

City Extends Helping Hand to School District

The Pleasanton City Council voted to make a \$1.2 million revolving line of credit available to the Pleasanton Unified School District.

The vote was unanimous. Matt Sullivan recused himself, because his wife works for the district.

City Manager Nelson Fialho explained that there have been discussions the last several months as to what the city could do to assist the school district. "We settled on the line of credit."

The money will be used to

pay debt service on certificates of participation (COPs), that the district used to acquire land and make improvements to schools. The annual debt payments for the COPs are approximately \$1.2 million. The district had been using development impact fees to pay the debt. However, the downturn in the economy has impacted new construction in the city, reducing the fees paid.

The fees had averaged \$3.5 million a year over the last five years. This year, the district projected it would receive

\$600,000. However, during the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, the district has collected only \$300,000.

A revolving line of credit means that the district can borrow and pay back the money multiple times over a four year period. The total loaned at any one time could not exceed \$1.2 million. In ten years the entire amount would have to be repaid. The district will pay an interest rate equal to the Bank of America prime rate, currently 3.25%.

Emily Wagner, the city's fis-

cal officer explained that assuming the economy improves by 2013, the district should be able to pay the city after the fourth year. There are 2000 homes left to be built under the 29,000 voter approved cap. "That is more than enough to pay back the loan," said Wagner.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman stated, "This is not a bail out. It's a loan. The district is facing a \$9.7 million budget deficit. The \$1.2 million falls far short of addressing the crisis the district faces. As a city, we want to sup-

port the school district as much as we possibly can."

The money comes from interest on the district's investment portfolio. In normal years, Fialho said, the money would have been put towards a capital project or in an emergency reserve. "We would not have used it to fund ongoing operating expenses."

It was pointed out by Fialho and several city councilmembers that the problem lies with the state and how it handles its finances.

(See PLEASANTON, page 4)



Standing beneath the restored chandelier is Paul Ivazes of Quality Lighting. He is an expert in antique lighting, preservation, replication and design.

Policy Set For Use of Trust Fund

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board of directors voted to adopt a policy regarding the Buckley Trust for Ravenswood Historic Site.

Previously, no policy on how it was to be used had been adopted.

The Buckley Trust was created by Christopher Buckley Jr. in 1978 for the restoration, care, maintenance and upkeep of the Ravenswood Estate, originally built by the Buckley family in the 1880s.

The policy approved this week will allow regular use of a portion of the annual interest of the trust for the types of projects and maintenance intended by the endowment. Half of the annual interest will be reinvested with the corpus of the trust, and, at the discretion of the General Manager, up to half of the prior year's interest will be transferred to the Ravenswood budget by Sept. 30 of each year.

District staff will develop the annual Ravenswood budget proposal for Board approval, with input from the Ravenswood

(See TRUST, page 12)

Emergency Survival Expo This Saturday

The second annual Emergency Survival Expo will be held Sat., April 25 at the Robert Livermore Community Center. The Expo will offer a variety of services for all members of the family - from kids to the family dog.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District has teamed up again with earthquake and safety supplier Your Safety Place to present this event, which is free to the public.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Robert Livermore Community Center, individuals and families are invited to attend the Expo and learn about the options they have for emergency preparedness.

Parents and kids can find offerings just for children too, including a free child identification program with thumbprint and photo ID provided by Mosaic Lodge 218 along with child safety ID kits and software for emergency contacts from Farmers Insurance. A fire truck from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department as well as a safety house unit will be on display for attendees to learn more about emergencies and emergency response. PG&E representatives will present live demonstrations on a miniature scale of what happens when a live wire is knocked over by a car or from an earthquake.

Dog owners will be able to take advantage of plenty of services for canines, such as rabies vaccinations and microchipping. The first 50 dogs will receive free rabies vaccinations; all others will be \$10. Dog microchip IDs will be done for \$18 plus \$10 registration. The City of Livermore will offer dog licensing. Attendees can also check out a pet preparedness slide show and learn about pet.

Leah Waarvik will represent (See EXPO, page 2)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

One skateboarder got in some practice prior to leaving on the tour.

6TwentyOne Leads Best of the Bay Skate Tour

By Patricia Koning

Early Saturday morning, most of downtown Livermore was still asleep. However, 6TwentyOne Skate Shop was buzzing with activity. About 20 skateboarding amateurs from the Tri-Valley and

beyond were gearing up for the Best of the Bay tour that would pair them with a dozen or so professional skateboarders for a day of skating.

The professionals included Jake Donnelly, AntiHero's Frank

Gerwer, SpitFire's Ryan "Peabody" McWhirter, Santa Cruz's Nilton Neves, Emanuel Guzman Creature's Taylor Bingaman, David Gravette, Ron Allen, and several of the Deluxe (See SKATE TOUR, page 7)

Largest Solar Powered Theater in United States

An 18,000 square foot array of rooftop solar cells is said to give Livermore Cinemas more solar electrical capacity than any other movie theater in the U.S.

The cells, which are tubular in shape and would stretch 21 miles if laid end to end, are rated at 132 kilowatts. In the course of a year, they will generate about 190,000 kilowatt hours of electrical energy, which for comparison would supply all the electrical needs of 18 average homes. (Homes use nearly 11,000 kilowatt hours per year.)

Livermore Cinemas owner Dave Corkill expressed great enthusiasm for the project, which has now been supplying energy to his theater for about two months. Even for an environmentally sensitive businessman, he said, an electrical generating system "has to make business sense, especially in today's world" of

economic downturn. In this case, choosing solar was "an easy business decision" because it literally makes money. The theater leases the system. The cost of doing so is less than the return to the company after energy savings, rebates and incentives are accounted for.

The system will provide about 35 percent of Livermore Cinema's electrical needs and reduce its electrical costs even more - about 45 percent - because it cuts the need to buy energy during the time of day when electricity is most expensive.

The company that installed the system is Novato-based SPG Solar, which began work on January 26 and finished in three weeks. It took pains to work around the theater's operating schedule. All power has to be shut

(See SOLAR, page 4)

Zone 7 Directors Want To Appoint Moore

By Ron McNicoll

Former Zone 7 Water Agency director Chris Moore is expected to be appointed to fill the board seat vacated by Dale Myers's resignation.

Myers, who was elected last year, resigned effective April 13, citing time conflicts.

At the board's regular meeting April 15, directors said they want to fill the vacant seat quickly, and appoint Moore. In advocating for Moore, director

Bill Stevens said that Moore finished in the spot just behind the third-place Myers in the election last year. Moore also was the top choice of the board in January 2006, when approximately 20 people applied for the seat that was vacant after John Marchand left for the Livermore City Council.

Directors said then that they were impressed with Moore's administrative experience. Moore (See ZONE 7, page 4)

TEA Party in Pleasanton Tees Off on Taxes

By Ron McNicoll

A TEA party was just the cup of tea for hundreds of anti-tax partisans last week at Amador Community Park in Pleasanton.

TEA in this instance means Taxed Enough Already, a protest organized for Tax Day, April 15, by FreedomWorks, which was founded in 1984. Its best-known official is its chairman, former Republican House member Dick Armey of Texas. By a reporter's count, there were 450 or so people there at about 1:30 p.m.

An attendee said that was significantly lower than at noon, when people taking lunch hours and listening to a formal speech totaled what she estimated was at least 1000 people. Cumulative attendance numbers may have gone higher later, with speeches set for a couple of time slots in the afternoon.

There didn't appear to be any Mad Hatters at the TEA party. However, there was a man in an Uncle Sam suit, and a woman from Alameda dressed as Miss Liberty. Tamara Schirmmacher said she had the costume for years, then added her husband's motorcycle chains, to become "Miss Liberty in Chains."



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Valley residents took part in the nationwide TEA Party event last Wednesday.

The chains symbolize the oppression that Schirmmacher said she sees in the United States. "It's not the country I want it to be. We're having tax dodgers head

the Treasury Department. It's wonderful to see everyone out here speaking up. I hope it will make an impact," said Schirmmacher.

John Lodge of Walnut Creek is related to the famous Massachusetts Republican political family that produced Sen. Henry (See TEA, page 4)

County Looking at \$177 Million Shortfall

Alameda County is projecting a \$177.6 million budget gap for the 2009-10 fiscal year.

"This will be the year of significant layoffs and downsizing of service delivery," said Supervisor Keith Carson, who chairs Alameda County's Budget Work Group. "The road ahead will be a very difficult one. At a time when people in our community need us the most, we will be closing doors and cutting back much-needed services. Everyone will begin to feel the pain - directly and indirectly."

"This is the largest budget gap that that the County has faced since 1992-93 and it represents a convergence of unprecedented circumstances that create an economic storm," said County Administrator Susan S. Muranishi. "The housing crisis and the economic downturn are eating into the county's revenues at a time when unemployment and other factors are causing the

(See COUNTY, page 4)

Inside

Art & Entertainment.....Section II	Roundup.....3
Bulletin Board.....Section II	Short Notes.....9
Classifieds.....10	Sports.....8
Editorial.....4	Obituaries.....10
Mailbox.....5	



PET OF THE WEEK

Lucky lost one of his back legs after a bad fall, but that does not stop him from motoring around Kitty City like he still has all four feet. He is a cool cat with a mellow, laid-back personality. After all he has been through, he remains gentle and loving. To meet Lucky, visit Valley Humane Society, open Tues-Sat from 11AM to 5PM. Visit the web site www.valleyhumane.org or call 925-426-8656 for more details. Buy your Hidden Gardens of the Valley Tour tickets- on sale now on the VHS web site.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Volunteers helped to plant trees as part of the activities during the 2009 Livermore Earth Day Celebration at Robertson Park. Among those on hand was Assemblymember Joan Buchanan. She stated, "Each day we have the ability to do small things that make a big impact on our environment. I applaud the City of Livermore and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District for continuing the tradition of their Earth Day event as well as for the work they do throughout the year to ensure a safer and healthier environment for ourselves, our children, and for our future generations." In the photo, Brad Neff helps Jayle dig the hole, while Haley and Adelle widen it.

Wild Horses and Burros Available for Adoption

Residents of the Livermore area will have the opportunity to add a horse or burro to their families, when the Bureau of Land Management brings its Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program to the Livermore Rodeo Grounds, Robertson Park, 3500 Robertson Park Road, Livermore, on Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26.

"We're holding the adoption in conjunction with the California State Horseman's Spring Stampede," said Doug Satica, manager at BLM's Litchfield wild horse and burro facility near Susanville.

The BLM will offer 40 horses, mostly yearlings, and 10 burros for public adoption. Anyone interested can preview the animals when they arrive at about 2 p.m. on Friday, April 24. The event gates will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Adoptions begin with silent bidding from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday. Animals not taken during bidding will be available for a \$125 adoption fee.

The horses are from herd management areas in Northeast California and Northwest Nevada. Burros (donkeys) came from Southern California deserts.

All available animals have received de-worming treatments and vaccinations for West Nile virus, rabies and common equine diseases. All have negative Coggins test results. Adopters receive complete health records for their animals so they can begin health care programs with their veterinarians.

To qualify, adopters must be at least 18 years old and have no convictions for inhumane treatment of animals. BLM staff

members will interview all prospective adopters to be sure they meet the BLM adoption requirements.

Newly adopted horses and burros must be kept in corrals with at least 400 square feet of space per animal (20 feet by 20 feet), surrounded by a fence built of pipe or boards. The corral enclosure must be six feet high for adult horses. Horses under 18 months old can be kept in corrals with five-foot fences, and four-and-a-half-foot fences are allowed for burros.

Adopters must provide a two-sided, roofed shelter to provide protection from extreme weather.

At the adoption event, Adopters must provide a halter and lead rope. BLM wranglers will halter and load adopted animals. Adult horses must be transported in stock trailers with side-swinging gates. Title to adopted wild horses and burros remains with the federal government for one year.

After providing a year of good care, adopters can receive title. The BLM or a representative will check on the condition of the animal during the adoption period.

"Wild horses are strong, loyal, intelligent and very trainable," Satica said. "Adopters love their horses for pleasure riding and trail riding, back country packing, ranch work and competition. People train their burros for back

country packing, pulling carts, and riding."

Wild horses and burros are protected by a federal law, the Wild and Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act. The law recognizes the animals as "living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the west," and requires the BLM to manage the wild herds.

The BLM periodically gathers horses and burros to control herd populations on ranges

shared with wildlife and domestic livestock. Herd sizes are controlled to ensure there is sufficient feed and water for all range users and to ensure that natural resources are not over-used.

For additional information on the adoption event or wild horse management, contact the BLM toll free at 1-866-4MUSTANGS or the Litchfield Corrals at (530) 254-6575. Information is also available online at www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov.

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EXPO

(continued from page one)

Alameda County Search and Rescue and will be accompanied by her dog, Emma, who is a wilderness search-and-rescue dog. In addition to talking with people about the rescue services, Waarvik will be showing her book, "I Sit and Stay: A Survival Guide for Kids (and parents, too!)." The book is a safety guide meant to equip families with a plan if someone gets lost while enjoying the great outdoors.

As a special bonus, the first 300 guests will receive a free 72-Hour Personal Survival Kit (limit one per family). A total of 1,200

kits will be available, with the remainder available for purchase for \$10 each. The paint-can-sized kits will contain: Nine drinking water packs, one 2,400-calorie food bar, one emergency blanket, one 12-hour green light stick, one basic first-aid kit, six pieces of candy, a 2-1-1 Card (for health and human service info and referral)

The contents of the can are good for five years. In addition to the contents, even the can itself can be used to carry water or as a latrine.

Attendees can get informed on earthquake safety from the City of Livermore building division, which will provide information on the residential seismic upgrade program. Also on hand will be ValleyCare Health System's mobile health van that provides care in a nontraditional clinic setting.

The Robert Livermore Community Center is located at 4444 East Ave., Livermore. For more information on the Emergency Survival Expo, visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us or call 925-373-5700.



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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Clean Air Awards

Breathe California kicked-off the annual Earth Day celebration by recognizing nine Bay Area businesses, organizations and individuals with its 2009 Clean Air Awards.

Now in its 19th year, the awards recognize local innovations and accomplishments that have made the Bay Area a leader in improving air quality. Among this year's award recipients were three local winners hailing from the East Bay:

Shaklee Corporation, located in Pleasanton, was honored for its exemplary efforts to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. In 2000, Shaklee became the first company in the world to be "Climate Neutral" certified. It totally offsets its greenhouse gas emissions to achieve a net zero impact on the environment. Shaklee also purchases 100% of its power from renewable energy and was named to the top 20 Retail Partner list by the U.S. EPA Green Power Partnership in 2008. In addition, Shaklee has partnered with Nobel Prize laureate Dr. Wangari Maathai on a campaign to plant one million new trees throughout North America.

For more information about Breathe California, the Clean Air Awards or award recipients, visit www.cleanairawards.org or call one of our Bay Area affiliates at (650) 994-5868 or (408) 998-5865.

Hayashi Honored

The American Association of Suicidology honored Assemblymember Mary Hayashi (D-Hayward) with the Public Policy Award at its 42nd Annual Conference. The award recognizes the efforts of state and national leaders.

"Assemblywoman Hayashi received this year's award because of her role in establishing the California State Office for Suicide Prevention and for her consistent support for suicide prevention efforts in the State of California," said Peter Gutierrez, Ph.D., President of AAS.

Assemblymember Hayashi's commitment to addressing mental health issues is driven largely in part by her own personal childhood experience of losing her older sister to suicide. Among

her many achievements, Hayashi worked on the successful campaign to pass Proposition 63, a groundbreaking measure that has raised billions of dollars in new mental health funding. She also serves as a commissioner on the measure's Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission.

Assemblymember Hayashi serves the 18th Assembly District, which includes San Leandro, Hayward, Dublin, most of Castro Valley and Pleasanton, and a portion of Oakland, as well as the unincorporated areas of Ashland, Cherryland, San Lorenzo and Sunol.

PG&E Franchise Fees

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has paid more than \$151 million in 2008 franchise fees and franchise fee surcharges to the 48 counties and 244 California cities in which it operates, including more than \$29.5 million to cities and counties in the East Bay.

The 2008 payments total about \$62 million for gas and about \$89 million for electric service. This represents an increase of more than \$11 million above the previous year.

A franchise fee is a percentage of gross receipts that PG&E pays cities and counties for the right to use public streets to run gas and electric service. The franchise fee surcharge is a percentage of the transportation and energy costs to customers choosing to buy their energy from third parties. PG&E collects the surcharges and passes them to cities and counties.

East Bay franchise fee payments by PG&E to local governments were: Dublin \$539,006, Livermore \$656,594, and Pleasanton \$779,131.

Correction

A story about a Pleasanton school board meeting erred in quoting Steve Brozovsky, a former school board member and city councilmember in Pleasanton. In commenting on Measure G, Brozovsky said that it was the city staff that stayed out of "city initiatives entirely." He said that he encouraged the school district staff to do the same.

Oversight Needed to Improve Lab Security

Better oversight is needed to ensure that needed security improvements at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory are implemented and sustained.

That is the conclusion of a report issued by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) last week.

The report notes that the Department of Energy gave the Lab the lowest possible rating in two security areas. One concerns protective force performance. The other relates to classified matter protection and control. According to one DOE official, both programs were "broken" and missed even the "low-hanging fruit" of compliance-oriented deficiencies.

The report points out that the Lab's self-assessment program should have identified the magnitude of technical problems with a key weapon system used at the laboratory. In September 2007, the Livermore Site Office's (LSO) security survey gave the Lab a 100-percent satisfactory rating in its security performance--differing markedly from the security performance DOE observed during its inspection a short time later. In April 2008, a DOE security inspection found "significant" weaknesses, particularly in the Lab's ability to assure the protection of weapons-grade nuclear material.

The Office of Independent Oversight reported that the Lab's physical security systems, such as alarms and sensors and its security program planning need improvement.

The Office of Independent Oversight found the following classified matter protection and

control deficiencies:

- The Lab failed to comply with basic security requirements, such as the frequency of changes to safe combinations when individuals' needs for access to safes have changed; repeated errors in classified document marking; weaknesses in the timely completion of classification reviews for working papers; and errors in location records for all safes containing classified matter.

- Individual Lab directorates' policies for storing accountable classified removable electronic media after hours were inconsistent and conflicted with DOE requirements.

The Lab has developed corrective actions to address the security deficiencies identified by the Office of Independent Oversight. LSO and DOE will oversee the implementation of these corrective actions, and NNSA will judge whether implementation was successful when it determines Lawrence Livermore National Security (LLNS) contract award fee at the end of fiscal year 2009.

The Lab, LSO, and DOE officials agreed on other factors that contributed to the laboratory's overall security performance. First, the change in management and operating contractor from the University of California to LLNS in October 2007 contrib-

uted to a loss of focus on security performance.

According to Lab security officials, during the period of contract transition, employees' focus was on ensuring safety as well as on potential impacts on employee pensions. In addition, the contract transition contributed to a delay in conducting LLNL's required annual force-on-force exercise. Second, the decision to declare the Lab a non-enduring site for Category I and II special nuclear material affected the morale of employees. According to the Lab, security officials said highly experienced employees left the laboratory as a result of this declaration.

To improve and sustain federal oversight of security performance at the Lab, the GAO recommends that the Administrator of NNSA and the LSO Manager take the following two actions:

- Develop a detailed plan and budget for implementing LSO's proposed security training program.

- Incorporate financial incentives into future performance evaluation plans, as allowed by the new LLNS management and operating contract, for sustaining security improvements at the Lab through the completion of the laboratory's Category I and II special nuclear material de-inventory.

Housing Opportunity Center Gains Award

Five Tri-Valley cities and the Bay East Association of Realtors have been selected as one of five public-private partnerships nationwide to receive the Ambassadors for Cities award from the National Association of Realtors (NAR) and the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

The award honors the participating cities and the Bay East Association of Realtors for their work establishing and promoting the Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center (TVHOC). The Tri-Valley cities of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon and the Town of Danville share the award with the Bay East Association of Realtors.

"We're delighted that our work with the Tri-Valley cities in establishing the TVHOC is being recognized at the national level," said Pat Huffman, 2009 President of the Bay East Association of Realtors. "The TVHOC is a crucial resource for families considering home ownership or looking for affordable rental units."

The TVHOC was created as a non-profit homebuyer education center to provide regional homeownership and rental information in the Tri-Valley region. Working with the Bay East Association of Realtors, the TVHOC provides home buyer education programs, income and asset de-

velopment education, workshops on lending and funding sources, and more. Realtors serve as trainers for TVHOC orientations and workshops and help to develop unique sales solutions for prospective low and moderate income home buyers.

"The TVHOC is a success due to the support of each sponsoring city and the Bay East association of Realtors," said Jacqueline Rickman, TVHOC Center Director. "This award is great recognition of what can be accomplished when we all work together towards a common goal

of finding housing solutions for our residents."

The U.S. Conference of Mayors and NAR launched the Ambassadors for Cities program in 2003 to encourage cities and local realtor organizations to form partnerships to promote and expand affordable housing opportunities in their communities. The goal of the program is to highlight such partnerships that can be emulated in other communities.

The winners each receive a plaque and \$5,000 to help promote their event or initiative.

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EDITORIAL

Pow Wow

Native-American culture was celebrated at Las Positas College last week, featuring a traditional pow wow, dances, songs, foods, arts and crafts, films and more, all of it open to the public and free.

The festivities went on for five days, culminating with the pow wow Saturday afternoon and evening.

"A pow wow is a social gathering where Native-Americans come together to dance and sing and celebrate their culture. I think it's going to be a great event for the Tri-Valley," said Smoke Johnson, organizer of the celebration.

Johnson organized a similar pow wow at Livermore High for several years, but the event outgrew the site and had to be discontinued. The college then stepped forth and welcomed it, providing both grants and morale support.

May this be the beginning of a glorious annual gathering of the tribes and their many friends.

ZONE 7

(continued from page one)

is a deputy police chief in San Jose, and lives in Pleasanton. He is also a non-practicing attorney. During the Clinton administration, he was a White House fellow. He was one of six staff attorneys for Attorney General Janet Reno, with a portfolio for grant funding for the Office of Community Service. Moore also studied police accountability at Scotland Yard, while a Fulbright scholar at the London School of Economics.

Moore served on the Zone 7 board for the first six months of 2006. He failed to win election when his term was up. He finished behind high school science teacher Sarah Palmer, who ran an informal grassroots campaign with friends and fellow teachers.

Moore told the Independent this week that he has followed Zone 7 issues since he left the board. Between his board service, and keeping up on developments, he said he has "learned a lot about water issues facing the Tri-Valley, and water reliability. I realize how good the planning has been in the last 10 years. We are well-situated because of previous boards and management."

At the meeting last week, director John Greci praised Moore's professionalism during his six months on the board.

Board vice president Dick Quigley, sitting in for vacationing president Palmer, said he wanted a motion for a potential candidate or candidates. Staff attorney Amy Naamani said that a potential candidate can attend the May board meeting, and be confirmed by the board, so no motion was made to appoint Moore, other than dealing with the item next month.

OUTREACH ON SUNOL FLOOD PROBLEM

On another item, the board voted to appropriate \$25,000 to partner with the non-profit Urban Creeks Council (UCC) for the start of a public education program on arroyo bank erosion.

TEA

(continued from page one)

Cabot Lodge, who served in the U.S. Senate from 1893 to 1924. Lodge's son, Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., served several Senate terms, until he was defeated in the 1952 election by a young Congressman named John F. Kennedy. Lodge also was vice-presidential nominee on Richard Nixon's ticket in 1960.

Lodge said he attended the TEA Party because, "It's time for us as a people, to voice our concerns on this government." He said he is concerned about how government is raising and spending money. Government spending should "not be based on entitlements, but the freedom to earn by accomplishment."

The Boston TEA party theme from 1773 is a good one, said Lodge. "Washington today is like England then. Americans revolted against the king. We are revolting against Washington." Lodge found out about the Pleasanton party from talk radio. KSFO had a booth with a long line at the party. Fox News publicized the events in cities nationally.

A Pleasanton resident who didn't want to be identified held a sign that said, "No carbon taxes on my utilities." He explained that the "cap and trade" approach to curbing greenhouse gases favored by President Obama and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger amounts to a tax on power production.

UCC, which began in 1982, specializes in outreach to stream neighbors.

UCC will contribute a matching grant that it obtained from the federal EPA. The target area for the initial study, which is expected to take one year, will be the southerly portion of the Arroyo de la Laguna in Sunol. There has been dramatic flooding in the past, with some floodwater going into part of Sunol Glen School's yard.

Sunol residents attended a recent board meeting, and asked to meet to come up with a solution. An attempt to draw up a solution in the late 1990s failed. Greci said, "They wanted us to pay for everything, not they."

All of the arroyo banks are in private ownership, or are owned by the Sunol school district and the San Francisco water agency. Zone 7 does not own any of the banks' area. Sunol residents in the '90s felt that upstream development led to their problem, so they should not have to pay for the erosion.

Director Sandy Figuers said that the problem really was caused when a swamp in northwest Pleasanton, which had slowed Valley storm run-off, and acted as a stream reservoir in wet years, was drained around 1900 to 1920. Before then, the slow arroyo flowed underground, and became springs. After eliminating that swamp/reservoir, the water flowed quickly and headed into its current path, and out to San Francisco Bay, said Figuers.

