle prizes as fruit and other food baskets, gift cards, tickets to professional sporting events, and bottles of tequila and other alcoholic beverages. Susan Garcia, owner of Blue Agave Club with her husband Alexandro Garcia, commented, "My husband and I and our staff have had a wonderful 11 years in Pleasanton. We want to thank our community and give back to others by helping to raise funds for research into the causes and treatments for autism, which has become so prevalent in recent years and has such a devastating effect on families."

Blue Agave Club is located in a renovated 143-year old building. Tickets for the fundraiser can be purchased in advance by calling the restaurant at 925-417-1224 and also will be sold at the door on April 12 on a space-available basis. For more information, call 925-417-1224 or visit www.blueagaveclub.com. Information about PAR for Kids' Sake is available at www.par4kidsake.org.

Mark Clarin—Winemaker: A Solid Hand for Picazo Merlot

by Harry Stoll

Near the southwest corner of the Picazo Vineyard on the Ruby Hill Bench, steady, sturdy Mark Clarin stands, facing east and points to small square structures at the crest of the hill. "Those owl houses mark the eastern boundary." Now he points at white-top posts to his left marking the northern boundary. He is grounded in the physical facts of the 14 acre Merlot vineyard and talks about the slope of the ground—"More rise than it appears."—and the brachiated breezes flowing in, one from Hayward, one from Vallecitos Road. An ideal place to grow Merlot, he says.

Clarín is about 50. After high school here he did some construction work then went to Wente and learned from the dirt up. Among his mentors was the iconic Willie Joslin. After a 25-year stint at Wente, including a long run as winemaker at Ivan Tamás (now Tamás Estates), which specializes in Italian varietals, he made the wrenching decision to leave to be director of production for long time friend, the mercurial quirky Randall Graham, head of Bonny Doon Vineyards. That lasted two years. When Bonny Doon sold two of its labels, changes were required and Clarín was offered a position at the winery's opera-

tion in Richland, Washington. He wisely declined and returned to Livermore.

Clarín—who speaks warmly of Graham—has a basic decency when speaking of others and the only dirt he deals in is that in the Picazo Vineyard. He says the industry is filled with good and interesting people and his calm voice and demeanor says he means it.

Still facing east, Clarín gives a mini-tutorial in vineyard management. In front of him stalks rise straight up out of the ground in a gnarled waist-high twist then branch left and right for about three feet, supported on wires called bi-lateral cordons. "This is the fruit zone," says Clarín. More horizontal wires run above to support vertical trellising. Putting a square hand on the fruit zone branch, he says, "The verticals should be a hand-width apart. These are that."

Wente manages the vineyard, but Clarín knows how it's done. A devilish amount of detail goes into the crop management. Leaves are plucked to provide sunlight to the remaining crop. Clarín says sunburn can be avoided by exposing the grapes to sunlight early. The crews make several passes through, cutting, nipping and pulling so the right amount of grapes grow in the right amount of sunlight. The

grapes are thinned to small clusters. "We set the crop load at no more than three tons per acre." As véraison arrives and the color softens, "We drop the green fruit off," says Clarín.

Clarín uses both instruments and his observation to decide when to say, "Let's pick." As the eastern sky promises a new day, and on through the early morning, the grapes are hand picked, brought to the winery, sorted on the way to the de-stemmer then crushed by hand. "We spend a lot of time sorting," says Clarín.

This big guy always looks ready to go to work. Even when he was pouring wine at an event he looked as though he had on work clothes, which he didn't. He wears a ponytail that might be indicative of his age.

At the winery, the grapes are cold soaked for three days with the skins on to pull out some of the tannins. In a chemistry of the alchemist, Clarín inoculates the must—a combination of juice, seeds and skins—to induce fermentation. Clarín writes in Picazo's information sheet: "During the fermentation, the temperature was regulated by punching the cap (crust) down into the wine and allowing the heat to temporarily equilibrate with the juice that will become wine. Letting the temperature run a bit wild can get you more from the grape.

Let it go too far and you can end its life early."

The 2004 Picazo Merlot was aged in oak for 22 months and aged in the bottle for a minimum of six months. Clarín prefers a year. The wine is not fined—nothing is added to clarify the color. Many winemakers believe that fining removes more than cloudiness, that some flavor is lost. The Picazo Merlot is also unfiltered, so some sediment might form in the decanter or glass. With very good anecdotal evidence, many believe that unfiltered wine tastes better.

"Wine is a living thing," says Clarín. So it can be enhanced or ruined at any stage. Clarín speech is even, never dull. Without showing off, he holds forth on a million eno topics, often in plain English, but with no hesitation to use the technical terms. Far from him telling you more than you need to know about winemaking, the listener is going to want to learn more of what he knows.

Picazo (with a lazy 'z') Vineyard Merlot is produced at Caldwell Winery in Napa, with which Picazo has an alternating proprietorship so they have control when they're making wine. The stylish bottle has silvery PICAZO in a vertical trellis. It's velvety, flavorful and would cost you \$80. The 2004 is sold out, the 2005 is to be released in May.

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



Two Natural Landmarks: Mt. Diablo and Brushy Peak

Two high points in the skyline north of the Livermore Valley are Mount Diablo to the west and Brushy Peak to the east. Both of them were important landmarks for local Native Americans.

The highest mountain in the San Francisco Bay Area, Mount Diablo has two peaks—the one to the south stands 3,849 feet; North Peak is slightly lower. Many local residents nourish the misconception that Mount Diablo is a dormant volcano; after all, the name conjures up the image of hell's fires threatening beneath the surface. Diablo, however, is not of volcanic origin but rose more benignly as a mass of old sedimentary rocks and basalt moving upward on a thrust fault. As it pushed its way up, the new mountain caused rock layers above to tilt, creating the resultant rippling foothills. The peak and the east side of the mountain were in the homeland of the Volvon, a Bay Miwok tribe.

In 1805, Spanish soldiers from the San Francisco Presidio, who were chasing some runaway Indians, became lost in a large scrub-willow thicket near present-day Concord. The soldiers managed to withdraw from the swampy area and camped at dusk at the thicket's edge. By morning the Indians had completely gone, and the soldiers believed their disappearance was a supernatural phenomenon. Frightened by their experience, the soldiers called the area *Monte del Diablo* (Thicket of the Devil). This phrase, mistranslated because *monte* can also mean "mountain," became in English "Mount Diablo" and soon was applied to the mountain rather than the willows.

A local Native American creation story begins with two anthropomorphic creatures at the mountain site: "At that time the entire face of the country was covered with water, except two islands, one of which was Mount Diablo. ... There was a coyote on the peak, the only living thing there. One day the coyote saw a feather floating on the water ... as it reached the island, [it] suddenly turned into an eagle, and spreading its broad pinions, flew upon the mountain. Coyote was much pleased with his new companion, and they lived in great harmony together."

From the peak of Mt. Diablo, a panorama spreads out—more than 40,000 square miles on a clear day—an area about the size of the state of New York. Early Livermore residents sometimes went on excursions to Mount Diablo. In June 1881 a party of 20 people, including James D. Smith, head of the Livermore Collegiate Institute, and Miss Emma C. Smith, veteran kindergarten teacher, traveled by horses and wagons to a campsite on J.D. Smith's property about two miles from the base of the mountain. The next day the wagons carried them to the summit where the group had a picnic lunch before driving back to Livermore.

