

Art, Community, & Education



Met Brook's Classic, 'The Producers,' Next for Tri-Valley Rep

Find Out What's Happening

Check out the second section

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

Lab Retirees: Funds Raised, Legal Action To Start

The UC Livermore Lab Retiree Group has raised enough money to begin legal efforts to try to regain membership in University of California health plans, group leader Joe Requa announced.

He said that a formal contract will come first. "Lawyers work on court time, which seems to run much slower than real time, so there may be a short delay before that (legal action) happens," he wrote in an email.

The financial target was \$150,000, which attorneys told the retiree group would be needed to support the initial phase of the legal effort. The target has now been reached, prompting Requa to joke that he should be able to proclaim "mission accomplished" as President Bush famously did seven years ago — only to see the Iraq war continue for years more.

The legal effort will also be a continuing one and in time may require still more funds, Requa said. "Unfortunately, we just won one battle. I expect the war to persist for some time so I will need your continued help."

The retiree group's law firms are developing strategy now. (See LEGAL, page 8)

Dublin Finalist For All American City Award

The City of Dublin has been named a finalist by the National Civic League for the 2010 All-America City Awards, the nation's oldest and most prestigious civic recognition award.

The City of Dublin submitted an application to the National Civic League to be considered for this honor, documenting three community projects that addressed the City's most pressing challenges — the integration of diversity and creating community unification following a period of significant growth.

"We are elated that the National Civic League chose us as a finalist," said Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti. "Dublin is worthy of this honor because of the way in which we have continued to promote civic engagement through a period of significant change and development."

Dublin will join 26 other communities from across the nation in Kansas City, MO on June 16-18 to compete for the award, telling the City's story of positive community change to a jury of civic experts. Ten All-America Cities will be announced on June 18, 2010.

In order for the City to send a delegation to compete for this distinguished honor, it will need to rely on its community and business partners to financially support the effort.

"The National Civic League highly encourages communities to raise funds to attend, rather than spending precious taxpayer dollars," Dublin Vice Mayor Kasie Hildenbrand. "We will be reaching out to the Dublin (See DUBLIN, page 8)

Illegal Prescription Drug Abuse a Serious Problem

By Patricia Koning

The biggest problem today facing the narcotics division of the Livermore Police Department is abuse of pharmaceutical drugs. "This is scary, serious stuff," said Sergeant Keith Graves, a 20-year veteran of the Livermore Police Department. "Everyone knows that crystal meth, heroine, and cocaine are bad. But people have a different attitude towards taking a pill."

Last Monday evening, Graves and Sergeant Jim Conley presented a well-attended talk entitled "The Pharmaceutical Epidemic: a Primer for Parents" at Granada High School. They gave a similar talk on Tuesday at Livermore High School. The talk at Granada was videotaped and will be made available on the websites of both schools (www.livermorehs.schoolloop.com and www.granadahs.schoolloop.com).

According to the Livermore Police, abuse of prescription drugs in Livermore has more than doubled in the last two years. Graves told the audience that arrests related to opiate pharmaceutical drugs like OxyContin (generic name Oxycodone) and Vicodin (acetaminophen/hydrocodone) are up 94% from 2008. In the first quarter of 2010, the police made more arrests for forged prescriptions than they did in all of 2009.

"I expect the number of arrests to continue to increase as our police department is trained on this profile of drug abusers

and dealers," Graves said. "The people who abuse pharmaceutical drugs don't look like your typical addict."

The pharmaceutical drug addicts are generally between the ages of 16 and 23, male or female, and middle class. An annual survey of high school seniors in Livermore showed that since 2003 about 10% say they have tried OxyContin or Vicodin in the last 12 months.

These pharmaceutical drugs are obtained through doctor shopping, corrupt doctors, forged prescriptions, illegal sales, the Internet, theft, foreign diversion, and smuggling. Graves said theft at pharmacies, either by employees or through robberies, has increased dramatically in recent years. "When a dealer can sell these pills for \$50 or more a pop, a thief can probably get more money at a pharmacy than a bank," he said.

Abusers of prescription drugs will swallow pills with the time- (See DRUGS, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The annual Cinderella bike ride features a variety of costumes worn by riders. This unique bicycle tour is for women and girls of all ages and abilities. It is sponsored annually by the Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club. Charming Princes were at rest/food stops along the way with snacks and a cold lunch at the second stop.

Pleasanton Council Considers Response To Judge's Ruling

Pleasanton is looking at three different responses to a judge's ruling that overturned its housing cap.

The city council took input from the public at last week's meeting on potential actions. The options are to appeal the decision, comply with the court's ruling as narrowly as permitted by law, or negotiate a resolution.

No decision was made. A second hearing will be held on April 20, at which time the council will decide its response to the court's ruling.

City Attorney Jonathan Lowell called the decision, "difficult to swallow. It is important to talk

publicly as much as we can about the options."

Alameda Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch issued the ruling on March 12. He ordered the city to complete re-zoning to accommodate its share of the region's housing as required by state law. The ruling prevents the city from using the cap in any planning documents or decisions.

The city has 120 days to reach a decision, once the final writ is issued.

Public opinion appeared to favor negotiations. The business community was particularly con- (See PLEASANTON, page 8)

Battle Over San Francisco Trash Disposal Has Local Impacts

The battle to win San Francisco's lucrative garbage disposal contract has raised issues involving Livermore and Alameda County. One concern is over environmental impacts to the region. The second issue is the loss of funding for the purchase of open space and other projects.

San Francisco city officials have tentatively recommended the contract go to Recology (formerly Norcal Waste Systems). Its main competitor is Waste Management.

Recology is proposing to dispose of San Francisco's non-recyclable trash at its Ostrom Road landfill in Yuba County, transporting it there by train. Currently the waste is trucked to the Altamont Landfill.

If the disposal site were changed, Alameda County and the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton stand to lose a substantial amount of money. Waste taken

to the Altamont Landfill includes a \$1.55 per ton fee, of which 31 cents goes towards recycling programs, 31 cents goes to Livermore as the host community, and 93 cents is set aside to purchase open space in the east county area. The host fee goes to the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center.

The current agreement allows up to 15 million tons of San Francisco's municipal solid waste to be handled at Altamont or 65 years of disposal, whichever came first. Judy Erlandson, waste and recycling manager for the City of Livermore, said the estimated time for the contract to run out is 2015. However, if the economy were to improve it could be earlier. If the economy remains static it could be longer, said Erlandson.

A request for qualifications produced three finalists to provide San Francisco with trash

service: Waste Management, Recology and Republic Services. The three were asked to respond to a request for proposal providing details on how they would minimize and mitigate impacts to the environment, climate and host communities.

The Sierra Club, the City of Livermore, Alameda County, and individuals have been following the process to grant a new contract and have raised several issues.

Glenn Kirby of the Sierra Club, stated "We are watching it with great interest. The Sierra Club was instrumental in achieving the Altamont Landfill settlement and fee structure. We have questions about the process, whether it was fair to all parties."

Kirby said the process didn't appear to be transparent.

Material that supports San Francisco's selection of a (See TRASH, page 6)

Planning Commission Recommends BART to Downtown and Vasco

Livermore Planning Commission voted unanimously last week to recommend extending BART to Livermore via a downtown station near the present ACE terminal and a station at Vasco Road just north of Lawrence Livermore Lab.

In so doing, they followed the recommendations of City staff, who examined five proposals for station locations, three proposals for maintenance yards and 10 potential track alignments that had emerged from previous studies, public hearings and community workshops.

The Planning Commission's recommendation is scheduled to be taken up by the Livermore City Council on April 26. BART itself is expected to certify its environmental impact statement and choose a preferred track alignment June 24.

Livermore residents have been paying BART taxes for half a century. The absence of a train extension to the east end of the Livermore Valley has been a source of irritation and cynicism

to local residents, particularly as San Joaquin and Livermore Valley populations grew and local traffic on Interstate 580 became one of northern California's two most persistent bottlenecks.

As the years have passed and land use planning has grown more sophisticated, BART's anticipated effect has evolved beyond freeway relief to a more comprehensive array of benefits, such as connecting city with city, improving the mobility of residents, stimulating economic development near station sites, reducing greenhouse gas and connecting with other transportation systems like the Altamont Commuter Express.

The costs are also seen in more complex terms, ranging from dollars to noise, property encroachment and environmental impact.

The BART route recommended by the Planning Commission follows I-580 east from the Dublin-Pleasanton station to Livermore's East Airway-Portola (See BART, page 4)

Livermore May Ban Use of Styrofoam in Restaurants

The Livermore City Council asked staff for more data on the impacts of instituting a ban on the use of styrofoam in eating establishments.

The council requested information on the costs to restaurants, incentives to comply with a ban, as well as punitive measures for noncompliance.

Once the information is available, the council would consider three options: no action, leaving it to a business to voluntarily stop using styrofoam products; a ban in the downtown area only; or a citywide ban.

If a ban were the approved direction, it would be phased in over a period of time. A report would be prepared for the council 90 days after the ban is instituted providing information on its financial impacts. There could be exemptions for a period of one year if a business could demonstrate the ban would create an economic hardship.

Brandon Cardwell, the city's recycling and diversion coordinator, told the council that the vast majority of eating establishments that provide take-out meals use (See STYROFOAM, page 8)



The mural will be painted on the side of the Old Firehouse in downtown Livermore.

Council OKs Mural for Livermore's Old Firehouse

A mural will decorate the side of the Old Firehouse building in downtown Livermore.

The Livermore City Council approved a design submitted by Vera Lowdermilk and Kean But-

terfield for the building at 2369 First Street. The design reflects the history of the building, which originally housed the world's oldest burning lightbulb.

A total of seven proposals

were received and reviewed by the Commission for the Arts. It depicts a parade scene featuring historic fire equipment. On the right side of the mural are three (See MURAL, page 12)

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Henry and Tilly are the most delightful cats you will ever meet! They are extremely bonded to one another and love to snuggle up together. Tilly is the outgoing one who greets everyone she sees, and Henry falls closely behind and waits for the OK from Tilly, and then comes to say hello with a head butt and purr. To meet Henry and Tilly, come to Valley Humane Society's Kitty City, located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Call 925-426-8656 or visit the web site www.valleyhumane.org for more information.

Art, Community, & Education



Jeff Seberg, Tiffany Davis and Robert Lopez

Mel Brook's Classic, 'The Producers,' Next for Tri-Valley Rep

The Mel Brooks' classic cult comedy film, "The Producers," opens at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on April 23.

The Producers are Bialystock and Bloom. As a big Broadway musical, outrageous, hilarious, off the wall, it was the winner of a record 12 Tony Awards. Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom sing and dance their way through the

greatest show biz scam that there ever was.

Music & Lyrics by Mel Brooks. Book by Mel Brooks & Thomas Meehan.

The Producers is directed by John Maio and produced by Kathleen Breedveld. The artistic staff also includes Jo Anne Fosselman (Music Director), Sean Aloise (Vocal Director) and Kevin Hammond

(Choreographer).

The leads are portrayed by Jeff Seberg (Max Bialystock), Robert Lopez (Leo Bloom), Ben Krantz (Franz Liebkind), Ken Blair (Roger DeBris), Tiffany Davis (Ulla) and Kevin Aachas (Carmen Ghia). The ensemble cast includes Morgan Breedveld, Robert Enos,

(continued on page 3)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Lamplighters Plans Two Performances at the Bankhead Theater

Lamplighters Music Theatre 2010-11 season of Gilbert & Sullivan includes classics and a comic play – *Engaged* by W.S. Gilbert, sans Sullivan - in honor of the 100th anniversary of Gilbert's passing.

The Lamplighters will bring their subscription season to the Bankhead Theater in Livermore this year.

The season opens with Gilbert & Sullivan's swashbuckling classic comedy *The Pirates of Penzance*. It will be performed at the Bankhead Theater August 27-29, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

One of Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular comic operas, *The Pirates of Penzance* follows the story of Frederic, an orphan who was mistakenly apprenticed to a pirate instead of a pilot, due to a hard-of-hearing nurse. Upon reaching his 21st birthday, Frederic rejoices that he has fulfilled his indenture and is now free to return to respectable society, but in a cruel twist of fate, he must remain apprenticed to the Pirates of Penzance for another 63 years. Mayhem ensues in true Gilbert and Sullivan style, featuring a gaggle of soft-hearted pirates, a Major General who knows nothing of military strategy, his beautiful unwed daughters, and a chorus of bumbling constabulary, all contributing to one of the most uproarious operettas in the history of musical theatre. Phil Lowery will direct the production and Monroe Kanouse will conduct. Featuring some of Gilbert and Sullivan's most well known songs, including *Poor Wand'ring One* and *A Modern Major General*, *The Pirates of Penzance* is as wacky, irreverent, and entertaining today as it was



Pirates of Penzance in August

when it first opened in 1879.

The Lamplighters' winter production will be Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Yeomen of the Guard*. Performances are February 19 and 20, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Livermore.

Subtitled *The Merryman and his Maid*, the story is set during Shakespearean times, and is the most emotionally engaging of the Savoy Operas, ending with a broken-hearted main character and two very reluctant engagements. *Yeomen* follows a prisoner who escapes from the Tower of London and assumes the identity of a guardsman. The story is filled with wordplay and mistaken identities, including a most memorable scene where the prisoner in disguise confronts his own wife without revealing his true identity. Critics considered the score to be Sullivan's finest, including its

overture, which is in sonata form. This was the first Savoy Opera to use Sullivan's larger orchestra, including a second bassoon and third trombone. Most of Sullivan's subsequent operas, including those not composed with Gilbert as librettist, use this larger orchestra. This dark comedy is the closest thing to grand opera in the Gilbert & Sullivan repertoire. The Lamplighters' Artistic Director, Barbara Heroux, will direct the production and their resident Music Director, Baker Peeples, will conduct.

A third production will be offered in March in Walnut Creek and San Francisco. It will be a double feature of Gilbert & Sullivan's *Trial by Jury* coupled with Gilbert's comic farce *Engaged*.

Tickets to the Livermore productions will be available at 925-373-6800 or livermoreperformingarts.org. Tickets are \$19.50-\$43.

Alameda County Fair Offers Diverse Concerts

The Alameda County Fair is gearing up for this year's festivities.

The fair runs June 23 through July 11 (closed Tuesdays) in Pleasanton.

A sneak peak at the entertainment was offered this week. Foreverland, a Michael Jackson tribute band performs June 23 followed by Johnny Rivers on June 24 and Uncle Kracker on June 25. Tower of Power is set for June 26. Diana Reyes is on stage June 27 and Natalie Grant June 28. The Journey tribute band, Evolution, performs June 30.

Crystal Gayle is on stage July 1. Little Feat is scheduled for July 2; Con Funk Sun on July 3. On July 4, there will be a blues festival. The Newsboys perform on July 5; Beatles Mystery, a Beatles band, is set for July 7 followed by Grand Funk Railroad on July 8. Lonestar is set for July 10. War is the act for July 11, closing day.

Performances are at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the amphitheater. Admission is included in the fair entrance fee on a first come-first seated basis.

The fair also announced that it's time to enter contests and competitions. Among the categories are collections, photography, arts and crafts, agriculture, amateur wine, baking, crafts, sewing, poetry, hobbies and more. To enter go to the website www.AlamedaCountyFair.com.



Uncle Kracker

New promotions are planned for this year's fair. Wacky Wednesdays, June 23, June 30 and July 7, will have a \$3 admission fee. Seniors, age 62 and up, will be admitted free on Thursdays. Kids free Fridays, for those age 12 and under, are June 25, July 2 and 9.

A fair food drive will be held Mon., June 28. Bring four nonperishable food items and be admitted free. The drive is a partnership with the Alameda County Food Bank.

Military appreciation day is set for Fri., July 2.

For more information visit the website at www.AlamedaCountyFair.com.

Wente Concert Series Opens with The Fray, Closes with Willie Nelson

Wente Vineyards has announced the line-up for its annual The Concerts at Wente Vineyards Series. Wente Vineyards will host a summer of top name headliners in its vineyard setting. Delivering an exciting selection of musical genres, The Concerts will include artists such as The Fray, Willie Nelson and Liza Minnelli.

The concert series opens Thurs., June 17 with The Fray followed by Liza Minnelli on Thurs., June 24.

In July, Barenaked Ladies perform Tues., July 20.

There are three concerts in August: Huey Lewis and the News on Tues., Aug. 10; Chris Isaak August 19, and ZZ Top on August 25.

Willie Nelson is set for Mon., Sept. 13.

Negotiations are underway for two additional concerts: Counting Crows, and Harry Connick Jr.

Ticket options include different dining and seating choices. The

Restaurant Dining Option includes stage-front seating, the evening's performance, a four-course dinner at the award-winning Restaurant at Wente Vineyards, reserved parking, tax and gratuity. Prices start from \$259.

Tickets inclusive of a buffet-style wine country inspired dinner by Catering with Wente Vineyards are available by reservation and include outdoor tables seating eight or ten guests. This option

provides guests with a view of the concert from their dining table. These tickets include Premium Dining, Outdoor Dining and Mezzanine Dining, which offer different seating locations within the concert area. The price of the ticket includes seating, the evening's performance, the buffet style dinner served from 6:00 - 8:00pm, tax and gratuity. Prices start from \$169.

Tickets without dinner options

are sold at prices starting at \$89, and allow guests the option to dine at The Grill prior to the show. Tickets go on-sale to the Club Wente Entertainment Members on April 17th and are open to the general public on May 2. Wine and non-alcoholic beverages are not included in the price of tickets, but may be purchased separately at the show.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.wentevineyards.com.

Spelling Bee Opens Tri-Valley Rep's 2010-11 Mainstage Musicals at the Bankhead Theater

The Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre has announced its 2010-11 season.

Three new musicals and one old favorite comprise the mainstage musical season at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

First on the calendar is the "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." Six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. Performances are Oct. 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 and Nov. 5, 6, and 7.

Next is "Children of Eden," based on the story of Genesis. The play is described as a "frank, heartfelt and often humorous examination of the age-old conflict between parents and children." Performances are January 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, and 30 and Feb. 4, 5, and 6, 2011.

"All Shook Up," is the loopy



tale of mismatched lovers in a 1955 midwest town that incorporates a range of ballads such as "Love Me Tender" and "Devil in Disguise." The musical will be performed April 22, 23, 24, 29, and 30 and May 1, 6, 7 and 8.

Rounding out the musicals is "The Sound of Music," the story of the von Trapp family. The show is set for July 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31 and Aug. 5, 6 and 7.

The Studio Theatre offers three

musicals as well. Performances are at the Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton.

"My Way," a musical tribute to Frank Sinatra, is scheduled for Sept. 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, and Oct. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10.

"Bat Boy: The Musical," is up next. It is based on a news story about a half-boy, half-bat dubbed "Bat Boy," found in a cave. Performances are Feb. 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27 and March 4, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 13.

The final performance is "Godspell," based on the Gospel According to St. Matthew. The show is June 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, and 26.

The Broadway Chorus will perform at the Amador Theater on November 2010 and May 2011.

Season tickets are now available, with a discount offered for tickets purchased prior to May 1. Call 462-2121 or go to www.trivalleyrep.com.

THE PRODUCERS

(continued from front page)

Tom Farris, Mark Flores, Lindsay Garber, Jenna Harris, Melissa Heinrich, Christina Lazo, Rebecca LaFluer, Erin Little, Misty Megia, Josh Millbourne, Tim Nolan, Brian Olkowski, Charles Orlando, Drew Orlando, Bryan Pangilinan, Heidi Schrupp, Amy Sloan, Savannah Stratton, Bob Stratton, Mindy Zuckerman.

Performances are 8 p.m. Fridays/Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, April 23 through May 9. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street, Livermore.

Tickets are \$35 for adults (18-60), \$33 for seniors (60+), and \$25 for juniors (under 18). The Bankhead Theater will add \$1.50 to the price of each ticket. Tickets may be purchased on the Bankhead Theater website, by phone at 925-373-6800, or by visiting the Bankhead Theater ticket window.

The Producers is presented with permission from Music Theatre International.

The show contains adult language.

'Rent' Run Extended at Las Positas College

Because of brisk ticket sales and very enthusiastic audience responses, Las Positas College has extended the run of "Rent," with two additional performances - Friday, April 23 at 8 and Sunday, April 25 at 2. There is no performance on Saturday, April 24.

The remaining regularly sched-

uled performances are on April 16 and 17 at 8 and April 18 at 2. For advance reservations, people can call 424-1818, 424-1812 or 424-1166, or send an email to kross@laspositascollege.edu.

Las Positas is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

baby, oh baby!

classes for new parents

- **Prenatal Care & Fetal Development**
Monday, May 3; 7-9 pm; FREE
- **Breastfeeding Basics**
Tuesday, May 11; 7-9 pm; FREE
- **Breastfeeding Support Group**
Every Tuesday at 10:30 am; FREE

- **Childbirth Preparation**
Sat., May 15&22; 9 am-3:30 pm;
\$85/Eden couple; \$120/others
- **Baby Care Basics**
Sat., May 1; 10 am-1 pm;
\$20/person; \$30/couple

Classes are open to all new and expectant parents.



Eden Medical Center
A Sutter Health Affiliate

20103 Lake Chabot Road
Castro Valley, CA 94546
www.edenmedcenter.org

It's easy to register!

For free classes/support groups:
www.edenmedcenter.org/events
(Click on "Find a Class," keyword: baby)
For classes with a fee, please call
1-(888) 445-8433.





George Gomez is holding an autographed photo of Charlton Heston.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore Movie Buffs Meet Up for Fun

By Ron McNicoll

One of the newest meet-ups facilitated by the internet is Livermore Movie Buffs, a group of about 100 people led by George Gomez.

Gomez posts trailers on-line at meetup.com. Participants go to the site and view the trailers, then vote for their favorite. The winner this month was "Clash of the Titans," which outpolled "Date Night" by 17 to 12. ("Repo Man" received 2 votes, "Alice in Wonderland" one.)

People send an RSVP e-mail to Gomez, and then meet up at

the announced time and movie theater for the Saturday night showing. Afterward, they adjourn to a nearby restaurant to talk about the movie.

There are no dues. However, each diner who wants to play a trivia game at the restaurant discussion kicks in \$1 for the winner's jackpot. Gomez cooks up the questions, usually based on things such as roles that the current movie's stars had in past films.

The group started out with movies at The Vine, but switched to the Regal Hacienda Cinema in Dublin to accommodate people who come

on the freeways from as far as San Francisco, Oakland, San Leandro and Concord.

Gomez would like to get the group together several times a month. However, it's difficult for him, because his psychiatric nursing job has him working every other weekend.

Gomez hopes to have some future meet-ups at The Vine, since Livermore is in the group's title. Also, The Vine now has food from the Riata restaurant available during screenings, so it's the kind of atmosphere that movie buffs want when watching a movie, said

Gomez.

GOMEZ HAS AUTOGRAPHS

One sign of Gomez's own zeal for films is his collection of 700 autographs. He has about 200 of them displayed on the walls of a room in his home.

Gomez said that he is as obsessive about collecting autographs as the fictional TV detective Adrian Monk is about so many little things in his life.

"I have his autograph, too," said Gomez, referring to Tony Shaloub, who has won the Emmy for best actor three times for his

role as Monk.

Most of the autographs are the result of purchases on-line. The highest cost so far has been a signature by Errol Flynn for \$400. Gomez collected some of the signings as the result of mail requests to stars. Only about one out of 10 requests is honored. A few had to be accompanied by \$10 or \$20, because some old-time stars have run into some money troubles, said Gomez.

Among Gomez's movie star collection are Peter Falk, Tom Hanks, Roger Moore, Christopher Walken, (continued on page 5)

Day of Sacred Song Set

The St. Innocent Orthodox Concert Choir will present *Never Ending Light: A Day of Sacred Song in the Russian Tradition* at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 25.

There is no charge for this event.

Enter into the daily cycle of sung prayer as handed down through 20 centuries of Christianity. The St. Innocent Orthodox Concert Choir will present a *capella* selections from the services of a liturgical day — from sunset to sunrise.