The project with UCC is one of communication, not solution. The erosion problems will be detailed. However, the important part is to establish communication with residents and set up a dialogue on how an effective solution can come about, said Zone 7 associate engineer Carol Mahoney. She said that communication is an important part of the agency's StreamWISE plan, which focuses on keeping flood control arroyos natural.

PG&E's costs will rise, and the firm will pass the increases on to rate-payers, he said. "I know how they operate. I worked there. They go to the public utilities commission, and get the rates raised," said the man.

OPPOSITION TO MEASURE G

Three or four local residents who are concerned about the proposed parcel tax for Pleasanton schools had a small booth at the party. Their banner urged a "no" vote on Measure G.

Mary Roberts, a former Pleasanton planning commissioner, said that the backing of a "no" vote occurred because people had read the anti-tax arguments on the June 2 ballot written by eight people, and asked what they should do in the election. Some of the ad hoc group said a "no" vote would be logical, so it was put on the banner, she said.

The group has no formal name. It does have a web site: www.pleasantonparceltaxinfo.com. Roberts said that the group has been explaining how the district can solve the budget problems without the parcel tax, mainly by cutting salaries and jobs away from the classroom.

The school district has provided information about the topics the group has addressed. The school district's web site is http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/.

Bikes, Pedestrians Take Transportation Spotlight

By Ron McNicoll

The success of programs designed to aid pedestrians and bicyclists was touted at a forum at Dublin city hall last week.

The session was sponsored by ACTIA, the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority.

ACTIA is not a county department, rather a separate creation that administers funding raised by a 20-year bond measure to improve all forms of transportation in the county.

A series of speakers talked about the progress of their agencies' projects, which will contribute toward solving regional transportation problems. Some projects have received substantial ACTIA funding.

The Alamo Canal trail, which links Martinez to Dublin, is stalled at Interstate 580, and is prevented from going south into Pleasanton. Thanks to ACTIA funding, a trail link will be constructed under the Dublin/Pleasanton BART station for 783 feet to Pleasanton's Centennial Trail.

The new link is expected to be a boon to commuters on both sides of the freeway. It will mean that a cyclist could go from Livermore to Martinez without ever leaving a bike trail. The trail link will cost \$2,550,000. The ACTIA board will vote on \$1 million of the money when it meets today (April 23) in Oakland.

SOLAR

(continued from page one)

off at the moment the system is connected, so the time chosen was the very early morning of February 18, long after the last movies of the previous evening had been shown.

The solar cells installed by SPG are an innovative tubular design developed by Solyndra Corp. of Fremont. The tubes use a photovoltaic thin film technology called CIGS, which does not include silicon. The tubes look like fluorescent lights mounted 40 to a rack with enough space between tubes to allow wind and sunlight to pass through.

Solyndra claims several advantages from this approach, particularly on flat, reflective roofs such as the theater's. Because air can blow through, there is no need for expensive, roof-penetrating anchors against wind lift. The racks can be laid in place quickly and inexpensively. In the case of Livermore Cinemas, installation of the racks

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

Councilmember Cheryl Cook-Kallio, a school teacher, noted that the state, in the middle of the school year, asked for money back, money the district had spent. "The shortfall is not the result of over-spending." She explained that school districts have to spend the money they receive with the exception of categorical money.

(About two-thirds of total funding from the state is for general purposes, with the other third for special purposes or categories of students.)

"The bottom line is that these kids are our future. I favor the loan," added Cook-Kallio.

Councilmember Jerry Thorne pointed out that the state has identified an additional \$8 billion shortfall. "With the real possibility that the ballot propositions will not pass, the state could be looking at even deeper cuts. With 40 percent of the state budget going to education, it is likely there will be more cuts in education funding."

Fialho agreed, "Things might get worse." Fialho said that since 1992, Pleasanton has transferred over \$100 million in general fund monies to the state to fund the state's education obligations. The state could borrow from local governments if there were a crisis. In Pleasanton that would represent a two year impact of \$4 million.

Only one member of the public spoke. Kay Ayala questioned whether the city should loan taxpayer money to another agency. She felt that the district had not planned its financial future well. Ayala pointed out that income to the district from development fees fluctuates. For example in 2001-02 there was a negative balance of \$2 million. However by 2004-05, there was \$8.4 mil-

lion in fees, in 2006-07 \$2.4 million.

Jim Townsend, East Bay Regional Park District, said that the short stretch of trail "could have regional impact, linking Dublin and Pleasanton." He praised the two cities for working together to make it happen.

The trail link will be cut under the BART structure, and will provide enough headroom for cyclists. However, the section probably will be shut down for a couple of weeks every year during wet weather, because of flooding. Gates will be drawn shut then for safety.

PLEASANTON MASTER PLAN

Pleasanton is drawing up a bicycle and pedestrian master plan, so it will be able to obtain future ACTIA funding aid for trails construction, said city senior traffic engineer Joshua Pack. Pleasanton received \$100,000 from ACTIA to hire the consultant who drew up the plan.

The master plan will go to the Park and Recreation Commission for approval, then the city council on Sept. 15. The city is still accepting comments on the plan.

ACTIA is a source for bicycle education funding. Dave Campbell, chair of the East Bay Bicycle Coalition, said that the organization conducts two-day bicycle classes. Classroom theory is taught on the first day, and practical application follows on the second day. The classes

took less than a week. The remainder of the three-week installation process was taken up by electrical work.

The passage of sunlight between the cell arrays means that they can generate electricity from the underside as sunlight reflects off the roof. This is a particular advantage with the white, highly reflective roofs required for energy efficiency in new California commercial construction. And finally, alignment of the tubes north-south means the sun, moving east to west, always seems as close as possible to overhead without an expensive tracking system.

At a public demonstration of the system on Monday, Livermore vice mayor John Marchand described himself as "very excited" about the project because it meets the City's goal of producing energy in an environmentally friendly way and encouraging solar in particular.

show riders how to dress safely and cross streets. Education helps encourage bike commuting.

One hopeful sign that bike commuting is spreading is that there were 25 percent more bike riders on Bike to Work Day than there were in the previous year, said Campbell.

SENIOR BUS SUCCESS

Senior projects also receive money from ACTIA. Pam Deaton, supervisor of the Pleasanton Senior Center and paratransit, talked about the success of the Downtown Route for Pleasanton seniors. Buses pick up people at senior apartment complexes and some Wheels bus stops, and takes them to stores, medical offices, and the library.

ACTIA funded the pilot program in 2008. It drew an average of 18 riders per day for four days. That rose to 22 riders, after Friday services was added. Seniors pay \$1.25 for an all-day ticket.

One man in the audience said that BART should borrow the idea with an all-day ticket, though not at \$1.25. It would be especially attractive for weekends, he said.

The Downtown route will feature a new bus in the summer, capable of carrying 23 passengers. That will make it possible to pick up passengers at all of the senior complexes every day. The smaller bus makes it possible for Pleasanton to serve only half

of the complexes on alternating days. The service is popular because many seniors don't want to deal with the bigger Wheels buses and with BART. A survey showed that 60 percent of the riders are more than 80 years old.

RAILS TO TRAILS BRINGS \$50 MILLION

Laura Cohen, director of the western regional office of Rails to Trails, said her organization has been focusing on "kids, commuters and community." For kids, the benefits amount to fitness from walking or cycling, and safety, too.

Rails to Trails brings funding to projects that acquire abandoned railroad rights of way and turns them into trails. The non-profit partnered with ACTIA to build the Iron Horse Trail. The group has lined up \$50 million in federal funding for Alameda County directed toward rights-of-way conversion.

ALLEN ASKS ABOUT TWO BART STATIONS

Retired BART director Robert Allen of Livermore asked BART staff official Malcolm Quint, "What do we have to do to get a Greenville North station in Livermore?" Allen said he had proposed that for years, in addition to the station talked about for Greenville Road.

Quint said that Greenville Road is under consideration, as one of six alternatives being studied for the EIR.

"This shows once again that Livermore is the home of cutting edge technologies," Marchand said.

Through the Solar Cities Initiative, Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin have offered workshops to homeowners and streamlined permit processes to encourage solar installations. Livermore now has about a megawatt of residential solar generating capacity and 600 kilowatts in commercial solar capacity, including City Hall's 75 kilowatts.

Livermore economic development coordinator Neal Snedecor first suggested that Livermore Cinemas consider using its big, flat roof for a solar electric facility.

Electricity at the theater is used for everything from popcorn machines to all-digital projection. Kelly Truman, a founder and vice president of Solyndra, said that the theater project was a particular favorite of his be-

cause it gave him a chance to contribute to a form of entertainment that he had loved since childhood. Ted Walsh, director of Commercial Development for SPG, added that he thought it especially satisfying to demonstrate the practical usefulness of solar energy not just to adults and business leaders but to the next generation of citizens, young people who go to movies.

SPG conducts business throughout California and in Arizona. Eighty percent of Solyndra's business is in Europe, particularly in Germany, where solar is heavily used despite being nearly as far north as Alaska.

According to US Environmental Protection Agency estimates, during its 25 years of expected operation, a solar electrical generator the size of the one at Livermore Cinema reduces the need to generate 3,400 metric tons of greenhouse gases from conventional power plants.

Vineyard corridor, where it owns a parcel on which Neal elementary school has been reserved. That project was halted for various reasons, including a lawsuit between the district and Signature Properties, which was going to build the school on a turn-key basis. The improvements cost \$4.37 million.

A line of credit was also taken out to pay for additional classrooms at the comprehensive high schools. That totaled \$15.7 million.

There was also \$700,000

COUNTY

(continued from page one)

demand for County services to soar."

Furthermore, she said, turmoil in the financial markets has resulted in significant losses in the County's pension fund that must be made up through increased employer contributions.

Muranishi noted that Alameda County's 2008-09 budget is balanced, and will end the current fiscal year in balance due to prudent budgeting and tough choices - including ongoing cost-cutting measures throughout the year.

The large budget gap for 2009-10 is not unexpected. Alameda County leaders have known about the economic forces affecting the County's bottom line for some time. However, County leaders have been working for months to translate a multitude of tough financial circumstances into hard numbers.

Last month, Alameda County took the step of holding an economic and budget forum, "The Worst is Yet to Come," to provide up-to-the-minute data on County finances to local stakeholders. Alameda County also

taken out for construction of a pre-school at district headquarters.

The three projects total \$20.77 million. The principal owed currently is \$17.9 million, said assistant superintendent Luz Cazares.

In another category, operating expenses, the district and city are exploring joint cost-saving measures. For example, school sites are used by both the schools and the city. Sharing maintenance costs might save some money for the school district, said Cazares.

has been moving to plan budget-balancing strategies well in advance. County department heads have developed their "maintenance of effort" budget requests for 2009-10, which project the costs of providing current levels of service in the coming fiscal year. They also are considering options for cutting their budgets - knowing that Alameda County will face significant budget gaps next year and beyond.

"People turn to County government at their time of need," Carson said. "Now is that time and the worst is yet to come. We are faced with a bad economy and a state government that routinely balances its budget on our backs. To weather this storm, it will take everyone, without exception, to keep informed up to the minute and work together for the good of our citizens. The best thing we can do now is map out a strategy to balance our budget that is sensible in terms of allowing the entire system of County services to survive this economic tsunami, rather than go belly up."

MAILBOX

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

Regional Theater Brett Wayne Livermore

The Independent's recent article citing reduced construction costs as a compelling argument for the Livermore City Council to press on with the construction of a huge, publicly funded, regional theater while failing to acknowledge the significant downturn in LVPAC's fund-raising ability (down nearly \$20 million since last May) is yet another example of the shameful and deceptive campaign that LVPAC and theater supporters have been perpetrating on the public.

I have no doubt that some supporters honestly believe the regional theater will have a positive impact on Livermore, but that belief has become an article of faith rather than a conclusion supported by the facts. Wouldn't you prefer that the City Council base their decisions using all the facts and not just those cherry-picked details and ridiculously optimistic scenarios that LVPAC consultants have presented to the City Council?

Restaurants are closing. Sales tax receipts are down nearly 20%. Bay Area median home prices have dropped over 40%. The Livermore Village project was defacto bankrupt before this City Council bailed it out. A significant percentage of the existing downtown business property remains vacant. Signature Properties has stopped selling and delayed indefinitely the final build-out of the Station Square development. There is simply no demand for the 2000 (or more) high-density homes and business property development that will be necessary to offset the theater costs. There is little doubt that the theater will all but wipe out the redevelopment agency and ultimately require annual subsidies from the City's general fund.

Cheerleaders for the theater are demanding the City Council "act boldly" and "show courage" with the theater project. Sorry, but it doesn't take courage to spend public money. Real courage would be for our elected representatives to act responsibly and demand answers to key questions that have been raised. Real courage would be for our City Council to represent the interests of the entire community instead of the narrow interests of a small but wealthy arts-clique that has hijacked the redevelopment agency and are demanding the public pay for their cultural venues and ultimately subsidize their entertainment.

Stoneridge Drive Extension George Withers Former Pleasanton Fire Chief

I watched every minute of the February 24th Pleasanton City Council meeting and I listened intently to every speaker. As I listened, I could not help but think, as those in opposition to the Stoneridge Drive Extension gave their comments, you moved into a development with an entrance that consists of a 4-lane divided roadway that extends from Santa Rita Road to more

than half way to El Charro Rd. While I know that you were informed as part of the disclosure agreement when you purchased your home, that at some point Stoneridge Drive would be extended to El Charro Rd. and eventually on to Livermore in some fashion. Even if the disclosure notification failed to inform you for some reason, even Ray Charles would have asked, what is the future plan for this 4-lane divided roadway?

I tired to put myself in your position, and attempted to apply your "Don't Approve It" position to some of the other development projects, that I have seen and participated in over the past 50 years, and to see how this might benefit the community as a whole. The first thing that came to mind is that your homes would not even exist. Secondly, Foothill Road, which is really State Highway 21, would still be the only North-South Valley crossing, as we certainly would not allow a major highway to cut right through the middle of our town. Just think of the traffic it will bring and the people and businesses that will want to move here! Build a major Shopping Mall at the Western entrance to our Town, and displace all those cows, you must be out of your mind?

The construction of an additional East-West roadway from Pleasanton to Livermore has been planned for over 40 years. Yes, it was supposed to be West Las Positas, however that changed when residents complained (Rightfully so, because all of their homes front on this roadway!), and the decision was made to realign Stoneridge Drive and make this part of the new East-West crossing. It will be outstanding roadway, just like Valley Ave., Santa Rita Road, or Hopyard Road, which will provide a much-needed benefit to our community.

I congratulate the City Council on this long awaited decision, I only wish the vote had been 5-0.

Support Parcel Tax Tom Ludden Pleasanton

As a resident of Pleasanton for 14 years and with 3 children successfully through its school system, I find myself now battling the increased costs of higher education. As a middle class worker I have the responsibility of paying for local and state initiatives, propositions, bond measures and high property taxes. Now the macro-economic reality we all live in have resulted in my company reducing salaries across the board by 10%. So when I heard about this new tax, to fund a school system my family no longer participates in, my reaction was no way.

So why am I voting yes and encouraging the residents of Pleasanton to do the same?

Pleasanton home-owners are part of a small minority to enjoy continued appreciation in our property value despite the difficult economic times. The main driver of the sustained appreciation is that our local school district maintains a top ranking nationally, keeping Pleasanton a desirable place for families of all ages and businesses to establish themselves and to thrive. Supporting this tax and allowing Pleasanton to maintain this core value far outweighs the small annual investment of \$233.00.

These dollars will help our Pleasanton schools continue to differentiate themselves as examples of the very best education possible, will translate to continued property value appreciation, the successful future of our community's children, and of course our community as a whole.

On June 2, join me and vote "yes" on Measure G.

Community Thanked Kim Chew Food Pantry at Valley Bible Church, Director

The Food Pantry at Valley Bible Church opened in March of 2008. Since opening, we have passed out over 14,000 items and helped over 100 families from the Tri-Valley area. Each week Nob Hill on Santa Rita donates bread on Thursday morning for our patrons who come on Thursday nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

I also want to thank our most recent donors the Tri-Valley Youth Food Drive, Valley Community Church and Livermore's Abbie 4-H club for their generous food and cash donations. It's fabulous to live in a community that cares for its hungry neighbors. Thank you for being a blessing.

Support Parcel Tax Annette Vidal Sodergren Pleasanton

My family and I made a strategic move to Pleasanton 3 1/2 years ago. Our primary reason for moving to Pleasanton was the quality of public schools offered.

We knew that Pleasanton schools offered our daughter a strong education: committed teachers, strong curricular programs, as well as a plethora of extracurricular activities.

We are deeply saddened that the State budget cuts require over \$9 million in reductions over the next 18 months to Pleasanton's School District's budget. The loss of class size reduction in kindergarten through third grade is a travesty. The small classroom environment gives our children a better opportunity to learn and our teachers are truly able to see each child's needs and meet them.

As a school library volunteer, I am also very worried about cuts to the library. Many children spend their recess in the library, checking out books, using the computers. For many, the library is their playground.

The potential loss of school counselors, reading specialists, math support programs, music, computer courses and janitors is also a tragedy. These resources are a huge benefit for our children at every age and are invaluable pieces of the educational system.

It is apparent that Pleasanton is in dire need of quick, efficient and viable solutions; ones that will save our children's quality education, currently and in the long run. We all need to come together to resolve the budget issue, as well as create a balanced approach to cutting expenses.

As a family, we are committed to our schools and our community. We are proud to say we live in Pleasanton and that our daughter attends school in town.

For Pleasanton residents who do not have school aged children, maintaining quality schools should be a priority as well. Good schools better our youth and maintain our property values.

Measure G has our complete

support on the June 2nd ballot.

Student for Parcel Tax Sabrina McGraw Pleasanton Middle School

My name is Sabrina McGraw and I am an 8th grader at Pleasanton Middle School. I have heard about the economic crisis a million times and about the budget cuts but I never thought it would directly affect me or even my school, but it has. I learned that a lot of my favorite teachers will be receiving pink slips so that they can't return next year to teach. Though I won't be going to the school next year, I really want students to have the great experience I had with these teachers.

I'm also in the band program at our school, I play the alto saxophone, and it's a really great program. Sadly I have also heard that it might be dropped next year for students along with the teacher who I think is very good at his job. All my favorite teachers are getting dropped because most of them are young and haven't been teaching in the district for long. I feel very strongly about this and I want to be able to do something to help.

When I talked to my parents about it they had said that a new tax has been presented to us; a parcel tax. This tax will help bring a lot of the teachers that I love and care about back to our teaching districts. I really want to be able to do something but I am too young to vote. So now I'm asking all of the adults out there who can, who can speak for all the kids who can't, that you vote yes so that your kids, grand kids, and great grand kids can keep the teachers who have helped them through their learning experiences.

Support Measure G Kimberly Koste Pleasanton

Last year, when I moved to Pleasanton, everyone I talked to said the schools were "all great." Soon after my 6-year old son began attending Mohr, the team of teachers and administrators at Mohr identified his extra needs. He was put in reading with Mrs. Crawford, and his teacher, Miss McCarthy, began working one-on-one with him in the classroom. By Christmas, he was caught up in reading and "a totally different kid," because of his teachers, who had the time, because his class has 20 kids and not 30, and we have a reading specialist, among other essential resources. Programs that have been cut from the budget.

Children educated in Pleasanton go on to lead productive lives and contribute to our future economic prosperity. You may not have a child in school. But YOUR property value is based on the fact that you live in a town with high quality schools. Excellent schools = strong property values, safe streets, the kind of town everyone wishes to live in. When the economy recovers, what do you want YOUR HOME to be worth

We need to secure our future by passing Measure G and en-

suring that Pleasanton stays the Pleasanton we know and love. The phrase, "Pleasanton used to be such a nice place; what happened" either originates or dies here and now. If we do not protect the quality of Pleasanton's outstanding education system and our property values by passing Measure G on the June 2nd ballot, my dream of living here, of settling here, of "never moving again," of finally finding a home, will be gone. As will yours. As will all of ours.

May Election Barbara Hempill Livermore-Amador Valley League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters of California recommends the following positions for State Propositions on the May 19 Special Election ballot:

Prop 1A - Restrictions on State Budget Process - Oppose Makes it more difficult for future governors and legislatures to enact budgets that meet California's needs and address state priorities. Like the other propositions opposed by the League on this ballot, Prop 1A came from a deeply

flawed process that resulted in measures written in haste without public input or analysis.

Prop 1B - Education Funding, Payment Plan - Neutral This is not needed and even if passed by voters, it will take effect only if Prop 1A is also passed. The legislature has the power to restore funding to education in a more straightforward way that is not tied to Prop 1A.

Prop 1C - Lottery-Based Borrowing - Oppose The lottery would no longer be a source of revenue for education. State General Funds would make up for the loss. Bonds, not borrowing, should finance capital improvements.

Prop 1D - Diverting Children's Services Funding - Oppose Redirects about \$230 million a year from the Mental Health Services Act to the state General Fund to replace state funding for an exiting screening, diagnosis and treatment program.

Prop 1F - Elected Officials' Salaries - No position League positions do not cover the issues in Prop 1F.

For more information about the propositions, go to www.smartvoter.org.

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OBSESSED (PG13) DLP		1:30 4:05 7:00 9:35			
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THE SOLOIST (PG13) DLP		12:50 3:55 6:35 9:25			
17 AGAIN (PG13) DLP		12:20 2:45 6:40 9:05			
STATE OF PLAY (PG13) DLP		1:00 4:15 7:05 9:45			
CRANK: HIGH VOLTAGE (R) DLP	12:30 2:40 4:45 6:55 9:10				
HANNAH MONTANA THE MOVIE (G) DLP	11:55 2:30 4:50 7:10				
				9:30	
FAST & FURIOUS (PG13) DLP		1:15 3:50 6:30 9:00			
MONSTERS VS ALIENS 3D (PG) 3D	12:10 2:25 4:40 6:50 9:10				
KNOWING (PG13) DLP		1:40 4:25 7:15 9:50			
RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN (PG) DLP		12:05 2:20 4:40			
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In addition to city and PG&E staff, solar installers will be on hand to meet with you and answer questions.

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OUR WORLD CLASS PHYSICIAN STAFF CONTINUES TO GROW

PLEASE JOIN VALLEYCARE HEALTH SYSTEM IN WELCOMING:

YATIN SHAH, M.D.
BOARD CERTIFIED IN PEDIATRICS

Dr. Yatin Shah has joined Valley Care Health System specializing in Pediatrics.

Dr. Shah recently moved to the Bay Area after 12 years of successful private practice in Texas. A native of Mumbai, India, Dr. Shah became a permanent resident of the United States in 1998. He is a graduate of the University of Bombay, India where he received his Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery in 1989, Doctorate of Medicine in Pediatrics in 1992, and was a staff physician at a Mumbai teaching hospital. Dr. Shah served as Chief Resident and completed his pediatric residency in 1996 at the Children's Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York.

Dr. Shah joins Dr. Anamika Sharma in the ValleyCare Medical Foundation — Pediatric practice at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Suite 110 in Pleasanton. For an appointment, please call (925) 416-6767.

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Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Hands Out 32 Student Grants

Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation announced the latest round of PPIE Student Grants. Thirty-two Pleasanton Unified School District students have been selected to receive for their Student Grant projects.

PPIE received 43 applications, a record high for this grant cycle. This number is more than double the applications received last year at this time. Applicants awarded includes all ages ranging from kindergartners through 12th graders. will support a range of projects; such as a multicultural festival, physical activity, community service, fundraising to support those in need, science, AP studies, math, art, at risk students with learning disabilities, vocational programs, and support for our DECA State Winners competing at the International Career Development Conference later this month.

The PPIE Student Grant program, now in its nineteenth year, promotes positive learning experiences inside and outside the classroom, and supports co-curricular and extra curricular student activities and projects. General guidelines require each application to be student authored, to have a teacher sponsor and the site principal's approval. To better support student interests, two

grant cycles are offered, the first in the fall semester and the second in the spring semester.

PPIE Foundation also offers Education Grants for Pleasanton Unified School District employees to fund projects that are student-focused, that promote creativity and innovative thinking, and that offer expanded learning opportunities to students.

Applications are available on the PPIE Foundation website, www.ppie.org. Grant requests are accepted in amounts up to \$2500.

PPIE Foundation Student Grant Awards, 2008-2009, Cycle #2 were the following:

Costumes for Multicultural Dance, Makena Allen, Valley View Elementary School, \$50; Materials & supplies to provide costumes for the Multicultural Fair focusing on the different cultures at school & in the community.

Multicultural Fair Fun, Ashley Anderson, Valley View Elementary School, \$50; Materials & supplies to support the Multicultural Fair focusing on the different cultures at school & in the community.

Tether Ball Fun, Spencer Anderson, Valley View Elementary School, \$150; to provide new tether balls for recess time, promoting physical activity.

Hats For Multicultural Festival, Taryn Baldus, Valley View Elementary School, \$50; to provide hats for participants in the Multicultural Fair Dance.

SEF Bhangra Fest 2009, Naman Barman, Foothill High School, \$100; Seed money to support Bhangra Dance event fundraising for Sankara Eye Foundation (hosted by Foothill High S.T.E.P. Club).

Amador Valley High School Robotic Club - Autonomous Underwater Vehicle, Matt Crussell, Amador Valley High School, \$500; to provide materials to construct and maintain an autonomous submarine to be entered into competition.

Cool Shoes, James Hunt, Valley View Elementary School, \$50; to provide boots for participants in the Multicultural Fair performances.

SPARK for Science Club, Neel Kale, Valley View Elementary School, \$300; to support the purchase of the SPARK Science Learning Center to improve research and experimentation.