Brushy Peak is the highest hill at the eastern edge of the Livermore Valley, northeast of Livermore. Live oaks and buckeye trees cover its 1,675-foot summit and its accompanying smaller hill; the other hills nearby are bare of trees. This area was probably in the homeland of the Ssaoam, an Ohlone tribe. In local Native American cosmology, Brushy Peak was the birthplace of Falcon, an important anthropomorphic figure. The traditional tale says that one day a rock on the hilltop became very hot and suddenly burst open with a loud noise, and Prairie Falcon emerged with his characteristic cry, "wek." Many large caves and rocks are scattered in the area; early Spanish maps label the hill Loma de las Cuevas (hill of the caves). Native American occupation of the caves is evident. Local legend tells of bandidos, including Joaquin Murieta, sheltering there.

Early excursions to the area were popular. In 1870 a Laddsville reporter wrote to the *Alameda County Gazette*: "Brushy Peak is becoming quite a resort for tourists." Groups such as the Bohemian Club came regularly for picnics, dances, and turkey shoots. On their outing in March 1901, club members downed a rich outdoor meal that included "oysters by the hundreds" and were entertained by a pair of comedians who kept them in such gales of laughter that "the shades of old Joaquin Murieta and his band of freebooters that are supposed to haunt the caves of their old mountain retreat fled in terror." The Sierra Club and the Berkeley Hiking Club visited in the 1930s.

Mt. Diablo became a state park in 1930; it has grown from the original small area around the peak to approximately 20,000 acres. LARPD purchased 507 acres of Brushy Peak in 1994 from the Walker family. Brushy Peak Regional Preserve, opened in November 2005, now encircles the peak; the Livermore Area Parks and Recreation District, the East Bay Regional Park District, and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors joined in efforts to create what is now a 2,000-acre park. Access is from a staging area on Laughlin Road at the old Laughlin ranch.

Stunning views of the surrounding valleys are the hiker's reward for climbing to the top of the two peaks, and, in this spring season, the wildflowers along the way.

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

Foothill to Host Winterguard, Percussion Show Competition

Foothill High School Marching Band will host a Winterguard and Percussion Show competition on Sat., April 5.

There are over 59 units coming from all over northern California to compete, including some of Pleasanton's own middle school color guards that are

coached by some of the high school girls in the Foothill color guard.

The show starts at 9am and will go until awards at 9:30pm, with the 3 units from Foothill performing at the end. Tickets are \$10 per adult, with \$8 for seniors and students.

There will be a variety of souvenirs to purchase like mini-flags, drumsticks, pins, and more. Food will be available from the snack bar, along with a mobile espresso to keep your taste buds satisfied. This is a major fundraiser for the band. For even more information, visit the

website: www.foothillband.org.

Foothill Marching Band is directed by Bob Moorefield. Sheldon Galdeira is the assistant. Ron Frost and Jolie Henricks are the color guard instructors, along with help from Meghan Dwyer. Lane Sanders is the percussion instructor, along with Mac McIntyre, P.J. Hohl and Evan Benterrou. Color guard captains are Nicole Coggs, Chelsea Newton, and Melissa Miller and percussion captains are Kyle Warzecha and Eric Miller.

Alameda County Looking to Add to Art Collection

The Alameda County Arts Commission is offering new opportunities for Alameda County artists to have their artwork considered for the Alameda County Art Collection.

Artists who create two-dimensional, low-relief, or wall sculptural artwork, and artists at all levels of professional development are invited to apply. More than \$200,000 is available to purchase existing artwork and to commission artists to create new works of art.

Through the Artwork Purchase Program existing artwork will be acquired and installed at County buildings.

The Small Scale Artwork Commission Program will commission artists to make new

works of art to be installed at the Juvenile Justice Center and the Sobering and Detoxification Centers in Alameda County.

Artists will be asked to create works with positive themes that contribute to a safe and supportive environment. The County's art collection includes artwork that illuminates the history, culture, language, and traditions of this region; engenders a sense of continuity and belonging among the members of our community; and promotes understanding of cultural values and perspectives of all people.

A selection panel appointed by the Arts Commission and comprised of arts professionals, County staff, and community representatives will select the art-

ists and artwork. The final selections must be approved by the Arts Commission Board.

Applications for these opportunities must be submitted online through the CaFE(tm) website, www.callforentry.org (search for "Alameda County"). A free technical application workshop will be held at the Alameda County Conference Center (125 12th Street at Oak, Oakland) on Thursday, April 3 at 1pm. Space is limited; call the Arts Commission Office to make a reservation.

The deadline for the Purchase Program is May 30. The deadline for the Small Scale Artwork Commission Program is June 30, 2008. These opportunities are open to practicing, professional visual artists who live, are permanently employed, or rent/own an artist's studio in Alameda County. Further details about these opportunities are available at the Arts Commission website www.acgov.org/arts or by contacting the Arts Commission Office at (510) 208-9646.

LAA Spring Art Show at The Barn

The Livermore Art Association will hold its Spring Art Show April 5 and 6 at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Avenue.

A wide variety of paintings and sculpture produced by our local artists will be on display. The show is open 10:00 am to 4:00 pm both days. Admission is free. Most artwork is for sale. There will be a fine arts and crafts

sales room with additional art, cards and prints.

A reception will be held Saturday, April 5 from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Hors d'oeuvres and local wines will be served. The Gary Chulla Trio band will perform jazz and swing.

For more information call 925-449-9927 or visit www.livermoreartassociation.org.

FESTIVAL

(continued from page one)

written, word for word. Founded in 1993 by Susan Harloe and JoAnne Winter, its mission is to excite the public about the written word and, in doing so, inspire people to read more, create new audiences for the theater, and share the world's diverse cultures and stories. The program employs more than 100 Bay Area theater professionals annually and attracts more than 20,000 people to public performances each year.

"Each year, we try to offer our audiences at least one entertainment experience that has a literary orientation," says Civic Arts Theater Supervisor Rob Vogt. "Partnering with the Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival to present the Word for Word performance

gives audiences the unique opportunity to experience the spoken word in a theatrical setting. We're certain they'll enjoy it immensely."

In addition to the performance, visitors are invited to participate in other free events during the two day festival. On Sat., April 5, the Pleasanton Art League and other artists will have an exhibit of artwork from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be a reception and book signing and Meet the Author in Literary Row events from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Entertainment will be guitar, mandolin and mandocello artist Jim Steinke during the afternoon hours.

The Senior Center is located at 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton.

Real Estate Market update available at www.Livermorehomes.com

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Jeffrey Siegel

Concert Theme Is An American Salute

Pianist Jeffrey Siegel's Keyboard Conversations, a unique, concert-plus-commentary format in which Siegel talks with the audience about the music before performing each work, will perform at the Bankhead Theatre on Wednesday, April 9th at 8pm. This is the second in a series of two concerts this season.

Siegel's second program, An American Salute, features the music of Gershwin, including Rhapsody in Blue in Gershwin's own rarely heard solo piano version. Also planned are works by Aaron Copland, Scott Joplin, Edward MacDowell, and Leonard Bernstein, including the Livermore premiere of Bernstein's unpublished little gem Meditation on a Wedding. His program includes some-

thing for the new listener as well as seasoned music-lovers. Siegel presents an informal, accessible and highly entertaining introduction to the vast piano repertoire and to classical music in general. Seasoned music-lovers have been enriched by Siegel's erudition and delighted by his wit.

Siegel's second program, An American Salute, will be presented at the Bankhead Theater in Downtown Livermore on Wednesday, April 9, at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$26 to \$36, and \$11 for students. This event is part of LVPAC Presents, a series of nationally recognized artists and ensembles being brought to the Bankhead Theater by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center.

