



Find Out What's Happening

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

Bike to Work Day Activities At College

By Carol Graham
Las Positas College in partnership with Livermore Cyclery will host "Bike to Work Day" on Thursday, May 10 as part of the Bay Area's 18th annual event designed to promote better health for both individuals and the environment.

Participants will meet at Livermore Cyclery at 7:30 a.m. for the ride over the recently-opened Portola overpass to the LPC campus. On the campus, sponsors will host booths offering food and drinks, bicycle safety checks, maintenance tips, cycling advice, and free tire-patch kits.

"City leaders were looking to the future when they invested in the Portola overpass," said LPC President and Co-Chair of the event, Kevin Walthers. "It's a very bike-friendly road and should make the college less car-dependent."

The campus, in the process of tripling the number of bike racks available, is committed to sustainability. "We'd like to bring to the community's attention that there are increased convenient bicycle routes and it's now a safe three-mile ride from downtown Livermore," said Mike Ansell.

(See COLLEGE, page 9)

Pleasanton, Dublin Plan Bicycle Activities

May marks the month of Bicycle Safety and Awareness in the cities of Dublin and Pleasanton. In the Tri-Valley, the cities of Dublin and Pleasanton will host many events to promote bicycle safety and bicycling as a healthy way to travel, including the Bay Area's 18th Annual Bike to Work Day where thousands of commuters are expected to participate.

On May 10, the cities along with Hacienda Business Park Owners Association, BART, Alameda County Public Works Agency and Dublin Cyclery will host an Energizer Station at the East Dublin/Pleasanton BART station from 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. where cyclists can stop and enjoy refreshments, receive free bike t-shirts and commute bags as well as sign up for a raffle drawing for prizes donated by numerous local businesses. Additional Energizer Stations will be available at the West Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station from 7:00 - 9:00 a.m., hosted by REI Dublin, and at Pleasanton's Foothill High School from 7:00 - 8:30 a.m. hosted by the Earth Club. The first 50-100 cyclists to visit either of these stations will receive a bike commute bag and can enter the raffle drawing.

The City of Dublin and Dublin Cyclery will host a Flat Tire Repair Clinic on Saturday, May 5 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on the Iron Horse Trail at the intersection of Amador Valley Blvd. On Saturday, May 12 from 11 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at REI Dublin, 7099 Amador Plaza Road, the City of Dublin, REI Dublin and Cycles of Change are teaming up to host a Bike Donation Drive. Cyclists visiting the "Bike to the Market" Booth at the Dublin Farmer's Market on Thursday, May 17 from 4:00

(See ACTIVITIES, page 9)

Education's Future Will Arrive in Two Years

By Ron McNicoll

In two years, California schools will be integrated into a new nationwide curriculum standard that is being adopted by 44 states.

The new curriculum will change how students learn, and how testing will be conducted. The testing will be moved to computer labs. Much further into the future, at no specified date, there will be electronic devices replacing textbooks.

Further, the day of the "one correct answer" is doomed.

A preview of the future was

presented to the Pleasanton school board at its meeting April 24 by curriculum director Jane Golden.

Golden said that the new curriculum is expected to prepare students better for the values that are important in the workplace, such as collaboration with others, researching ideas thoroughly, and reasoning to find the best solutions.

The collaboration aspect already has arisen in the district's look at future school facilities' design and remodeling. The Facilities Master Plan Commit-

tee heard a presentation from its consultant on having flexible classroom furniture and room design so that students can work in small groups on various aspects of an assignment.

The deadline for making the switch to the new common core curriculum is the 2014-15 school year.

The stimulus for the new curriculum has come from the gap between the United States and the many nations ahead of it in world rankings of students in the categories of language mastery, science and mathematics. On one

scale that measures educational achievement internationally, the United States was ranked 24th.

Business and political leaders have emphasized the gap for many years, and have called for an updating of the American educational system. The common core curriculum is the answer from education experts, administrators and teachers from across the United States.

The approach to reading will change dramatically. Most elementary school reading now centers on fiction. The emphasis will be shifted to non-fiction. The

focus will be on learning facts, and presenting them well, both in writing and in oral presentations.

The change to reading for non-fiction information is intended to better prepare students for the reality of the work world of the future. The curriculum will emphasize collaboration to find solutions, as will be expected among employees in the future.

Students will be digging into more than one source of information, and comparing and contrasting data and concepts.

(See EDUCATION, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Students model their creations during the Third Annual Sunol Glen School Trashion Show. The show was the culminating event of a variety of week-long environmental activities hosted during Earth Week. The 2012 Sunol Glen Trashion Show featured a record number of 47 student participants. For the past two months, students attended weekly workshops training them how to utilize alternative materials as fashion. This included materials like newspaper, magazines, junk mail, plastics (bottles, packaging, tupperware), styrofoam, E-waste and toy parts. All were transformed into fashionable jewelry, dresses, hats, capes, jackets and more.

Community Foundation Reorganizing

The board of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation acted last week to reorganize the foundation. The decision came after an audit found that the fund-raising required to maintain the level of program support provided by the foundation was not sufficient to meet its growing financial obligations.

Judge Hyde said there is no cause for worry about support of services. "All of the programs through Alameda County are on

track. We continue to provide philanthropic funding, depending on how much is available.

"We are just trying to get a handle on the spending. There was a lack of attention to some spending issues. There were expenditures that the board was not aware of nor had it approved," Judge Hyde explained.

Upon receiving the audit information, the board acted on a number of fronts to address the issues. First, Board Chairman

Ronald Hyde was elected foundation president. According to a press release, he is replacing David Rice. Hyde stated, "We plan to move quickly to resolve issues and slowly to avoid mistakes."

Second, a more detailed analysis is being conducted by the board and its independent auditor of the foundation's current expenses and obligations. The next step was to actively look for opportunities to reduce administrative

(See FOUNDATION, page 5)

Pleasanton Ordinance Regulates Location of Banks in Downtown

The Pleasanton City Council approved an ordinance designed to direct financial institutions away from prominent locations in the downtown.

The new ordinance would require a conditional use permit for such uses in order to be able to locate within the Downtown Revitalization District in a building with frontage on Main Street. The site must be zoned central commercial. The new ordinance applies only to the ground floor of properties.

Wording in the ordinance was changed. Instead of discouraging the location of financial institutions it would encourage locating retail on corners where the businesses would add to the vitality and pedestrian interest of the downtown on corners.

Financial institutions include banks, savings and loan companies, finance companies, credit

unions, and credit services. Past policy required financial institutions to establish branches in the downtown prior to being able to locate elsewhere in the city. Many banks are now located on prominent corners of the downtown. An application for a bank to be located at the current Pastime Pool site, triggered the decision to establish the new regulations.

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman commented, "Regulation of this type of uses is a good thing. The idea is to provide storefronts on Main Street."

The council vote was unanimous, with the provision that the council make it a priority to take a look at establishing strategic zoning for various uses as part of the downtown specific plan update.

Councilmember Jerry Thorne

(See ORDINANCE, page 5)

'Star Trek' Sequel Shooting Scenes at Livermore Lab

Scenes for the new "Star Trek" movie are being filmed in the National Ignition Facility (NIF) facility at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

This is the second movie to be filmed at the Lab. Part of the original "Tron" movie was shot there.

The current set is closed to the public. In keeping with that, there won't be any public information provided by Paramount Studios, either, said Livermore Valley Film Commission director Dale Kaye.

Kaye, who had years of experience as a TV and movie pro-

ducer in Los Angeles, said that the film's director, J.J. Abrams, has been a "great innovator" in movies.

Abrams writes, produces and writes the music for his films. Abrams was executive producer on the last "Star Trek" movie and also worked on the last two "Mission: Impossible" films.

On television he has been executive producer on "Person of Interest," "Fringe," and "Alcatraz." He has won two prime-time Emmys.

Even the filming of just a few scenes by a Hollywood company can have a big economic impact

(See STAR TREK, page 5)

Ground broken on new synthetic turf project at Robertson Park

By Patricia Koning

Representatives from the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD), Fusion Soccer Club (SC), and Tri-Valley Bank wielded shovels on Tuesday afternoon to officially break ground on a project to convert two Robertson Park soccer fields to synthetic turf. The new fields

will be complete in August, in time for the start of the fall soccer season.

"It is my privilege to celebrate the start of construction here at Robertson Park," says Brent Koch, former president of Fusion SC. "This underscores a common aspect of the three

(See SYNTHETIC, page 12)

Wilson Wants Cities to Back Tassajara Cemetery Plan

By Ron McNicoll

The Pleasanton City Council has been asked to back development of a cemetery proposal that has drawn opposition from its potential neighbors in the Tassajara Valley.

Former San Ramon mayor Abram Wilson said that he would like to see the Tri-Valley's five cities work together, pos-

sibly with a bond issue, to create the cemetery.

Wilson addressed the Pleasanton council at its meeting April 17 to talk about the idea. He said that he is personally interested in seeing a cemetery for the Tri-Valley.

The property proposed for the cemetery is at 7200 Tassajara

(See CEMETERY, page 5)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Members of the Fusion Soccer Club were on hand, along with representatives of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, for the start of the construction of synthetic turf fields at Robertson Park in Livermore. The Club is providing funds to help pay for the turf.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Hello there, I'm Dot. I am one very curious kitten. I am a little older than most kittens, I am about six or seven months, but I am very playful. In fact, just the other day my friends at VHS caught me playing with a rolie-pollie bug that somehow managed to get inside of Kitty City. I am white and orange with fur so soft. I really like to be active and love to be played with. Come on down to VHS and help me find my forever home with you. For more information, Call us at 925-426-8656 or go online to www.valleyhumane.org or www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety to see other adoptable dogs and cats. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Tues. & Wed. 9AM-2PM, Thurs. & Fri. 12-7pm, Sat. 10-4pm, and Sun. 12-4pm. Photo taken by Trina Cort

COSMIC RAY PUZZLE

Surprising findings at the South Pole cast doubt on massive star explosions as the origin of the most powerful cosmic rays reaching Earth. The explosions, known as gamma ray bursts, were thought to produce neutrinos in the same stupendous energy output that generated the cosmic rays. However, a massive South Pole detector called IceCube found none of the neutrinos when it looked for them.

Cosmic rays are charged particles, mostly protons, that travel through space. Some reach Earth from the sun. However, it is difficult to learn where more distant ones came from because their paths are shifted by powerful magnetic forces.

The most powerful cosmic rays travel with energies tens of millions of times greater than can be produced in the most powerful manmade accelerator, the Large Hadron Collider near Geneva, Switzerland. One theoretical model for their production is the gamma ray burst, which can be produced by super-massive star explosions or by collisions between black holes.

By the same processes, the gamma ray bursts should also generate extremely energetic neutrinos, ghostly particles that pass through matter almost as if it does not exist. Neutrino paths are not affected by the magnetic fields that distort cosmic ray motion, so they should be more easily traced back to the explosion that produced them.

IceCube Neutrino Observatory is an array of neutrino detectors deep under Antarctic ice, which screens out most ordinary radioactivity. It is an international project funded mostly by the National Science Foundation and operated by the University of Wisconsin. Its photomultiplier tubes look for the blue light flash visible in the clear, pure ice, the so-called Cerenkov radiation that signals a neutrino interaction. This is an event so unusual that a cubic kilometer of ice is needed to create a significant number of events.

A research team found 307 gamma ray bursts recorded by satellites during 2008 and 2009 but no neutrino detections tied to them. The finding leaves a puzzle that will have to be worked on by theoreticians, according to a project leader, Nathan Whitehorn of Wisconsin. "We're not entirely clear yet as to what this . . . might mean."

Another candidate for generating the cosmic rays is black holes at the centers of galaxies, which may be acting as giant accelerators that drive particles to ultra high energies, according to co-author Spencer Klein of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

An account of the research was published in the journal Nature.

ASIAN MOSQUITOES IN EUROPE

Europe appears to be facing growing public health risk from invasive mosquitoes, especially the so-called Asian Tiger mosquitoes that have taken up residence throughout Italy, in parts of Spain and France and the Balkan region. In all, the non-native mosquitoes have been found in at least 20 European countries since first being spotted in Albania in 1979.

The Asian Tiger mosquito, known scientifically as *Aedes albopictus*, is of particular concern because it can carry such serious illnesses as yellow fever, dengue fever, West Nile virus and certain parasites. Five other *Aedes* varieties have also been seen in Europe



in recent years, coinciding with outbreaks of Chikungunya fever in Italy in 2007 and dengue fever in France and Croatia in 2010. *Aedes aegypti* is sometimes called the yellow fever mosquito. However, it can carry dengue and other diseases as well.

Used tires and bamboo plants from China are thought to be the carriers of the mosquito to eggs and larvae into Europe. The Asian Tiger mosquito appears to have adapted to much of the European environment, surviving freezing temperatures outdoors as well as indoor life cycles.

The concern is at several levels, according to a report by the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control. First, the various *Aedes* mosquitoes may bring with them dangerous diseases. Second, when travelers arrive carrying diseases like dengue and yellow fever, invasive mosquitoes may acquire and spread the illnesses. Third, the viruses they carry may be able to infect long-established European mosquito populations. Fourth, rising temperatures may improve conditions for the invasive mosquitoes in certain areas (although changing rainfall patterns may make drier areas less favorable.)

An actual case in point cited by the European Center report was the 2010 finding that the Asian Tiger mosquito was associated with the local spread of dengue fever in southern France and Croatia.

A hypothetical but plausible situation arises in the observation that yellow fever cases have been reported with a 75 percent fatality rate during the past decade in Germany, Spain, France, Holland and Switzerland.

"Further transmission of this virus could occur if populations of *A. aegypti* become re-established in Europe," the European Center report said.

MARCH: WARM OR COOL?

March, widely reported as a month of warm temperatures in the U.S., demonstrated the difficulty of reaching simple conclusions about climate change based on weather measurements, government data show. The month was warmer than average in some parts of the world, cooler in others.

March was extraordinarily warm in the contiguous 48 U.S. states, with more than 15,000 temperature records set. The high temperatures may have influenced the outcome of public surveys on the impact of climate change (see Science Matters, April 26.)

However, it was much cooler than average in Alaska and across the Bering Strait in northeastern Russia. Norway experienced its warmest March since 1900, while Australia's was the third coolest March since 1950.

It was warmer than average in Europe, India and China, northern and central Russia. It was cooler than average in eastern Russia and parts of New Zealand.

These were only the temperature variations at the surface of the land. Over the oceans, the average temperature worldwide was .6 degrees F. warmer than the 20th Century average. That meant it tied with 1988 and 1990 as the 14th warmest March on record, but it was also possible to claim it as a cool month.

Because March 2009, 2010 and 2011 were warmer still, it was equally accurate to say that March 2012 was the coolest March since 2008.



Workshop Offered in Pleasanton On How to Grow a Garden

The City of Pleasanton and its Energy and Environment Committee will host a free workshop entitled "How does Your Garden Grow?" on Saturday, May 5 at the Veterans Memorial Building.

Scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to noon, at 301 Main Street. This event at the Veterans Memorial Building will feature several local experts who will provide information and answer questions from local gardeners.

They include Mike Fulford, landscape architect for the City of Pleasanton, who will discuss which trees to plant in Pleasanton and how to care for them, as well

as information about Heritage trees in the City of Pleasanton. Lita Gates from Western Garden Nursery will discuss planting a vegetable garden and provide valuable tips on how to harvest a bountiful crop.

Linda Wyner from Pans on Fire in downtown Pleasanton will provide a cooking demonstration using fresh food from the garden, and Susan Ballinger of Susan Ballinger Design will share information about yard and garden design.

For more information, please call (925) 931-5506.

Pleasanton to Query Businesses on Needs

The City of Pleasanton's Economic Development Department and the Economic Vitality Committee (EVC) launched a survey last Friday of Pleasanton businesses to determine their needs and ways that the City can support local companies.

A broad range of companies in size and by industry sector will be included to obtain a representative cross-section of the city's business base.

The phone survey is expected to take less than 10 minutes to complete.

The survey is based upon the results of two focus groups conducted earlier this year by a research company working with city staff and the EVC. The focus groups explored topics such as why businesses locate in

Pleasanton. Topics will also assess Pleasanton as a place to do business, gain perspectives on conducting business in Pleasanton, and ask for types of support that the City could provide to local businesses.

The information elicited through the survey will be compiled into a report that will be used by the City's Economic Development Department, the EVC, and local business organizations including the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, the Pleasanton Downtown Association, and the Hacienda Owners Association to define and develop business support programs and projects that further position Pleasanton as an excellent location in which to do business.

Zone 7 to Hold Workshop on Bill to Create Independent Agency

There will be a public briefing on Senate Bill 1337 at Zone 7's office in Livermore at 6:30 p.m. on Thurs., May 10.

This is legislation Zone 7 Water Agency has "sponsored" that was introduced in the California State Senate by Senator Mark DeSaulnier, with Senator Loni Hancock and Assemblymember Joan Buchanan as co-authors, on February 24.

The purpose of the legislation is to align Zone 7's current scope of authority with the actual territory served, including the 15,000 residents in Dougherty Valley (part of Contra Costa County), by enacting a new enabling statute that would clearly establish Zone 7 Water Agency's operations as separate from Alameda County.

Zone 7 Water Agency currently provides regional flood protec-

tion for eastern Alameda County, as well as providing wholesale water to retailers who deliver to over 200,000 people in the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and the Dougherty Valley portion of San Ramon.

According to a press release, as long as Zone 7 remains part of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, residents served in Contra Costa County will remain disenfranchised, without the right to vote for or serve on Zone 7's board of directors.

SB 1337 will allow Zone 7 to adopt more streamlined business practices, potentially saving customers money and minimizing future water rate increases.

On May 10, 2012, the authors' staff will be hosting a public workshop on the bill.

Zone 7 staff will be available

to field any questions the public may have on the proposed legislation. The meeting will be held

at 6:30 p.m. at Zone 7's Office, 100 North Canyons Parkway, Livermore.

WINE CURE
We hope you will join us for an evening filled with exquisite wine, wonderful food, great friends and a special screening of *The Power of Two*. This event will help to fund a cure for cystic fibrosis.

SUNDAY, MAY 20TH, 2012
VIP WINE RECEPTION AT 3 PM
Meet & Greet with the cast and crew from *The Power of Two* at The Winemaker's PourHouse
2241 First Street, Livermore, CA

THE POWER OF TWO FILM SCREENING AT 5 PM
Livermore 13 Cinemas, 2490 First Street, Livermore, CA
Panel discussion to follow.

For more information, contact Diana at 925.5770516
To order tickets, visit: <http://www.cfr.org/wineforcure.shtml>

POURHOUSE **CRI** **Cinema West**

Soroptimist International of Livermore
presents
Livermore in Bloom
Saturday, May 12, 2012, 11a.m. to 3 p.m.

Join us as we visit five unique, beautiful private gardens
Tour begins at Alden Lane Nursery
981 Alden Lane, Livermore, CA 94550

Tickets: \$20.00
Tickets are available by calling:
Diane Gardner (925) 456-8430 or A.J. Eachus (925) 443-4150

Net proceeds to benefit Soroptimist of Livermore Service Projects
(S I Livermore is a 501 c (3) organization - donations are tax deductible)

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<p>2407 Skylark Wy Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 4 ba 3.5 sqft +/- 3,236 \$979,950</p> <p>Remodeled Birdland Home. Hardwood Flrs, imported Italian Tile (heated tile in master), Granite Countertops, Open Staircase, Vaulted Cathedral Ceilings & Skylights, See-Through Gas Log Fireplace, Movie Room, Custom Built Pool, Waterfall & Spa. Huge Backyard.</p> <p>Michael Swift 925.251.2587</p>	<p>9999 Long View Ln Pleasanton</p> <p>bd 6 ba 5(3) sqft +/- 8,330 \$3,499,000</p> <p>Newly remodeled, stunning estate! Shows like new! A gated westside French Chateau custom estate with stunning grounds, elevator, private tennis court, indoor pool, casino/theater, 450 gal salt water fish tank, finished attic, vista terrace etc. Incredible level of detail!</p> <p>Uwe Maerz 925.251.2568</p>	<p>6107 Ledgewood Ter Dublin</p> <p>bd 5 ba 4 sqft +/- 3,844 \$930,000</p> <p>Views of TriValley, Mt Diablo & Dublin Hills! Dub Ranch Beauty w/ 5 Beds, Bonus/Game Room, 4 Baths, Master & Guest Suite on Main Level, Premium lot location w/ access to open space. Walk to golf course, swim club & award winning schools.</p> <p>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</p>	<p>1545 Yukon Place Livermore</p> <p>bd 4 ba 2.5 sqft +/- 3,777 \$965,000</p> <p>Wonderful home on an interior cul de sac in desirable South Livermore area. Spacious floorplan with Master downstairs, huge bonus room upstairs, so many upgrades! Incredible backyard w/ pool, spa, playhouse and swing, vineyard and an amazing stately oak tree.</p> <p>Weiner McDowell 925.251.2550</p>	<p>3678 Foothill Rd Pleasanton</p> <p>bd ba acres +/- 5.16 \$899,000</p> <p>Nice 5 acre parcel with Gorgeous Valley Views, West End of Old Foothill Rd. has black Gate entry to private road. 2 containers on property. Home at end of private road not included. Owner will finance, consider trades. All Services to front of parcel.</p> <p>Steve Mattos 925.426.7978</p>	<p>3056 Rivers Bend Livermore</p> <p>bd 4 ba 3 sqft +/- 2,878 \$779,950</p> <p>Large home, possible 5th bedroom. Gourmet kitchen with granite counters, S/S appliances, upgraded kitchen cabinets, formal dining room, master suite w/ marble bathroom, plantation shutters throughout, full bed/bathroom downstairs. 2 years old.</p> <p>Max de Vries 925.251.2514</p>
<p>17860 Almond Rd Castro Valley</p> <p>bd 5 ba 2.5 sqft +/- 1,922 \$699,500</p> <p>Dream Location, Freshly painted, Newer Carpets, Great home larger than it looks, Detached drive through two car garage, Desired school district, Large finished basement, Investor/ Home owners dream property, barn, three parcels with sale of home. Great investment...</p> <p>Kristy with Company 925.251.2536</p>	<p>8615 Mines Rd Livermore</p> <p>bd ba acres +/- 16.53 \$1,300,000</p> <p>Extraordinary 16.5 Acre Horse property. Property has 3 wells. A beautiful 5800 William Poole Three Story traditional home has been designed. The plan is negotiable to go with property. Site has been approved for 8 stall barn.</p> <p>Carol Cline 925.683.0488</p>	<p>2889 Rutherford Ct Livermore</p> <p>bd 4 ba 3.5 sqft +/- 3,504 \$775,000</p> <p>Wonderfully located, at the end of a cul-de-sac, near vineyards and open fields. Spacious entry way, gourmet kitchen and grand master suite. Large backyard with a private apartment/office above the garage. Live in style, and create your own country get-away.</p> <p>Sarah Arnold 925.253.7074</p>	<p>188 Heligan Ln #5 Livermore</p> <p>bd 3 ba 3.5 sqft +/- 1,548 \$439,000</p> <p>"Designer Home" Chef's Kitchen: Slab granite, mosaic tile backsplash, stainless appliances, great room and kitchen - balcony off of greatroom, sit up breakfast bar, surround sound, downstairs master suite, 2 car garage, Recreation Center, Activity Park (Pool, tot lot).</p> <p>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</p>	<p>2046 Pinot Ct Livermore</p> <p>bd 4 ba 4 sqft +/- 4,340 \$1,124,000</p> <p>Beautiful South Livermore Custom Home located in the Exclusive Chardonnay Estates. This home has it all...including 4 Lg Bds, 1 Bd Dwnstrs, Huge Bonus/Media Rm, 4 Baths, Gourmet Kit and Grt Rm. Huge Priv Bkdyrd with Built in BBQ, Top rated schools, Tennis Court Park.</p> <p>Corey Green 925.583.2173</p>	<p>2020 Charmont Ct Livermore</p> <p>bd 5 ba 3.5 sqft +/- 4,900 Call</p> <p>Italian Villa, custom home located within walking distance to the vineyards and downtown restaurants and wineries. Thoughtfully designed throughout to include custom appointed amenities, located in the heart of the Livermore Wine Country.</p> <p>Cindy Engel 925.580.5107</p>

VALLEY ROUNDUP

More Energy Savings

The Santa Rita Jail in Alameda County, the first in the country to build its own micro-grid, has chalked up another energy milestone.

The jail — which recently dedicated an on-site battery to generate its own renewable electricity when power rates are at their highest and switch off from the main grid — has also turned to energy efficient lighting to save more on electricity costs.

Under the lighting retrofit completed last year, more than 400 high-pressure sodium and metal halide lights at the jail were replaced with induction lights that consume 60 percent less energy, emit less carbon into the air, and are virtually maintenance free.

The new lights on the yard, warehouse, and exterior walls of the jail, will provide enhanced safety and security for staff and inmates, while drastically cutting power expenses.

By switching to energy-efficient lighting, Alameda County expects to save 753,781 kilowatt hours or \$81,718 in annual energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 260 tons every year.

The project was funded by a \$300,000 grant from the US Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Program (EECBG).

The EECBG program, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, is administered by the California Energy Commission to help small cities and counties throughout the state attain their energy-efficiency goals.

Environmental Practices

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) acknowledged national laboratories and sites for achievements in environmental stewardship, awarding a total of 24 Pollution Prevention (P2) Awards for innovative initiatives across the enterprise.

The P2 Awards recognize performance in integrating environmental stewardship practices that helps to reduce risk, protect natural resources and enhance site operations.

Local labs were recognized for the following Environmental Stewardship Awards:

Community Collaboration and Engagement: Reaching Beyond, Sustainability Outreach (Y-12); Fresh @ the labs Farmers Market Collaboration (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory/Sandia National Laboratories/California); and Hydrogen Shuttle Bus Collaborative Project (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory/Sandia National Laboratories/California)

Change Agents: Innovative Green Cleaning at NIF (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory).

PG&E Pays Fees

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) announced paid franchise fees and property taxes of almost \$286 million to the 49 counties

and 243 cities in which it operates — including more than \$26.8 million in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties combined.

Franchise fees are payments that PG&E makes to cities and counties for the right to use public streets for its gas and electric facilities.

PG&E's property tax payments of \$148 million cover the period from Jan. 1 to June 30, 2012. Total payments for the fiscal year 2011-2012 were \$296 million.

The company's property tax payments to counties for tax year 2011/12 increased by \$14.6 million over the previous year's payments as a result of an increase in assessments reflecting PG&E's infrastructure investments and an overall increase in tax rates.

Dublin was paid \$524,573; Livermore \$628,759, and Pleasanton \$707,417.

Clean Water Grants Available

The Clean Water Program announces the availability of Community Stewardship Grants for projects in Alameda County

The Clean Water Program will provide grants up to \$5,000 to encourage grassroots community action that prevents stormwater pollution and enhances the health of local watersheds, creeks, and the San Francisco Bay.

The program was established for teachers and student groups, community and environmental groups, youth organizations, homeowners associations to conduct projects that support the grant program goals.

Projects eligible for funding include the following:

- The Community Stewardship Grant Program provides resources for projects in Alameda County or within an Alameda County watershed that contain a stormwater pollution prevention message and produces a community/public outreach element. Sample projects could include (but are not limited to):

- Outreach and education projects with a stormwater pollution prevention message such as watershed protection, household hazardous waste disposal, antilitter, Integrated Pest Management techniques, etc.

- Development and distribution of outreach materials (e.g., video, newsletter, website, brochures, guidebook, educational event, training, and others).

- Art projects
- Creekside restoration/revegetation projects
- Stormwater detention projects such as rain gardens, cisterns and bioswales
- Wildlife habitat projects

Applications may be downloaded from the web at www.cleanwaterprogram.org/teachers/grants or contact Amy Evans at the Alameda County Resource Conservation District (925) 371-0154 x 112 or amy.evans@acrcd.org

Applications must be received by May 23, 2012.

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EDITORIAL

Taking Responsibility

Social media provide a way to make comments and voice opinions instantly.

Those opportunities raise issues involving due process when it comes to decisions to be made by area city councils, as well as issues regarding anonymity on the part of some who post comments.

The Brown Act prohibits discussion among councilmembers concerning issues that would be coming to the council outside of a noticed public hearing. If one councilmember were to post an opinion about an issue and other councilmembers read it, that would constitute a serial meeting, a violation of the Brown Act.

Councilmember Stewart Gary said, "The trouble with electronics is that once something is published, there is nothing to prevent the four other councilmembers from reading it."

It doesn't matter if the comments were made on a city website or a non-city website.

City Manager Marc Robert said of councilmembers who may wish to blog, "Follow the law. There are Brown Act and due process issues that arise. Some may not be obvious."

The public also posts comments on line. There are two concerns. Unlike letters to the editor published in local print media, there are blogging sites that do not require those commenting to publish their names. It is possible to make inaccurate statements or accusations without being held accountable. Another concern, is that one person could post numerous comments under different pseudonyms in an attempt to give more weight to his or her opinion.