Learn More About The Romans, Stella Lee, Foothill High School, \$200; to provide Latin books and materials to enhance learning and preparation for the AP Latin Exam.

Games For Math Club, Nora Manger, Valley View Elementary School, \$250; to provide replace old and purchase new math games for Math Club.

Sidewalk Art Show, Minnie Phan, Amador Valley High School, \$200; Seed money to support a sidewalk art festival involving young, creative artists making art for the entire school community.

Microscope For Pleasanton Science League, Niveditha Raghavan, Harvest Park Middle School, \$300; to purchase a microscope for the Pleasanton Science League including students from all three middle schools
Project Night-Night, Anika

Simons, Fairlands Elementary School, \$460; to provide materials for comfort kits (book, blanket & stuffed animal) to benefit homeless children.

Upside Down, Backwards, Around, John Sweeney, Walnut Grove Elementary School, \$50; Seed money to provide support for a student authored book to help students that have difficulties with learning words and numbers.

Recess Balls, Alex Swenson-Lennox, Donlon Elementary School, \$122.08; to provide new balls for recess time, promoting physical activity.

Every 15 Minutes, Lauren Traurig & Rachel Usedom, Foothill High School, \$500; to support anti-drinking and driving program delivered to Juniors and Seniors.

FHA-HERO Commercial Food Preparation Competition, Kyle Wolf, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to provide food supplies for state level competition in commercial food preparation for student vocational organization FHA-HERO.

The Secret About Space, David Xue, Donlon Elementary School, \$100; to provide materials to reach facts about space and the solar system.

Teens Reaching Out, Edward Yoo, \$300; Seed money so provide support of various activities benefiting numerous charities and community service projects.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Tanya Carter, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Caroline Hsia, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Sharon Jiang, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Amrita Kulkarni, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Trevor Landas, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Stephanie Lanning, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Louisa Liu, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Nina Saleh, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Ryan Terry, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Nicole Villanueva, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Bora Yuh, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

DECA International Career Development Conference, Ruigi Mau, Amador Valley High School, \$100; to support conference registration fees.

Talk Focuses On Museums

The Museum On Main Lecture for May will offer a unique opportunity to learn about other museums.

Representatives from Behring Automotive Museum, Pacific Locomotive Association and Lindsay Wildlife Museum will present a program on "Meet the Museums."

The lecture will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, May 21 at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue, Pleasanton. The lecture is part of the Ed Kinney Lecture Series presented by the Museum On Main in Pleasanton.

May is Museum Month and each of the representatives will share some background about their facility and special programs. There will be brochures and hand-out materials. This is an opportunity for visitors to learn about new places to visit and share the museum experience. Each museum is unique in its own way, from expensive collectible cars to live native animals to a ride on a steam locomotive.

No reservations are necessary. Admission is \$5 for museum members, \$10 for non-members, \$5 for teachers with valid ID and \$3 for students with valid ID. Call (925) 462-2766. Memberships will be available for purchase that night.



The Independent

Expanded Local



Pleasanton Parade



ValleyCare in Pleasanton

Since our founding in September of 1963, *The Independent* has been dedicated to giving you, our Livermore, Pleasanton and Sunol readers, the news and editorial support you need to create a great community.

The Independent's management and almost all of its writers have lived here in the Livermore-Amador Valley for the past 45 years. We've put down roots. We care about our readers and our community.

We take pride in offering the following in our pages:

- ☞ We publish the most complete ongoing coverage of city councils, school boards, water boards, park and recreation boards and other public agencies.
- ☞ We stood up for and spoken out on a series of grassroots referendums, initiatives and other citizen-driven campaigns, spanning the four and a half decades of our existence. We've consistently championed the community's grassroots citizen groups in their struggle against inappropriate development- Friends of the Vineyards, Save Our Sunol, Preserve Area Ridglands Committee, Citizens for Balanced Growth, SAVE, Friends of Livermore, and others. After 45 years, the result is a greenbelt of parks, vineyards and open spaces encircling the Livermore-Amador Valley with urban growth boundaries in Livermore and Pleasanton

and a long-term planning campaign underway to revitalize the area's agricultural heritage.

- ☞ Hand in glove with the campaigns to save threatened lands out beyond the city limits, *The Independent* has promoted redevelopment of the downtowns, with the idea of centering future growth in the city cores, with a "transit-oriented" focus and substantial affordable housing.
- ☞ We carry the most youth sports news, with an emphasis on participation.
- ☞ When the independence of our community hospital was threatened by a merger with John Muir of Walnut Creek, *The Independent* spearheaded a successful fight to keep the facility under local control.
- ☞ *The Independent* devotes considerable space in every edition to news of the local arts scene, which is enjoying a renaissance.
- ☞ Hand in glove with that, we've given all-out support to the rejuvenation of the Livermore Valley Wine Country. We've done more than merely report on it. Partnering with winery leaders in the early days of the rebirth, we launched an annual magazine celebrating the Harvest Wine Festival. It continues, serving as the September event's official publication, growing larger every year.

SKATE TOUR

(continued from page one)

Riders. The Tour went to the Santa Cruz Skate Park, San Francisco's Potrero del Sol, and Granite and Epic Indoor in Sacramento.

Billed as an event where "young talent and skate pros collide," the event was filmed by the videographer who has filmed each of Tony Hawk's video productions since the early 90s. The purpose was to bring talented local amateur skateboarders together with professional skateboarders, team managers, and sponsors to help them become established in the industry. "Being filmed will be sick," commented 15-year-old Devon Jones of Fremont.

Most of the young skateboarders, however, were just focused on the day ahead. "I'm excited to skate these parks," said 11-year-old Shelby Avrill of Castro Valley. "I love skating because you move so fast and there are always new tricks to learn."

Hayden Olsen, a Livermore resident and student at Mendenhall Middle School, said he started skating by watching his neighbor. "I just like cruising and having fun," he explained. "I skate at my house and spend a lot of time at this shop. It's going to be pretty cool to skate all day with the pros."

A few of the skaters were also interested in the filmmaking side too. "Skating is great. I'm tired of getting hurt and my friends are getting better than me," said Kyle McFadden of Livermore. "I'd rather help get their names out there, plus I love making films."

The skaters convened on 6TwentyOne at 6:30 am for breakfast in the shop, although more of them could be found outside practicing their tricks on the sidewalk. The bus full of skaters and their boards set out from Livermore at 8 a.m. and returned around midnight. Robert Ferguson of 4141 Skateboards (4141boards.com) went along for the ride along with four members of his skating team. "It's good exposure for the company and a way for these riders to get their names out," he said. "I also think events like these bring the skating community closer together."

Ferguson runs skate camps in San Ramon, Walnut Creek, and other Bay Area cities, which is how two of the youngest participants on the tour were introduced to each other. Seven-year-old Gavin Napier of Livermore and 8-year-old Tiki Trevethan of Diablo met last summer at a skate camp in Walnut Creek. They have been fast friends and avid skaters every since.

"I was a little leery when he got into skating because of the whole culture, but skating really has gotten a bad rap," said Gavin's mom Debby Napier. "The kids we've met have been so nice. They just help and watch out for him. It's really a great group." When Gavin was five, he saw some kids skating at a skatepark in Livermore and was hooked.

"We knew nothing about it. I couldn't help him out at all," explained Debby. "He went to camp and that took it to a whole new level. Now we have a half-pipe, ramps, everything at home."

6TwentyOne opened its doors late last year, a venture between LaBarbera and John Eastman, childhood friends who grew up skating together in the Tri-Valley. In addition to a complete line of skateboarding equipment, clothing, and accessories, 6TwentyOne also offers a skating school for all ages and abilities. A half-pipe and ramps are under construction behind the shop.

For more information, visit www.6twentyone.com. Skating classes are also available through the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's summer catalog.

Moving History . . .

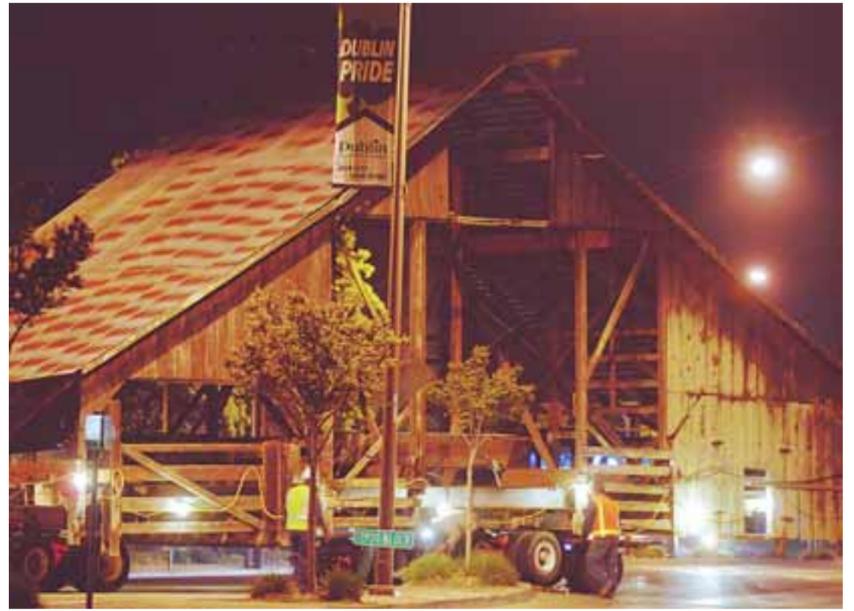


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The effort to relocate five historic structures, originally part of the Kolb Ranch, got underway last weekend. They are being moved to the City of Dublin's Historic Park project, a 4.2-acre park located on Dublin Boulevard at Donlon Way. The buildings, some of which are over 100 years old, include the main house, built in 1910; the old house, which most likely served as a residence for ranch hands; the Sunday school barn which once stood directly across the street from the Green Store on Dublin Boulevard; a hay barn; and the pump house, as well as remaining furnishings and farm equipment. The move took place late at night to avoid impacting traffic.

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Pleasanton Downtown



Lizzie Fountain

The magazine, meanwhile, has taken on a life of its own, spotlighting a different aspect of the Valley's cultural life — for example, Art & Entertainment, Giving and The West.

For 45 years, *The Independent* has worked to keep you informed and protect your quality of life...

The Independent is expanding its local news pages

With a change in format, *The Independent* will be able to provide two separate sections. News in the second section will focus on the arts, community and education. The main section will continue to provide readers with a strong focus on local news. It will include the editorial page, letters to the editor section, and sports.

Now there will be even more local news for you, delivered directly to your mailbox each week, in our new **FREE** subscription format.

Keep *The Independent* Coming!

To take advantage of our **FREE** subscription offer and to assure uninterrupted direct weekly delivery of the expanded *Independent* newspaper and magazine, we need to hear from you through one of the following subscription sign-up options.

With your help and encouragement, *The Independent* will continue to benefit our community. Thank you for your support!

THE *Independent*

NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE

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SPORTS NOTES



Foothill High School pitcher Chris Zerio threw a no hitter to beat Pleasant Grove 12-0 in the Monte Vista Freshmen Easter Invitational Tournament Wednesday, April 15. Zerio pitched to two batters over the minimum giving up just one walk. Zerio received strong offensive support as Foothill slugged out twelve hits including contributions from Jake Jefferies who went 3 for 3 with a triple and 3 RBIs and a home run by Sean Hanks.

Youth Soccer

The Pleasanton Rage U14 soccer team came away with a 2-0 victory over Diablo FC, in the round of Sweet 16, in State Cup play. Rage came out offensively moved the ball down the field and had several nice shots on goal by Sydney Ruegger. In the second half of the game Rage dominated play. The first goal came on a hard fought goal by Becca Beasley. A few minutes later Nicole Heller carried the ball down the field and placed a nice pass to Becca Beasley for the second goal. Alyse Ketter, Taylor McGarry, Haley Jackson, Jessica Chen, Jenna Herana and Jacqueline Summers played a solid middle for Rage.

The defense of Emmy Rodriguez, Nicole Heller and Lauren Terres and Chidi Onwuehgu stopped any scoring by their opponent. Heather Seely and Emily Slominski did a great job in goal, with several key saves. Tops on offense: Becca Beasley, Sydney Ruegger, Alyse Ketter, Jessica Chen, Jacqueline Summers; defense: Emmy Rodriguez, Lauren Terres, Nicole Heller, Chidi Onwuehgu.

Granada Little League

Granada Little League jumped at **Granada 80's Gold** highlighted all over Pleasanton American Little League 9-2 in the first of a double header this weekend. Every one on the 80's Gold seemed to get involved in the hitting. Jacob Lutz got two 1B, John Madrugra got two 1B, Logan Van Schaack also got two 1B, Tanner Cortez 1B, Devan Perez 1B, Kyle Schlomling 1B, Kyle Trask 1B. Brandon Self got on base with 2 walks and stole 3 bases to add to the scoring drive. Top pitchers for the Granada 80's was Kyle Schlomling 4IP, with 3K, Tyler Offill came in and pitched 3IP with 1K. The only offense from Pleasanton came in the later innings off of Tyler Offill giving up a single home run and a double. Defensively Kyle Trask did a great job behind the plate while throwing out a base-runner attempting to steal second.

Granada 80's Gold came out strong on the second game of the double header against Pleasanton American Little League, but could only get away with a tie 11-11 in the game called for time. Top hitters for the Gold 80's were Kyle Schlomling 1B, and a 2B, Tanner Cortez also hit a 2B, John Madrugra stayed hot with two 1B, Logan Van Schaack 1B, Brandon Self 1B, Matt Hilgen 1B, Tyler Offill 1B. Top pitchers were Logan Van Schaack 3IP, 1K, Matt Hilgen 2 1/3 IP, 1K, John Madrugra 1 2/3 IP, 2K. Pleasanton came on strong in the later innings tying the game and then taking the lead 11-10, in bottom of the seventh Granada came up with Brandon Self who reached base on an error and then proceeded to steal second, Tyler Offill came to the plate and hit a single that moved Self to third, on the next play Pleasanton's pitcher balked and Brandon Self scored the tying run, unable to produce anything else the game was called by the umpires for time.

Majors - Giants 3, Angels 1. Top hitters Giants: Zach Botelho - 1B, IRBI, one run scored; Anthony Aguilar - 1B, IRBI; JT Storti - 2B, 2 runs. Top hitters Angels: Jose Carrillo - 1B, one run scored; Kyle Emrich 1B, IRBI; Jonah Teetsel - 1B. Pitching stats: Giants - JT Storti 6IP, 5H, 1R, 7K. Angels - Jake Collishaw 5IP, 3H, 3R, 8K.

Minor AAA - Angels 7 Yankees 5. Top Hitters: Angels: TJ O'Ferrall 1B, 2B, 1 run scored; Jack Walker 1B, 2B 2 RBI; Nick Badders 1B, 1 RBI, 1 run scored; Joel Gauch 2 RBI, 1 run scored. Yankees: Chandler Davis 1B, 3B, IRBI, 1 run scored; Blake Downey 1B, IRBI, 1 run scored; Matt Rodriguez 1B, IRBI, 1 run scored. Top Pitchers: Angels: TJ O'Ferrall: 2IP, 2H, 3R, 4K. Angels: Jack Walker: 3IP, 0H, 0R, 3K. Yankees: AJ McMillan: 3IP, 1H, 0R, 3K. Recap: The game was tied 5-5 in the bottom of the 6th inning. With 2 men on base and 2 outs, Jack Walker hit a double into center field to bring in the winning runs for the Angels, 7-5. The game was a tough, heart fought game by both evenly matched teams.

Minor AA - Giants 7 vs. Rays 6. Top Hitters: Giants - Drew Marples hit a line-drive over pitcher to get a base hit, Mark Silverthorn hit a triple which resulted in 2 RBI's. Great defensive play by Ryan Wright (center field) to Zach MacIntire (3rd base) to throw the tying runner out. Top Hitters Rays - Solid hitting by Nick Swanson and Seth Street, and a double RBI by Samuel Miller. Great defense by pitcher Nolan McCormick and catching by Dylan Martinez who stopped a run. A close match up between the Giants and the Rays.

A's 10, Padres 6. Home Offense: Michael Silva 2B, RBI. Home Defense: Jack Kath (Pitcher), Jacob Dukes (Pitcher 1st Base), Alex Gonzalez (1st Base), Visitor Offense: Rudy Ayala, Dominic Giuliana. Visitor Defense: Brian Mahoney, Cameron Geyer. It was an exciting rematch between the A's and the Padres. Final score: A's 10, Padres 6.

Minor A - Padres (Offense) Logan Greenough, Kyle Correia, Sawyer Demarest (Defense) Londen Billings, Benjamin Knuth, Ethan Payne; Giants (Offense) Ian Rasmussen, Ethan Dreger, Nathan Kamm (Defense) Josiah Knight, Jordan Garcia, Jordan Muller.

Phillies (Offense) Aaron Udouch, Andrew Hayley, Scott McPherson (Defense) Alex Northrop, Ethan Lux, Jeremy Adams; Rays (Offense) Caleb Hachler, Quinn Tudor, T.J. Farmer (Defense) Thomas Kello, Ethan Arrowsmith, R.J. Mata.

Farm - Giants (Offense) Ethan James, Xavier Hernandez, Spencer Morais (Defense) Chris Shonholtz, Nathan Woolsey, Ty Stewart. Angels (Offense) Ty Marks, Christopher Perez, Daniel Bobosky (Defense) Jennifer Edwards-Estrada, Drake Small, Cody Ward.

Padres (Offense) Connor Campbell, Seth Lundin, Vijay Memula (Defense) Gavin

Carreira, Kyle Rodgers, Ben O'Connor: A's (Offense) Matthew Gomes, John Orsini, Ryan Stapp (Defense) Connor Hardesty, Aidan DeMello, Calvin Fletcher.

T-Ball - Rays (Offense) Ashton Carter, JD Cerruti, Zach Van Huis (Defense) Christopher Meinecke, Ben Sears, Logan Wright, White Sox (Offense) Aidan Buenrosto, Ozzy Cervantez, Ethan Braman (Defense) Ryder Male, Jared Dipola, Dominic Driscoll.

Padres (Offense) Nicholas Hall, Garrett Robb, William Wentworth (Defense) Garrett Riddough, Josh Bailey, Chase Kerezi. Phillies (Offense) RJ Little, Augustine Mascari, Seth Mills. (Defense) Danny Knight, Ryan MacIntire, Colin McConnell.

West Coast Gymnastics

The West Coast Olympic Girl's Optional team competed at the Region 1 Gymnastics Championships held at the Cal Expo Center in Sacramento on April 17-19th. Region 1 includes top gymnasts from all of California, Nevada, Arizona and Utah.

Erin Gray, a junior at Foothill High School and Stacia Sackett, a freshman from San Ramon competed in Level 8 and both finished 5th All-around in their respective age divisions. Erin also had a 2nd place finish on bars. Patricia Aubel, a sophomore at Amador High School competed in Level 9 and finished 5th all-around and 2nd on bars. Patricia's all-around score qualified her to the Western National Championships which will be held in Oklahoma in May. The team is coached by Charlene Chen, a former gymnast and coach of China's national team. Assistant coach Izy Mlyst is also a former nationally ranked gymnast from the United States.

The following are the results from the Region 1 Championships:
Level 8: Age 14 Stacia Sackett: Vault 9.0 (10th), Bars 9.1 (8th), Beam 9.25 (6th), Floor 9.1, AA 36.45 (5th).
Level 8: Age 16 Erin Gray: Vault 9.15 (4th), Bars 9.1250 (2nd), Beam 8.45, Floor 8.9, AA 35.625 (5th).
Level 9: Age 15 Patricia Aubel: Vault 8.725, Bars 9.525 (2nd), Beam 8.55, Floor 9.5 (4th), AA 36.30 (5th).

Livermore Girls Softball

Livermore Girls Softball Association highlights:
Senior (High School): Pleasanton Sizzle 10, Livermore Blackout 6. 2B - Haley Willford, Rebecca Kolman (B). 3B - Katelyn Erickson (B). 2RBI - Samantha Waddle (B).
Middle School Black: Bruce Brown Photography Lady Tek-No 15, Da Crew 5. For Da Crew, Erica Serrano had three hits, three stolen bases along with three runs scored while catching for five innings. Sara Novell pitched four innings with four strike-outs along with two solid base hits, and Kristin Paulazzo had two doubles, a single with three RBIs.

Middle School Red: G.R. Dahl Construction Base Raiders 7, Red Black Attack 0 (forfeit).
10-under: Thomas Marcel, DDS & Kolk Furniture Lil' Devils 9, Nuumi Red Hot Sliders 8. The Lil' Devils defeated the Red Hot Sliders in an exciting game. For the Lil' Devils, Tori Nicolo had two hits and an RBI, while Kylie Martinez and Maddie Gannon both scored two runs each for the Lil' Devils. The game ended with the tying and winning runs on base for the Red Hot Sliders.

Burton Family Livermore Crew 10, Haque Chiropractic Lil' Rebels 3. For the Livermore Crew, Mattie Thompkins had a double, and Carmen Best and Missy Nunes played outstanding defense.
AP Concrete Xtreme Heat 8, Burton Family Livermore Crew 6. For the Livermore Crew, outstanding offensive players were Laura Duterte with a home run in the first inning, Kaycee Bilke stealing second and third base in the second inning putting pressure on the Xtreme Heat, and Jamie Wittmer retired all three batters in the first inning.

Pleasanton Girls Softball

Pleasanton Girls Softball League highlights:
T-Ball: De Mesa/Yu Dentistry vs. Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions: Grace Haubner had a great hit. Victoria Frenz had an awesome play at home. Kate Weckworth had some awesome throws. Kayla Gonzaga had some big hits. Jenna Benner was great at making throws. Lina Kovacs was a very fast runner after her big hit. Top players: De Mesa/Yu Dentistry - Victoria Frenz, Grace Haubner, Kate Weckworth; Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions - Jenna Benner, Kayla Gonzaga, Lina Kovacs.
Hopyard Alehouse and Grill vs. TopDot: Hopyard Alehouse and Grill: Great defensive play by Zoe Alexander. Powerful hitting by Ava Stewart. Top notch playing by Bella Shroff. TopDot: Awesome offense by Lauren Loisel. Great effort on the field by McKenna Masinter. Great all around play from Allison Boyd. Top players: Hopyard Alehouse and Grill - Zoe Alexander, Bella Shroff, Ava Stewart; TopDot - Allison Boyd, Lauren Loisel, McKenna Masinter.

Micro Division: Pleasanton Glass vs. Cardinal Jewelers: Pleasanton Glass and Cardinal Jewelers played some great ball. Francesca "The Bat" Cardoza smoked a ball past the infielders advancing all runners. Amy "Wheels" Assmusen burned rubber around the base path as she outran the infielders only to be called safe. Rachel "The Arm" Petty made several great throws to 1st base after flashing her leather at the pitchers mound. Strong players for Cardinal Jewelers were Kyle Harris, Emily Muraski, and Grace French. Top players: Pleasanton Glass - Amy Assmusen, Francesca Cardoza, Rachel Petty; Cardinal Jewelers - Grace French, Kyle

Harris, Emily Murawski

Mini Rec Division: CTS vs. Ogden Costa Creative Group: The sunny and warm afternoon brought out the bats in a high scoring game. CTS was led by Hanna Fleschman's single, home run, 3RBI's and 2 runs scored. Katelyn Young had 2 hits, 2 RBI's and 2 runs scored along with Caileigh Sanders who also had 2 hits and a RBI. Ogden Costa Creative Group was strong at the plate with Sabrina Ornelas and Theresa Colberg each collecting 2 hits and a RBI along with Morgan Seely's 2 hits and a run scored. Top players: CTS - Hanna Fleschman, Caileigh Sanders, Katelyn Young; Ogden Costa Creative Group - Theresa Colberg, Sabrina Ornelas, Morgan Seely.

Assist Tel-Com vs. Zaballos Construction: Liberty Schlag went 1 for 2 for Zaballos Construction in addition to making a great out by catching a line drive at short stop during the 3rd inning to make that last out of the inning. Melissa Widas went 1 for 2 with an RBI. Halle Uhl went 2 for 2 with both shots out to left field. She also made the last out of the game while playing catcher and catching a foul ball. Assist Tel-Com's Erin Chilicky pitched a tough 3rd inning striking out two girls. Emilyann Gervolino batted 2 for 3 and had some tough defensive playing. Lexi Marks went 2 for 2 scoring a run for Assist Tel-Com. She played a great game all around. Top players: Assist Tel-Com - Erin Chilicky, Emilyann Gervolino, Lexi Marks; Zaballos Construction - Liberty Schlag, Halle Uhl, Melissa Widas.

Mini Upper Division: John Rocha REMAX Accord 6, J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines 3: Jenna O'Neal went 3-4 in hitting for J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines. Lauren Hermes made several key plays at 1st base. Ariana Nino caught a runner stealing at 2nd base. Nicole Craven had 2 hits for John Rocha REMAX Accord and Sofia Molina hit a double. Danielle Williams also had 2 hits and was a strong pitcher throwing a complete game with 17 strikeouts. Top players: J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines - Lauren Hermes, Ariana Nino, Jenna O'Neal; John Rocha REMAX Accord - Nicole Craven, Sofia Molina, Danielle Williams.