Wine Tasting Benefit Planned

There will be a wine tasting fund-raiser on Sun., April 13 at the Purple Orchid Inn in Livermore. The Tri-Valley Hike for Discovery Team of the Leukemia Lymphoma Society (LLS) will host the afternoon.

The festivities from 1 to 4 p.m. will include a silent auction, wine tasting, bake sale, finger food and fun. Silent auction items include massages, ski va-

ocations, sports gear, chocolates and many other items.

Donation is \$25 which includes 5 tastes. Each additional taste is \$1.

The money will go towards LLS blood cancer research. For more information, send an email to Myra Podesta at myrapodesta@comcast.net.

The Purple Orchid Inn is located at 4549 Cross Road in Livermore.



California Independent Film Festival - Special Events

By Leonard Pirkle

The California Independent Film Festival will hold its annual event in Livermore; this year is the Festival's 10th anniversary and the 7th event in Livermore. There are many special events planned for this year's festival.

Opening Night - Wednesday, April 16, at Movida the festivities begin at 5:30pm with a VIP reception for the 2008 Spirit Award recipient, Pauly Shore. Movida, Livermore's newest hot spot, is located at 2389 First Street. Other celebrities attending the Opening Night VIP reception at Movida, include Tony Dow and Ken Osmond (Wally and Eddie Haskell from Leave it to Beaver), Marta Kristen (Judy Robinson from Lost in Space), Jon Provost (Timmy from Lassie), Don Most (Happy Days), Art LaFleur (Field of Dreams, Santa Claus), Richard Van Vleet (All My Children) and Shaun Toub (The Kite Runner).

Thursday, April 17, begins with a VIP Reception with Penny Marshall and John Madden at the Bankhead Theater, from 5:30pm-7pm, following the reception will be the Golden Slate Award Presentation to Penny Marshall (Laverne & Shirley, Director - *A League of Their Own*) for excellence in directing. Additionally, there will be "A Conversation with Penny Marshall and John Madden." The two will discuss film, sports and other topics. Also that evening there will be a screening of the 2008 Best Short Film Slate Award Nominees beginning at 8:15pm.

Friday, April 18, there will be a private VIP reception at The Wild Vine Wine and Beer Lounge, located at 2187 First Street, in Livermore honoring the 2008 Maverick Award presentation to Producer Michael Cerenzie. After this VIP reception there will be a Special Screening of, *Before the Devil Knows You're Dead*, at the Vine Cinema, 7PM at 1722 First St., Livermore, sponsored by The Wild Vine Wine and Beer Lounge and White Crane Winery. Cerenzie is a very promising producer in Hollywood, with a slate of upcoming film projects on the horizon.

Saturday, April 19, kicking off the evening at 6:30pm will be a VIP Reception at the Tri-Valley Bank and sponsored by the Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau. The reception will be attended by a number of celebrities. At 8pm will be the presentation of the 2008 Diamond Award to Mary Stuart Masterson (*Fried Green Tomatoes*) and the screening of *The Cake Eaters* at the Vine Cinema, located at 1722 First St., Livermore from 8pm - 10pm. The screening and VIP reception are both sponsored by the Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Other than *The Viper Room* in Los Angeles, the hottest place to see celebrities or be seen, will be at the world famous California Independent Film Festival Filmmaker Party. This annual event is once again sponsored by Yankee Music and will held at Movida, located at 2389 First St., Livermore, the party will run from 10pm - 2am.

Last, but certainly not least, is the annual *Closing Gala and Awards Ceremony*, Sunday, April 20. The evening gets started in grand style, beginning with a VIP Closing Night Gala Reception from 5pm - 6:30pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Following the reception is the Gala Night Tribute 2008 Slate Awards & Lifetime Achievement Award, presented to Producer John Daly for a phenomenal career.

John Daly has achieved 21 Oscar® nominations, 13 Oscar® wins including an unprecedented back-to-back "Best Picture" Oscars® for *Platoon* and *The Last Emperor*; for his company. This very special evening is sponsored by Tri-Valley Bank. The event will be held at the Robert Livermore Community Center and will run from 6pm to 9pm.

Once again, this year's Festival will be held April 16th through the 20th in downtown Livermore with screenings at the Vine Cinema and the Livermore Cinemas, both on First Street as well as special events at the Bankhead Theater. Check out our schedule of events at www.caindiefilmfest.org and keep reading The Independent for more California Independent Film Festival news and information.

ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
Saturday Night at Midnight
"One of the funniest Independent Comedies of the Year"

RUN FAT BOY RUN (PG-13)
Fri - Sun: 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:20
Mon - Thurs: 2:45 5:00 7:20

THE BANK JOB (R)
Fri - Sun: 12:20 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15
Mon - Thurs: 2:20 4:45 7:10

Let us host your birthday party, video game party, company meeting or special event - call for details!

VINE CINEMA
1722 First Street www.vinecinema.com 447-2545

Shakespeare's Associates Offer A Provocative 'Proof'

By Susan Steinberg

Go! Don't ask questions, just go see "Proof."

Shakespeare's Associates has mounted one of the finest plays I have seen in the Tri-Valley, and that's a lot of plays.

David Auburn's incredible "Proof" well deserved all the many awards it won in 2001, including a Tony for Best Play of the Year, the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and many critics' awards.

This snappy conversational ping-pong match will resonate personally on multiple levels: anyone who has watched a bright person decline from lucidity to mental incapacity; someone who has lost a loved one and struggled to carry on; or had doubts about personal abilities and the future; or dared/feared to love and trust.

For anyone who appreciates the challenge of mathematical problems and the beauty of an elegant proof, this is the play. Or for any woman limited in her career potential by historical prejudices and stereotypes. For those who've felt the pain of sibling rivalries and parental preferences. For those acquainted with the lonely agonies of the struggling graduate student (and/or the famously rigorous University of Chicago). And even for those who have only suffered through

a bitter Chicago winter.

Does this sound grim and off-putting? Well it is serious, but also comical, warmly human, and as completely believable as your next-door neighbors.

"Proof" is the story of a gifted young woman who has dropped out of life and her own studies to care for her father, a brilliant mathematician drifting off into dementia. After his death, her own amazing personal work in this field is attributed to him, even by her own sister and by her father's former doctoral student, now a math professor and, suddenly, her lover.

But has he romanced the daughter only to gain access to the father's ingenious new proof? And has she inherited daddy's madness along with his remarkable genius?

Throw in a take-charge older sibling intent on "rescuing" her sister from depression and future dementia by relocating her to New York ("all the best doctors, dear"). Add bittersweet reminiscences of the father's tragic unraveling and his uncannily realistic after-death "visit," and you can begin to perceive the fascination of the script's many twists.

No, it's not gloomy, but rather thought-provoking and emotionally mesmerizing. Elegantly intellectual but viscerally intense,

it is also witty and, yes, laugh-out-loud funny.

Hard to believe? Not with the top-notch ensemble acting of four perfectly matched performers. Familiar to Valley theatergoers from many starring roles with Shakespeare's Associates, Hannah Knapp is as eloquent with her facial expressions as with her spoken words, which are phenomenal.

Three equally strong actors are perfect foils: Alexandra Creighton as her patronizing older sister, Michael Barrett Austin as the endearingly awkward geeky boyfriend, and William Wolak, a 50-year stage veteran who is the incarnation of everyone's well-remembered loving but curmudgeonly dad or grandfather - accurate to the life; and absolutely irresistible.