The ancient lyrics are set to the music of Russian and American choral masters from the 18th century to the present. The concert choir is comprised of the church liturgical choir along with several professional and semi-professional vocalists from the Tri-Valley and draws on a rich and vast musical legacy composed by Russians for the Russian Orthodox Church. This treasure trove of music is a living heritage, handed down from the time of Christianity's introduction to Russia over ten centuries ago, that each generation makes their own while preserving the inner spirit of the pieces.

Most concert selections will be performed in English, with a few pieces sung in Church Slavonic.

The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us.

Shakespeare Theme of Salon

4th Street Studio invites writers to read and listeners to listen at its monthly Saturday Salon on Saturday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. 4th Street Studio is located at 2235 Fourth Street in Livermore. Everyone has up to ten minutes to read. The public is welcome.

This month's salon is "A Speak the Speech Trippingly on the Tongue Kind of Night" to celebrate the playwright and poet William Shakespeare (born on April 23, 1564), the great master of the spoken word.

4th Street Studio, with its Saturday Salons, celebrates all of the literary arts as spoken word. The Salons provide an opportunity for writers to read their work — so they can hear how it sounds when read aloud, and so others can listen to what they have written. All literary forms are welcome: fiction, literary nonfiction, memoir, poetry, monologues, and short dramatic works.

Bring a nosh and something to drink to share.

Saturday Salon at 4th Street Studio is sponsored by Fourth Street Studio. The salons, now in their seventh year, are held on the third Saturday of each month at 4th Street Studio, 2235 Fourth Street.

MOVIE BUFFS . . .

Sean Connery, and Mel Gibson. He obtained James Garner's autograph in Nashville, where the star was visiting his daughter Greta, whom Gomez knew.

The first autograph for Gomez came from Charlton Heston in 1998, when the star was in Nashville on a book tour.

Although fandom is the main motivator for Gomez's collection, he noted that some of the signatures become quite valuable. "The most expensive signature out there, other than old presidents, is Greta Garbo, which is worth \$15,000. Of course, I don't have it," he said.

"The weirdest autograph was from David Berkowitz (the serial killer known in the 1970s as Son of Sam'.) I wrote him in Attica prison. He is now saving souls for the Lord. Someone said that if you write him, he'll write you back. I got it back. It's worth \$2,000," said Gomez.

The other unusual signature is from James Earl Ray, the convicted

assassin of Martin Luther King, Jr. "I was a psychiatric nurse at a maximum security prison. I was supervisor of the rehabilitation unit. He was one of my patients. He was really out of it. He was schizophrenic," said Gomez.



Battle of Basses Next in Early Music Series

The Las Positas College 2010 Early Music Concert Series continues on April 24 with the Battle of the Basses. Performers will be David Morris on bass violin, viola da gamba, baroque cello and Yuko Tanaka on harpsichord.

The concert begins at 8 p.m.

In *The Battle of the Basses*, David Morris will masterfully demonstrate how bowed basses changed throughout the renaissance and baroque eras. The viola da gamba, the bass violin, and the cello each enjoyed surges of popularity in France, England, and Italy. This program of music from the renaissance to the high baroque includes unaccompanied solo works as well as pieces with Yuko Tanaka playing basso continuo and composers ranging from Tobias Hume and Marin Marais to J.S. Bach.

A pre-concert talk at 7:30 p.m. also features Kevin Fryer, a master harpsichord builder with a worldwide reputation. He will interview the artist and discuss the instruments as well as the repertoire.

The concert concludes with a reception where the audience can meet the performers and see the instruments. Refreshments for the reception are provided by Amador Valley Catering Co., a student run catering business at AVHS.

These concerts are sponsored in part by the Las Positas College Foundation and the Alameda County Arts Commission.

Tickets are available at the door. \$15.00 general admission, \$5.00 students. Free parking in Lot D

The concerts are held in the college library, building 2000, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. For additional information, visit the website at www.lpcearlymusic.org.



David Morrison



Saturday
April 24th
10 AM - 4 PM

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Earth Events Are Planned

Livermore to Host Annual Clean-up and Festival

Making Livermore a more beautiful place to live in just one day is the goal behind Livermore Earth Day 2010. On Saturday, April 17, volunteers will disperse throughout the city to help enhance the earth.

Livermore Earth Day 2010 is co-sponsored by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and the City of Livermore Beautification Committee and Water Resources Division. The event includes a morning community cleanup followed by an Earth Day festival.

In past years, more than 400 people have volunteered to pitch in and lend a hand. Some of this year's cleanup projects include a reed removal at Sycamore Grove Park, tree-planting project at Robertson Park and cleanup at Veterans Park and Granada Native Gardens. The community cleanup will run from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Volunteers will receive free continental breakfast, water and a canvas bag. Volunteers are encouraged to bring work gloves.

Following the cleanup will be the Earth Day festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival includes arts and crafts, vendor exhibits and activities for children. Volunteers will receive a free barbecue lunch sponsored by the Livermore Lions

Club. Live music at the festival will be performed by KNR. Also during the festival, people are invited to bring their old 6-foot, 300-watt halogen floor lamps and PG&E bill to trade in for a new energy-efficient version for free. Details can be found at www.risingsunenergy.org.

Livermore Earth Day will be held at Robertson Park, 3200 Robertson Park Road.

Volunteers can come to Robertson Park at 8:30 a.m. to participate. No advance registration is necessary.

For more information, call 925-373-5700 or visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us or www.livermoreearthday.org.

Amador Club to Screen film, 'Flow'

Amador Valley High School's Environmental Club, which focuses on raising awareness about conservation and the environment, will be showing the award-winning film *Flow* about the world water crisis.

The film takes a look at fresh water privatization and the many



issues surrounding it, including human rights violations, pollution and politics. The movie also talks about practical solutions to the growing problem of a decreasing fresh water supply and ways in which technology may play a role in reversing this global issue.

The film has won many awards, including Best Documentary at the United Nations Association Film Festival and Jury Prize at the 2008 Mumbai International Film Festival.

The movie will be shown in Amador Valley High School's multipurpose room on Wednesday, April 21 from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Admission is free and snacks will be for sale.

The club can be contacted at avhsenvironmental@yahoo.com.

Museum Plans Talk on 'Sustainability';

The Museum On Main Street's Ed Kinney Lecture Series presents "Sustainability: Then and Now" in recognition of the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 22 at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue, Pleasanton. The

lecture is sponsored by Jack Harrington.

Alviso Adobe Community Park Naturalist Eric Nichols, and Maria Lara from the Office of Pleasanton's city manager will talk about native, historic and current sustainability efforts. What sustainable practices did Native populations use in the Amador-Livermore Valley hundreds of years ago? What steps can we take to ensure a healthier region today and into the future?

Nicholas will talk about Native and historic land use, including hunting game, gathering food, and creating shelter. He leads programs with local youth and the public, encouraging active participation in stewardship. Lara will discuss local sustainability programs including Solar Cities, a program focused on educating residential consumers about solar energy in the cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, and Dublin; the curbside recycling program, and more.

Admission is \$5 members and seniors, \$10 non-members, and \$3 students and teachers with ID. No reservations necessary. Purchase tickets at the door.

For information call the museum on (925) 462-2766. The museum is located at 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Visit www.museumonmain.org.

Mystery Writers Present Program

Mystery writers Cara Black, Rhys Bowen, and Penny Warner will be at the Livermore Civic Center Library Sun., April 18 for an afternoon of mystery, murder and mayhem.

The program begins at 2 p.m.

Cara Black is the author of the nationally best-selling and award nominated *Aimee Leduc Investigation* series, set in Paris. Her latest, *Murder in the Palais Royal*, is the tenth book in the series, and was just published in March 2010. *Aimee, PI extraordinaire*, is framed for the shooting of her partner, and the trail leads to Paris' Palais Royal. But what part does Aimee's fugitive mother play in this sinister plot against her?

Rhys Bowen's mysteries have been nominated for every major mystery award and has won Agatha, Anthony and MacAvity awards. She currently writes the

Molly Murphy Mysteries, set in turn of the century New York City and the lighter bestselling Royal Spyness mysteries about a penniless minor royal in 1930s London. Her latest offering is *The Last Illusion*, a mystery in which Molly Murphy is hired by none other than Houdini himself. Rhys is a transplanted Brit who divides her time between the Bay Area and Arizona, where she retreats to escape the harsh California winters. She was guest of honor at last year's Left Coast Crime and will be toastmaster at this year's Malice Domestic convention in Washington D.C.

Penny Warner has published over 50 books, including more than a dozen party books. Her books have won national awards, garnered excellent reviews, and been printed in 14 countries. Her latest is *How to Host a Killer Party: A*

Party Planning Mystery, featuring Presley Parker, an appealing heroine who turns to planning parties when she's suddenly downsized. Her first gig – a surprise wedding for the San Francisco mayor at Alcatraz that takes a turn for the worse when the bride becomes a victim of poisoned chocolates. Known as the "Queen of Parties," Penny has planned over 500 parties, including interactive murder mystery fund-raisers for libraries across the country.

Books will be available for sale and signing.

Admission is free.

The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us.

Friends of Pleasanton Library Book Sale Next Week

The Friends of the Pleasanton Public Library host the Spring Book Sale 2010 on Friday, April 23, Saturday, April 24, and Sunday, April 25th at the Library in the Large Meeting Room.

The Friday night sale will run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. for members only of the Friends of the Library, (memberships available at the door). The sale is open to everyone on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Because of the tight confines of the sale layout, no strollers are allowed.

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

The Friends of the Pleasanton Library is a 501c3 nonprofit organization created to support the Library. All revenues from the Book Sale will go to purchase new library materials, programs or equipment.

The Friends are seeking adult volunteers to help set up the sale and during the sale hours. For book sale or volunteer information, please call Nancy Bering, (925) 462-4368.



Action at previous living history event.

Historic Garage Open Sunday

The 1915 Duarte Garage will be open on Sun., April 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is located on the old Lincoln Highway, corner of Portola and L Streets in Livermore.

The Lincoln Highway was the first Transcontinental Highway in the United States.

The Duarte Garage contains memorabilia from the early days of the automobile such as a collection of early California license plates and maps showing the various routes of the Lincoln Highway in California. In addition, the garage houses two restored fire engines, a Model T fire truck and a 1944 Mack engine. A third engine, a 2910 Seagrave, is being restored by a group of volunteers. It has been disassembled and is presently at the Tri-Valley Auto Body being readied for a new paint job. The Model T, Mack and the Seagrave were fire trucks used by the Livermore Fire Department.

Valley residents who may have items pertaining to the fire trucks or the garage they would like to donate, the restoration crew would welcome them. Also, the Heritage Guild is looking for older license plates from any of the 13 states that the Lincoln Highway crosses through.

The Livermore Heritage Guild operates the Duarte Garage with an all volunteer staff. There is no admission charge. Donations are welcome and used for projects at the garage. For more information, call 443-9740.

Civil War Day at Forest Home Farms

Civil War Living History Day will be staged at Forest Home Farms Historic Park on Sat., April 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Living history encampments provide information about the daily life of soldiers, women and children of the American Civil War and Victorian era.

There will be battle skirmishes, an opportunity to talk with historic

characters; march with soldiers; view fashions of the day; visit a field hospital and shop for old-fashioned items at the Gift Shoppe.

BBQ and kettle corn will be available for purchase. Pay at the gate admission adults \$7.00; children 3-12: \$5.00, ages 2 and under free.

Forest Home Farms Historic Park is located at 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd. in San Ramon. For more information, call (925) 973-3284.

Niles Canyon Railway Subject of History Lecture

Dick Jones will be the guest speaker for the April 21 Livermore Heritage Guild's History Lecture Series presentation.

Jones, a local photographer, will show photographs he took of the Niles Canyon Railway. It operates on a portion of the First Transcontinental Railroad constructed in the 1860s. The rail line through Niles Canyon was one of the earlier to be built in California and provided the first rail connection between San Francisco and the rest of the nation.

Today, the Niles Canyon Railway is a heritage railway operated by the Pacific Locomotive Association. The group preserves, restores and operates historic railroad equipment. His pictures will include various shots of "rolling stock" and engines taken from the

ground and from an airplane, as well as the maintenance facility at Brightside and the "Train of Lights" at Christmas time. In addition, a short video of a re-enactment of a visit by President Taft to the Sunol area will be shown.

The lecture will be held at the

Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Doors open at 7 p.m. The talk begins at 7:30 p.m. Come early for conversation and refreshments. The program is open to everyone. A \$2 donation is suggested. For more information, call 443-9740.

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ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

Seward Johnson Sculptures Downtown Pleasanton, interactive exhibit by sculptor J. Seward Johnson placed on sidewalk locations. The eleven life-size, three-dimensional bronze sculptures depict the everyday activities of people who may be found anywhere, from a man reading a newspaper on a park bench and an elderly woman carrying a bag of groceries to a child welcoming a soldier home from duty. The exhibit will remain in place through June 30, 2010. More information about the J. Seward Johnson exhibit is available by contacting Pleasanton Fine Arts Coordinator Julie Finegan at jfinegan@ci.pleasanton.ca.us or (925) 931-5355.

Poetry in Place, literary stroll through Downtown Livermore during April. There are 16 poems and essays by local writers about places downtown are on display. The entries are hanging in the windows or inside the shops, restaurants and offices. See the attachment for more information. The works are on display through April 30. More information can be found at www.livermorelit.com.

Art Exhibit, collection of hand printed linocuts by Katie Caulk now on display at Swirl on the Square through April 30. Swirl is located in Blacksmith Square at 21 South Livermore Ave. Hours are Th-F: 11:30-2:00 and 5:00-9:00; Sat: 11:30-10:00; Sun 11:30-8:00. Meet the artist on Sunday, March 28, 3:00 - 5:00.

Art exhibit, Judy Rice's collection of paintings on Masa Paper will be on display at the Garré Winery and Restaurant from March 1 - April 30. Garré Winery is at 7986 Tesla Road. Hours are M-F 11:00-2:30, and Sat-Sun 11:30-5:30.

Call to Artists - Art Exhibition, What Lies Above, Below & Through, a juried exhibition exploring surface, depth, opacity & transparency. Entries due April 16th. Exhibition runs May 14 - June 19th at Ryan Fine Art, 171 So. J Street, Livermore. See www.lindaryanfineart.com for details.

A collection of paintings by artist Lily Xu, Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Tasting Room through April 30, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore. The tasting room is open daily 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information about the show, contact the artist at lily.xu@comcast.net.

BFA student exhibit, Paintings, photography, sculpture, and works on paper will be shown by California State University, East Bay BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts) students in an exhibition in the University Art Gallery,

25800 Carlo Bee Blvd., Hayward. The exhibition will be open from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays March 30-April 22. Admission is free. Participants are Jasmin Marie Alconcher, Victor Arce, Kathleen Bonnar, Matthew Ecclesiastre, Carol Faber, Eyaal Fisseha, Monica Garcia, Tony Hoang, Kenneth Hung, Zsuzsanna Laszlo, Pat McCabe, Rene Mijares, Justin Reece, Diane Reilly, Melanie Grayrain Sharr, Andrew Wallace, Michael Wallace, and Elizabeth Zunino. Campus parking is \$7 per day. Pay machines are in lots E2, F, G, H, K and N.

Through the Glass Eye, current exhibit showcased at the gallery at Deer Ridge Vineyards. This exhibit features landscape photographic works by Marc Davis, Chris Foster, Stephen Joseph, Lon Overacker, and Lawrence Piggins. Free and open to the public during tasting room hours, Friday through Sunday, 11 am - 5pm until May 21, 2010. Meet the artists at a champagne reception, Sunday, April 18, 2-4 pm at Deer Ridge Vineyards. Preview the collection at www.deerridgevineyards.com/glasseye.html. Deer Ridge Vineyards, 1828 Wetmore Rd., Livermore.

Art exhibit, Livermore Art Association is sponsoring an unusual show at the Bothwell Arts Center. 'The Essential Nude', a collection of fine figurative art by local artists will be on display from April 15th - 18th. Meet the artists, and enjoy food and wine at the opening reception on Thursday, April 15 from 7:00-9:00 pm. The show will be judged by artist Robert Hunt. Regular exhibit hours from the 16th-18th are 11:00am - 4:00 pm. The Bothwell Center is at 2466 Eighth Street, Livermore. The event is free and open to the public. For more information visit website livermoreartassociation.org.

Trevor Pawlak - Poetry Exhibit, San Ramon Library Art Gallery, 10 year old Trevor Pawlak finds words beyond his years to express himself through poetry. He has Autism and enjoys writing poetry to share his feelings, as he is nonverbal. Trevor addresses some of his struggles with Autism through his unique perspective on the world. Exhibit open through April 30 at the San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery Street. The gallery is open during regular library hours: Monday - Thursday from 10:00am - 8:00pm, Friday - Saturday from 10:00am - 5:00pm, and on Sunday from 1:00 - 5:00pm. The San Ramon Library is closed on 3/31 for furlough and on 4/4 for Easter. For more information please contact the San Ramon Library at 925-973-2850, visit their website at www.cclib.org or contact Suzy Chow at 925-973-3372.

The Contra Costa JCC will open three new exhibits featuring work by Michael Yashar, a collection of Ketubot, and Traditions: From Generation to Generation, an eclectic collection of Judaica from the local community. The exhibits will be

housed at the Contra Costa JCC's Friedkin Art Gallery, Gallery 925, and Tice Valley Gallery from May 12 through September 17, 2010. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 8:00 pm and Fridays, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The public is invited to enjoy the exhibits. Admission is free. The Contra Costa JCC is located at 2071 Tice Valley Blvd. in Walnut Creek.

Call for Artists, Art in the Park, Danville: 12th Annual Fine Arts Festival, October 2 & 3, On the Town Green, Front Street Park, by the Library. Categories: Paintings in All Media, Photography, Ceramics, Sculpture, Graphics and limited openings in Fine Jewelry (no crafts). Sponsored by Alamo Danville Artists' Society and the Town of Danville, this event is a Fund Raiser for Art in the Schools of the San Ramon School District. Art in the Park includes a Judged Inside Art Show and food, wine and live entertainment. Booth spaces are 10' x 10' and the fees are \$85 for non ADAS members. Artist's applications available: e-mail ormawebb@comcast.net or call 925 828-9170.

Diapers to Diapers, poetry, prose and photography exhibit. Vogue Studio, 5410-4 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Reception with artists Sat., May 22, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Creative director: Sandra Kay; photographer: Monica Down. Gourmet appetizers. Live music by the band 256. \$3 at the door. Tri-Valley Haven fund-raiser.

MEETINGS

Livermore Art Association, Pleasanton Art League, meeting Mon., April 19, 7:30 p.m. at Almond Avenue School, 1401 Almond Ave., Livermore. Guest artist is Peggi Kroll-Roberts. She will present a figure painting demonstration. There is no admission charge. The meeting is open to interested individuals.

WINERY EVENTS

Murrieta's Well 20th Anniversary Weekend Events: winemaker's dinner, Fri., April 16, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Meet co-founder Sergio Traverso. Sample wine country cuisine paired with Murrieta's Well wine. Guests \$105 per person, Silver Spur Club Members \$95 per person. **Anniversary Celebration** is Saturday and Sunday, April 17 and 18, 11:00am to 5:00pm. Anniversary Weekend will feature complimentary wine tasting, special release library wine tasting in our historic barrel room and complimentary vineyard tours. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 925-456-2390. www.murrietawell.com. 3005 Mines Road, Livermore.

1040 Soup Kitchen, April 17, Cedar Mountain Winery. Tired and fed up with standard deductions, allowables, & dreading the April 15 midnight hour? Join us in the tasting room between 12:00-4:00 for a cup of the famous U.S. Senate Restaurant Bean

Soup & give something back to our friends at the IRS! This is an annual event compliments of Cedar Mountain. 7000 Tesla Road, Livermore, 925-373-6910.

Venetian Mask Making Workshop, led by Carla Almanza-de Quant. Deer Ridge Vineyards, Sun., April 18, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost \$95 includes Blank Half Mask, Paints, Ribbons, Patina, Italian Papers, Trim, and Glitter. Preregistration is required. Go to www.deerridgevineyards.com/maskworkshop.html for details. Deer Ridge Vineyards is located at 1828 Wetmore Rd., Livermore.

3rd Annual Wine Tasting Silent Auction, White Crane Winery, noon to 4 p.m., Sun., April 25. Benefitting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Hosted by HIKE members of Team in Training. Join us for a relaxing day of wine tasting. Local wineries will showcase their wines for tasting while you enjoy finger food, music, inspirational speakers, and, raffles. Meander through silent auction items to fit every budget. 10% discount when purchasing your \$25 ticket on line. <https://WineHike.ticketleap.com> Use code: SUPPORT or call 925 413 7788 925 413 7788

3rd Annual Wine Tasting Silent Auction, White Crane Winery, noon to 4 p.m., Sun., April 25. Benefitting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Hosted by HIKE members of Team in Training. Join us for a relaxing day of wine tasting. Local wineries will showcase their wines for tasting while you enjoy finger food, music, inspirational speakers, and, raffles. Meander through silent auction items to fit every budget. 10% discount when purchasing your \$25 ticket on line. <https://WineHike.ticketleap.com> Use code: SUPPORT or call 925 413 7788 925 413 7788.

Vino Carnival, a wine country Auction benefiting these local children's charities, hosted by the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation. Sat., May 1, Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. 5 p.m. silent auction and upscale carnival cuisine, 7:30 p.m. live auction and dessert/port pairing. Tickets \$175 per person. Game token packages available, buy 5 game tokens and event ticket for \$200. www.lvwine.org.

Cinco de Merlot, May 1, Cedar Mountain Winery, So come by between 12:00-4:00 and enjoy some Mexican food and Merlot compliments of Cedar Mountain. 7000 Tesla Road, Livermore, 925-373-6910.

Art, Wine & Chocolate, An evening of wine-tasting, live music and fine art to benefit Camp Kadima. Saturday, May 1, 7:30-10pm. Come experience the fine art of nine diverse award-winning and upcoming Bay Area artists. Works on display will include original watercolors, acrylics, oils, ceramics, photography and jewelry. Enjoy wine tasting from Little Valley's selection of superb wines. Treat yourself to delicious gourmet desserts. Live music performed by Night Harvest. Tickets are \$20. Little Valley Winery,

739 Main Street, Pleasanton. Contact Sharon Cohen, 925-931-1055 x11 or campkadima@bethemek.org

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Parisii String Quartet, April 17, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts concert. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets available at 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Contra Costa Wind Symphony, perform U.S. premiere of "The Queen Symphony," based on the music of the rock band, Queen. Pianist Nathan Cheung, violinist Jim Potochny, cellist Greg Colburn and combined choirs of Monte Vista and San Ramon Valley high schools featured. Also works by composers Peter Graham of Scotland and Frigyes Hidas of Hungary. 8 p.m. April 17. Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, 1801 Lacassie Ave., Walnut Creek. All seats \$10. www.CCWindSymphony.org or at the door.

Pleasanton Community Concert Band, April 18, spring concert, 2 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. For further information please call (925) 846-5897.

Battle of the Bases, April 24, David Morris will demonstrate how bowed basses, the viola da gamba, the bass violin, and the cello went through many changes through the end of the baroque era. This program will include unaccompanied solo works as well as pieces with Yuko Tanaka playing basso continuo. The program will include music from the renaissance to the high baroque and composers ranging from Tobias Hume and Marin Marais to J.S. Bach. At 7:30 p.m. in the library at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Cost: \$15. For information call 925-424-1467 or see www.lpclearlymusic.org.

ON THE STAGE

Rent, the Pulitzer Prize-Winning musical performed at Las Positas College. 8 p.m. April 16 and 17; 2 p.m. April 18. 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. For more information, call (925) 424-1166. \$15 general admission, \$10 students and seniors.

The Producers, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre mainstage musical, April 23, 24, 25, 30, May 1, 2, 7, 8, 9. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets at 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Treasure Island, April 23-May 2, 2010, at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Presented by City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company, in partnership with the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. Performances are April 23-24 and April 30-May 1 at 7:30 p.m., April 24 at 11:00 a.m. and May 1-2 at 2:00 p.m. Audience members are encouraged to bring donations of nonperishable food items to the theater to benefit The Haven Food Pantry. Tickets are \$12, \$16 & \$20

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

for adults and \$8, \$12, & \$16 for children and seniors. All tickets may be purchased online at www.civkartstickets.org up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office. Box office hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and for two hours prior to the performance. Group discounts are available.