Minor Rec Division: Pilates on Spring 6, Friends of PGSL 5: Gabriella Hughey had a stand up double. Kamryn Brown made some aggressive defensive plays as catcher and pitcher. Charli Faris hit a whopper into right center field that won the game for Pilates on Spring. Kristin Dinelli hit a single RBI. Jacqueline Wood had a great defensive game. Chelse Burke hit a single RBI for Friends of PGSL. Top players: Pilates on Spring - Kamryn Brown, Charli Faris, Gabriella Hughey; Friends of PGSL - Chelse Burke, Kristin Dinelli, Jacqueline Wood.

Minor Upper Division: Chase Electric 6, Four Star Erectors 6: Chase Electric: Christina Echavria had three strike-outs in the 4th inning and a base hit. Regan Lacey had a throw-out at 2nd, good defense. Madison Avery had an RBI and a stole home to score the tying run. Four Star Erectors: Kyra Sexton was on fire with three RBI's and scored a run, two base hits and tagged a runner to 3rd for an out and caught an infield fly. Ashley Balestreri had five outs while playing 1st base, and a tag out on 3rd ball strike. Dani Taylor played excellent defense as catcher, threw out at 1st on dropped 3rd strike. Hustled to keep runners from scoring. Four Star Erectors had an overall excellent defensive game and Chase Electric came back in the final innings. Top players: Chase Electric - Madison Avery, Christina Echavria, Regan Lacey; Four Star Erectors - Ashley Balestreri, Kyra Sexton, Dani Taylor.

Major Rec Division: Richert Lumber Co. 17, TPC 10: For Richert Lumber, Alex Gray hit a single, double and a triple with 4 RBI's, Diane Hadley hit 2 doubles with an RBI in each, and Lauren Torrisi hit 2 singles with 3 RBI's. Top players: TPC - Lanie Boswell, Paige Jones, Jackie Rawson; Richert Lumber Co. - Alex Gray, Diane Hadley, Lauren Torrisi.
California Car Sounds, Inc. 10, Belden Consulting Engineers 4: California Car Sounds, Inc. came out hitting scoring 8 runs in the first 2 innings. Jillian Quintanal, Carrigan James, and Alexis Faria each had 2 hits. Libby Howard turned a double play for California Car Sounds, Inc. in the 5th inning to end a rally. Shelby Sarin, Jazzy Perez and Jenn Teitel all pitched well for the California Car Sounds, Inc. giving up only 4 runs in 6 innings. For the Belden Consulting Engineers, Liz Broughton had 2 hits and drove in 1 run. Savannah Cordova pitched 4 super innings only allowing 2 runs. Top players: Belden Consulting Engineers - Liz Broughton, Savannah Cordova, California Car Sounds, Inc. - Jordan Brown, Chloe Connolly, Libby Howard.

Major Upper Division: Stainless Steel Distributors 4, Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning 0: Claire Berkeley stayed strong and pitched the entire game for Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning. Malory Masajlo played strong defense at shortstop and also 3rd base. Johanna Grauer and Katie Ludington both pitched very well for Stainless Steel Distributors. Sami Spain had two awesome hits. Top Players: Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning - Claire Berkeley, Malory Masajlo; Stainless Steel Distributors - Johanna Grauer, Katie Ludington, Sami Spain.

Livermore National LL

Livermore National Little League highlights:
AAA Division: The Padres jumped out to a quick lead in the 1st inning with Nathan Gooby scoring on a hard shot by Larry Phillips. Phillips also scored that inning making it 2-0 Padres. Catcher Jake Winslow did his part in the bottom of the first throwing a strike down to second base to pick off a Giants baserunner attempting to steal. The Giants pitchers and defense played solid from then on, holding off the Padres' powerful offense. The Giants came roaring back with 5 runs in the 2nd. Jake Gutierrez had an RBI in the 2nd, got on base twice, had 2 stolen bases along with consistent, hard-nosed play. Joshua Zrelinski got on base twice, had 3 stolen bases, 2 runs scored and great defense at catcher in first 3 innings. The Giants Ryan Robinson hit a hard shot to drive in one of the runs in the 4th. The Giants had a 4 run 5th inning capping off a 12 to 2 win over the Padres.

A Division: Spring is in full swing, and so were the bats as the A's took on the Orange Giants. The Giants came out swinging as Tommy Latkowski and Cameron Aslin hit for power. The A's answered back with fence-rattling hits from Dylan Silva, Jared Persson and Todd Neizman. Then Nate Hascom hit a

blast to left field for the Giants that was snatched up by a diving catch from Dylan Silva.

Memorial Run

The California Peace Officers Association will host the 1st Annual C.P.O.A. Memorial Run & Family BFC to be held on Saturday, May 9 at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton. The event features a 5K, 10K, and a Kid's Fun Run and all participants receive a T-shirt, as well as a chance to win raffle prizes. Trophies will be awarded to the top overall male and female runners, with medals to the top three runners in each age division.

A barbecue follows the run at 11:00 a.m., catered by Outback Steakhouse. The menu includes the Outback burger or chicken sandwich, side salad, chips and fruit. All run entrants receive one meal ticket and additional meals may be purchased for \$10 for adults and \$7 for children ages 12 and under.

This family oriented event is held in May during National Police Memorial Week to honor those peace officers who have fallen in the line of duty. Each year, between 140 and 160 officers are killed in the line of duty and their families ("Survivors") are left behind to cope with their tragic loss. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Northern California Chapter of C.O.P.S. (Concerns of Police Survivors), an organization whose sole mission is to assist with rebuilding the lives of surviving family members and affected co-workers of law enforcement officers killed. As our communities struggle with the enormous tragedy that has befallen the men and women within the Oakland Police Department, the need for C.O.P.S. program's and resources is clear. You are invited to attend this event and assist in this very worthy cause! Shadow Cliffs Regional Park is located at 2500 Stanley Boulevard in Pleasanton. The pre-registration deadline for the event is May 6, 2009. To download forms or register online, please visit www.onyourmarkevents.com. For more information, please call Mike Elerick (C.P.O.A. Region II Chair) at (925) 353-0406.

Bocce Standings

Spring Leagues are underway at Campo di Bocce of Livermore and the competition is fierce. The Monday night open play our entry level players has nine teams competing. The current standings are as follows:

Tahoe Thunder, 10 and 2; The Incrediballs, 8 and 4; Rolling Stones, 8 and 2; Point and Shoot, 8 and 2; Crazy Pallinos, 7 and 3; Bocce Bangers, 4 and 6; Here For The Party, 7 and 3; The BG's, 0 and 10; and The Grape Stompers, 0 and 12.

Tuesday night leagues feature the most advanced players who aggressively shoot it out in the "Punto, Raffa, Volostyle play. The players on each of the ten teams have years of bocce experience. Standings: Napoli and Point & Shoot tied for first at 6 and 0; Montoni, 6 and 2; Gung Ho 5 and 1; Son of a Bocce, 5 and 5; Azzurri, 3 and 5; Left Coast Bocce Club, 2 and 2; XXX, 2 and 6; DeBocceRi, 1 and 7; Bocce Bangers, 0 and 8.

On Wednesday night, a group of adventurous Livermore vintners have brought together their finest bocce players to create and fun and exciting night of bocce and wine. The league has only just begun although some teams have already begun to show their dominance in this fun for all league. Here are the current standings: Cannonvine Vineyard and Steven Kent Grande Plaza, both 2 and 0; 1 and 1 are teams from Wente Vineyards, McGrill Vineyard Winery, Wood Family Vino Pallinos; Ruby Hill Winery, 0 and 2 are Cuda Crushers and Page Mill Grape Stompers. Although league entrants are closed for the Spring leagues, all are welcome to stop in at Campo di Bocce in Livermore to take in the games.

Registration

The next registration for the Livermore Junior Football League for the 2009 season is Saturday, April 25th from 2pm to 4pm at Round Table Pizza located at 4098 East Avenue. Youths can participate in football, competitive cheer and non-competitive cheer. For details, please visit www.LivermoreJuniorFootball.com. The registration cost is \$265 for football and \$100 for cheer. Registration will close when the league reaches 260 players. 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.

Amador Diving

The Amador Valley Frosh-Soph Girls went 1-2-3, dominating the High School Diving Invitational in Rio Linda on Saturday 4/18. Many Central valley and east bay teams participated in the 11 dive meet with 25 girls in their session.

Alexa Hernandez took the 1st place with an outstanding 359.50. Emma Rigl followed with 324.30 score and Marina Mihov was close behind at 320.75. Nichole George and Alex Nottingham also participated and scored 239.35 and 205.50 respectively. The performance was particularly impressive as the was Nottingham's first time doing 11 dives and the other girls were trying new dives for the first time.

Diablo Century for Cyclists

Cycling enthusiasts are invited to register for the first annual Diablo Century to be held on Sunday morning, April 26 at the Contra Costa JCC (CCJCC) in Walnut Creek. The is being sponsored by the CCJCC and Jewish Family & Children's Services of the East Bay (JFCS/East Bay). Three routes, all beginning at the CCJCC on Tice Valley Blvd. in Walnut Creek, will accommodate various cycling levels: the 25-mile route will take casual cyclists through the scenic hills of Danville and Alamo to the foot of Mt. Diablo and back. The more challenging 100-K route (62 miles) will offer cyclists views of Mt. Diablo via Clayton and the Morgan Territory. Cyclists will descend into Livermore and return via Danville and scenic Blackhawk. The final 100-M route (100 miles) will have serious cyclists taking the 100-K route and then adding to the challenge with a jaunt to Castro Valley, followed by a climb up Redwood Road to Moraga.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Amador Valley High School pitcher Haley Douglas winds up for the throw in a game against Granada at the Spring Stampede Softball Tournament in Livermore. Granada won the game, 3 to 1.

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

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

The Diablo Century will take place come rain or shine. Start time for the 100-K and 100-M routes is from 6:30 to 8:00 a.m. The 25-M route begins at 8:00 a.m. Individual registration fee for all routes is \$45 per person. Tandem for all routes is \$85 per tandem and additional luncheon tickets for nonregistered riders are available for \$10.

To register for the Diablo Century or to learn more, please visit www.ccjcc.org/diablo or call 925.938.7800. To learn about volunteering opportunities, please contact Kathryn Winogura at kwino@jfcseastbay.org.

Golf Tournament

The Dublin High School Golf Tournament, benefiting school athletic programs, will be held May 1 at the San Ramon Golf Club.

Shot gun scramble 1 p.m. Registration will be from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., no host cocktails 6 to 7 p.m., dinner, live auction raffle and awards begins at 7 p.m.

Golf packages are \$150 per person or \$550 for a foursome. The fee includes golf, cart, lunch and dinner. A \$25 context package includes hole-in-one, closest to pin, long drive and more. Dinner portion only, \$30 per person.

To register or for information email Sunette@SunetteClarkWalker.com or call 570-0717 or contact Bonnie Reed at 833-3300 or Reedbonnie@dublin.k12.ca.us.

Open Water Swim Group

A new open water swim group is starting up this season at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton. Membership in this non-profit group is open to all qualified individuals. We will have day and evening swim times. The lake temperature can reach up to waters of 75 degrees during the warmest months. If interested, or to sign up, you can check our website at shadowcliffsforcas.com. For further information you can contact Al DeGraw at (510) 414-7928 or John Bower at (925) 294-9050.

Soccer Registration

Livermore Youth Soccer League is tak-

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followed by first come, first served.
Sunday Adoption: 8am - 5pm

Held in conjunction with
CA State Horsemen's Association Annual Spring Stampede.
Daily Gentling Demos and Educational Seminars

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Young foal on the Pryor Mountain Horse Range, Montana
Photo ©Gary Leggett

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Registration for Fall Football & Cheer
Round Table Pizza
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Saturday, April 25th, 2-4PM
Ages 9 thru 14
As of Dec. 31, 2009

For online registration visit:
www.LivermoreJuniorFootball.com

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 instill 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)

SHORT NOTES

Trail Walk

Explore Altamont Creek Trail with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff. The program is Sun., April 26.

Meet Ranger Patti Cole at 5 p.m. at 6800 Altamont Creek Dr., Livermore. The ranger-guided walk will include a search for the wildlife and plant life that call this area home, paying special attention to the unique species found in and around Altamont Creek. This will be an easy walk, appropriate for all ages.

Bring binoculars, if possible. Meet at the playground of Altamont Creek Park. Call 925-960-2400 if directions are needed.

World Diamond Award

Alain Pinel Realtors is a nominee for the Leading Real Estate Companies of the World Diamond Award. Only 23 of 700 member real estate firms received this honor. The Diamond Award is presented annually to the member company that has most actively participated in all of LeadingRE's business offerings.

"We are excited to be a member of this great network of independent real estate firms around the world and honored to be chosen for this high honor," said Larry Knapp, President and COO of Alain Pinel Realtors.

The relationship enables Alain Pinel Realtors to assist individuals relocating to virtually any community in the U.S. or abroad, with services including real estate assistance, destination orientation programs, mortgage assistance, household goods transportation and more. The affiliation also allows Alain Pinel Realtors to manage corporate employee relocation accounts.

For more information on Alain Pinel Realtors, visit www.apr.com or call 408.741.1111.

Heart Bracelet

Relay For Life is the largest global cancer fighting movement that unites communities across the world to raise awareness and funds to support the American Cancer Society's research and programs. In addition to the company's sales associate and community involvement in the Relay for Life events nationwide, dressbarn in Dublin is introducing a "Heart Bracelet" to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. The bracelets will be sold at all dressbarn stores for \$5.00 from May 1st through August 31st, or while supplies last. Dressbarn will contribute the entire net profit of \$2.50 to the American Cancer Society.

"This is our way of supporting all of those brave men and women who are dealing with the hardships of cancer," said Brigitte Flentz, district sales manager for dressbarn in Dublin.

Benefit Set

Tommy T's Comedy Steakhouse in Pleasanton, will be holding a comedy night benefit for PAR 4 Kids Sake on Thursday, April 30. PAR 4 Kids' Sake is a 7 year old charity that was founded by parents of special education kids and supported by a dedicated committee of 20 people. PAR has been raising and donating money to groups that focus on curing autism and helping kids and families with autism.

Tickets can be purchased on the PAR 4 Kids' Sake website under the or directly from any of the committee members, call (925) 461-0501 or send an email to to purchase tickets. Tickets are \$20 each, 2 for \$35, or a table of 10 for \$150. The show will start at 7:30 PM with the doors opening at 6 PM. Optional can be purchased during the evening.

FRA Essay Winners

The Livermore branch of the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) presented awards on Friday, April 3 at the Veterans Memorial Building in Livermore to participants of their Americanism Essay Contest. The topic for this year's essay contest was "What the United States Flag Stands For."

The FRA West Coast Regional Vice President Charles McIntyre was in attendance for the presentations. Each essay winner received a certificate of participation and \$50 savings bond. The essay winners were Mark G. Larik grade 12 from Livermore HS, Abhiraj Chowdhury grade 11 from Foothill HS in Pleasanton, Shaheen Ladjevardi grade 9 from Quarry Lane in San Ramon, and Sophia Nguyen grade 7 from Hopkins Jr. HS in Fremont.

Shaheen Ladjevardi also won the West Coast regional 9th grade division and has been forwarded to the National level for judging. The FRA essay national grand prize is a \$15,000 savings bond.

New Stoneridge Stores

Simon Property Group, Inc. announced the addition of three new retailers to Stoneridge Shopping Center: Michael Kors, Teavana and AT&T all scheduled to open this year.

Michael Kors is best known for the classic, chic, and luxurious but sensible style of women's outerwear and accessories. With only one other location in the Bay Area, Stoneridge Shopping Center is pleased to welcome this renowned boutique. Michael Kors will be located on the Upper Level near the Main Elevator with construction beginning in March. Michael Kors is set to open in the summer months.

Teavana presents Stoneridge Shopping Center's customers a new way to consider caffeine intake. Offering customers the healthy life-style and wonderful tastes of tea, Teavana only sells those teas with rich flavors and superior health benefits- as well as all tea accessories known to mankind. Teavana will be located on the Lower Level near Grand Court. Construction on the space is currently underway with an opening date set for this April.

AT&T is the largest US provider for both local and long distance telephone services, and DSL internet access and the second largest provider of wireless service. AT&T will be located on the Lower Level near JC Penney. Construction will begin in March with an opening date set for late May.

Events on Mt. Diablo

Save Mount Diablo is offering several special programs this spring.

A trail endurance ride will be offered Sat., June 27: 30/50 - AHA Region 3 Championship and AERC Sanctioned Save Mount Diablo offers its first recreational opportunity for equestrians. The Diablo Trail Endurance Ride offers a 30 mile limited distance and 50 mile endurance ride that starts and finishes at Castle Rock Park in Walnut Creek. The course is challenging and offers steep climbs, descents and creek crossings. www.savemountdiablo.org for more information or to register.

Sheep Shearing Day

Sheep Shearing Day will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sat., April 25 at Forest Home Farms in San Ramon. There will be live music and demonstrations of old-time traditions such as lace-making, woodcarving, quilting, and spinning. Nature-lovers will enjoy garden demonstrations and children will be entertained with a maypole, 4-H animals, crafts, games and tractor rides. Tour the property and visit our old-fashioned Gift Shoppe. Food will be available for purchase. Pre-registration prices are Ages 13+:

\$5, Ages 3-12: \$3, Ages 2 and under: free; at the gate Ages 13+: \$7, Ages 3-12: \$5, Ages 2 and under: free.

Call (925) 973-3200 to register for or go online to www.sanramonrecguide.com. The activity number is #57896. For more information call the farm at (925) 973-3284.

Forest Home Farms is located at 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Parking at the farm is limited, but parking will also be available on Pine Valley Road, west of San Ramon Valley Blvd.

Education Loan Fund

Guest are welcome at the annual board meeting of the Student Education Loan Fund, which will be held on Thursday, April 30, 7:00 PM, at the home of Linda Nidever-Galles, 3640 Jerrold Road, Livermore.

The Student Education Loan Fund (SELF) was established 46 years ago to provide interest free loans to graduates of Livermore high schools and to Livermore residents who want to further their education or training. These loans help Livermore students attend community colleges, trade schools, state colleges, or universities. During that time, \$533,195 has been loaned to 441 students.

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

The fund is managed by a volunteer board of thirty Livermore residents. These volunteers do all the necessary administrative and clerical work and contribute enough funds to cover SELF's yearly expenses. Therefore, all incoming donations go 100% into student loans. For more information about the meeting or about SELF, please call Arlene Chinn (925) 447-8843.

Swim Lessons

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District has a range of swim lessons available for all age groups and ability levels. All of the lessons are certified through the American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim Program.

Youth lessons are broken down into age groups, spanning from children only 9 months old to youth age 12. Lessons are only \$40 for four 40-minute Saturday lessons or eight 25-minute Monday/Wednesday lessons. Saturday lessons begin May 2; Monday/Wednesday lessons begin April 27.

Families can also enroll their children in private lessons, which is an appropriate option for those who need more one-on-one work with an instructor. Private lessons are also good for assisting water confidence and skill refinement. Private lessons cost \$95 for 25-minute sessions on four consecutive days. Spring private lessons will be offered from the week of April 6 through the week of May 18. A variety of times and start dates are available.

A course specific to teens and adults is also available. These lessons are offered for all skill levels, from very beginner to advanced. Course emphasis is on individual skill improvement and endurance. This course costs \$50 and will be held from 6 to 6:25 p.m. Monday and Wednesday from April 27 through May 5.

All spring swim lessons are held at the Robert Livermore Community Center Pool, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. To sign up or for more information, visit the Aquatics page at www.larpd.dst.ca.us or call 925-373-5751.

Dinner/Auction

Carden West School will host its annual fund-raising dinner/auction on Friday, May 1, at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton.

The event begins at 6:30 p.m. An afternoon golf outing will precede the evening event at 12:00 p.m. The public is welcome.

The benefit event will begin with a cocktail hour and auction at 6:30 p.m., followed by a three course dinner at 7:45 p.m. A live auction, music and dancing will follow dinner.

Auction items include a Lake Tahoe vacation, tickets to sporting events, collectibles and many personalized items made by Carden West students.

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

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

Individual tickets are \$175 for the golf outing (which includes dinner/auction) and \$45 for the dinner/auction only. They may be purchased at Carden West School during regular school hours, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., or by calling 925-463-6060.

Carden West, located at 4576 Willow Road in Hacienda Park in Pleasanton, is a private nonprofit, nonsectarian school.

Beading Workshop

Beader Heidi Ontiveros will lead a beginning beading workshop at 2pm on Sunday, April 26 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue in Livermore.

Learn beginning beading techniques and make earrings for spring. Heidi Ontiveros has been beading for over 10 years and will lead this free workshop - all materials will be provided.

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.

Children and Books

There will be a program at the Rincon Branch Library to honor children and books on Saturday, May 2 at 11:00 AM. All ages are welcome to our celebration of El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day). This free program will include bilingual storytelling, Freddy the Clown, folklore crafts and Mexican cookies.

The Rincon Branch Library is located at 725 Rincon Avenue in Livermore. For more information please contact Mary Sue Nocar at (925) 373-5540 or visit any Livermore Public Library.

Silent Auction

A Wine Tasting Silent Auction will be held at the White Crane Winery to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

The event is noon to 4pm, Sun., April 26th. It is hosted by HIKE members of Team in Training. Local wineries will showcase

their wines for tasting. The event will include finger food, music, inspirational speakers, and raffles. There is a 10% discount when purchasing on line at winehike.org or call 925 413-7788

Seating is limited. To register for the community seminar, call 800.284.2878 or register online at www.sanramonmedctr.com.

Ayurvedic Medicine

"Ayurveda," Vanitha: The Indian American Association of Women Presents a free seminar on Ayurvedic Medicine on Sat., May 2 at 2 p.m. at the Pleasanton Library.

Ayurveda is a traditional medical science of India and its purpose is to heal and maintain the quality and longevity of life. The seminar will give an introduction on Ayurvedic principles for diet, and how Ayurveda treatment can help with heart problems and diabetes.

For more information about Vanitha and the Ayurveda seminar, please call Usha: (925) 803-1249.

The program will be held in the Pleasanton Library Meeting room.

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

Treatment Options

San Ramon Regional Medical Center will present a free community educational seminar, "Treatment Options for Enlarged Prostate." The event will be from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, April 30. The program will be held at San Ramon Regional Medical Center's South Conference Room in the South Building, located at 7777 Norris Canyon Road, San Ramon.

Parminder Sethi, M.D., board certified urologist, will discuss various treatments for enlarged prostate, including a minimally invasive procedure using a radio frequency system. An enlarged prostate (benign prostatic hyperplasia) is not usually life-threatening, but its symptoms can definitely disrupt daily life. This common condition can affect the urethra, the bladder and urination. Symptoms can include: a frequent and sudden urge to urinate, pain or burning, or a feeling that the bladder is not empty. In the past, it was usually treated with daily medication or invasive surgery.

Freddy the Clown

Family entertainer Freddy the Clown will be performing at the Livermore Public Library's Rincon branch at 11 am Saturday, May 2, 2009 as part of the library's free Dia de los niños/Dia de los libros celebration.

The Dia de los niños/Dia de los libros celebration is an annual celebration of children, families, and reading. The celebration emphasizes the importance of advocating literacy for every child regardless of linguistic and cultural background.

In addition to Freddy the Clown the family event will feature an English/Spanish bilingual story time with Storyteller John Weaver, Mexican music, crafts and Mexican cookies.

The celebration, which is open to people of all ages and backgrounds, will be held under the trees outside the Rincon Branch Library. For information, contact Mary Sue Nocar at 373-5540.

Job Center Programs

The Free2 Succeed Job Center at the Livermore Library is offering five informative programs in May at the Civic Center Library:

- Employer Meet & Greet, Tuesday, May 5, 4:00 - 6:00 PM. Attendees can connect with local employers who are looking to hire.

- Mock Interview Round Robin, Tuesday, May 12, 5:00 - 7:00 PM. Attendees will participate in a mock interview and receive suggestions from a career advisor on how to improve their interview style.

- Applying Online, Monday, May 18, 5:00 - 7:00 PM. In this hands-on class, participants will learn how to register and post their resumes on major job boards, search and apply for jobs, set job alerts, and more. Participants must have a web-based e-mail account and an accessible electronic resume.

(continued on page 10)

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Centerpointe Welcomes New Worship Director

Brian Marriott has joined Centerpointe Presbyterian Church as its worship director and now is leading worship on Sundays.

Marriott comes to Centerpointe from the Court Street Christian Church in Salem, OR, where he served as associate pastor of worship for about four and one-half years.

Marriott joins choir director/organist Katie Walda and bell choir director Betty Gail Hunt on the music leadership team at Centerpointe.

The church offers a choir-led blended worship service with organ music at 9 a.m. Sundays. The 10:30 a.m. service is contemporary and led by a worship band. The church is located at 3410 Cornerstone Court in Pleasanton near the corner of Valley Avenue and Busch Road.

"We were all created to worship the Lord and I love sharing my passion for worship with others," Marriott said.

"I'm very excited to have been called here to Centerpointe, and look forward to growing in our worship experience together while we draw closer to the heart of God. My wife and I were praying that we'd get to go where God is at work, and it's clear to us that He's working here!"

Senior Pastor Mike Barris said, "Brian brings a wealth of experience to worship ministry. He and his wife Lara are both gifted musicians who have a deep commitment to creating worship experiences that connect worshippers with the heart of God."

"In addition to strong leadership skills and a vision for what worship is all about, Brian is a passionate Christ follower and a fun guy to be around!"