The crackling dialogue, tender interactions, rapid-fire verbal duels, and terrific smartness of the play provide a memorable theatrical experience, enhanced by the intimate venue of the Bothwell.

The Valley's science/math community will especially enjoy the theme of abstract logic versus human emotions. Which is more reliable or important? Their spouses will certainly find it an intriguing question, as did this liberal arts Lab wife.

Having seen and applauded two previous productions of "Proof," I found this one the most intense and moving version. Everyone in the audience will undoubtedly find personal meanings and pleasures in its many layers, and appreciate the acting of its awesome cast.

At an accessible ticket price of \$15 to \$25, no one can afford to miss experiencing "Proof" during the coming two weekends. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays, April 4 and 5, 11 and 12, at 8 p.m. and Sundays, April 6 and 13 at 2 p.m. The Bothwell Theater is located in the former Livermore Recreation Center, 2466 8th Street, between J and K Streets. Reserve tickets (with no extra phone charge) by calling Brown Bag Tickets at 800-838-3006, or access www.livermoreshakes.org.

Friendly Warning: this show is selling rapidly by enthusiastic word-of-mouth buzz, and is in a VERY small venue, so make your reservations A.S.A.P. Don't miss what drama critic Pat Craig and I consider "one of the best-ever first-act curtain lines." Reviewers from the New Yorker to the Wall Street Journal raved about its debut performance; they would marvel at Livermore's perfect production.

Las Positas Talk Hawks Head to National Competition

After earning the second ranking overall in Northern California for individual events, the Las Positas College forensics team will travel east to compete in the national championships in Chicago, April 14-19.

The Talk Hawks emerged from a grueling five-day speech and debate competition held in Concord the week of March 10 and exceeded their own expectations with 13 individual and team awards.

Topping the list was the No. 1 duo interpretation program in California, the team of Stacy Shaw of Castro Valley and Lauren Hochman of Pleasanton.

The individual showing placed Las Positas as the second ranked team among the 14 colleges from Northern California competing in the 32-community college event. Las Positas was tenth overall in the combined individual and debate competition and sixth overall in the individual event competition.

"It's been an amazing year and

we've had an incredible amount of success this competitive season. Seven of the members of our team are brand new to the program and I thought this would be a rebuilding year," said coach and faculty member Tim Heisler. "Instead we've consistently been one of the top-ranked forensics programs in Northern California and it's been more than 10 years since we've won as many awards as we just won at the State Championship tournament. I couldn't be prouder of this group. In 15 years of coaching I've never been prouder of a team."

Shaw also won a bronze medal for informative speaking, while Hochman earned a bronze for prose interpretation. Karen Brohard of Pleasanton earned bronze medals in both poetry interpretation and speech to entertain. Katie Philpott of Livermore took a silver medal for persuasive speaking and a bronze for extemporaneous speaking. The team of Michele Philbrook of San

Ramon and Philpott won a silver for parliamentary debate.

Jacque De Fremery of Pleasanton won bronze medals for persuasive speaking and prose interpretation. Lyndsay Parkman of Livermore won a silver for oral interpretation of literature and a bronze for speech to entertain. Adam Shamouel of Livermore won a bronze for extemporaneous speaking, while Tiffany Lee of Pleasanton advanced through three preliminary rounds but did not win a medal.

The Talk Hawks prepared for the state finals by traveling to Los Angeles to compete in the challenging spring championship event. It is one of the toughest regions in the nation for speech and debate.

Las Positas was one of only two Northern California teams to take part in the competition.

Earlier in the season, Las Positas captured the limited entry sweepstakes award and finished second overall against

other community colleges and fifth overall in the Northern California Forensics Association's Championship Tournament at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill. Among the universities represented were San Francisco State, Chico, Chabot, University of the Pacific, UC Davis and UC Berkeley. The limited entry category was for institutions with seven or fewer students entered.

For Las Positas, Hochman was a finalist in the open division duo Interpretation; Lee took first place in the novice division for poetry interpretation; Philbrook was a semi-finalist, parliamentary debate, junior division; Shamouel, finalist, open division, informative speaking; and Shaw, open finalist, duo interpretation and informative speaking.

Philpott captured first place in the open division, impromptu speaking; sixth place and top speaker in parliamentary debate, junior division; and was a semi-finalist in parliamentary debate, junior division.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Winter Guard and Percussion Competition. Foothill High School, 4375 Foothill Road, Pleasanton, April 5, Starting at 8:15AM. Admission adults, \$10, students/seniors \$8. Competition includes high schools from throughout Northern California. For more information: president@foothillband.org.

Theater Education. Explore the issues and challenges of "Proof" with cast members and physicist Dave Munro in a post-performance panel discussion after the April 9 and 13 matinee performances of this award-winning play. Previous audience members also are invited to the free half-hour discussion, beginning at 4:25 pm at the Bothwell Arts Center's West End Theatre, Eighth and H streets, Livermore. Remaining performances of David Auburn's play, which concerns the enigmatic legacy of a brilliant but mentally unstable mathematician, are at 8 pm Fridays and Saturdays, 2 pm Sundays, April 4-6 and 11-13. For tickets at \$25 general, \$20 seniors and \$15 students, call (900) 838-3006.

Independent Short Film Premiere. April 26th, 6-8pm. Director David Willnerd debuts "Elixir: A Fantasy Adventure." Film viewing and walking tour of conceptual artwork, props and costumes. Studio 7 Fine Arts Gallery, 400 Main St., Pleasanton. Film viewing every fifteen minutes. Free.

Livermore Art Association (LAA) and Pleasanton Art League (PAL) meeting and art demonstration Monday, April 21, featuring painter Joyce Faulkner. She specializes in watercolors of cut crystal and glass. She

will demonstrate how to use a dark-to-light approach for painting glass and reflective subjects. The program will begin at 7:30 at the Almond Avenue School, 1401 Almond Avenue in Livermore, with parking at the rear of the school. For more information go to www.livermoreartassociation.org. The public is invited to attend.

The Boxcar Children, presented by the City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company. Performances are April 18, 19, 25 & 26, 2008, at 8:00 p.m.; April 20, 26 & 27, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. The Boxcar Children is a play adapted from the beloved classic children's series by Gertrude Chandler Warner. It portrays the adventures of four siblings who run away and make their home in an abandoned railroad boxcar, all the while experiencing the perils of life on the run as well as the joys of keeping their family together. Tickets to the event are \$14, \$18 & \$20 for adults and \$8, \$12 & \$16 for children. They may be purchased online at www.civictickets.org up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. Group discounts are available.

You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, Christensen Musical Theatre Group Celebrates its 10th Anniversary musical comedy based on Charles Schultz's "Peanuts" comic strip. Performances are held at Livermore

High School Performing Arts Theatre. Tickets are now on sale for evening performances on Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5 at 7 pm and for the Sunday matinee on April 6 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$7 orchestra level and \$6 balcony level. Tickets can be purchased in advance by visiting www.christensenpta.org and completing a ticket order form or calling (925) 270-5086.

Capitol Steps, Music and political satire, Mon., May 5, 8pm, Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Ticket office open Monday through Saturday from

noon to 6:00 p.m. 373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org. **Artists Flea Market,** Sat., April 25 at DeLucchi Park, First Street at Neal, Pleasanton, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Used art supplies, equipment, frames, bargain art. 10x10 booth space \$25. Sponsored by Pleasanton Art League. To reserve booth space, send check to PAL, c/o Gail Rivalcaba, 3738 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94566. Information at 846-8960; entry form at www.pal-art.com.