The internet is full of websites urging people to remain anonymous while blogging and tips on how to do so. That may be fine for some situations. However, in commenting about issues that will be the subject of noticed public hearings, it is important that members of the public take responsibility for their words posted on-line, just as elected officials must do.

EDUCATION

(continued from page one)

There won't be any single correct answers, said Golden. Instead, it will be up to students to find several answers that are true.

TEXTS, TESTING GO TO COMPUTERS

A radical change will be the shift from paper to electronics for instructional materials and tests. Gone will be the pencil-paper tests, said Golden. Testing will move to computer labs at schools.

Golden said that eventually it's likely that textbooks will move to computers. By 2018, it's likely publishers will offer apps for instruction material, she said.

Also changing will be the multiple choice tests that have only one correct answer. The test itself may continue. However, students will be expected to parse out information needed for the solution. There can be more than one correct answer. Finding only one answer will bring only partial credit.

Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi said, "Such an approach to testing is exciting. It's performance assessment. You may have multiple choice, but it's not like previous tests. You'd have different options. Good ideas are always bold."

In testing, there will be more emphasis on composing answers. That will raise the importance of students' ability to express themselves using correct grammar, clear writing, and competent oral presentations, said Golden.

In the past, clear writing and oral expressions have been the domain of English Language Arts (ELA). However, the new curriculum will have all teachers conveying these skills through their various subjects.

Golden would like to be able to hire substitute teachers to free up teachers to attend workshops about the new methods. "That's our hope, but we don't have a budget for it yet. It's one possible strategy. We also may be able to use staff development days to provide instruction," Golden told The Independent.

Golden also may ask the school board to authorize placing two full-time teachers on special assignment for two years to help educate faculty.

Another cost of implementing the new curriculum will be the adoption of new instructional materials that are compatible with it.

CHANGE COMES WITH PRICE TAG

Some of the specifics about exact needs in the switch have not been pinned down, said

Golden. However, it is likely that the change will cost the district money for staff time compensation to learn the methods, and the adoption of new materials.

The instructional materials adoption would occur anyway, but not until 2016 and 2018. Pleasanton last approved new materials for English Language Acquisition (ELA) in 2002. In 2008, the state allowed districts to skip the updates, if they did not have the money, since the big state budget cutbacks were occurring. Some of the state money for text adoption was transferred to the district's general fund.

The district did adopt new math materials in 2007, so Golden feels more confident about being able to wait on adopting a new math curriculum.

The state will help districts by providing some "bridge" instructional materials, which will lead to the new curriculum. Details are still vague about the materials, said Golden. They are supposed to be available for adoption this fall.

Golden will be keeping the board informed of developments, and specific costs, as best that they can be determined.

Modest preparations have already begun for the change-over. School principals and teacher leaders underwent two hours of training in March.

The California Department of Education published a training plan with four modules. The Alameda County Office of Education will provide training in May for the first two modules.

Board president Joan Laursen said that she has been relishing the contribution that high-tech can make to education. "As we move forward, we are moving to different models of delivering information and structuring classrooms. The cost of tech has come down. There is a state approved on-line product that is free to school districts."

"We have an amazingly innovative staff in the district. I hope they are encouraged to come forward with ideas that can be used to provide education in a different way," added Laursen.

Trustee Chris Grant said, "It will be good to involve teachers, and move the curriculum from a set of tools that are national, so it comes to life, and is unique to Pleasanton. We can adopt the new curriculum in a way that ignites the creativity of our team."

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES ARE LAYED OFF

The board approved layoff notices to go to classified employees who occupy a total of 18.4 full-time equivalent positions.

Livermore Considers More Cuts in Budget

Livermore will begin narrowing down its budget options during a city council workshop to be held on May 8 at 4 p.m.

While there are signs that the economy is improving, past shortfalls in some accounts could produce more cuts in services for the next fiscal year.

Previous efforts to reduce costs included unsustainable activities. No vehicle replacement funding was provided, very low retiree medical trust funding, and very low general fund capital improvement program (CIP) support.

According to a report to the city council last week by Doug Alessio, financial services manager, "Any additional resources available during the budget cycle will first need to be allocated towards funding vehicle replacement, CIP and the retiree medical trusts."

The best news, Alessio continued, is the increase in sales tax

revenues. The city has received \$2 million as the result of settlements. In addition, revenue from local sales increased by a quarter of a million during the last quarter. The city had predicted \$16.7 million in sales tax for this fiscal year. Now it is anticipating a total of \$19 million.

The general fund historically contributes approximately \$700,000 a year to the fleet internal service fund for regularly scheduled fleet updates and replaces. The funds are meant to replace police patrol cars, fire engines and trucks, street and landscape maintenance vehicles and heavy equipment, and inspection vehicles. The last contribution was made in FY 2008-09. Alessio, added, the city has been drawing down its reserves to purchase public safety vehicles.

The CIP generally receives \$1.5 to \$2 million each year from the general fund. Projects typically funded address public

health and safety concerns. Since 2009-10, the city has reduced funding to \$250,000 annually and deferred maintenance to creeks, culverts, buildings, and not moved ahead with other public improvements.

Retiree medical costs are increasing at the same time that contributions were decreased. A actuarial study determined that the payment for 2011-12 should be over \$9 million in order to be able to fund the retirement medical over the next 26 years. Alessio told the council, "We can't choose not to pay. The costs create inflexibility in the budget. The general fund will be used to pay medical benefits, not for other services."

The city expects to see increased retirement and health costs for its employees. To keep growing expenditures aligned with the predicted flat revenues, the city will need to continue reducing its costs for the foresee-

able future.

City Manager Marc Roberts commented, "There will be cuts in the budget that will be reviewed at the workshop on May 8. The challenge will be how to divide up what resources are available and where to place funding emphasis."

Mayor John Marchand asked staff to look at providing additional police resources. "I know there will be trade-offs. However, it is a critical issue to the community."

Councilmember Stewart Gary, former fire chief, said he would encourage staff not to predispose the outcome of looking at police services. "It's easy to say, 'add back officers.' I'd like to hear why such a move is needed and what it would accomplish." He also asked for a report as to how fast the city could actually place officers on the street, since recruitment and training periods are involved.

Measure B Funds Have Paid for Transportation Upgrades

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) marked a decade of transportation gains on April 26.

The improvements were made possible by Measure B, which 81.5% of Alameda County voters passed for a second time in 2000. In the first decade, the Alameda County half-cent transportation sales tax

has generated over \$956 million to upgrade and expand the county's transportation system.

As the agency with sales tax planning and funding authority, Alameda CTC has used this money to help reduce congestion and improve mobility and access through investments in highways, streets, transit, walking and bicycling safety. Transportation options have also been expanded for seniors and the disabled. All of the projects were approved by voters.

Alameda CTC record keeping has been accurate with "clean" audits from an independent external auditor. The audits have reinforced Alameda CTC's goal to spend tax dollars wisely and deliver projects efficiently by ensuring that the county gets the best value for the public funds it is entrusted to spend. The Alameda CTC independent Watchdog Committee has concurred with the "clean" audit opinion of the sales tax dollars.

In the last decade, 40% of \$956.7 million - or \$382.7 mil-

lion - has been allocated to capital projects that have included rail extensions, highway widening and new or improved highway connection routes/interchanges, local streets and roads enhancements, intermodal projects (meaning they involve more than one form of transportation such as bus and rail), and other local projects.

Over \$325 million has been paid to local Alameda County firms, and \$94 million of that amount to small, local firms for construction, engineering, professional and administrative services. In the last fiscal year (2010-2011) alone, about 82% of the engineering and administrative contracts went to 175 local firms.

The Alameda CTC has been able to deliver 95 percent of its 27 capital improvement projects approved by the voters in 2000 in 50 percent of the time. In addition, it has been able to draw into the County over \$500 million in federal, state and regional dollars to augment the local sales tax in-

vestments. In the coming months, over \$400 million in construction contracts will be released for transportation infrastructure improvements throughout the County.

More transportation investments are needed throughout the county, however, to support a growing population, address legislative mandates to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and to support continued economic growth through job creation and efficient movement of people and goods.

In November 2012, residents of Alameda County will be asked to extend the sales tax and add a half cent to the current half cent.. 2012 Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP) will be placed on the ballot to guide \$7.8 billion in multi-modal transportation investments that focus on maintenance and operations of the existing transportation system, as well as investments that address future transportation needs. The TEP invests in the following categories:

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Letter Policy: The Independent will not publish anonymous letters, nor will it publish letters without names. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be submitted by e-mail to edit-mail@compuserve.com.)

Stop the Benches Walter D. Harvey Livermore

About half of the three mile bike/pedestrian path along Stanley Boulevard is essentially finished, complete with 22 metal benches that face Stanley and the railroad tracks. It is not obvious why so many closely spaced benches are needed along this mile and a half stretch of path. What is obvious is that an excess of Alameda County Measure B funds have been made available for this project. Will another 22 benches be installed in the remaining unfinished portion of the path? Probably, unless our local county supervisor does something about it.

Fireworks Funds Sought Wendy Weathers LARP Foundation Chairperson Livermore Fireworks (925) 290-8295

I would like to thank Carl's Jr. for holding a fundraiser for the Livermore Fireworks on April 25, 2012. This contribution will help us pay for some of the down payments on items needed to operate the July 4th fireworks event. However, there is still a need for more funds to pay for the balance of those operating costs.

We are at crunch time and need more funds in the bank. We are asking for more donations to enable us to meet required down payments.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this cause. It will help us in providing a celebration for the citizens of Livermore and another way to honor our active military, veterans and those that gave the ultimate sacrifice. Without

them we would not be able to celebrate this great Nation's independence.

Checks can be made out to LARP Foundation with fireworks in the memo/for space and mailed to: LARP Foundation, Attn: Livermore Fireworks, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, CA 94550

Online donations are accepted at <http://livermorefireworks.org> Gratefully.

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization Tax ID Number 94-3206650

Patriot Awards Barbara Hempill Communications Committee CommunityPatriots.org

Thank you very much for your comprehensive coverage of the two recipients of the 2012 Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards. Each year the nominating committee reviews the nomination forms submitted by committee members for people who have made a positive difference in the Pleasanton community. The two individuals chosen for this year's award, Jan Batcheller and Tony Macchiano, have outstanding records of service beyond what they would do in the normal course of their employment.

Friends and family members of Jan and Tony, as well as past award recipients, attended the Eighth Annual Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards reception on Monday, April 23, at the Museum on Main. As W. Ron Sutton, current President of the Patriot Awards, reminded those in attendance, "Each year Ed Kinney's memory is honored by the presentation of these awards to worthy community members in the hope of inspiring others and motivating them to make a positive difference in Pleasanton."

The motivation for Jan and Tony is best described in their own words. Jan says, "I am in debt to this community. . . I believe we should leave our community better than we found it."

Tony similarly says, "I have to give back . . . You just need to help people and the community

to be a good place."

The awardees will be introduced to the community at the Fourth of July Celebration in Wayside Park. Ed Kinney shared his love of the community as he served as Master of Ceremonies for "Celebrating Freedom and its Evolution Since the Revolution", Pleasanton's all-volunteer community event for the Fourth of July.

As of 2012, Ed Kinney Community Patriot Awards and reception are a 501(C)(3) non-profit under the umbrella of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation.

Let's Try 5-County BART Robert S. Allen Livermore Former BART Director

In 1957 — five years before BART's bond issue and 15 years before its first trains started running — the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit Commission published its epic and fore-sighted "Report to the Legislature."

The report sought "... a coordinated system of mass rapid transit, operating on its own rights-of-way, removed from conflict with vehicular traffic... a comprehensive, unified network under one management... constructed in stages as the need develops through the population and economic growth of the area..." ("Regional Rail" just doesn't cut it!)

The first stage proposed was in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, Marin, and San Mateo counties. Before the bond measure vote, the Golden Gate crossing was dropped, and San Mateo County supervisors withdrew their county from the district. A supermajority of voters in the three remaining counties in 1962 passed the huge \$792 million bond issue (paid off over a decade ago) funding BART akin to a Joint Exercise of Powers Agency (JEPAs).

The report also urged "... serious consideration... in the initial construction phase those portions of the facilities designated as the second construction phase..." (i.e., around the Bay through San Jose.) It further recommended "... Santa Clara County... annexation... to the rapid transit

(More MAILBOX, page 5)

The Independent
(INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.)

Publisher: Joan Kinney Seppala
Associate Publisher: David T. Lowell
Editor: Janet Armantrout

The Independent is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550; (925) 447-8700. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9998. The Independent is mailed upon request. Go to www.independentnews.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

Advertising rates and subscription rates may be obtained by calling (925) 447-8700 during regular business hours or by fax: (925) 447-0212.
Editorial information may be submitted by editmail@compuserve.com.

ORDINANCE CEMETERY

(continued from page one)

asked for the study. "I understand the need for more businesses in order to create greater vitality in the downtown. I have concerns about the proposed ordinance." He pointed out there are two task forces working, one looking at hospitality guidelines and another historic preservation guidelines. He suggested that looking at the entire downtown at one time would be the better way to proceed.

Thorne added that manipulating uses through ordinances doesn't work well in the downtown. The goal should be to look at incentives to attract businesses. He suggested allowing fee payments to be spread out over a period of time. The city should work with the Small Business Administration to help obtain loans. "The problem is start-up costs, particularly when it comes to restaurants," he said.

Councilmember Matt Sullivan had a different view. He favored a stronger ordinance, one that would prohibit locating financial institutions on corners.

He agreed that there is a need to conduct a comprehensive look at uses in the downtown. He added, "One of the issues with banks is that they drive up rents for everyone. It is a gentrification issue that we need to talk about."

Councilmember Cheryl Cook-Kallio pointed out that there have been profound changes in the way people use financial institutions. There are ATMs, on-line accounts and, satellite branches. Fewer people go directly to a bank, reducing the foot traffic that is generated by the use. Senior Planner Janice Stearn told the council the goal is to make sure the city is able to attract a variety of businesses to the downtown and have them occupy prominent locations. Existing financial institutions would remain as non-conforming uses. If a bank were to close, the owner would have 180 days to find a similar tenant.

One member of the public spoke, a Economic Vitality Commissioner. She said that since she had moved to town, she has noticed how few retail shops remain. Retail uses are needed to provide the pedestrian traffic to support all of the businesses.

FOUNDATION

(continued from page one)

tive costs in delivering services while ensuring that the proper fees associated with providing the foundation's services and programs are being administered and collected.

A third action by the board was to order an evaluation of all of the current programs to determine their future viability and value to the Tri-Valley. Finally, a strategic plan is being developed with community foundation consultant, Peter Hero & Associates. As President of Community Foundation Silicon Valley, Hero led that organization from a \$5 million to a \$1 billion foundation.

Currently the Tri-Valley Community Foundation is at \$2 million.

"For almost twenty years, the Foundation has been a mainstay of economic and community support to a growing population of at-risk youth, residents with mental health issues, a growing population requiring food and health services and other programs that ensure the education, health and well being of many in the community less fortunate and in need of support," added Judge Hyde. "The long term viability of the foundation is essential to the philanthropic needs of the Tri-Valley."

CEMETERY

(continued from page one)

Road, north of the Dublin city limit and east of the San Ramon limit. It is beyond San Ramon's urban growth boundary. A cemetery use is allowed with a special permit.

The cemetery would cover 221 acres, with 188 of them owned by Dublin developer Sid Corrie. A neighbor owns the remaining 33 acres.

A new cemetery to serve the region is a subject "near and dear to my heart," Wilson told the council.

"We have a problem in this Valley. There is not any cemetery that is not almost filled," said Wilson.

Wilson said that he would like to work with all five Tri-Valley cities "to see whether or not this can become a reality." He said that Corrie wants the community to become a part of building a cemetery.

Wilson declared, "It's a possibility that we have, whether it's a bond issue, or something like that. This (can be) a turn-key operation."

Wilson spoke during the audience communication period, so there was no response from the council.

PROPOSAL FIRST SUBMITTED IN 2005

Corrie first submitted the proposal to Contra Costa County late in 2005. All five Tri-Valley cities studied the idea of a new cemetery to serve the region at that time. Livermore opted out, saying that it has enough cemetery capacity to meet the city's needs for the future.

Pleasanton went on record as favoring a regional cemetery, but not endorsing any specific location. The city council has set a goal of obtaining additional land or opening more plots at the city's cemetery.

Dublin, San Ramon and Danville endorsed the Tassajara proposal, which is called Creekside Memorial Park.

An 872-page draft EIR has been completed. However, questions remain. One has to do with restoration of the nearby creek, which would be environmentally degraded by the cemetery. The 33-acre property owned by Corrie's neighbor is crucial to mitigating the project.

The Contra Costa County planning department stopped the approval process, and sent a letter to Corrie concerning the 33 acres. Corrie must submit a letter that shows he owns that parcel, before the application can proceed, said planner Demian Hardman.

Alternatively, the neighbor could submit a letter that shows he would allow the cemetery. A third option is for Corrie to redesign the project to exclude the 33 acres. However, that would be difficult, because that land is crucial to restoration of the creek, said Hardman.

NEIGHBORS OPPOSE 'URBAN USE'

Neighbors led by Bill and Holly Newman have organized Friends of Tassajara to oppose the cemetery.

They said that the plan will significantly grade ridge tops, have an adverse effect on the water table, and draw traffic more associated with an urban use than a rural one.

The Newmans acknowledge on their "Stop the Creekside Memorial Park" website that there would be 150 acres dedicated to open space on land which they said is too steep for any cemetery use. They say that no details have been provided about the proposed conservation easement.

Citing the cemetery plan, they point to the grading of 77 acres, the removal of up to 30 feet from the top of the ridge line, and 60,000 square feet of buildings, one of which would be 30 feet tall.

As other negatives, they pointed to parking lots with spaces for up to 82 cars, and roads that would be 24 feet wide.

The Newmans are also concerned about the threat to sensitive species on the land, and the disturbance of the creek.

PLEASANTON HEARS FROM OPPONENT

Holly Newman appeared before the Pleasanton council May 1 to comment on the remarks that Abrams made at the April 17 city council meeting.

Newman said that the council should not gain the impression that the cemetery is "a done deal." Contra Costa County suspended the application in February.

If the city were to commit taxpayers money to the project,

it could windup being a financial burden for the city, said Newman.

Newman said the cemetery plan talks about 1100 burials annually, but with 18 cemeteries within a 15-mile radius of the Creekside proposal, the cemetery might not achieve that rate. She said that at least four of the area cemeteries have burial capacity for the next 50 years.

Further, many people want to bury loved ones in the same cemeteries where other relatives are buried, so would not be likely candidates for a new cemetery, she said.

Newman's appearance came during the audience address part of the agenda. The council could not respond to her.

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4) district at an early date..." That was 55 years ago! Let's revisit the report.

Frequent, reliable, and safe BART trains seat up to 600 passengers (plus standees) with one train operator and emit no noxious or "Greenhouse" gases. BART now reaches Millbrae in San Mateo County and is on its

way to San Jose's Berryessa in Santa Clara County. The time has come to form a JEPA of BART and those two counties and plan for BART around the Bay.

The JEPA would plan balanced rapid transit for our six million residents, likely to include: grade separate, fence, and replace Caltrain south of Millbrae with BART; ring the

Bay with BART; extend BART to the Golden Gate and Carquinez Bridges, to Brentwood, and through Livermore to beyond the Altamont Pass; re-route the Capitol Corridor in the East Bay via Mulford; and grade separate and fence East Bay Capitol Corridor tracks. Then bring a bond issue to the voters as was done with BART in 1962.

June 1 Deadline for Ticket Amnesty Program

Alameda County residents with overdue traffic tickets have less than two months left to pay up through an amnesty program that allows some fines to be cut in half.

Since Jan. 1, courts in Alameda County and elsewhere throughout California have offered amnesty to people who have not paid traffic-ticket fines

due before January 1, 2009. The amnesty program allows people to make good on their debt and shaves 50 percent off the amount due.

The amnesty program ends June 30, 2012.

Only traffic tickets that were due to be paid before January 1, 2009, are eligible. Parking tickets, driving under the influence

(DUI), and reckless driving cases are not eligible.

For more information, contact Alameda County Central Collections (510) 208-9900 or go to 1221 Oak Street, Rm. 220, Oakland.

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STAR TREK

(continued from page one)

on Livermore and the Valley, said Kaye, who is also president of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Movie filming last year brought \$1 million into the area. The big money generator was the TV movie, "Hemingway and Gellhorn." Commercials filmed locally also added to the economy.

An entire film crew consists of approximately 300 people, said Kaye. The art department alone may have 50 employees. There are people who work on visual and sound effects, music, costume, wardrobe and transportation.

A traveling crew would not be that large, but still formidable enough to have an impact on hotel bookings and other expenditures, said Kaye.

Livermore has a good reputation in Hollywood as a versatile location. In "Hemingway and Gellhorn," Livermore doubled as New England, with tight camera shots of Victorian homes, and Spain, in the rolling hills of the countryside.

The key to attracting film companies is word of mouth, said Kaye. It's a relatively small

circle in Hollywood that advises studios about where to shoot on location, and they hear feedback about areas that film companies have used.

"You can run all the ads you want, as some places do (to attract film companies). Doing a good job is what is important," said Kaye.

Kaye knows her way around Hollywood. She worked as a producer for 11 years. She read books and scripts for their suitability for TV and big screen production. She also served for 17 years as Florida's film commissioner, while husband Ted Kaye was working as a vice president for Disney MGM.

Ted Kaye became head of Disney-MGM. He retired from the business, and now is CEO for the Las Positas College Foundation.

According to news reports, the movie, slated to open in May 2013, is the sequel to the 2009 film, a prequel to the original "Star Trek" TV series. It stars Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Karl Urban, Zoe Saldana and Benedict Cumberbatch as the latest villain.

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For a complete list of classes and class fees, lectures and health education resources, visit pamf.org/healtheducation. May 2012

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Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
4050 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, 925-875-6223
Meet with an R.N. and certified lactation consultant to ensure your first weeks of motherhood are healthy and happy.

Your Baby's Doctor
First Wednesday of the month, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
4050 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin, 650-853-2960

This is free one-hour class and your opportunity to meet on of our expert family medicine doctors or pediatricians as they talk and answer questions about what happens in the hospital and what to expect during the first couple of weeks at home and at well-child visits. You'll learn what's normal, what's not and what to do when you have questions including the best ways to reach your baby's doctor.

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- Living Well with Diabetes

Weight Management Programs, 510-498-2184
- Healthy eating. Active lifestyles. (for parents of children ages 2-12)
- New Weigh of Life (adult weight management)

Community Health Resource Center
The Health Resource Center offers information and support for those who wish to make informed decisions regarding their health and wellness. The center is open to all members of the community.

- Nurse health educators
- Health reference books
- Health lectures
- Health newsletters
- Informational brochures
- Educational videotapes and DVDs
- Access to health information Websites
- Information on community resources

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.,
Dublin, 925-875-6150 and Fremont,
510-623-2231

Scan this code with your smartphone for more health education information. Get the free mobile scanner app at <http://gettag.mobi>.

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New patient exams, x-rays & cleaning for patients without insurance
Can not be used with any other offer. Present coupon at time of appointment. Expires 06/19/12

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SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Granada High School varsity girls softball team defeated Foothill High 13 to 1 in EBAL action last week. In the photo, a Granada player steals home.

Pleasanton Girls Softball

Pleasanton Girls Softball League results:

T-Ball: Active Kids vs. KB Homes: Active Kids and KB Homes played a real nail biter against each other on Saturday. Active Kids' Rory Keenan had a hard hit over 3rd base and coasted across home plate when Zoe Triantos hit her home after a great line drive. Emma Vollgraf hit a hard ball down the 3rd base line later in the game. For KB Homes, Alyson Schaeffer also hit for a great single down the 3rd base line in the third inning. Later, Meadow Castaneda hit a beautiful single past the pitcher, and Katherine Foster successfully bunted to get on 1st base in the first inning. The teams tied and were happy to complete the game in the first 90+ degree day of the season.

KB Homes vs. RS Calibration: Nadia Brown continued her dominance at the plate by going 3 for 4 with 4 RBI's. AJ Avelar had a grand slam with an incredible home run that sailed 363 ft. Top Players: KB Homes - Nadia Brown, Meadow Castaneda, Allison Schaeffer; RS Calibration - A.J. Avelar, Gabby Avelar, Sophia Shaw

Micro White: Doug Snyder Realty vs. NetApp: Both teams played a great game with good hitting and some awesome plays in the field. The girls endured four innings in the late afternoon heat. Doug Snyder Realty's Maria Gutierrez had three hits and in the field Audrey Ku and Ella McCoy combined together for two consecutive outs in the first inning. NetApp's Katie Kirschner had some nice hits and the Lohanis sisters Leah and Grace made some very good plays in the field and combined together for an out. Top Players: Doug Snyder Realty - Maria Gutierrez, Audrey Ku, Ella McCoy; NetApp - Katie Kirschner, Grace Lozano, Leah Lozano

Micro White: The Course at Wentz vs. CA Mechanical Inc.: Ella Piergrossi connected for 2 straight hits out to centerfield. Audrey Townsend had a solid hit to the center and made a sprint for 1st base. Callie McCarthy hit the ball to 3rd base and made it to home plate for her first run this season. Sarah-Rose Nicolson had 2 big hits. Sophia Fraher made a nice catch at 1st base for an out. Rachel Tani had a monster hit into the outfield. Top Players: The Course at Wentz - Callie McCarthy, Ella Piergrossi, Audrey Townsend; CA Mechanical Inc. - Sophia Fraher, Sarah-Rose Nicolson, Rachel Tani

Mini White: Delores Gragg-Keller Williams Realty vs. West Maui Condo Rentals: On Delores Gragg-Keller Williams Realty, Nina pitched great and caught a fly ball at 3rd base. Shawna played great defense as catcher. Sydney played great defense and hit well. On West Maui Condo Rentals, Jane had good hits. Olivia displayed good hitting off the pitcher. Elizabeth made good pitching effort. Top Players: Delores Gragg-Keller Williams Realty - Nina Balestrieri, Sydney Cohen, Shawna Katz; West Maui Condo Rentals - Elizabeth Allen, Jane Lee, Olivia Sanchez

West Maui Condo Rentals vs. Balloons & Beyond: For Balloons & Beyond, Emily Harmon and Alyssa Smith led the offense with two hits each, while Kaylie Yunker pitched a great game. For West Maui Condo Rentals, Jane Lee and Monica Nader also had two hits, and Christina Herdman pitched very well. Top Players: West Maui Condo Rentals - Christina Herdman, Jane Lee, Monica Nader; Balloons & Beyond - Emily Harmon, Alyssa Smith, Kaylie Yunker

HealthyLivingrule vs. Alta Sales Group: From HealthyLivingrule, there was great defense and offense from Abbey Baer, excellent pitching from Corey Timby and a great play at 2nd base from Isabella Rule. From Alta Sales Group, there was quick fielding from Abbey Cortez, amazing pitching from Calli Turns and some speedy base running from Mia De La Cruz. Top Players: HealthyLivingrule - Abbey Baer, Isabella Rule, Corey Timby; Alta Sales Group - Abbey Cortez, Mia De La Cruz, Calli Turns

Mini Teal: Accurate Impressions 10, Machi Construction 4: Accurate Impressions took the early lead thanks to the offensive skills of Kim Ebberts, Kylie Pfothenauer and Camille Kulak. Machi Construction fought back hard behind the pitching leadership of Alex Wampler, who threw many strikes. McKenzie Dalrymple displayed great pitching skills as well. She also hit a double in the 3rd inning, bringing in a runner, narrowing Accurate Impressions' lead. McKenna Harris played aggressive offense, crushing a hit in the third inning for a double. She excelled in the field, fielding a hard hit grounder and throwing the batter out at 1st. Accurate Impressions was able to hold the lead despite Machi Construction's final inning heroics. Top Players: Machi Construction - McKenzie Dalrymple, McKenna Harris, Alex Wampler; Accurate Impressions - Kim Ebberts, Camille Kulak, Kylie Pfothenauer

Securities America 2, GFI Stainless 0: Awesome play from Hannah Deckinger, Amanda Mero and Kamryn Fleming for Securities America. Julia Simmons caught a fly ball at the top of the 1st inning for GFI Stainless. Lauren Sowers played a great game and Sammie Chilton was solid as pitcher for GFI Stainless. Top Players: Securities America - Hannah Deckinger, Kamryn Fleming, Amanda Mero; GFI Stainless - Sammie Chilton, Julia Simmons, Lauren Sowers

Accurate Impressions 5, GFI Stainless 3: Both teams fought hard in a close game. Daria Wolfe pitched a great game for GFI Stainless and caught an out at the top of the 2nd inning. Haley Kolon made a great catch at 1st base for an out and Collette Wogsland made an awesome catch at 3rd base for an out. Notable players for Accurate Impressions were Kim Ebberts and Megan Schuerlein, who both played great defense. Emily Bassett

was Accurate Impressions' big hitter of the day. Top Players: GFI Stainless - Hannah Baalman, Collette Wogsland, Daria Wolfe; Accurate Impressions - Emily Bassett, Kim Ebberts, Megan Schuerlein