Brian grew up in a Christian home where his dad served as the pastor of a small church and his mother served as the church pianist. She also was Brian's first piano teacher. He studied music at Idyllwild School of Music and the Arts, and the University of

Redlands, both in Southern California.

While there, he became quite involved with the Southwest Community Church. He played the guitar, the violin and sang with different worship bands and the choir, as well as playing in the orchestra.

He married Lara in 2000 and then accepted an internship at Westminster Chapel in Bellevue, Wa. where he was a worship pastor in training. He answered Court Street's call after completing the internship.

Marriott says he likes typical "guy stuff," '65 Mustangs, war movies, trucks, Harleys and, of course, wrestling with his kids.

Date nights with his wife, Lara, are also a favorite. She joins him on the worship team for the contemporary service.

She has been involved in

music ministry since her childhood, also growing up in a pastor's family. In her teen-age years, she travelled with her high school vocal jazz band to Poland and went around the world with World Vision's Youth Ambassadors and Mission of Mercy.

She enjoys writing music and teaching voice as a hobby. She also has been an aqua fitness instructor.

"My greatest passion is to fill the hearts of God's children with new songs to praise Him and with songs that help bring words to what others are feeling," she said.

Brian and Lara have two children, Hannah, 5, and Josh, 3 and have settled in Pleasanton.

For more information, please call 925-846-4436 or go to www.centerpointechurch.info

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2 FREE Community Seminars

1

TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR
ENLARGED PROSTATE

Thurs., April 30, 2009 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Parminder Sethi, M.D., Urologist

An enlarged prostate isn't life-threatening, but its symptoms can definitely disrupt daily life. This common condition can affect the urethra, the bladder and urination. Symptoms can include: a frequent and sudden urge to urinate; pain or burning; or a feeling that the bladder is not empty. In the past, benign prostatic hyperplasia was usually treated with daily medication or invasive surgery. Today men and their physicians have a choice, including a minimally invasive procedure using a radio frequency system. Our board-certified Urologist, Parminder Sethi, M.D., will discuss various treatments for enlarged prostate, and answer your questions.

2

TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR
SHOULDER AND ELBOW ARTHRITIS

Wed., May 6, 2009 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Charles Preston, M.D., Orthopaedic Surgeon

Shoulder and elbow arthritis can hinder our golf or tennis swing, or even the simple act of carrying our small children. Sports injuries, falls or just repetitive motion can wear out the elbow or shoulder joint. Orthopaedic Surgeon, Charles Preston, M.D., will discuss the causes of shoulder and elbow arthritis, and current medical and surgical treatment options. Always emphasizing conservative treatments, he will discuss non-surgical treatments and explain who is a candidate for surgical procedures, including total joint replacement.

SEMINAR LOCATION

San Ramon Regional Medical Center

South Conference Room
South Building
7777 Norris Canyon Road
San Ramon, CA 94583

Reservation Required

Call 800.284.2878 or visit www.sanramonmedctr.com

SHORT NOTES

(continued from page 9)

• Job Search Support Group, Thursday, May 21, 5:30 - 7:00 PM. Opportunity to network with fellow job seekers and receive tips and advice from a professional career advisor.

• From Crayons to Careers - Mothers Returning to the Workforce, Tuesday, May 26, 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Mothers who are considering returning to work will have the opportunity to discuss career change and transition with Yvonne Lefort, a Career Counselor from MothersInBalance.com.

The public is invited to attend these free programs at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. For additional information please call 925-373-5500 extension 5595 or check out the Job Center Website at: <http://www.ci.livermore.ca.us/library/free2jobs.html>

Young Volunteers

The Livermore Public Library invites young adults, going in to grades 6 and up, to become Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) for the 2009 Summer Reading Game, *Be Creative @ Your Library*. Volunteers listen to readers tell about the books they've read, award prizes, and assist with storytimes, programs and crafts. All YAVs will be able to log hours for community service purposes.

This year, new and returning YAVs must complete a YAV Packet, and bring a signed copy to one of the training sessions scheduled at Civic Center, Rincon or Springtown libraries. YAV Packets are available at Livermore Public Libraries or available on the library's website. The training sessions and additional changes to the YAV program are listed in the YAV Packet.

For more information please call Sandy at 373-5500 extension 5583 or visit "Teen Space" on the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us to download the YAV Packet.

SR Farmers Market

San Ramon Farmers Market opens Saturday, May 2 at Forest Home Farms. Unlike any other location for a farmers market in the bay area, San Ramon Farmers Market sits on a scenic 16-acre historic farm overlooking I-680 on San Ramon Valley Blvd.

"The market is just a great way to bring that charm and history back to our community," said Harv Singh, Market Director.

The market opens Saturday May 2 and runs every Saturday, May through October, 9am to 1pm.

San Ramon Farmers Market features 30-35 vendors offering the best in local and organic produce including fresh seasonal fruits, smoked salmon, cut flowers and, eggs, honey, kettle corn, artisan food vendors including award winning olive oils, cheese and baked goods. The market atmosphere also boasts high quality local arts & crafts, a food courtyard featuring French crepes, ethnic foods, Whole Foods Market coffee and juice bar and live music from bay area emerging musicians playing anywhere from jazz, blues, country bluegrass, oldies, and more.

The market will be host to numerous events hosted by Whole Foods Market including chef demos, kids day, heirloom tomato festival and much more. Contra Costa County Master Gardeners will have a weekly plant clinic booth in the community garden area where customers will be able to bring their gardening questions to the market.

To learn more about the San Ramon Farmers Market, please call the market director, Harv Singh, at 925-719-5922 or visit the website at www.sanramonfarmersmarket.org

Car Show

Granada High School DECA will host its 10th annual car show this Fri., April 24.

This year's show is being produced by the students of Tri-Valley Regional Occupation Program Sports and Entertainment marketing class. All of the cars in the show are owned and maintained by students attending Granada High School. All of the profit from concessions and a prom package raffle will be donated to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving).

The day includes food, entertainment, hot cars and even hotter prizes. The prom package includes a \$200 dinner at the Restaurant at Wente Vineyards, a boutonniere and corsage from Knodt's Flowers, a garter from Alterations Boutique and a facial and massage from Krystelles Spa & Salon.

Several other businesses are also sponsoring the show including Foster Freeze, SliceArt, Tire Mart, Little Caesars Pizza, Kragen Auto Parts, Poppy Ridge, Wheel Works, and LifestyleRX.

Officer Promoted

Pleasanton Police Officer Maria "Mia" Munayer has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Munayer joined the department in 2003 with ten years of varied and diverse law enforcement experience.

In her new position, Sergeant Munayer will be responsible for the supervision and leadership of a team of police officers assigned to patrol. She will serve as one of 13 sergeants on the roster.

"Sergeant Munayer is a hard worker, who brings a lot of energy, dedication and passion not only to the job but to the community itself," commented Chief Michael Fraser.

She has experience in detention, patrol, detectives and narcotics and has served on SWAT teams and taught DARE in Contra Costa County and Pleasanton. She is also a weaponless defense instructor.

Sergeant Munayer was a member of the United States Kung-fu team for eight years and won the gold medal at the 1992 and 1996 Chinese Martial Arts World Championships. She lives in Pleasanton with her husband and two children.

Rotarian Work Day

The Tri-Valley Rotary Club members and their family, friends and local business supporters will refurbish the landscaping and grounds surrounding Axis Community Health Center on Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton. The work will take place this Sat., April 25.

The members of the Tri-Valley club elected to assist Axis Community Health because it is a nonprofit community organization that provides a wide range of medical, psychological and social support services for residents of the Tri-Valley area.

The Tri-Valley Rotary assistance program benefits Axis as it helps their finances remain focused primarily on patient care and it also creates a better environment for their patients and families when they visit the facility. The Tri-Valley Rotary Club will repair sprinkler systems, planter boxes, remove weeds and debris from garden areas, plant new flowers and shrubs, trim bushes and remove waste to the local recycling center.

Members of the Rotary Club of the County Clerk of Alameda County, as part of a day of work for Rotarians throughout the world. The day, called Rotarians at Work Day, has been set aside on three continents, for all Rotary Clubs to be working in service of their home communities. It is estimated that over 70,000 Rotarians throughout the world will be working on the same day.

OBITUARIES

Howard Harrod McCaslin

Howard Harrod McCaslin, age 81 of Pleasanton, CA passed away April 9, 2009. He was born June 7, 1927.

He was preceded in death by his wife Eileen, parents Clifford and Della, and sister Barbara. He is survived by children Mark (Jessica) McCaslin, Marcy (Sam) Hawkins, Mindy (Steve) Gregory, Marty (Peggy) McCaslin; grandchildren Matthew, Andy, Ashley, Allie and Rachel; great granddaughter Giata; and by a sister Pamela Brown.

Howard was a loving husband, a model father and mentor, and a generous and loyal friend. He taught us much and we will miss him dearly. A WWII veteran, Howard retired early from NCR to pursue a second "career" in antiques with Eileen, which they enjoyed together immensely.

A memorial service was held April 20 at Crosswinds Church in Dublin.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Alfred Robinson

Alfred Robinson passed away on Wed., March 25, 2009 after a three year battle with congestive heart failure. He was surrounded by his family.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce, daughters Gillian and Jacqueline,

son-in-law Phil Aufricht and grandchildren, Julia and Jack Aufricht.

Al was born on August 27, 1921 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His mother was from England and his dad was Irish. They immigrated to the U.S. after his dad was discharged from the British Army at the end of WWI. Al's dad was a carpenter and during the Great Depression, when Al was around 7 years old, moved the family to Toronto, Canada.

At the outbreak of WWII, Al joined the Canadian Air Force and after earning his wings trained recruits to become light plane pilots. At the end of the war, he entered the University of Toronto, graduating with a degree in Civil Engineering. He worked in Canada and the U.S. In 1959, he joined Standard Oil Company and worked for the company until his retirement. Also in 1959, he married Joyce on June 20 in San Francisco. They would have celebrated their 50th

anniversary this summer. Al was a devoted husband and proud father and grandfather.

In 1976, while working in Sacramento, he joined Gideons International and was active in school and jail distributions for thirty years. He loved wildlife and the great outdoors. He could always be talked into a hike or RV trip. Both he and Joyce enjoyed traveling. They took eight cruises covering Alaska, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, Mediterranean and Far East. In the last few years, they spent more time locally, taking neighborhood walks, attending exercise and cooking classes at the Pleasanton Senior Center, joining friends in Bible Study and spending time with family.

A memorial service is planned at 3 p.m. on Sun., April 3 at Valley Community Church on Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to The Gideons International, PO Box 11803, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Richard Armond Shotwell

Richard (Dick) Armond Shotwell, a lifelong Pleasanton resident, passed away April 15, 2009 after a battle with cancer. His wife of 56 years, Beverly, was a pillar of strength throughout his struggle with cancer.

Richard was born February 5, 1931 in Modesto, California and moved with his family to Pleasanton in August 1931.

He graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1948. He then joined the United States Marine Corps and served until 1952. Upon leaving the Marine Corps, he signed to play professional baseball with the Albuquerque Dukes.

He returned to Pleasanton to start a family. He became a member of the Operating Engineers Local 3 and worked for 35 years before retiring in 1988. His last 15 years of employment was with Oliver De Silva (DeSilva Gates).

Richard was one of the founders of Pleasanton American Little League and was one of the many who spent hundreds of hours constructing the original Sports Park, which opened in 1971. Richard was the manager of the first Babe Ruth team to win a District Title and advance to the State Championships.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He loved going to his cabin in Lake Tahoe and fish the surrounding lakes. He enjoyed taking his 1952 Willy's into the back country for some 4-wheeling.

He has lived in the same house for the last 45 years and was always quick to point out that he and three other families moved in on the same day in 1964 and thus, became the first residents of Pleasanton Valley. He enjoyed attending Amador sporting events. Perhaps his greatest pleasure was attending sporting events and activities of his children and grandchildren. He could always find a way to get the day off work to support his kids. He travelled the country watching baseball in Long Beach, basketball in Iowa, and golf in South Carolina.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Archie and Jewel Shotwell, brothers Alton, NL, sister Dorothy Andrade, and brother-in-law Walter Andrade.

He is survived by his wife, Bev, daughters Debbie Ballard (husband Richard Ballard), Sheri Harris (husband Jeff Harris), son Dean (wife Debbie Shotwell), grandchildren Meredith Harris, Gretchen Harris, Samantha Harris, Nick Harris, Tyler Shotwell, Justin Shotwell, Kelly Shotwell, and great-granddaughter Ciera Harris. He is also survived by nephews Alton Harris Shotwell, Jr., James Shotwell, Gary and Mark Andrade.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Dublin, CA 94568.

Eulan Bobby Freeman

Eulan Bobby Freeman died April 15, 2009. He was born October 3, 1932.

He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Dotty Freeman, sons James, David and his wife Alice, Jeffrey and his daughter Debra and her partner Karen. He is also survived by his grandchildren Brandon, Megan, Heather, and Kim; great grandchildren Andrew, Kelly, Brittany, Bradley and Jagger.

Bob had a 35 year career with Lockheed Missile and Space in Sunnyvale, CA. He loved all sports and took much pride in teaching and watching his children participate in many sports. He was an avid golfer, when once retired, he played with great enthusiasm. Bob also enjoyed

spending time with his many family members and friends. He was always ready to tell a joke and to share many stories of his life adventures. He was deeply loved and will be missed by all.

A celebration of Life will be held April 25th, 2009 at 1:00 pm at 13085 Uvas Rd., Morgan Hill. In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate donations to The Veterans Administration.

Francis "Frank" Ruskey

Francis Ruskey was born March 15, 1938 in Massachusetts and entered into rest April 14, 2009 in Livermore, CA.

Frank had lived in Dublin, CA since 1972. He enjoyed his time in the Navy and was proud to have entertained the troops with Bob Hope. Frank did impersonations of famous actors and comedians including Jimmie Durante and James Cagney. Frank retired after 30 years at Bigge Crane & Rigging.

Frank is survived by his wife of 50 years, Florence Ruskey. He was a loving father to his three children Julia Martinez (Dublin), Michael Ruskey (Livermore), and Vera Karlson (Dublin); brother William Ruskey (Lowell, MA.); grandchildren, Robert, Rachael, and Antonio Martinez, Destiney, Conrad, and Austin Karlson; and great-grandchildren, Joel and Ashton Martinez, and Andre Spearman.

There will be a Memorial Mass of the Resurrection held Friday, April 24, 5 p.m. at St. Raymond Catholic Church, 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin. Inurnment will take place on a later date at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, CA.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422297

The following person(s) doing business as: B.B. buckles, 830 Keystone Way, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Judy Tweten, 830 Keystone Way, Livermore, Ca 94550 This business is conducted by: an Individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on March 1, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Judy Tweten

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2009. Expires March 16, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2474. Publish April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422531

The following person(s) doing business as: Production Specialties, 2338 Sheffield Dr., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): William K. Arnold, 2338 Sheffield Dr., 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 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/William K. Arnold This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 20, 2009. Expires March 20, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2475. Publish April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2009.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

FILE NO. 398868

The following person (s) has (have) Abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Edward S. Walsh, 812 North Vasco Road, Livermore Ca 94550

The fictitious business name statement was filed on July 25, 2007. Cortix Water Products (US) Inc., 1160-1188 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC V6E4A2

This business is conducted by: a Corporation
Signature of Registrant: /s:/Hamish Cumming
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2009. Expires March 16, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2476. Publish April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422299

The following person(s) doing business as: Machado Design, 2354 Tapestry Drive, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael Machado, 2354 Tapestry Drive, Livermore Ca 94550

This business is conducted by: Husband and wife
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on 1983.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Michael Machado
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2009. Expires March 16, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2477. Publish April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422786-422787

The following person(s) doing business as: 1)Arts Unlimited Advertising, 2)Livermore Printers, 383 South I Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Loni Jean Frankland, 1170 Larkspur, 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 20, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Loni Jean Frankland
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 27, 2009. Expires March 27, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2478. Publish April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422789-422790

The following person(s) doing business as: 1)Livermore Printers, Design & Sign, 2)Livermore Print, Sign & Design 383 South I Street, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Loni Jean Frankland, 1170 Larkspur, 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 20, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Loni Jean Frankland
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 27, 2009. Expires March 27, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2479. Publish April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422649

The following person(s) doing business as: Software Solutions, 187 Old Bernal Ave., #8, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Shanti Sai Ram, 187 Old Bernal Ave., #8, 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:/Shanti Sai Ram
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 24, 2009. Expires March 24, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2480. Publish April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422890

The following person(s) doing business as: Hang On Ears, 1050 Harvest Circle, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Annette C. Sage, 1050 Harvest Circle, 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 March 15, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Annette C. Sage
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 30, 2009. Expires March 30, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2481. Publish April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422316

The following person(s) doing business as: Lem Em Eat Cake,

132 S. Vasco Rd., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sara Beth Pickens, 4294 Amherst Way, 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:/Sara Pickens
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 16, 2009. Expires March 16, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2482. Publish April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422830

The following person(s) doing business as: Petersen's PC Repair, 2170 Arroyo Ct. #4, Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Dean Petersen, 2170 Arroyo Ct. #4, Pleasanton Ca 94588

This business is conducted by: an Individual
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on March 18, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Dean Petersen
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 27, 2009. Expires March 27, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2483. Publish April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 423338

The following person(s) doing business as: DCM Crane Rigging Service Coordinator, 1288 Marigold Rd., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

David C. Medeiros, 1288 Marigold Rd., 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 1, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/David C. Medeiros
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 8, 2009. Expires April 8, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2484. Publish April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 423580

The following person(s) doing business as: B B Property Management, 1841 Fourth Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Barbara A. Brenzel
This business is conducted by: an Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Barbara Brenzel
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 422815

The following person(s) doing business as: SuzoRanDesigns, 5890 Arlene Way, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Suzanne Werner, 5890 Arlene Way, Livermore Ca 94550

This business is conducted by: an Individual
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on December 1, 2008. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Suzanne Werner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 27, 2009. Expires March 27, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2485. Publish April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 423172

The following person(s) doing business as: Investors Institute, 39 California Ave. Ste 208, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

National Real Estate Investment Club Inc., 39 California Ave. Ste 208, 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 April 1, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Masood Mike Sarwari
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 9, 2009. Expires April 9, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2486. Publish April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 423477

The following person(s) doing business as: SM Solt, 6162 Homer Ct., Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Partha Ray, 6162 Homer Ct., Pleasanton Ca 94588

This business is conducted by: an Individual
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on April 1, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s:/Partha S. Ray
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 13, 2009. Expires April 13, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2489. Publish April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 423580

The following person(s) doing business as: B B Property Management, 1841 Fourth Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Barbara A. Brenzel
This business is conducted by: an Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Barbara Brenzel
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

on April 14, 2009. Expires April 14, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2487. Publish April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 423429

The following person(s) doing business as: Solar Hardware Consulting, 4440 Entrada Drive, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Kristian Thomas Jernstedt, 4440 Entrada Drive, Pleasanton Ca 94566

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Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.

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NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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REAL ESTATE NEWS AND NOTICES

Buying Second Homes for Retirement Or Vacation

By Cher Wollard

In 2004, Bob and Sharon sold their Livermore home and paid cash for retirement property on the golf course in Auburn. Prices in that Sierra foothills community have risen 30 percent over the past five years, while homes in Bob and Sharon's old neighborhood are currently selling for about the price they received.

Does that mean the dream of purchasing a retirement home is no longer feasible? Not necessarily. Property in most traditional retirement communities still sells for less than comparable homes in the Tri-Valley, with some regions offering considerable savings.

For example:

- The foothills remain affordable – the median price for a home in Auburn is still only \$260,000.
- It's \$225,000 in Twain Harte.
- Even beautiful South Lake Tahoe has a median sales price of just \$340,000 – still considerably below most home prices in the Tri-Valley.

- The 55-and-over Summerset communities in nearby Brentwood are real bargains. With prices in the mid-\$250,000 for homes up to 1,600 square feet, you might choose to remain in the Bay Area.

Outside California, the savings can be even greater.

- The median sales price in Corvallis, Ore., is \$270,000.
- In Sarasota, Florida, the median price has dropped below \$200,000, a decline of more than 50 percent.
- In Phoenix it's a stunning \$88,900. In fact, a brand-new four-bedroom home can be purchased there for less than \$150,000.
- A move to the heartland – Toledo or Austin, for example – will keep you well below \$150,000.

And these are median prices. That means half of the homes sold recently went for less. In some cases, much less. Condos and townhouses are generally even more affordable.

For those with equity in their homes and the income to carry it, the best of all possible scenarios may be available: Leverage your current home to purchase property in a retirement community now while prices are low. Then wait to sell here until conditions become more favorable.

As the saying goes, "buy low, sell high." If you purchase the right property, you may be able rent out your retirement home until you are ready to use it.

In popular travel destinations such as Sarasota and the Lake Tahoe area, you may even be able to rent out well-maintained property by the week during vacation season and still have occasional use of it as a home-away-from-home for yourself.

How would this work? Let's say you purchased your Tri-Valley residence 10 years ago for \$400,000. At the time, you put 20 percent down and took out a 30-year conventional mortgage at 7 percent, a typical interest rate in 1999.

If you made all your payments as scheduled, paid no extra payments and didn't refinance the loan, you would currently owe about \$272,000 on your home.

Let's further suppose that your home is in comparable condition to when you first purchased it. That means you have maintained the property, perhaps updating it or replacing worn items, but have not significantly upgraded or added square footage.

Chances are your home is now worth about \$550,000 – an increase of 25 percent, about average for this community. You now have \$278,000 equity in your home.

If you were ready to retire, you could sell your property here, pay off the mortgage and any costs of sale, and still have cash to purchase a retirement home either outright or with a modest mortgage in one of the cities mentioned.

Let's say you are not yet ready to move. If you have good credit and sufficient income, you may be able to borrow up to 80 percent of your home's value or \$440,000. That would give you \$162,000 to put toward a second home.

In many areas, that's enough to purchase a nice home outright. In pricier regions, it might represent a large enough downpayment to allow you to cover a mortgage through rental income.

In the case outlined, today's low interest rates would serve you well. The monthly payment for principal and interest on the original 7 percent mortgage in the example would be \$2,128.97.

At a current rate of 5.25 percent for a "jumbo conventional" loan of \$440,000 the monthly payment would be \$2,429.70.

If, instead of borrowing the full 80 percent of value, you refinance your home for \$417,000 or less, you can obtain even lower interest rates, since this would fall into the "conventional" mortgage category.

The average interest rate on conventional 30-year fixed-rate mortgages as of this week is under 5 percent. That would put your payment at about \$2,200 – barely more than you are paying now.

One hitch, of course, is there are other expenses to owning a second home: property taxes, insurance, possibly homeowner's association dues and utilities. This can add up.

If you can't pay for the new property outright, most lenders will demand larger downpayments and charge higher rates for mortgages on second homes.

Such a scenario won't work for everyone. Do the math to figure out if it is feasible for your family.

Ask your Realtor to provide a Comparative Market Analysis to learn the current value of your home.

In this more cautious climate, banks are less inclined to loan money. However, if you have the equity, the credit rating and the income to support a higher mortgage balance, it might work for you.

If you do find this feasible, consult your mortgage specialist. Your Realtor can provide names of good mortgage specialists. He or she can also refer you to a real estate agent in the area where you are considering buying property.

If retirement is just too far off to consider, or you're already living in "your last house," you might take advantage of this buyers' market to purchase a dream vacation home or income property.

In this case, also, your Realtor can help you make the most of this opportunity.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Windermere Welcome Home, Livermore.

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CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

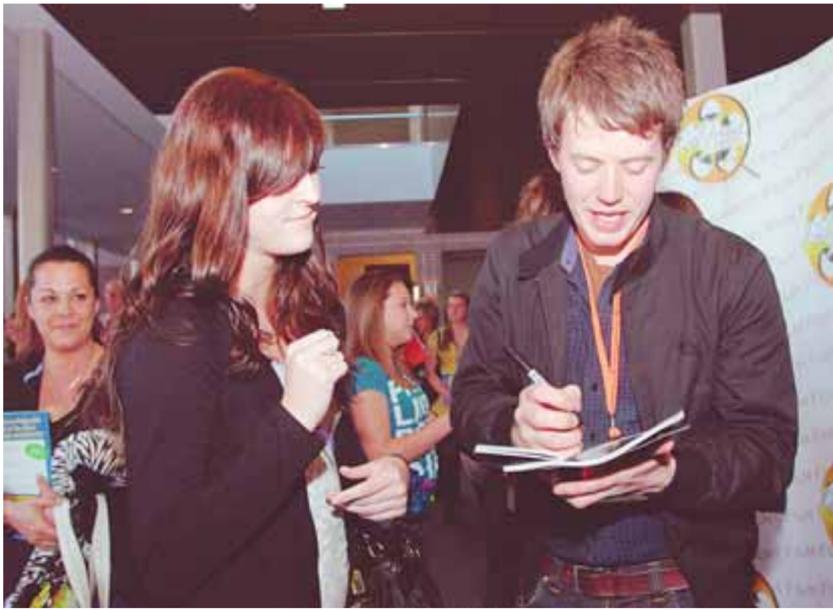


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Fans lined up to meet the stars of "How to Be," a comedy that opened the 11th annual California Independent Film Festival in Livermore. The screening was held at the Bankhead Theater. Signing an autograph is Joe Hastings, composer and co-writer of the film. He also portrays Dave. The Independent is the sponsor of the film festival. Joan Seppala, the publisher of The Independent, offered some opening remarks. "Eleven years ago, sitting around a very small table, Derek Zembrak, Leonard Pirkle, Wendy Madden and Joe Madden had the dream of making this area the independent film capitol of California. They started with nothing, and look where they are today. A well-organized army of volunteers is putting on a festival that is the envy of other California communities. The Livermore City Council is in step with the Film Festival. Mayor Marshall Kamena and the Livermore City Council have created a Downtown Specific Plan, which identifies the central core of Livermore's downtown as an Arts District. They have encouraged events like ArtWalk, and the growth of movie theaters, the Bothwell Arts Center, the Bankhead Theater and last week, a regional theater on the east side of Railroad Avenue on the Old Lucky Shopping Center site. This area is now a flourishing cultural center, where the human spirit is nourished along with the economy."