Proof by David Auburn runs through April 13 at the Bothwell Arts Center, Livermore, playing Fridays and Saturdays. (continued on page 12)

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Private Instruction with Blue Devils Teacher & Former Blast Cast Member Joe Haworth

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BANKHEAD THEATER

WINE COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP
PGA Nationwide Tour Golf Tournament at Wente Vineyards
Thursday thru Sunday, April 3-6 • \$20
Buy tickets at the Bankhead Theater and support LVPAC

THE MUSIC MAN
Pleasanton Playhouse
April 4-6, 11-13, 18-20 • 2 & 8pm • \$21, \$29, \$31

KEYBOARD CONVERSATIONS WITH JEFFREY SIEGEL
An American Salute!
Wednesday, April 9 at 8pm • \$11, \$26, \$31, \$36

CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL
Opening Night & Spirit Award - Pauly Shore
Screening of "On the Edge of Black & White"
Wednesday, April 16 at 7pm • \$15 & \$30

CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL
Golden Slate Award - Penny Marshall, Q&A with John Madden
Thursday, April 17 at 7pm • \$15 & \$30

2400 First Street, Livermore

For tickets 925-373-6800

www.livermoreperformingarts.org

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 First Street 443-SHOW	
LEATHERHEADS (PG-13) DLP THX	12:45 2:00 3:30 4:20	6:30 7:15 9:15 9:50	
NIM'S ISLAND (PG) DLP	12:10 2:30 4:45 7:05 9:20		
THE RUINS (R) DLP	12:15 2:25 4:40 6:50 9:40		
21 (PG-13) DLP	1:15 4:15 7:00 9:40		
STOP LOSS (R) DLP	1:20 4:00 6:40 9:20		
SUPERHERO MOVIE (PG-13) DLP	12:05 2:20 4:40 6:55 9:25		
MISS PETTIGREW LIVES FOR A DAY (PG-13)	12:30 2:50 5:10 7:20 9:35		
HORTON HEARS A WHO (G) DLP	12:00 1:00 2:15 3:00 4:30	5:15 6:45 7:30 9:00 9:25	
COLLEGE ROAD TRIP (G) DLP	12:40 2:55 5:05 7:25 9:30		
DRILLBIT TAYLOR (PG-13) DLP	11:50 2:10 4:30 6:50 9:25		
10,000 BC (PG-13) DLP	1:40 4:35 7:15 9:50		
KIDTOONS - BOB THE BUILDER: ON SITE ROADS AND BRIDGES (G)	12:00 NOON SAT-SUN		

THE *Independent* presents the



Wednesday, April 16. THROUGH Sunday, April 20

Wednesday, April 16

Opening Night VIP Reception at Movida
Movida • 2417 First St. • 5:30pm

**Opening Night at the Bankhead Theater
Feature Film and 2008 Spirit Award - Pauly Shore**
Bankhead Theater • 2400 First St. • 7pm

On the Edge of Black and White
Sean Leskey, Director • Documentary • 63min
When television converted from black and white to color, America was undergoing an epic cultural revolution. This documentary explores those changes through conversations with child actors of the time who witnessed the changes from the inside - a unique perspective. Special guests from the film include: Tony Daw (Wally) and Ken Osmond (Eddie Haskell) from *Leave it to Beaver*; Marta Kristen, *Lost in Space*; and Jon Provost, *Lassie*.

Thursday, April 17

2008 Celebrity Poker Tournament
No limit Texas Hold'em tournament with over 15 celebrities. To reserve your seat, call (925) 455-6144.
Lucky Back Card Club • 1620 Railroad Ave. • 10am

2008 Iron Filmmaker Contest Kick Off
Sponsored by Carl's Jr.
Carl's Jr. • 875 E. Stansky Blvd. • 10am

VIP Reception with Penny Marshall & John Madden
Bankhead Theater • 2400 First St. • 5:30pm

**Golden Slate Award Presentation to Penny Marshall
A Conversation with Penny Marshall & John Madden
2008 Slate Award Best Short Film Nominees**
Bankhead Theater • 2400 First St. • 7pm

• *Son* • *Pismo (The Letter)*
• *Stolen Youth* • *Terres Noires*

Friday, April 18

**Iron Filmmaker Contest Films
2008 Nominated Student Short Films**
This personality sold-out event screens 3-minute films shot and produced within a 24-hour time period and must include surprise ingredients. After the contest films are shown, the nominations for Best Student Shorts will be screened.
Waste Event Center • 5050 Arroyo Rd. • 10am

• *Droomtijd* • *Pauls Opa*
• *Der erste Engel* • *Vanished Acres*
(The First Angel)

VIP Reception at the Wild Vine Wine & Beer Lounge
The Wild Vine Wine and Beer Lounge • Anaheim City • 5:00pm

Feature Program I
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 5:30pm

Broke Sky
Dennis Callaway, Director • Studio City, CA • Drama • 89min
A quirky, dark drama about best friends who pick up roadkill for a living.

**Presentation of the 2008 Maverick Award for
Outstanding Producing to Michael Cerenzie followed by:**

Before the Devil Knows You're Dead
Sponsored by The Wild Vine and White Crane Winery
Sidney Lumet, Director • Drama • 112min
Needing extra cash, two brothers conspire to pull off the perfect, victimless crime. But when an accomplice ignores the rules and crosses the line, his actions trigger a series of events in which no one is left unscathed. Starring Philip Seymour Hoffman, Ethan Hawke, Marisa Tomei and Albert Finney.
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 7pm

Feature Program
Sponsored by The Wild Vine and White Crane Winery
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 9pm

Take
Charles Olive, Director • Drama • 95min
The lives of two strangers — a struggling mother (Minnie Driver) and a gambling addict (Jeremy Renner) — converge in unspoken tragedy.

Saturday, April 19

Filmmaker Breakfast
For filmmakers — Enjoy breakfast in the lobby of the Vine Theater.
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 9am

Children's Program - Sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank
Hosted by Alyson Sasser & Dylan McLaughlin
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 10am

• *Alien for Christmas*
• *Marcelino and Bartolomeo: "Bye Bye!"*
• *A Garota*
• *Dr. Docatto's Reprise!!!*
• *Grim Fetch*
• *Simulacra*
• *Kong and Bird*
• *Mr. Frog... Goes Fishing*
• *Le Piano Enchanté (The Enchanted Piano)*
• *Propose*

Best of Ten Years - Program I (Comedy)
Livemore Cinema 11 • 2490 First St. • 10am

• *Dirty Mary* • *Flowers on a Muumuu*
• *GAYDAR* • *Chaos Theory*

Shorts Program I
Livemore Cinema 12 • 2490 First St. • 10am

• *Agnieszka 2039*
• *CU @ Ed's*
• *Interior, Bedsit, Day.*
• *Mujo No Kaze (Wind of Impermanence)*
• *Most látszom, most nem látszom*

Documentary Program I
Livemore Cinema 13 • 2490 First St. • 10am

25 to Life
Delvaz Pichell, Director • 85min
A human story of people on all sides of the law, the victims of crime, the inmates who are unreasonably sentenced, and those families who are subject to the law's mechanism through a loved one.