DANCE

Fame, Fortune & Dreams! Liz Roberts and the Jazz Company of Livermore School of Dance presents a benefit dance presentation. Portions of the ticket sales will be given to the Agape Villages Foster Family Agency. Bring a gift card, of any amount, from any grocery, discount retailer or toy store to the performance and help make the life of a foster child and family a little easier. One performance, Friday, April 16, 2010 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets at 925-373-6800 or go to www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Tickets are \$26, \$20 and \$18 with a \$3 discount for Seniors (65 yrs.+)/children (12 yrs.). Group discounts Performance will include jazz, tap, hip hop and lyrical/contemporary dance styles plus broad range of music. Also appearing will be Andrea Silva and soloists from the Livermore Idol contest with special guest dancer, Jonathan Mercer from the 2008-2009 touring company for the Broadway production of "Cats"! Light refreshments following the performance.

Saturday Night Dance Parties, themed parties each Saturday night from Salsa to Swing, includes an optional group dance lesson at 7:15. \$15 cover charge, 7:15 dance lesson, 8:00-10:30 for dance parties. It's All About Dancing, 171 So. Livermore Avenue, 925-449-9292, or studio@itsallaboutdancing.com.

Wayward, an immersive dance/theatre event that will lead audiences on a journey through and around the Cal State East Bay University Theatre, will be performed at 8 p.m. May 7-8 and 14-15, and at 2 p.m. May 16. The show, rated "R" for mature content and non-sexual nudity, will consist of two parts, both focused on issues concerning growing up, rites of passage and what it means to be an adult. Guests will assemble in the University Theatre, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward. Tickets to "Wayward," at \$15 p.m. general, \$10 youth/senior/alumni, \$5 for CSUEB students, may be reserved at http://class.csueastbay.edu/theatre/Ticket_Reservations.php or at 510-885-3118.

MOVIES

Flow, Amador Valley High School's Environmental Club, will be showing the award-winning film Flow about the world water crisis. The film has won many awards, including Best

Documentary at the United Nations Association Film Festival and Jury Prize at the 2008 Mumbai International Film Festival. The movie will be shown in Amador Valley High School's multipurpose room on Wednesday, April 21 from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Admission is free and snacks will be for sale. The club can be contacted at the following: avhsenvironmental@yahoo.com.

CHORAL

Never Ending Light: A Day of Sacred Song in the Russian Tradition performed by St. Innocent Orthodox Concert Choir on Sun., April 25, 2 p.m. Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Admission is free. For more information call 925-373-5505 or e-mail Joyce Nevins to receive e-mail notices about upcoming programs.

OPERA

La Rondine, by Puccini. April 24, 29, May 1, 4, and 7 at 8 p.m., April 24, May 2 and 9 at 3 p.m. San Jose Opera. California Theatre, 345 South First St., San Jose. \$51-\$91. 408-437-4450 or www.operasj.org.

Live Theater-Casts from the Met: 10 a.m. Saturdays at Dublin's Royal Hacienda Cinema. May 1, Armida. Replays of each opera will be shown on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. as follows: April 14, Hamlet; and May 19, Armida.

MISCELLANEOUS

Earth Day Celebration, Sat., April 17, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Community clean, educational booths, children's activities, earth friendly vendors. Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Livermore Beautification Committee and Water Resources Division sponsors. Information 373-5748.

Pleasanton Poetry, Prose & the Arts Festival, Saturday and Sunday, April 17-18, 2010, Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. The 9th Annual Festival will feature guest speakers, poetry and prose workshops for adults, youth and teen workshops, writing contests and award ceremony. There are also a fine art exhibit and Literary Row, a place to meet local and nationally known authors. www.pleasantonarts.org

Arts Exhibit/Literary Row Reception and Celebration, April 17, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Free event. View "linked pieces," visual art works and poems about them. Part of annual Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival. Jim Steinke performs on guitar and mandolin. Wine and savories served.

Sustainability: Then & Now, Thursday, April 22, Celebrate Earth Day with Alviso Adobe Naturalist, Eric Nichols and Maria Lara, from the office of Pleasanton's City Manager, in a discussion on native, historical, and current sustainability efforts. Museum on Main Ed Kinney Lecture

series. 7 p.m. at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$5 members and seniors, \$10 non-members, \$3 students and teachers with ID. Reservations are suggested. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Call the Museum on Main at 462-2766.

10th annual Two Day Town, April 23, 24, 25 at Lake Del Valle, Livermore. 20 bands over three days everything from rock, jazz, folk, salsa and more. Family activities, walks with Doc Hale, bike riding, Good Food Cafe. \$50 per person in advance for a three day pass, kids under 12 free. Information twodaytown.com or call 510-287-9095. Tickets available at Tesla Vintners in Livermore.

Murder by Bingo, a deadly Bingo Night at the historic Pleasanton Hotel! Interactive Mystery Dinner Theatre in The Farmer Restaurant, presented by Gibson House Mystery Performers, Fri., April 23. Solve the crime, and you may win a prize. 4-course gourmet meal and farcical mystery play, \$69 per Sleuth, tax & gratuity included. Seating begins at 7:00pm. The Farmer Restaurant, at the Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main Street, downtown Pleasanton. Reservations required at (925) 399-6690, ext. 17. www.PleasantonHotel.com

Artists' Flea Market, Saturday, April 24, 8 am to 2 pm, DeLucchi Park, Pleasanton (next to the Farmers' Market). A great place to buy paints, frames, canvas, art books, etc. Bargain art, pottery, photography props. Inexpensive supplies for kids. Or do you want your own booth space so you can clean out your hobby room or studio? 10' x 10' spaces \$25. Information: Gail Ruvalcaba 925 846-8960. Sponsored by Pleasanton Art League.

Rehearsal behind the scenes, Livermore's Shakespeare's Associates behind the scenes rehearsal. "Romeo and Juliet." May 8 Spring Fund-raiser for a rare opportunity to experience the world inside the rehearsal room. Dinner, dessert and Livermore Valley Wine (donated by Rodrigue Molyneux Winery). The activities are 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Bothwell Arts Center located at 2466 8th Street in Livermore. Tickets are \$135 per person for dinner, wine, and workshops. All proceeds will benefit the Livermore Shakespeare Festival. Guests are encouraged to call Katie Marcel at (925) 443-BARD or email Katie@LivermoreShakes.org by May 1st to secure a seat for an evening to remember.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival Spring Fund-raiser, May 8. Come inside the rehearsal process of the 2010 Livermore Shakespeare Festival's Romeo and Juliet For more information, visit www.livermoreshakes.org/seasons/2009/fund-raiser.php

Save the Music, a Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment (PSEE) benefit to Save the Arts in Pleasanton Schools. Two-day fund-raiser and

celebration showcasing the talent of Pleasanton students through a visual arts show and performing arts extravaganza at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, May 21-22. Proceeds will go to support PUSD's elementary band and strings programs and Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) spe-

cialists for the 2010/11 school year. PSEE's goal is to raise \$290,000. Visit www.psee.org for updated information or to make a donation. May 21 will feature a visual arts show with wine and cheese tasting. May 22 will feature performances by groups from all PUSD schools, starting at 9 a.m. www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Congressional Art Competition in Tracy

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) announced that this year's Congressional Art Competition will be held at Tracy's Grand Theatre Center for the Arts, located at 715 Central Avenue.

The art showcase will take place on Saturday, May 1st, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. An awards ceremony will be held at 11:30 a.m. The works of art submitted by students from throughout the 11th Congressional District will be on display to the public and Congressman McNerney will be on hand to announce the winner of the competition.

The 2010 Congressional Art Competition is open to all high school students who reside in the 11th District. Students interested in submitting art should contact Cheri Clasen in Rep. McNerney's Pleasanton office at 925-737-0727 for more information on the competition guidelines. Artwork is due by April 16, 2010 at either

of Congressman McNerney's offices located in Stockton and Pleasanton.

The competition is part of the nationwide annual Congressional Art Competition intended to showcase the artistic talents and abilities of students in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories.

Each Member of Congress hosts a competition among high school students in his or her district. The winning artwork from each district is then featured in a display in the busy corridor that connects the Cannon House Office Building with the U.S. Capitol, used daily by Members of Congress and visitors to Washington, D.C.

In addition to having his or her artwork on display in Washington, D.C., the grand prize winner from the 11th District also will be flown, with a guest, to Washington, D.C., to attend an awards ceremony on June 17, 2010.

BANKHEAD THEATER

FAME, FORTUNE & DREAMS!

Livermore School of Dance benefiting the foster children of Agape Village

Friday, April 16 at 7:30pm
Adults \$15 - \$26

THE PARISII STRING QUARTET

Del Valle Fine Arts

Saturday, April 17 at 8pm
Adults \$20 - \$30, Students Free

THE PRODUCERS

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre

April 23 - May 9
Adults \$34.50 - \$36.50, Students \$26

LEO KOTTKE

Six and 12 String Guitar Virtuoso

Friday, May 14 at 8:00pm
Adults \$33 - \$56, Students \$12

Tickets: 925-373-6800 • 2400 First St., Livermore
www.bankheadtheater.org

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Milestones

Community

Military



Air Force Airman Brandon S. Gaylord-Buetow (pictured) graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of Charlene Shires of

Fremont and Alan Buetow of Livermore. Gaylord-Buetow is a 2009 graduate of American High School, Fremont.

Army Pvt. Derek D. Robinette has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission and received instruction and training exercises in drill and ceremonies, Army history, core values and traditions, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, rifle marksmanship, weapons use, map reading and land navigation, foot marches, armed and unarmed combat, and field maneuvers and tactics.

He is the son of Wendy Robinette of Livermore. Robinette is a 2008 graduate of Granada High School, Livermore.

Army Pvt. Cameron P. Tillinghast has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. He is the grandson of Edna Leon of San Jose, and son of Monet Leon of Livermore. Tillinghast is a 2008 graduate of Livermore High School.

Local Student Invited to Visit Naval Academy

The U.S. Naval Academy (USNA) invited a select group of approximately 2,250 young men and women from around the nation and internationally to attend the Naval Academy Summer Seminar program this year. Summer Seminar is a fast-paced experience for high achievers who have completed their junior year in high school and are considering applying for admission to USNA after graduation.

Kevin Lois, a student at Livermore High School, will participate in the 2010 U.S. Naval Academy Summer Seminar program.

Summer Seminar teaches prospective applicants about life at the Naval Academy, where academics, athletics, and professional training play equally important roles in developing our nation's leaders. Each student will attend a six-day session and experience a part of USNA life. Students in the program live in Bancroft Hall (the dormitory in which all USNA midshipmen live), eat in the dining hall, participate in academic and leadership workshops and participate in daily physical training involving group runs and conditioning exercises. They will have an opportunity to see first-hand what the Naval Academy has to offer through its exceptional academic, athletic, extracurricular activities and leadership training programs.

Summer Seminar has an academic focus, with each student attending eight 90-minute workshops, covering subjects from information technology, naval architecture and mechanical engineering, to oceanography, mathematics, history and meteorology. Students will also participate in seamanship and navigation classes and will take an actual cruise aboard a Navy Yard Patrol (YP) Craft to apply what they will learn in class. Naval Academy students (midshipmen) run Summer Seminar with oversight by active-duty Navy and Marine Corps officers.

Founded in 1845, the Naval Academy is a highly competitive four-year undergraduate institution that prepares young men and women morally, mentally and physically to become officers in the Navy or Marine Corps. Upon graduation, Naval Academy midshipmen receive a Bachelor of Science degree in one of 22 majors and a commission as ensigns in the U.S. Navy or second lieutenants in the U.S. Marine Corps. In return, these young officers will serve at least five years of exciting and rewarding service to the nation.

For more information on the U.S. Naval Academy and the Summer Seminar program, visit www.usna.edu/Admissions/nass.htm. For more information on the Naval Academy, visit <http://www.usna.edu>.

Axis Foundation Adds New Board Members

The Foundation for Axis Community Health welcomes three new members to its Board of Directors, Donna Bratton-Kearns, JD; Bob Brown, CFA and Tanya Shah.

Bratton-Kearns is an independent consultant who works in the areas of public health, risk management, law and mediation. Currently, she is a mediator with Congress of Neutrals in Walnut Creek, Calif. and serves as Mediation Program Supervisor in Concord Superior Court for Small Claims. She also provides mediation training for law students, attorneys and community members.

Brown is owner and president of The R.L. Brown Advisor Group, which provides financial planning, investment advisory and asset management services. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton and is active as a volunteer with the Pleasanton Unified School District and 4-H and coaches with the Pleasanton American Little League and Pleasanton Girls Softball League.

Shah has worked at the UC Davis Medical Center, conducting brain imaging and autism research. She has managed various com-

munity organizations and raised funds for public health initiatives, international disaster relief and domestic violence prevention. Currently, Shah is working at Bay Area Legal Aid, where she advocates for the rights of low-income and immigrant victims of domestic violence.

The newly-expanded Foundation provides financial support to Axis Community Health by sponsoring and supporting fundraising campaigns and events. The group is actively planning several new fund-raising events for the coming year.

Rockcliff Realtor Member of the Top 5

Catherine Kaufer, of J. Rockcliff Realtors, was accepted as a Member of the Top 5 in Real Estate Network®, the most prestigious of all industry achievements.

More than just a sales-driven recognition, the Top 5 in Real Estate Network® meets a need that heretofore has never been addressed – helping consumers identify the most professional real estate agents in North America. To qualify, each member must first meet a stringent set of criteria, based upon performance, as well as educational and professional skills and service to the consumer.

Members of the Network are carefully selected and managed by RISMedia, which has provided the real estate industry with objective, unbiased news for nearly 30

years. As a Member of the Top 5 Network, Kaufer is among the first real estate agents to be accepted into this elite organization.

After 11 years of being a Top Producing Real Estate Broker in the San Francisco Bay Area, Catherine Kaufer noticed that traditional real estate was becoming ineffective and she needed to change with the market and re-evolve as a broker to provide creative ethical solutions for her clients. Being very sensitive and determined to help people resolve all different situations, she has invested herself in more comprehensive education and associated herself with world-renowned professionals and real estate investors. With this knowledge and application, she is better equipped to provide

solutions for each of her clients, from the distressed homeowner to the savvy investor. Kaufer has earned the GRI (Graduate Realtor Institute) and ASP (Accredited Staging Professional) designations and has achieved the President's Club Award (2007-2009) in addition to the Executive Circle Award (2003-2006). To learn more, contact Catherine Kaufer at 925-855-4068 or e-mail Catherine@CatherineKaufer.com.

Iron Horse Nutrition in Pleasanton

Centro Properties Group (ASX: CNP) announced a 2,847 square foot Iron Horse Nutrition, a retailer of nutritional supplements and related accessories, recently opened at Rose Pavilion in Pleasanton. Centro Properties Group is the owner of Rose Pavilion and was represented by Matthew Berger with Centro Properties Group.

Education

Allen Yu of Pleasanton, Calif. (94588), was named to the Dean's list for academic excellence for the Fall 2009 semester at The Johns Hopkins University. To be selected for this honor, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale in a program of at least 14 credits with at least 12 graded credits. Allen Yu is the son of David Yu and Jane Ding and attended Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton. Allen Yu, who is majoring in molecular and cellular biology, will graduate in May 2011.

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. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

Animal Lover's Boutique, which is located year-round in the lobby of Feline Medical Center (FMC), 3160 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton, "Spring Fling for the Animals" event on Saturday, April 17. Proceeds from the 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. boutique will benefit Jackie Barnett's Just Like New Fund, a Valley Humane Society program that aids sick and injured pets. New items for spring and Mother's Day. For more information, please contact Vicki Zeigler, 925-872-7668, or visit the Valley Humane Society website, www.valleyhumane.org.

Hearing Loss Association of America, Tri-Valley Chapter meets April 15, 7 p.m. at Valley Community Church, at 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM. Meetings are open to the public, are free, and refreshments are served. The meeting will be captioned for the benefit of those with extreme hearing loss. For more information contact Hiram Van Blarigan at hvanblarigan@hotmail.com or 925 455 6591 or Richard Taylor at 925 846 3647.

Shop for the Cause, Sun., May 2, 1 to 6 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Hall, 522 South L Street in Livermore. 35 commercial vendors as well as artisans and crafters offering a wide variety of products and services. Fund-raiser for National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Tri-Valley Chapter. Raffle with variety of items. www.nami-trivalley.org for further information.

The Cove, Academy Award winning documentary, which exposes the secret Japanese dolphin extermination program and the attempts made at keeping it secret. The film will be shown on Sat., April 24 at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. This film has a nice activist component too. Instead of feeling helpless at the end, the filmmakers have given us easy ways that we can help the cause and stop these cruel and needless killings. Meet & greet potluck begins at 6:30 PM, the film starts at 7ish, and a short discussion follows the film. We close up around 9:30 PM. This event is open to the public, free/\$3.00 donation encouraged, and wheelchair accessible. For more information, you can call 925-462-3459.

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club invites new & long-time residents to its monthly luncheon on May 20 at Forbes Mill Restaurant, 200 Sycamore Valley Rd., West, Danville from 11:30 - 2pm. Program will be the annual installation of officers. The cost is \$19. Call Myrna, 560-0656, for reservations & info.

Fame, Fortune & Dreams! Liz Roberts and the Jazz Company of Livermore School of Dance presents a benefit dance presentation for Agape Villages Foster Family Agency. Bring a gift card, of any amount, from any grocery, discount retailer or toy store to the performance and help make the life of a foster child and family a little easier. Friday, April 16, 2010 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets 925-373-6800 or www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Tickets are \$26, \$20 and \$18 with a \$3 discount for Seniors (65 yrs./children (12 yrs.)). Group discounts.

St. Michael School first annual Alumni Day on May 14, 2010 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. The evening event will be catered in the school hall. Casa Orozco will be providing the appetizers and the event will include pictures and presentations from prior graduating classes, homeroom teacher attendance, and plenty of fun and games. There will be fundraiser for the St. Michael Technology Fund. No attendance fee is required. Please contact the school to reserve space for the first annual Alumni Day, email jtyler@cso.org.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., April 17, 25 miles Heather Farms to Walnut Creek, meet 9 a.m. Dan and Joan Johnson, 933-9649. Sun., April 18, 65 miles, Dublin High School with Yosemite tour to Livermore and outskirts of Tracy, meet 8 a.m. Peter Rathmann, 828-1973. Sun., April 18, 36 miles Danville to Las Trampas Park, meet 10 a.m., Dan Granahan, 323-9798, Mon., April 19, 8-13 miles mountain bike trails, Lake Chabot loop, meet 7 p.m., Janie Page, 408-598-0247. Wed., April 21, 30 miles Shannon Center in Dublin, five Canyons ride, meet 10 a.m. Alaine Nadeau, 577-6586. Anyone planning to go on

a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Livermore Library Board, meeting 7 p.m. Thurs., April 22 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Livermore Lions Host Club invites the public to their Thursday, April 14th meeting 7 p.m. at Emil Villa's BBQ Grill, 3064 Pacific Avenue, Livermore for a presentation by Dwight Levan who will speak about the 2010 Livermore High School Safe and Sober Graduation Night celebration for the graduating seniors. He will share why the event takes place, where, when, how and what it means to the graduating seniors to have a successful event. A parent committee plans this event each year and we will hear about past experiences and plans for this year's event schedule for June 11th - Graduation Day. Pay at the door. Contact Lion President Denny Grotrian at 925-399-2628 for more information

Women in Law Enforcement workshop, Fri., April 23, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. hosted by the Las Positas College's Administration of Justice program. The workshop is free and open to students and the general public. Parking is \$2.00. Las Positas College, Building 2400, Room 2420 (Large Lecture Hall), 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. For more information and to register, please email Mark Tarte at mtarte@laspositascollege.edu

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, PetSmart Charities National Adoption Event. It runs Friday April 30 to Sunday May 2, 2010. PetSmart Charities Adoption Center at PetSmart 6960 Amador Plaza Road, Dublin; (925) 803-8370. Adoptable pets will be available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday; and, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Women on Weights meets Tuesday and Thursdays from 8:25 - 9:25 a.m. at Express Fitness, Pleasanton, and is open to the public. Work with Sue Evans to gain strength, increase your metabolism and bone density and tone your body. The next session is April 13 - May 13, 2010. 10 classes, \$115, 8 classes \$112, 6 classes \$90, drop-in \$18 Contact Sue Evans at 925-989-4113 for further information.

Small Business Owners Roundtable, Wed., April 28, 7 to 9 p.m. Share ideas with other business owners in moderated setting. Topics may include developing/enhancing your market niche, creative/affordable marketing, adapting to business in a down economy, handling growth, and developing outside the box business strategies. \$45. Amador Valley Adult & Community Education, www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/adulted, 925 426-4280

Artists' Flea Market, Saturday, April 24, 8am to 2pm, DeLucchi Park, Pleasanton (next to the Farmers' Market). A great place to buy paints, frames, canvas, art books, etc. Bargain art, pottery, photography props. Inexpensive supplies for kids. Or do you want your own booth space so you can clean out your hobby room or studio? 10' x 10' spaces \$25. Information: Gail Ruvalcaba 925 846-8960. Sponsored by Pleasanton Art League.

24th Annual Plant and White Elephant Sale, The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club (LAVGC) invites the public to the annual plant and white elephant sale Saturday, April 17 from 9:00 am to noon, Amador Valley High School parking lot, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Vegetables, herbs, annuals, perennials, shrubs and home and garden stuff will be offered. Volunteers will be on hand to provide advice and information. Rain or shine. www.orgsites.com/ca/lavgc

49th Annual Mt. Diablo Iris Show & Plant Sale, Sat., April 17, 1:00 - 5:00 pm at the First Baptist Church of Walnut Creek, 2336 Buena Vista Ave., Walnut Creek. The show is open to the public, there is no admission fee. For additional information call Mary Sindicic at (925) 606-0355. An Affiliate of - The American Iris Society.

Online Book Club For Teens at the Livermore Public Library. Teens will vote for a book to read from now until May 31, 2010. The book selection will be announced on June 1, 2010. Teens will read the book and share comments on the book club blog. The book club will meet once in a while at the Civic Center Library to have a book talk and to choose other books to be read. Please visit TEEN SPACE on the Livermore Public Library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us to vote for the first book to be read and to find out more about the club.

For further information please contact Sandy at 373-5500 extension 5583.

The Italian Catholic Federation Branch #385 is holding its annual Primavera Dinner Dance Saturday, May 1, at St. Michael's Hall, 372 Maple St. Livermore. No-Host Cocktails will be available at 6:00 PM followed at 7:00 PM by a full course Italian dinner prepared by Chef Tony Martinelli. Music for listening, dancing or just toe tapping by Joe Buonsante's Smooth Sounds. Raffle. All this for \$35 per person. This fundraiser is to benefit the Tri-Valley Scholarship program and other ICF charities. Reservations required, call by April 26. Rose S. (825) 846-4227 or Helen W. (925) 462-3798.

Picnic in the Park, Fri., June 4, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Bray Commons. Open to family and friends. Barbeque lunch, games, prizes and entertainment. Shuttle service to and from the picnic is available at the Dublin Senior Center by reservation. Price includes a reserved seat at a picnic table and lunch. Tickets on sale until May 31: Res \$3/Non-Res \$4. Tickets after May 31: \$5. Activity Code 24377. www.DublinSeniorCenter.com. Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd.

Last Minute SAT Prep - Quick Tips, Techniques, & Review. The SAT is May 1. LARPD is offering a one class "highlight reel" of tips, techniques, and review concepts on Sunday, April 18 from 2 - 5 and Wednesday, April 21 from 6 - 9. Check out www.larpd.dst.ca.us or call 373-5700 for more details.