Job Fair to Focus on Ages 50+

Job Fair Plus, a free job fair focused on those ages 50+ will be held at the Pleasanton Senior Center on Friday, May 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Senior Center is located at 5353 Sunol Boulevard in Pleasanton. The December, 2008 unemployment rate for the 55-plus workforce was 4.9%, the highest monthly rate it has been since October 1992. The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) reports that long-term unemployment trends are a greater problem for older job seekers than their younger counterparts. "This event has been developed to assist mature employees in their job search, whether

they are seeking a job change, re-entry into the job market, or if they have been displaced as a result of the current economic situation," according to Pam Deaton, Recreation Supervisor at the Pleasanton Senior Center. Keynote speaker Rebecca Martin, founder and owner of Livermore-based dear jane, a career advisement firm, will discuss The Multigenerational Workforce: How Hiring Managers View Mature Workers, beginning at 9:15 a.m. From 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., participants can attend a series of workshops on topics designed to assist in the job search. These include Interview Techniques and Etiquette, Job Search Tech-

niques for the Older, Bolder Professional, Training Opportunities, Networking and the Internet, and Creating or Updating a Resume. On site assistance will also be available for those who want to learn how to access internet job search sites. An Exhibitor Hall will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to provide visitors with the opportunity to meet with area employers and volunteer agencies. Those attending include Safeway, Sears, Robert Half International, Kelly Services, Huntington Learning, Alameda County Fair, Social Security Administration, among others. For more information, please call (925) 931-5365.

Seminar to Provide Information On How to Protect Seniors

Keeping Elders Safe: Legal Assistance for Seniors/HICAP presents a free seminar by Jeremiah Guerin, Attorney on May 4 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Pleasanton Library. Legal Assistance for Seniors presents a highly interactive program designed to familiarize the senior community with elder



A limited number of individual consultations with an attorney will be available after the presentation. Guerin educates and counsels seniors in avoiding elder abuse. He represents seniors where a restraining order has been determined an appropriate intervention. Jerry has also practiced in health, housing, consumer, family and public benefit law. Jerry began practicing law after a career in health care management. For more information, please call LAS/HICAP at 1/510/832-3040, ext. 320. The program is free and open to all. No registration required. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 925/931-3405.

Forest Home Farms Offers Programs

Forest Home Farms is offering four new programs for children, beginning in June 2009. All tours are for children's groups of 5 or more, ages 5 and up (except tractor tour, which is ages 10 and up). Tours are \$5 per child and by appointment only. Call 925-973-3284 to book.

The programs are as follows: "Fun with Farm Animals" - We have chickens, sheep and horses. Learn what animals eat, how they are cleaned, sheep-herding, and more! We work with scout groups to fulfill badge requirements. Call for details.

"Dig in and Grow" garden tour- Come have an adventure in our organic garden! Children will learn about the principles of organic gardening, composting, recycling, and the role of bees in the garden. Tour also includes garden chores and fresh vegetable tastings when available.

"Behind-the-Scenes with Tractors" - Includes a tour of the Tractor Museum with over 30 restored tractors, a look inside the "tractor workshop", hands-on interactive displays, as well as a video showing tractor restoration from start to finish. Tours are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

"Preschool Fun at the Farm" - Come see the sheep, chickens, garden, tractors, and more! We'll sing some farm songs and enjoy some hands-on activities.

Forest Home Farms is located at 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., just south of Pine Valley Road in San Ramon. For more information please visit our website at www.sanramon.ca.gov or call 925.973.3200.

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TRUST

(continued from page one)
Progress League on possible uses for the funds. A majority approval vote from the Board will be required to spend any of the core funds. The Board also approved a resolution to allocate \$500 from the trust's interest to partially fund the restoration and installation of original light fixtures for the Main House at Ravenswood. The new light fixtures, which had been converted from gas to electric lighting, are a focal point in the house. Ravenswood is open the second and fourth Sundays of each month for free docent-led tours of the house and grounds.

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Gardens



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Garden Tours Offered
- see pages 2 and 3

Art, Community, Education

'Hidden Gardens' Benefit Valley Humane Society

"Hidden Gardens of the Valley Tour," benefiting the Valley Humane Society, will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 17.

The tour, rain or shine, will take participants to 11 outstanding and unique gardens at Pleasanton homes, where the love of gardens meets the love of pets. Each garden is named after the homeowner's pet.: "Samantha's Sanctuary," "Zen for Von Zinfandel," "Larry's Lair," and "Molly & Abby Road," just to name a few.

The tour provides an opportunity to gain ideas and inspirations for garden designs, fountains, barbecues, flower and shrub combinations, decks, patios, fireplaces, and gazebos.

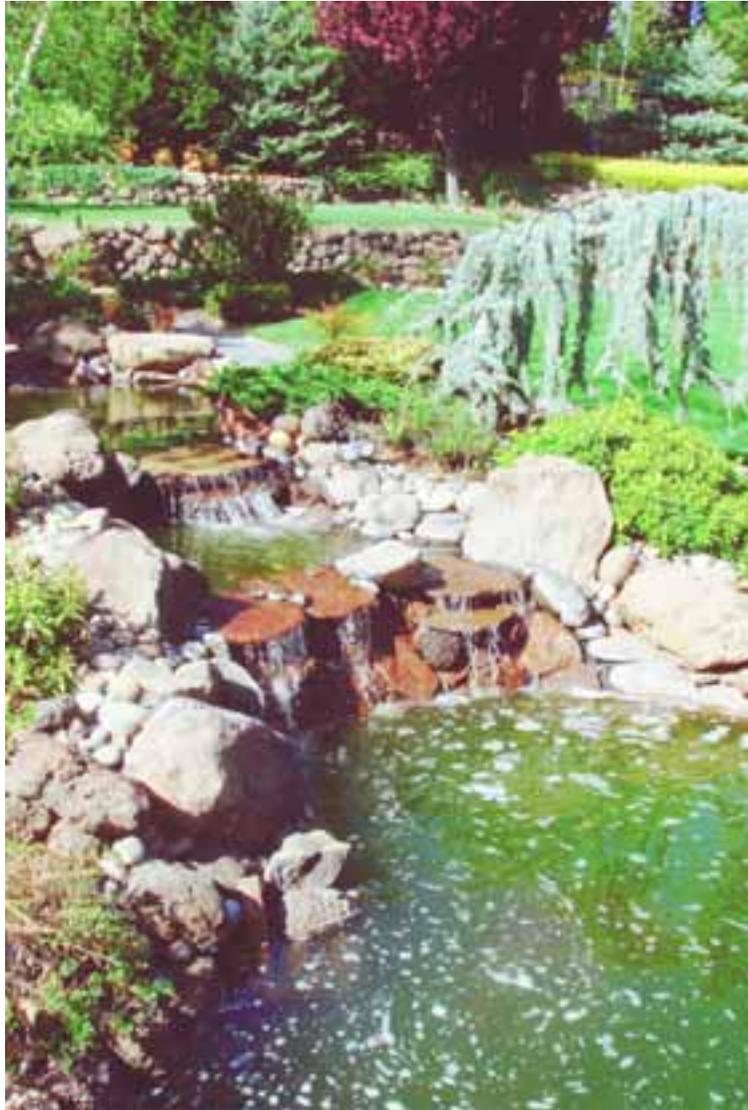
With ticket purchase, participants will receive a map with the location of each garden and a detailed description written by each homeowner. Participants will receive the event brochure and begin the tour at the starred garden on their ticket. The other gardens can be visited in any order. Participants will drive themselves to each garden.

Buzz Bertolero, the "Dirt Gardener" from KRON4, will be featured at one of the gardens. He will be available for questions and conversation.

Stop for lunch on May 17 at Redcoats Pub or Stacey's Café in downtown Pleasanton. Show your Garden Tour ticket to the server and a portion of the bill will be donated to Valley Humane Society.

Non-refundable tickets at \$35 per person can be purchased at the Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street, Pleasanton. Cash, checks, MasterCard and Visa are accepted at VHS.

Tickets are also available at the Feline Medical Center, 3160



Frog's Frolic

Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton; Western Garden Nursery, 2756 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton, Armstrong Garden Center, 7360 San Ramon Rd., Dublin, Wild Birds Unlimited, 7182 Regional St., Dublin, Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., Pleasanton and Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Ln., Livermore.

For information, call the Valley Humane Society at (925) 426-

8656. VHS is located at 3670 Nevada St., Pleasanton, CA. The phone number is (925) 426-8656. Visit www.valleyhumane.org.

The Valley Humane Society, founded in 1987, is a no-kill organization dedicated to ensuring the humane treatment of animals in Danville, Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon and surrounding areas.

Self-Drive Tour Offers Look at Native Gardens

Registration for the Fifth Annual Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, which will take place on Sunday, May 3, 2009, is now open.

This free tour features 50 pesticide-free gardens that conserve water, provide habitat for wildlife, and contain 50% or more native plants.

This self-drive tour showcases a variety of Alameda and Contra Costa county gardens, from large parcels in the hills, to small lots in the flats. Space is limited and registration is required.

Participants on the fifth annual, free, self-guided Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour can choose from fifty showcase native plant gardens. They will have the opportunity to learn how to select and care for California native plants, lower their water bills, design a low-maintenance garden, attract butterflies, birds, and bees, and garden without using pesticides. More than 40 talks will be offered throughout the day.

In the "Preview the Gardens" section located at www.BringingBackTheNatives.net there are photographs of each garden, extensive garden descriptions, and plant lists, as well as a list of nurseries that sell natives.

A companion feature, the Native Plant Sale Extravaganza, will take place on Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3. This sale features a number of native plant nurseries, many not normally open to the general public, which carry large quantities of hard-to-find California natives. This two-day shopping opportunity will offer native plant fans a good selection of native plants. For information, go to the website at www.bringingbackthenatives.net/plantsale.html.

In Pleasanton, there is a 1700 sq. ft. garden that is 90 percent native. Inspired by the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, Ward and Pat Belding installed a low-water, low-energy garden in place of their water and energy demanding lawn. The new garden has reduced their water bill by half; water (and cost savings) will be

increased in a year or two, when the natives are established and summer water will be reduced or eliminated. The garden includes a variety of plants suitable for the area including manzanita, coffeeberry, fuchsia, buckwheat, California lilac, and monkeyflower.

Other garden attractions include a fountain near the front door. The inverted spill fountain door contains a shallow pool at the top; birds love to drink from, splash, and bathe in it. The native fuchsia attracts hummingbirds.

The garden's designers will be available from 11:00 – 1:00 to discuss how they created the garden, review the challenges they encountered, and describe the merits of the plants that were installed.

In Livermore, Ann and Paul Kasameyer's garden is 100 percent native. The goal was to design and install an allergen-free California native plant garden. The garden includes a dry meandering stream bed containing mixed cobble and scattered rushes. Undulating raised berms provide drainage for low-growing manzanita and California lilac groundcovers. Native grape softens the fence line. The log and boulders provide shelter for wildlife.

Tim and Chris Boczanowski's garden is 90 percent native. A Three Rivers flagstone path meanders between raised garden beds; large moss rock boulders and a variety of glazed pots provide visual interest. Vibrant blue California lilac, orange monkeyflower, and magenta penstemon provide color in the spring; the pink rosy buckwheat blooms throughout the summer.

The garden will be watered once a week for the first year or two, then it will be watered only occasionally. Large boulders are havens for lizards. The sound of water falling into an urn fountain attracts birds, as do the bird bath and the feeders.

Hummingbirds are attracted to the bright tubular flowers of the native fuchsia and monkeyflower. Owls and hawks hang out above the garden.



The 48th Annual Mt. Diablo Iris Show and Plant Sale will be held Sat., May 2. The show will be open to the public from 1 to 5 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Walnut Creek, 2336 Buena Vista Avenue. The Mt. Diablo group is an affiliate of the American Iris Society. There is no admission charge.

Spring Rose Show Set

The Mt. Diablo Rose Society will host its 21st Annual Spring Rose Show on May 2.

Theme is "Run for the Roses." The show will be held at the Dublin Senior Center, 7600 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin.

The show is open to the public for viewing from 1 to 4 p.m.

Rose entries will be accepted between 7 a.m. and 9:30 a.m with judging to begin at 10 a.m. There will be an awards presentation at 3 p.m.

There is no admission charge.

This is an American Rose Society sanctioned show. For more information, call 510-331-6115.



Cover photo: a section of the new demonstration garden in Livermore.

Earth Friendly Demonstration Garden Full of Plants and Ideas

An early friendly demonstration garden officially opened Monday in Livermore.

The garden, located at the Martinelli Center on Greenville Road, is described as offering, "an educational experience, water wise plants and earth friendly garden techniques."

While the land for the garden was first set aside in 2001, it has taken several years to get the dry, clay soil graded and in shape for planting. Actual planting of the garden began in 2006. Visitors can find a variety of colorful plants, trees and flowers ranging from brilliant orange poppies to pale irises. The garden includes both native California and Mediterranean, which are both drought resistant and love the East Bay's hot, sunny summers.

The plants in the garden repre-

Home & Gardens

The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in Pleasanton is requesting donations of home and garden items such as gently used lawn furniture and garden decor for the "Home and Garden" event, beginning May 1st. Donations are accepted at the shop during open hours or call Monda Wiseman for pick-up. The shop hours are: Monday to Friday 10-6, Saturday 10-5, Sunday 12-5.

This special event will feature silk flowers, floral arrangements, stained glass, gardening items, and much more.

The Discovery Shop is located in the Mission Plaza Shopping Center at 1987A Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Contact Monda Wiseman, Mgr. at (925) 462-7374 for more information.

All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society's programs of research, education, service and advocacy.

Water-Wise Gardening

A program on Water-Wise Gardening in the Tri-Valley will be presented on April 28, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin.

There will be expert advice on beautiful, low-water plants. Participants will learn how to optimize irrigation without over watering.

This free workshop is sponsored by local water agencies. For additional information, go to www.dsrsd.com/img/water_conservation/Workshop%20flier_LoRes.pdf



Friendly insects inhabit the garden.

sent species don't require special care, nor do they need a lot of water. There is a minimal drip irrigation system. Many can be used to attract wildlife to a garden.

The colorful garden is a collaborative effort that involves Alameda County, UC Cooperative Extension, Master Gardeners, and the Livermore-Amador Garden Club. Funding for the plants and installation came from the UC Department of Agriculture, the state and the county, as well as private grants. Master gardeners and county staff worked together to make it happen.

Sue Lesica, Alameda Coordinator of the Master Gardener program, noted that the garden is located in a place where there are harsh conditions. It is very hot in the summer. The wind blows constantly. "If we can have a garden here, it can be done anywhere in

the county," she commented.

Kathy Hoffman, who held the job of coordinator for several years, noted, "This is a great place to see what can be done in our backyards. It was a learning process to plant it, as well as a lot of fun. I think the master gardeners have done a wonderful job. We put it together with a minimal budget and lots of elbow grease."

She estimated the cost at \$10,000 for the 7,000 square foot plot.

There are plans for the future that include programs and talks on various aspects of gardening. Carol Vander Muelen, pointed out that each area is planted in a theme. There are areas with plants specific to attracting butterflies, another where plants do well under trees, or on top of a rocky outcrop, among others.

Vander Muelen told those on hand for the official opening, "We are looking at potential talks specific to particular areas of the garden." In addition, the garden will serve as a location where UC can test mulch and irrigation.

Shari Wentz, East County coordinator for the master garden program, said, "It takes good grading and good soil." A Rotary grand paid for the pathways; private donations funded the benches.

Wentz said there are 30 to 50 plants being tested at any one time. "Look for the Davis All-Star designation. They are available in nurseries."

People can visit the garden at

anytime. On the second Saturday of each month, a master gardener will be on hand from 9:30 to 11 a.m. to answer questions.

BANKHEAD THEATER

2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore



Oil Solutions

Amory Lovins, Roe Dorough Speakers Series
Physicist Amory Lovins cofounded and is Chairman and Chief Scientist of Rocky Mountain Institute, an entrepreneurial, nonprofit, think-and-do tank that creates abundance by design. Published in 29 books and hundreds of papers, and widely recognized with medals, awards, and ten honorary doctorates, Amory advises governments and firms worldwide on advanced energy and resource efficiency, and has led the technical redesign of over \$30 billion worth of facilities.
Apr 30 • 7:30pm \$30/\$40/\$20 and \$15 students



Toying With Science

LVPAC Family Fun Series
Garry Krinsky's acclaimed program has toured the U.S. and Canada to rave reviews. This fast-paced, varied and dynamic program combines circus skills, mime, original music, and audience involvement in the exploration of the scientific principles of gravity, leverage, fulcrums, and simple machines. Toying with Science is part of LVPAC's World of Wisdom Series (WOW!) sponsored in part by Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC.
May 17 • 2pm \$20/\$25/\$30/\$12 students

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

"Funniest Thing in Seven Consonants!"
-The Washington Post



How do you spell H-I-T? In the Tony-Award winning new musical comedy 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. SPELLING BEE has been hailed by the Wall Street Journal as "perfect in every possible way - that rarity of rarities, a super-smart musical that is also a bonafide crowd pleaser."

June 6 & 7 • 2/3/7/8pm \$35/\$45/\$65/\$75
Sponsored by Wells Fargo

A Chorus Line
Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre
Apr 24 - May 10
\$26/\$34/\$36

Along The Rhine
Livermore-Amador Symphony
May 16 • 8pm
\$20/\$24/\$28

Dancing Through Relationships
Las Positas College
May 20 • 7:30pm
\$11

Tickets **925.373.6800**
www.bankheadtheater.org

THE VALLEY TIMES

107.7 KKKO

Tri-Valley Herald

A CHORUS LINE

April 24th - May 10th, 2009

Fridays & Saturdays 8pm
& Sundays 2pm

Advisory: Contains Strong Adult Language and Adult Content

Book by
James Kirkwood, Jr.
and
Nicholas Dante

Lyrics by
Edward Kleban
Music by
Marvin Hamlisch

Tickets **925.373.6800** or www.bankheadtheater.org
Bankhead Theater • 2400 First Street • Livermore



Info. and other tickets:
(925) 462-2121
www.trivalleyrep.com

'A Chorus Line' Ready to Kick Up Its Heels at Bankhead Theater

"A Chorus Line," opens this Friday, April 24 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

The Tri-Valley Repertory Company production ran for 6,137 performances, becoming the longest running production in Broadway history at that time.

The musical is for everyone who's ever had a dream and put it all on the line. In an empty theatre, on a bare stage, casting for a new Broadway musical is almost complete. For 17 dancers, this audition is the chance of a lifetime. It's what they've worked for—with every drop of sweat, every hour of training, and every day of their lives. It's the one opportunity to do what they've always dreamed—to have the chance to dance.

The show was conceived and originally directed and choreographed by Michael Bennett (co-choreographed by Bob Avian). It remains the longest running Broadway musical originally produced in the United States, and the fourth longest-running Broadway show ever. It garnered numerous awards, including nine Tony Awards in 1976 and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Featuring music by Marvin Hamlisch, lyrics by Edward Kleban, and book by James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante, almost every song in "A Chorus Line" is familiar to audiences: "What I Did For Love," "One," "Nothing," "Dance: Ten Looks: Three," and "I Can Do That."

The Tri-Valley Repertory production stars Jenni Daw-Crisp as Cassie, Taron C. Hensley as Zach and a cast of true triple threats including Avi Khalsa, Bobby Bryce, Brian Sterling, Bryan Pangilinan, Christopher Olson, Dane Paul D. Andres, Danny Guzman, Deirdre Ashby, Derrick Wehe, Holly Griffin, Jenna Harris, Jillian Jameson, Christina Martin, Kevin Hammond, Laurie Gossett, Lisa

Shepard Hensley, Liz Caffrey, Marcus Silva, Nickolas Quintell, Romina Ronquillo, and Stephanie Morris.

The show is produced by Kathleen Breedveld and directed and choreographed by Donna Rapa-Olsen with musical direction by Jo Anne Fosselman and vocal direction by Jennifer Bell-Olson. Performances are 8 p.m. Fridays/Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays April 24 - May 10, 2009 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore.

Tickets are \$35 for adults (18-60), \$33 for seniors (60+), and \$25

for juniors (under 18). There is a substantial discount for groups purchasing 20 or more tickets. Tickets may be purchased at the Bankhead Theater, on-line at www.livermoreperformingarts.org, or by calling 925-373-6800. The Bankhead ticket office hours are noon to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Note that the Bankhead Theater will add a \$1 facility fee to the price of each ticket.

"A Chorus Line" is presented with permission from Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc. It contains mature adult themes and language.

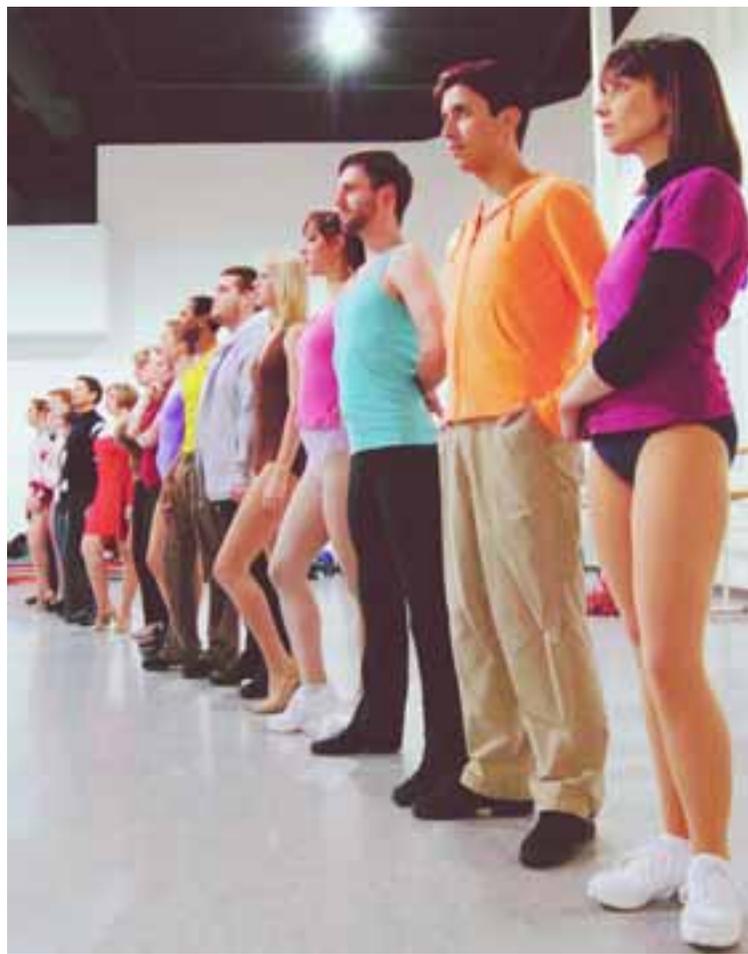


Photo - Eric Wood

Dancers line-up for auditions in "A Chorus Line."



Gala Benefits Firehouse Arts Center

Art, unique auction items and more highlight the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation's "That's Entertainment: A Gala Benefiting the Firehouse Arts Center."

The gala will be held at the Castlewood Country Club in the Pleasanton foothills from 6 to 10 p.m. The evening will include dining, live entertainment and visual arts and will benefit the Firehouse Arts Center Capital Campaign. Crooked Vine Winery of Livermore is donating wine for the evening and Pleasanton Rentals is supporting the event as a major in-kind sponsor.

An exhibit and sale of outstanding art created by local artists, plus a live auction, featuring unique items and value-packed getaway packages, will round out the agenda. Tickets are \$140 each. They must be purchased in advance. Premiere seating is available for reserved tables of eight.

"This is this most exciting event that we have presented on behalf of the Firehouse Art Center because it brings us all one step closer to realizing this cultural addition to the community," said Debbie Look, campaign director and chair of the event. "We have designed this evening to reflect the real arts experience coming in 2010. We expect everyone to be thoroughly delighted and proud to be a part of the project."

For more information or to volunteer at the event, please contact Debbie at dlook@pleasantonartsfoundation.org, or call 925-846-1007.

The Firehouse Arts Center, currently under construction, is being built on the site of the historic Fire Station #1 on Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. The facility will include 240-seat theater, 2000 square feet of art gallery space and spacious art classrooms.

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation (PCAF), www.pleasantonartsfoundation.org, is a non-profit organization taking the lead role in fund-raising for the completion of the Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton and for ongoing arts activities in the local community.