2008 Slate Award Best Short Film Nominees
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 12pm

• *Son* • *Pismo (The Letter)*
• *Stolen Youth* • *Terres Noires*

Best of Ten Years - Program II (Drama)
Livemore Cinema 11 • 2490 First St. • 12pm

• *Bad Blood* • *String of the Kite*
• *Pop Foul* • *United*
• *6PM* • *She Kept Silent*
• *Passing Hearts*

Shorts Program II
Livemore Cinema 12 • 2490 First St. • 12pm

• *In Between* • *The Vaudevillian*
• *Janey Mary* • *Twilight of Youth*

Sapporo Short Film Festival Winners
Livemore Cinema 13 • 2490 First St. • 12pm

• *Oiran Lyrics* • *Fair Trade*
• *D.I.Y.* • *The Sickie*
• *Teeth* • *Distant Memory*
• *Scrambled* • *In Memoriam*
• *Love, Death, and Airguitar*

Horror Feature
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 1:30pm

Red Velvet
Bovic Dickson, Director • Los Angeles, CA • Horror • 88min
A chance encounter at a luncheon between a young man and a young woman turns into an afternoon lunch date. Is this the beginning of a beautiful relationship or a building block leading to a day ending in madness beyond fairy tales?

Shorts Program III
Livemore Cinema 11 • 2490 First St. • 2pm

• *KEYS* • *Die Flugbegleiterin*
• *STRIDES* • *The Ballad of Breaking George*

Documentary Program II
Livemore Cinema 12 • 2490 First St. • 2pm

Beyond the Call
Adrian Belic, Director • 82min
In a Mother Teresa meets Indiana Jones adventure, three middle-aged men, former soldiers and modern day knights travel the world, delivering life-saving humanitarian aid directly into the hands of civilians in some of the most dangerous, yet beautiful places on Earth - the front lines of war.

Seminar - So You Want to be an Actor?
Cold readings from the four Nominated Best Screenplays of the 2008 State Awards.
Livemore Cinema 13 • 2490 First St. • 2pm

**Seminar - Directing, Producing & Distributing
Indie Films**
Livemore Cinema 13 • 2490 First St. • 2pm

Feature Program II - Sponsored by Herzog Insurance
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 3:30pm

The Flyboys
Ricco De Wiers, Director • Drama • 118min
Two boys from a small town find their courage tested when they accidentally stow away aboard an airplane owned by the mob.

Mini Shorts & Music Videos Program
Sponsored by Cher Wollard, Windermere Welcome Home
Livemore Cinema 11 • 2490 First St. • 3:45pm

• *Totally Connected* • *The War Prayer*
• *On A Tuesday* • *Companero*
• *Crickets* • *Love Grenades*
• *Struck* • *"Young Lovers"*
• *I Still Love Lucy* • *Scissors for Lefty*
• *Temporary Virgin* • *"Ghetto Ways"*

Documentary Program III
Livemore Cinema 12 • 2490 First St. • 3:45pm

Race to Execution
Rachel Lyon, Director • 60min
Race to Execution explores the deep and disturbing link between race and the death penalty in America, following the stories of two Death Row inmates.

**Seminar - Yankee Music Presents: Indie Music
for Television and Film**
Learn how to get your music placed in television and films.
Livemore Cinema 13 • 2490 First St. • 4pm

Feature Program III - Sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 4pm

Alice Upside Down
Sandy Tong, Director • Drama/Family • 93min
Still mourning her mother's death, Alice McKinley finds her life seriously disrupted when her father Ben buys a store and moves the family. In the painful throes of adolescence, Alice has a rough time adjusting to her new school and frequently escapes into a vivid fantasy life.

VIP Reception at the Tri-Valley Bank
Sponsored by Tri-Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau
Tri-Valley Bank • 1716 First St. • 6:30pm

**Feature Program IV and Diamond Award
Presentation - Sponsored by the Tri-Valley
Convention and Visitors Bureau**
The Vine Cinema • 1722 First St. • 8pm

The Cake Eaters
Mary Stuart Masterson • Drama • 95min
This film is a sweet story of losing and finding your family in the vivid world of small-town life. Easy, the family patriarch, is grieving over the recent loss of his wife. Old wounds are reopened as family members confront each other and redefine themselves in the process of healing.

Filmmaker Party at Movida
Sponsored by Yankee Music

This is the hot party of the year in Livemore. Open to filmmakers and those interested in film and partying. Here's your chance to mingle with the filmmakers. This event sells out, so buy your tickets early.
Movida • 2417 First St. • 10pm

www.CAIndieFilmFest.org

CA Independent Film Festival Office

171 South J Street, Livermore, CA 94550 • Phone: (925) 558-2797



California Independent Film Festival



Penny Marshall
Golden Slate Award



Mary Stuart Masterson
Diamond Award



Michael Cerenzie
Maverick Award



John Daly
Lifetime Achievement Award



Pauly Shore
Spirit Award



SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Shorts Program III

Livermore Cinema 12 • 2490 First St. • 10am
 • KEYS • Die Flugbegleiterin
 • STRIDES • The Ballad of Breaking George



Tri-Valley Shorts Showcase - Sponsored by the Livermore Chamber of Commerce Film Commission
 Livermore Cinema 11 • 2490 First St. • 10am

• The Couple • Weird Science
 • Skye • Whatever Series
 • Roomies • Byron Hot Springs
 • LURE • The Boy in Every Man
 • Incredible Blinking Machines Presents BG/B

2008 Nominated Student Short Films

The West Cinema • 1722 First St. • 12pm
 • Droomtijd • Pauls Opa
 • Der erste Engel • Vanished Acres
 (The First Angel)



Documentary Program IV

Sponsored by Livermore Cyclery
 Livermore Cinema 11 • 2490 First St. • 12pm

24 Solo
 Jason Berry, Director • 74min
 24 Solo follows the gut-wrenching story of Chris Eatough on his quest for a seventh World Title in the unforgiving discipline of 24-Hour Solo mountain bike racing.



Bay Area Feature & Short Program

Livermore Cinema 12 • 2490 First St. • 12pm
 • Junk Love
 • Coyote and the Ten Gallon Hat
 • The Highway Home



Shorts Program II

Livermore Cinema 13 • 2490 First St. • 12pm
 • In Between • The Vaudevillian
 • Janey Mary • Twilight of Youth



Shorts Program I

Livermore Cinema 11 • 2490 First St. • 1:30pm
 • Agnieszka 2039
 • CU @ Ed's
 • Interior, Bedsit, Day
 • Mujo No Kaze (Wind of Impermanence)
 • Most látszom, most nem látszom



2008 Audience Favorite Shorts

90-minute short showcase of the audience favorites of 2008.
 West Cinema • 1722 First St. • 2pm



Documentary Program V

Livermore Cinema 12 • 2490 First St. • 2pm
Choose Life or Choose Meth
 Charlie Chapin, Ph.D., Director • 44min
 This documentary contrasts over four dozen positive health education messages against the harm that methamphetamine causes. We have many choices to make in life. By the end of this documentary, you will know why you can "Choose Life... or you can Choose Meth."

Young Livermore Filmmaker Showcase

Livermore Cinema 13 • 2490 First St. • 2pm
 • Perfect Emptiness • Monday
 • Hemp Hospital • The Color of Irony
 • Remote Rumble • Escapades of a Soda Constructor
 • The Ball

Tri-Valley Bank VIP Reception

Robert Livermore Community Center • 4444 East Ave. • 5pm

Tri-Valley Bank Closing Night Gala

2008 Slate Awards & Lifetime Achievement
 This event is the Oscar Night of the East Bay. Lifetime Achievement and Slate Awards are presented in a festive, elegant atmosphere with sumptuous food and wine. A night to remember, don't miss it.
 Robert Livermore Community Center • 4444 East Ave. • 6pm

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CA Independent Film Festival Office

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ART & ENTERTAINMENT

(continued from page 9)

urdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 with discounts for seniors, teachers and others. For more information about this show please visit ShakespearesAssociates.org.
Diablo Light Opera Company, "Songs For A New World," musical focusing on isolated moments in the lives of many characters in a variety of eras and a broad range of musical genres. 8 p.m. April 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12 and 2 p.m. April 6 and 12. Town Hall Theatre, 3535 School, Lafayette. www.thtc.org. \$15 students, \$25 seniors, \$28 general.