Major Teal: Uncle Credit Union 13, Fusion 3 Salon 12: Fusion 3 Salon gave Uncle Credit Union a good run with Allison's pitching. Shreya's defense, and Alyssa's consistent hitting. In the end, Uncle Credit Union pulled ahead with the help of Jacqueline scoring every at bat. Loren's assistance with 2 runs and 2 steals, and Caileigh's ability to close down the opposing team as pitcher. Top Players: Uncle Credit Union - Loren Roundtree, Caileigh Sanders, Jacqueline Wood; Fusion 3 Salon - Allison Harizal, Shreya Madan, Alyssa Simonson

Maher Educational Services 12, Uncle Credit Union 9: Caileigh Sanders gave Maher Educational Services a run for their money with great pitching. And while the entire team did well, Denell Ontiveros played great as catcher, and Loren Roundtree caught several outs and made a double play. In the end, Uncle Credit Union were out done by great pitching by Tatiana Costa and Hannah Friesen. While all players hit well, Madeline David stood out with several solid connections with the ball. Top Players: Uncle Credit Union - Denell Ontiveros, Loren Roundtree, Caileigh Sanders; Maher Educational Services - Tatiana Costa, Madeline David, Hannah Friesen

Major Black: Tim McGuire Team - Alain Pinel Realtors 8, Twin Creeks Livermore Elite Team 1: In a rain-shortened game, Tim McGuire Team - Alain Pinel Realtors scored 3 runs in the 1st and never looked back. Strong hitting by Michelle Wood led to a couple of RBI's in the 1st and 3rd innings; she had a stolen base as well. Jenna O'Neal hit an impressive home run in the rain. Taylor Congdon had an RBI, as well as putting in another solid performance behind the plate. Twin Creeks scored on the board in the 4th when Kiara Arias drove home Claire Abele with a strong hit, Claire having reached base with a nice hit of her own. Strong defense in the outfield by Abby Sage for Tim McGuire Team - Alain Pinel Realtors. Twin Creeks' Lauren Martin did a nice job catching, blocking pitches behind the plate. Top Players: Tim McGuire Team - Alain Pinel Realtors - Taylor Congdon, Abby Sage, Michelle Wood; Twin Creeks Livermore Elite Team - Claire Abele, Kiara Arias, Lauren Martin

Senior Division: Fuji Sushi Boat and Buffet 11, TransPak 9: For Fuji Sushi Boat and Buffet, Jamie Altman, pitching in her second game of the season, totaled six outs during two key innings. Lauren Bedard played strong offense leading the team with three hits. Lexi Campisi stayed in as catcher for all six innings playing incredible defense. For TransPak, Makayla Reitsma led her team's tough offensive play with three runs scored. Kathryn Kitayama, pitching several intense innings, totaled four strikeouts. Bailey Beandland played both great defense and offense, catching for several innings and hitting a double in a key scoring inning. Girls Softball at its best. Top Players: Fuji Sushi Boat and Buffet - Jamie Altman, Lauren Bedard, Lexi Campisi; TransPak - Bailey Beandland, Kathryn Kitayama, Makayla Reitsma

Diablo Designs Tile and Stone 5, Savvy Seconds 2: Lacy Becker went 3-for-3 with an RBI and scored a pair of runs and hard-throwing Carly Rose Recupero struck out five in two innings as Diablo Designs Tile and Stone beat Savvy Seconds 5-2. Recupero, Jessica Hungerford, Madelyn Rovira and Sarina Poirier each had a pair of hits as Diablo Designs Tile and Stone rallied from a 2-0 deficit. Recupero relieved starter Becker, who went the first two innings and struck out two, and the left-hander struck out the final four hitters she faced to finish off the Diablo Designs Tile and Stone victory. Haleigh Lopes and Tori Reiner each drove in a run to lead the Savvy Seconds' offense. Top Players: Savvy Seconds - Haleigh Lopes, Tori Reiner, Madelyn Rovira; Diablo Designs Tile and Stone - Lacy Becker, Carly Rose Recupero

Fire Stop Sprinkler Company 7, Diablo Designs Tile and Stone 1: Strong pitching from Madeline Baalman and Mia Konig helped shut down Diablo Designs Tile and Stone while Konig's hot bat sparked Fire Stop Sprinkler Company to a 7-1 victory in PGSL Minor Teal division action Saturday. Diablo Designs Tile and Stone's only run was on Sarina Poirier's booming double to left that scored Isabella Loeblich in the third inning to cut their deficit to 2-1. However, Fire Stop Sprinkler Company threw cold water on Diablo Designs Tile and Stone's comeback efforts by erupting for four runs in their half of the third - keyed by RBI doubles from Konig and Sasha Padilla. Jessica Hungerford helped Diablo Designs Tile and Stone avoid further damage with a nice catch in center field that saved a pair of runs. Carly Rose Recupero pitched two stellar innings of relief for Diablo Designs Tile and Stone, striking out the side in the fourth and finishing with four strikeouts. Baalman and Konig combined to limit Diablo Designs Tile and Stone to just two hits, Poirier's double and a Lacy Becker single, and struck out nine.

Fire Stop Sprinkler Company 7, Uncle Credit Union 3: Brenna Adams recorded two hits and turned a single into a double run while Hailee Weinstein and Haley Roundtree moved the team ahead with two hits each. In the end, Fire Stop Sprinkler Company maintained the lead with strong hitting and pitching from Malia Konig, catching from Theresa Colberg, and support from Madeline Baalman as pitcher and shortstop. Top Players: Uncle Credit Union - Brenna Adams, Haley Roundtree, Hailee Weinstein; Fire Stop Sprinkler Company - Madeline Baalman, Theresa Colberg, Malia Konig

McElroy Orthodontics 6, Diversified Mortgage Tornadoes 4: McElroy Orthodontics' Nicole Witters, went 2 for 2, strong plays at 1st. Paige Scofield went 2 for 2 and strong pitching. Zoey Castillo went 1 for 2 with a big hit and aggressive base running. Diversified Mortgage: Taylor See went 2 for 2 with two RBI's, Brenna Chi went 2 for 2 with two runs scored, Sammy McClain went 1 for 2 with a run scored and a RBI. McElroy Orthodontics led the whole way but Diversified Mortgage rallied in their last at



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Valley Spokesmen Racing Team hosted the Wente 25th annual Criterium and Road Race over the weekend. Pictured is competitors in the criterium.

bat to make the score respectable.

Minor Black: Blue Line 9, All Star Sports 5: Kaitlyn Jones pitched well and delivered a two-run single for Blue Line, which also saw Jessica Shockley score three runs and Terra McHone go 3-for-3. Sarah Lauer had two hits and scored for the victors. All-Star Sports was paced by Hannah Schott (3-for-3, 2 runs), Emily Yamasaki (reached base three times) and Harper Cook (stellar at shortstop).

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Trampoline and Tumbling

The Northern California and Nevada Trampoline and Tumbling State Championships was hosted by Livermore's Springtime Tumbling and Trampoline on April 22, 2012. This meet determined the State Champions on trampoline, double mini trampoline, and tumbling. It is also the 1st qualifier for the Junior Olympic National Championships, to be held July 4-11 in Long Beach, CA.

Eighteen Springtime athletes competed in the Championships meet. They were awarded a total of 29 State Champion medals and received 34 National Qualifying scores. Paige Chew, Jeremy Pigford, Kaitlyn Clevenger, Joshua Erickson, and Ruben Padilla qualified for the National Championships in all 3 events.

Below are the scores and places for all Springtime athletes:

Q: Qualified for Nationals
Trampoline Level 5: Age 9-10: Megan Wong 22.8 (3rd/Q), Nick Abrego 19.2 (1st); Age 11-12: Zoe Harries 22.4 (1st); Age 13-14: Miranda Harries 26.2 (1st/Q), Kyra Aasen 22.8 (3rd/Q); Trampoline Level 6: Age 9-10: Sabra Wilson 24.6 (3rd/Q); Age 11-12: Nicholas Chan 21.8 (1st/Q); Trampoline Level 7: Age 11-12: Paige Chew 22.8 (1st/Q), David Davission 23.3 (1st/Q); Age 13-14: Alex Holland 22.9 (2nd/Q), Megan Contraciego 21.3 (3rd)

Trampoline Level 8: Age 11-12: Kaitlyn Clevenger 52.2 (1st/Q); Age 13-14: Jeremy Pigford 49.2 (1st/Q); Age 15 & Over: Kendall Aasen 48.2 (2nd); Trampoline Level 9: Age 11-12: Ruben Padilla 57.3 (1st, Q), Joshua Erickson 51.2 (2nd/Q); Age 13-14: Delaney Foote 56.0 (1st/Q), Robathan Harries 35.2 (1st)

Double Mini Level 5: Age 11-12: Zoe Harries 56.8 (2nd/Q), Nicholas Chan 53.9 (3rd); Age 13-14: Miranda Harries 56.7 (3rd/Q), Kyra Aasen 56.3 (4th/Q); Double Mini Level 6: Age 9-10: Sabra Wilson 58.6 (1st/Q), Megan Wong 56.8 (5th/Q), Nicholas Abrego 55.1 (1st); Age 11-12: Paige Chew 57.2 (4th/Q); Double Mini Level 7: Age 13-14: Alex Holland 58.3 (2nd/Q), Megan Contraciego 57.5 (4th/Q)

Double Mini Level 8: Age 11-12: Kaitlyn Clevenger 59.8 (1st/Q), Joshua Erickson 60.7 (1st/Q), David Davission 58.3 (4th/Q); Age 13-14: Jeremy Pigford 59.1 (1st/Q); Age 15 & Over: Kendall Aasen 56.1 (3rd); Double Mini Level 9: Age 13-14: Delaney Foote 31.2 (1st), Robathan Harries 60.7 (1st/Q); Double Mini Level 10: Age 11-12: Ruben Padilla 63.6 (2nd/Q)

Tumbling Level 3: Age 9-10: Nick Abrego 51.0 (1st); Age 11-12: Zoe Harries 50.3 (1st), Nicholas Chan 41.9 (1st); Age 13-14: Kyra Aasen 47.6 (1st), Miranda Harries 44.5 (3rd); Tumbling Level 4: Age 9-10: Megan Wong 52.9 (2nd); Age 11-12: David Davission 54.8 (3rd); Tumbling Level 5: Age 9-10: Sabra Wilson 51.4 (5th); Age 11-12: Paige Chew 53.1 (2nd/Q)

Tumbling Level 6: Age 13-14: Megan Contraciego 51.6 (1st/Q), Robathan Harries 50.2 (3rd); Tumbling Level 7: Age 11-12: Kaitlyn Clevenger 53.6 (1st/Q); Age 13-14: Jeremy Pigford 53.5 (1st/Q); Tumbling Level 8: Age 11-12: Joshua Erickson 55.6 (1st/Q); Age 13-14: Delaney Foote 51.8 (1st), Alex Holland 51.1 (2nd), Age 15&Over: Kendall Aasen 53.2 (1st/Q); Tumbling Level 9: Age 11-12: Ruben Padilla 55.0 (1st/Q)



The Tri-Valley Babe Ruth Red team won the Irvington CABA 13U Tournament Championship on Sunday, April 29, 2012. The Tri-Valley Babe Ruth Red team went 4 - 0 in the tournament and outscored their opponents 33 - 13. It was an overall team effort with excellent pitching, superb hitting and solid defense. The Tri-Valley Babe Ruth Red team improved their record for this season to 14 - 1 - 1. Pictured is the championship team (front row, left to right) Josh Moroney, Nic Venezia, Dante Albanese, Connor Redmond and Chris Lonestar; (second row) Jack Fryer, Jack Morgan, Coach Rick Fryer, Darroch Koel, Nate White, Joshua Ott, Coach Todd Moore, Max Moore, Clark Eder and Manager Sean Venezia.

Livermore American LL

Livermore American Little League results:

AAA Division: A's 9, Yankees 4: The A's and Yankees were evenly matched in a game played Thursday evening. A pitching duel ensued - Yankee Cole Arnold pitched superbly with 8 strike-outs in 3 innings. The combination of A's heat-throwers James Wilcox and Nolan Martin matched those 8 strike-outs throughout the game. Defense was outstanding by both teams. The Yankee's JJ Knight made an amazing backhand catch on a well-hit line drive in the 4th. A's third baseman Nathan Jones was exceptional with repeated pinpoint accurate throws to first, and an unassisted double-play in the 4th. Yankee power-hitter Nick Hermann hit a deep shot to centerfield in the 4th which scored the go-ahead run for the Yankees. The A's tied it up in the 5th on a single by Nathan Jones. The A's broke it wide open in the top of the 6th with great hits by both Grant Peterson and Antoine Evans, including Antoine's blast to the fence ruled a ground-rule double. The A's held on to beat their Yankee rivals 9-4.

A's 13, Giants 12: The A's and the Giants played a thrilling game on Saturday. A's pitcher Jared Adams was calm and collected on the mound throwing consistent strikes with several strike-outs. The Giants and the A's traded runs for several innings and then the Giants pulled ahead in the 2nd due to a fantastic double by Brett Peacock that put 2 runs on the board, with 2 additional runs added on a single by Adam Chapman. The A's batted back in the 3rd but were down by 2 runs in the middle of the 6th, where it looked like they might stay due to the strong pitching of Giant's Adam Chapman and Steven Lee. As part of a 2-out rally, fuled by singles by both Jack Volponi and Aidan

Edwards, A's Parker Hughes launched a rocket into deep centerfield, scoring both runners and tying the game. Nolan Martin then singled to score Parker and the A's came out the victors 13-12.

A Division: Cardinals 12, Cubs 8: Another great game played between the Cubs and Cardinals. For the Cubs Dominic Medina a.k.a. "The Dominator" showed us he is back - batting 3 for 3. Clutch hitter, Tyler Bury, was 2 for 3 and advanced his teammates with 4 RBI's! Also for the Cubs, James Pitsker continues his streak going 2 for 2 with 2 runs scored. For the Cardinals, Matthew Villarreal hit a double and ran 2 players in for a 2 point score. Daniel Waxman collected 2 RBIs for the game and Jack Prusso hit a double and ran 1 player in for a 1 point score.

T-Ball: Red Sox vs. Indians: Red Sox top players: Andruw Navarro, Brody

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SPORTS NOTES



The U9 Phantom Lacrosse team played the final match ever on the sand based fields at Robertson park Sunday April 22; the night before the bulldozers moved in to start the transition from grass to artificial turf. Pictured is Phantom U9 player J. Herweg who beats his defender in close for a shot on goal.



Andrew Walker tags out Harrison Kepp in a close play at 2nd on a steal attempt after receiving the throw from catcher Cameron Geyer. This Granada Little League Majors game ended in a 1-0 win for the D-Backs. Photo by Bill Nale

Stringfellow, Colin Falconer; Indians top players: Justin Matchett, Andrew James, Carla Tolentino.

Indians vs. A's: A's top players: Dominick Shepard, Jake Salhoff, Annie Polaski; Indians top players: Christopher Silva, AJ Barranti, Josh Ramon

Rangers vs. Yankees: Rangers top players: Max Ghiglieri, Gregory Laney, Camron O'Callaghan; Yankees top players: Hayden Rago, Seth Weintraub, Dominic Persi.

Red Sox vs. Padres: Red Sox top players: Javier Garcia, Jose Bielski, Mia Geraci; Padres top players: Mason Schaffer, Braeden McRae, Aidan Andre.

Phillies vs. Cardinals: Phillies top players: Matthew Sumner, Justin Grumm, Nikolai Mirra; Cardinals top players: Jack Davis, Jonathan Lankenau, Tyler Forgatsch.

Livermore National LL

Livermore National Little League results:

AA Division: Padres vs. Giants: For the Padres: Kade Ornellas made a great throw from 2nd to tag the runner out at first. Evan Nystrom and Alex Sheldon had a great play that resulted in recording an out at 3rd. Rope Shreffler had a great inning pitching. Sean Stotts had a strong hit and made it home. Jared Higueru had 2 RBIs. For the Giants: Joshua Kim had a great catch at first. Sean Smith hit a triple and pitched well. Nate Lee had a great hit and Matty Sciascia got an out at 2nd base.

A's vs. Padres: Padres: Jay Hawkins hit a towering double to left center. London Bishop pitched well and engaged in some base stealing. Sean Stotts was an aggressive base stealer. Jackson Nystrom had a powerful base hit, and his brother Evan Nystrom drove him home.

Cardinals vs. Dodgers: For the Cardinals: Ben Operin caught a pop fly at 1st base for an out and assisted in 2 additional outs. Aidan Follis hits the first single in the game and scored the first run. For the Dodgers: Julian Quigley played 2 innings with great

pitching and two stolen bases. John Stengall made a heads-up catch behind home plate for the out.

Padres vs. Rockies: For the Padres: Kade Ornellas pitched a scoreless inning. He also assisted in play that resulted in an out at 2nd. Graedon Beeler showed determination and concentration as pitcher. Jay Hawkins used his body to block the ball for an unassisted out at first. For the Rockies: Jonah Johnson cracked a high fly to right center for a double. Gavin Powers was fierce as catcher and stopped nearly every ball that came his way.

Giants vs. Cardinals: For the Giants: Ayden Martinez received the game ball for a nearly 50% strike average as pitcher. He also contributed 2 RBIs. Elias Ramos was on base every time he was at bat. Aidan Montalvo had a fine performance as catcher, and had 2 runs and an RBI. Ethan Henderer contributed a run. For the Cardinals: Jacob Burk electrified the crowd in the first inning with an out-of-the-park grand slam home run. Ben Operin made a fine catch at first base and contributed a run. Weslee Brinkmann hit two doubles and contributed 4 RBIs, and turned in a great performance catching. Aidan Follis recorded two strikeouts and scored a run.

Giants vs. Rockies: For the Giants: Colby Cairrel had a single, a stolen base, and a run. Matty Sciascia had a hit and was responsible for recording an out at second base, while Sean Smith caught a fly ball at first base. For the Rockies: Joey Gomez had good pitching. Xavier Lorie had a good hit and stole second base. Michael Anolin had a home run, and Shane Waechter contributed a good hit.

AAA Division: Padres 10, Dodgers 0: Dodgers outstanding players: Grant Ikeda lead the Dodgers defense with his outstanding pitching. The Dodgers defense was also anchored by Brandon Archer behind the plate at catcher and Chris Johnson's outstanding fielding. Padres outstanding players: Colton Berlim lead the Padres offense with two inside the park home runs on his first two plate appearances. The Padres defense was anchored by the combination of Eric Ruloma



The U11 Pleasanton Rage White team defeated the Heritage Crush 2-1 in a hard fought match at Val Vista 2. The Heritage Crush scored first to take a 1-0. Abby Fried then netted a goal to even the score. The teams went into halftime tied 1-1. The second half was controlled by Rage. After keeping the ball in Heritage's end of the field, the Rage White broke through when Yasmine Springer maneuvered the ball around goalie to score to put the Rage White up 2-1. Goalie Karin McCarty then shutout the Crush in the second half to preserve the 2-1 win for the Rage White. **Top Offensive Players:** Abby Fried, Yasmine Springer; **Top Defensive Players:** Karin McCarty, Holly Judson, Kasey Cring. In the photo, Yasmine Springer scores for the Rage White.

at shortstop and Joe Mifsud at first base.

Giants 12, Cardinals 6: The Cardinals fought hard, taking an early lead of 4-0 in the first inning, but The Giants took command of the plate and the mound to beat the Cardinals in six innings. Strong at the plate for the Giants were: Patrick Connolly (2 RBI) who went a perfect 4-4 at the plate and Carlos Ventura (2 Doubles, 2 RBI) who hit a two-run double in the first inning. Also strong at the plate were Auting Zermeno with 2 singles, and Nick Donaldson, who hit a double in the 1st inning. Caelob Stimpson pitched a strong 4 innings, throwing 41 strikes out of 63 pitches, striking out 9 of 15 batters faced. The Cardinals' Dane Winslow (2 singles, 1 RBI), Marcos Mejia (1 single, 1 RBI), and Dylan Breesch (1 double, 1 RBI) along with Todd Neizman (who threw 35 strikes out of 67 pitches) also played an outstanding game.

Diamondbacks 12, Padres 5: Despite Colby Smith's 2-3 performance at the plate on Wednesday, the Diamondbacks took a 12-5 loss at the hands of the Padres at Junction. Nathan Findley got it done on the rubber on the way to a win. He allowed four runs over three innings. The Padres pitcher struck out eight, walked three and surrendered three hits. The Padres were sparked by Nathan Findley and Mason deLisser, who teamed up for five hits and three RBIs. After a quick strike from the Padres, the Diamondbacks responded with one run in the first. The Diamondbacks scored on an RBI double by Jack Wilson. It didn't take long for the Diamondbacks to respond as they scored three runs of their own in the third. The Diamondbacks scored on a two-run error and an RBI triple by Smith. The Padres stayed on top until the final out after taking the lead in the fourth, scoring four runs on an error, a passed ball, an RBI single by Findley, and a wild pitch. One run in the bottom of the sixth helped the Diamondbacks close their deficit to 12-5. An RBI single by Ryan Phillips gave the Diamondbacks life. Key hits from Antonio LaManna, and Josh Fiedor doomed the Diamondbacks. Alex Cirina contributed to the attack with his glove.

A Division: Diamondbacks vs. Padres: The Diamondback's player Connor Valenzuela stirred up excitement with his exceptional double play; catching a line drive and getting an out on second base. Jake Folis exercised precise timing and speed to catch the high fly ball in left field. Padres' Camden Johnson showed off his catching abilities at first base, while Mathew Stahl recorded multiple outs as second baseman.

T-Ball: Cubs vs. Giants: For the Giants: Noah Jacobs displayed his defensive skills for the Giants and Kyle Santos provided the offensive fire power. For the Cubs it was Dominic Santiago leading off and starting the rally. Defensively for the Cubs it was Ryan Emerson who displayed his range in the field.

Cubs vs. Dodgers: The game was played on the AAA field. Cayden Trinta of the Dodg-

ers hit a hard ball into center field to clear the bases. Aidan Cherry also had some good at bats and played solid defense.

Padres vs. Cubs: For the Padres: Cody Terpstra had a great day at the plate in each at bat with a solid hitting performance. Colby Dunlap was the star on defense for the Padres displaying his defensive skills throughout the game. For the Cubs: Andrew Rosingana showed his skills with the bat getting on base safely in each of his at bats. Dominic Santiago turned in a great defensive day recording three unassisted outs in one inning at third base.

Granada Little League

Granada Little League results:

T-Ball: Orioles vs. Tigers: The Orioles battled the Tigers on 4/21 in high caliber, coach-pitch action. Alex Maciel led the Orioles with multiple smashes to right field. Joe Cooksey sprayed base knocks to left, center and right field. Luke Schwarz laced a double over the left fielder's head and recorded a put out at home with a cannon-shot throw from left field. The Tigers showcased strong fundamental play and were led by Nolan Lehw, Mitchell McCormick and Chase Passama.

Orioles vs. Marlins: The Orioles and Marlins faced off in coach-pitch action on 4/28. The Marlins were led by Dominic Hebenstreich, and Riley Winchell, who crushed multiple pitches into the deep outfield for extra bases. Daniel Wollner was superb in the field and recorded four unassisted outs. The Orioles defense was led by Porter Seiwald, who "owned" the right side of the field through the first three innings. Dominic Franco put on a hitting clinic, stroking three fastballs into outfield gaps for doubles, while Lucas Cusimano smashed two singles off live pitching and a double off the tee.

Farm: Cardinals vs. A's: Offensively for the Cardinals, Zachary Van Huis and Michael Johansson muscled up at the plate, delivering line drives deep to the outfield and bounced over the fence for ground rule doubles. Ty Pagan also had multiple extra base hits. For the A's, Ben Johnston had a great game with a strong performance at the plate and hustling around the bases and Parker Warner hit a line drive double to the fence. On defense for the Cardinals, Jacob Sanchez demonstrated his range, making several infield plays, and showcasing his arm with strong and accurate throws from the outfield. Grant McCarthy and Brendan O'Hara also flashed impressive gloves on defense. Defensively for the A's, Parker Warner also turned in strong performance, displaying his fielding skills at 1st and 2nd base.

A's vs. Marlins: The A's took on the Marlins in a make-up game last Friday night. Catcher Jack Taggart showed his toughness and determination when he held onto the ball and made the final out of the inning after a collision with the base runner at the plate. Jacob Phillips had an outstanding night at 1st



Pictured is West Coast Wave U10G Defender Jillian Collom fighting to assure a shut out in Saturday's game against Walnut Creek Rampage.

base where he was responsible for 2 outs in the 2nd inning. He also had a great line drive hit past the infield. It was a good match-up between the two well coached teams.

A's vs. Rangers: The Rangers and the A's faced off Saturday afternoon. The Rangers had an amazing 1st inning in the field as they executed not only a double play but also a triple play. But the A's were not deterred. Defensively, Vinny Carbonaro displayed excellent fielding skills at both the pitching and short stop positions, getting 2 outs. Jo Jo Camilleri's bat was hot. His powerful hit past the infielders was outstanding!

Minor A: Diamondbacks vs. Giants: Top players for the D Backs was M. Strauss, who caught a great pop fly. C. Martin with a strong double, and E. Anderson for a double and RBI. For the Giants Fritz threw three strikes, and A. Camilleri, and J. Henninger.

Minor AA: Cardinals 11, Orioles 8: Both teams went 2 for 3 with a double and a single. Conner Campbell also went 2 for 3 with a single and a double. Eduardo Angeles went 1 for 2 and made three excellent defensive plays for his team. For the Cardinals, Colton Osborn went 3 for 3 with two singles, and a 3 run triple. Andy Hankins hit a double and knocked in two RBI's. Justin Gillian hit a single and also knocked in an RBI. On defense, Giovanni Costello and Colin Pearce both struck out three batters. Dale Spence stopped a fast grounder at shortstop and got the out at 1st. Joey Katan also made a great defensive play at 1st base.

AAA Division: Orioles 7, Marlins 9: Marlins' pitcher Ryan James did an awesome job and Colton Morlan played a great 3rd base. Orioles Nicholas Melendez had a terrific game and Cole Seely performed very well as catcher.

Orioles 6, Rangers 3: Rangers' Scott McPherson hit a smooth home run. Adrian Ayala did both great pitching as well as an RBI single. Both Tristan Shackelford and Adrian Ayala also had RBI singles and Devon Pierce had a 2 RBI single. For the Orioles, RJ Mata did a great job at pitching and made a terrific play at home. Dylan Rodrigues executed some amazing field moves both in centerfield and at 3rd base as well had 2 solid hits.

Orioles 13, Marlins 3: Marlins players Jacob Keeler played good defense, Nick LaRosa caught a terrific fly ball and Wyatt Mosley did a fine job pitching. Thomas Vi pitched a shut-out inning and Peyton Stultz had some nice hits. For the Orioles Dylan Rodrigues had a 3RBI double, Ryan Wenzel also pitched a shut-out inning. Both Cole Seely and Nicholas Melendez demonstrated great catching.

Orioles 10, Tigers 4: For the Orioles, RJ Mata had a great game pitching as well as having some awesome hits. Brandon Harvey also did some great pitching as well as stealing several bases during the game. John Geyer, Luke Morlan and Jonathan Ngyuen pitched

well for the Tigers and Josiah Knight did great on both offense and defense.

Cardinals 2, A's 13: The Cardinals had strong defensive plays by Brandon Yocham and Jonas, while on offense, Trudeau hit a double and a hit by Chance. The A's were led by Vincent Dixon's single in the second that drove in a run. Defensively the A's Zach Parodi pitched three scoreless innings and several defensive plays by Josh Collom.

Diamondbacks 2, A's 12: The D'Backs jumped out to an early lead with doubles by Shah and Hardestry, with Bobosky and Hardestry providing several good fielding plays, and Shah striking out three in the third inning. But the A's matched the scoring with Josh Collom's and Alec Lewis both hitting two singles for RBI, and Cameron Stephenson pitched four innings with five strikeouts, and Joron Collom striking out two in the final inning.

Rangers 12, Giants 0: Scott McPherson pitched the entire game for the Rangers' striking out nine Giants and received support from Adrian Ayala who made two great defensive plays at short stop. For the Giants Andy Guel also pitched the entire game, striking out three Rangers. Travis Silva had two fantastic catches at third and also had two base hits against the Rangers. The Ranger offense was solid with Devon Pearce (double and a single), Scott McPherson (double and a single), Adrian Ayala (two doubles and a single) and Tristan Shackelford (two doubles) all connecting with the ball for a combined nine RBI's. Ben Morrisroe drove in Dylan Baxter and Adrian Lewis with his hit. Franco Moutarrej scored two runs to help the Rangers close out the game.

Rangers 15, Tigers 5: Rangers pitcher, Adrian Ayala pitched a perfect game for three and 1/3 innings, striking out ten Tiger batters in a row. Tyler (T-Bone) Hattori ended the strike out streak with a bunt and started a Tiger run rally in the middle of the fourth inning. The Rangers then brought in a new pitcher to face the top of the Tigers batting

(continued on page 8)

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SPORTS NOTES



The U-14 Livermore LAZERS hosted the final tournament of the spring season on Saturday, April 28. David Brooks and Chris Johnson demonstrated great counter-attack skills and defensive strategies, while new player Ian Herbert scored his first goals of the season. Maddie David and Luca Cuppoletti scored goals in a very tough Game 5 against Team 680. Goalkeepers Harry Yee and Scott Ragatz are also recognized for their great work during the games. The summer session of LAZERS water polo begins on May 21, with sessions for 12 and under, 14 and under as well as Splashball for the young want-to-be polo players.