Nonperishable Food Gains Admittance to Academy Staff Concert

The teaching staff from the New World Music Academy in Pleasanton will be performing Saturday, April 25 at 2 p.m.; at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway in Pleasanton. The roster will include internationally renowned local pianist Mark Anderson, soprano Cass Mann,

flautist Teresa Orozco-Petersen, jazz vocal recording artist Melanie O'Reilly, guitarist Paul Keyes, jazz pianist Ben Anjo, and other guest artists.

Admission is free, with a hitch. In addition to donating funds to organizations such as the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation and the International

Foundation for Music Performance and Education based in Los Angeles, the Pleasanton-based music academy has a novel approach to recital tickets. Instead of charging admission to recitals, each audience member is asked to bring a nonperishable food item as an admission ticket. However, since this is food drive will benefit the

Alameda County Community Food Bank, the more items the better.

"We are constantly striving to find ways to benefit our community, musically and in every way," says Mark Anderson, the academy's executive director. "Educating, inspiring and leading by example is what this academy

has done from its inception in September 2005. We are carrying innovative involvement with our community to the next level" says Anderson.

For more information about the upcoming Faculty Recital Saturday April 25th or about the academy in general, please call (925) 462-5400.



Amory Lovins

'Oil Solutions' Talk Scheduled

"Oil Solutions," a talk by Amory Lovins, will be presented Thurs., April 30 at 7:30 p.m.

Physicist Amory Lovins co-founded and is Chairman and Chief Scientist of Rocky Mountain Institute, an independent, entrepreneurial, nonprofit, think-and-do tank that creates abundance by design. Published in 29 books and hundreds of papers, and widely recognized with medals, awards, and ten honorary doctorates, Amory advises governments and major firms worldwide on advanced energy and resource efficiency, and has led the technical redesign of over \$30 billion worth of facilities to achieve huge energy savings at typically lower capital cost.

Rae Dorough Speakers Series tickets are \$40/\$30 adults, \$20/\$15 students 21 & under

For tickets to any of the events, call 925.373.6800 or go on-line at www.bankheadtheater.org

Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore

Entries Being Accepted for 2010 Literary Harvest Anthology

4th Street Studio is accepting submissions for the 2010 edition of 4th Street Studio Literary Harvest, an anthology of writers who have attended 4th Street Studio's Saturday Salons in Livermore.

Guidelines for submission are: Limited to those who have attended or will attend a Saturday Salon at 4th Street Studio between June 2008 and July 2009. There is no charge for attending salons or membership requirements. You just show up on the third Saturday of the month. Creative nonfiction or fiction up to 5000 words. You can submit up to two pieces that together do not exceed 5000 words. Poetry: three (3) poems (no restrictions on length – prose poems welcome) Writers may submit both poems and prose.

Time and location of the book release party, which will include readings from the anthology, will take place in the fall. Date and location to be determined.

The 2010 edition of the anthology is the fifth annual anthology. Karen Hogan, 4th Street Studio founder, stated, "The community benefits from hearing the stories and poetry that come from within its own members. This anthology provides a source for regional writers to connect with the community in which they live."

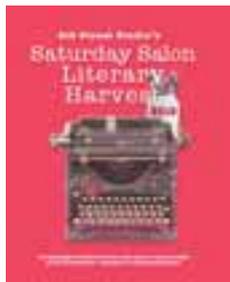
Submissions must be sent electronically to the following: harvestanthology@pacbell.net by June 15th, 2009. Publication de-

terminations will be made by August 1, 2009 with notification no later

than August 15.

For more information, please

contact Karen Hogan at 925 456-3100.



Livermore Downtown Inc. Presents The 18th Annual Livermore Wine Country Festival "The Great American Experience"

Saturday May 2nd, 10-6 and Sunday May 3rd, 10-5
First Street from Maple to N and Second Street from K to M
Historic Downtown Livermore

30 local wineries including: John Christopher Cellars, Garré Vineyard and Winery, Page Mill Winery, Mitchell Katz Winery, Big White House and John Evan Cellars.

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For event information and on-line tickets:
www.livermoredowntown.com
(925) 373-1795



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NO ANIMALS, NO BICYCLES
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Artists' Flea Market will be held Saturday, April 25, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., DeLucchi Park, First St. & Neal, Pleasanton. Offered for purchase will be paints, frames, canvas, art books, etc. 10' x 10' spaces available for \$25. There is no commission. Sign up by calling Dorothy Maestas 925 846-6726. The event is sponsored by Pleasanton Art League. Non-PAL artists welcome. The photo shows Gail Ruvalcaba selling her pottery and basket seconds at last year's Artists' Flea Market. Gail will be returning again this year.

Artists Show Work at Bankhead Theater

The Bankhead Theater Art Exhibition Program is hosting the works of Livermore's Bothwell Arts Center artists from April 1st to May 17th 2009. Works by Diana Marion, Alan Ryall, Linda Ryan, Barbara Stanton, Sue Marchand, Christine Thompson, Sherri Kelcourse, Steve Calderon, Lisa Rigge, Suzanne Johnson, Geraldine Arata and Thomasin Dewhurst are on display.

The exhibition comprises various subjects, mediums and techniques, including figurative and landscape work in oils, meticulous maritime paintings, hand-tinted alternative photography, abstract acrylic gels, colorful still-lives and high-chroma oil paintings, charcoal drawings and equine watercolors.

The twelve exhibiting artists are members of the Bothwell Arts Center at 2446 8th Street in Livermore. Many of the artists have studios at the Bothwell and others are teachers in Bothwell's Art Classroom. All the artists are involved in strong and strengthening careers and most are nationally and internationally recognized.

In addition to the Bankhead



Painting by Sherri Kelcourse

Theater Exhibition, the "Essential Nude" art exhibition organized by the Figure Workshop (a volunteer-run program now in its 18th consecutive year, run by Barbara Stanton and Christine Thompson on Friday mornings) will be open at the Bothwell on May 1, 2, and 3 from 11 a.m. – 4pm. In conjunction with this exhibit, the Bothwell Artists will hold an Open Studios event from 11 a.m. – 4pm on Sunday, May 3, inviting many of the nonmember artists that have donated their time and effort to the Bothwell.

Student Art on Display at Springtown Library

The Springtown Branch of the Livermore Public Library has a display of art created by 7th and 8th grade students of Donna Haggerty's art class at Christensen Middle School.

Students have been learning the concepts of creating a 3-dimensional illusion on a 2-dimensional surface. Students used perspective by connecting shapes with one centrally located vanishing point to create a perspective skyscraper picture. They included design, shading, and coloring with values to emphasize the illusion. The art works will be on view through May 20.

The display is open to the public and free of charge. The Springtown Branch Library is open Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located at 998 Bluebell Drive, just off I-580 at the Springtown exit, next to the duck pond.

Call (925) 373-5517, or drop by the Springtown Branch Library, for more information.

LAA 'Essential Nude' Show at the Bothwell

The Livermore Art Association will present a show titled "The Essential Nude" at the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore.

The show will be open for viewing from April 30 to May 3. The exhibit features a collection of fine figurative art by local artists.

There will be two receptions offering an opportunity to meet the artists. The first will open the show, and is on April 30, 7:00-9:00 p.m.. The second reception is Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00. Also on Sunday the Art Center will have an Open Studio so the public can see the private art studios. Food and wine will be served at the receptions.

Regular exhibit hours are May 1-3, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. 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.

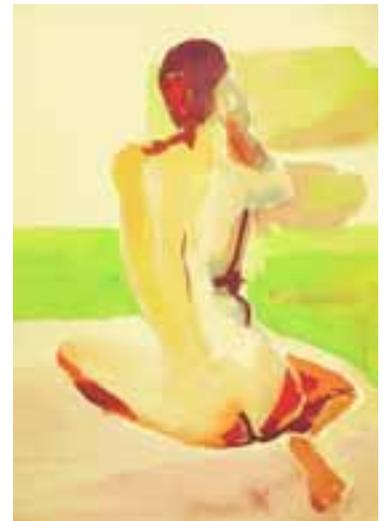


Figure painting by Rebecca Davies

Music and Nature Mix at Two Day Town

Two Day Town 2009 will be held April 24, 25 and 26 at Lake Del Valle.

The event includes family camping and community music. Twenty bands will perform over a three day period.

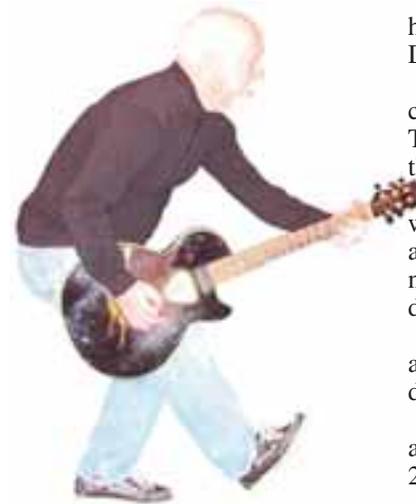
Other activities include a walk with Doc Hale, bike riding, Yoga and Good Food Café. Designated nap time is 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

The cost is \$50 per person in advance for a 3-day pass. Kids under 12 are free

More information is available at twodaytown.com or call 510 287-9095

Tickets available at Fretted Friends & Tesla Vintners in Livermore,

and Armando's in Martinez or through Local Music Productions, P.O.Box 446, Orinda, 94563



Harp Concert Scheduled at Library

The Bay Area Celtic Harp Trio Triskela will perform at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 3. There is no charge for this event.

Triskela will weave a tapestry of world music, on a journey from the Emerald Isle through Europe, the Middle East and Latin America, including the trio's original works as well. The sound of three handmade harps is accompanied by sweet harmony vocals, flute, penny whistle, and bodhran.

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.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Audition, J & L Center Stage, world premiere of new drama, "Tough Love," by Pete Simms. Auditions will be held on May 11th from 6 - 9 p.m. Needed: One male-13-15 years of age; 3 males-30-50, one male-60 +; One female-30-50, one female-60 +. Cold reading from script and monologue may be requested also. Rehearsals begin in early June. Show runs July 24th, 25th & 26th at Front Row Theatre in Dougherty Valley Community Center, San Ramon. For more information or to set up an audition, please contact the director, Eric Fraisher at _efhayes65@yahoo.com or call: 312 286-9224.

Quilted Treasures, Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26 Amador Valley Quilt Guild, Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. Parking will be free. Admission - Adults \$10, seniors/students \$8. Featured artists are Louisa L. Smith and Gretchen Crozier. There will be over 400 quilts on display, door prizes, children's activities, over 20 vendors. Lunch is available for purchase. For additional information visit www.amadorvalleyquilters.org.

Call for Artists, 11th annual Art in the Park, October 3 & 4, 2009, in Danville, on the Town Green, Front Street Park, in front of the Danville Library. Sponsored by Alamo Danville Artists' Society. Booth fees for 10' x 10' space is \$70 for ADAS members and \$85 for non-members, plus 10% commission for the Art in the Schools fund. Beautiful location, appreciative public, nice artists make this a fun & worthwhile event. Applications available by e-mailing normawebb@comcast.net or calling 925 828-9170.

Copenhagen, science, politics and controversy, performances April 2-26, Bothwell Arts Center Theater, 8th and H Streets, Livermore. Tickets 1-800-838-3006, Shakespeare's Associates production.

Three Tall Women, Role Players Ensemble, Danville. April 17-May 9. www.danvilletheatre.com.

Ramona Quimby, based on Beverly Cleary's books and dramatized by Len Jenkin, Civic Arts Stage Company, sets the scene for vignettes that trace Ramona's tumultuous passage through third grade and her family relationships. Performances April 24, 25 and 26. At 8:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. on Sundays, also 2:00 p.m. on April 25. At the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Adults \$14, \$18, \$20; children (12 yrs & under): \$8, \$12, \$16. Information www.pleasanton.ca.us/community/civic-arts-presents.html.

Chorus Line, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse), Mainstage Musical, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. April 24, 25, 26, May 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10. 8 p.m. Fri. and Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Tickets available at 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Band Concert, April 25, Pleasanton Community Concert Band 9 a.m. to

noon at the Farmers' Market, 30 Angela Street, Pleasanton. Free. Information: 925-846-5897 or www.pleasantonband.org.

2nd Annual Emergency Survival Expo, Sat., April 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Free admission. Seminars, products for sale, health emergency information, pet safety information, etc. Information 373-5700.

Cirque Le Masque, Fri., May 1, and Sat., May 2, at 8:00 p.m. and on Sun., May 3, at 2:00 p.m. The performances of the troupe's production of *Carnivale* will be held at the Grand Theatre Center for the Arts, 715 Central Avenue, downtown Tracy. In *Carnivale*, Cirque Le Masque performs mid-air feats that showcase stamina and strength as aerial artists swing, fly, and bend as they incorporate dance, juggling and balancing acts in a spectacle of light, costumes and music. \$35.00 and \$40.00 with Grand Box Seats available for an additional \$15.00 and Parterre Seating for an additional \$5.00. They may be purchased online at www.atthegrand.org, by phone at (209) 831-6TKT (6858) or in person at the GrandTheatreCenter for the Arts Box Office.

Art, Paperie and Pleasantries, Arts and Crafts Festival! May 2 & May 3, 11:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. <http://www.znecon.com/page/page/5948256.htm>

2009 Festival of the Arts, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Fine art exhibit, April 25-May 14. Awards presentation/gala reception, May 6, 5 to 7 p.m. library at the college. 424-1100.

Speech Performances, Fri., May 1, 8 p.m. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. \$10 general admission, \$7 seniors and students. 424-1100.

15th Annual Wine Auction Experience, Sat., May 2. 5 p.m. to midnight. Cannon Vineyard Barrel Room, 4590 Tesla Road, Livermore. Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation at (925) 447-WINE (9463) for more information.

Livermore Wine Country Festival, May 2 and 3, downtown Livermore. Wine tasting, music, food, arts and crafts vendors, etc. Livermore Downtown Inc., www.livermoredowntown.com.

Playwrights Theatre, staged reading of *Born Tired* by San Francisco director and playwright Bevan Lew, which deals with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the impact on families within the storm's wake. Presented by the Eugene O'Neill Foundation in partnership with the National Park Service. 3 p.m. May 3. Old Barn at Tao House, Danville. Tickets \$25, at 820-1818, taohouse@eugeneoneill.org or www.eugeneoneill.org.

Celebrating Art Made Easy, an exhibit of students' watercolor paintings, at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Boulevard, Pleasanton. 15th

annual exhibit presented by the City of Pleasanton Civic Arts. Community reception will take place on Monday, May 4, from 7 to 9 p.m. The art exhibit will take place on Tuesday - Thursday, May 5 - 7, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday, May 8, from 9 a.m. to noon. The reception and art exhibition are free of charge. For more information, please call (925) 931-5340.

Wine and Words, Tues., May 5, 2 to 4 p.m. Martinelli Event Center, 3585 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Guest reader, open mic. \$5 admission. Hosted by Livermore Poet Laureate Connie Post. www.poetrypost.com.

1st Wednesday Street Party, Cinco de Mayo Celebration May 6, from 6-9 pm in downtown Pleasanton. The featured band is La Ventana, playing Latin rock and soul in the beer and wine garden. Main Street will be closed from St. John Street to Old Bernal Avenue from 5 to 10 p.m. Presented by Pleasanton Downtown Association. Information at www.pleasantondowntown.net.

Music Department Recital, Wed., May 6, 12:30 p.m. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Free admission. 424-1100.

Speech Tournament, Fri., May 8, 1 to 5 p.m. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. \$10 general admission, \$7 students and seniors. 424-1100.

Movie and Musical Favorites, concert by Valley Concert Chorale. Sat., May 9, 7 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasanton. Tickets available at www.valleyconcertchorale.org.

Niles Canyon Wine Train, The Livermore Rotary Club, will host the excursion will be Sat., May 9 on the Niles Canyon Railroad. Tickets include appetizers, dessert and one complimentary wine tasting for adults and one complimentary soda or water for youth. Entertainment features strolling musicians and the popular comedy of the "Gunfighters of the Old West." The

train departs the Sunol Station at 6:30 p.m. and returns at approximately 8:30 p.m. The fare is \$20, which includes one complimentary wine taste and one free soda for the kids. The fare for groups of 10 or more is \$18.00 if the tickets are purchased before May 1. The youth fare (under 21) is \$10.00. Tickets for this event are available at "The Travel Bug" at 2269 Third Street in Livermore or at the station about one hour before the train leaves if space is available. All proceeds benefit the Rotary's Scholarships and Community Projects. For more information call Kathy Coyle (925) 606-7564.

Wonderland: A Circus Adaptation of Alice in Wonderland. May 9 and 16 at 2 and 7 p.m.; May 10 and 17 at 2 p.m. Created and Performed by the Clown Conservatory of the San Francisco Circus Center. Directed by Jeff Raz of Cirque Du Soleil. Front Row Theater,

San Ramon. Tickets, \$14 www.SanRamonPerformingArts.com or 925.973.ARTS.

Vocal Jazz Concert, Fri., May 15, 8 p.m. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. \$10 general admission, \$7 students and seniors. 424-1100.

Songs for Gratitude, a benefit concert Tri-Valley YMCA, Sat., May 16, 7 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets, call 931-3444 or go to www.civictickets.org.

Instrumental Jazz Concert, Sat., May 16, 8 p.m. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. \$10 general admission, \$7 students and seniors. 424-1100.

Along the Rhine, May 16, 8 p.m. Livermore-Amador Symphony concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets at 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org

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Mosaico Celebrates the Renaissance

By Nancy O'Connell

The audience on April 18th at Las Positas College stepped back in time and found itself immersed in music that was created over 350 years ago. Many of the compositions on the program were much earlier in time. Francesco Lambardi was the most recent of the composers represented, and he lived from 1587 to 1642!

The group, which calls itself "Mosaico," presented a mosaic of Renaissance music from Spain, France and Italy. Flemish composers were also represented. Josquin des Pres lived from 1440 to 1521. He had a tremendous influence on the music of his time. As Marilyn Marquis, Las Positas Instructor, said in her introduction, "Five hundred years later we're still listening to this music."

MUSIC REVIEW

The music of the Renaissance was often secular. The text and the music are intricately woven together in this period, and the harmonic language is very clear. In the courts of Spain and Italy vocal music was particularly appreciated. The theme of love was a favorite. It was meant to be performed by amateur music-lovers for their own pleasure. As Susan Rode Morris, the gifted soprano, explained, "You don't have to have an operatic voice to sing the music of this period. Your voice is clear and natural."

In this group, four of the musicians sang in some of the pieces as they played. The audience was told that in the Renaissance all musicians could do this. It looked and sounded difficult. I was particularly surprised to hear the gamba player sing. If one is actually playing the melody it would be far easier to sing along with the text. However, David Morris on the viola da gamba often had a bass

line and was simultaneously singing a different part altogether – an amazing feat.

Shira Kammen played several instruments and also sang. She had a tiny medieval harp and an early string instrument called a vielle or viella. This was used in the 12th and 13th centuries, and preceded the viola da gamba by 40 years. Its usage died out later as the viols gained in popularity, but she had one made for her in 1994. It has five strings and her tuning was all in G's and E's - one drone string and four which she fingered. In paintings it is shown held between the knees or above the knees, but she held hers under her chin, as you would a modern violin. In the program notes, I learned that in addition to playing and teaching in many countries, she has also played on river rafting trips and once performed in the elephant pit of the Jerusalem Zoo!

Marilyn Marquis pointed out the electric cords running around the group of musicians, and these were instruments played long before electricity! The cords led to heating pads for the drums and the recorders. The heat would help keep both kinds of instruments on pitch.

The first part of the program was from the Spanish court. *Amor con Fortuna* was arranged for four voices and the tambourine. It had a lively, dance-like quality to it, and Peter Maund, percussionist, played the tambourine with such skill that it often sounded like more than one instrument.

Fata la Parte's theme was that the wife is dead, because the husband discovered her with a lover and killed her while her lover escaped. Shira played her vielle with a curved bow and sang at the same time. She held her bow quite far up on the wood away from the frog, whereas for the modern bowed instruments the right hand holds the

bow directly over the frog.

Primera and Ottava Recercadas by Diego Ortiz (1510-1570) began with a gamba solo accompanied by the frame drum and the ancient harp. The gamba later had scampering 16th notes crossing all 7 strings. *Hor Che'l Ciel e la Terra* by Tromoncino featured the beautiful, clear voice of the soprano, Susan Rode Morris, accompanied by Letitia Berlin on the bass recorder, which seemed to have the same range as the modern bassoon, and the vielle and the gamba. It was a song filled with pathos.

Falla con Misuras had the talented Ms. Berlin playing the melody on the soprano recorder with gamba accompaniment – a contrast of high and low voices. Then the vielle and frame drum joined in. Sprightly and exciting rhythmically, it might have been a courtly dance.

The Sephardic songs which followed had haunting melodies. It was sad that for all of these pieces which were so emotionally moving, there was no known composer. All were anonymous with the dates unknown. These songs came from the Jewish tradition, and it was folk music for a specific people. The words were basically Spanish with some Jewish words and phrases added and stemmed from the oral tradition. Because the words changed, much as a story would change in the retelling, different musical scores exist in slightly different forms.

Nani, Nani opened with a loving mother adoring her baby and then her contrasting mood when her husband comes home exhausted after spending a long day or night with his mistress. *Natchez* was a duet between the vielle and the tambourine – an intriguing combination. *Alta, Alta* for voice and tambourine, featured intricate

rhythms. In *Las Hermanas*, composed for the tabla, vielle and recorder, one could imagine people whirling around in the village square, but then they all stop and listen to a long and amazing cadenza-like passage in the tabla. In *Una Matica* again the beautiful soprano voice is heard, as the young woman sings to her mother that she would much rather be with her lover than be badly married to a man who pinches her. Those intervals in the musical line associated with eastern Jewish music are heard in the voice, and she is accompanied by the frame drum, vielle, soprano recorder, and the gamba.

After the intermission, Flemish and Italian music was heard. *Amarilli Mia Bella* by Caccini, represented a departure in the musical tradition. The soprano had a lovely clear solo, accompanied by the medieval harp and the gamba, which were both plucked, so the voice soared above the two instrumentalists. Caccini, who composed the first opera ever presented in a public theater in 1600, wanted the new vocal style to feature the voice and wanted to do away with any device that would interfere with the meaning of the text.

In te Domine Speravi was composed by Josquin des Pres, who was known as the greatest musical figure of the early 16th century. Many date the period of the "High Renaissance" with his work.

This ensemble "Mosaico" featured five musicians who have performed in many countries, have made recordings together, and who shared their knowledge of this period with an appreciative audience. If you wish to find out more about the exciting period of early music and want to hear the concerts next year, contact Marilyn Marquis at Las Positas College.

Artists Invited to 'Paint the Town'

Pleasanton's Museum on Main presents the 1st Annual "Paint the Town" from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 6 on the front lawn of the Museum, 603 Main Street.

"Paint the Town" is an opportunity for artists of all ages and talent levels.

Art works from participants from middle school students to adults will be on display for a silent auction from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Winning bidders of the silent auction will be announced at 6 p.m.

A live auction of other judged works will be at 6 p.m. Proceeds of both auctions benefit the Museum On Main. Artists will receive 20 percent of the value of artwork selling at \$100 or above.

Kindergarteners to 2nd graders will gather on the museum lawn from 9 to 11 a.m. to create and draw their favorite scenes of Pleasanton using many types of artist's media. The creations will be framed and displayed in the Museum Gallery Walkway.

Third through 6th graders will gather on the museum lawn from 1 to 3 p.m. to help paint quilt squares to make a Pleasanton Heritage Quilt with scenes of the Amador Livermore Valley.

Middle School and high school students and adults can participate in the Plein Air event. Beginning at 9 a.m. artists will bring their supplies to the Museum on Main and receive informational packets and box lunches. Then the artists will go out to paint their views of the area. They will bring their completed "wet" painting by 3 p.m.

There will be a no-host wine & beer bar and refreshments will be served at the reception.

Space is limited, so sign up soon. Registration is free to participants. Artists of all ages and levels may register by calling the Museum at 925-462-2766 or going to our web site www.museumonmain.org.

The deadline for registration is May 30, 2009. All Art becomes the property of the Museum on Main, a 501C3 non-profit organization. Twelve art pieces will be chosen for the 2010 museum calendar.

For additional information at 925-462-2766 or

Italian Film Festival Scheduled at Las Positas College

Short films, feature films, documentaries, a photography exhibit and receptions are all part of Las Positas College's first Italian Film Festival to be held April 30th through May 2nd at the Livermore campus, 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

Two Italian feature films will be screened: *Lamerica* (Gianni Amelio, 1994) and *Nuovomondo* (Emanuele Crialesa, 2006). Both are acclaimed films dealing with people on the move. In *Lamerica*, the hopeful emigrants are Albanians, who attempt to arrive in Italy, their "promised land." *Nuovomondo* (The Golden Door in English) follows impoverished Sicilians making their way to the

United States in the early 1900s.

The Festival also features several short films by Italian-American directors as well as two documentaries, *I Build the Tower*, about the Watts Tower in Los Angeles; and *Prisoners in Paradise*, about Italians in American POW camps in WWII who end up marrying American women.

The Italian Film Festival schedule is as follows:

A photography exhibit titled, *Con le nostre mani* (Italian Americans at Work in the East Bay 1890-1960) will be on display in Building 2400 during the week of April 27-May 2.