Contra Costa Wind Symphony, Duane Carroll conducts, "Celtic Connection," an all Irish concert with Irish folk singer Liam Tierman, McGrath Irish Dancers, U.S. premiere of a new work for wind symphony by Irish composer Vincent Kennedy. 8 p.m. April 13, Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. \$18 general admission, \$15 seniors, \$12 students. 925-943-6469, www.lesherartscenter.org. Information www.CCWindSymphony.org.
Sneak preview of the 2008 California Independent Film Festival, Livermore Civic Library Thursday, April 3, at 7 p.m. Festival Founder Derek Zemrak and Festival Director Wendy

Madden will talk about this year's event and show some short films and an animated film. For more information call Donna Blevins at 447-5633 or the Livermore Library at 373-5500 x 5577. There is no admission charge. The library is located at 1188 So. Livermore Avenue. For more information about the film festival, April 16-20, and to order tickets, go to www.CalIndieFilmFest.org.
Taiko Concert & Dinner hosted by Livermore-Yotsukaido Sister City Fri., April 4, 5:30 p.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. \$35 adults, \$15 youth. Japanese style dinner menu followed by Taiko drum concert.

Information, 447-0856.
Steve Seskin, Nashville singer/songwriter. April 4, 7 p.m. Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. \$9 youth under 12 and seniors 65+, general admission \$14. 973-ARTS or www.sanramonperformingarts.com.
Las Positas College, spring musical, Iron Curtain, April 4-20. Musical comedy takes place in the 1950s and is about a pair of New York song writers who are kidnapped and taken to Moscow to help the Soviets create a propagandist musical. Performance on campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Information, 424-1166.
The Music Man, Pleasanton Playhouse

musical production, April 4-20, 8 p.m. Fri. and Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Bankhead Theater ticket office open Mon-Sat. from noon to 6:00 p.m. 373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.
Lamplighters Music Theatre, Gilbert & Sullivan: Straight Up, with a Twist, includes off-performed favorites and gems from seldom-staged productions. Livermore Performing Arts Center, Bankhead Theatre, 2400 First Street, Saturday, May 3, 8pm For tickets (\$15-39) please call 925-373-6800 or visit lamplighters.org
Luna Negra Dance Theatre, Latin and Afro-Caribbean dance, Thursday, April 24 at 8pm, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Contemporary dance flavored by tango, mambo and salsa, Luna

Negra's distinctive style artfully blends ballet and modern dance movements with Latino dance forms. \$28, \$31, \$36 (\$11 students). 925.373.6800 or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org.
Early Music Concert at Las Positas College, Saturday, April 17, 7:30 p.m. in the college library. "The Classical," featuring a musical tour during the classical period with music of Mozart, Boccherini, and J.C. Bach. Jeanne Johnson, violino; Joanna Blendulf, cello; and Yuki Tanaka, fortepiano, will perform on period instruments. Tickets at the door \$5 students, \$15 general admission. 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. For more information call Marilyn Marquis: 925.424.1209. www.lpcearlymusic.org

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407544

The following person (s) doing business as: Trained Eyes Educational Evaluations, 930 Mocho Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Barbara Louise Steiger, 930 Mocho Street, 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/ Barbara Steiger
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 3, 2008. Expires March 3, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2300. Publish March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407594

The following person (s) doing business as: HNZ Consulting, 487 Montori Court, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Edward Sieh, 487 Montori Court, 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/ Edward Sieh
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 13, 2008. Expires March 13, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2304. Publish March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407661

The following person (s) doing business as: REM Solutions, LLC, 1220 Bluebell Drive, Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): REM Solutions, 1220 Bluebell Drive, Livermore CA 94551
 This business is conducted by a Limited liability company
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on January 1, 2008.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/ Clyde Massange
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 6, 2008. Expires March 6, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2301. Publish March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407450

The following person (s) doing business as: Aligning Body, Soul & Spirit For Women, 276 Wildrose Common, Unit #2, Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Teresa Roycroft, 276 Wildrose Common, Unit #2, Livermore CA 94551
 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/ Teresa Roycroft
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on February 29, 2008. Expires February 29, 2013.

The Independent Legal No. 2302. Publish March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407413

The following person (s) doing business as: Michelle's Bridal, 1748 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Diem Nguyen, 691 Alden 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/ Diem Nguyen
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on February 28, 2008. Expires February 28, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2303. Publish March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407994

The following person (s) doing business as: HNZ Consulting, 487 Montori Court, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Edward Sieh, 487 Montori Court, 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/ Edward Sieh
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 13, 2008. Expires March 13, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2304. Publish March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407719-407721

The following person (s) doing business as: 1) J. Travis Photography, 2) Jim Travis Photography, 3) J. Travis Packaging, 564 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): James V. Travis, 551 Trebbiano Place, Pleasanton Ca 94566
 This business is conducted by an Individual
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on 2005.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/ James V. Travis
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 7, 2008. Expires March 7, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2305. Publish March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407986

The following person (s) doing business as: Developmental Spectrums, 4463 Stoneridge Drive Ste A, Pleasanton Ca 94588
 This business is conducted by a Corporation
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on February 26, 2003.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/ Lynne R. Mielke
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 13, 2008. Expires March 13, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2306. Publish March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 2008.

STATEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL FROM PARTNERSHIP OPERATING UNDER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 393617

The following person (s) has (have) Withdrawal as General Partner (s) from the Partnership Under: Sterling Builders, 39 California Avenue, Ste 205A, Pleasanton Ca 94566
 The Fictitious Business Name Statement for the Partnership was filed on March 27, 2007 in the County of Alameda.
 Name of Withdrawing Partner: Jason Lee Boyd, 2599 Tanager Drive, Pleasanton Ca 94566
 Signature of Withdrawing Partner: /s/ Jason Boyd
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 5, 2008. Expires March 5, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2307. Publish March 27, April 4, 10, 17, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407918

The following person (s) doing business as: Vice Specialty Products, 288 Boeing Court, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Vi-Tec Manufacturing Inc., 288 Boeing Court, Livermore Ca 94551
 This business is conducted by a Corporation
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/ James P. Vice
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 12, 2008. Expires March 12, 2013.

The Independent Legal No. 2308. Publish April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407919

The following person (s) doing business as: MSR Value, 5328 Charlotte Way, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jeanne Michael, 5328 Charlotte Way, Livermore Ca 94550
 This business is conducted by a Corporation
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on February 1, 2008.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/ Jeanne Michael
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 12, 2008. Expires March 12, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2309. Publish April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 407613

The following person (s) doing business as: Elle Salon, 4713 1st Street #240, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Kathie Morales, 593 King George Ave., San Jose CA 95136
 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/ Kathie Morales
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on March 5, 2008. Expires March 5, 2013.
 The Independent Legal No. 2310. Publish April 3, 10, 17, 24, 2008

ANIMALS/PETS

1) CATS/DOGS

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at 925 426-8656.
Adopt a new best friend: TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, 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 12:00 to 4:00 and the Pet Food Express in Livermore from 1:00 to 4:00. 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.tvar.org.