The Livermore Aquacowboys competed at the '10 and Under Short Course Championship' on Saturday April 28, 2012 at the Sunnyvale Swim Center at Fremont High School, Sunnyvale. Pictured are (back row) Jacqueline Arnold, Caroline Eckel, Coach Lisa White; (bottom row) Jessica Akins, Taber DaCosta, Paige DaCosta, Collin Trump, Christopher Gonzalez and Megan Hill; not pictured Minh-Nha Kawamura. Caroline Eckel was selected to attend the 'Adam Szmidi Memorial Camp for 10 and unders' held on April 29, 2012. The camp was also held at the Sunnyvale Swim Center. Caroline was selected by Pacific Swim at the Far Western swim meet in Morgan Hill on March 29-April 1, 2012. At the meet, Caroline qualified for 9 Far Western swims, swam 7 and finished and received medals in 4 events.

order. With bases loaded, Mark Kilbane blasted a hard hit ball to center field for a triple, scoring three runs and closing out the fourth inning for the Tigers. Devon Pearce, Austin Overton, Adrian Ayala, Aiden Lewis and Dylan Baxter all achieved doubles that resulted in three RBI's for the Rangers. Rudy Ayala wrapped up the game with a RBI single in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Rangers 14, Tigers 13: The Rangers hosted the Tigers to a very close baseball game. The Tigers started the game by posting four quick runs. The Rangers followed suit by a display of strong hitting and scored five runs in the first inning. In the second inning, Johnathan Nguyen blasted a hit to center field driving in another run for the Tigers, but was thrown out by Tristan Shackelford as he was attempting to stretch the solid double into a triple. Adrian Ayala and Aiden Lewis of the Rangers both had doubles that resulted in two RBI's. Morgan Labrucherie of the Tigers also had a double that resulted in a RBI. Dylan Baxter wrapped up the game by stealing third and then motoring home to score the fourteenth and game winning run for the Rangers.

Rangers 13, Diamondbacks 3: Tristan Shackelford started off the game for the Rangers with a triple and ended up going four for four with three RBI's. Devon Pearce and Dylan Baxter also had hot bats for the Rangers. Devon went three for three with a double, two singles and two RBI's. Dylan had a solid double in the fourth inning that resulted in driving home three Rangers runs. Caleb Hardesty scored two of the three Diamondback runs and pitched two innings. Carson Devine caught for three innings and threw out a Ranger trying to steal third that resulted in a Ranger rally. Rangers' pitcher, Scott McPherson pitched a solid game, going four complete innings. Ben Morrisroe closed out the game for the Rangers by throwing only fourteen pitches to retire three batters in a row.

Foothill Little League

Pleasanton Foothill Little League results:

Majors: Angels vs. Athletics: In the first of two games against the Athletics, the Angel's offense exploded, scattering 12 hits and scoring 15 runs. Mitchell Lawrence led the Angel offense with a homerun and 2 doubles. AJ Warford stroked a 2 RBI triple to the center field fence. Maxwell Stubbs and Trevor Doster banded 2 hits each while Blake Buffington hit a double. Owen Camp, Ramon Cristwell and Nick Palange added singles to the Angels hitting effort. Angel's pitchers Mitchell, Owen and Ramon combined on a 2 hitter with 9 strikeouts and only 2 walks. Maxwell backed the pitching effort with a spectacular catch in center field to end the game.

In the second Saturday afternoon game, AJ Warford pitched his second No-Hitter of the season and near perfect game giving up only 1 hit-by-pitch and one dropped 3rd strike where a batter reached base. Otherwise, AJ struck out 15 batters as only 2 batted balls were put in play. After AJ reached his max pitch count, Owen Camp retired the final batter with a strikeout. Angels got enough offense for the win from clutch RBI double by Blake Buffington and 2 RBIs from Mitchell Lawrence. Maxwell Stubbs continued his hitting streak with a first inning hit. Jack Jupita and AJ also stroked a hit each.

A Division: Orioles vs. Astros: The Orioles and Astros played a game of strong defense with many outs made in the field. For the Orioles, Andrew Weckwerth, Nathan Mamminni and Savir Kheny, who received his team's game ball, did a good job fielding and making outs. Tyler Ferrey made some great hits for the Orioles. For the Astros, some of

the strong defenders were Hudson Terpstra as catcher, Carter Violich on first base, and Ethan Hoffman. Blake Isozaki made some big hits for the Astros.

Pleasanton Ballistic

Pleasanton Ballistic United Premier 99 routed Castro Valley FC, 4 to 0, in NorCal Spring league action on Saturday. Ballistic got off to a quick start on a brilliant sequence in the 5th minute. Keeper Blake Staniford caught a Castro Valley cross and quickly threw the ball to winger MySam Sayfurnaham on the opposite flank. Sayfurnaham took a touch and then sent a perfect pass to the feet of Striker Adolfo Trujillo at the half line. Trujillo beat 3 defenders as he streaked 30 yards towards goal with the ball. The Pleasanton striker then sent a pass to the far post that attacking midfielder Youki Chiba. Chiba slotted the ball past the onrushing keeper for the early lead.

Two minutes later Ballistic created the second goal of the game starting with a back pass to Staniford. Staniford quickly played the ball forward to Chiba who then found winger Jason Campbell on the flank. Campbell ran a 1 touch pass into space that Trujillo sent on to. Trujillo beat 3 defenders and the keeper with a clinical finish to the near post.

Ballistic scored the third goal of the game on a heads up play by center back Kyle McClanahan. Right back Jacob Dremalas won through ball that he quickly dropped to McClanahan. McClanahan sent a 50 yard pass behind the Castro Valley defense that Trujillo raced on to and headed to goal. Trujillo beat his marks and finished far post. The score stayed at 3-0 until the half as both battled for possession of the ball.

In the second half Castro Valley was pushing hard to get back in the game but the Ballistic back line of Imran Matin, Kyle McClanahan, Jacob Dremalas, and Jimmy Thompson limited the opponents to two second half shots. Captain Garrett Howell had a strong game in front of the defense as the holding midfielder continually broke up attacks and restarted Ballistics' possession. The Premier 99 had an excellent 11 pass sequence at one point of the game. Ballistic had a close call in the 45th minute when Matin's attempted clearance of a cross was hit directly at goal but Staniford was well positioned to keep the clean sheet.

In the final minute Ballistic scored the 4th goal when Kyle McClanahan sent a long free-kick that was mishandled by the keeper. Trujillo pounced on the ball and from a difficult angle finished far post to complete the hat trick.

Top Offensive Players: Adolfo Trujillo, Youki Chiba, Jason Campbell; Top Defensive Players: Blake Staniford, Kyle McClanahan, Imran Matin, Jacob Dremalas, Jimmy Thompson

Amador Swimming
Livermore High didn't turn out to be much of a challenge for the Amador Valley High School JV girls swimming and diving team as they ran away with a 134-30 victory. The Dons swept eight of the 11 swimming events. Double individual firsts were recorded by three swimmers.

Bridget Booe was one of the double winners taking the 200 and 500 free events as was Kylie Copenhagen who won the 50 and 100 free. Rounding out the trio was Katie Tsui who won the fly and the breaststroke. Amador also got first place finishes from Ali Gonsman, who won the backstroke, and Natalie Cook who finished first in the IM. Gonsman also took second in the 500 free and Cook second in the breaststroke.

All three relays also finished first with Gonsman, Cook, Anika Kilkenny, and Katie



The Livermore Aquacowboys competed in the '2012 Fran Crippen Memorial Swim Meet of Champions' on April 19-22, 2012 in Mission Viejo. Representing the Aquacowboys at this fast meet were Andrew Hayes, who swam his best unshaven times; Trent Trump, five personal best times; Katie achieved five personal best times; Nina Hayes placed 18th in the 200 back and 17th in the 100 back; and Haley Hamza swam her best unshaven times.

Micheletti swimming the medley relay, Copenhagen, Gonsman, Booe, and Lindsey DeWilde in the 200 free relay, and DeWilde, Copenhagen, Kilkenny, and Booe in the 400 free relay.

JV Boys: In a meet that felt more like an intrasquad event than a league meet, the Amador Valley JV boys swam to an easy 136-26 win over Livermore. The very small Livermore team was unable to prevent Amador from sweeping 10 of the 11 events during the meet.

Kevin Yan was the only Don to win more than one event, taking both the IM and the fly. The rest of the events were spread among the rest of the squad. In the freestyle events, Joey Lindley won the 200, Jerald Kagele the 50, and Andrew Song the 100. Lindley finished second in the 500, the only event not swept by Amador. The other two firsts for Amador were Parker Brown in the back and Copeland Green in the breaststroke.

Amador was equally dominant in the relays. Brown, Green, Yan and Song won the medley. Brown, Kagele, Sam Sorsen, and Michael Chew took the 200 free, and Song, Sorsen, Steven Cox, and Tyler Bergmann were first in the 400 relay.

Varsity Girls: The Amador Valley Varsity girls swam to an easy 120-46 victory over Livermore High in EBAL action. The Dons took 10 of the 12 events including sweeping all three relays.

Leading the way for Amador was Bernadine Martin who took both the 500 free and the breaststroke. The Dons swept the non-freestyle events with Kirsten Brand taking the IM, Eva Chung the fly, Iris Brand the backstroke to go along with Martin's win in the breaststroke. Elaina Gates grabbed first in the only other free event that the Dons won, taking the 50.

Swimming on the winning medley relay team were Martin, Chung, Kirsten Brand, and Anna Parker. The 200 free relay was nearly the same as the medley relay with Lillian Sun subbing in for Parker and the 400 free relay team featured Sun, Kirsten Brand, Erin Walsh, and Paris Sinclair.

Varsity Boys: The Amador Valley Varsity boys swimming and diving team got their third win of the EBAL season dwarfing Livermore in a 110-41 win. The Dons won all but one event in recording the victory.

Kevin McLaughlin led the way for Amador with wins in the IM and the breaststroke. Taking the other non-freestyle events were Jason Chen in the fly, and Nick Johnston in the back. In the freestyle events, Shri Gandhi took the 200, Bryan Hughes the 100, and RJ Scott the 500.

The Dons' winning medley relay team was Johnston, Hughes, Michael Brooks, and Cameron Kurortor. Nearly the same group won the 200 free relay with Scott taking Brooks' spot. The final event of the meet was won by the 400 relay team of Brooks, Chen, David Becker, and Perry Jia.

Tri-Valley Aquatics
Tri-Valley Aquatics swimmers turned in some top swims this past Saturday at the 10 and Under Championships in Sunnyvale.

Claire Suen, Andrew Wang, Arjun Nimmakayala, and Sydney Lu represented the team well with their performances. Claire placed second in both the 100 and 50 freestyle and third in her 200 free events for ten year olds. Sydney placed second among the seven year olds in her 25 breaststroke. Andrew and Arjun also put forward strong swims, their matching or improving their best times.

West Coast Soccer
West Coast Soccer Wave U10G played a great game under the blazing sun on Saturday against Walnut Creek Rampage. The girls showed off the skills that they have learned from their professional coach, David Mahabali. Taking 12 shots on goal in the 1st half, Wave dominated with ball control. Kara Kolte netted the team's 1st goal on an assist from Monique Reil, and shortly after Lindsay Plant snuck one past the Rampage Keeper. Goal keeper Jessica Carlson kept Rampage from scoring, and ended the 1st half with a 2-0 lead.

The Wave Defense (Jessa Lyons, Jessica Keane, and Kaila Vasconez) fought hard in the 2nd half to keep the lead. The 1st goal of the 2nd half was made by Reil on an assist from Allison Jamison. Soon after, Savannah Seals put two more in the net, one on an assist from Keane. The two sides continued to battle it out in the end, and with only seconds left in the game Jillian Collom netted the Wave's 6th goal, and ended the game with a well deserved 6-0 shut out against Walnut Creek Rampage.

Phantom Lacrosse
Phantom Lacrosse results:
U15 Phantoms vs Lamorinda Blast: Livermore 9, Lamorinda 10: On the turf at Livermore High School, the Phantoms lost a heartbreaker to the Blast. After dominating the Blast in their first meeting of the season, the Phantoms just did not have the intensity in the first half of the game and allowed the Blast to go into half time with a 3 goal lead. The third quarter started out looking like more of the same with Phantoms down by 5 goals at one point. Then suddenly, the fog was lifted and Phantoms found the chemistry they have had all season. Late in the fourth quarter, they brought the score to within one by a goal from speedster K. Wright off an excellent feed by C. Billings with less than 1:30 left to play. The Blast tried to run out the clock, but the pressure defense of J. Reggiardo, N. Marcel and T. Staton in the final minute forced a turnover giving the Phantoms one

last shot to tie up the game. The Phantoms tried their best to score again, but could not convert before time expired. The Phantoms are still in firm control of second place in the East division, but the loss means they no longer have a shot at taking first place in their game against Danville next week.

Offensive summary: C. Billings 1A; H. Goold 3; S. Herrera 1A; D. Marks 3/1A; E. Mork 1A; B. Thompson 2A; P. Turk 1; G. Vest 1; K. Wright 1; Goalie: J. Faith 6 saves

Memorial Run
The California Peace Officers Association (CPOA) invites everyone to participate in a very special event honoring those who've lost their lives in the line of duty, while making our lives safer. The 4th Annual California Peace Officers Association's Memorial Run and Family Barbecue will be held on Saturday, May 12, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, Pleasanton.

All proceeds from this family oriented event will go directly to the Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) (California Chapter), a non-profit organization whose sole mission is to assist with the rebuilding of lives of surviving family members and affected co-workers of law enforcement officers killed.

The Memorial Run's 10K & 5K Walk & Run courses are made up of small rolling-hill trails that run throughout the scenic Shadow Cliffs Regional Park. The Kid's 1-mile run is laid out through a portion of the park's lawn area.

Trophies will go to the top 5K and 10K male and female finishers, with medals given three deep in designated age groups in the 5K and 10K runs for both male and female participants. Special awards will also be given to all kids participating in the Kids' Fun Run (ages 12 and under).

The entry fee for the 10K or 5K Walk/Run is \$35.00 pre-registered or \$40.00 (after May 8 and race-day). The Kids' Fun Run is \$20.00 pre-registered or \$20.00 (after May 8 and race-day).

The Memorial Run will be held at Shadow Cliffs Regional Regional Park, located at 2500 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton.

For more CPOA's Memorial Run and Family Barbecue information and/or an application, contact On Your Mark Events at 209-795-7832, or visit their website. To register online, go to Active.com.

Golf Tournament
The Las Positas College Veterans First Program needs golfers to play in the 6th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, May 19, at the Monarch Bay Golf Club in San Leandro. Play is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed

by a dinner and raffle at The Englander from 1 to 5 p.m.

Foursome fee is \$550-\$600 (reserve by April 20 and receive a \$50 discount). Individual fee is \$140-\$150 (\$10 discount before April 20). The fee includes greens fee, cart, players lunch, balls, tees, hole-in-one contest entry, complete BBQ dinner, and beverages.

To register contact Mark Wodyka at 510-673-6350, markw499@pacbell.net, or register online at www.englishpub.com.

Charity Cup Golf
17th Annual Charity Cup Golf Classic will be held at the Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore on Fri., May 18. The event is hosted by Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill.

The event will benefit the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.

The \$150.00 per player fee includes green fee, cart, lunch, dinner, golf shirt, tee prizes, on-course refreshments, awards ceremony & a raffle prize giveaway.

Format is Four Man Scramble. Lunch begins at 11:00am; shotgun start at 1:00pm. To register contact Beeb's at (925)455-7070.

Tee sponsorships are available. Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill, 915 Clubhouse Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, (925)455-7070.

Bocce Singles Tourney
A singles open bocce tournament is scheduled at Campo di Bocce in Livermore on May 20. The event is open to all.

The format will be round robin, playing National Rules. The top two teams from each division will advance.

Entry fee is \$50 per player. Prizes, food and drink specials available during the day. Registration closes at 3 p.m. on Mon., May 14. Play will begin at 8 a.m. on May 20.

Go to www.campodibocce.com for information.

Phantom Board Vote
The Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League will vote for its 2013 Executive Board of Directors on Saturday, May 19, 2012. Names of nominees will be presented at the board's regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at the Hyatt Summerfield Suites, 4545 Chabot Drive, Pleasanton, CA,

will allow wildlife movement under I-580.

Hike the Final Piece - Evergreen, Sun., May 20. Evergreen, a 658-acre property, is the final piece of land to close the gap of protected land from Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve to Los Vaqueros Reservoir.

For details, go to the events calendar at www.savemountdiablo.org

California Sharks
World Renowned local marine photographer and author will present a California Sharks talk on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at 7 pm.

Bruce Watkins is a photojournalist specializing in marine topics. The public is welcome to attend and learn about California Sharks. This event will be held at Dive N Trips, 1032 Serpentine Lane, Suite 108, Pleasanton.

Bruce is a regular contributor to diving magazines with nearly five hundred of his articles and thousands of his photographs appearing in books, as well as national and international publications. He is the author of "A Diver's Guide to Monterey County" and "A Diver's Guide to Northern California." He will be available to meet the public and sign purchased copies of his books.

For more information, please visit www.diventrips.com or phone 925.462.7234.

Nature Programs
A Full Moon Hike will be led by Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff on Sat., May 5. Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 8:30 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road.

A nearly full moon will light this two-mile night hike that will travel along both pavement and dirt for about two hours. There may even be a chance to see some of the elusive Eta Aquarid meteors. Wear

sturdy, comfortable shoes. Canceled if raining.

On Sun., May 6, there will be a May Meander. Meet Ranger Amy Wolitzer at 2 p.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road.

Join a hike into the hills to find the last flowers of spring. Among the grasses turning golden are hidden jewels including the Mariposa Lily, Elegant Brodiaea, Clarkia and more. This will be a 4- to 5-mile slow-paced walk lasting two to three hours. If this sounds too long for you, join us anyway and head back whenever you like.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

MTC Internships
The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is offering 13 Internships for the summer of 2012. For further information about and to apply for the positions, please see our website at http://jobs.mtc.ca.gov/InternshipOpportunities/jobinternship.html

Internships at MTC provide students with the opportunity to gain professional work experience in transportation planning, finance and operational projects. Internships are generally full-time from June through September.

To qualify for an MTC internship, students must be enrolled at least part-time in a four-year undergraduate or graduate level curriculum. Individuals who have already graduated may be considered up to six (6) months post-graduation.

Pay rate: for undergraduate students: \$14.50/hour, for graduate students: \$18.75/hour.

Closing dates vary by position.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS 2490 FIRST STREET 443-SHOW

THE AVENGERS 3D (PG13) DLP D-BOX	11:45	3:00	6:15	9:30		
THE AVENGERS 3D (PG13) DLP		1:45	5:00	8:15		
THE AVENGERS (PG13) DLP THX (11:15 FRI-SUN)	12:45	2:30	4:00	5:45	7:15	9:00
THE FIVE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT (R) DLP		12:50	3:50	6:55	9:45	
PIRATES! BAND OF MISFITS 3D (PG) DLP	11:40	1:50	4:10	6:20	8:30	
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SAFE (R) DLP	12:00	2:25	4:50	7:20	9:50	
THE LUCKY ONE (PG13) DLP	11:35	2:00	4:25	6:45	9:20	
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THE HUNGER GAMES (PG13) DLP		12:45	4:00	7:15		
BULLY STARTS FRIDAY, MAY 11						



The Livermore Aquacowboys competed at the 'Zone 2 Dual Venue Long Course PC-C/B/A+' swim meet on April 21 and 22, 2012 at Dougherty Valley High School in San Ramon. Many new best times were achieved at this long course event. Pictured are (top row) Jenna Chew, Celine Nguyen, Megan Fairbanks, Katie Rehberger, Hannah Watts, Gabriel Akins, Jared Hill, Daiki Nishikawa; (bottom row) Minnhna Kawamura, Amanda Butcher, Annemarie Arnold, Caroline Eckel, Megan Wilcox, Tori Carroll, and Christopher Gonzalez; not pictured, Alex Gonzalez, Shahini Ananth, Jack Rehberger, Jessica Akins, Stephen Mackanic, Megan Hill and Jacqueline Arnold.

794588. The meeting begins at 8:00pm. Voting ballots will be available on Saturday (5/19/12, 9am-5pm) at the Pleasanton SportsPark next to the Snack Bar by GSB 7. All adults 18 years of age and older who are associated with the League (i.e. player parents, coaches, board members) are eligible to vote.

Triathlon Series
On Saturday, June 16, a field of close to 1,000 first-timer, few-timer, and many-timer triathletes will be on hand to kick off On Your Mark Events' 25th annual Tri-For-Fun Triathlon Series (four triathlon events), at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton.

The Tri-For-Fun features a course distance of 400-yard Swim (warm, clean lake); 11-mile bike (loop course, flat streets); 3.1-mile run (rolling fire trail). The course is perfect for the newcomer as well as the seasoned triathlete. Along with the shorter (than usual tri distance) course and the safe, friendly, and non-competitive atmosphere, the Tri-For-Fun makes an excellent event for the numerous first-time triathletes.

After the novice athletes master the first three Tri-For-Funs, they can meet the challenge of the final event – the Tri-For-Real. The final event of the series is held at the same location, but the distances have been increased to 700-yard swim, 20-mile bike, and 4-mile run. The Tri-For-Real is also professionally timed, giving our official results.

The 2012 On Your Mark Tri-For-Fun Series dates are June 16, July 21, and August 18. The Tri-For-Real will be held on September 16. All races will start at 7:00 a.m. at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton. There is a 1,000-participant maximum for each triathlon. The triathlons do sell out.

Entry fee for the three Tri-For-Funs is \$65.00 in advance, and \$75.00 day of. Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, refreshments, snacks, and entry into the always-exciting raffle (must be present to win). (\$75.00 advance, and \$85.00 day of for the Tri-For-Real, which also includes trophies and medals.) Multiple-triathlon discounts are available.

Check-in and registration will begin at 5:00 a.m., with the first wave hitting the water at 7:00 a.m.

To register or to receive more information about the Tri-For-Fun Triathlon Series, contact On Your Mark Events at 209-795-7832 or visit their website. Online registration is available on Active.com.

Charity Cup Golf
17th Annual Charity Cup Golf Classic will be held at the Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore on Fri., May 18. The event is hosted by Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill.

The event will benefit the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.

The \$150.00 per player fee includes green fee, cart, lunch, dinner, golf shirt, tee prizes, on-course refreshments, awards ceremony & a raffle prize giveaway.

Format is Four Man Scramble. Lunch begins at 11:00am; shotgun start at 1:00pm. To register contact Beeb's at (925)455-7070.

Tee sponsorships are available. Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill, 915 Clubhouse Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, (925)455-7070.

Bocce Singles Tourney
A singles open bocce tournament is scheduled at Campo di Bocce in Livermore on May 20. The event is open to all.

The format will be round robin, playing National Rules. The top two teams from each division will advance.

Entry fee is \$50 per player. Prizes, food and drink specials available during the day. Registration closes at 3 p.m. on Mon., May 14. Play will begin at 8 a.m. on May 20.

Go to www.campodibocce.com for information.

Phantom Board Vote
The Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League will vote for its 2013 Executive Board of Directors on Saturday, May 19, 2012. Names of nominees will be presented at the board's regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at the Hyatt Summerfield Suites, 4545 Chabot Drive, Pleasanton, CA,

will allow wildlife movement under I-580.

Hike the Final Piece - Evergreen, Sun., May 20. Evergreen, a 658-acre property, is the final piece of land to close the gap of protected land from Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve to Los Vaqueros Reservoir.

For details, go to the events calendar at www.savemountdiablo.org

California Sharks
World Renowned local marine photographer and author will present a California Sharks talk on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at 7 pm.

Bruce Watkins is a photojournalist specializing in marine topics. The public is welcome to attend and learn about California Sharks. This event will be held at Dive N Trips, 1032 Serpentine Lane, Suite 108, Pleasanton.

Bruce is a regular contributor to diving magazines with nearly five hundred of his articles and thousands of his photographs appearing in books, as well as national and international publications. He is the author of "A Diver's Guide to Monterey County" and "A Diver's Guide to Northern California." He will be available to meet the public and sign purchased copies of his books.

For more information, please visit www.diventrips.com or phone 925.462.7234.

Nature Programs
A Full Moon Hike will be led by Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff on Sat., May 5. Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 8:30 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road.

A nearly full moon will light this two-mile night hike that will travel along both pavement and dirt for about two hours. There may even be a chance to see some of the elusive Eta Aquarid meteors. Wear

sturdy, comfortable shoes. Canceled if raining.

On Sun., May 6, there will be a May Meander. Meet Ranger Amy Wolitzer at 2 p.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road.

Join a hike into the hills to find the last flowers of spring. Among the grasses turning golden are hidden jewels including the Mariposa Lily, Elegant Brodiaea, Clarkia and more. This will be a 4- to 5-mile slow-paced walk lasting two to three hours. If this sounds too long for you, join us anyway and head back whenever you like.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

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Families of children with exceptional needs are encouraged to apply.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER May 12 @ 8pm
Filmmaker Frenzy 2012
24 hours to make a 3 minute film!
See website for details
Next Classics Nights:
CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG - May 10
SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER - Sat May 12
CLEOPATRA - May 24
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(925) 447-2545 www.VineCinema.com

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DAMSELS IN DISTRESS
Fri - Sun: 1:30 4:30 7:10 9:10
SALMON FISHING IN THE YEMEN
Fri - Sun: 1:45 4:40
Call for Mon - Thurs Showtimes - (925) 447-2546
ROCKY HORROR - Sat @ Midnight

ACTIVITIES

(continued from page one)

– 8:00 p.m. with evidence of bicycling to the event such as a helmet or bike, will receive a free “Carrot Cash” voucher, valued at \$5, to use at one of the market booths.

In Pleasanton, all three middle schools are promoting a Bike to School Day on Friday, May 11. Two of the three, Hart and Harvest Park Middle Schools will host energizer stations where cyclists will receive refreshments and goody bags filled with bicycle safety items. Energizer stations will be located at the schools’ bike storage areas beginning at 8:00 a.m.

The Alameda County Safe Routes to School Program’s Bike Mobile were at Foothill High School on Wednesday, May 2 to offer student cyclists a bike repair clinic. Pleasanton Police representatives facilitated helmet fittings and free helmet giveaways May 1-3 at the three middle schools and Foothill High. Dublin High School is encouraging students and teachers to participate in a Bike to School Day on Thursday, May 24; an energizer station distributing

refreshments and giveaways to cyclists will be located adjacent to the bike storage area. Finally, Dublin, Kolb, and Murray Elementary Schools are participating in Bike to School Week May 21-25. Students attending the schools are encouraged to bike each day—a surprise will be attached to their bicycles one day during the week.

For more information on Dublin events, visit www.dublin.ca.gov/btwd/; for Pleasanton events, go to www.pleasantongreenscene.org.

The San Francisco Bay Area’s 18th Annual Bike to Work Day will take place on Thursday, May 10, 2012. Hacienda Business Park is a lead sponsor of Bike to Work Day in the East Bay. Bike to Work Day is just one day of many events taking place in May as part of National Bike Month.

Pledge to bike to work or wherever you need to go on Bike to Work Day, May 10th, and enter your name in a raffle to win a bike and other fun prizes. Simply follow this link to register: www.youcanbikethere.com/user/register.

COLLEGE

(continued from page one)

Chemistry Instructor and club advisor for the Students Organization for Sustainability.

The purpose of the event is to encourage riders, once they realize how fun and affordable cycling is, to continue to ride whenever possible.

Livermore Mayor John Marchand said the Alameda County Transportation Commission spoke about “Bike-to-Work Day” at its meeting last week. “I think it’s great,” he said. “Many of the commissioners have also committed to bike to work on May 10.”

A look at the country’s 70 largest cities shows that the communities that have done the most to promote cycling through engineering, education and encouragement have seen up to 95% increases in bicycle commuting since 2005.

Bicycling to school, work, for errands or pleasure offers many benefits: spending less money on gas and parking fees, promoting health and increasing energy, and reducing the gases that contribute to global warming.

“We chose to sponsor the event with the starting location and with a tent on campus to

show how important commuting by bike is to us and what an impact it can have on the environment,” said Livermore Cyclery’s General Manager Pete Howard. “Many of our staffers, including myself, regularly ride to work. We strongly encourage it.”

“Bike to Work Day” was originated by the League of American Bicyclists in 1956 as part of National Bike Month. The League was founded in 1880 when bicyclists (known as “wheelmen”) joined together to improve poor riding conditions stemming from rutted, gravelly roads and antagonism from horsemen and wagon drivers. The success of the League’s advocacy ultimately led to the national highway system.