April 30 - 6 p.m. Building 2400, Room 2420 6 p.m. Opening Re-

ception 7 p.m. Films begin. *Bust a Move* (short, dir. Philip Botti), followed by *I Build the Towers* (documentary, dirs. Edward Landler and Brad Byer)

May 1 - 7:30 p.m. Building 2400, Room 2420 Fifty Cents (short, dir. Philip Botti) and *True Love Waits* (short, dir. Dina Fiasconaro), followed by *Lamerica* (dir. Gianni Amelio)

May 2 - 3 p.m. Building 2400, Room 2420 3 p.m. *Prisoners in Paradise* (documentary, dir. Camilla Calamandrei) 5 p.m. Closing Reception 6:30 p.m. *A pena do pane* (short, dir. Lucia Grillo), followed by *Nuovomondo* (dir. Emanuele Crialesa) Presented by Dr. Laura E. Ruberto, Berkeley

City College

The film festival is sponsored by the Las Positas College Foreign Language Department, the Campus Change Network, the Las Positas College Foundation, and the Western Regional Chapter of the American Italian Historical Association.

For more information, please call Teri Ann Bengiveno at (925) 424-1287.

Members of the Las Positas College Italian Film Festival Committee include Teri Ann Bengiveno of Las Positas College, Richard Dunbar of Las Positas College, Laura E. Ruberto of Berkeley City College, and Catherine Suarez of Las Positas College.

Talk Hawks Come Home with Collection of Awards

The Las Positas College Talk Hawks brought home the 2nd Place Sweepstakes Award from the International Forensics Association's 2009 Speech and Debate Tournament held this last week in Montreal, Canada.

"Coach Jim Dobson and I are so proud of our students and how they handled themselves at this prestigious competition," said Tim Heisler, instructor and forensics coach. "Three years ago our team was invited to Prague,

Czechoslovakia and two years ago we competed in Buenos Aires, Argentina, but this is the highest finish ever for Las Positas College at this international tournament."

Natalie Kellner, Jacquie De Fremery, Anthony Passero, Stacy Shaw, Tiffany Lee, Katie Philpott, Masi Quorayshi and Christoph Steinhagen competed for LPC at the competition. Not only did the Talk Hawks finish 2nd Place overall, they were also the #1 ranked two-year college/institution at the

tournament, and student Stacy Shaw was named the International Champion in Informative Speaking.

Las Positas finished behind George Mason University, with a team three sizes larger than the LPC team, and LPC won the second most awards for a college/university/institution at the tournament.

"On behalf of the Talk Hawks, I'd like to thank the LPC Foundation, the Inter Club Council and the LPC Bookstore whose financial support enabled the Talk Hawks to participate at this international event," said Heisler.

Brentwood Natalie Kellner Duo Interpretation - 5th Place

Castro Valley Stacy Shaw Informative Speaking - 1st Place and International Champion

Dublin Anthony Passero Prose Interpretation - Semifinalist

Livermore Jacquie De Fremery Prose Interpretation - 5th Place Duo Interpretation - 5th Place

Livermore Tiffany Lee Informative Speaking - 5th Place Rhetorical Criticism - 5th Place

Livermore Katie Philpott Impromptu Speaking - 4th Place Rhetorical Criticism - 4th Place Persuasive Speaking - 6th Place

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

Author to Discuss Book, 'How the World Makes Love'

Author Franz Wisner will talk about her book, "How the World Makes Love," at the Pleasanton Library at 7 p.m. on April 28.

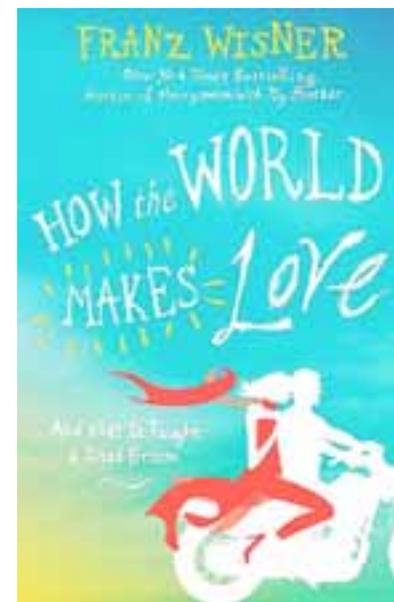
What do you do when your fiancée dumps you so close to the wedding that the flowers, food, and guests are already en-route?

"You should go ahead and have it," counseled my brother Kurt. "Your friends will be

there. The wine will be there. Why let everything go to waste?" So I did. I had a full wedding weekend -minus the bride. The result was the New York Times best-seller Honeymoon with My Brother (St. Martin's Press).

Towne Center Books will sell How the World Makes Love at the event. For pre-sale information, please call 925/846-8826.

The program is free and open



to all. No registration required.

For more information, call Penny Johnson, 925/931-3405.

Deadline Near for Pleasanton Poet Laureate Applications

The application deadline for City of Pleasanton's sixth Poet Laureate post is 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2009. The person selected will hold the honorary position from July, 2009-June, 2011, and will serve as a public advocate for the appreciation and advancement of the literary arts.

Candidates for the Poet Laureate position must be Pleasanton residents who have published poetry deemed appropriate by the Selection Committee. They must demonstrate affiliation with local schools, literary organizations and other entities associated with the advancement of the literary arts and they must be prepared to serve a two-year term without compensation.

After a preliminary screening, selected finalists will be invited to present their poems and visions to the Selection Committee in person on May 14, 2009. A recommendation will be forwarded to the Civic Arts Commission for approval and the final appointment will be made by the Pleasanton City Council.

All application packets must be mailed or delivered to: Andy Jorgensen, Civic Arts Manager, Department of Parks & Community Services, City of Pleasanton, P.O. Box 520, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Postmarks will not be accepted. For more information, applicants may call Andy Jorgensen at (925) 931-5347.

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By Patricia Koning

Over spring break last week when the rest of Granada's student body and staff was taking a break from school, ceramics teacher Pam Tabel was there every day to oversee the installation of "Random Science," a 400-tile ceramic mural. It was installed on the school's new science center.

The project was a collaboration between Granada's Ceramic/Arts and Science departments led by Tabel with help from art chair Laura Thourmir. Science teachers and students came up with ideas for the wall, ceramics students cut and finished the tiles, and students from both departments created the tiles. Photo teacher Deb Bailey and her students took digital photos that were used as the basis of some tiles.

The mural depicts elements on the periodic table, scientific instruments, animals, plants, scientific symbols, constellations, rockets, the food pyramid, and science icons like Newton and Einstein. A lot of creativity went into coming up with concepts—like the two tiles that depict Michelangelo's "Creation" from the Sistine Chapel, only God and Adam hold an atom between their hands. One of Tabel's contributions was a tile of a chicken, egg, and question mark.

The tiles are red iron-oxide, carved using every hand building technique available. Some of the designs were made by impressions of leaves or scientific instruments, while others, such as a star fish, were created with molds made by the ceramics students. Another technique was tracing a photo onto the clay, and then filling out the details by hand. One tile features a hand-molded nose (that one will be hung high on the wall, to discourage practical jokes).

Math teacher Mr. Hahn loaned his oversized foot to create a footprint across two tiles, which along with "CO₂," represents a carbon footprint. Another tile pays homage to science teacher Frankie Tate for her efforts in helping to create the new science center.

"We are so excited about the mural," said Tate. "Pam Tabel had a great vision and she made it happen. She is a delightful and talented artist and we are so lucky to have her at Granada."

The idea came to Tabel after she saw U.C. Davis' Nature's Gallery mosaic mural, which comprises 148 ceramic tiles depicting plants and insects found in the Storer Garden in the U.C. Davis Arboretum. The mural was created by the

Art-Science Fusion Program at Davis. It was on display last year in the U.S. Botanical Garden in Washington, D.C.

"When I approached our science department for ideas on collaboration, they wanted everything—chemistry, physics, insects, animals, the solar system. I thought, 'what did I get myself into?' Then I found a random science mural created at a college in Michigan," explained Tabel.

She connected with the mural's creator, Daleene Menning, a ceramics professor at Grand Valley State University. Menning's project, "Formation," came about when clay was found inside the excavation for a new science cen-

ter at her university. The art and science departments worked together on the mural, which represents all of the university's science disciplines.

"We emailed constantly about her experience and my project," said Tabel. "It was fabulous having this support person across the country."

Funding presented another obstacle. Tabel applied for some small grants, but found that each one required that she show where she would obtain the rest of the funding. Then, at the end of 2007, Granada's Associated Student Body came through with the entire \$5,000 needed for materials and installation.



Granada Art and Science Departments Team Up to Create "Random Science"

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The new mural was installed by Daniel Martinez over spring break. Lower photo shows a detail.

Last spring Tabel initiated work on the project. Her ceramic students were required to create a tile as a graded project. Science students were also invited to create tiles. Work has been ongoing for an entire year, with the last tiles completed during spring break.

"I love the collaboration between the science and art departments, although I must say, this was a pretty one-sided collaboration because the work was done by the art department. We are the ones who get to enjoy the work every day as we walk to our classes," said Tate. "The students are very proud of their work. I'm sure they will be thrilled to see their tiles displayed in the mural."

The collaboration was a key

part of the project for Tabel as well. She began teaching ceramics about eight years ago, after a 20-year career as an accounting manager in high tech. Her undergraduate degree is in art. She's been a practicing artist since she could hold a crayon (one of her first creations was on her mother's wall).

The collaboration extended to the installers, D&H Tile. They came up with the idea to offset the rows of tiles in a brick pattern, which better suited the uneven shape of some tiles.

"I really like collaborative art and 'Random Science' was the ultimate cross-curricular project," she declared. "Now the ceramics wall looks so boring. We might have to do something about that."

Grape expectations

Priceless Pricing Advice for Valley Growers

by Harry Stoll

Recently, valley grape growers followed Greenville Road to the Martinelli Center to see the wizardry on the screen, up front and high, flashing pie and bar charts of California grape plantings, acreage by grape variety, harvests and wine sales, grape prices per ton, grape plantings, temperature comparisons between the Livermore and Napa valleys, grape price gaps between the two valleys, and bulleted grape-selling principles.

"It was very, very good," said Ted Buttner of Buttner Sunol Valley Vineyard. He liked the information on prices reaped by growers in other regions.

Jeff Bitter, vice-president of Allied Grape Growers, pointed a red laser dot at a chart that read, "Does Livermore Valley Have an Identity Crisis?"

It showed the valley getting an average of \$1,100 a ton, \$220 less Lake County and \$50 less than Temecula, but \$240 more than Solano County and \$500 more than Clarksburg.

A brief review indicted valley growers got slightly higher prices, with one grower asking \$2,000 a ton. Solano County is right over the hill from Napa where prices are over \$3,000 a ton. "That's a bunch of pissed-off growers," said Bitter.

He also said that grapes throughout California were underpriced (he's a grower) and should be on average, \$3,500 a ton.

"I'd like to get \$3,500 a ton," said Phil Wenthe later. "I could do the math on that." He runs Wenthe's vineyards.

Bitter's presentation emphasized knowing the market.

"Negotiations 1011" listed what to do and what to avoid, such as concentrating on your strengths and the buyer's weakness, don't automatically seek the middle but be stingy and give in incrementally, and more and more. It ended with: "Will you use these common sense tips while negotiating the sale of your grapes?"

He ended with "Take Home Points" such as grow grapes appropriate for your area and to focus on quality grape growing and winemaking. "Make sure you can be proud of what you put in the bottle." That last, of course, is beyond the control of the growers, but they do belong to the same association as the vintners.

Not a lot of wine made by val-

ley wineries or showing the Livermore Valley appellation on the label is sold in California wine shops.

Two thoughtful and well-informed wine sellers weighed in on the problem of price and reputation.

By e-mail, Jim Denham, of the Wine Steward in Pleasanton, said he hopes for an increase in Livermore Valley grape prices based on more critical praise for valley wines, but so far he has seen only rare examples of accolades. He said great wine has two essential ingredients: excellent fruit and winemaking talent that lets the fruit express itself. "The more often these two get together, the better our chances are for distinctively delicious wine, praise from the powers-that-be, and a track record which will make our local fruit more sought-after," said Denham.

Also by e-mail, wine merchant Gerald Weisl, owner of Weimax Wines & Spirits in Burlingame, said his perception is Livermore Valley is largely an under-achieving wine region. "I think there are a few good vintners there, but it's a relative few." He said many producers seem more interested in being a wedding venue (or a concert site). "Most seem to be content with selling wine to tourists and neighbors and not elevating the quality of the wines.

"That said, the Murrieta's Well white blend is an indication of the level of quality that's possible. We offer it in our shop and sell a modest amount, but we are a lone voice

in the woods. Speaking of Woods, Rhonda Wood does a fine job, generally. Bodegas Aguirre also has had some nice wines."

Weisl said, of course, once upon a time, Livermore was a leader in wine quality. "Anyway, it's a lovely region with outstanding potential, but it's relatively untapped potential."

Chris Chandler, executive director of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, said that Livermore Valley grapes "... can go cluster to cluster against grapes from anyplace. This is a premier grape growing region with a great climate, marine winds and gravelly soil with good drainage."

Steven Mirassou, owner of the Steven Kent and LaRochelle labels, manages Ghielmetti Vineyards. He sticks with its web site statement: "... the small yields of fruit are the equal of any fruit from any appellation."

Phil Wenthe presented a study showing that Livermore and Napa valley temperatures are comparable. He also said the soils are similar.

After the briefings, attendees briefly visited with growers, mostly with small vineyards, who were pouring wine made from their grapes, with either their label or the labels of local wineries that they supply. The growers: Amante Vineyards, Bodegas Aguirre Winery & Vineyard, Buttner Sunol Valley Vineyard, Casa de Vinas, Frydendal Brothers Vineyards, Galles Vineyard, Ghielmetti Vineyard, McGrail Vineyards & Win-

ery, Quail Creek Vineyard, Shadow Thatcher Bay Vineyards, Wente Hills Vineyards, Shannon Vineyard, Tarantino Vineyards, and Wisner Vineyards.

Annual Duck Races Ready to Go

The 17th annual Livermore Duck Races are set for Sun., April 26 at the Granada High School swimming pool in Livermore. The action will take place from 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 to duck sponsors. Tickets are \$5 per entry.

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

The Livermore Lioness Club and the Livermore Y's Men Club will float and stir plastic ducks in the pool, 400 Wall Street. 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 who submit the winning entries are not required to be present and will be notified by telephone.

For more information, call Betty Harvey 449-1315 or Jim Travis 321-1123. They are available from some Livermore school PTAs or write to Livermore Duck Races, PO Box 48, Livermore, CA 94551.

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Pleasanton

465 Main Street
(925) 484-5400

Livermore

1986 Second Street
(925) 243-9600

San Ramon

2355 San Ramon Valley Blvd.
(925) 855-3800

San Jose

1150-29 South Bascom Ave.
(408) 275-7150

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.

Grand Finale, May 16, Castle Rock Restaurant, Texas Hold'em Tournament. Benefit for Livermore High School Safe and Sober Grad Night. Sign in 7 p.m., first hand 7 p.m. Special menu and bar available for purchase. Cash prizes. Buy in \$40, re-buy \$20, add-on \$20. Prepaid reservations receive \$200 in extra chips. Reservations due by May 9 at 5 p.m., walk-ins welcome. Information at patticoggin@comcast.net or 294-9213.

Trinity Daycare Learning Center, 20th anniversary celebration Fri., April 24, 6 to 8 p.m. The public is invited. There will be carnival games, bouncy house, prizes, popcorn, BBQ and fun. 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Information, 449-5683.

Brain Book Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month at Towne Center Books, 555 Main Street, Pleasanton, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. From 7 to 7:30 is open discussion and planning. We discuss the featured book from 7:30-8:30. On May 6 there will be a discussion of Mind Wide Open by Steven Johnson, led by David Oakley, a retired physicist. Book is available from Towne Center Books, (925) 846-8826.

Wildflower walk, Sat., April 25, John Muir National Historic Site, two hour walk begins at 9 a.m. Meet at CalTrans Park and Ride, corner of Alhambra Ave. and Franklin Canyon Road, Martinez. Bring water. Wear good walking shoes as the trail is steep. If rains heavily, walk canceled. Free. For information, call 228-8860.

Livermore-Pleasanton Rod & Gun Club, 63rd annual barbecue on Sun., May 3. Shooting events at the trap range and rifle and pistol range. Silent auction. Food. Purchase raffle tickets for a commemorative Iwo Jima M1 Garand 30 caliber rifle with a companion video, "Flags of Our Fathers," narrated by Gene Hackman; a Remington 700VTR .223 bolt action X-Mark Rifle, a Springfield Armory XD40 hand gun, and a Benelli Super Black Eagle 12 Gauge 3-1/2 chamber shotgun. Day begins at 10 a.m. For more information, contact the trap shooting office at 449-8780.

Single Cougars of all ages are invited to meet new friends at the Tri-Valley's first-ever Single Cougars Party, Tuesday, May 12, 2009, 7-9 p.m., at Faz Restaurant at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 5121 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. This event is sponsored by The Society of Single Professionals. The cost is \$10 at the door, which includes a fun Mixer Game, plus appetizers first hour. Anyone wishing more information about this and many more events for single professionals may visit www.ThePartyHotline.com or call 415/507-9962.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., April 25, 35 miles loop up the northside of Diablo, meet 9 a.m. Heather Farms, Henry Lam, 708-4066. Sun., April 26, 35 miles Embarcadero to Tiburon and Larkspur, meet 10 a.m. at ferry building, Bill Goodwin, 487-0521. Wed., April 29, 22 miles from Shannon Park to Bollinger Rd. in Las Trampas Park, meet 10 a.m. in Dublin, Jim Kohnen, 828-3623. Wed., April 29, 32 miles Briones Reservoir from Lafayette, meet 9 a.m. at Olympic Staging Area, Henry Lam, 708-4066. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Free teen workshop on Transitions 101, offered by Pleasanton Community Counseling Service. Topics include economic and family changes, parental divorce, changing schools, going to college. Co-sponsored by the Pleasanton Library. May 2, 2 to 4 p.m. Snacks and Jamba Juice gift car. Call Jenny to register, 600-9752 ext. 7#.

Livermore Valley Business and Professional Women, spring and summer fashions by Pat Lees of the Personal Shoppers Dept. at Nordstroms Pleasanton, Stoneridge Shopping Center, on April 30. Annual fund-raiser for a scholarship to assist a re-entry woman through college. Dinner and fashion show \$35. Reservations and dinner choice by April 25, call Mona at 828-3006. The public is invited. Registration and dinner 6 p.m., networking at 7 p.m. Meet at Nordstrom Cafe at 6 p.m.

Book sale, ValleyCare Auxiliary is having

a book sale in the lobby of ValleyCare Medical Center, 5555 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton, Friday, April 24 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and LifeStyleRx, 1119 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore, Monday, April 27 from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. All proceeds directly benefit ValleyCare Health System, a not-for-profit health care facility. ValleyCare offers a wide range of programs and services and is committed to the health of the community.

Ohlone Audubon meets Tuesday, May 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Main Library - Karp Room, 300 Estudillo, 94577. John Dumbacher, Curator of Ornithology & Mammology at the California Academy of Sciences, will present: "Chemical Defense in Birds: New Guinea's Toxic Pitohui." Refreshments. For info. call 510-507-3383.

Parenting class, A one-day introduction to Positive Discipline class will be held on May 9 from 8:30 - 4:30 in Livermore. This workshop will help parents and teachers learn to develop better relationships with children. Positive Discipline is based on mutual respect, personal responsibility and problem solving skills. Improve your relationships with your children and students and feel better about yourself too! The cost is \$175.00 with a discount for couples. The day long workshop is suitable for parents of children of all ages, teachers, and mental health professionals. The workshop will be presented by Laurie Prusso, a Certified Positive Discipline Associate and community college professor. 6 Professional Growth Hours and California CEU's are available. For More Information: Contact Laurie Prusso, 925-449-7117. Additional information is available at positivediscipline.org

Rotary Club of Pleasanton presents: Turnoff Chronic Illness With Your Own DNA and Integrative Medicine. Thurs., April 30, 12:15-1:30 p.m. Haps Original Steaks & Seafood, 122 West Neal Street, Pleasanton. 925-600-9200. Rotary Club of North Pleasanton, Lunch and meeting cost www.pleasantonrotary.org, 925-735-3296, Sandra Lepley.

Fabric sale, The American Sewing Guild is having its annual stash sale featuring fabric, lace, tools, etc. Items related to sewing & crafts will be offered. Saturday, May 2, 10-3 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church in fellowship hall, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. No early birds. Tables will be available for \$10. Contact Julianne Bramson before May 2nd president@asgwalnutcreek.org.

14th Annual Spaghetti Feed & Silent Auction, Job's Daughter Bethel No. 1, Dublin. Fri., May 1, Shrine Event Center 170 Lindbergh Ave. Livermore. Dinner- 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Silent Auction- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30pm. Tickets are \$8.00 Adults \$6.00 for Children 10 & under. For more information please contact: Sarah Gilbert, Marshal at 925-487-0067 sarahgilbert@sbcglobal.net Stacy Gilbert at 925-838-8817, stacymgilbert@sbcglobal.net.

Primavera Dinner Dance, hosted by Italian Catholic Federation #285 on Sat., May 2, 6 p.m. no host cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner by Chef Tony Martinelli. St. Michael's Parish Hall, 372 Maple St., Livermore. \$30 per person includes wine with full course dinner. Dance to music of JB Smooth Sounds. Raffle prizes. Reservations due by April 27, call Don M. 846-8435 or Anna or Mike Y. at 484-1523. Benefit Tri-Valley Scholarship program and other Italian Catholic Federation charities.

Cinco de Mayo, Fri., May 8, Livermore-Pleasanton Elks Lodge #2117. 5 p.m., entertainment 5:30 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Fred and Al present "A Taste of Mexico." RSVP by May 5 to 455-8829. \$15.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., Champagne brunch at Marie Callender's in San Ramon, April 26, 11:45 a.m., RSVP by April 23 to Marsha, 830-8483.

2009 Northern California Firefighter Recruitment Fair, sponsored by CFFJAC Commission to Recruit Women for the Fire Service. Meet fire department recruiters. Open to women and men interested in a future in the fire service. Saturday, May 2, 2009, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. CPAT Testing Center, 526 Commerce Way, Livermore. For more information: call 916-648-1717, or visit <http://www.becomingafirefighter.org>

Diversity and End-of-Life Care, professional growth conference. Wed., April 29, 10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 777 Norris Canyon Rd., San Ramon. Hosted by Hope Hospice. Focus on understanding how cultural histories, tradi-

tions and beliefs can affect end of life care. NO fee. Snacks and coffee provided. Table space for attendees who bring a bag lunch. Registration deadline is April 24. Information, 829-8770.

Investing in Turbulent Times, Saturday, April 25, from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., join financial planner, Kapil Bhatnagar, for a straight-forward discussion of the risks and volatility of various types of investments at a free workshop at the Dublin Library. He will review the performance of different classes of investments in past economic and market downturns and recoveries. Bhatnagar is responsible for the Wealth Advisory Division of Carlton Pace Risk Management, and has worked in the financial services and insurance sector since 1992. The Dublin Library is located at 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. For sign language interpreter or other accommodations, please contact the Dublin Library at least 7 working days prior to the event at 925-828-1315 or TTY 888-663-0660. This program is funded by the Friends of Dublin Library.

43rd Annual Pancake Breakfast, hosted by Sunol 4-H, Sun., April 26, 8 a.m. to noon, Sunol Glen Elementary School. Also a bake sale, plant sale and silent auction. Proceeds benefit 4-H group projects. Adults \$6, children \$4. For more information, or for advance tickets, contact a Sunol 4-H member or call, Paulette Hartkopf (510) 862-6247.

Senior Travel, Pleasanton Senior Center VIP Club offering three trips. For reservations or more information, contact the VIP travel desk at 931-5370. Ironstone Vineyards and Murphys, Wed., May 13, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. tour, tasting, lunch and organ concert at Winery; shopping in Murphys. \$79/\$81.

Wine Tasting Silent Auction, White Crane Winery, Livermore, noon to 4 p.m., Sun., April 26. Benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Hosted by HIKE members of Team in Training. Day of wine tasting. Local wineries will showcase wines for tasting. There will be finger food, music, inspirational speakers, and, raffles, as well as a silent auction.

Funds will provide money for blood cancers. 10% discount when purchasing on line. <https://theresa-johnstone.ticketleap.com> Use code: SUPPORT or call 925 413 7788.

RELIGION

Dealing with grief, support group for those who have lost a loved one. Sessions Thursdays starting April 16 to June 4, 7:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Preregistration is required. Space is limited. A \$15 donation is requested. Meetings open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Call Mary, 846-5377 with questions.

Tri-Valley Unity Church now meets at 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon, for weekly Sunday services at 10 a.m. This Sunday's sermon, "God is," will be given by Bob Hardy, Licensed Unity Teacher. All are welcome. Ongoing classes and small groups. www.trivalleyunity.com (925) 829-2733.



VALLEYCARE AUXILIARY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

For over 50 years the volunteers of the ValleyCare Auxiliary have unselfishly given their time and talent for the patients, visitors and staff of ValleyCare Health System.

They have generously given over one and half million hours of service to our community and donated over \$4.5 million towards scholarships, programs and facilities at ValleyCare Health System.

We are proud of the women and men who have come to symbolize the compassion of our community. That's why honoring them during National Volunteer Week is so important. What our volunteers give us is immeasurable. A gift even a million thanks can't repay.

If you would like to join this special group of volunteers, please call 925-734-3368.



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