Navigating the College Application Maze, This course will provide an overview of the entire application process including general procedures, early action/decision, getting recommendations, writing strong essays, and strategies for keeping everything organized. Many shortcuts, time-saving resources, and tips will be provided. Livermore Adult Education - Tuesday, 5/18 6:30-9 and Saturday 5/22 - 9-11:30 www.livermoreadulted.org - 925 606-4722

Tuff Girl Fitness is offering a free fitness boot camp for women in Livermore on Saturday, April 24 from 8am-9am at a location in Livermore (TBA). Morning workout, refreshments, healthy snacks and a raffle drawing afterwards. Sign up to www.tuffgirl.com or send an email to tuffgirlfitness@yahoo.com.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA. Happy hour and birthday dinner in Castro Valley, April 20, 4 p.m.. RSVP by April 17 to Davy, 510-537-4031. Lunch in Livermore, April 22, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by April 17 to Roselyn, 999-9936. Lunch in Fremont, April 28, 1 p.m., RSVP by April 15 to Vickie, 510-656-1166.

Free teen workshop - body acceptance, Pleasanton Community Counseling Center, Sun., April 18, 2 to 4 p.m. Pleasanton Library. Discussion on how self-acceptance is important to self-esteem and happiness. Free. Participants will receive a Jamba Juice card. Call Jenny to register, 600-9762 ext. 7#.

Bingo night, benefiting Christensen Middle School Wrestling team, Sat., May 8. Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Doors open 4 p.m., bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Must be at least 18 to play. One pack \$17; games pay \$175, \$250, and \$500. Mystery envelope to first 150 players. Snack bar. Proceeds will be used to purchase uniforms and equipment. Contact Laura Sheppard at the Bingo Ranch, 606-7777, for information.

Blue Star Moms East Bay, Chapter 101, is collecting donations for the deployed military personnel to be placed into care packages and mailed to them for 4th of July. The dates for "Drop Zones" are: Sat., April 10, 10-3 Molly's Pup Purrr-ee; Sat., April 24, 10-3, Pleasanton Wal-Mart; Sat., May 1, 10-3, Molly's Pup Purrr-ee; Sat., May 8, 10-3, Pleasanton Wal-Mart; Sat., May 22, 10-3, Pleasanton Wal-Mart. Information contact Stephanie Nimitz, snimitz410@yahoo.com.

Literacy tutors sought, free tutor training workshop will be held at the Livermore Library on Monday, April 19, from 7-9 p.m. and on Saturday, April 24, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Please plan to attend both sessions. Once trained, tutoring can be done any day or any time. To register, or for more information, call 373-5507. The READ Project is a service of the Livermore Public Library.

Sunol 4-H 44th Annual Pancake Breakfast fund-raiser, April 25, 8 a.m. to noon at Sunol Glen Elementary School, 11601 Main Street, Sunol, CA 94586. Tickets at the door

\$6 adults, \$4 children. Also silent auction, bake sale, plant sale. Information contact Paulette Hartkopf 510.862.6247 or email phartkopf@yahoo.com.

Bogey Bash, A fund-raiser for Arc of Alameda County will be held April 26 at the Las Positas Golf Course, Livermore. Funds will go to programs to assist people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Fee is \$125 for individual golfers. Sponsorships are available. For information, contact Richard Fitzmaurice at rfitzmaurise@arcalameda.org or 510-357-3727 ext. 2107.

Calpers retirees, all retired public employees under the Calpers retirement program are invited to attend bimonthly meetings at Emil Villa's Hickory Pit & Grill, 3064 Pacific Ave., Livermore, at 10:45 a.m. Dates are June 3, August 5, Oct. 7 and Dec. 2. For more information, call Dona Allen, 443-3484.

Sunday Bingo, All regular game payouts \$250. Free game guarantees payout of \$350. Flash games for a chance to win up to \$1,199. One session of speed. Free bagels and coffee. Doors open at 1:30pm. Session begins at 4:00pm. Must be 18 years old. Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave., Livermore. 606-7777. Proceeds go to LVCS/CCEF

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network, meeting 7 p.m. April 19. Todd Sarnar, marriage and family therapist, will present a program on "Overcoming Behavior Problems and Raising a Child that Thrives: Parenting Practices that are Developmentally-Safe and Attachment Friendly." Discussion at Harvest Park Middle School, 4900 Valley Avenue, Pleasanton. This meeting is free for Chapter members & first time visitors. Meetings are held on the third Monday evening of each month. For further information, please visit www.holisticmoms.org or e-mail Tri-ValleyHMN@hotmail.com.

Water-Wise Workshops, free workshop offers ways to cut water waste and still maintain a beautiful yard. The workshop will feature local plant and irrigation experts and are sponsored by Zone 7 Water Agency, Livermore Municipal Water, California Water Service Company, City of Pleasanton and the Dublin San Ramon Services District. Workshop Sat., April 24 2:00 - 3:30 pm at the Dublin Library. Call 925-454-5015 to find out more.

Free computer class, Livermore Adult Education is offering a free computer class to people who qualify through a One-Stop Career Center. This intensive computer course includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook 2007. Some computer experience is required. For more information please call 925-606-4722 or visit us at 1401 Almond Ave. Livermore.

Scholarships available, Chapter FX, of the P.E.O. Sisterhood (a philanthropic and educational organization promoting women's education) announces that applications are available for their annual \$600 scholarship and the Marcia M. Howie Memorial Scholarship. The awards are open to any female who is a graduating senior intending to further her education by attending an accredited college, business school, cosmetology or nursing course. Applicants must be residents of Livermore. When awarding these scholarships, financial need is considered, as well as scholastic achievement and extracurricular activities. Letters of recommendation and official transcripts must be attached to the application. Applications may be obtained from high school scholarship advisors or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Chapter FX, P.E.O., 1961 Evans Street, Livermore CA 94550. If there are any questions, please call (925) 366 5567. Applications must be post-marked no later than April 19, 2010

3rd Annual Wine Tasting Silent Auction, White Crane Winery, noon to 4pm, Sun., April 25. Benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Hosted by HIKE members of Team in Training. Join us for a relaxing day of wine tasting. Local wineries will showcase their wines for tasting while you enjoy finger food, music, inspirational speakers, and raffles. Meander through silent auction items to fit every budget. 10% discount when purchasing your \$25 ticket on line. <https://WineHike.ticketleap.com> Use code: SUPPORT or call 925 413 7788 925 413 7788

Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Assistance League of Amador Valley fund-raiser, Sat., April 24, Aahmes Shrine Event Center, Livermore. Tickets are \$50 per person. This fun event features tea tables individually decorated by members, yummy food, a hat contest, raffle

prizes, and a champagne bar. Tables preview begins at noon and the party is from 1:00 - 4:00. The entertainment is The Goodwill Bags Fashion Show featuring Authentic Vintage Clothing. Information call Carmen at 371-4566. www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org

Pleasanton Newcomers Club and Tri-Valley, great way for new and established residents to meet new friends, keep in touch with old friends, have fun and become acquainted with neighbors, merchants, restaurants, professional services, and Pleasanton and Tri-Valley communities. Coffee on first Wednesday of each month, or come for lunch on the second Wednesday of each month. Information, visit the website at www.pleasantonnewcomers.com or call Sandy B. at 249-1776.

RELIGION
Grief Support, Meetings are March 25 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Meetings are open to all, regardless of religious orientation. Please call Mary at 846-5377 with questions.

Calvary Chapel, Livermore, presents: "The Truth Project: Know what you believe and why." Wednesdays at 7 pm in March, and April. Located on 545 N L Street, Livermore. Call (925)447-4357 or visit calvarylivermore.org for more information.

Grief Workshop, Eight-week workshop, April 15 through June 3, 7:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Meetings are open to all, regardless of religious orientation. Preregistration is required. One time donation of \$15 is requested. Please call Mary at 846-5377 for information or registration.

Exploring the Gospel of St. Luke: Join Fr. Thomas Bonacci, C.P., scripture scholar, over five weeks, where he will look at Luke's unique contribution to the Gospel traditions of Jesus who models what it means to be "Spirit-filled" people. Anyone in the community who is interested in understanding more about Luke's Gospel is invited. The sessions are on Monday evenings, April 19, 26, May 3, 17 & 24 at 7:30 pm in Borromeo Hall at St. Charles Borromeo 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. A \$5 freewill donation for Fr. Thomas would be appreciated. For more information contact Julie at upatholic@aol.com or 925-447-4549 ext 114.

Meditation Study Group - Practice new meditation methods, based on teachings of Shinzen Young, using audio, video and hand-outs. Meeting 7:15-8:30 pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, at Tri-Valley Unity's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. Contact Gayle at gstaehe@comcast.net

Prayer Circle - Prayer, meditation, study, and sharing. Meeting 7:15-8:30 pm on the first, third, and fifth Tuesdays of the month, at Tri-Valley Unity's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. Contact Bob at hardycol@comcast.net.

Sister in Service hosts its 5th Annual Indian Dinner - a fundraiser, on Sunday, April 18, between 5:30pm and 8pm, at Valley Christian Center, 7500, Inspiration Dr, Dublin. Mano Vasanthraj, a ministry partner and servant of God from India will be the guest speaker. There will be music, fellowship and food. Tickets: adults, \$10 and children under 12 yrs, \$3. For tickets and information call Gloria Gregory at 925-998-3785.

Married couples retreat day is planned for Saturday, April 17, entitled "Staying in Love through Forgiveness and Healing." It will take place at the John Paul II Activity Center, at St Elizabeth Seton Church, 4005 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Prior registration is required and is \$10 per couple. For additional information and registration please contact Joseph & Daisy Cristostomo, drcristostomo5@yahoo.com, (925) 485-0867.

Special talk by Father Jim Sullivan, "Studying the Letter to the Hebrews," on Monday, April 26, and Wednesday, April 28, 7:30-9 p.m. in the Parish Hall of St Michael Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore. Father Jim will show the relevance of the Letter to the lived reality of the priesthood today. Free. For more information, call the church at (925) 447-1585.

Bible Study, offered Wednesdays, 7:30 to 8:30 PM at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz, Pleasanton. Refreshments served at no cost. 925-305-9468.

First Street Alehouse Moves Next Door



Photos - Doug Jorgensen
Crowds gather at the new Alehouse (top photo). Ron Witherspoon discusses the variety of beers offered (lower photo).



In the sagging economy of the past couple of years, a popular Livermore business has prospered to the point where it was able to move next door to a larger building that can handle twice the clientele while continuing to pursue a successful business model.

First Street Alehouse, located at 2106 First Street, is now approaching its tenth anniversary under the ownership of Witherspoon brothers Ron and Mike. The Alehouse serves craft beers and a basic food menu supplemented with daily specials from a new chef who was hired from Barone's restaurant in Pleasanton.

Despite its name, the Alehouse

sells more food than beer. Food is nearly 60 percent of its business, according to Brook Witherspoon, Ron's wife and the third partner in Alehouse ownership. She recently compiled a financial report showing that the Alehouse sells an average of 618 meals a day, year-around.

Many customers come just for the food and to socialize without drinking at all, she says. "We're really not a bar," Ron adds.

Staff cheerfully bring soft drinks instead of alcohol, and water when customers request it. Nevertheless, the availability of good craft beer brings a regular clientele that might not return if the only attraction were sand-

wiches and chips.

A craft beer is generally defined as one in which flavor and traditional brewing methods take precedence over mass appeal and marketing. Nomenclature can be confusing: a craft beer is sometimes called a microbrew, but a craft beer can come from a small or large brewery.

Ron Witherspoon's first exposure to craft beers came from one of the big ones, Sierra Nevada Pale Ale, brewed locally where he went to college, Chico State.

On a given day, customers at First Street Alehouse can get lighter craft beers like Scrimshaw Pilsner from North Coast Brewing in Ft. Bragg or choose from a varying selection of hopper India Pale Ales like Blind Pig from the Russian River Brewing Co. in Santa Rosa, West Coast IPA from Green Flash Brewing in San Diego, and Ranger IPA from New Belgium Brewing in Colorado. Pliny the Elder, a double IPA from Russian River, is a regular feature. So is North Coast's Old Rasputin, a stout.

Alehouse also serves cider and wine.

Until this week, the Alehouse occupied one of Livermore's oldest downtown buildings, a former undertaker's parlor that was built in 1884. Its new location, one door east, is twice as big. The Witherspoons own the new building, which frees them to make changes as they wish.

Through good planning, hard work, good luck or all three, the past decade has brought good business fortune.

In 2000, working for Pac Bell as an engineer and considering what he would do with the rest of his life, Ron was having a meal at the Alehouse when he wondered out loud what it would take to own and operate the place. It turned out the owner wanted to sell. Taking out a home equity loan on his Livermore residence, Ron and brother Mike soon found themselves Alehouse owners.

For more than a year, Ron continued to work in the phone business, hiring a manager to run the business, but in 2001, he moved full time to the Alehouse.

Craft beers were on the upswing. Their growing popularity helped the Alehouse grow. A few years later, Mike and Lori Pavich, who were regular customers, introduced Ron to their daughter, Brook, who had grown up in Livermore and attended Granada High. The relationship blossomed, and Brook and Ron were married in 2007.

In recent years, customers often heard rumors of a move, and indeed the Witherspoons were looking at nearby sites on both sides of First Street. Although it had the distinction of being old, the building they were in was a rental and small, restricting their trade as their business became more popular.

One rumored incentive to move - that K Street would be extended through the site of the rental building - was premature, according to a Livermore city spokesman. The city's Downtown Specific Plan shows the extension, but there are no actual plans to make it happen, he said.

The new building has 6600 square feet of floor space and more seating outside than the old rental had. It can handle nearly 200 customers, double the previous seating capacity. It is big enough to accommodate banquets and wedding parties, which the old site could not do, and has a wall down the middle to create privacy for big groups.

There are no plans for major product changes in the new building, although they will add a few

TV sets for sports enthusiasts and make a concession to those who prefer mass produced American beers like Coors and Pabst.

The Witherspoons are enthusiastic supporters of City of Livermore efforts to improve the downtown, including added assessments to support redevelopment. "What they have done as a city has been incredible," Brook says. They hope for a

downtown BART station and want other nearby restaurants to prosper, viewing their success as helpful to their own on the belief that a rising economic tide will lift all boats.

They are proud of emphasizing green technologies, from composting food scraps and other biodegradable products through a City of Livermore service to running low energy cooling fans.

Las Positas Hosting Conference on Sleep

Las Positas College will feature the world's leading authority on sleep and the premiere of a documentary film and an appearance by the award winning director at its conference, "The Mystery of Sleep," Friday, April 16, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in Building 2400, Room 2420.

Sponsored by the Las Positas College Department of Psychology and the college's Psi Beta Psychology Honor Society, the conference is free and open to the public; parking is \$2. Space is limited.

The conference keynote speaker is William C. Dement, M.D. Ph.D., who will present "The Essentials of Sleep and Dreams." Regarded as the world's leading authority on sleep, sleep deprivation, and the diagnosis and treatment of sleep disorders, Dement is a Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Stanford University School of Medicine and the Division Chief of the Stanford University Division of Sleep.

Dement participated in the first observations of rapid eye movement (dream) sleep in the 1950s at the University of Chicago. He is credited as the first researcher to recognize rapid eye movement as a specific biological statement with unique properties. He served as chairman of the National

Commission on Sleep Disorders Research from 1990 to 1992 which led to establishment of the National Center of Sleep Disorders Research at the National Institutes of Health.

He is the founding co-editor of the scientific journal, "Sleep" and has written or co-authored more than 500 pieces for scientific publications including the entertaining and informative book, "The Promise of Sleep."

At the conference, Dement will share insights on sleep education he has gained in nearly forty years of teaching his popular undergraduate course on sleep and dreams at Stanford University.

Another conference highlight is the world premiere of "The Mystery of Sleep," a documentary film on sleep and dreams, presented by Mel Stuart, famed producer and director of more than 180 movies and documentaries, including the original "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory."

For details and a schedule of events visit, www.laspositascollege.edu. For more information please contact Ernest Jones, Department of Psychology, at EJones@laspositascollege.edu or call (925) 424-1217.

Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Auto Buy Back

In an effort to reduce harmful air pollution from vehicle tailpipes, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Board of Directors has authorized \$1.2 million to fund the extension of the Vehicle Buyback Program for Bay Area residents.

This voluntary program offers \$1,000 to owners of older, higher-emitting cars and light trucks to voluntarily retire their vehicles. Older vehicles lack modern emission control technology and pollute significantly more than newer models.

A partial list of program requirements includes:

- Vehicle must be a 1989 model year or older
- Vehicle must be currently registered as operable and can be driven
- Vehicle must have been registered in the Bay Area for the past 24 months
- Vehicles within 60 days of a required smog check must take and pass their smog check

Interested individuals can call 1-888-690-CASH (690-2274) toll-free for the names and phone numbers of the local auto dismantlers to determine if their vehicle qualifies. For general information about the Vehicle Buy Back Program, visit www.baaqmd.gov/vbb.

Coffee with Cops

The Livermore Police Department will host "Coffee with the Cops" on Fri., April 16.

Police Chief Steve Sweeney and other members of the department will be at The Plaza in front of the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Money for Schools

The Governor has signed a bill, AB 142, authored by Assemblymember Mary Hayashi that will help increase funding for schools through changes to the California State Lottery.

AB 142 revises the California State Lottery Act, increasing the percentage of lottery revenue that goes back to the public by reducing administrative expenses from 16 percent to 13 percent. The bill brings California's lottery structure in line with other large state lottery systems, including Texas, North Carolina, and Florida, which have shown an increase in revenue through similar changes. AB 142 passed with bipartisan support, including a unanimous vote in the Senate and a 68 to 1 vote in the Assembly. As an urgency measure, the bill is effective immediately.

"California's budget crisis has had a devastating impact on education," stated Hayashi. "Supporting our schools must be a priority, and according to the Legislative Analyst's Office, AB 142 will help increase public education funding by hundreds of millions of dollars per year. While there is much more to do, this bill will provide some measure of relief to our schools."

Livermore Police Arrest Gang Members

The Livermore Police Department has made a series of arrests in connection with gang activity in Livermore. One was arrested for murder.

According to the Police Department, between October 2009 and December 2009, investigated a series of violent gang related attacks within the city. Most of the attacks were initiated by members of the Norteno street gang who appear to be targeting suspected rival gang members of the Sureno street gang.

The police note that many of the victims of these violent attacks have been innocent members of the Hispanic community not associated with street gangs. Through police investigations, it was learned that certain leaders of the Norteno gang have issued standing orders to attack Sureno gang members on sight. These attacks have resulted in violent beatings and stabbings of the unsuspecting victims.

Arrested on murder charges was Raul Martinez Jr. for the stabbing of an adult victim who was mistaken for a rival gang member. The stabbing took place in the area of Walnut Street in Livermore.

Attempted murder charges were filed against Anna Delarosa and David Navarro. They brutally beat another victim who was waiting at a bus transfer station. The victim was approached by approximately six members of the Norteno gang who repeatedly struck and kicked the victim.

Three suspects were arrested on charges of attempted murder for another incident involving a stabbing. They are Ronnie Martinez, Fernando Perez and Juan Preciado.

Members of the Livermore Police Department are working on identifying additional suspects in these cases and would encourage anyone to come forward with any information. Anyone with information about similar gang related attacks is asked to contact either Lieutenant Ava Garavatti (925 371-4730) or Sergeant Paul Mayer (925 371-4846) at the Livermore Police Department.

Water Rates to Increase in Pleasanton

Pleasanton residents will be paying more for water in the future.

There has been no increase in either sewer or water rates in the city since 2001. The city has been absorbing the increases. For now, no increase in the sewer rates is proposed. Zone 7 raised its rates by 55 percent from 2001 to 2010.

The increasing costs of water and sewer serves led Councilmember Jerry Thorne to wonder if it weren't time to combine the operations of Zone 7, the Livermore Amador Valley Water Management Agency (LAVWMA) and Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD). "It seems to me we could realize cost savings by reducing redundancies in management and operations."

City Manager Nelson Fialho said such discussions should start at the various liaison meetings. "There are a lot of legal issues. It would be a new agency," he said. Fialho said there have been discussions at the staff level. For example there has been talk of splitting the tasks handled by LAVWMA. DSRSD would continue maintenance; Pleasanton would handle financial operations, and Livermore could take on the legal aspects. It was estimated that would shave \$400,000 off of operating costs.

The new rate structure will encourage water conservation, maintain the senior and low income discounts, and provide funding for a recycled water program, Daniel Smith, Pleasanton Director of Operations Services, told the council.

Smith said that the continuing costs of water is now placing a significant strain on the city's water enterprise. He said the proposed changes in rates would add \$5.20 per month to the average homeowners' water bills.

Currently, there are three rate tiers. The proposal is to add a fourth for those who use over 750 gallons of water a day.

Those who remain at the first tier level, under 250 gallons per day, would receive their water at the wholesale price, \$1.82 per hundred cubic feet of water (Ccf) One Ccf equals 748 gallons. The highest tier will pay \$3.05Ccf. Smith said the goal is to encourage conservation.

Smith is proposing a change in how discounts are applied. The cost of subsidizing the discounts comes out of the city's general fund. It is almost \$700,000 a year. The current discount is 20 percent for seniors age 62 and over and 30 percent for low income residents. There is unlimited meter use. The low income rate would remain the same. The senior subsidy would be available to those age 65 and over, with those younger who are currently receiving it grandfathered in. The discounts would only be available to those in the first two tiers. Smith anticipates these changes will reduce the annual subsidy from the general fund to \$345,000.

Commercial and irrigation payers will have a recycling fee of 10 cents added. There are three tiers with the lowest commercial rate showing in an increase of \$7.95 per month to \$47.70 for the

highest. Irrigation rate increases range from \$18.30 per month for the lowest rate to \$189 per month for the highest. The fee will be effective year round. In the past, there was a higher fee during high use periods. Smith said that with the lower fee in winter months, there was no incentive to turn off irrigation systems.

Over the next five years, there would be an automatic increase in the rate based on the CPI. In addition, the city will pass through annual Zone 7 increases as well as increases in sewer changes approved by the Dublin San Ramon Services District and the City of Livermore.

Pleasanton has scheduled two workshops to discuss the proposed changes. One will be held May 6 at the operations center, the second on May 20 at the senior center. The council will make a decision at its June 1 meeting.

Councilmember Cindy McGovern was upset over Zone 7's rate increases, which between 2001 and 2010 will total 99 percent. She wondered what the nexus was for the increases.

Smith said the cost of water has gone up, as well as the cost of chemicals and transportation. "Our issue with the other agencies is that we have accomplished cost cutting by reducing staff and changing policies and have not had to increase rates until now." He pointed out that DSRSD has 112 employees to manage its water and sewer operations. The entire city of Pleasanton is run by 500 employees.

ACTIA Might Ask for Revenue Extension

By Ron McNicoll

The recession has had its impact on funding for transportation projects in the Valley, according to Christine Monsen, executive director of the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA).

As a result, the ACTIA board is discussing the possibility of going to the voters again in 2012 to ask for an extension of the current tax measure.

The current Measure B was authorized countywide by voters in 2000. Revenue started flowing into the fund in 2002. The funding comes from a one-half cent increase on the sales tax in Alameda County.

The revenue is used only for transportation projects ap-

proved by ACTIA, as requested by local government and transit agencies.

In 2000, that one-half cent was projected to raise \$3 billion over 20 years. Now the projection has been cut to \$2 billion.

Unlike past recessions, when the public kept on spending money, this time, with housing ownership affected, consumer spending has sagged dramatically, with the accompanying fall in sales tax revenue, said Monsen.

Sales tax revenue over the next two years will continue to be weak. Even with recovery, it is expected "to grow modestly," said Monsen.

On the bright side, the recess-

ion has enabled ACTIA to obtain bids from contractors that are far below estimates, said Monsen. About 95 percent of the work projected for the 20-year life of ACTIA has either been completed or is underway.

However, ACTIA staff and board members see more transportation needs, including transit agencies' requests to have more money for operational costs. "There's no sense in buying more buses, if we can't run them," she said.

ACTIA succeeded an earlier organization, ACTA, which was the result of a one-half cent sales tax authorization approved in 1986 for other transportation projects. It expired after 15 years.