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\$489,900	2BD/1BA	SUN 1-4PM	19346 Brusk Ct. J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 251-2516
\$777,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	22759 Rancho Palomares Place J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 251-2577
\$1,099,000	4+1BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	842 Matadera Cir. cross street Diablo Blvd - Acerman - Matadera Keller Williams 925 260-2508
\$1,249,000	4BD/3.5 BA	SUN 1:30-5PM	818 El Pintado Road J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 596-1972
\$2,199,000	3BD/3BA	SUN 2-4PM	898 El Pintado Road J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 890-8433
\$339,900	2BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	7052 Dublin Meadows Str Unit B J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 525-0116
\$390,000	2BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	6561 Conestoga Lane Keller Williams 925 463-0436
\$399,000	2BD/1.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	11869 Pollardstown Ct. J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 366-9555
\$649,950	3BD/2BA	SUN 1:30-4PM	11474 Silvergate Dr. cross street Dublin Blvd. J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 251-2547
\$1,189,950	5BD/4.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	10711 Inspiration Cir. J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 735-7653
\$1,499,900	5BD/5.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	5803 Turnberry Dr. cross street Fallon J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 251-2547
\$2,685,000	5BD/4.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	55 Airey Lane J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 648-5302
\$339,000	2BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 2-5PM	5138 Peony Drive cross street Bluebell - Marigold - Peony Dr. Re/Max Accord 925 337-2461
\$389,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	244 Lee Avenue cross street Portola - Lee Health Realty 925 786-3551
\$399,950	4BD/2BA	SUN 12-4PM	419 Meadowark cross street Olivina Ave. Windermere Welcome Home 925 640-8370
\$439,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-5PM	5903 Crestmont Ave cross streets N. Vasco - It - Crestmont Owner 650-504-6590
\$450,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	5525 Haggin Oaks Ave. cross street Dalton J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 525-0116
\$479,900	3BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	731 Mojave Ave cross street William J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 525-0116
\$479,000	2BD/2.5BA	SUN 3-6PM	266 Wood Street #403 cross street 4th Street Team 44Frost 925 443-7678
\$499,000	2BD/2BA	SUN 11-2PM	5114 Tulip Ct. cross street Heather - Marigold - Tulip Way Team 44Frost 925 443-7678
\$539,950	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 11-2PM	1710 Calle Del Rey cross street Portola Meadows Team 44Frost 925 443-7678
\$579,950	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	818 Waverly Common cross street Waverly Way Valley Properties 925 872-1323
\$608,900	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	1822 Birchwood Common Intero Real Estate Services 925 784-4744
\$644,950	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	1443 Hudson Way cross street Vancouver - Florence - Hudson Relax Executive 925 443-SOLD
\$649,950	4BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 12-5PM	1226 Baffin Way cross street Arroyo - Cartier - Vienna - Baffin Valley Properties 925 200-9901
\$689,000	3BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	1232 Diamond Ct. cross street Murdell Alain Pinel Realtors 925 640-3762
\$699,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 3-6PM	926 Orion Way cross street Alden Ln - Gemini - Orion Team 44Frost 925 443-7678
\$719,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 12:30-3:30PM	1579 Frankfurt Way cross street Kingsport J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 251-2523
\$729,950	4BD/3BA	SAT 1-4PM	11 Sparrow Ct. cross street Summertree Dr. Intero Real Estate Services 925 784-6208
\$749,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 12:30-3:30PM	1836 Heidelberg cross street Concannon - Epton J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 580-4513
\$815,000	5BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	1642 Feldspar Ct. cross street Murdell - Carnelian - Obsidian Alain Pinel Realtors 925 583-1121
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\$1,174,950	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1:30-4PM	2371 Vintage Ln. cross street Arroyo - Bess - Vintage Alain Pinel Realtors 925 455-5464
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\$596,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	7978 Wells cross street Thorton - Spruce - Wells Ave Intero Real Estate Sherry Barto 925 518-7747
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\$759,950	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	233 Del Valle Ct. cross street Stanley Blvd Keller Williams 925 463-0436
\$789,888	5BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	3570 Ballentyne cross street Santa Rita Valley Properties 925 519-9641
\$849,000	5BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	3660 Canelli Ct. J. Rockcliff Realtors 925 577-4165
\$1,170,000	4BD/3.5BA	SUN 2-4PM	2226 Kamp Court cross street Stoneridge Dr. - Kamp Dr. Alain Pinel Realtors 925 398-6706
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Walk a Little Farther at Livermore's Butterfly Garden, Thanks to a Girl Scout

By Patricia Koning

While most teenagers spent their spring break sleeping late, watching television and movies, or playing video games, Granada High School sophomore Kelsey Engel spent hers digging. For her Girl Scout Gold Award project, she added approximately 60 feet of path to the Butterfly Garden adjacent to the Livermore Public Library's Civic Center branch.

The project was accomplished almost entirely through sweat equity, along with generous donations of materials from local companies. Kelsey and her father spent an entire day digging out rock to prepare the path, most of which later went right back into the path. She also got help from fellow Girl Scout Jennifer Dreisbach and her father, friends Ciarra Trujillo and Jeff Wofford, her uncle, and her brother.

"One of my troop-mates made a quilt for her Gold Award project. I would have killed to have been making a quilt after digging for eight hours straight," says Kelsey.

They added a wooden border, donated by John Deere Landscaping, and topped the path with decomposed granite mixed with cement, donated by Cochran Landscaping. H.O. Crete laid a cement pad under a large tree along the path for a bench that was donated by the City of Livermore.

Despite the hard work, she's thrilled with the results. "I'm very happy with how it turned out," she says.

"Kelsey did an awesome job," says Howard Greenup, of the City of Livermore's Landscape Maintenance Department, who managed the project for the City.

The Butterfly Garden is a hidden treasure of Livermore. With a circular path and several meandering routes, native plants, a



Kelsey Engel, front, got some help from her friends.

demonstration garden, and now a shaded bench, the Garden is the perfect place to meditate or relax.

The Butterfly Garden is located between the Civic Center branch of the Livermore Public Library and the Arbor Vista Senior Apartments on South Livermore Avenue. It was created when the new Library was built in 2004.

In 2005, a Boy Scout planted the California Native Plant Zone for his Eagle project. A medicinal garden, Asian plant zone, and Mediterranean plant zone are planned, but have not yet been planted.

Greenup says the garden was planned as an opportunity for Girl and Boy Scout projects. Anyone interested in continuing work on the garden as a volun-

teer project can contact Justin Drinkwater, the Parks Supervisor, at 960-8020.

The Gold Award is the highest award that a 14- to 18-year-old Girl Scout can achieve. It's akin to the Boy Scout's Eagle Award. The project, which must be approved by the Girl Scout

council, is intended to fulfill a need within a girl's community (whether local or global), create change, and become ongoing. Projects must encompass organizational, leadership, and networking skills.

Kelsey is the first of the nine members of her Girl Scout troop

to complete her Gold Award project. The other members have projects in progress. The troop has been together for nine years—since Kindergarten.

"They're my best friends. I love how we meet every other Friday, work on badges together, and volunteer to do stuff," she says. Recently the girls went whitewater rafting for a badge and helped with the holiday food drive for the Alameda County Food Bank.

Kelsey's mom, Tena, says she never expected the troop to stay together all these years, but that it's been a wonderful experience. The parents also meet on their own, to play Bunco, have dinner, and watch movies together. In June, to celebrate their gradu-

ation from Girl Scouts, the nine members and their families will go on cruise to Mexico.

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