“Cycling is a healthy, low-impact way to travel and have fun,” said Howard. “Not only that, but there are so many bicycle styles now; no matter what kind of rider you are, there is a bike out there for you, your style and your body type.”

The event is free. No pre-registration is needed. “The ride will take about 20-30 minutes,” said Ansell. “This is not a race. We won’t leave anyone behind.”

Grand Cru Collection: As Only La Rochelle Could Do

by Laura Ness

What is a Grand Cru vineyard and do we have them in California? That’s a hot and potentially controversial topic, but a worthy one. With centuries of history and countless vintages, some storied vineyards in France were deemed to be superior to others. They became known as Grand Cru, or “great growth,” a term signifying a vineyard known to produce wines of significant merit. Until recently, with less than 70 years of viticultural data to mine since Prohibition, the US has not been considered a contender. However, if you think 20 or 30 years of continual production from a single site can lead you to the conclusion that wine from this place is always special, then you can make the argument that we do, indeed, possess Grand Cru vineyards here in these United States.

Certainly, it cannot be denied that the Pisoni Vineyard in the Santa Lucia Highlands, home to great Pinot made by dozens of top-name producers over the last 30 years, could be considered one of the finest. Gary Francioni, who owns Rosella’s and farms Garys’ and Soberanes with the Pisonis, absolutely thinks it is a Grand Cru vineyard, and said so at a recent 30 year retrospective on Pisoni Vineyard Pinot at a seminar at Pebble Beach Food & Wine.

Winemaker Tom Stutz and proprietor Steven Mirassou believe firmly in the existence of Grand Cru vineyards here in California and Oregon, and have created a rare collection of the finest Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs from the most sought-after sites in California. At a recent “Grand Cru” dinner, prepared by Chef Jimmy Connors, the collection debuted to satisfied applause.

Commented Steven, “Releasing a new wine is as close to Broadway as we’re going to get! We may weep if you leave . . . but at least take our wine with you!”

There was no weeping that evening, believe me, unless you don’t like world-class Chardonnay from some of the best vineyard sites obtainable. Mirassou admitted that as much as the Steven Kent “Merrillie” Chard is an emotional favorite, he feels it

is not in the same class as these Grand Cru Chards. “We want these Chardonnays to be exemplar.” So far, so grand.

Diners enjoyed three 2010 Chardonnays, from Rosella’s Vineyard, Santa Lucia Highlands, Ferrington Vineyard, Anderson Valley, Morrelli Lane, Russian River Valley and a 2009 Pinot Noir, Donum Estate, Carneros.

Of the three, the Rosella’s is by far the softest and most supple with butterscotch, honey, toasty nuts and baked pears, wearing its 50% new French oak prominently. It made a nice match with roasted brussel sprouts and hazelnuts, but didn’t like the marinated cabbage that boat-anchored the dish. Note: vinegar is not a friend of Chardonnay. That’s what Riesling, Gewurz and sparkling are for.

At the northern extreme, Ferrington is the most acid-driven, minerally and intense, while the Morelli walks the middle line deftly. For me, the Ferrington Chardonnay has that ethereal quality on the palate that engages your every sense, and makes you fixate on what’s happening in your mouth. It reverberates from lemon zest to tropical papayas with bright crisp apple in between. It was paired with a butter poached lobster and rainbow chard “involtini,” in a tropical fruit sauce that perfectly complemented the wine.

The 2009 Donum Pinot is another animal altogether. From the Buena Vista estate, these wines were originally French imports planted in the 70s and then replanted in 1989. The aromas of chokecherries, wet cedar and hints of soy-infused roasted portabello mushroom prefaced a complex detective story. I found myself hunting for words to describe the flavors that kept darting in and out of the dark corners of this wine, chasing after an invisible key to unlock this mystery.

Tom suggested this is one to cellar, and Steven remarked that this vineyard yields wines that undergo “an evolution that merits an emotional response.” He’s tried wines from this vineyard that indicated its tremendous staying power, noting they were “thought-provoking and delicious 10 years after the vintage.” But perhaps he summed it up best

by saying, “this wine has cleavage!” It was a beautiful dance partner with a braised Kurobota pork shank, with mushroom jus, pomegranate and caramelized shallots, that melted in your mouth with earthy, yet soaring goodness.

The Grand Cru Collection is a mailing list allocation program. The Chardonnays are all priced at \$65, Pinot Noir, \$75. Approximately 100 cases of each were made and Tom indicates there are many more sleeping beauties in the cellar, including upcoming vintages from Freestone Hill and Deer Meadow. If you’re fond of exceedingly well-made Chardonnay and Pinot, you should get to

know La Rochelle’s Grand Cru Collection.

In another debut, Steven Kent proudly presents the 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon, “The Premier,” Ghilmetti Vineyard, Livermore Valley, \$100 per bottle, only 40 cases made. This wine will be presented at the Steven Kent Winery, Friday, May 4th, 6-7:30, In the Barrel Room. Complimentary for SK/LR Club Members, \$10 General Public: please RSVP, as space is limited, 925-243-6442 or by Email, at wineclub@stevenkent.com

Perhaps some day, and maybe soon, the Ghilmetti vineyard itself may come to be considered a Grand Cru.

PDA Is Accredited National Main Street Program

The Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA) has been designated as an accredited National Main Street Program for meeting the commercial district revitalization performance standards set by the National Trust Main Street Center®.

Each year, the National Trust and its partners announce the list of accredited Main Street® programs that have built strong revitalization organizations and demonstrate their ability in using the Main Street Four-Point Approach® methodology for strengthening their local economy and protecting their historic buildings.

“We congratulate this year’s nationally accredited Main Street programs for meeting our established performance standards,” says Doug Loesch, director of the National Trust Main Street Center. “Accredited Main Street programs are meeting the challenges of the recession head on and are successfully using a focused, comprehensive revitalization strategy to keep their communities vibrant and sustainable.”

The organization’s performance is annually evaluated by the California Main Street Alliance which works in partnership with the National Trust Main Street Center to identify the local programs that meet 10 performance standards. Evaluation cri-

teria determine the communities that are building comprehensive and sustainable revitalization efforts and include standards such as developing a mission, fostering strong public-private partnerships, securing an operating budget, tracking economic progress, and preserving historic buildings. For more information on the national accreditation program, visit <http://www.preservationnation.org/main-street/about-main-street/the-programs/national-programs.html>.

The Pleasanton Downtown Association also announced that Executive Director, Laura Olson, has been elected as an Officer of the Board of Directors of the California Main Street Alliance. As a board member, Laura will work with California Main Street Alliance to advocate on behalf of its membership on the state and national level.

Partners for advocacy include the National Main Street Center, National Trust for Historic Preservation, California Preservation Foundation, California Downtown Association, and others.

“I am extremely honored and excited to have been elected to this prestigious board and to have the opportunity to work to support and better Main Street communities throughout the state of California,” said Olson.

OBITUARIES

Margaret Paulus

Jan. 18, 1929 - April 23, 2012

Sonora resident Margaret Paulus died April 23, 2012 at Sonora Regional Medical Center. She was 83.

Margaret also lived in Livermore for many years before moving to Tuolumne County in 1986.

She was a beloved wife, mother and grandmother and we will miss her dearly.

She was preceded in death by her sister Catherine Hackenberg, and brother William Fleming.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Nicholas Paulus; her son David Paulus, daughter Bonnie Warzee, four grandchildren, four great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

A Funeral Service was held on April 30 at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore.

Bert E. Holder

Livermore
1922-2012

Bert Holder, a retired Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory chemist, died Friday, April 20, 2012, at the age of 89. His death came about six months after he fell at home and sustained injuries to his back.



Born Nov. 5, 1922, near Big Timber, Mont., he was the fourth of five children of Earl and Virginia (Ellis) Holder. The family moved to Denver, Colo., where he attended school until his mother’s death in 1935. He graduated from high school in Ellis, Kansas, and returned to Denver with his stepmother, Helen (Mahathey), after his father died in 1940.

He attended the University of Denver for a year, then, with the U.S. entry into World War II, enlisted in the Army Air Corps aviation cadet program—barely passing the 5-foot-4 height and 115-pound weight requirements. He served in North Africa and Italy, primarily flying P-40s in support of ground operations. During 65 missions, he was forced to bail out of his plane twice—once after his engine died and, on his last combat mission, after his plane caught fire. He narrowly avoided capture by German troops, and was sheltered by Italian villagers west of Florence until he was able to reunite six days later with advancing American forces.

After the war, he returned to the University of Denver and earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees. In 1953, he earned his Ph.D. at MIT. That same year, he accepted a position at the lab, where his 37-year career included pioneering research on nuclear magnetic resonance, which is widely used today in medical imaging, and testing materials for the U.S. government’s weapons program.

He loved the outdoors, and fished and camped from a young age. After retiring, he remained

active in a variety of hobbies, including bird watching, hiking in the Sierra, stereopticon card collecting, 3-D photography, tomato and flower growing and travel. Decades after his military service, he climbed back into a plane to earn his private pilot’s license. A devoted family man and friend, he enjoyed spending time with his children and three granddaughters as well as kibitzing with other lab retirees and friends.

Family and friends remember him for his scientific intellect, keen intuition, wry humor, generosity, kindness, poker-playing skills and knack for finding parking spaces, among many other traits.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Norma; daughter, Robin Herrera, her husband, Dave, and their daughter, Lauren, all of Long Beach; son, Russell, his wife, Kathleen, and their daughters, Alessandra and Kalyssa, all of Davis; stepbrothers, Bill Hartman of Nampa, Idaho, and Karl Scherck of Denver; and stepsisters, Patricia Covington, of Durham, N.C., and Sandra Norton of Columbia, Mo.; and numerous step-nieces, step-nephews and their children.

A celebration of Bert’s life will be held 2:30 to 5:30 p.m., on Saturday, June 2, at the Robert Livermore Senior Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. His family hopes that Bert’s many friends will come and share their memories of him. If desired, donations may be made to Smile Train, P.O. Box 96231, Washington, D.C., 20090, or to any preferred

charity.

Irma Harmeson

Formerly of Pleasanton

Irma Harmeson, 96, of Pleasanton, CA, died peacefully on January 15, 2012 in Livermore. She was surrounded by her family.

Irma was born in 1915 in Sidney, Illinois to Arthur and Minnie (Anders) Cole. She attended Sidney High School for three years, then received her high school degree from University High after her family moved to Urbana. In 1938, she received a business degree from the University of Illinois. She married Robert H. Harmeson of Mattoon, IL in 1940. They traveled the country while he served in the U.S. Army Corps. After his return from WWII, they moved to New Mexico for a few years, then returned to Illinois to raise their family.

Irma enjoyed being a homemaker, raising her children and spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. In Illinois, she worked at a photography studio, Western Union Collegiate Cap and Gown, Illini Towers, and sold Fashion Twenty cosmetics. Music was important to her as she enjoyed playing both the piano and organ. She and her husband loved to ballroom and square dance. Throughout her life, she was active in community women’s organizations, her church and multiple military organizations. Irma was an alumnae initiate in the Alpha Xi Delta Fraternity. Irma and Robert retired to

Mesa, Arizona, where they enjoyed many years traveling in their motorhome, visiting family and pursuing their favorite hobby, family genealogy. After her husband’s death, she moved to California and continued her visits to family and friends.

Irma was preceded in death by her parents, brother, Leonard Cole; her husband; infant daughter, and son, Leigh C. Harmeson.

She is survived by her children: Raynor (Pamela) Harmeson of Lodi, CA; Terry (Sue Ellen) Harmeson of Greenville, IL; Linda Harmeson of Pleasanton, CA; and Leigh’s wife, Janet Phillips of Boise, ID. She also leaves behind her grandchildren: Anne Dahmke, Jacob Harmeson, Jennifer Watts, Michael Harmeson, and Sonja Harmeson; and great grandchildren: Cole, Evelyn, Kelsey, Lindsey, Margaret, McKenzie, and Samantha.

Cremation was accorded and handled by Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore. Burial in Illinois will be arranged by Freese Funeral Home, Sidney.

A celebration of Irma’s life will be held at a graveside service on May 19, 2012 at Lynn Grove Cemetery near Sidney, IL. Pastor Michael Picklesimer from Sidney United Church will be officiating.

Irma will be dearly missed by

her family and friends. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to one of her favorite charities: Sunshine Acres, 3405 N. Higley Road, Mesa, AZ, 85215; 480-832-2540 or www.sunshineacres.org.

Obituary/ Memorium Policies

Obituaries are published in The Independent at no charge.

There is a small charge for photographs in the obituaries.

Memorium ads can also be placed in The Independent when families want to honor the memories of their loved ones. There is a charge for memorium ads, based on the size of the ad.

Please send an email to editmail@compuserve.com to receive additional information.

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Granada High School Students Learn While Cleaning Up Arroyo

By Carol Graham

They came in "Rhianna Loud Tour" t-shirts, Abercrombie & Fitch polos, Granada Cheerleading hoodies and Cookie Monster tank tops.

It was Saturday morning - halloved time for teenagers - but they came because they wanted to be there.

On April 28th, Granada High School science teacher William Rasor led a group of 30 students in a creek clean-up that will pave the way for a larger scale event, Coastal Clean-Up Day, on September 15th.

"I was excited to see students apply concepts learned in science and math classes to our local watershed," said Rasor. "I teach a course called California Environment that covers water and ecology. This was a great opportunity to take the classroom outdoors."

The group met at the Granada Native Gardens behind the high school. Representatives from Zone 7, Livermore Wastewater, and Livermore Area Recreation and Park District provided the students with overviews about the importance of the Arroyo Mocho plays in the community.

"Where does this water come from?" asked David Lunn, a retired Zone 7 employee and member of Friends of the Arroyos - a volunteer community group working to preserve and restore the Livermore-Amador Valley arroyos (Spanish for creeks or brooks that may seasonally dry up).

"Rain."

"Del Valle."

"Those are the most common answers," said Lunn. "However, the water typically comes from reservoirs in the Northern Sierra and is transported hundreds of miles down the Sacramento River and across the Delta and into the California and South Bay Aqueducts of the State Water Project before being discharged into the Arroyo Mocho. This water becomes part of our drinking water in about five or 10 years."

Lynna Allen, Water Resources Coordinator with Livermore's Public Works Department, said, "My work concerns pollution and pollution prevention. There was a study conducted in San Francisco



Justin, Tyler and Matt were among students collecting trash.

that said 1.36 million gallons of trash is going into the Bay annually. The City of Livermore figured out that 26,359 gallons of that is coming from Livermore.

"Even though we're pretty far from the ocean, we do have trash going into the Bay that's contributing to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch (also called the Pacific Trash Vortex: a mass of marine litter characterized by high concentrations of plastics, chemical sludge and debris that have been trapped between North Pacific currents). It's twice the size of Texas."

Students broke into groups to collect garbage from in and around the creek, seeing firsthand how much could have potentially ended up in the ocean. Allen said that students collected 120 gallons of trash, recyclables and fabric.

Senior Deanna Dunn said, "I walked out on a log that created a little pond with all these tadpoles in it and I removed a bottle. It felt good."

The arroyo received some extra help that morning from Mormon Helping Hands whose dozens of volunteers removed debris from the creek and graffiti from the bridge. Leader John Lee said, "We're all doing this in the same spirit."

Volunteer gardener Jim Adams spoke with the students about the Granada Native Gardens, which started in 2004 on a barren lot between Murrieta Boulevard and the arroyo. "The gardens have a large variety of native plants instead of water-hungry plants; we know how to use our resources wisely," said Adams.

Plants include hummingbird fuchsia, Carmel Mountain lilac, sage, Manzanita, red buckwheat, Our Lord's Candle, purple needle grass (state grass of California), island snapdragon, gooseberry bushes and wild roses.

Mosaic picnic tables in the garden depict endangered frogs, fish and birds. Several informational panels display maps, photos and diagrams along with the history of the Arroyo Mocho

and water issues affecting the valley.

"The location of the trail between both the garden and the arroyo has strategic value because it exposes users of the trail to both features," said Adams. "This event for Granada students was more than a creek clean-up; it was an opportunity to educate them about water issues in general."

Taking water samples, "Students tested for pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, and turbidity (clarity)," said Rasor. "For surveying the habitat, they identified macroinvertebrates (creek bugs) such as mayfly larva, identified pollution sources, and estimated amount of riparian plants. The data they collected will be published online at www.worldwatermonitoringday.org making them part of a global science community."

Many of the participating students are members of Granada's Interact Club. "One of the themes this year is Go Green," said Rasor, who serves as staff advisor for the club.

Junior Jeremy Martin stated, "Interact is the high-school level of Rotary. We do community service and international fundraising. In my freshman year I thought, Oh, this sounds good on a resume. But after I joined I really loved all that we were doing for the community."

Martin's yellow t-shirt was as expressive as the others', stating: Be the change you wish to see in the world. "If you want the world to become better, be a better person," he said. "Get out there and start doing things. If one person sees you doing it, they'll want to join, and more people will join, and it will snowball."

Rasor agreed. "I think the students left the event with a greater appreciation for the area surrounding Granada and they were excited to use Granada Native Gardens as a venue to do hands-on science," he said. "It's encouraging to teach in a city that promotes collaboration between the school district, LARPD, Zone 7 and Livermore's waste water treatment facility. I'm looking forward to the next creek clean up day in September."



Young volunteer does her part to help eradicate graffiti in Livermore.

Helping Hands Take On Clean Up, Beautification Projects

Over 700 volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and their friends, from the Tri-Valley, joined thousands of LDS members across the state of California on Sat., April 28 for a day of service known as 'Mormon Helping Hands'.

Originally established in 1998 in South America, Mormon Helping Hands was created to help with natural disasters and other emergencies. It has since spread throughout the world. California Mormon Helping Hands became an annual event four years ago as a way for local volunteers to help with beautification projects in their individual cities.

This year volunteers from

Pleasanton and Dublin joined in Dublin's city wide clean-up day known as Dublin Pride Day and completed projects at Foothill High School and a Sunol park.

Working with the maintenance department of Livermore, over 400 Livermore volunteers removed debris from two creeks, planted trees, shrubs and flowers along with spreading bark at the city golf course, painted a large graffiti covered wall and walked the city identifying and, where possible, removing graffiti from electric boxes, street signs and other easily accessible public places. Other sites of graffiti were logged and turned into the city for removal by city employees.

New LARPD Irrigation Control Units to Save Water and Money

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors passed a resolution to allow a transfer from reserves for new irrigation control units for parks.

The board also held a shredding ceremony as the district retired its last debt.

The new water units are part of a satellite-based clock system that will replace the traditional irrigation time clocks found in most parks. The satellite-based system was first installed at Bothwell Park when the park was renovated in 2010, and has since proven effective in several other LARPD parks. The decision from the Board meeting will allow the new system to be installed for all lawn areas of District parks.

The net result anticipated from the new system is a 20 percent savings in water use and associated costs. The annual cost for water is \$680,000. General Manager Tim Barry stated, "A 20 percent savings is a hefty sum."

The new controllers are programmed by a computer and regulated by continuous satellite-transmitted weather information that adjusts watering times and frequencies based on local daily weather conditions of rain and moisture for maximum efficiency. The system will also save staff time previously spent adjusting irrigation on site at individual parks. This saved time will be redeployed to other needed services by park personnel.

The District will transfer up to \$70,000 from designated reserves to purchase 31 new controllers. The water savings from the new system will ultimately result in a hard cost savings that will be reflected in the Parks Division budget. The investment will help balance the operational budget, allowing a repayment to the reserve fund within two years.

Also at the meeting, the District celebrated being debt-free with a symbolic shredding of the mortgage for the Maintenance Service Center, shared with the City of Livermore at Robertson Park. LARPD and the City joined to form the Governments of Livermore Financing Authority

to finance construction of the service center. The District has only had one other debt in the last 20 years, which was for the purchase of Brushy Peak Regional Preserve. The District's final annual payment of \$360,000 was made this month.

Alden Faught, owner of Simply Fondue in Livermore, presented a plan to improve the existing BMX park. He said that the park would be designed for

the majority of young riders, not elite competitors. "I have the resources to put into the park. I need permission to do so."

Faught noted that he is working with the US BMX Association. It would provide the insurance for sanctioned race events held at the park.

Faught's proposal will be directed to the district's facilities committee for discussion.

New E-Waste Center Opens in Livermore

Futures Explored, Inc., a non-profit corporation that provides life skills and work-related training to adults with developmental disabilities, has opened Nifty E-Waste Recycling Centers in the East Bay. The new centers offer individuals and businesses a convenient way to recycle unwanted electronics safely and responsibly. The recycling service is free of charge. Drop-off centers are located next to Nifty Thrift, Nifty Gifts & More and Nifty As Is thrift stores in Lafayette, Livermore and Antioch.

Nifty E-Waste Recycling Centers will accept televisions,

VCRs, DVDs, computers, monitors, printers, keyboards, inkjet/toner cartridges, laptops, video game consoles, Internet/music devices, cameras, cell phones, telephone equipment, and more. Funds raised from Nifty E-Waste will support employment and training opportunities for clients of Futures Explored, Inc. Customers who drop off accepted electronics at Nifty E-Waste locations will receive a tax deduction receipt.

"Nifty Thrift stores have always been about the concept of 'shop and drop', where anyone can shop for household and

personal items, and also conveniently donate items of their own, including books, furniture, jewelry, clothing and collectibles," said Will Sanford, Executive Director. "And now with Nifty E-Waste, we've expanded that concept to include recycling of electronic items. It's all part of a broader effort to help the community reduce, reuse and recycle."

The Livermore site is at 2133B Las Positas Court, open weekdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about Nifty E-Waste, contact 925.294.9086 or ewaste@futures-explored.org.

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Improve Your Home's Energy Efficiency While Saving Money

By Cher Wollard

Upgrading your home to make it more energy-efficient is not just good for the environment; it can also be good for your pocketbook.

California's Build It Green program provides financial incentives for completing multiple home energy improvements at one time — up to \$4,000 from the state and as much as \$1,000 from participating cities and counties, including Pleasanton.

Energy Upgrade California, an alliance of the state, cities and counties, and local utilities, implements the program, which is designed to encourage a "whole house" approach to energy conservation.

"It's time to evolve your house with an energy upgrade that will make your home more comfortable, energy efficient and save you money," according to literature from Energy Upgrade California.

The federal government offers programs that allow buyers and homeowners to wrap the cost of retrofitting their houses into their mortgages.

The advantages:

- Your home will be warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer
- You will save on energy bills, in some cases more than enough to offset the costs of improvements
- You will help the environment, which benefits everyone

To decide if this program is right for you, start with an energy audit. PG&E offers a quick online assessment of your energy usage and how it compares to residents of similar homes. Go to www.pge.com and log in.

If you have a Smart Meter on your home, you will be able to assess your hourly usage and see the causes of spikes. You can make sure you have the optimal rate and create a personalized plan of action for saving energy and money.

Even if you don't have a Smart Meter, the site can help you determine energy usage patterns through the year, giving you a clue as to where you might begin making improvements.

You might want to begin by following a few simple, inexpensive energy-saving tips from PG&E:

- Set the furnace thermostat at 68 degrees or lower, and the air-conditioner thermostat at 78 degrees or higher, health permitting.
- Use compact fluorescent lamps.
- Clean or replace furnace and air-conditioner filters regularly, following manufacturer's instructions.
- Set the water heater thermostat at 140 degrees or "normal." If you don't have a dishwasher, you can set it even lower, 120 degrees or "low."
- Wash only full loads in a dishwasher and use the shortest cycle that will get your dishes clean. Turn off the dishwasher before the drying cycle, open the door and let the dishes dry naturally.
- Defrost refrigerators and freezers before ice buildup becomes 1/4-inch thick.
- Close the damper when the fireplace is not being used. Try not to use the fireplace and central heating system at the same time.

Chances are, small changes will result in some savings. But such measures can only go so far.

According to Energy Upgrade California, "The problem isn't what you've done — it's what you haven't done."

For many of us — especially those whose homes were built more than 30 years ago — substantial energy savings require a whole-house approach: upgrading to newer, more energy-efficient appliances; installing and upgrading insulation and weather-stripping, and patching ductwork; repairing plumbing leaks; installing awnings, shades or sunscreens; replacing showerheads with more energy-efficient models.

For this, we may require the services of a qualified contractor.

Contractors participating in the Energy Upgrade California Program are trained to identify home improvements that can save you even more energy. They also can assist you in applying for the program's financial incentives.

The contractor should begin with an in-depth assessment of your energy needs and usage, using strict diagnostic measures such as:

- Combustion Safety Test to monitor levels of exhaust gases from your appliances
- Blower Door Test to determine how air tight your home is
- Thermal Imaging Camera Test to detect defects in insulation and air leakage
- Duct Blaster Test to detect leaks in the heating and cooling ducts
- Computer Modeling to determine energy consumption

The contractor will then recommend specific retrofit projects to benefit your home.

Home improvements focusing on the building shell — including installing and upgrading insulation and patching ductwork — generally will qualify for incentives of up to \$1,000 from the state.

More comprehensive retrofitting tailored to your home including, for example installing more efficient systems (heating, cooling, and water heaters), replacing ductwork, upgrading single-pane windows to dual-pane, could provide incentives of up to \$4,000.

The incentives only apply to single-family homes or buildings with up to four units. To find a qualified contractor, or for more information, go to www.EnergyUpgradeCA.org.

Even with rebates from the state, these whole-house upgrades can be expensive.

The Federal Housing Administration offers an Energy Efficient Mortgage program that allows home buyers and home owners who are refinancing their mortgages to improve the energy efficiency of their homes without dipping into their cash.

Kevin Nunn of Comstock Mortgage is an Energy Financing Specialist with Energy Upgrade California, and has spent his 18-year residential lending career promoting the Energy Efficient Mortgage program.

Those purchasing a home can include the cost of retrofitting the property to be more energy-efficient in their new FHA mortgage. The home will be appraised based on the anticipated value after the improvements have been completed.

Current homeowners looking to upgrade for energy efficiency can refinance their homes to include the cost of these projects.

"I've been told for years that nobody buying a home wants to add to the expense for these improvements," Nunn told a meeting of the Real Estate Alliance of Livermore recently. "But I've made a career on this program.

"When you show them what it is and how it's going to save them energy, save them money on their energy bills, people are interested. Everybody wants to save energy."

INTEREST RATES HOLD STEADY

Interest rates on home mortgages remain unchanged from last week. Rates on conforming 30-year fixed mortgages are at 3.875 percent. FHA loans are at 3.75 percent. Rates on 5-year adjustable loans are at 3 percent.

For higher-dollar mortgages, interest rates remain at 4.125 percent on 30-year fixed super-conforming loans up to \$625,500 and 5 percent for 30-year fixed jumbo loans.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.

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Second in Series on Prison Reform Set

The Governor and state legislatures say they are planning big changes for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. On Sunday, May 6, Jeanne Woodford, Former Director of the CDCR will be part of a presentation at the Asbury United Methodist Church at 6 p.m. She is expected to share what is actually happening and what the goal may be for the changes.

The 6 to 8 p.m. presentation will also include Carla Kennedy, detention commander, county jail; Jack Noonan, defense lawyer; and Anthony Forest, a former inmate who has spent years in and out of prison and Santa Rita.

The Panel will address the issue of changes that will improve the reintegration of prisoners back into the community and the level of risk to society.

This is the second in a series of programs about prisons. The series is presented by the religious communities of the Tri-Valley.

Sally Bystroff, one of the organizers, notes, there is no citizen oversight of the prisons, no newspaper oversight, no reporting on issues in the prison or prisons. There has been no clear way for the public to know if the program is working. "However, with California having the highest recidivism rate we know it is not working as intended, nor reducing crime."

The Under Sheriff Carla Kennedy is in charge of the detention facilities at Santa Rita and in Oakland. She will be talking about the value of the transfer of state prisoners to local county jails as the transfer of state inmates to Santa Rita jail. Her talk

will include how the change is expected not only to relieve the state overcrowded conditions but also be more beneficial to the potential release of this population. The CDCR budget for this year is almost \$10 billion and has shown steady growth at the expense of schools and social services.

Jack Noonan, a well known defense lawyer in the valley, is expected to talk about the need to do things differently in the courts and where the courts work well for a defendant.

Kenny Johnson, the former inmate, spent many years thinking about his life before crime and after years in jail.

For more information, contact Bystroff at 449-8555 or sallybystroff@gmail.com. There is no admission charge to attend, donations are appreciated. Light refreshments will be served.



The members of Girl Scout Troop 31364 of Pleasanton just finished two years of work to earn their Bronze Awards. They completed their work by holding a pet canned food drive at Pet Food Express in Pleasanton on Saturday. Then they delivered the food Monday to a local animal shelter. Pictured are Troop members (from left) Lauren Bach, Gwen and Lexi Bruguier, Alanna McComb, and Arielle Monia-Shoman. They will be honored along with other Bronze Award recipients at the "100 Funhundred" celebration of Girl Scouting to be held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton this Saturday, May 5.

Mob to Aim for World's Record

Livermore Downtown Inc. has partnered with Livermore School of Dance and local band, Rock On Tap, to get the community together in hopes of setting a Guinness World Record.