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EDITORIAL

Great Day for Measure D

"We should use a strict interpretation of Measure D."

These words by Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley were music to the ears of all who support the agricultural/open space provisions of County Measure D.

Miley made the statement two weeks ago when the supervisors rejected in a 4-0 vote a proposed large dog/cat kennel on Interstate 580 in the canyon between Dublin and Castro Valley.

The proposal came before the supervisors with a recommendation by county staff for approval. It was widely opposed, the foes ranging from neighboring agricultural landowners such as Marie Cronin to environmental groups such as the Sierra Club. Dick Schneider of the Sierra Club filed the appeal that brought the issue before the Board of Supervisors.

Led by Supervisors Miley and Scott Haggerty, the board worried that approval of the kennel would open the door to urbanization all along the canyon corridor. Haggerty directed staff to establish a moratorium on urban development there and develop for the area a resource management land use plan in compliance with Measure D's rural goals.

It was a great day for Measure D. Not only did the supervisors reject this particular urban project, but they also sent a most emphatic message that the Alameda County Board of Supervisors won't permit anything to undermine Measure D. It's a measure that is meant to last.

BART

(continued from page one)

interchange, where it dives underground and angles southeast beneath Portola and city streets to the location of the Altamont Commuter Express station near city center.

From there it turns east and rises back to the surface along the Union Pacific Railroad corridor leading to its terminus on the east side of Vasco Road.

Not recommended were freeway-only alignments and stations where it would be difficult if not impossible to meet multiple guidelines that have been established by outside agencies and by Livermore itself, covering such land use planning issues as residential density, environmental protection and scenic preservation.

The Planning Commission vote came late in the evening following several hours of discussion and public comment, including sometimes impassioned arguments about the advantages of the various stations and alignments.

All the two-station configurations cost in the range of \$3.15 to \$3.82 billion, with the exact estimate depending on the predicted difficulty of acquiring right-of-way, meeting environmental regulations and installing more track or less, above ground or below.

The recommended choice was one of the more expensive ones, a \$3.77 billion hybrid that arose from community input during hearings by the BART board. It was designated option 2B, prompting City Engineer Cheri Sheets to open the Livermore Planning Commission discussion with a riff on Shakespeare's Hamlet.

"2B or not 2B, that is the question," she began, continuing with a fractured version of the melancholy Dane's famous soliloquy that exhorted commissioners to "end the waiting and begin the thousand next steps that BART is heir to."

Humor aside, the proceedings showed little of Hamlet's famous uncertainty. All of the options had features to recommend them, brought out in BART hearings, Livermore community planning sessions and input from other agencies. City staff analysis reached the clear conclusion that the Downtown-Vasco combination offered advantages that rose above the rest.

One essential requirement was to meet the residential density standard of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), which has authority to release or withhold regional mass transit funding. Through its Resolution 3434, passed in 2005, the MTC requires communities to have or make plans for an average of 3,850 residential units within half a mile of each BART station if a BART line is being extended.

The Downtown-Vasco station complex comes closer than any

other proposal to meeting that average. It had other advantages, such as the economic attraction of connecting with the expected growth of a high-tech, state-supported commercial hub just north of the Lawrence Livermore and Sandia Lab complex.

Some choices were at a disadvantage because of criteria that were not in place decades ago when BART was first built. For example, a Greenville-580 BART station, which could get San Joaquin commute traffic off the freeway at the eastern extremity of the Livermore Valley, was all but ruled out after state environmental agencies found it potentially damaging to bird habitats and flyways.

A station at Isabel and 580 had a different challenge, that of limited possible residential development because of its location at the edge of the Airport Exclusion Area, the urban growth boundary and the Scenic Corridor limiting high rise construction.

The large majority of comments made by citizens were in favor of Downtown-Vasco. Opposition ranged from simple "not in my back yard" comments to more intricate arguments about problems.

Livermore resident Linda Jeffery Sailors, former mayor of Dublin, warned that "the ambience (in Livermore) will be destroyed" if a station is built downtown. She spoke specifically about parking. Around Dublin's BART station, she said, "there was never enough." She cautioned that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission may decline to pay for putting tracks underground, forcing the cost on the Livermore community.

Bob Hickman favored keeping BART on the freeway for fear that building a downtown station would displace historic structures, create blight and bring more noise to the city. Bob Allen, former BART chairman, favored freeway placement for noise and cost reasons. Henry Shay had a similar argument: Freeway alignment "is at least a billion dollars cheaper," he said. "Follow 580, or it won't be built."

However, support for the Downtown-Vasco combination was strong. Paul Weiss looked forward to improved mobility. "As I get older," he said, "a high density area (near downtown BART) will let me enjoy the Bay Area."

He pointed out the European experience with "500 year old cities" that have upgraded transportation into and out of city centers. "It costs more to start with but in the long run costs less," he said.

Cal Wood had the same argument about long term value. "The cost (of the Downtown-Vasco combination) is worthwhile because of the increased quality of life" that it will bring,

TRASH

(continued from page one)

made public until the bids are unsealed, which won't happen until the city completes negotiations with Recology and the proposal heads to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for approval.

Kirby also addressed some of the environmental issues. Kirby noted Recology has plans to haul the trash to Yuba County or even further. The permits are not in place. Even if San Francisco were to approve the contract, permits from Yuba County would be required. He pointed out that Recology owns the landfill in Yuba County. The company's efforts to haul trash there may be challenged. If it failed to gain the necessary permits, Recology has other out-of-state landfills, including in Nevada. Recology may end up hauling the trash even further. He said it appears they want to use one of their own landfills.

A Bay Guardian story notes that U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., is quoted as calling the proposed dump a threat to Nevada's "sovereignty and dignity."

"The proposal to dump a mountain of California trash in

Nevada is a lose-lose proposition for our state," Reid said. "The people of Humboldt County have made it clear they don't want other states dumping trash in their backyards, and I applaud their decision."

Livermore City Councilmember Jeff Williams talked about both regional and local impacts, if Recology were to change where San Francisco trash is hauled.

He suggested the goal is to accomplish trash disposal with the lowest environmental impact. The proposed plan is to ship the trash by diesel truck to Oakland. A terminal would have to be built there. The trucks would load the refuse onto trains, which would take it to Yuba County. Another terminal would have to be built there.

Williams said the site of the Yuba County landfill is controversial. It is flatland. The water table is very high in the area. "It looks like a lot of downsides to ship a large amount of trash to a relatively small landfill," he said. "The Yuba folks face problems they haven't discussed yet. Farmers are unhappy. There are issues regarding water."

Local environmental impacts of hauling trash to the Altamont landfill have been worked out over the years. Williams stated, "Waste Management has been a pretty good steward of the environment. They have done just what they were supposed to do and more." He noted that the state-of-the-art facility that extracts methane for use in trucks is one positive. Using the fuel made from garbage in the trucks results in less environmental impact than trucks running on diesel.

In addition, there is a benefit locally because of the fees paid by haulers. Williams said that

DRUGS

(continued from page one)

release coating removed or inhaled, snort, or inject crushed pills. The average addict takes up to 5 pills a day, and some go up to 10 pills a day.

He also addressed indicators of adolescent pharmaceutical drug abuse: low grades and poor school performance, aggressive or rebellious behavior, and excessive influence by peers. Physical indicators include slurred speech and unresponsiveness, over-talkativeness, loss of motor skills, sudden weight loss or gain, change in appearance, loss of interest in personal hygiene and appearance, dilated or constricted pupils, a significant change in sleep patterns, and excessive sweating.

"No one factor means that a teen is abusing drugs. The thing to look for is an accumulation of these behaviors," Graves added. "Many things on this list may seem like typical teen behavior. Parents should be alarmed when the behavior is extreme or lasts for more than a few days."

At the talk, Graves and Con-

ley passed around examples of drug paraphernalia associated with pharmaceutical drugs. Pills are often crushed and then melted over heat, using crushed tinfoil or small bowls like a measuring cup. In fact, one item on their profile of a pharmaceutical drug user is tinfoil in the car. "If I see a box of Reynolds Wrap in the back seat of someone's car, it raises a red flag," said Conley.

Another sign is multiple dings or scratches on a teen's vehicle. Graves commented that drug abusers usually have trashed cars.

In general, the same advice for parents regarding illegal drugs also applies to abuse of pharmaceutical drugs: talk to your children early and often about drug abuse, listen to what your children have to say, model good behavior, and communicate values. "You also need to address the difference between medicine and drugs," said Graves. "For kids, taking a pill can seem like no big deal since we often take medicine

for a cold or headache." Graves has another piece of advice. "Read your kids' text messages," he said. "Don't tell them you are going to do it; just do it. If they get in trouble and you take away the phone, use it as an opportunity to check up on them. Hopefully, all you will find is stupid stuff."

If parents come across pills they have questions about, they can use the alphanumeric code printed on all prescription medication to identify it at www.drugs.com. Graves uses Epocrates (www.epocrates.com), a handheld application designed for physicians to quickly identify pills they find in the course of their job.

For further help, concerned parents can contact Axis Community Health (www.axishealth.org or 925-462-1755), which provides addiction counseling for adults and children. Conley also invited anyone with questions, concerns, or information about drug abuse to contact him at 925-371-4900.

MAILBOX

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

Measure D Anne Fox Pleasanton

In response the article on Ballot Measure D arguments where the City of Pleasanton staff members were quoted as claiming that certain words are not defined in city documents, I had to laugh. Sounds like at city hall they seem to have trouble locating city documents.

"Slope" is defined on Page II-21 of the Pleasanton 1996 General Plan as "The ratio of the rise over the run of a segment of land, where a vertical line would have an infinite slope. For example, a vertical rise of one foot over a horizontal run of one foot (equal to a 45-degree angle), has a slope of 100 percent." Ridge and ridgeline are defined in section 18.76.100 of the Pleasanton Municipal Code. Ridge is defined as "a connected series of major and minor hills" and Ridgeline

"means a ground line located at the highest elevation of the ridge running parallel to the long axis of the ridge."

I find it amazing that three pro-Oak Grove councilmembers seem to be oblivious that the luxury estates are to be built perched on ridgetops or know the truth, but are trying to hoodwink the voters into thinking that these mansions are not on ridgelines. City terrain maps of the property from WPM Planning from at least 1992 onward clearly show that Kottinger Ridge traverses the property, and 50 of the planned Oak Grove 51 gargantuan mansions are directly on this ridgeline or intersecting ridgelines.

Health Care Lucas Nelson Livermore

Recently, President Obama signed sweeping "health care" legislation that created a major rift over costs and other issues. In 2009, we spent \$2.5 trillion, or more than \$8,000 per person, on medical care. That's 17% of our GDP - more than any other country. Even these outrageous numbers don't account for the economic toll of lost production, or the emotional toll of disease and death.

Ironically, these costs and the legislation have nothing to do with health care and every-

allow delivery and unloading of materials that are transported by rail." As late as September of last year, Norcal's application was still deemed incomplete. The Yuba County planning commission asked that it be completed, which would then trigger an environmental review.

The City of Livermore sent a letter signed by Mayor Marshall Kamena objecting to the process. In the letter, Kamena expressed concern that the request for proposal did not specifically seek out various transportation alternatives and instead specifically solicited "long term disposal capacity." There was no request for pricing of transportation to be included. The pricing was not on an equal footing as only one entity bid transportation, Waste Management, as part of an overall cost.

The letter also notes, "We understand that there are presumably better and more environmentally sound transportation alternatives than rail hauling San Francisco's waste more than 300 miles by truck/rail, or 400 plus miles by direct rail round trip to Yuba County."

The city also noted that residents of Yuba County have voiced opposition to the proposal to have San Francisco waste dumped in their community. The reasons cited are the environmental impacts associated with increased volumes and the required rail and truck trips, as well as the resulting depletion of landfill resources that otherwise could be used for an expanding local community.

"We also understand that recology has not, as of yet, secured all discretionary approvals necessary to rail haul the garbage to a distant community and that pursuing that option could result in time consuming litigation."

thing to do with medical care, directed at alleviating chronic killer diseases that are largely self-inflicted through our flawed life-styles. Actual health care is absolutely free! It involves exercise, rest, and abstinence from smoking, drugs, and meat and dairy products.

Yes, meat and dairy. According to the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, nearly 1.4 million U.S. deaths annually, or 58% of the total, are caused by heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, and other chronic diseases, which have been linked conclusively with consumption of animal products.

We have no control over national medical care policy. But, each of us can exercise a great deal of control over our family's health every time we visit our favorite supermarket.

No on Prop. 16 Thomas H. Jefferson Livermore

Don't be fooled by all those advertisements urging you to vote yes on Proposition 16 in the upcoming June election. You might be surprised that funding for all those deceptive ads is being paid for by you. Well, not directly by you, but by your utility company, PG&E -- over \$28 million so far and climbing.

(More MAILBOX, page 5)

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MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

The proponents of the bill (think PG&E) call this proposition the Taxpayers Right to Vote Act. It should be called the PG&E High Electricity Rate Protection Act.

Why would PG&E spend so much to get this, their proposition passed? The answer is they want to maintain their near monopoly status in providing electricity (and charging you for it).

Proposition 16 would require a 2/3 majority vote for local government entities to establish or expand electrical service to give you a better deal on electricity. A 2/3 majority vote is hard to get for anything. Hence, PG&E would keep its monopolistic grip on electricity and your wallets.

Definitely vote NO on Proposition 16. Don't let PG&E's money (your money) buy this election.

Yes on Oak Grove

Doris George Pleasanton

By approving Measure D in June, we will be saying yes to a plan created through two years of dialogue and collaboration among Pleasanton neighborhood residents, planners, and the Oak Grove property owners. The plan that emerged from that collaboration trades minimal impact for benefits we would be foolish to pass up.

By approving Measure D in June, our schools will receive initial fees upwards of \$2 million, with additional tax revenue of \$300,000 annually. The schools need this support now, more than ever. \$200,000 in property taxes will also go to vital city services, along with \$1 million for traffic improvements.

What does Oak Grove get in exchange for all this? The opportunity to develop 51 city approved homes, no more. The 496-acre hiking park area that Oak Grove will donate as part of the plan will protect our beautiful ridgeline and permanently block future development. That makes approving Measure D a smart choice for ensuring the future sanctity of the area, as well.

Voting YES on Measure D will provide benefits that Pleasanton sorely needs, through a plan that reflects real neighborhood partnership. Let's see it through for our community.

Money for Schools?

Laura Danielson Pleasanton

"Millions of dollars for our schools." Sounds nice right about now in our district when class sizes are going up and the number of high school periods are going down?

The Oak Grove developers are busy at work spreading this message via telephone "surveys" to folks who are rightly nervous about the direction our schools

are heading. Trouble is that the "millions" the developers are talking about can't be used for anything but facilities (improvements, additional classroom space etc.), not teachers, class size reduction, vice principals or programs.

Still, any money will be better than nothing right? Again, it's more complicated than they want to let on. This money is not a one-time gift from the developer as many have been led to believe. It's a funding source that will be generated as homes are built from the home owners who in turn will expect facility additions to house their incoming children.

Another disturbing fact is that any money dribbling into the district would be subject to a possible payment to developer Signature Properties for the appellate court judgement against them. Boy, what irony that would be, PUSD having to come up with funds to house new development students because the mitigation dollars meant for that purpose went to another litigious developer who successfully sued their way out of a commitment to build a new school.

Say NO to developers who try to bend the truth to get what they want. They don't have our best interests in mind.

Vote NO on Measure D.

No on Measure D

Paul Ebright Pleasanton

I, like many of you, have received letters from Fred and Tanya in support of the Oak Grove project. Do not be misled by their smoke, "Pie in the Sky," half-truths. Please read "the rest of the story."

- Oak Trees – we all love those grand giants. If approved, Oak Grove – check out the name – will chop down 115 of these giants just for roads. Would you like to see a couple hundred more whacked down? Not me!

- Now, the grading maps show that 42 feet will be cut from the ridge. How's that work for you?

- This whole mess could have been avoided by the City Council. Pleasanton voters passed items PP and QQ in a recent election. Both of these severely restricted what could be developed in those hills and ridgelines. The City Council could have rescinded this approval of this project and it would be finished. Are they listening to the people?

- Fred should give this land to the East Bay Regional Park District, take a tax write off and forget it. In land speculation, you win some and you lose some.

Join me in rejecting the Oak Grove project. Vote No on D.

Protect the Ridges

Margo Tarver Pleasanton

I am extremely disappointed in the Oak Grove/Kottinger Hills development. During the tenure of Mayor Ben Tarver, open government was established as a standard. From the very beginning of the process initiating this project, proper procedures were not followed. The committee who worked with the developer was a handful of residents who lived in an adjacent residential area and people paid by the developer. The meetings were not open to the public, not advertised and no minutes of the meetings are available. The EIR (Environmental Impact Report) was never certified by the Planning Commission nor did they review the PUD (Planned Unit Development) or Development Agreement. No open government here.

The homes (up to 12,500 sq. ft.) in this proposed project are on ridge tops overlooking the valley which means that this is what we will see when we look at our southern hills. Huge building pads will be required for these 51 homes to be built requiring massive excavation and destruction of the hills and the skyline. We have voted on two occasions to save our ridges. Now we are being asked to vote again. I am voting NO on measure "D." I hope you will join me.

Yes on Measure D

Jan Batcheller Pleasanton

I want to encourage my Pleasanton neighbors to vote YES on measure D on June 8.

The plan for Oak Grove will protect the highest ridges in southeast Pleasanton. I've stood on the property, on the spot of one of the proposed lots, and looked out at the vast open space and beautiful hills that we as Pleasanton residents so deeply cherish. I've seen how the lots have been placed so the existing trees and contours of the land shield the homes from view.

We've worked hard to get to a plan that gives Pleasanton the most benefits with the least impacts. For years, neighbors, city staff and elected officials asked the developer to go back to the drawing table and submit another, better plan. Well, this is the other plan. This is a win for Pleasanton. They're asking for half of what they're legally allowed and creating huge benefits for the city. We must vote Yes on D. A YES vote will ensure that with the recent court ruling nullifying Pleasanton's housing cap, Oak Grove will remain as 51 homes and not the 98 homes it's designated for.

With 12,000 trees, 496 acres of parks, and regional trail links, this plan will help preserve the Pleasanton we all know and love. Vote YES on Measure D.

Lab Researchers Involved in Study That Finds Problem with Vaccine

An analysis of vaccines undertaken by researchers from five institutions has found that seven of the vaccines' DNA content was pretty much as expected, but surprisingly, one also contained DNA of an apparently benign pig virus.

This finding is reported in a paper written by lead author Eric Delwart of the San Francisco-based Blood Systems Research Institute and six co-authors, including three researchers from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). The paper was published Wednesday (April 7) in the online Journal of Virology.

Even before its publication, the research produced a major stir as Delwart contacted GlaxoSmithKline to alert the firm that its Rotarix vaccine, used to prevent diarrhea in babies, contained the pig virus, porcine circovirus-1 (PCV-1).

On March 22, Food & Drug Administration (FDA) officials urged pediatricians in the United States to temporarily suspend the use of Rotarix and to continue to use a similar rotavirus vaccine, RotaTeq from Merck, until further tests are completed. They added that Rotarix has been used in millions of children around the world, including one million in the United States, with no signs of safety problems, and that PCV1 is not known to cause any kind of illness in people or animals.

The European Union has opted for continued Rotarix distribution, while Glaxo removed PCV1 from their vaccine production line. The World Health Organization also recommended continued Rotarix distribution in regions with high levels of rotavirus infections in children.

"The intent in our research was to use the latest technologies to show that live vaccines only contained the expected viral genomes and no other," Delwart said. "Indeed, seven of the eight vaccines were clean. We were quite surprised to find PCV-1 DNA in Rotarix."

Delwart discovered PCV1 in Rotarix in January using a deep

DNA sequencing technology and then contacted LLNL researchers to check his results.

The three Livermore researchers - biologist Crystal Jaing, population biologist Shea Gardner and computer scientist Kevin McLoughlin - used a new LLNL detection technology, the Microbial Detection Array (MDA).

With 388,000 probes that fit on a one-inch wide, three-inch long glass slide, the MDA can detect or identify within a 24-hour period any of the approximately 60,000 viruses or 2,500 bacteria worldwide that have been sequenced.

"We have been collaborating with Eric for more than a year," Jaing said. "He sees value in our microarray technology as a way to provide additional confirmation to his sequencing technology."

The Livermore microarray confirmed the presence of PCV-1 DNA in the vaccine. The MDA has 40 designed probes to detect the PCV-1 strain of the pig virus; 39 of them showed positive for the virus, "almost a guarantee that the virus was present," according to Jaing.

"One result of this research is that it demonstrates how modern technologies could change and drastically improve product safety," said Tom Slezak, LLNL's scientific leader for Bioinformatics.

As an example, Slezak noted that while current product safety rules require demonstrating that a list of known contaminants is

not present, the use of modern advances in DNA sequencing and arrays would allow manufacturers to know every biological material that is present in quantities large enough to be of potential concern.

In their research, Delwart's team analyzed eight live attenuated viral vaccines - oral poliovirus, rubella, measles, yellow fever, varicella-zoster, measles/mumps/rubella and two rotavirus vaccines, one produced by Glaxo and the other by Merck.

Rotavirus can cause severe diarrhea and kills many children in developing nations. Before rotavirus vaccinations started in the United States, about 55,000 children per year were hospitalized for rotavirus infections and several dozen died each year. Merck introduced its vaccine in 2006 and Glaxo's came out in 2008.

In their paper, the authors wrote that despite an extensive record of safety and efficacy, common misconceptions have continued about vaccine safety, leading to reduced childhood vaccinations and a resurgence of vaccine-preventable infections.

"Given that live attenuated viral vaccines are safe, effective and relatively inexpensive, their use against human and animal pathogens should be encouraged," the authors said.

Application of new DNA technologies will reassure the public that viral contaminants can be readily detected and removed from vaccines, Delwart said.





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Transportation Forum


in East County

Dublin, Pleasanton, Livermore, Unincorporated Area


The public is invited to hear about and discuss transportation project details, schedules, and contracting opportunities at an East County Transportation Forum. The Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority, in conjunction with its Citizens Advisory Committee and partnering agencies, will host the forum which features presentations on major transportation projects and programs that will be implemented within the next five years.

This transportation forum will feature the following presentations:


Roads and Rails
Route 84 Expressway Update
I-580 Corridor Improvements
BART to Livermore Study



Trails
Alamo Canal Trail Update
Iron Horse Trail Feasibility Studies



Choices
Active Transportation
LAVTA Wheels Special Transportation Options
Volunteer Ride Program for seniors



April 15 • 2010 • 6:30 p.m.

Location: Dublin City Hall, 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA
Open House at 6:30PM • Formal Presentations at 7:00PM
For more information, contact Tess Lengyel
or Keonnis Taylor at 510-893-3347.

These projects and programs are funded through Measure B,
Alameda County's half-cent transportation sales tax.

SPORTS NOTES

Women's Triathlon

The 2010 Trek Women Triathlon Series, with races planned in eight markets across the United States, is coming to the Shadow Cliffs Recreation Area in Pleasanton, on June 27.

The Trek Women Triathlon Series joins the Danskin Triathlon Series, another Xtra Mile property, as the only major women's triathlon events created by women, run by women, exclusively for women.

Maggie Sullivan, Trek Series Director and president of The Xtra Mile has been an integral force in women's triathlons, and at the forefront of creating opportunities for women in the sport of triathlon since the first Danskin event in 1990.

"For the Trek Women Triathlon Series, I am privileged to be part of a team of talented professionals who collectively have delivered outstanding triathlon experiences to hundreds of thousands of women throughout the country for the past 20 years," said Sullivan. "We are building on our collective experience and are committed to making the entire Race experience meaningful and memorable. We know how to deliver what women want."

Legendary Triathlon Hall of Famer and Ironman Master's world record holder, Sally Edwards will serve as Chief Inspiration Officer for this second year of the Trek Women Triathlon Series. "My role will be to help women find what it takes to participate in this type of activity," explains Edwards. "I'm thrilled to be part of Maggie's team in helping women exceed their own expectations."

The 1st Race will be held on June 27 in Pleasanton with race distances consisting of: 1/2 mile swim, 12.5 mile bicycle ride, and 3.1 mile run/walk. Participants are encouraged to go to www.trekwomenstriathlonseries.com for registration as soon as possible, as space is limited. For further information, call toll free at 1-877-221-9665 or send us your questions at info@trekwomenstriathlon.com.

The Trek Women Triathlon Series features seven official entry categories including: Age Groups (separated by five-year increments), Mixed Age Group (so you can do the race with family and friends), Athena (150lbs+), Women in Uniform (military or government), Physically Challenged, Elite and Relay as part of a continuing effort to provide the best possible race experience for all women.

West Coast Gymnastics

The West Coast Olympic Gymnastic Academy's Girls' Optional team competed in the Region I Championships in Long Beach this weekend. Teams were from Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and Southern California.

Two of the Optional team level 9's qualified to compete in the USAG Western National Championships to be held in Des Moines, Iowa April 29. They are Jordan Garza and Jennifer Silver.

Level 9 results: Jennifer Silver Sr 6: vault 8.900 (9), bars 8.850 (10), beam 8.600



(8), floor 9.200 (6), AA 35.550 (8), Jordan Garza Sr 4: vault 9.375 (4), bars 9.450 (2T), beam 9.450 (2), floor 9.150 (4), AA 37.425 (2), Rain Sullivan Sr 4: vault 9.350 (5), bars 6.850 (15), beam 8.650 (11T), floor 9.475 (1), AA 34.325 (14), Sean Tafuri Jr 6: vault 9.275 (6), AA 34.550 (10), Level 8: Alicia Woo Ch 11B: vault 8.825 (15), bars 9.500 (4T), beam 9.525 (4T), floor 9.025 (14), AA 36.875 (7T), Hannahbeth Magnusson Ch 10: vault 8.700 (14T), bars 9.325 (6T), beam 8.850 (14T), floor 8.900 (14), AA 35.775 (10) Isabella Orecchia Jr 12B: vault 8.950 (13T), bars 9.225 (11T), beam 8.975 (14), floor 8.925 (20T), AA 36.075 (12), Elizabeth Higa Sr 14A: vault 8.150 (26), bars 8.500 (29), beam 7.950 (29), floor 8.925 (19), AA 33.525 (28), Katelyn Kleinheinz Sr 14B: vault 8.750 (17T), bars

9.075 (16), beam 8.950 (18), floor 7.975 (34), AA 34.750 (25).

Edge Gymnastics

The Edge Gymnastics team competed in the Region I Gymnastics Championships 2010 on April 8-11 at the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach.

Results: Level 10: Junior C age group: Serena Leong, 6th vault 9.2, 1 9th bars 8.525, 9th beam 9.3, 7th floor 9.15, 9th all around 36.3; Junior D A age group: Jordan Ratcliff, 21th vault 8.875, 20th bars 8.4, 9th beam 9.325, 21th floor 8.6, 16th all around 35.2

Level 9: Child 11-B age group: Hannah Hitchcock, 2nd vault 9.3, 3rd bars 9.3, 13th beam 8.6, 8th floor 9.15, 4th all around 36.35; Junior 7 age group: Vinnesa Narvaez, 3rd



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Foothill High School pitcher Keri Ball (photo at left) was on the mound against Granada in the annual Spring Stampede Softball Tournament in Livermore. Granada won 2 to 0. In the photo on the right, Livermore High School's Brittany Sabatini (3) is congratulated as she crosses the plate after hitting a home run against College Park. Livermore lost 6 to 0. Overall, Livermore finished fifth in the tournament they host each year.

vault 9.225, 7th bars 8.5, 3rd beam 9.075, 4th floor 9.2, 4th all around 36.6

Level 8: Senior 14-B age group: Hayley Timmons, 1st vault 9.5, 12 bars 9.225, 10th beam 9.1, 4th floor 9.35, 3rd all around 37.175; Senior 14-A age group: Heather Hovander, 2nd vault 9.55, 18th bars 8.875, 3rd beam 9.4, 8th floor 9.275, 5th all around 37.1; Child 11-B age group: Hannah Skinner, 10th vault 9.1, 13th bars 9.175, 8th beam 9.375, 6th floor 9.275, 6th all around 36.925; Senior 15-A age group: Hannah Lachman, 11th vault 8.975, 4th bars 9.325, 8th beam 9.075, 15th floor 8.85, 6th all around 36.225

Youth Soccer

The Pleasanton Rage U11 Premier team, kicked off the spring league with a solid 3-0 win over the GSC Gryphons. This was the first time many of these girls had played together as a team and instinctively they formed a very impressive squad.

In the first few minutes Rage took control of the game with a beautiful assist from Sarah Brocha to Rachel Rice who persisted until she scored. Goal two came when Megan Von Sosen was able to move the ball within scoring distance and kicked a fantastic shot right over the goalies head. The offensive controlled the ball down at the Gryphons

box with a pounding attack of attempts, when Bianca Stubler connected with Sarah Brocha it became the third Rage goal. The girls dominated the first half, leaving their goalie Juliet Allen with her hands free.

In the second half the Gryphons were able to penetrate into Rage territory, however their efforts were for naught as the Rage defense of Ariana Nino, Lorna Roberts, Tiara Lewis, Haley Beltron, Amy Schoendienst, Madison Soble, Sadie Grozier, and Brooke Williams kept the Gryphons scoreless the entire game, the Gryphons one attempt on goal was silenced nicely by keeper Juliet Allen.

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SPORTS NOTES



Pleasanton Seahawks' Senior Group pictured at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado

State Cup Soccer

The Livermore Elite Fury U14 girls completed their season after playing three games in CYSA State Cup.

Livermore opened with a 1-0 win against the Almaden Wildcats before losing to the Madera Sharpshooters 2-0 and the Pleasanton Rage Premier 2-0.

The Fury controlled most of the action against Almaden and finally broke through with seven minutes left in the match when Beth McCall tapped in a ball that the Wildcats goalie could not secure. Jenna Hatch, Alison Pierson, Hannah Gooby, Elyse Codiroli, Morgan Brandt and Madysou Souza all played well on offense Ryley Landreth, Kaitlyn Bulhoes and Rebekah Johnson helped preserve the shutout on defense.

Against Madera, Livermore played from behind after an early goal and was limited to only a few scoring opportunities as the Sharpshooters applied solid pressure. Defenders Sarah Franklin and Sarah Wilkinson each had excellent clears in front of the goal to keep the Fury close in the first half. Madera upped the lead to 2-0 early in the second half and used a nice possession game to secure the victory.

Livermore played its best game against Pleasanton and held the Rage scoreless until less than a minute remaining in the first half. Amber Lennier and Kylie Diaz worked well together to set up a scoring chance and Elise Falgout had a strong middle run to force a corner. Fury keeper Taylor Lennier kept the game close with several outstanding saves, including back-to-back stops near the goal midway through the second half. An early second half goal by the Rage resulted in the 2-0 win for Pleasanton.

Livermore National LL

Livermore National Little League results:

A Division: Cardinals vs. Cubs: Both teams exhibited very strong defense in this game. The Cardinals' Michael Turpin made several excellent defensive plays, including one in which he threw to home plate for an out which ended the inning. Dominic Scott was the catcher in that play; in another play, he stopped a ground ball and threw to second base for an out. The Cardinals' Alex Alamillo made an impressive play when he stopped a ground ball and threw to third base for the out. Jacob Burk was awarded the game ball for his efforts in running the bases and for his overall positive attitude. On the Cubs, Christopher Johnson, Patrick Connolly, and Ayden Martinez showed especially excellent effort and sportsmanship.

Black Giants vs. Orange Giants: The Black Giants squared off against the Orange Giants in what turned out to be a well played game by both teams. For the Orange Giants, Jeffrey Patterson went 3 for 3 with a single-handed double play at second base. Dane Winslow had the big hit of the game, sending the ball soaring over second base. Timothy Studebaker went 3 for 3 with a great stop at 3rd to hold the runners back. For the Black Giants, Kyle Winkler went 3 for 3 and made a great play at shortstop, fielding a tough ground ball and making the throw out at second base while Julian Quigley used his glove to snare several grounders at 3rd base and hit the ball well all day.

Padres vs. A's: The Padres and A's played an exciting, fast-paced game on Saturday. For the Padres, Tyler Lacy had 3 powerful hits and played well at 3rd base. Isaiah Ontai showed his lightning speed in the outfield and did a great job backing up his teammates. Kyle Sands played solid defense from the pitching mound, stopping all of the balls that came his way. For the A's, Landon Wiedenfeld showed great fielding skills at 2nd base to get the runner out. Jacob Hutchinson had a big stop at 1st base and was able to tag the batter out, and Isaac Romero had a nice hit up the middle.

Granada Little League

Granada Little League highlights: **Granada Junior 90's** took on the Valley White 90's squad in a double header this past Saturday. In the first game, the Granada 90's used both solid hitting and timely pitching to win the game by the score of 16 - 6. The Granada offense was solid throughout the game by pounding out 14 hits, including 3 doubles. The heart of the Granada order, Ryan Dearborn, Jose Gonzalez, JT Storti, Tyler Offill and Matty Proetel combined to finish the game 11 for 18 with three doubles and nine RBIs. Ian Clutter, Nick Campiotti and John Madruga each had a hit and a RBI. The pitching for Granada struggled with the base on balls, but when Granada needed an out, they were able to get it with the strikeout. Gonzalez picked up the victory by going 2

innings and allowing 3 hits, 1 walk, and 3 strikeouts.

Granada was able to take the back half of the double header by the score of 10 - 6 as winning pitcher Logan Van Schaack was able to shut down the strong Valley lineup by going 3 innings, while allowing 1 hit and 6 strikeouts. Ryan Dearborn came in relief of Van Schaack and finished with 3 innings pitched, 5 hits, 1 run and 2 strikeouts. Offensively, Granada was led by JT Storti, who had 4 RBIs in the game, with three coming on a bases loaded double in the 3rd. Dearborn was 2 for 4 with an RBI and 3 runs scored. Jose Gonzalez, Van Schaack, and Nick Campiotti each had a base hit and a RBI. Brandon Self played a solid game on defense as well as scoring a couple runs from the leadoff spot.

Seahawks Senior Elite

The Pleasanton Seahawks Senior Elite group had the opportunity of training at the Olympic Training Center (OTC) in Colorado during spring break. While rubbing elbows with top Olympians from all over the world, the swimmers received presentations by the USA Swimming staff including sessions on Supplements and Drug Awareness, Nutrition and Fueling for Workouts and Competitions, and Underwater Stroke Review. Attendees included Sasha Alcon, Kirsten Brand, Catherine Breed, Allison Brown, Marissa Brown, Brandon Chandler, Kristine Doan, Chris Guido, Bryan Hughes, Rachel Knowles, Celina Li, Kyle Lindsay, Bridget Moran, Krish Rajagopalan, Andrew Seitz, Danielle Stickler, Karen Wang, Maggie Woods and Tim McLaughlin.

Livermore Smoke

Livermore Smoke results: **U-10 Black Division:** Slammers 5, Extreme Smoke 6. In another nail-biter, the Extreme Smoke was able to contain the last inning Slammer explosion for a 6-5 win. The Extreme Smoke jumped out to an early lead, thanks to the pitching of Casey Bilkie. Bilkie struck out 10, making all but 2 of the outs for the team. She allowed only three hits for the game: a blast in the 3-4 hole from Sydney Mendoza, a laser past the shortstop by Jessica Blau, and a bomb to the outfield for a triple by Mikendra Kramar. Kramar would also take the mound in the last inning for the Slammers, striking out 3 of the 4 batters she faced and holding back the Extreme Smoke. The Extreme Smoke shored up their defense and made a great play on a well-hit ball from Nicole Fairbanks, sealing the win.

Amador Swimming

Danielle Stickler placed fifth in the backstroke and Chelsea Finn finished ninth in the breaststroke as individual point gainers for the Amador Valley High School girls varsity swim team at the 38th Annual Mission Viejo Invitational. The Dons gained 39 points overall, also getting points in the medley relay (Stickler, Finn, Theresa Martin, and Rachel Miller) with a 16th finish and in the 200 free relay (Kelly Avon, Emma McGuinness, Miller, and Ali Hembroth) finishing 10th. The Amador Valley varsity boys swim team, led by great efforts from Andrew Seitz and Bryan Hughes, finished sixth in the high profile 38th annual Mission Viejo Invitational with 139 points. Seitz finished first in the 200 IM in a bang-bang, come from behind finish, and later posted a seventh place finish in the 500 free. Hughes placed fifth in the 200 free and eighth in the fly. Both were members of the 400 free relay which garnered a sixth place finish and the medley relay which finished 13th. The 400 relay included Krish Rajagopalan and Tim McLaughlin and the medley team was filled out with Nick Johnston and Jason Chen.

The 200 free was a good event for the Dons as Johnston and Rajagopalan also gained points, finishing 12th and 15th respectively. Johnston also pointed in the backstroke, finishing seventh and Chen took ninth.

McLaughlin had a pair of point gaining finishes, placing 16th in both the IM and the 100 free. He also helped the 200 free relay team, along with Rajagopalan, Johnston, and Chen, to place ninth.

Golf Tournament

The LHS-GHS Golf Tournament will raise funds for the Livermore and Granada high schools safe and sober grad night.

The tournament will be held April 9 at Poppy Ridge Golf Course, 4280 Greenville Rd., Livermore. The day will include golf, lunch, a barbecue dinner and prizes.

The fee is \$175 per golfer for the full day; \$25 per person for dinner and awards/auction event only.

Registration for golf is at 11 a.m. There will be a putting contest at noon followed by the shotgun start at 1 p.m. Dinner is set for 6 p.m., the auction, raffle and awards

at 7 p.m.

For information, contact Tony Ansuini at 408-688-7165 or toni.ansuini@mybel-lavitaevents.com. Registration can also be completed at the granada High and Livermore High websites.

Players Sought

Tracy Futbol Clubs U-12 Fireballs Hi Comp Soccer team looking for players. Birthdate must be between August 1, 1997 to August 1, 1998. For more information please contact George Edwards at (209) 613-2294 or E-mail g1edwards@msn.com.

Junior Football

The Livermore Junior Football League registration for 2010 is underway.

Due to its success over its three-year existence and the support of LARPD and the high school football programs, LJFL is expanding to all children aged 8 through 14 (as of December 31, 2010.) Football participants will learn the fundamentals of contact football in a safe and positive environment and play regardless of talent level or ability. Cheer participants will learn the fundamentals, cheer at games and compete locally. All games will be played in Livermore at the high schools. All practices will take place in Livermore. The season begins on August 1 and concludes in early November.

Online registration is open at www.LivermoreJuniorFootball.com.

The registration cost is \$265 for football and \$95 (noncompetitive) or \$120 (competitive) for cheer. Registration costs increase after April 24. Each player pays a \$25 refundable volunteer fee. Sibling discounts apply. LJFL has a limited number of scholarships for needy families. Applications are available at www.LivermoreJuniorFootball.com.

Registration will close when the league reaches 12 teams. Players that are not able to register with LJFL will be given instructions to Pleasanton Junior Football League registration. LJFL intends to expand in the future to accept all Livermore children who wish to play contact football or to cheer.

For additional information, interested parents should visit: www.LivermoreJuniorFootball.com. President and Vice-President of LJFL are Jim Burke and Jon Parker.

Diablo Century

Cycling enthusiasts are invited to register for the 2nd annual Diablo Century to be held on Sunday morning, April 25 at the Contra Costa JCC in Walnut Creek.

Three routes, all beginning at the CCJCC on Tice Valley Blvd. in Walnut Creek, will accommodate various cycling levels: the 25-mile route will take casual cyclists through the scenic hills of Danville and Alamo to the foot of Mt. Diablo and back. The more challenging 100-K route (62 miles) will have cyclists enjoying the breathtaking backside and spectacular views of Mt. Diablo via Clayton and the Morgan Territory. Cyclists will descend into Livermore and return via Danville and scenic Blackhawk. The final 100-M route (100 miles) will have serious cyclists taking the 100-K route and then adding to the challenge with a vigorous jaunt to Castro Valley, followed by an energetic climb up Redwood Road to Moraga.

All three routes conclude with a return ride to the Contra Costa JCC, where a luncheon and commemorative t-shirt will await registered riders.

Rest stops will be stocked with water, fruit, and snacks. Support and gear vehicles will be traveling throughout the course to assist riders, aiding with mechanical breakdowns and providing transportation as needed.

The Diablo Century will take place come rain or shine. Start time for the 100-K and 100-M routes is from 6:30 to 8:00 am. The 25-M route begins at 8:00 am. Individual registration fee for all routes is \$50 per person (\$60 the day of the event). Tandem for all routes is \$100 per tandem (\$110 the day of the event) and additional luncheon tickets for non-registered riders are available for \$10 each.

To register for the Diablo Century or to learn more, please visit www.ccjcc.org/diablo. To learn about volunteering opportunities, please contact Phil Hankin at philh@ccjcc.org or (925) 938-7800, ext. 273.

Charity Golf Tournament

The Tri-Valley YMCA will host its 3rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Fri., April 30 at the Callippe Preserve Golf Course in Pleasanton.

The event will include silent and live auctions, a women's beauty event, and a dinner. Free certified childcare will be provided from 3:30 p.m. until the conclusion of the festivities.

For all who register by April 1st, the cost is \$165. After April 1st, the price is \$185 which includes golf, lunch, dinner and refreshments. The golf begins at 1 p.m. with a shotgun start but golfers may begin checking in at 10 a.m.

The funds raised for this event benefit the programs of the Tri-Valley YMCA whose policy is to never turn away a child or family for lack of funds. There are many sponsorship opportunities such as hole sponsorship and a "Corporate Outing Foursome" special. Live and silent auction items are being welcomed to help raise funds in support of the Y mission of building strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

Football/Cheer League

Livermore Youth Football and Cheer is celebrating its 36th year and is accepting registration for competitive football players ages 7 to 14 years and competitive cheerleaders ages 5 to 14 years.

Register a football player or cheerleader at www.eteamz.com/lyfc For the month of March receive a \$25.00 discount by entering the code mar25 during registration. Regular registration fees \$100. Player participation fee football \$175.00 (Vikings level \$200 which includes keeping your



Ariana Nino and keeper Juliet Allen defend their goal in the U11 Premier teams 3-0 victory over the GSC Gryphons. (Photo by Erin Salinas)

jersey). Cheerleaders \$100 participation fee. Discounts are available for bringing in sponsorship money.

The coaching staff includes former NFL player James Hodgins (St. Louis Rams, Arizona Cardinals and New York Jets)

This year's board will emphasize both on athletic achievement and academic excellence.

The league is a traveling league and of the nine games travel is to five of them. This year away games are in Antioch, Walnut Creek, Pinole, Napa and American Canyon. The LYFC family will insure that all player gets to all games.

Practice begins on August 2, 2010, at the Mendenhall fields where all teams, football and cheer practice. All practices, for all levels, take place at the same days, time and place. Each player will have the opportunity to play multiple positions each and every game. Training includes developing football and cheerleading skills, including instructing the players for special teams. This is the only Livermore league offering such instruction.

For more information please visit our website at www.eteamz.com/lyfc or e-mail lyfcorg@gmail.com.

Bogey Bash

The Arc of Alameda County's first annual "Bogey Bash" comes to Las Positas Golf Course on Monday, April 26. The event benefits the 600 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that are served by the Arc.

The day begins with lunch at Bebe's Restaurant and a putting contest. Golfers tee-off at 12:30 in a "shotgun" start, the silent auction begins at 5:30 with dinner and the awards ceremony at 6:30. The registration fee is \$125 per golfer; with a \$5 discount if a group signs up as a foursome. Participants may also purchase a "mulligan-plus" ticket for \$40 which includes 5 raffle tickets, 2 mulligans and entry into the Long Drive and Putting Contests.

Golfers will have a chance to win a new Chevy Malibu courtesy of F.H. Daily Chevrolet in San Leandro should they get a hole-in-one on the par 3 15th hole.

Funds generated at the "Bogey Bash" will help bridge the loss in state funding. Contact Fitzmaurice at rfitzmaurice@arcalameda.org with a raffle/auction item to donate or to become a sponsor.

Golf Association

Te-off this year by joining the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Golf Association. Celebrating its 10th year, the LARPD Golf Association is open to the public and is always accepting new members.

This ongoing golf program provides an exciting and inviting schedule of events for those who enjoy the game of golf along with a fun social atmosphere with other members. Members must be 18 years of age or 14 or older when registered with and accompanied by an adult parent/guardian member.

The membership fee to join the association includes golf discounts, services and a membership to the Northern California Golf Association. A variety of monthly tournaments for all levels of play are offered in addition to special contests and socials throughout the year. It's never too late to join.

For more information or to register, visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us or larpd_glnhclub.com. Questions may also be directed to Lynette White at lwhite@larpd.dst.ca.us or 925-580-2811 or Frank LaScala at fscalas@larpd.dst.ca.us or 925-373-5731.

15U Summer Baseball

Granada Wolf Pack Baseball Club 2010 Summer Team is seeking talented and passionate players for its 15U tournament team. Season will be during June and July. Experienced coaching; highly competitive baseball. Contact Manager David Journey at granadabaseball@hotmail.com for tryout info.

Golf Tournament

Tri-Valley Learning Corporation is hosting the Sixth Annual Livermore Valley Charter School Golf Tournament and Dinner at Poppy Ridge on Friday, May 21, 2010.

Proceeds from this event will benefit Livermore Valley Charter School, Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory, and Tassajara Preparatory High School. The cost of each golf tournament ticket is \$175. The golf tournament will be followed by a banquet dinner. Dinner will be \$55 per person.

Dick Greene a 213. In the Sirs & Sirettes league, Alma Taasevigen rolled 58 over average for a 222 game, Larry Preszler a 210 game and Shirley DiGirolamo 50 pins over average for a 193 game. Lori Kaufman in the Friday Primitimers bowled 70 over average for a 225 game and Terry Peterson 59 over for a 201 game.

Youth Bowler, Daniel Edmondo went 74 over average for a 267 game in the Generation Gap league.

Masters Swim Meet in Pleasanton

The City of Pleasanton's Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center will be the host site for the Tri-Valley Masters swim meet to be held Friday, April 16 through Sunday, April 18, 2010.

The meet is expected to draw about 800 swimmers who will begin to arrive at 8:00 a.m. each day (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) and end at approximately 5:00 p.m.

The city of Pleasanton has worked closely with the organization to develop a plan for a both a successful competition and reduced impact on the neighborhoods surrounding the Aquatic Center, located at 4455 Black Avenue near Santa Rita Road. Congested traffic conditions are anticipated on Santa Rita Road and Black Avenue each morning as the swimmers begin to arrive for the day's competition.

City staff has developed a traffic flow system for the Aquatic Center to facilitate competitor drop-off, and participants have been notified of pre-designated parking locations that would reduce the impacts on the surrounding neighborhoods.

For more information, please contact Ian Anderson at (925) 931-3423.

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The Livermore Jr. Football League is committed to teaching the fundamentals of football in a safe and positive environment. All participants play regardless of talent level or ability. We aim to implant the ideals of good sportsmanship and respect for authority in all our players.