The goal - to have the most people dancing in the street to the Monkee's Theme Song. With the loss of Monkee Davy Jones this past year, what a fun way to pay

tribute and thank the Monkees for all the Fun music they gave us in the 70s.

The Livermore School of Dance has choreographed a dance routine us and loaded a video on their website www.livermoredance.com where those who want to participate can watch and learn the dance.

Then come downtown on

May 15th at 5:30 p.m. The dance will take place on First Street between the Flag Pole Plaza and K Street after the Amgen Tour of California Finish.

The moves are simple and easy for all ages to learn. Not a follower on the Dance Floor? Feel free to join us and dance in your own unique style.

SYNTHETIC TURF

(continued from page one)

groups involved - to serve in the interest of the community. This is a significant investment for targeted improvement of a precious asset. Robertson Park is a special place and the soccer fields are a true gem within the park for Fusion."

The synthetic turf project has been years in the making. Over two years ago, LARPD and Fusion SC (previously known as Livermore Youth Soccer League) entered into an agreement by which Fusion is providing approximately \$600,000 of the \$2.2 million price tag of the project.

Through funding by Tri-Valley Bank, Fusion is prepaying six years worth of field usage fees. "It's tricky to loan to a nonprofit organization," says Brian Kehoe, senior vice president of Tri-Valley Bank. "We worked on options to suit Fusion's needs and cash flow. This isn't an ordinary business deal, it's a community reinvestment."

With the prepayment of field usage fees, Fusion receives preferred scheduling for the next

six years and LARPD was able to start the project sooner. "Everyone wins," says Dave Best, Fusion's liaison to LARPD. "The synthetic turf field requires no irrigation and minimal maintenance. With the lights, you can practically play 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It's going to be like converting these two fields into four."

The grass fields being replaced require at least three months of resting each year. More recently, the fields have required nearly six months of rest and have been used mostly for game play.

LARPD expects rugby, football, and lacrosse teams to use the new fields, along with adult soccer leagues and even baseball

teams for rainy-day practices. Fusion hopes to also use the new fields to host soccer tournaments, which could further benefit the local economy, especially hotels and restaurants.

"I'm looking forward to standing here in a few months to cut the ribbon and hear the whistle blow to signal the start of the first soccer match on the new fields," says Koch.

To see detailed plans, visit <http://premium.bluesombrero.com/livermore> and choose "Robertson Park Project" under the Facilities tab. To learn more about LARPD, visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us. To learn more about Tri-Valley Bank, visit www.trivalleybank.com.

Annual Boutique Sales Benefit Jackie Barnett's Just Like New Fund

The Animal Lover's Boutique, which is located year-round in the lobby of Feline Medical Center (FMC), 3160 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton, will hold a special Spring Fling for the Animals event on Saturday, May 5. Proceeds from the 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. boutique will benefit Jackie Barnett's Just Like New (JLN) Fund, a Valley Humane Society program that aids sick and injured pets.

Spring Fling will showcase animal-themed items for spring and Mother's Day such as planters, garden art, home decor, brass gifts, locally hand-painted wine glasses, decorative pillows, purses and other fashion accessories, as well as cat and dog toys and dishes. A clearance table featuring markdowns will also be featured.

The Just Like New Fund was founded in 1995 by Pleasanton animal advocate Jackie Barnett, who passed away in 2009. The fund, which now bears Jackie's name, provides financial assistance to Tri-Valley residents who cannot afford emergency, lifesaving veterinary care for their pets. Since its beginning, the JLN Fund has helped save the lives of more than 400 companion animals.

Today more than 40 volunteers mentored by Jackie are

continuing her work. Volunteers raise money for the JLN Fund by making and selling catnip toys and by operating the Animal Lover's Boutique at Feline Medical Center. Although FMC does not offer veterinary services on weekends, it is opening its lobby

on Saturday, May 5 for the special Spring Fling sales event. For more information, please contact Cindy Ferrin, (925) 323-8517 or cferrin@pacbell.net, or visit the Valley Humane Society website, www.valleyhumane.org.

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THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A



Representatives of Livermore and Yotsukaido celebrate the planting of a cherry tree.

Yotsukaido, Japan Thanks Its Livermore Sister City

April 27 to March 12 of 2011 was a time no one in Japan nor around the world will easily forget. That's when a strong earthquake and huge tsunami hit the east coast of Japan, destroying thousands of homes and businesses, and killing over 15,000 people.

This happened the day before twenty-five middle school students and chaperones were to leave Yotsukaido for a trip of a lifetime to Livermore, their sister city. The trip was in danger of being cancelled.

Parents of those middle school students encouraged them to go on the trip. The parents not only didn't want the children to miss this opportunity, they wanted them away from the destruction and fear. Yotsukaido is about a 3.5 hour drive

from Sendai, the hardest hit area. The students arrived in Livermore after a trip to the airport that took four times as long. There were also departure delays at the airport.

When the students arrived they met their host families, who treated them to sightseeing, educational and cultural exchanges, and kept them from the news reports. Two days before they were to return home, emails started coming from their families in Japan that things were not great and they needed some basic support. — to please bring home batteries, food, and other necessities, as supplies were hard to find.

The Livermore Yotsukaido Sister City Organization (LYSCO) organized a drive to collect these necessities to send back with the

students and chaperones. Two dozen boxes of items were packed up and sent back on the plane. Japan Airlines didn't charge for the extra baggage.

In addition to the supplies, LYSCO collected funds by folding origami cranes, a symbol of peace and hope, and selling them at the Wine Festival in downtown Livermore.

Over \$2500 was collected, and taken to Yotsukaido by LYSCO President Keith Jess on the return exchange visit in October.

In appreciation for the kindness and generosity of Livermore, Yotsukaido recently donated a tree and plaque. A dedication of the tree and plaque coincided with the visit in March of twenty-seven middle school students, chaperones, and

delegates from Yotsukaido. A representative from the Consulate General of Japan's office in San Francisco, Takemichi Nagaoka, made the trip to Livermore to officially present the gift. Livermore Mayor John Marchand was on hand for the presentation.

The tree is planted near the street in front of the Livermore Library.

It is accompanied by a plaque that reads, "This Cherry Blossom Tree is a gift from the City of Yotsukaido, Japan in commemoration of 30 years of friendship between our two cities."

For more information on the Livermore Yotsukaido Sister City program, go to www.lysco.org or contact President Keith Jess at 510-501-8652.



LARA WEBBER

Guest Conductor to Lead Symphony

Guest conductor Lara Webber be featured at the Livermore-Amador Symphony concert on May 12 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

The May 12 program is one of contrasting and distinctive musical styles.

The evening opens with Beethoven's First Symphony, which he called his "Grande Symphonie." Webber feels this provides a light-hearted invitation to a musical evening. Symphonic composition was a new venture for Beethoven and, as an early work he recognized his debt to his teacher, Haydn.

The three dances from De Falla's ballet suite, "The Three Cornered Hat," present a completely different atmosphere. Taken from the dramatic story involving a miller, his wife and would-be seducer, the pieces are energetic, bold and rhythmically charged.

In the final work, Cesar Franck's "Symphony in D Minor," there is once again a change in mood and character. The bold, stark imagery of Spain is replaced with a "chiaroscuro" effect, where haunting shadowy melodies are thrown into relief with joyful, upbeat phrases.

(continued on page 2)



Pictured are samples of several of the gardens open during the tour.

Local Garden Tour Benefits Valley Humane Society

Follow your love of animals down the garden path during the seventh annual Hidden Gardens of the Valley, a benefit for Valley Humane Society (VHS), to be held on Sunday, May 20.

The self-guided event, allows those attending to meander at a pace of their choosing. The gardens will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Ten gardens across Pleasanton are featured.

Whether large or small, overgrown or manicured, discover a bounty of ideas among the tour's inventive landscape designs. Explore beautiful flowers, trees and shrubs, decorative fountains and statuary, and architectural elements such as gazebos, decks, outdoor kitchens, and more.

Find out just how that garden

does grow from Buzz Bertolero, the Dirt Gardener, second generation nurseryman and TV personality. Buzz will be planted along the route to meet tour participants and answer gardening questions. Other hidden gems will be revealed along the way, including watercolor artist Pat Smith and the Animal Lover's Boutique.

Tickets are \$35 per person in advance or \$40 the day of the

event, and include program, map, and directions.

Tickets may be purchased at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street, Pleasanton or www.valleyhumane.org. Admission to this rain-or-shine event is non-refundable.

Tickets are also available in Pleasanton at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., Serenity Stone-works, 252 Main St., and Western

Garden Nursery, 2756 Vineyard Ave; in Dublin at Armstrong Garden Center, 7360 San Ramon Rd.; and in Livermore at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Ln.

Show a tour ticket on May 20 at Stacey's Café on Main or Redcoats British Pub on St. Mary's and the restaurant will donate a portion of the bill to VHS. All tour proceeds benefit the programs and services of VHS.

SYMPHONY

(continued from front page)

The drama is not between characters, but in the music itself. The opening theme is stated in a subtle and somber form then suddenly plunges into a vigorous and rapid reply. Themes throughout the piece combine to form a jubilant and powerful finale.

Webber is a Livermore resident. As assistant and associate conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, she programmed and conducted over 80 concerts annually, including classical subscription, educational, pops, and community programs.

She previously was associate conductor of the Charleston (S.C.)

Symphony Orchestra and music director and conductor of the Los Angeles Debut Orchestra, a post previously held by André Previn and Michael Tilson Thomas. Webber has guest-conducted the orchestras of Annapolis, Houston, Pittsburgh, San Antonio, and Louisville; and the Chicago Sinfonietta.

Doors open at 6:45 p.m. There will be a prelude talk from 7 to 7:30 p.m. The concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore.

Tickets may be purchased at the theater box office by calling 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org.

Argentine Tango Band Performs at Library

Tangonero will perform a concert at 2 p.m. on Sun., May 13 at the Pleasanton Library.

Tangonero is a new Argentine Tango band based in San Francisco. Specializing in classic tango—a genre that fuses intense passion with quiet tenderness, alternating sharp percussive rhythms with slow nostalgic melodies, it will squeeze your heart to tears and set your feet to dancing. Bring your mom—and other women in your life—for an hour of romantic music.

This free concert is sponsored by the Friends of the Pleasanton Library and will be held in the Pleasanton Library's meeting room, 400 Old Bernal Avenue. Doors open at 1:30pm. Come early



to find parking and ensure a seat.

The concert is open to all. No registration required.

For more information regarding the program call the Reference Desk at 931-3400, ext. 7.

Valley Concert Chorale "Bugs Out" in Spring Concert

Featuring Unique Soprano Solo with Clarinet, Piano

Just like the spring weather, the audience will experience a little bit of everything when the Valley Concert Chorale (VCC) presents its May concert "Of Springtime Sounds - Bugs and All."

The concert will be performed at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 12, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton.

"Our spring concerts are always a bit on the lighter side of choral music," explains John Emory Bush, the Chorale's Artistic Director and Conductor. "With this performance, our audience will enjoy a variety of pieces ranging from madrigals, to Brahms and Rossini, drinking songs, love songs, and sounds of bugs - a lot of bugs!"

When it comes to bugs, the Chorale will perform a unique collection of songs by Charles Hoag called "Cicada Songs." The collection features clarinet and marimba accompaniment. Each song is set to poems with arrangements that mimic the sounds cicadas make, commonly referred to as "cicada song," when these noisy bugs rule the insect world during the summer months in many areas of the world.

"Each song in the collection has a unique rhythm coupled with



melodies that create a sound that, if you've ever heard cicadas 'sing' in full voice, will sound like that of cicadas," explains Bush. "The marimba paired with the clarinet adds to the rhythmic uniqueness of the piece and will be a treat for the audience."

A special portion of the program will feature VCC soprano Jumi Kim performing Schubert's "Der Hirt auf dem Felsen" (Shepherd on the Rock). "It is very rare to hire a clarinet for a choral program," adds Bush. "So I chose this infrequently heard selection, which is a real gem. It will be an audience pleaser and program highlight!" Kim will be accompanied by Phyllis Harding on clarinet and concert pianist Daniel Glover.

Additional choral pieces in-

clude Brahms' "Tafellied," a German drinking song, Thomas Morley's madrigal "I Love, Alas, I Love Thee," two operatic arrangements by Rossini featuring Mr. Glover at the piano, and to add to the bug and critter collection, "The Spider and the Fly" and "The Owl and the Pussy Cat."

This year's spring concert begins an hour earlier than in past years, providing an opportunity for a family evening out.

All guests are invited to a reception with refreshments in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the conclusion of the program.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. High school and college students \$10 with valid student ID. Advance tickets may be ordered by visiting the Chorale's website at www.valleyconcertchorale.org, or by calling the Chorale's information number at (925) 866-4003 to order tickets. Tickets may also be purchased through Brown Paper Tickets online at www.brownpapertickets.com

For more information about the Valley Concert Chorale performances, ticket purchases and auditions, visit www.valleyconcertchorale.org or call the general information line at (925) 866-4003.

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Guest Maestro:
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May 12 at 8pm

Livermore-Amador Symphony



Rae Dorough Speakers Series

Bob Borchers
May 16 at 7:30pm

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May 17 at 7:30pm

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Guest conductor is Donato Cabrera of the San Francisco Symphony.

California Symphony Debuts at Bankhead Theater in Livermore

California Symphony will feature “Lara St. John and Beethoven’s Ninth,” in its final concert set of the 25th anniversary season with a performance on Friday, May 4 in Livermore’s Bankhead Theater.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. at the theater, 2400 First Street, downtown Livermore.

Guest conductor Donato Cabrera of the San Francisco Symphony will conduct this concert featuring internationally renowned violinist Lara St. John in Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto, and Beethoven’s monumental *Symphony No. 9* with the California Symphony Festival Chorus, prepared by Vance George. The concert will begin with the world premier of a work by D. J. Sparr, the Symphony’s Young American Composer Resident.

Walter Collins, the executive director, said, “This concert represents an unprecedented alignment

of musical stars. The energy of Donato Cabrera combined with the passion of Lara St. John will bring our season to a triumphant close with the majestic beauty of Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto and Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony.”

The California Symphony has also been praised for nurturing the careers of promising new soloists and composers, as well as providing acclaimed traditional orchestral performances, and developing and performing programs that attract and engage new audiences. In April of 2012, the California Symphony launched Sound Minds, its El Sistema-inspired music education program that combines intensive and frequent orchestral ensemble training with reading tutoring for 1st and 2nd graders.

Cabrera joined the San Francisco Symphony conducting staff in 2009, when he conducted the Orchestra with 24 hours’ notice, in

a program that included Mozart’s Symphony No. 38 and Overture to *Le nozze di Figaro*, and Ravel’s orchestration of Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

Canadian-born violinist Lara St. John has performed with orchestras on five continents and in recital around the world. Her release *Bach: The Six Sonatas and Partitas for Violin Solo* in 2007 was the best-selling double album of the year on iTunes and her recording featuring two World Premiere 21st century concertos with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra had Gramophone saying “it’s the sort of work that should get audiences running, not walking, back to concert halls.”

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

Tickets may be purchased at the box office or online at www.mylvpac.org.

Anastasis Ballet Company Presents 'Testimony' to benefit Shepherd's Gate

Anastasis Ballet Company will present “Testimony” on May 14, at 7:30 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship in Livermore (348 N. Canyons Pkwy.).

The professional ballet company’s evening performance will benefit Shepherd’s Gate, a local non-profit serving the East Bay since 1984. Shepherd’s Gate provides shelter and resources to help rebuild the shattered lives of women and children displaced by abuse, financial hardships, and addictions.

The ballet program will open with Anastasis Ballet Company’s “The Prayer” and will conclude with the company’s newest program “Testimony.” The new work will pair narratives of women who have participated in the Shepherd’s



Gate program with movement to contemporary music.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (children under 2 are free) and can be purchased on the Anastasis Ballet Company website (www.anastasisballet.org), or at the door. Pre-purchased ticket holders receive priority seating.

Concert Band Performs at Market

The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will be playing at the Pleasanton Farmer’s Market on May 5, 2012. The downbeat will be at 9:15 AM.

Under the direction of Bob Williams, The Band will play a medley of tunes fit for an outdoor shopping

experience. Popular selections made famous over the years will be brought together in a robust, full-bodied blend that releases a pure acoustic sound. Come and enjoy.

For further information contact Director Bob Williams at 925-846-5897.

An Evening with . . . Early Chinese Immigrant Uncle Toisan Next in Lecture Series

This May, in recognition of the 130th Anniversary of the Chinese Exclusion Act, spend *An Evening with Uncle Toisan*. The Museum on Main’s annual Ed Kinney Lecture Series program “*An Evening With...*” welcomes the Chinese-American character portrayed by writer and historian William “Charlie” Chin on Tuesday, May 8 at 7pm at the Firehouse Arts Center.

The Chinese Exclusion Act, passed in 1882, was one of the most significant restrictions on free immigration in U.S. history. It excluded both Chinese skilled and unskilled miners from entering the country under penalty of imprisonment and deportation. The history-based life of Uncle Toisan spans the time from the Chinese Exclusion Act, arrival as a “paper son,” detainment at Angel Island, the post-civil rights era, and the emergence of Asian-American consciousness.

“*An Evening With...*” is a speakers series where audiences come face to face with people making history today as well as actors who look and sound as if they have stepped out from the pages of history books.

The speakers series takes place



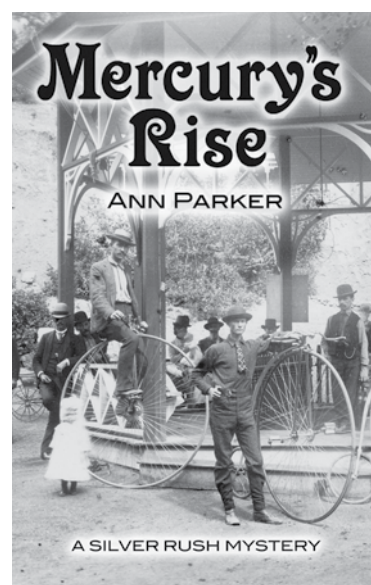
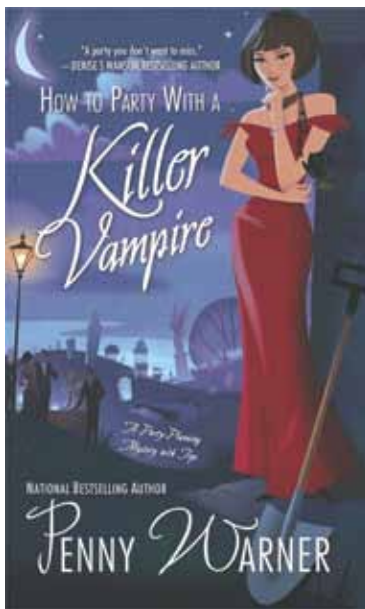
Charlie Chin as Chinese-American character Uncle Toisan.

monthly January through October at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Tickets may be purchased at the door or reserved in advance by calling the Museum on Main at (925) 462-2766. Ticket prices: \$10 General Admission, \$5 Members

& Seniors, \$3 Students/Teachers with ID. All tickets are paid at the door. Cash, check, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

All tickets are open seating and after 6:45pm any unclaimed reserved tickets will be released for sale.

AAUW, Livermore Library Hosting an Evening of Mystery



Penny Warner (left) and Ann Parker will be the guest speakers.

The American Association of University Women Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch and the Livermore Library will co-host "Mystery Writers on the Loose" featuring Penny Warner and Ann Parker.

The public is invited to attend this free program to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, in the Livermore main library meeting room, 1188 South Livermore Avenue.

Penny Warner has authored more than 50 books for both children and adults. She was recently nominated for the 2011 Agatha Best Juvenile Mystery Award for her new book, *The Code Busters' Club, Case #1: The Secret of the Skelton Key*. Penny's latest adult mystery series features an event planner, Presley Parker, and is set in the San Francisco Bay Area. *How to Host a Killer Party* takes the reader to a wedding on Alcatraz. Mixing fun with fund-

raising seems like the perfect job for Presley Parker, which is why she started her event planning business—to raise money for charities.

Warner also creates fundraising murder mystery events for libraries across the country, and she teaches a child development class at Diablo Valley College. Her non-fiction book, *The Official Nancy Drew Handbook*, has been nominated for an Agatha Award. In addition, Penny writes a column about family life in the Tri-Valley for the Valley Times.

Ann Parker graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a BA, Double Major with Honors: Physics/English Literature. She was employed by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as a technical editor/writer and communications specialist. Her scientific articles include "Ring Around a Stellar Shell: A Tale of Scientific Serendipity" and "Big Physics in Small Places". Her goal is to search out

writing/editing projects of any and all kinds. With this background Ann branched out into writing mysteries.

The main character in Ann's mystery *Silver Lies* is Inez Stannert, a straight-talking, poker-playing, gun-toting owner of the Silver Queen Saloon. Inez is also featured in *Iron Ties*, winner of the Colorado Book Award for Popular Fiction. "The railroad is coming west, all the way to Leadville, and its rich Rocky Mountain mines, not to mention millionaires. And who is coming to celebrate the arrival of the Denver and Rio Grande. . .?" Perhaps Ann will provide a hint on May 10.

For further information, contact Vicki-Dawn at 484-3321.

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.livermorelibrary.net.



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Set a Record and Help Raise Funds for Two Organizations

There is an opportunity to become a part of history as Good News Bears (GNB) and Creative Autism Solutions Team (CAST) partner to hold a Bunco night fundraiser. On Friday, May 11, the two groups will get together to raise funds for their non-profits. At the same time, they will attempt to set a Guinness World Record for the most Bunco players in one spot.

Both experienced and new players are invited to enjoy an evening of fun, friends, entertainment, and prizes. Hosted by comedienne and KKIQ DJ Faith Alpher, Bunco night will support both organizations in their missions with children.

Good News Bears is a Livermore based 501c3 charity that distributes stuffed animals to over 70 organizations such as emergency, social, and medical services to ease trauma, illness, or loss. Police, fire, shelters, surgery centers and more receive stuffed animals on a regular basis. The group expects to gift over 15,000 stuffed animals this year. Since its founding in 1996, the group has eased the pain of over 100,000 children, men, and women. The stuffed animals have been distributed to local police, fire, ambulance, hospitals, shelters, and individuals through the Bay Area and beyond. "Membears" have delivered bears and other stuffed animals throughout the United States, including New York, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and more.

Bears have also been sent to international destinations. Bosnia, Turkey, and New Guinea are some of the places world-wide traveling bears have been to. In cooperation with Operation SAM and Blue Star Moms, soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan have been receiving stuffed animals in their care packages. They are welcome to keep them for comfort themselves or pass them on to the local children. In addition, individual bears are given to those who have been ill, traumatized, or are lonely. The stuffed animals and teddy bears are purchased with monies from Good News Bears' fundraising efforts, grants, and donations. The club also accepts new or very gently used animals to pass on.

CAST was organized to create and implement innovative solutions to the daily challenges that face families dealing with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. The "autism journey" can be filled with emotional, physical, and attitudinal challenges – in addition to financial hardship. With 1 in 110 children afflicted today by the puzzling condition and the importance of early intensive therapy interventions, innovative solutions for their rehabilitation have become an urgent necessity. Loving, caring guidance in acquiring these services and emotional support is desperately needed. To this end, CAST was formed to provide some of these solutions.

Join GNB and CAST on Friday, May 11 from 6:30 pm – 11 pm at the Barn in Livermore. Cost is \$30 per person. Snacks will be served. Wine will be available for purchase. An optional Left Right Center game will be played with an additional \$3 or \$15 buy in. Space is limited. Register now at www.castcal.org. Limited to 21 years of age and over, please.

For more information on Good News Bears, go to www.goodnewsbears.org or call Jeanie at 925-373-7982. For more information on Creative Autism Solutions Team, go to www.castcal.org or call Annette at (925) 784-1537.

Team to Raise Funds for Avon Walk for Breast Cancer

A team of Livermore women hope to raise \$20,000 while participating in this year's San Francisco Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.

Julie Blake, a breast cancer survivor, Ann Marie Ayers, and Debbie Ward, along with Megan Bailey are selling raffle tickets to raise the money. They have partnered with Livermore merchants. Tickets are \$10 for one entry, \$50 for 6 entries and \$100 for 13 entries. There are thousands of dollars in prizes available. The raffle will take place on Sat., May 12 at Lily Ann's Lingerie Shop in downtown Livermore.

The team will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. selling the final tickets, as well as serving refreshments. They will be at a variety of locations until the day of the event.

Lily Ann's is also offering a 25% reduction on anything in her shop that is pink.

For information including a complete list of prizes, visit the web page at www.avonwalk/org/goto/mb. All donations are tax deductible.

Do You Remember?



By Anne Homan
Livermore City Historian

Tesla: A Ghost Town

We drove about ten miles east on Tesla Road to a little valley that lay between steep hills and Corral Hollow Creek. The hills were brown—this year by February 21, we had not had much rain. There was little wind, but a red tail hawk managed to find a thermal and drifted overhead. It is difficult to imagine that not too long ago this area held a population of 1,500 and more than 200 buildings. Now a ghost town, not a single building or inhabitant remains except for the ground squirrels.

Our small group of hikers, led by Dan Mosier, author of *History of Tesla*, soon was able to imagine the busy coal mining town through Dan's enthusiastic presentation. Tesla became a town to service the earliest coal mines in California; it existed from 1896 until the post office closed officially in 1915. At its population height of 1,500 residents, the town was slightly larger than Livermore, which had a population of 1,493 in 1900. Miners removed one-half million tons of coal. The operation left two large piles of tailings in the midst of the valley. The mine shafts and operations were in the hill to the north of the town. Mine owner John Treadwell chose the town's name because of his admiration for the electrical inventor, Nikola Tesla. The Alameda and San Joaquin Railroad was built to transport Tesla coal and other products to Stockton.

We walked along the dirt remnant of Bartnett Avenue, where a row of the earliest houses in the town was built. The first house was that of the mine owners, the Treadwell family. It was also the fanciest in the row of seventeen houses. The men in the families who lived here held important positions in the running of the mine. One of them was John McCormick, hoist engineer at the main shaft; another was mine superintendent John Henry Collier, who married Lulu Aylward of Livermore. As we strolled farther to the west,

Dan showed us the locations of two other residential communities—Jimtown and, across the creek, Frytown. These cottages were occupied by more ordinary married folk, for example, miners, blacksmiths, tracklayers, carpenters, storekeepers. Holes left by their root cellars were the only signs of their occupancy. Dan pointed out to us the old dirt road to Livermore: high over our heads on a steep hill we could see the wagon tracks. Even today, the hard-topped Tesla Road, as it drops down steeply toward the east, is a scary ride down Corral Hollow Canyon.

The farthest community to the east was called Harrierville. It consisted of 45 family cottages and smaller ones meant for single men. This area had the most diverse population, including some African Americans and Chinese. Most of the Chinese and Japanese, however, lived in Chinatown, an area on a hillside south of the creek between Harrierville and the town plaza, directly across from the mine workings. Chinatown included family homes, bunkhouses, a laundry, and even a gambling and opium den.

Besides the structures necessary to the mining operations, many public buildings were erected. One of my favorites was the library and reading room with its surrounding open porch. The Tesla School, built at the edge of Corral Hollow Creek in Harrierville, opened in 1898. Near the town plaza in downtown Tesla were the two-story Tesla Hotel, the hospital, the mine office, the bandstand with its flagpole, the bakery, dance hall, firehouse, general store, saloon, a number of bunkhouses for single men, and the barber shop. A large stable was built by the Ryan brothers of Livermore. They ran a stage line between Livermore and Tesla.

A substantial deposit of clay was discovered near the Tesla coal beds. In August 1903 a pottery plant was opened two

miles east of Tesla where the clay was used for the manufacture of sewer pipe, cornice tiles, figurines, and porcelain. A spur track called Walden was extended to the plant. A photo in 1905 shows three large chimneys and a number of kilns. Iver Frydendahl, like other many other pottery workers, lived in Harrierville. In the morning a railroad flat car left Tesla under its own momentum, going downhill from Tesla to the pottery plant at Walden, stopping along the way to pick up 50 to 60 workers. The brakes were wooden four-by-fours pressed against the wheels. To return, a small boy rode a harnessed horse down from Tesla. The horse pulled the flat car with the workers back up the hill.

Other plants to the east built by the Treadwells were the Carnegie Brick Plant and the Terra Cotta Plant. All of these industries came to a halt in 1911 when a tremendous flood poured down Corral Hollow Creek and destroyed the railroad and many buildings. A competing brick company bought the Treadwell businesses and hired a wrecking company to tear them down in 1917.

Property, including the sites of the Carnegie Brick Plant and the Terra Cotta Plant, was bought by the California State Parks in 1979; the Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area for off-road motorcycle riding was created there. In 1996 and 1997 the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division of the State Parks bought another large property to the west, which includes the sites of the Pottery Plant and of Tesla and its coal mines. The plans of the OHMV are to expand the motorcycle park into this new property. A number of concerned people have started an organization called Friends of Tesla. They are hoping to preserve these two important historical and natural sites in Alameda County.

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

Livermore Library to Host Science Festival on May 5

A Science Festival is coming to the Livermore Public Library, featuring representatives from the Lawrence Hall of Science and volunteers from the Lawrence Livermore National Lab. The festival will be held at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, on Saturday, May 5, 2012 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In the Storytime Room, the Lawrence Hall of Science will present a program entitled "Wizard's Lab." This fun and informative program for children in grades K through 5 will have them becoming "science wizards" learning to explore the almost magical properties of matter and energy, participate in high-voltage and subzero experiments and figure out how things really work in the world of physics.

This program also serves as the rollout for 40 new science kits donated to the Livermore Public Library by the Lawrence Hall of Science. These science kits can be checked out from the Civic Center Library after the event to continue the fun and learning at home.

On the Sundial Patio, volunteers from the Lawrence Livermore National Lab will be doing a variety of science demonstrations for children in grades 3 through 6.

There is no charge for this event. For further information, please call (925) 373-5504, or visit the website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

Deadline Near for Quest Entries

The deadline to submit wines for the Quest for Excellence meeting is Fri., May 4.

Wines will be selected for a blind tasting varietal immersion.

To have your wine considered for tasting at the Quest meeting, please submit one bottle of Sauvignon Blanc and/or Petite Sirah no later than May 4, 2012 to Tri-Valley Conservancy, 1736 Holmes St., Building B, Livermore; 925-449-8706

A panel of judges will blind taste and select the top six from each category to be presented at the Tues., May 15 Quest meeting.

All wines will remain confidential both during and after the tasting.

The goal and purpose of this event is to continue the "Quest" to improve upon the great wine in this valley with helpful comments and observations for winemakers to confidentially evaluate.

Donations Needed for Tri-Valley Haven Rummage Sale

Tri-Valley Haven is seeking donations of gently used, good quality items for its first community Rummage Sale to be held on Sunday, May 20th. Items needed for the Rummage Sale include furniture, electronics, books, tools, carpets, household goods, sporting equipment, jewelry, artwork, toys, and clothing in good condition.

Items can be dropped off Monday through Thursday at the Community Building at 3663 Pacific Ave, Livermore from 9am until 5pm. The last day to drop donations off at the Community Building is Thursday, May 17th. Donations can also be dropped off at the site of the Rummage Sale on May 20 starting at 8am. For questions or more information, please contact Michael at 925-667-2710 or email at Michael@trivalleyhaven.org. The Community Building number is 925-449-5845.

The Rummage Sale will take place from 8:30am to 2:30pm

at 2125 Second Street, the US Bank Parking Lot, in Downtown Livermore at the corner of Second and K Street. All proceeds benefit the Tri-Valley Haven, which has been serving survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and homelessness in the Tri-Valley area since 1978.

Volunteers are needed to help with sorting and pricing items prior to the sale and working the day of the sale. If you are interested, please contact Stacey, Volunteer Coordinator, at Stacey@trivalleyhaven.org or 925-449-5845 ext. 2711 for more information.


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Review: OSJ's Devilishly Delightful 'Faust'

by Susan Steinberg

Let's face it: the devil has always fascinated the imagination. Defying legal and moral conventions, he is the "daredevil" people secretly envy even while decrying his wickedness.

Opera San Jose has made the most of this popular fascination in its smart new production of Charles Gounod's "Faust". Wildly popular since its Paris debut in 1859, it is one of the most-performed operas world-wide, chosen to open the new Met in 1883, with 730 performances there since then. On OSJ's opening night, an enthusiastic full house confirmed its lasting appeal.

Despite the title, the opera's success depends on a charismatic Mephistopheles. Appearing to Faust as a dashing cavalier, he offers the frustrated old scholar "Eternal Youth" in exchange for "a mere nothing"—his soul. To overcome Faust's reluctance, he conjures up a vision of Marguerite, an innocent village maiden of enchanting beauty. Instantly smitten, Faust agrees to the devil's terms, and is transformed into a handsome youth of noble dress and manner.

Meeting Marguerite in person, he is painfully proper, to the devil's great amusement: "I can see, dear Doctor, that in matters of love you must go back to school." With the devil's help, Faust seduces the trusting girl, but then is led away by Mephistopheles to a Witches Sabbath. Pregnant and reviled, Marguerite goes mad, kills her baby and is awaiting execution when Faust returns.

He and Mephistopheles urge her to escape from prison with them but she refuses, and instead prays to God for protection. As the devil pronounces her "Condemned", an angelic choir counters with "Saved", and Marguerite dies in celestial bliss. In a departure from traditional stagings, Faust is also redeemed and freed from the devil's power.

The opera features a love scene as tender as "Romeo et Juliette," with soaring romantic music and magical special effects, an exquisite emotional experience, reducing audiences to a mesmerized hush.

Rousing drinking songs and stirring martial choruses balance the love scenes, as do the four-square church hymns and a lilting village waltz so popular that it became a beer commercial. The score has something for every taste, and most listeners, like this reviewer, enjoy them all.

The cast also represents many village citizens: the good-humored student Wagner (Sepp Hammer), Marguerite's young shy admirer Siebel (Betany Coffland), busy-body neighbor Marthe (Heather Clemens) and Marguerite's soldier brother Valentin (Evan Brummel).

Each character is given a recognizable personality and music to match. Coffland's Siebel sings a shyly sweet ballade to his idol, asking his bouquet to convey his feelings for her. Clemens' earthy Marthe evokes laughter as a lusty widow, trying to woo the dashing Mephistopheles. Finally fleeing her clutches, he sarcastically sneers "That old lady is so desperate she'd even wed the devil."

Valentin sings two plummy baritone hits, his "Farewell Prayer" departing for war, and the lusty "Soldiers Chorus" upon his return. Both are performed with sturdy vigor, and enhanced by lively chorus business. Using backdrops of Pieter Breughel's "peasant life" paintings as the basis for props and costumes grounds the setting in period authenticity, as do the rustic antics of the chorus members, who seem to bring the paintings to life on stage. It is a brilliant effect by acclaimed Set Designer Steven Kemp.

Chorus Master Andrew Whitfield has achieved miracles of ensemble unison despite the constant stage movement, and Conductor David Rohrbaugh sustained a beautiful lyrical flow from the first somber measures of the Overture to the glorious final Salvation Chorus.

The three principals proved outstanding. Jouvanca Jean-Baptiste's sympathetic Marguerite, moved listeners with her sweet-voiced initial shyness, dreamy romantic

reveries, and rapturous avowal of passionate love. In the final scenes, her anguished expressions conveyed suffering and desperation, and her soaring final prayer was a radiant triumph.

Michael Dailey, the perfect image of a romantic hero, was convincingly ardent as an intense young lover. His beautiful lyric tenor nuanced every mood, with his face powerfully animated by conflicting emotions, especially his painful remorse over Marguerite's fate.

Star of the opera and ringmaster of the action is Mephistopheles, brilliantly played by Company Resident Silas Elash. His magnificent basso rang out powerfully in his famous solo "The Golden Calf", and assumed a mocking snideness in his suggestive serenade to Marguerite. With his four evil agents, he insinuated himself into every scene, whipping simple villagers into a frenzied drunken orgy, paralyzing them into helpless robotic obedience, and even leading a chorus of possessed church parishioners in denouncing Marguerite's sins.

But voice alone doth not a devil make, and Elash used every resource of acting skill to render Satan incarnate on the stage: body language, large gestures, menacing poses, hypnotic stares, and even sly camaraderie. Internationally-awarded Director Brad Dalton deserved his opening-night accolades for bringing this vital new production to perfection.

Future performances are Friday May 4 and Sunday, May 6, at the opulent California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San Jose.

For tickets, call (408)437-4450 or access www.operasj.org.

Ninety minutes before each performance, General Manager Larry Hancock presents a free lecture that is both enlightening and highly entertaining. At that time, seniors are given a 10% discount, and students under 25 can purchase tickets for \$11.00 (with ID).

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ART & ENTERTAINMENT



Rhonda Chase will be showing works from her newest line of handcrafted jewelry starting May 2 through May 31 at the Livermore Art Association (LAA) Gallery. She will be showcasing this year's spring designs. They include a new twist on her signature wire-wrapped tree jewelry: crafted branches with colorful spring leaves and blossoms that hold tiny sculpted bird nests. Other new artwork includes brightly colored mother-of-pearl and large bead bracelets. Upscale jewelry is also created using recycled materials. While Rhonda is the Artist of the Month, anyone who spends \$35 on her artwork can choose a free pair of pop can earrings from her recycled collection. Other local artworks are also displayed. LAA Gallery hours are 11:30-4:00 Wed-Sun, and Thursday evenings until 8:00 during the Farmer's Market season. The gallery is located in the historic Carnegie Building at 2155 3rd St. Livermore. For more information call the Gallery 925-449-9927.

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

Off the ChARTs! High School art exhibit at the Harrington Gallery. Include artwork by some extremely talented art students and alumni from Amador Valley, Foothill, and Village High Schools in Pleasanton. The exhibit takes place April 20 through May 5. Firehouse Arts Center Harrington Gallery, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

Open Call @ Harrington Gallery, 2nd annual open juried art exhibit. May 30-June 30. Reception: Saturday, June 2, 2012, 1:00-3:00 pm. This exhibit is open to artists 18 and over who reside or work in the greater Bay Area. For prospectus, information and entry form, go to library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1102050517351-254/Prospectus+and+Entry+Form%2C+Fresh+Works++Spring+2012+Exhibit+at+FAC+pdf. Deadline for submittal is April 10, 2012. Juror is award-winning Berkeley painter, photographer and video artist Kim Anno.

Art in the Vineyard, May 27, Wente Vineyards Estate Winery, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Art displays and demonstrations, entertainment, wine tasting (fee). Presented by the Livermore Art Association. Information, 456-2305.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Tri-Valley Treasures Plein Air, competition May 5 to 7, Tri-Valley Conservancy invites artists to capture the essence

of the South Livermore Valley Area. Paintings will be judged by Bryan Mark Taylor an accomplished landscape painter. Bryan is currently working out of his Bay Area studio and teaching in the Graduate School at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. Studio Seven Arts Gallery in Pleasanton will display the artwork on May 12 and 13. For complete rules and a release form go to www.trivalleyconservancy.org. The registration deadline is May 1.

Everything Poetry (in two parts), Second Saturday Soup-workshops 2nd Saturday of every month, 10 a.m.-12 noon Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton; Third Tuesday Trope-poetry critiques 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Towne Center Books, 555 Main Street, Pleasanton. Contact Cynthia Bryant at PleasantonPoetry@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Figure Drawing Workshop, every Friday 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Artists bring their own materials and easels. Open to all artists. Professional artist models (nude). No instructor. Students under 18 need written parental permission to attend. Cost \$20 per session. Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Coffee, tea and refreshments are available. Call or email Barbara Stanton for more info about the workshop, 925-373-9638 - microangelo@earthlink.net.

Preschool Art classes: Thursday mornings 9:45 - 10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join this class. Classes cover drawing, painting, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information please contact Thomasin Dewhurst at (925) 216-7231 or thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com/>

Art classes for school-age children, teens and adults: Weekday and week-



Paintings by nature artist Robert Bissell will be featured at Studio Seven Arts in downtown Pleasanton. Bissell's work is focused on the natural world and animals, with paintings of scenes that range from bears to frogs to bunny rabbits and whimsical bees and butterflies. On Saturday May 5, from 10am to 2pm, Bissell will be present in the gallery to discuss his work. Throughout the month a collection of his art, including Giclée prints on canvas and paintings will be on display timed with the middle of spring. Bissell's paintings explore the idea that animals have metaphysical importance to our own spiritual well-being. Studio Seven is located at 400 Main Street, Pleasanton; information at www.studiosevenarts.com or (925) 846-4322

end art classes offered for beginner, intermediate and advanced child, teen and adult students. Classes cover painting, drawing, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information please contact Thomasin Dewhurst at (925) 216-7231 or thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com/>

Beginning Stained Glass, start and finish a small stained glass window (14" x 14") using cutting and manufacturing skills. Learn how to use basic glass tools. Limited to 8 students. Additional studio hours are available at a daily, weekly or monthly rate. Tools and supplies are \$174. Does not include glass. 5 week class, 2.5 hours each. Wed. 10-7, Thurs.-Sat. 10-9, Sun. 10-4. Classes are ongoing. Art Glass Studio, 174 South L St., Livermore. For more information contact Roberta Jones at: 925-447-1962 www.artglassstudio.weebly.com.

Make It & Take It, 2nd Thursday nights, with guest artists and demos. May is "Fused Jewelry" only \$15 Art Glass Studio, 174 South L St., Livermore. For more information contact Roberta Jones at: 925-447-1962 www.artglassstudio.weebly.com

WINERY EVENTS

McGrail Vineyards and Winery events: June 9th: Lobster Feed. July 7th: Sage Concert at McGrail; July 14th: Annual Cabernet Reserve Celebration and Release of the 2009 McGrail Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve. (925) 215-0717 www.mcgrailvineyards.com, 5600 Greenville Road, Livermore.

The Winemaker's Pour House, Be Happy At "Happy Hour" with Livermore Valley Wine. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 4 to 6 p.m. Buy a glass of Livermore Valley Wine or Flight and order a Flatbread for half price. Take the wine puzzle challenge. Ask the wait staff for the wine puzzle. Information call (925) 215-2656 or visit www.winemakerspourhouse.com.

Steven Kent Winery, release 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon, Ghilmetti Vineyard, Livermore Valley. Fri., May 4, 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the barrel room. Complimentary for SK/LR Club Members, \$10 General Public. RSVP required for event as space is limited, 925-243-6442 or by Email. Please list name, daytime phone and number of people attending. Livermore.

Cinco de Merlot at Cedar Mountain Winery, Sat., May 5, noon to 4 p.m. Mexican appetizers compliments of Cedar Mountain Winery, 7000 Tesla Rd., Livermore. Tasting fee \$5. www.cedar-mountainwinery.com

Charles R Vineyards is participating May 5 & 6 in the Annual Livermore Downtown Wine Festival. May 12 and 13, noon to 4:30 p.m. Mother's Day Wine, Roses & Dessert at the winery. Bring Mom to celebrate her special day with a red rose (be early - limited supply). May 19th - Wine Club Pick Up Party noon to 4:30 p.m. music (Steve Kritzer & his guitar), food & wine. 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore. (925) 454-3040; www.charlesvineyards.com

Livermore Wine Country Festival, May 5 and 6, downtown Livermore, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sun. Entertainment, craft booths, wine and beer tasting, and more. www.livermore-downtown.com

La Luna Fridays, evening of tapas, live music and wines on the terrace of Murrieta's Well on May 11, Aug. 3, Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 6 to 9 p.m. 3005 Mines Road, Livermore. \$50 per person, \$40 Silver Spur Club members plus tax; ticket includes live music, tapas and wine. Reservations are required. Call 925.456.2395. www.murrietaswell.com

Garré Winery, Sunday, May 13 Mother's Day Champagne Brunch 10am to 1:30 Buffet style brunch with custom omelettes, fresh fruit & pastries, carving stations and more. 7986 Tesla Rd. Reservations Required (925) 371-8200

Mother's Day Picnic, Retzlaff Estate Wines, May 13, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Reservations Appreciated. Bring a picnic lunch and the children. Spend the day in the shade of our pepper trees and relax. A hat contest with prizes for the most colorful, the most outrageous and the oldest hat. Live music: TBA. \$10.00 per/adult. 925-447-8941 www.retzlaffwinery.com 1356 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

Tamas Estate Winery, Cafe Tuesdays, May 15, Cape Cod Clam Bake; June 19, Southern Comfort Food; July 17, Mid West BBQ; August 14, California Classics. \$25 per person advance purchase / \$30 per person the week of the event \$20 for Salute! Club members. Price includes live music, buffet-style dinner, and one glass of wine. Purchase tickets for all events for \$75/per person & \$60/per person Salute! Club members. www.tamases-tates.com. 5565 Tesla Road Livermore, (925) 456-2380.

Vineyard Tour and tasting with Murrieta's Well co-founder Sergio Traverso. Sergio explains the seasonal changes in the vineyard. Taste some of the most popular wines and learn how the unique terroir makes Murrieta's Well wines so special. May 19, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Space is limited. Reservations required. \$20 per person, \$10 for Silver Spur members (plus tax). 3005 Mines Road, Livermore. Call 925.456.2395. www.murrietaswell.com

Thomas Coyne Winery Spring Open House, May 26, 27 and 28. Noon to 5 p.m. Release of six wines 2010 Quest, California \$14; 2008 Mouvedre, Contra Costa \$20; 2004 Merlot Detjen's Farm, Livermore \$15; 2009 Confluence, California \$20; 2007 Petite Sirah, Livermore \$20. Selection of fine fruits and cheeses. "Bottle Your Own Wine." selling VINO Tinto Barato, a red table wine, at the Open House on May 26 only. Bring your own bottle, we will fill, cork and label it for you

for \$6.00 per bottle. Or you may bottle label and cork it yourself. Use our bottle for \$7.00. For more info call (925) 373-6541 or visit <http://thomascocynewinery.com>. 51 E. Vallecitos Road, Livermore.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Music every Saturday in the tasting room from 12 to 4; open every day if the gate is open and for sure on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 11 to 5. Red Feather Winery, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Information at 449-1871 or www.red-featherwinery.com

Tri-Valley Medieval and Renaissance Collegium playing session for amateur musicians, Peter Maund, director. Mondays 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7600 Dublin Blvd., suite 370, Dublin. \$25. Information collegium2011@gmail.com or 925-424-1209 or 925-984-4395

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band, plays at the Sunol Jazz Cafe (In the Center of Sunol) the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month 7:30-9:30 p.m. The band features real Jazz from the 1920's, 30's.

California Symphony, Lara St. John and Beethoven's Ninth! 8 pm, Friday, May 4 Bankhead Theater, Livermore. World Premier D.J. Sparr (Young Composer in Residence) Tchaikovsky *Violin Concerto*; Lara St. John, violin Beethoven *Symphony No. 9*; Donato Cabrera, conductor; California Festival Chorus and Soloists. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.mylvpac.org.

Almost Elton John, spring gala, May 5, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Beatles Concert Experience, Sun., May 6, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. West Coast Performing Arts Presents Come Together: The Beatles Concert Experience recreates the look, sound and history of the Beatles. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Orchestra/Wind Ensemble Concert, Las Positas College, Wed., May 9, Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119

Livermore Amador Symphony, concert Sat., May 12, 8 p.m. Lara Webber, guest conductor. Music by Beethoven, De Fella and Franck. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Livermore-Pleasanton Youth Outreach Symphony, performs 7-8 P.M. Sat., May 12 at the Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Ave. Livermore. Admission is free. www.lpyos.org.

Jazz Night Concert, vocal/instrumental, Las Positas College, Sat., May 12, 8 p.m. Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119

Robert Gruca, solo guitar, May 19, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts Concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Chanticleer Love Story, May 20, 2 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Pablo Cruise Better Than Ever!, 8 p.m. May 25, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

San Ramon Symphonic Band, May 25, 7:30 p.m. "An American Portrait,"

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

Swingin' Blue Stars, May 27, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

Pleasanton Community Concert Band, May 28, 10:30 - 12:30 Memorial Day performance, Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. 447-7270.

Pure Prairie League, country rock band, May 28, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Josh Gracin, May 31, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

Blues in the Vineyard Festival, Bay Area Blues Society and Winterhawk Winery, 4537 Abernathy Road, Fairfield. Sunday, June 3, noon to 5 p.m. Fundraising for programs such as "Blues in the Schools." Top names, such as, Blues Harp Hall of Fame Inductee, Darrell Mansfield; Terrible Tom, who took the late, great Otis Redding's place on tour; and Alvon Johnson, Blues Guitar Player of the Year, 2002. The Festival will also feature, the Oakland Blues Divas. BBQ dinners available, catered by Texas Road House for \$25. The \$25 ticket includes admission to the Festival. Regular admission is \$20 and no meal. highsierratickets.com or brownbagtickets.com

ON THE STAGE

Shout, pop anthems and ballads performed weekends through May 5 at the Studio Theatre, Pleasanton. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production. www.trivalleyrep.com

The Mikado, A Wonderfully Silly Victorian Musical Farce, Friday, Saturday 8pm; Sunday 2pm; April 13-May 5, 2012. Role Players Ensemble presents The Mikado by Gilbert & Sullivan. Sex and politics come together in this best-loved comedy of Gilbert & Sullivan, set in the mythical village of Titipu where flirting is a capital offense. The Village Theatre, 233 Front Street, Danville. Tickets \$18 - \$26 - call (925) 314-3400 or buy tickets online at www.villageheatreshows.com, or at the Community Center, 420 Front St.

The Odd Couple, San Ramon Community Theater production, Front Row Theater, inside Dougherty Station, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. Performances weekends April 20-May 6; 8 p.m. curtain on Fridays and Saturdays, 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. www.sanramonperformingarts.com, 973-3343.

Arsenic & Old Lace by Joseph Kesselring, directed by Matthew Goff. The Fetterly Playhouse, 3467 Sonoma Blvd., Suite 10, Vallejo. General admission: \$15 / \$12 senior. Call (707) 649-1053 reservations or visit www.bayareastage.org. Dates and times: May 4 and 5 at 8 p.m.; May 6 at 6 p.m.

Tales of a 4th Grade Nothing, presented by Civic Arts Stage Company, May 4, 5, 11, 12 at 7:30 p.m., Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

Playwright's Theatre, Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House. Staged readings. Sun., May 6, 3 p.m. "Exorcism" by Eugene O'Neill and "Three Scenes Inspired by O'Neill," in association with PlayGround, prompted by O'Neillian theme, "Pipe Dream." Sun., May 20, 3 p.m. "Diff'rent" by Eugene O'Neill. "The Old Barn, Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, Tickets \$25 single performance, \$45 both performances. Reservations 820-1818 or www.eugeneoneill.org. Shuttle service to Tao House from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave., Danville, provided by the National Park Service beginning at 2 p.m.

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs presented by Bay Area Children's Theater, May 12-20, Fridays 7 p.m., Sat. and Sun. 2 and 4:30 p.m. Front Row Theater,

17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

Dave Koz, May 18, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

The Member of the Wedding, by Carson McCullers. Directed by Eric Fraisher Hayes, previews on June 7, opens June 8, and runs through July 1, 2012, at the Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third Street, in Hayward. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays and 2 and 8 p.m. on Sat., June 23. Information is also available at www.dmtonline.org. \$10 Preview, \$20 Sat. matinee, \$28 Thurs., Fri., Sat. eve., Sun. matinee.

COMEDY

The Capitol Steps, May 8, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

DANCE

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

Dance Performance, Las Positas College, Sat., May 19, 8 p.m. Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119.

MOVIES

Classic films at the Pleasanton Library, Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Public Library present the series. Theme this year is "Three Great Directors." Admission is free. The series is hosted by Candace Klaschus, Professor of Media Studies at Las Positas College. Klaschus offers a brief talk about each film prior to the screening. The three great film directors featured in this year's series are Howard Hawks, John Ford and Alfred Hitchcock. Refreshments are served. A complete list of the "Three Great Directors" films is available at the Pleasanton Public Library. Movies will be shown the first Thursday of each month through June 7, 2012. No registration required. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

CHORAL

Valley Concert Choral, May 5, featuring love songs, German drinking songs, madrigals, etc. Among them will be Charles Hoag's Cicada Songs for chorus, clarinet & marimba; selections from Recent Rulings Weather Report, and Samuel Barber's Heavenly Banquet. www.valleyconcertchorale.org

Choir Concert, Las Positas College, Sun., May 6, 3 p.m. Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119

OPERA

Hacienda Regal Cinema, Dublin, will screen Wagner's Ring Cycle in May, plus a film in the making of the Met Production. The schedule is as follows: Wagner's Dream, May 7, 6:30 p.m.; Rheingold, May

9, 6:30 p.m.; Valkyrie, May 14, 6:30 p.m.; Siegfried, May 16, 6:30 p.m.; Gotterdammerung, May 19, 6:30 p.m.

Livermore Valley Opera, A Passionate Afternoon, Sun., May 20, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Music by Mozart, Puccini, Verdi and Donizetti, performed by tenor Eleazar Rodriguez, soprano Rebecca Davis and bass-baritone Phillip Skinner (Tosca's Scarpia). Artists' reception immediately following performance. Tickets \$20. www.firehousearts.org

MISCELLANEOUS

Museum on Main, preschool pre-literacy program, M.o.M.'s Reading Time. For ages 2 to 5 and families, free reading program, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Reading at 10 a.m. with theme crafts following. Donations appreciated. No reservations required. Large groups or playgroups please phone in advance: 925.462.2766 or email: education@museumonmain.org. 2012 M.o.M.'s Reading Time Dates and Themes: May 9, Please and Thank You; June 13, Flag Day; July 11, We All Scream for Ice Cream; August 8, It's A Circus; September 12, Fiesta; October 10, Creepy Critters; November 14, Thank You, Veterans; and, December 12, Light Up the Seasons. The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street in historic downtown Livermore.

Speech Performance Night, Las Positas College, Fri., May 4, 8 p.m. Barbara F. Mertes Center for the Arts Main Stage Theater, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance purchase tickets will be available online at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925.424.1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925.424.1119

Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Sat., May 5, fundraising event for Assistance League of Amador Valley non-profit at the Aahmes Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Avenue, Livermore beginning at noon. Tea tables decorated by the members, yummy food, a hat contest, raffle prizes and champagne bar. Chico's fashion show. Tickets are \$50 and all money generated by this event goes to fund our local programs. For information call Annette at 925-462-5275 or go to our website and click on "upcoming events" to view the flier and pictures of past events. www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org

Girl Scout Fair, Alameda County Fair Grounds, Sat., May 5, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 100th anniversary celebration. rock climbing, obstacle courses, arts and crafts, interactive history, bridging for all ages, Gold, Silver, and Bronze Award Ceremonies, a gigantic Girl Scout store with specialized 100th Anniversary merchandise, camping, swaps, exciting performances including Melinda Carroll, fireworks, and more. Tickets are on sale now for \$35! www.girlscoutsnorcal.org

Livermore Valley Wine Auction, May 5, This is the premier fund-raising event of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation hosted by Wente Family Estates at the Wente Vineyards Estate Winery. Black tie optional, wine, dinner, auction, live music. For more information, visit www.lvwine.org.

Ed Kinney Lecture Series, 7 p.m. An Evening with Uncle Toisan, Tues., May 8, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. \$10 General Admission, \$5 Members & Seniors, \$3 Students/Teachers with ID. All tickets are paid at the door. All tickets are open seating. Information www.museumonmain.org or (925) 462-2766.

72nd Annual Pleasanton Rose Show, Sat., May 12, Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Exhibitor registration, 7:30 to 10 a.m.; judging

10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., show open for viewing 1 to 4 p.m., awards ceremony 1:30 p.m. Information, call the Alain Pinel office and ask for Leslie, Joyce or Marti, 251-1111.

Antique & Craft Show and Concert, Sat., May 12, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Shop, dine and enjoy live music on the lovely grounds of the Dublin Heritage Park & Museums. Purchase an elegant box lunch and picnic on the shady lawns or in the picnic grove. Over 60 vendors will be available with antiques, collectibles, vintage and hard-to-find items and local arts & crafts and flowers. While you stroll the grounds and picnic, Le Hot Jazz Trio will perform French Gypsy jazz of the 1930s. Free admission. www.ci.dublin.ca.us

May Fair for Mother's Day, May 12, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Murray Schoolhouse, day of French music, food, dancing the "May Pole," and browsing booths with antiques and handmade goods at Dublin's picturesque "Heritage Park and Museums." Le Hot Jazz Trio will perform. Crepes, galettes, elegant box lunches and desserts are also on the menu. Vintage tractor/wagon rides and spring craft making. The 1856 Murray Schoolhouse Museum, 1859 St. Raymond Church and the 1911 Kolb Craftsman Bungalow and the historic cemetery will be open for viewing from 1:00-4:00. www.ci.dublin.ca.us

Amgen Tour of California finish stage, Livermore, May 15, downtown. Race hosts world's top cyclists. Variety of

events will be planned around the event. www.cityoflivermore.net

Bob Borchers, Jr., Wed., May 16, 7:30 p.m. LLNL Presents The Rae Dorrough Speakers Series: From Fairchild to Facebook. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Spring antiques and collectibles street fair, May 27, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Main Street, downtown Pleasanton. Hosted by the Pleasanton Downtown Association, www.pleasantondowntown.net.

San Ramon Art & Wind Festival, Sunday and Monday, May 27 and 28 in San Ramon's Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd. from 10am to 5pm both days. This family friendly festival features professional kite flying demonstrations, over 200 arts & crafts booths, entertainment on 3 stages, two large kids' activity areas, food booths and more. Early morning hot air balloon launch on May 28th at 6am. For more information, call the City of San Ramon Parks and Community Services Department at (925) 973-3200 or check out the website at www.ArtandWind.com

GibsonHouse Mystery Performers present, Murder at the KO Corral, interactive mystery dinner theater, Sunol Valley Golf Club, Fri., June 1, 7:15 p.m. Western attire most welcome. 3-course gourmet meal and farcical mystery play, all for \$59 per Sleuth, tax & gratuity included. The Sunol Valley Golf Club, 6900 Mission Road, in Sunol. Reservations required at (925) 862-2408. www.SunolValley.com



Amgen Banners to Be Auctioned

Fifteen Street Pole Art Banners from participating artists and members of the community are now being auctioned off.