SUPPORTED BY: LARPD - Livermore Area Recreation and Parks District
& PJFL - Pleasanton Jr. Football League (www.pjfl.com)

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KICK-ASS (R) DLP	12:10 1:10 2:50 4:05 6:00 7:10 9:00 9:55		
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DATE NIGHT (PG13) DLP	11:40 12:40 1:45 2:45 4:00		
	5:00 6:30 7:20 8:45 9:25		
CLASH OF THE TITANS IN REALD 3D (PG13) DLP THX	12:20 3:00 5:30 8:00		
CLASH OF THE TITANS IN REALD 3D (PG13) DLP	DAILY 4:35 FRI-TUES 7:15 9:50		
THE LAST SONG (PG) DLP	1:25 4:00 6:50 9:10		
HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON IN REALD 3D (PG) DLP	11:50 2:10 4:30 6:45 9:15		
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID (PG) DLP	DAILY 12:00 2:30 4:50		
	FRI-MON, WED-THURS 7:05; FRI, SUN-MON, WED-THURS 9:20		
ALICE IN WONDERLAND IN REALD 3D (PG) DLP	11:30 2:00		
ALICE IN WONDERLAND (PG) DLP	1:00 4:15 7:10 9:35		
HOT TUB TIME MACHINE (R) DLP	1:20 4:10 7:00 9:30		
THE BOUNTY HUNTER (PG13) DLP	1:30 4:25 6:55 9:40		

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SUBWAY

Livermore Chamber Recognizes 'Dreammakers and Risk Takers'

The Livermore Chamber of Commerce hosted its first ever tribute to local innovators.

"Dreammakers and Risk Takers" luncheon was held March 30.

The keynote address featured Gary Cohen, Chief of Staff for John Garamendi. Cohen talked about the importance of government-private partnerships.

Cohen noted that the Tri-Valley is one of the best places in country to talk about the need for a partnership between government and private industry if the US is going to continue to lead the world in developing innovative technologies and if America is going to have an economy that grows and creates jobs. He said that industry can't accomplish it alone, because of the large investment required and the long-term nature of the projects.

Cohen said that the mission of the National Labs has and must change to reflect the changing challenges the country is facing. "Nuclear security will always be part of their mission, but they must also address new

challenges, such as the need for alternative forms of energy and the effects of climate change. Private industry is uniquely able to help use technology developed in the Labs to create products for the future," added Cohen.

He added that the need for new missions is why Congressman Garamendi is an enthusiastic supporter of the work of the Labs, and in particular the Livermore Valley Open Campus. "This will enable greater collaboration and cooperation among the National Labs, academic institutions and private industry, which will enable the region and the country to benefit to the greatest possible extent from the investment in these precious natural resources."

Marty Beard, President of Sybase 365, received the award for spearheading the Tri-Valley innovation initiative.

He told the group that the idea came from an International Forum put on by the Livermore Chamber last year. There he saw so many exceptional innovators and thought if we could intercon-

nect these resources, this amazing mixture of talent and assets we have in this area, we could create an effort that can serve as a catalyst for great innovation and growth in the region.

A working group of community and business leaders later met at Sybase to discuss a collaborative effort to make the Tri-Valley a recognized center of leading edge innovation and job growth. The consensus was that the technology base that combines with two distinguished national laboratories, leading universities, an ambitious community college and an agile workforce give the Tri-Valley unique potential as a center of innovation and economic growth.

Funds were raised to hire business consultants who will move the initiative from a start up concept to a more formal enterprise. Beard told the luncheon, the initiative is now expanding its outreach to gather points of view about the Tri-Valley's assets and what we need to do develop an ecosystem that will bring in new

businesses and give the area a competitive advantage.

The next winner was Trond Unneland head of Chevron's Technology Ventures (CTV).

Unneland said, "This award is especially meaningful for two reasons. First, it's from our friends and neighbors. Second, it's an award for innovation, which is something Chevron values tremendously and uses every day to deliver energy to the world."

He pointed out that many people today think of Chevron as an oil company. "But in many respects, we're a technology company that produces energy. Our company - and our industry - has always been driven by technology. And today more than ever, supplying the world's ever-increasing demand for energy will depend on collaboration, innovative partnerships and technology breakthroughs."

Unneland stated that Chevron invests in research and development to expand energy's boundaries to include uncon-

ventional, alternative and renewable sources. "CTV is our company's 'scouting department' for emerging technologies. CTV develops and commercializes new technologies, often through relationships with universities, national laboratories and commercial partners. We also partner with other Chevron operating companies and technology companies. In addition, CTV's venture capital group, which I lead, invests in early-stage technology companies and helps Chevron businesses become their customers.

"We seek new opportunities and out-of-the-ordinary solutions. We use our creativity to find unexpected and practical ways to solve problems," he continued.

Lisa Tromovitch was recognized for her efforts in the field of theater arts.

Tromovitch is a founder of Shakespeare's Associates/Livermore Shakespeare Festival, Valley Shakespeare Festival and Maine Shakespeare Festival,

with 40 professional directing credits in six states. She is the artistic director. Tromovitch is a Backstage West Garland Award and Indy Award winner for her direction of Amadeus at PCPA; an Arty Award nominee (best direction of a musical: Forever Plaid and Honk! at Suisun Harbor and Solano College) and a Bessie nominee (direction of Having Our Say at Lost Nation Theater in Vermont).

She has 15 years of management experience in non-profit performing arts, and was founding chair of the Bangor Region Arts Council. She serves on the Theatre Services Committee of Theatre Bay Area and is Chair of the Training Committee of Shakespeare Theatre Association of America. MFA from Southern Methodist University; BA, magna cum laude, from Dartmouth College, member Phi Beta Kappa.

Also honored were Jim McGuirk, Las Positas, Sandia Student of the year; and Shari Schierloh, Chamber Ambassador of the Year.

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

cerned about its inability to build, renovate, or expand. The court suspended the city's nonresidential permitting power until it is in compliance with state law.

The city has spent about \$500,000 in legal expenses on the case. It does not include the work performed by the city attorney's office. An appeal could cost about \$250,000. The city could also face claims for legal expenses for Urban Habitat, which instituted the lawsuit.

There is still an outstanding issue to be resolved in the courts. It involves a charge of discrimination against Pleasanton. Urban Habitat, which filed the lawsuit, argued that Pleasanton favored senior housing over multi-family housing, which violates antidis-

STYROFOAM

(continued from page one)

something other than styrofoam. It is used mainly for such things as hot soup and cold drinks.

He suggested that a ban in the downtown would enable city staff to work in a focused manner with businesses. The ban could be used as a pilot program. Of the 50 restaurants in the downtown, only nine are still using styrofoam he said.

City staff met with the Chamber of Commerce, Livermore Downtown Inc. and the new formed Restaurant and Bar Association. Cardwell said the main concerns were over the potential cost increase and how such a ban would be implemented.

Staff looked at First Street Alehouse as a case study. The Alehouse has already moved away from styrofoam take-out containers to compostable containers. It was estimated that it serves 618 meals a day; approximately 14 percent of customers leave with food in a take-out container. The cost of the compostable container is almost double that of styrofoam.

Cardwell pointed out that businesses have different container needs, resulting in varying cost impacts. The price of containers can fluctuate depending on the size and shape of the container and the volume purchased.

Councilmember Jeff Williams said he didn't have a lot of confidence in the economic analysis provided by staff, since it involved only one establishment. "To say cost will double, if there are a lot of other options, bothers me," he declared.

Cardwell said the Alehouse is a "worst case scenario."

Mayor Marshall Kamena said he had talked to Councilmember Marj Leider, who proposed the

ban. She was absent on Monday.

Kamena said Leider told him she had called various fast food chains and was told that the cost difference is not enough to continue using styrofoam. Kamena wondered why, if so many eating places already had moved away from styrofoam, is the city discussing regulating the use of it.

"Since so many have changed, it says to me that conversion can't be that tough." Both Williams and Kamena expressed support for a phased in ban, if one were approved. Kamena said it should be city-wide. The downtown should not be singled out.

Councilmember John Marchand wondered about incentives to encourage compliance. He said it would be a benefit to ban it, because styrofoam ends up in storm drains and waterways.

Cardwell said one incentive that has been discussed is marketing the downtown as having a green entertainment district. The city would support the marketing effort. "The purpose of the ordinance would not be to penalize a business, but to work with a business on the impacts."

Judy Erlandson, public works department, said if a business moves away from styrofoam and compost food scraps, in July they will receive a 50 percent discount on waste collection when the new contractor begins work.

Matt Macedo, owner of Los Vaqueros Grill on Vasco Road, said that if a ban were instituted it should be citywide, not focused in the downtown. "It is not fair to impact only the downtown businesses." He said one of the reasons the large chains have been able to switch is they have

extreme buying power. Alternatives have just shown up for the independents. He estimated it would cost him about \$2200 a year to switch. He did not oppose the ban. He added that plastic lids, forks and knives are another issue that should be addressed.

He continued, Pleasanton can fight the decision. He added that the antidiscrimination charge cannot be resolved until there is a final decision on the litigation regarding land use policies in Pleasanton.

The city can comply with zoning for unmet numbers. One issue that is not clear, according to Brown, involves development "by right." Urban Habitat has said that it believes development following the rezonings would be "by right," meaning without discretionary review by the city other than design review. The city disagrees, and believes that the

required rezonings were never intended to eliminate any need for future discretion by the City.

The third option would be for the city to try to negotiate a different solution. There are areas of overlapping interests on the part of the city and affordable housing advocates that could be addressed through negotiations, said Brown. "Those talks are underway now. They have been cordial," he added.

No information was provided on what the city's strategy would be regarding litigation or negotiations.

Brown did note that there are systems available to the city to control growth. He explained, "Many cities have adopted growth management based on their ability to provide public services and infrastructure. They have been upheld in court. Pleasanton is the only city with a hard cap of 29,000 that provided no exceptions."

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman said there is some confusion over the implications of the decision when it comes to how much the city has to grow. She said, "It is not the city's job to build houses. The state forces zoning where housing can be built."

Brown agreed. "There is no obligation to use public resources to build housing, at least for now. A city is only required to plan for it."

Councilmember Cindy McGovern wondered if the city would have to go to voters over the decision, since the cap was approved by voters.

Brown said, "No, a vote would have only been required before the court ruled against the city."

There were questions raised about Measure PP and its provisions. The measure is part of the general plan's land use element. It includes policies aimed at protecting ridgelines from future development.

Brown said he didn't think the ruling was intended to sweep away ridgeline protections. "The issue is not clear. It may be subject to future dispute or litigation."

The public offered the following comments:

Michael O'Callaghan urged the city not to move forward with litigation. "Let's get this resolved. We don't need more lawsuits."

Becky Dennis stated, "I hope the council will pursue the path of a negotiated settlement." She asked that affordable housing advocates would be given a role in the negotiations.

Karen Martens declared that no one wants businesses to suffer. She was concerned that the 120 days given Pleasanton to comply,

does not have the same goal."

One speaker urged the city to prepare an economic analysis of each of the options. "The council needs to understand all of the issues, before deciding whether to fight or negotiate."

Chamber of Commerce CEO Scott Raty said it is ironic that the 29,000 cap designed to give Pleasanton local control has resulted in having its local control taken away. "The city's priorities need to change. Overtime, we will recognize that the objectives of the state and the community are divergent." He urged either compliance or negotiation.

City Manager Nelson Fialho said that negotiations would not preclude compliance or litigation in the future. The city is moving forward on parallel tracks.

He said that the April 20 staff report would spell out the history of the cap, the reasoning behind the housing numbers assigned to Pleasanton and the consequences of each path for the city. "We hope at that time to understand better what compliance means." He said the report would also provide optional growth management proposals for the city council to consider.

Hosterman commented, "Just as we vigorously defended the cap, we will pursue vigorously a solution that will allow Pleasanton to retain local control while complying with state law."

DUBLIN

(continued from page one)

business community and asking for their assistance."

The All-America City Awards program is sponsored by Prudential, MWH, Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Southern California Edison, Burns & McDonnell, Pforzheimer Foundation, and Southwest Airlines, the official airline of the All-America City Awards.

NCL is a 116-year-old nonpartisan nonprofit organization that strengthens democracy by increasing the capacity of our nation's people to fully participate in and build healthy and prosperous communities across America.

Listed alphabetically by state, the 2010 All-America City finalists: Chandler, AZ; Bentonville, AR; Dublin, CA; Lynwood, CA; Rancho Cordova, CA; Vernon Central (neighborhood) CA; Miami Lakes, FL; North Miami, FL; Acworth, GA; Belleville, IL; Canton, IL; Noblesville, IN; Des Moines, IA; Lenexa, KS; Scott County, KS; Bowling Green, KY; Salisbury, MD; Ferguson, MO; Riverside, MO; Lynbrook, NY; Gastonia, NC; West Chester, OH; Wyoming, OH; Mount Pleasant, SC; El Paso, TX; Abingdon, VA; Middleton, Wisconsin.

LEGAL

(continued from page one)

First steps are likely to involve opening a court case aimed at uncovering documents and policy statements that bear on the decision to remove Lawrence Livermore Lab retirees from UC group health coverage.

The retirees were covered by the University's group plans under a succession of contracts that began in 1952 and ended at the beginning of 2008, when a for-profit contractor took over Laboratory management from University of California. The new contract specified benefits "substantially equivalent" to UC's group plans. However, the contract wording was changed a year later under circumstances that have never been explained to retirees.

The new health arrangements have come across as a patchwork of plans that appear to abandon individual retirees to fend for

themselves in a complex system. Retirees share painful stories with one another about former colleagues or their spouses who have been unable to obtain service from the health consulting firms that now separate retirees from the Laboratory and University that once took an interest in their welfare.

Not all retirees report dissatis-

faction in the current year. Some are paying no more for health care than in the past. However, concern remains for the future, that being forced out of UC group plans and into individual plans will make them vulnerable to rapid price hikes or even to being dropped as they age and require more care.

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10:00 am - 1:30 pm

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To reserve a seat or for further information on reserving booth space call (925) 447-1606.

Chamber Members - \$40
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Booth Space - \$200

Event Highlights

10:00 am Business Expo
12:00 pm Luncheon Program

Fund Started by Woman's Social Security Checks Helps Seniors

By Ron McNicoll

Seniors who might be a little short on a PG&E payment or the month's rent can obtain cash to meet those obligations, thanks to a late Livermore woman who started a fund with her own Social Security checks.

Fran Wiesner began the Wiesner Memorial Senior Fund in honor of her husband, Hal, in 1982. Wiesner was drawing her Social Security checks. She wanted to give them back to the government, because the Social Security fund was in trouble then, said Judy Boyle, a Livermore resident who is chairperson of the non-profit fund.

When Wiesner told a friend about her payback idea, the friend suggested she keep the money in the Valley instead, and start her own fund to aid local seniors. Since Wiesner started the fund, many other individuals and several organizations have

contributed over the years to help grow the fund's corpus, so that its interest can be used to help seniors with short-term needs.

There is no overhead, because the six-member board of directors serves without pay.

Cumulatively over the past 10 years, the fund has disbursed approximately \$13,000. However, in the past year, contributions have dropped.

A lack of visibility is partly responsible for diminishing contributions, said Boyle. For example, the Wiesner fund had a booth annually at a fair at LLNL to let employees know they could allocate some of their HOME campaign donations to the fund.

More than 100 non-profits were represented at the annual fair in October each year. However, costs mounted for many of the participants and for the Lab. The participating agencies said that the extra attention didn't

seem to affect donations one way or another, said Lab spokesperson Lynda Seaver. The fair was ended two years ago by mutual agreement.

The Wiesner fund and all the others are still in the HOME campaign. Last fall, for the first time, the total Lab employee donations to HOME exceeded \$2 million. The lab added \$1 million in a flat amount to the \$2 million. That was apportioned by percentages of total amount that each designated charity received from employees.

The Lab doesn't back any of the charities itself. However, it does have a web page for the HOME campaign, and has links to various charities where interested people can learn more, said Seaver.

The Wiesner fund's revenue from HOME has diminished, because some regular Lab contributors have retired, said Boyle.

Newer Lab employees may not be aware of the fund's work, so it's important for the group to do more outreach, she said.

The dip in revenue has cramped the organization's ability to help people. Boyle said that she received a request recently from someone who needed help to pay the \$1200 in rent. "We can afford to pay only half of it. Before, we could have said that we'll give it all, and put them back on track. We are not able to do that now," said Boyle.

The Wiesner fund has helped seniors pay dental bills and premiums on health insurance. The fund can't take over a recurring monthly obligation owed by one person, but it will help with the immediate needs. It has been rare to turn people away, said Boyle.

Sometimes, the aid is more direct than simply helping with bills. One Wiesner-fund volunteer helped a senior woman by

fixing her roof. The fund paid for the roofing materials.

The need comes in cycles. Sometimes there are four or five people needing help in a few days. Other times, a month goes by without any requests.

The volunteers inform churches about the fund's existence. The organization is also named in funeral homes' brochures, since the fund has contributed to funeral expenses.

People in need, or people who know of anyone in such circumstances, must fill out an application for the funding. It is accomplished through the senior services departments of LARPD, Pleasanton and Dublin city governments.

Boyle said that it's important to make an effort to reach out not just to donors, but to potential senior beneficiaries to let them know about the fund. Sometimes there may be reluctance among

seniors to ask for help.

"We found that people at that age, from that era, have not asked for help. We show them that it is really there to help them. It is not welfare," said Boyle.



Delacia Camacho-McDaniel

Tree Planting For Delacia

On April 16, the family of Delacia Candelaria Camacho-McDaniel and Amador Valley High School will hold a Memorial Tree Planting Ceremony for Delacia at 2:20pm on the lawns in front of the school office. A redwood tree and bronze plaque will be put into place along the front walk to the school office. A Celebration of Life Service with Reception will follow at Valley Community Church in Pleasanton. The Church Celebration will begin around 3:30 pm. The service will be officiated by Youth Pastor Jeff Lange. There will be sharing of memories of Delacia and a reception to follow the service. All are welcome to attend.

She was born October 29, 1995 and passed suddenly on Monday, December 21, 2009. She attended Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton as a freshman. She was a healthy rec. soccer player and did not show signs of illness until 3 days prior to her passing due to Viral Myocarditis. Delacia fell ill on the Friday morning before winter break. Her symptoms seemed flu-like. She was admitted to Kaiser Hospital on Sunday night for vomiting and stomach-flu. Her blood pressure dropped during the night and she went into cardiac-arrest around 10am prior to her CT.

Myocarditis is a rare, sometimes fatal disease characterized by inflammation of the heart muscle. There are currently no sensitive and specific blood tests for myocarditis.

Delacia had a fatal heart attack. An account at Chase Bank has been created to accept donations for Delacia's AVHS Memorial Scholarship Fund. Donations can be made at any Chase bank. The account number is 876935552.

OBITUARIES

Helen Sedlak

Helen Sedlak, 90, of Pleasanton, passed away on April 4, 2010 after a battle with lung cancer. One of 10 children, she was born October 22, 1919 to the late Peter and Mary (Plaskon) Shedlock of Llanfair, PA. She worked for and retired from General Electric in Cleveland, OH. She resided in East Cleveland and Euclid, OH before relocating to California in 1984.

She was the dear sister of Julia (Jaye) Shedlock of Pleasanton and Peter (Catherine) Shedlock of Wickliffe, OH; devoted and beloved aunt of many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, and a friend to many.

Memorial service by Fr. Joseph of St. Augustine's and a luncheon were held on Saturday, April 10 at Ridgeview Commons in Pleasanton. In lieu of flowers, family suggests donations to Hope Hospice, Ridgeview Commons, or Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley.

Marcia Bolton Carr

Marcia Bolton Carr died suddenly at her home on March 25, 2010. She was the beloved daughter of Edward Perry and Jennifer Dole Wallerstein. She is survived by her children, Madelyn Carr and Evan Carr, of Austin, TX, and by her brother Dr. Nicholas Wallerstein (Jean) and his family in Spearfish, SD and her sister, Lisa Wallerstein (John Schuster) and her family in Livermore, CA.

Marcia was born in Norwalk, CT on Dec. 27, 1953 and grew up in Massachusetts. She was married to Dr. Robert Scott Carr, and lived in Corpus Christi TX. She had a BA and MA in Literature and an MA in Family Counseling, all from Texas A&M. She taught English and later worked for a charitable organization in Corpus Christi for a number of years. After her divorce, she had lived with her parents in Pleasanton, CA since 1997.

A memorial service was held at St. Clare's Episcopal Church on March 29th. Her family requests donations in her name be sent to Episcopal Relief and Development for Haitian relief % St. Clare's at 3350 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Theresita (Teri) Carol Ford

Teri went home to be with the Lord, on April 6, 2010 at the age of 60.

Teri was born on Oct 19, 1949 in Elgin, Texas to George & Lily Baker. She lived in Rapid City, SD through her elementary school, years. She moved with her family to the Philippines in

Oct 1963. She resided there until 1974, until she and her first husband Jamie relocated to California. After she and Jamie separated, Teri met the love of her life, Jim Ford, with whom she shared a life of love and commitment for 34 years.

Teri graduated with an accounting degree from the University of Baguio. She worked for the IRS for 35 years, making many lifelong friends along the way. Everyone has always said "You can't meet Teri without loving her."

Teri is the beloved wife for 34 years of Jim Ford, loving sister of Rosie Llamado, Marlene Greenwell, Robert G. Baker and Rody Baker and caring aunt to 9 nieces and nephews and great aunt to 6.

Teri was a kind, gentle woman who was generous and giving to all her friends & family. She was at the same time frank and just, yet fair. Everyone has lost very special person. Our lives will surely be a little empty.

Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated on Tuesday, April 13 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Livermore. Burial followed at St. Michael Catholic Cemetery, Livermore.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Stephen Larry Thomas

Stephen Thomas passed peacefully on April 8, 2010 at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. He was surrounded with love by his family.

He was born in Atlanta, GA on November 12, 1934 and had lived for the past 15 years in Pleasanton. He served as a Medical Corpsman in the Navy during the Korean War.

He was a Doctor of Chiropractic and appeared to have the "magic touch." His patients adored him and called him "Doctor T."

He was a thinker, a reader and loved a good debate. He also loved music from classical to Ravi Shankar. He was very outgoing with a big smile and a wonderful sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife Nancy and four children: Marcus (Beverly), Lisa (Chuck), Leslie (Joel) and Kim. Grandchildren are Andrew, Alison and Stephen.

We will miss you. Private family services are planned.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

John Peglow

John Gilbert Peglow, PFC-US Army, was born into this world on December 9, 1986 and returned to his heavenly Father on April 11, 2010.



The oldest child and only son of Mona and Steve Peglow, John leaves behind an everlasting imprint of his love, sense of humor, loyalty to his friends and devotion to God and country. He was an avid runner, swimmer, martial artist and snowboarder and his love of life energized us all.

In addition to his parents and younger sister, Sarah Louise, he is survived by his maternal grandparents, Manuel and Mary Louise Calderon, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was a resident of Pleasanton. He was a graduate of Valley Christian High School and attended Diablo Valley College. We trust that John's kind soul has found peace in God's loving embrace.

A prayer vigil followed visitation at Graham-Hitch mortuary in Pleasanton on April 14. On Thursday, April 15, a funeral mass celebrating his life will be conducted at St. Elizabeth Seton in Pleasanton at 10:00am. In lieu of flowers, it is the family's wish that donations be made to The Wounded Warrior Project: www.woundedwarriorproject.org/

Branca Catherine McDonald

Branca Catherine McDonald passed away at home on April 12, 2010. She was surrounded by the family she loves. She is survived by Ed, her loving husband of 55 wonderful years, her sons Larry (Clare) and Steve (Sally) McDonald, her daughter Marie (Cliff) Kennedy and seven beloved grandchildren: Matt, Nina, Eddie, Tim, and Maggie McDonald, and Nick and Mike Kennedy.

Branca was the youngest of Arthur and Maria Silva's seven children, born Feb. 25, 1935. She will be reunited with them and with her sister Eleanor Muller and brother Roy Silva in heaven. She is missed by her siblings Helen (Jay) Amaro, Tony (Pat) Silva, Mary (Jim) Porep, and George (Lorraine) Silva. Dozens of nieces and nephews also love and miss Auntie Branca.

She attended Holy Names High School in Oakland. She met Ed and started her married life in Hayward, then moved to Castro Valley. The family moved to Monterey for a few years and always loved returning to visit. For the last 40 years, Branca and Ed lived in Pleasanton where she was an active member of the Catholic Community. Full of life and spirit, Branca loved living in Pleasanton; she loved her Church, her family and friends, flowers and everything positive. She had a smile, a hug and a prayer for everyone and finished every conversation with "I love you."