The banners depict the artists interpretation of the Livermore Stage 3 Finish of the Amgen Tour of California 2012, a professional bicycle race. The race will finish in Livermore on Tues., May 15.

The banners are on display at 14 street pole locations at the following intersections in the Downtown area: First Street and L Street-4 locations; Railroad Avenue and N I Street-2 locations; S. Livermore Avenue and First Street-4 locations; Railroad Avenue and First Street-4 locations

One of the fifteen banners, as well as all the silent auction forms, can be found at ArtSpace Gallery

& Custom Framing located at 133 S. Livermore Avenue.

The street pole art banners will be on display until May 20, 2012. ArtSpace Gallery will be accepting bids during their office hours from Monday-Saturday, 10am-6pm until bid closing on May 19, 2012 at 6pm. Winners of the auction will be notified on May 21, 2012. Proceeds from the auction will be used to support the planning efforts for hosting the race this year.

The program map and list of contributing artists can be found on the City of Livermore website using the following link: www.cityoflivermore.net/civicaX/filebank/documents/7576/.

The art project is sponsored by the Livermore Commission for the Arts.

Milestones

Community

Pleasanton Community of Character Award Winners Announced

The Pleasanton Community of Character Collaborative invites the public to attend this year's Community of Character Luncheon Celebration on May 9, 2012 at the Veteran's Memorial Hall 301 Main Street in Pleasanton. The luncheon will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The event will honor the 2012 winners of the Juanita Haugen Community of Character Awards. They are Janet Liang, Debra Mitchell, Dave Melander and our volunteer organization of the year Pleasanton Military Families.

Janet Liang, Founder of Team Janet, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia while attending college at UCLA (the University of California Los Angeles). During her treatment at the UCLA Medical Center, she started Team Janet to help register bone marrow donors in hopes of finding a match and in helping others to find their bone marrow match as well. In 2010 following several rounds of chemotherapy Janet's cancer went into remission, however, it returned this past December. She has been given a life extension by her doctors through June. In January Janet posted a video blog on Youtube sharing her story. Team Janet soared from a group of 2,000 to over 10,000 people. Team Janet has been able to encourage people to register and has helped to increase the bone marrow data bank of donors through greater awareness. This community has given Janet much support and she, in turn, has helped to generate much more knowledge and data bank contributors for bone marrow banks around the United States and the World. More information may be found at www.helpingjanet.tumblr.com.

Debra Mitchell is an inspiring example within the Pleasanton community. She gives her service whenever and wherever it is needed and often does so with very little recognition. Each year she solicits lists from local community service organizations and finds volunteers to fulfill the needs of local non-profits. Debra founded a program for teen girls called Defining Girl and encourages them to be true to who they are, commit to their personal interest and talents while developing goals and strong character. Whenever blankets or any other supplies are needed, Debra provides and finds the resources to fill the need. She is a coordinator

for the East Bay Stand Down, for the Tri-Valley Youth Food Drive and the Coastal Cleanup Project. She has brought joy into the lives of the needy. Military families, single mothers and worked to improve our environment.

Dave Melander is a man who exemplifies compassion and believes in building the character of the community by encouraging individuals to serve where they live. Dave has helped to build youth, senior and faith community programs in Pleasanton for over forty years. For several years Dave served on local school boards and joined the Dublin-Pleasanton Joint High School District at the time of Unification for a total of school board service of thirteen years. He served on the board of directors for the YMCA. His efforts have been a major factor in the current revival of the YMCA programs in the Tri-Valley. He was appointed by the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County Commission on Aging and served for over nine years representing Alameda County as a member of the Aging Council of California. In addition he served on the Human Rights Commission for Alameda County. This commission works on problems such as bullying in schools, the safety of the internet and much more.

Dave was a founding board member of PPIE (Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation) and created the original Community of Character Collaborative, serving on its board up to 2010. Dave was a member of the Pleasanton Gardens Board of Directors for six years. Pleasanton Gardens provides housing for the elderly and is specifically designed to meet physical, psychological and social needs. Dave is very active in the Catholic Community of Pleasanton and has served in The Knights of Columbus. Dave Melander, who led his council as Grand Knight during its Columbian year of 1990-1991, has been a council leader for the last 25 years. He is a 4th degree member (the highest of the order) and a member of its initiation team. Dave spearheaded the Knights involvement in Red Ribbon Week when it was an active program in its early years withing the Pleasanton Community.

The Pleasanton Military Families is a support group for family, loved ones and friends of military men and women. Founded in 2003 at the beginning of the Global War

on Terror, the founders believed there was a need for an outlet for those impacted to talk about and honor the children, loved ones, husbands, wives and friends fighting in a foreign land. Families and members participating in the Pleasanton Military Families who often have someone currently fighting in a foreign land define the term "Ethic of Service" for our Community and Nation. They have periodic "Pack-Outs" where they box donated comfort items, clothing, toiletries, food and more items to ship to deployed troops. The group gathers donations to help pay for the shipment of these packages. These special boxes are sent directly to all Pleasanton troops deployed to foreign stations. Many local military personnel have been deployed 3 or 4 times since 2003. Pleasanton Military Families offers support for local families with members who are serving in the current war. The Pleasanton group has grown to over 150 families, becoming the most active Military Family group in our Bay Area. They coordinate the flag and streamer program with the names of each member of the military hanging from the lamp posts up and down Main Street Pleasanton. When men and women come home this group throws "Welcome Home Celebrations" expressing how appreciative and thankful local residents are for their service. The Welcome Home Celebrations include a motorcycle escort to their home where a ceremony takes place right in front of their house. Celebrations are attended by elected officials, friends, family, veteran groups, Blue Star Moms, Lafayette Flag brigade and many other organizations. A flag line welcome is provided and this very special support group makes sure there will never be another Pleasanton Military Person scorned or ignored when returning home. In conjunction with local Veterans groups, Pleasanton Military Families helps organize ceremonies for the fallen and the wounded. They provide comfort and support for the families of all military personnel whenever needed.

The Juanita Haugen Community of Character Award is named in honor of long-time Pleasanton Unified School District Board Member Juanita Haugen, co-founder of the Community of Character program. It recognizes

a citizen (or a non-profit organization) exhibiting outstanding volunteer service within our community while displaying the community-accepted traits the Collaborative advocates: Responsibility, Compassion, Self Discipline, Honesty, Respect and Integrity.

Cost per person for this annual luncheon is \$35. Table sponsorships for 8 are available for \$350. Register by filling out a luncheon registration form found at Pleasanton's Chamber of Commerce, Pleasanton City Hall, Pleasanton Library, Pleasanton Senior Center or the Pleasanton School District Offices or on our website at <http://communityofcharacter.org>. Forms and payment information may be sent to Community of Character P.O. Box 21 Pleasanton, CA 94566 or dropped off by Friday, May 4 at any of the above locations. For

more information contact Kelly O'Lague Dulka at (925) 263-4444.

Donations are being accepted for the Juanita Haugen High School Civic Engagement awards through the Community of Character Collaborative or through PPIE (Pleasanton Partnerships In Education Foundation) with a notation indicating the Juanita Haugen Civic Engagement Scholarship Fund. Scholarships benefit students exhibiting excellent character traits and outstanding community involvement from Village, Foothill and Amador Valley High Schools each year.

Scholarship winners are chosen by officials at local high schools each year. Students are recognized and honored for their civic involvement by our local school board in a meeting at the end of every school year.



Future biologists, (from left) Elizabeth Nichols, Aiden Long, Zakaraya Khater and Ziyad Khater inspect a sample from Lake Haussmann taken by the Lab's wildlife biologist Megan Lawler during a nature walk at "Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day." (Photo Jacqueline McBride, LLNL)

Lab Hosts Children and Teens

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory opened its gates recently to hundreds of children and teens accompanied by their parents for "Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day."

The event coincided with the annual national program held in April whose goal is to acquaint girls and boys with the importance of what a parent or mentor in their lives does during the work day and also stresses the value of education.

Event goers participated in a number of activities that offered something for every interest and age group. A photography studio open house allowed children to learn more taking portraits. Nature walks with a wildlife biologist explored the area near the Lab's Lake Haussmann to hear about its inhabitants, like snails and mosquito fish. Self-guided tours of the National Ignition Facility shed light on the power of the world's largest laser. A career expo highlighted careers in engineering, physics, computation and health.

In addition, children had the opportunity to shadow their parents for a day.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Armchair Travelers, Livermore Civic Center Library on Thurs., May 10, 2012 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Learn about inn-to-inn hiking from Tom Courtney, author of the Wilderness Press guide *Walkabout Northern California: Walking Inn to Inn*. Tom will share photographs of his hiking adventures and offer tips on planning your very own inn-to-inn adventures in Northern California. Adults are invited to this free program on the second Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. For additional information please call 925-373-5500.

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will meet on Thursday, May 10, 7:00 at Alisal School's multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Ernesto Sandoral of UC Berkeley will speak on succulents. Visitors are welcome. For more information call Bev at 925-485-7812, or visit www.lavgc.org.

Become a literacy tutor. Pleasanton Library's Project Read needs volunteer tutors to help adults with English skills. Project Read provides the workbooks and study guides. Training will help volunteers to develop teaching skills, craft curriculum, and gain experience. Students come to Pleasanton from all over the world. Most have basic English skills and many have studied English in their home country. Volunteers should be at least 18 years old, fluent in American English but not necessarily a native speaker and able to devote a consistent hour or two weekly to a student for a semester. Training is May 12, 1 to 4 p.m. Please call or email to register for the Project Read training. For more information, email PennyJohnson@CityofPleasantonCa.gov, or call Penny Johnson, 925/931-3405.

Alameda County Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Organization for Women (ACTNOW) will hold the May chapter meeting on Wednesday, May 9th at 7 p.m. at Round Table Pizza, 540 Main St. in downtown Pleasanton. Featured speaker will be Patrick Mims, Sexually Exploited Minor's Program Coordinator from BAWAR, Bay Area Women Against Rape. The topic will be on how to be aware of and how to prevent the sexual exploitation of minors.

Book Sale. Join the Friends of the Livermore Library on Sunday, May 6 from noon to 4 p.m., rain or shine, for our regular monthly book sale. There will be craft books, fiction and classics, children's books, non-fiction and more. Outdoor plaza of former library, corner of Pacific Ave. & S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. For more information, call 925-443-0766. Mention "The Independent" and receive \$2 off when you spend \$4 or more.

Texas Hold 'em. Exceptional Needs Network (ENN) will be hosting a Texas Hold 'em Tournament on Friday, June 1, 2012 at the Veterans Memorial Building 522 South L Street Livermore. Check-in begins 6pm - everyone playing must check-in by 6:45pm. 1st place - \$500, 2nd place - \$300, 3rd place - \$200, plus door prizes throughout the night. Complimentary snacks; beer and wine available for sale throughout the night. Gaming provider: Blue Dog Events. Buy-in \$60 before May 23, 2012 receive an additional \$300 in tournament chips. Unlimited re-buys the 1st hour at \$20. Add-ins for the 1st hour available at \$20. All skill levels are welcome. To purchase tickets - please contact Denise Gil at 925-998-4914 or ariel2kids@aol.com or ENN at 925-215-2281. ENN is a local 501(c)3 non-profit that host summer and fall respite camps for children with special needs. www.ennetwork.org

Free computer classes. The Livermore Public Library: Internet for Beginners, Monday, May 7, 2012: 1:00 - 3:00 pm, and Searching the Internet, Monday, May 14, 2012: 1:00 - 3:00 pm. Classes are hands-on, first come, first served and take place in Community Room B, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. For more information call 373-5505.

Widowed Men and Women of North-ern CA., Lunch and movie in Dublin, May 6,

11:30 a.m., RSVP by May 3 to Marge, 828-5124. Chinese lunch in San Ramon, May 10, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by May 7 to Marsha, 830-8483. General meeting, birthday dinner in Pleasanton, May 12, 5 p.m., RSVP by May 9 to Athene, 846-0111. Happy hour in Pleasanton, May 17, 5 p.m., RSVP by May 15 to Kathy, 398-8005. Friendly bridge, May 19, 1 p.m. RSVP by May 13 to Barbara, 426-8876. Brunch in Pleasanton, May 20, 12:30 p.m., RSVP by May 17 to Ruby, 462-9636. Lunch in San Ramon, May 23, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by May 20 to Marsha, 830-8483. Brunch buffet in Livermore, May 27, 10:45 a.m., RSVP by May 24 to Hilda, 398-8808.

Avon Breast Walk, Sat., May 12, raffle to raise funds for team participating in this year's San Francisco Avon Breast walk. The goal is to raise \$20,000. Livermore merchants have donated gifts. The raffle will take place at Lily Ann's Lingerie Shop in downtown Livermore. For information about the walk go to www.avonwalk.org/goto/mb

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., May 5, 35 miles wildflower ride from Shannon Center to Sunol Regional Park, meet 10 a.m., Erica Dedon, 828-9183. Sun., May 6, 47 miles, Dublin to Moraga loop, meet 9 a.m. at Shannon Center, Peter Rathmann, 336-0973. Wed., May 9, 29 miles, Lafayette loop includes 3 Bears, meet 9:30 a.m. at Lafayette/Moraga trailhead parking lot, Alberto Lanzas, 825-9581. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

GNON (Girls Night Out Networking) Date Night at The Races. Fri., May 18, 5 p.m. at the Pleasanton Satellite Wagering Facility. Bring a donation for the Pleasanton Military Families. Visit www.gnontrivalley.com. Pleasanton Satellite Wagering Facility (4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton). RSVP to gnoners@gmail.com by May 14. \$10/pp for GNON members, \$15/pp for nonmembers, GNON members with male guest \$16/per couple, nonmembers with male guest \$25/per couple.

Project Nim, will be shown at 7 p.m. on Sat., May 5 at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Special guest, Bob Ingersoll, President of Mindy's Memory Primate Sanctuary and Nim's best friend in the film, will be present. Bob has a long history of working with sign language with primates and in their rescue. Nim is the story of a chimpanzee who was taken as a baby and raised as a human child, using sign language as a linguistic experiment in the 70's. When he got older, he was shuffled around; and, in Bob's struggle to find Nim a good home, Bob discovered his vocation in life. This event is open to the public, free (although, a \$3.00 donation is appreciated), and the hall is wheelchair accessible. A meet & greet potluck begins at 6:30 PM, while a Q & A discussion with Bob Ingersoll follows the film. For more information, call 925-462-3459.

Alameda County Property Rights Task Force, Smart Growth and Sustainable Development: program on topic to be presented on Monday, May 14, 7-9 pm. at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton. Free meeting, focus on new regional plan for the Bay Area and what it means to residents in the Tri-Valley. To reserve a space at this lecture please go to: <http://smartpleasanton.eventbrite.com/> and to reserve a free ticket. To leave a message call 1-800-414-3313.

Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated, meeting May 10, 6:30 p.m. Cattleman's Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Rd., Livermore. Meet Joel Fox, Co-publisher and Editor-in-Chief of the website Fox and Hounds Daily. Fox worked for Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association for nineteen years, serving as the president from 1986 to 1998. He currently serves as president of the Small Business Action Committee. For reservations and information contact coupon1962@pacbell.net or phone Phyllis Couper, 925-462-4931, by May 7.

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, candlelight Vigil in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main Street, downtown Pleasanton, Wed., May 9, at 7 p.m. Participants will reflect on the human and monetary costs of the war, honor veterans who have sacrificed, and visualize ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, May 23, between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Questions? Call Cathe Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowding@pacbell.net. www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org

A Workshop on Metaphor & Speaking American, by Susan C. Strong of The Metaphor Project and author of *Move our Message How to get America's Ear*. Sun., May 6, 1 to 4:15 p.m. IBEW 595 Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Limited space, please RSVP to hamanne@comcast.net by May 4.

Tri-Valley Democratic Club meeting, Mon., May 21, IBEW 595 Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Doors open 7 p.m., meeting 7:30 - p.m. speaker (to be announced) 8 p.m. Refreshments.

Internet use classes, Pleasanton Library, four-class series to learn to surf the Internet and send emails. Absolute beginners are welcome. Classes are held at 9:00 am on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Registration is required. Reserve a spot at the Reference Desk, or call 925/931-3400, extension 7. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 x 25 for information. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Library programs are free and open to all.

Singles wine tasting party, Saturday, May 12, 2012, 7:30-9:30pm, at the Marriott Hotel, 11950 Dublin Canyon Rd, Pleasanton. \$30 at the door includes all the wines you taste, from boutique wineries; accompanied by appetizers to cleanse the palate. This event is co-sponsored by The Society of Single Professionals, the world's largest non-profit singles organization; and by Wine Socials. Anyone wishing more information about this and many more singles parties may call 415/507-9962 or visit www.ThePartyHotline.com.

Vendors sought, Livermore Lions Clubs Christmas Boutique is November 3, 2012 and vendors are needed. Quality handmade (or hand embellished) items are accepted. The boutique is a major fund-raiser for the Lions Club. Rental fees are used to support eye and hearing programs here in our community. For applications please call Joan at 925-980-2628. Single or double tables are available (\$55 & \$80). Price reduced for non-profit organizations.

Bike Maintenance Basics: 7 pm-8:30 pm, Thursday, May 31. REI certified bike tech Bri O'Dowd for an informative presentation that will teach you how to lube a chain, fix a flat tire in record time, and make other minor adjustments to your bicycle. No experience necessary. Register for this free class at www.rei.com/dublin to save a seat. The presentation is free and open to the public, and will be held at REI, 7099 Amador Plaza Road, in Dublin. The public may contact our Dublin store's Customer Service Department for more information, (925) 828-9826.

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, please contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-484-1273 for additional information.

Pleasanton Newcomers Club, open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include a coffee the first Wednesday of the month, a luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, Bunco, Mah Jongg, walking/hiking groups, family activities, and monthly adult socials. Information, call 925-215-8405 or visit www.PleasantonNewcomers.com

Dress a Girl Around the World Sew Fest: Saturday, May 19, 2012, 9am - 3pm, St. Michael Hall, 300 block of Maple Street, Livermore. For more information, please contact Suzanne Slupesky: suzbeck@yahoo.com, 925-352-8447.

Free Diabetes Self-Management Classes. This 6 to 7 week series will teach you how to manage your diabetes with exercise, healthy eating (including the foods you love) and medications, and answer all your questions about living with diabetes. Tuesdays, April 17 through May 29, 4 pm - 6 pm at the Dublin Senior Center. Class is open to adults of all ages (not just Seniors) with pre diabetes or type 2 diabetes. Please call the Alameda County Diabetes Program at 510-383-5185 to register. Space is limited.

Overeaters Anonymous. No weigh-ins, dues or fees. Meetings Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m. St. Barts, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Call Nora for further information at (925) 447-1676

Operation: S.A.M. "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued support of deployed troops. Preparation of comfort packages takes place every other week - all year long. Providing morale support for those deployed. All information provided is confidential and is not shared for security purposes. To submit a name and address, inquire about donations or helping, please visit www.operationsam.org, email operation-sam@comcast.net or call 925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community for as long as they are willing and able to do so. CRIL maintains offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore to provide information and referrals and provide community education at senior centers and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550 and can be reached by phone at (925) 371-1531, by FAX at (925) 373-5034 or by e-mail at abril.tamayo@cril-online.org. All services are free.

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel, 10:30 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program. For more information www.fpclus.org or 925-447-2078.

Tri-Valley Bible Church, 2346 Walnut St., Livermore, holds Sunday worship at 10 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. Children's classes during adult worship service. AWANA children's program Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 449-4403 or www.TriValleyBibleChurch.com.

Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747.

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 485-1049 or EastBaySecularJews.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, has services at 10 a.m. every Sunday. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at Third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. For information, call (925) 447-2946.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. worship (semiformal); 9:45 a.m. adult Bible study/ Sunday school; 11 a.m. worship (informal). For information, call 925-447-1246.

Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. Sunday worship. Information 447-1950.

Calvary Chapel Livermore, Sunday Services 10:30 a.m. 545 N.L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - www.calvalylivermore.org.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church, 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

United Christian Church, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worship on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. Call 449-6820 for more information.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concanon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

Seventh-day Adventist Church, 243

Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.livermoresda.org/ All are welcome.

The deaf community is invited to worship at First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, where ASL translation will be provided every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The church is located on the corner of 4th and L streets.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

Trinity, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday school or Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday nights there is adult Bible study at 6:45 and NRG and Re.Gen for youth, and children's choir for kids. Child care during all events. 447-1848, www.trinitylivermore.org.

St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scala at 447-9800.

Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services: 9 a.m. blended-style with choir and band, family worship. 10:30 a.m. contemporary led by band, Sunday School for children and middle-schoolers. www.centerpointechurch.org; 925-846-4436.

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Sunday service at 10 a.m. For details please see our website at www.stinnocent.net or call Fr. Leo Arrow-smith at 456-0845.

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School & Chapel at 10:15 a.m. All are most welcome to come and worship with us and to enjoy our hospitality. For more information call the church office 925-462-4802.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday school during the 10:30 a.m. service. For more information call the church office at (925) 447-3289 or SaintBartsLivermore.com.

St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church follows the traditional 1928 Book of Common Prayer. 193 Contractors Avenue, Livermore. Sunday service at 10 a.m. Sunday school provided. For information, contact Fr. Ben Brown at 925/906-9561.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ at 4481 East Avenue, Livermore, worship service 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Sundays, all are welcome. 925-447-4333 (a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

Tri-Valley Unity Church will be moving to 9875 Dublin Canyon Rd., Castro Valley, as of May 6. New classes, small groups, new children's and teen programs, and inspiring Sunday services (at 10 a.m.). All are welcome. Rev. Harriet Hawkins, minister. (925) 829-2733. www.trivalleyunity.com Check out Unity of Tri Valley on Facebook too.

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, Sun., May 6, celebrating life and growth with bishop The Right Reverend Marc Andrus and his wife, Dr. Sheila Andrus. The congregation will pull out all the stops with confirmations, receptions of new people to the parish, and honoring and blessing of children who are growing and learning in the faith. The church promises great music, joy-filled celebration, and a brunch after each service. All are welcome. Church office: 925-462-4802.

Immigration: Right or Dignity? St. Charles Catholic Community, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore, hosts a discussion led by Fr. Bill O'Neill, S.J., a professor of social ethics at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, on Tuesday, May 8th from 7:30-9:00 pm in Borromeo Hall. Discuss, and ask questions about this controversial topic. All denominations are welcome to join us. Contact Julie at upcatholic@aol.com or 925-447-4549 ext 114 for more information. A \$5 donation to offset speaker costs is appreciated.

Community HU Chant is the theme of a non-denominational prayer activity Saturday May 5 at 1:15 p.m. The Community HU is held once a month each 1st Saturday at The Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue, Pleasanton. For More Information contact <http://eck-ca.org/> by computer.

Milestones

Military

Education

2012 Science Odyssey Marks its 11th Year, followed by the 1st Annual 2012 Alameda County Science and Engineering Fair (ACSEF)

Nearly 500 students in kindergarten through twelfth grade participated in the 11th annual Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) Science Odyssey Exposition and Competition. Students demonstrated their knowledge of the scientific method by developing a testable question and pursuing answers with research and experimentation. Through their involvement in the LVJUSD Science Odyssey, students develop skills needed for scientific research such as written and oral communication, collaboration with peers and professionals from the scientific community, as well as critical thinking and problem solving.

This year the Science Odyssey brought together 493 students working in teams to create 329 projects in Life, Physical, Earth, and Engineering sciences, 84 community judges from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), Sandia National Laboratory, community businesses, and organizations and LVJUSD teachers. Also on hand were 15 community organizations conducting scientific-based hands-on activities and demonstrations for students and their families.

The LVJUSD Science Odyssey is made possible through financial donations as well as the donation of time and talent of the many school and community volunteers.

The LVJUSD Science Odyssey prepares students in grades 6-12, for the Alameda County Science & Engineering Fair (ACSEF) in that students further develop their presentation and interview skills from feedback provided by teachers and judges. The ACSEF consisted of 365 students representing 265 projects.

The goal of the ACSEF is to stimulate student interest and enthusiasm in science and engineering. ACSEF is affiliated with the California State Science Fair (CSSF), now in its 61st year. About 950 students from grades 6-12 will compete in Los Angeles on April 30-May 1 from 400 school

& regional fairs throughout the state for awards totaling \$50,000. ACSEF is also associated with the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) which brings together more than 1,600 high school students from more than 50 nations to compete for scholarships, tuition grants, and internships in the fields of science and engineering on May 12-18 in Pittsburgh, PA.

The following students will be recognized by the Board of Trustees at the May 8, 2012 Board of Education meeting:

2012 Science Odyssey Best of Show: Elementary: Alyssa Duchesne & Pascale Badders (Smith); Middle School: Maile Sasaki (CMS); High School: Aidan Dang & Ethan Ha (LHS)

2012 Alameda County Science & Engineering Fair Winners – High School (HS): 1st Place HS Animal Sciences, Trevor Malone (GHS); 2nd Place HS Biological Sciences, Aidan Dang (LHS), Ethan Ha (LHS), Hannah Folmar (LHS), Katherine Hall (LHS), Jane Reichenberg (GHS); 3rd Place HS

Biological Sciences, Arianna McGlynn (LHS); Honorable Mention HS Biological Sciences, Thien Nguyen (LHS), Ben Gill (LHS), Matthew Hewitt (LHS);

2nd Place HS Botany Science, Katherine Johnston (LHS), Fotios Dimitropoulos (LHS); 3rd Place HS Energy & Transportation, Brenna Botzheim (LHS), Laila Hassen (LHS), Areli Hernandez (LHS), Jack Ogee (LHS), Kristen Young (LHS); 1st Place HS Engineering, Maryann Gong (GHS), Uzair Mohammad (GHS); 3rd Place HS Behavioral Sciences, Steven Nakashima (LHS), Anish Prabhu (LHS);

1st Place Environmental Science, Dana Anex (LHS), Rachel Munzar (LHS); Honorable Mention HS Environmental Science, Rachel Esser (LHS); 3rd Place HS Physical Science, Kristina Brown (LHS); Honorable Mention Physical Science, Cody Lee (LHS), Hayden Goldstein (LHS), Kyle Tucker (LHS)

2012 Alameda County Science & Engineering Fair Winners – Middle School (MS): 1st Place

MS Biological Science, Russell Stevenson (CMS); 3rd Place MS Biological Science, Maile Sasaki (CMS); Honorable Mention MS Biological Science, Ryan Myers (JUK8); Honorable Mention MS Behavioral Science, Angelina Mouser (JUK8), Morgan Hurley (JUK8)

Other LVJUSD Science Odyssey winners: Logo Design Contest winners: Elementary: Jason Adams, 4th grader at Sunset; Middle: Chloe Brunton, 8th grader at CMS; High: Kelsey Girardelli, 12th grader at GHS - artwork used for T-shirt

Art of Science Photography Contest winners (students photograph and write a description of the scientific concept portrayed): Elementary: Lindsey Phillips, 5th grader from Sunset; Middle: Victoria Greene, 7th grader from Junction K-8; High: Samantha Reed, 12th grader at GHS

LVJUSD Science Odyssey pictures archived on LVJUSD website: <http://www.livermore-schools.com>



Donations Sought

Camp Parks RFTA will soon be dedicating its new Memorial Park to honor fallen Soldiers. This park is being funded and built completely by community volunteers. The local AUSA Chapter, The Dean Chapter, a fellow veteran group, is sponsoring a project to erect a "Battle Cross" (pictured above) in the Memorial.

Donations towards this project, in any amount, would be most welcome. The total cost of the Battle Cross is \$4,500

Checks should be made out to "AUSA - Dean Chapter" with a note on the check stating 'Memorial Fund.' The AUSA is helping in this cause as the Army (or Army representatives) can not solicit funds nor do they have an authorized way to channel the funds, therefore, AUSA is doing both. The Army will accept the Battle Cross as a gift and will put it on their property book.

AUSA Dean Chapter is a 501(c)3 organization, tax deductible. Receipts will be provided.

For questions or to donate, please contact Phil Stage with the Association of the United States Army at 479-3361 or at phil.stage@usar.army.mil

Award Winning Art Displayed at Livermore City Hall

The Commission for the Arts of the City of Livermore has selected award-winning artworks during the Livermore Art Association Spring Art Show held at The Barn. The following are the artists and artworks that were selected:

Change Study 3 by Goran Konjevod, 3D and fiber; Good

Morning by Maryann Kot, oil; Eye on the Prize by Glenyse Henschel, acrylic; Sunlit Adobe by Lynn Bernstein, pastel and drawing; Point Reyes Lighthouse-4 by Christine McCall, graphics and mixed media; Valentine's Day by Val Moniz, watercolor; and Yosemite Valley Sunrise by Marc Davis, photography.

The public is invited to view the selected artworks, which are currently on display at the ground floor level of City Hall located at 1052 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550.

For questions or more information, please contact Theresa De La Vega at (925) 960-4049 or tbdelavega@ci.livermore.ca.us.



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