Join her friends and family for a vigil at Graham Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St., Pleasanton, at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 15, and a funeral Mass at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, April 16 at St. Augustine Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

The family thanks all who offered their kindness, prayers and support during Branca's illness, especially Jennifer Silva, the Tandowsky family, and the incredible people at Hope Hospice.

Donations in Branca's name may be made to Hope Hospice (www.HopeHospice.com) or St. Augustine's Church.

Lillian "Arlene" Dickinson

Livermore resident Lillian "Arlene" Dickinson passed away April 12, 2010. She was born Sept. 30, 1943.

She is survived by her husband of 33 years, David, and her children, Dave, Lori Ann, Theresa, Tanya and Jon, as well as nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Arlene enjoyed cooking,



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SHORT NOTES

Program on Turtles

Turtles are the focus of the Sun., April 18 Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger program. Meet Ranger Dawn Soles at 2 p.m. at Veterans Park.

Turtles come in different shapes and sizes. They live in different environments from the ocean to the desert and everywhere in between. Some are small, and some are the size of a small car. Join the ranger to learn about that charming group of reptiles. There will be live specimens to look at.

There is a \$4 per vehicle parking fee. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Duck Races

The 18th annual Livermore Duck Races will be held Sun., April 25 at the Granada High School pool in Livermore. The races are 2 to 3:30 p.m.

This is a fund-raiser for Livermore schools and nonprofit groups. Over \$5000 in cash prizes will be given out.

There will be a Little Duckie Race for kids age 12 and younger. The race is free with a parent present. There will be prizes, compliments of Livermore McDonalds.

The Livermore Lioness Club and Livermore Y's Men Club will float and stir plastic ducks in the pool, 400 Wall St., Members from the Granada swim team will dive into the pool and retrieve winning ducks. Each duck will have a number attached and assigned to the number on an entry form. The winning duck entries eligible for prizes will be announced at the conclusion of each race. Individuals need not be present to win.

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

For information, call Betty Harvey at 449-1315 or Jim Travis at 321-1123.

Healthy Kids Day

The Tri-Valley YMCA is sponsoring Healthy Kids Day on Sat., April 24 at Amador Valley Community Park, across from the post office, in Pleasanton.

The event runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no admission fee.

The day will begin with an "Every Buddy" walk, a 9 mile walk around the park with stops at interactive stations en route. All walkers will have their names entered into a raffle for prizes.

There will be music, healthy food and all kinds of opportunities for recreation and learning related to a

healthy life-style and diet.

The event is kid friendly, but of interest to all ages. Co-sponsoring the event with the Tri-Valley YMCA are the City of Pleasanton, Palco Medical Foundation, Leapfish and Kohl's.

For more information, contact Jeff Atwood at 475-6112 or jatwood@ymcaeastbay.org.

Thinking Differently

Author Javy Galindo will discuss his book *The Power of Thinking Differently* at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, at 2pm on Sunday, May 2.

There is no charge for this event. Books will be available for sale and signing.

"Creativity isn't reserved for the elite, the painter, inventor, or entrepreneur. It is a skill that we all born with and can harness to enhance all aspects of our lives," says creativity expert Javy W. Galindo, author of *The Power of Thinking Differently: An Imaginative Guide to Creativity, Change, and the Discovery of New Ideas*. "Regrettably, far too many of us react to our circumstances with habitual responses that leave us feeling stuck, frustrated, and desperate for deeper meaning."

Galindo claims that the key to creativity is overcoming our neurologically wired thinking habits in order to explore creative possibilities. In his book, he takes a unique approach to understanding the innovative mind by exploring the latest research in cognitive science and psychology while also reflecting on the creativity of famous artists, scientists, and business people.

Galindo lightheartedly guides the reader through the universal stages of the creative process and describes the nature of creative insight, ways to transcend creative blocks, the keys to cultivating creativity in groups, and how to break free of groupthink by using both sides of the brain. As a result, readers discover how important relaxation, collaboration, diversity, a sense of humor, and a sense of play are to finding new ideas.

The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us.

Donations Sought

The Wheelchair Foundation and Blackhawk Museum will be hosting the Blackhawk Bargain Basement sale, a white elephant event. The event will be Sept. 10, 11 and 12.

There will be numerous departments in the Blackhawk Bargain Basement with everything from sporting goods to boutique items, books to furniture, art to electrical items, dishes to shoes, children's

clothes and toys to furnishings, and Hawaiian shirts to vintage clothing. Search for and find valuable, priceless items to add to your collection of treasures.

One hundred percent of all proceeds will benefit the Blackhawk Museum Children's Education & Transportation Fund and the Wheelchair Foundation. (Both are registered 501 (c)(3) non-profits based in Blackhawk.)

Donations of fine art, antiques, crystal, china, silver flatware, designer clothing, vintage high-end audio equipment and unique collectibles are being sought from the public for this event. Donations should be of a tasteful nature, and all items be in good working condition.

Please make prior arrangements for all large item donations. Donations from the general public are being accepted at the Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, CA 94506 from 10am to 5pm, Wednesdays thru Sundays until September 9th, 2010.

Preview sale will take place Friday, Sept. 10, 2010, 6pm-8pm. Admission is \$20. Wine tasting & Hors d'oeuvres provided.

Sale event takes place Saturday, Sept. 11 & 12, 2010, 10am-4pm. Admission is free.

Item donations from local businesses and merchants will gladly be picked up at your physical business address. Item donations are tax-deductible to the extent of the law.

Riding Event

Twenty Kaiser pediatric patients and their siblings from throughout the Bay Area were treated to a barbecue and horseback riding at the Hagemann Ranch in Livermore on April 7.

According to Barbara Soules, executive director of Hoofprints on the Heart, Adaptive Riding Center, the event is in memory of Korrine Croghan, a 14-year-old Livermore girl who lost her battle to cancer two years ago.

Every week, Korrine's younger brother, Sean, comes to Hoofprints on the Heart to ride, Soules said. "It's his way of dealing with his sister's loss; he's becoming a good rider."

Besides the picnic and horseback riding, the children were treated to a small play, arts and crafts and a horse-pulled carriage ride.

According to Gina Mackintosh, life specialist at Kaiser Oncology in Oakland, the children attending Wednesday's picnic are those who are well enough in their current treatment.

Although Hoofprints on the Heart does host special events every so often to different groups, this is the first time it involves pediatric cancer patients and their siblings, Soules said.

This week's event was sponsored

by Wats Winery, Lockeford, and Bank of the West.

For Wats Winery, giving to pediatric cancer-related events is personal; the Wats' youngest son, Kyle, was diagnosed with Burkitt's lymphoma in 2008. Since then, Wats Winery has released two butterfly label wines with 30 percent of after-sales profit going to pediatric cancer research.

For more information on Hoofprints on the Heart Adaptive Riding Center, please call Barbara Soules at 925-449-9090.

Hagemann Ranch is located at 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore, CA 94551-6100.

Volunteers Sought

Volunteers are needed to help at the 19th annual Livermore Wine Country Festival in downtown Livermore on May 1 and 2. Only wine shirts are available this year.

All volunteers are required to attend an Alcohol Awareness Training on April 22nd from 6 to 8 PM at the LARP Barn located at 3131 Pacific Avenue. Scheduled time at the festival will be confirmed at that meeting.

Those interested in learning about volunteer opportunities, can send an email to the following: lms@livermore-downtown.com.

Saving Challenge

Young credit union members can prove they understand the importance of saving by participating in the month-long National Youth Saving Challenge this April at UNCLE Credit Union.

UNCLE Credit Union invites youth to participate in the seventh annual challenge to encourage young members to open new accounts and make savings deposits throughout the month. All participating credit unions will tally the total amount and number of deposits, as well as the number of new accounts opened by young members during the month and report their results to the Credit Union National Association to determine national level figures.

Last year 397 participating credit unions, including UNCLE, reported \$26,529,081 million in deposits from 139,669 young members.

The savings challenge runs in conjunction with National Credit Union Youth Week, which takes place this year April 18-24. Youth Week is an opportunity for UNCLE Credit Union to focus on the financial needs of young people and provide financial literacy education. We encourage all youth in our community to come by an UNCLE branch during Youth Week. We will have a coloring contest and great prize drawings for youth members who make deposits during Youth Week.

For details about UNCLE Credit

Union's Youth Week celebration please visit www.uncleu.org or call 800-34UNCLE ext. 83.

Scholarships Available

Tri-Valley Republican Women will offer two nonpartisan scholarships — one for \$1,000 and one for \$500 — to eligible high school seniors from the cities of Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore who will attend a two- or four-year academic college in September 2010.

Winners will be chosen on the quality of their essays, written as open letters to Congress, addressing the issues involved in the Federal government's complete assumption of the college student loan program in the Budget Reconciliation Act of 2010.

Submission deadline is May 15; winners will be announced May 21. For complete rules and submission procedures, contact Janet-Marie Persico at jmpersico@comcast.net or www.trivalleyrepublicanwomen.org.

AABC Scholarships

Activities and Academic Booster Club (AABC) of Foothill High is accepting applications for four scholarships of \$500 each from Foothill seniors.

The application can be found at www.foothill-falcons.org or on the AABC webpage under scholarships. The deadline to submit an application is Mon., April 19. Please submit applications to Mrs. Bing in the Foothill counseling office.

Funding Deadline Near for Stock Ponds

The Alameda County Resource Conservation District has mitigation funding available to desilt livestock ponds and improve habitat for the California red-legged frog and/or the California tiger salamander. The District has funding available to pay up to 90% of construction costs on the sediment removal of 4 stockponds.

Projects may also include willow plantings or other habitat improvements.

Participating landowners must already have secured water rights for the pond, and must agree to manage the repaired ponds and surrounding grassland according to NRCS specifications, for 5 years. Project sites will be selected through a screening and ranking process.

Please contact Pete Van Hoom at (925) 371-0154 extension 123 or pete.vanhoom@ca.nacdn.net by April 19, 2010 to apply or for more information and details. If unsure whether water rights are in place for a pond, contact the district at (925) 371-0154 extension 123 or extension 114. Someone can help search the state database of registered stockponds.

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4:00-6:00 pm

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CONTACT BARBARA @ 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 435556

The following person(s) doing business as: Coats Construction Company, 2659 Pickfair Lane, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): James A. Coats, 2659 Pickfair Lane, Livermore Ca 94551 This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on March 3, 2010. Signature of Registrant: /s/James A. Coats

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 4, 2010. Expires March 4, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2730. Publish March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436011

The following person(s) doing business as: Rising Sun Partners, LLC, 4900 Hopyard Rd, Suite 100, Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Rising Sun Partners, LLC., 4900 Hopyard Rd, Suite 100, Pleasanton Ca 94588 This business is conducted by a limited liability company

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on February 10, 2010. Signature of Registrant: /s/Nilesh Patel

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 15, 2010. Expires March 15, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2736. Publish March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436065

The following person(s) doing business as: RnR Home Repair and Improvement, 2276 Stonebridge Rd., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): RnR Home Repair and Improvement, 2276 Stonebridge Rd., Livermore Ca 94550 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/Ronald W. Johnson

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2010. Expires March 16, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2737. Publish March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 435727

The following person(s) doing business as: LASYO, 526 Maple Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, 5884 Corte Menete, Pleasanton Ca 94566 This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on February 10, 2010. Signature of Registrant: /s/Ursula G. Goldstein

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 9, 2010. Expires March 9, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2738. Publish March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 435960

The following person(s) doing business as: Viva Lussuria, 2720 White Crane Cir., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kimberly Ayers, 2720 White Crane Cir., Livermore Ca 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on February 25, 2010. Signature of Registrant: /s/Kimberly Ayers

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 15, 2010. Expires March 15, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2740. Publish March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436060

The following person(s) doing business as: The Munras Group, 6870 Corte Munras, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Neil Bellennie, 6870 Corte Munras, 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/Neil Bellennie

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2010. Expires March 16, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2744. Publish April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436140

The following person(s) doing business as: Jerome Construction, 640 Emerald St., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jeff K. Jerome, 640 Emerald

St., Livermore Ca 94550 This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on January 1, 2010. Signature of Registrant: /s/Jeff Jerome

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 18, 2010. Expires March 18, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2745. Publish April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436344

The following person(s) doing business as: Delford West Flowers, 3070 Olivoro Ct., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Karl Eckel, 3070 Olivoro Ct., Livermore Ca 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on 1995. Signature of Registrant: /s/Karl Eckel

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 24, 2010. Expires March 24, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2747. Publish April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436108

The following person(s) doing business as: Precision Bonds And Insurance Services, 2934 Bresso Drive, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Donna Nemier, 2934 Bresso Drive, 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/Donna Nemier

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 17, 2010. Expires March 17, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2748. Publish April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436393

The following person(s) doing business as: Byson Group Construction, Inc., 4885 Shelton Street, Dublin Ca 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Byson Group Construction, Inc., 4885 Shelton Street, Dublin Ca 94568

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/Vera Liang

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 25, 2010. Expires March 25, 2015. The Independent Legal No.

2749. Publish April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 435912

The following person(s) doing business as: Tahara, 4725 First St., #270, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Deborah R. Gleason, 4314 Valley Ave. Apt C, Pleasanton Ca 94566

This business is conducted by Husband and wife. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on February 1, 2010. Signature of Registrant: /s/Deborah R. Gleason and John Slomski

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 12, 2010. Expires March 12, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2750. Publish April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 435459

The following person(s) doing business as: Accent, 1919 Second Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sharon Peck, 4209 Waycross Ct., 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 February 25, 2010. Signature of Registrant: /s/Sharon Peck

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 3, 2010. Expires March 3, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2752. Publish April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436610-436611

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) Experience Disc, 2) Triple Point Advisors, 3266 Chablis Court, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gauri Reyes, 3266 Chablis Ct., Pleasanton Ca 94566

This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/Gauri Reyes

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 30, 2010. Expires March 30, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2755. Publish April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436942

The following person(s) doing business as: Vega's Land-

scaping, 1039 Bluebell Dr. #3, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Samuel Vega, 1039 Bluebell Dr. #3, Livermore Ca 94551

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on April 7, 2010. Signature of Registrant: /s/Samuel Vega

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 7, 2010. Expires April 7, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2756. Publish April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 437013

The following person(s) doing business as: Lalman, Inc. dba: Del Valle Lodge, 3979 First Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Lalman, Inc., 3979 First Street, 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 December 27, 1996. Signature of Registrant: /s/Sabhash L. Patel

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 8, 2010. Expires April 8, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2758. Publish April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 437014

The following person(s) doing business as: Deepesh, Inc., dba: Sands Motel, 3787 First Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Deepesh, Inc., 3787 First Street, 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 October 9, 1996. Signature of Registrant: /s/Sabhash L. Patel

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 8, 2010. Expires April 8, 2015.

The Independent Legal No. 2759. Publish April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 436535

The following person(s) doing business as: Manbhavan Catering, 4386 Diavilla Ave., Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mukta Arora, 4386 Diavilla Ave., Pleasanton Ca 94588

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/Mukta Arora

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 29, 2010. Expires March 29, 2015. The Independent Legal No. 2760. Publish April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2010.

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS

Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 NETWORKING/NORTH COUNTY

BIDDERS CONFERENCE RFP #900686 for Environmentally Preferable Janitorial Cleaning Products, Monday, April 26, 2010, 10:00 a.m. - General Services Agency, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Room 1107, 11th Floor, Oakland, CA NETWORKING/SOUTH COUNTY

BIDDERS CONFERENCE RFP #900686 for Environmentally Preferable Janitorial Cleaning Products, Tuesday, April 27, 2010, 10:00 a.m. - Dublin Public Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Community Room, Dublin, CA **Responses Due by 2:00 pm on May 17, 2010 County Contact: Jennifer Chan Ngo (510) 208-9604 or via email: jennifer.ngo@acgov.org** Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County GSA Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org. 4/15/10

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How Much Is Your Real Estate Worth?

By Cher Wollard
Realtors are asked all the time: "What is my home worth?" The correct answer is always: "Why do you want to know?" That's neither snarkiness nor evasion. Home value is a floating number, which depends on purpose and method of calculation.

Market Value is the most commonly used term for property value in real estate. International Valuation Standards defines market value as "the estimated amount for which a property should exchange on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's-length transaction after proper marketing wherein the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently, and without compulsion."

List Price is the price a seller asks for his/her property. That price may or may not be realistic. Chances are the seller's Realtor has done a Comparative Market Analysis to determine estimated Market Value and advised the seller to list the property at that price.

These analyses, known as CMAs, are based on Sales Price and Listing Price of similar properties in your neighborhood that have sold or been offered for sale recently, and factoring in improvements, location (such as on a busy street or across from a school), and condition of the property.

Original List Price is the price attached to the property when it first goes on the Multiple Listing Service.

During a normal or increasing market, the list price may not change. Buyers are attracted to look at the property because the price seems reasonable, and to make offers within a few percentage points of this price.

In a declining market, however, sellers who aim too high often find themselves having to reduce the list price. In rare cases, sellers increase list prices, for example, after making significant improvements to the property.

Current List Price is the price currently asked for the property. Realtors can view both Current List Price and Original List Price on the MLS.

Nationally, fewer sellers cut listing prices last month, according to Trulia.com's March 2010 Price Reduction Report.

The popular real estate website stated that fewer than 20 percent of property listed for sale as of March 1 has been reduced once or more. This is the lowest percentage of price reductions since the company started tracking these price reductions in April 2009.

Last fall, 26 percent of sellers slashed their asking prices. "The total dollar amount slashed from home prices dropped to \$21.6 billion and the average discount for price-reduced homes continues to hold at 11 percent off of the original listing price," states Trulia.com on its website.

Contract Price is the price agreed to by buyer and seller. Sellers set the list price. Buyers offer at, above or below list price. If they do not initially agree, buyer and seller - with the advice of their agents - negotiate the contract price.

Contained with any contract price are potential caveats: What items - such as inspections, transfer taxes, title and escrow fees - have buyer and seller agreed to pay for? Does the contract require the seller to credit the buyer for closing costs or repairs? Such items can significantly affect how much a property will truly cost a buyer and how much the seller will net on the sale.

Sales Price is the price for which the home actually sells. Most of the time, the Sales Price is the same as the Contract Price. Occasionally, however, conditions are revealed during the course of a transaction that lead buyer and seller to renegotiate.

For example, if the Appraised Value is not high enough to satisfy the buyer's lender - if it does not meet or exceed the Contract Price - buyer and seller may negotiate a lower price. Or if, after the contract has been ratified, buyer and seller may agree the seller will include additional items, upgrades or other benefits in return for a higher price.

Appraised Value is the value of the property as determined by a licensed appraiser.

Licensed appraisers utilize a precise methodology for appraising property known as a Sales Comparison Approach. They do side-by-side comparisons with similar properties, and adding and subtracting value for differences in square footage, condition of the property and certain high-value upgrades, such as remodeled kitchens.

Appraisers sometimes will also use a Cost Approach - most often with brand new property - figuring how much it would cost to replace the property should it be destroyed.

Replacement Value is most commonly used in the insurance industry. Similar to Appraised Value using the Cost Approach, Replacement Value represents only the cost of replacing structures and sometimes contents, not the land.

While Market Value and even Appraised Value can fluctuate wildly, depending on market conditions, Replacement Value depends only on the costs of materials and labor, and so is less volatile. Replacement costs can vary depending on region, with the Bay Area being a high-cost region for building.

You can get a quick, close-to-accurate sense of the Replacement Value of your property through the Replacement Cost Calculator found on most insurance company websites. Contractors provide more precise figures.

Assessed Value is the value placed on your property by the County Assessor's office for purposes of calculating the property tax due. In California, especially, this number will be very different from Market Value.

In California under Proposition 13, the voter initiative passed in 1978, Assessed Value is based on Sales Price at the date the property transferred to the current owner; minus Homestead Exemption, if applicable; plus a maximum increase of 2 percent per year of ownership. (Propositions 60 and 90 allow homebuyers under certain circumstances to transfer the basis year on which the Assessed Value of their new homes is calculated. For details, see www.boe.ca.gov)

In addition, the property assessment can be adjusted if, for example, you add square footage or install a swimming pool to the property, or if the Assessed Value exceeds Market Value, as it has for many homeowners in recent years.

So how do you know how much your property is worth? Why do you want to know?

If you are considering buying or selling, contact your Realtor. Most are happy to provide free CMAs to determine Market Value.

Governor Signs Tax Break for Short Sellers
Californians who lost their homes through short sale or foreclosure last year will not owe the state taxes on the canceled debt, thanks to a new law that brings the state into alignment with federal law.

AB 1779 and SB 14 get California in line with the Mortgage Debt Forgiveness Act passed by Congress in 2007, and results in savings of tens of thousands of dollars for most homeowners who sold their homes for less than they owed.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Windermere Welcome Home Realty, Livermore.

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Workers from Ogletree Inc. installed the centerpiece of the City of Dublin's new gateway feature, "The Eternal Ribbon." Funded completely with federal transportation dollars, the Eternal Ribbon is a twisting stainless steel arch that spans 100 feet long and 22 feet high. The sculptural arch is intended to give people the experience of passage, and when viewed from above, is the symbol for infinity. The project is part of a larger Corridor Enhancement project that will also include the installation of new gateway markers and monument and directional signs along Dublin Boulevard.

Luncheon to Celebrate Residents of 'Character'

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative invites the public to attend this year's prestigious Community of Character Luncheon Celebration on May 6, at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. The event will feature the announcement of this year's winners of the Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Awards, and will feature Las Positas College President DeRionne Pollard as keynote speaker.

Pollard will present *Random Acts of Character: How small things can make a difference in our community.*

Cost per person is \$35, which includes a \$5 donation to the Community of Character Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Scholarship Fund. RSVP before April 29th by registering on the website at <http://communityofcharacter.org/> or sending a check to PO Box 516 Pleasanton California 94566.

The Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Award was named in honor of Pleasanton Unified School District Board Member Juanita Haugen, co-founder of the Community of Character program. It recognizes a citizen who displays the community-accepted traits the Collaborative advocates: Responsibility, Compassion, Self Discipline, Honesty, Respect and Integrity.

Past award recipients are Lori Rice (2008), Diana and Howard Mendenhall (2008), Jerri Pantages-Long (2009), Sue Evans (2009) and Ken Mano (2009).

The Community of Character Collaborative is a non-profit organization of volunteers working together to create a Pleasanton community culture built on values, goodwill, and community-

accepted traits of Responsibility, Compassion, Self-Discipline, Honesty, Respect and Integrity. This volunteer committee is jointly supported by the City of Pleasanton, Pleasanton Unified School District, Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and vari-

ous business, service and faith organizations.

For information about our organization or on becoming an Organization of Character visit the website www.communityofcharacter.org or contact us at P.O. Box 516 Pleasanton, CA 94566

MURAL

(continued from page one)

pieces of fire fighting equipment currently housed at the old Duarte Garage. In one of the parking bays, the historic lightbulb can be seen hanging from the ceiling.

There is \$10,000 allocated from the Art in Public Places to fund the installation of the mural. Work is expected to begin in May, depending on the weather.

Councilmember John Marchand asked if the issue regarding the placement of the mural directly on an historic building was an issue.

Planner Catherine Hagebusch replied, "It is not an issue, because it is a paint application."

Marchand stated, "I think this is unspeakably cool. It is a combination of the history of Livermore."

The city will hold an easement on the side of the building. The owner will be required to maintain the mural for ten years. After that, it can be removed or the easement extended.

Marchand pointed out that anti-graffiti and UV applications will protect the mural from damage.

NONPROFIT FOUNDATION

The city council approved a proposal to move forward with the creation of a nonprofit corporation as proposed in the city's Cultural Arts Master Plan.

Staff will come back at a future meeting with the documents.

The purpose of the corporation is to provide services and financial support for the Commission for the Arts. The board will consist of the nine members of the commission and six Livermore residents. Staff member Catherine Hagebusch will act as director until one can be hired.

EDUCATION FUNDS

The council okayed the expenditure of \$640,000 for recycling educational programs. The money comes from the Altamont Landfill Settlement.

There will be \$100,000 avail-

able for mini-grants, \$230,000 in project grants and \$52,000 for multi-year grants, among other expenditures.

Guidelines for grantseekers are available at City Hall.

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