

## Don't Miss It!



### The Independent now comes in two sections.

Section II is filled with information about arts, entertainment and special events. There are education features, as well as the arts and entertainment and bulletin board listings.

## Coffee with Cops Scheduled

The Livermore Police Department's next session of "Coffee with the Cops" will be held Sat., May 16.

The command staff and downtown resource officer will be at Starbucks Coffee Shop from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. They will be available to chat with members of the public and answer questions.

Starbucks is located at 2470 First Street in downtown Livermore.

## Scottish Games This Weekend In Livermore

The annual Livermore Scottish Games and Celtic Celebration is set for May 16 and 17 at Robertson Park in Livermore.

Now in its sixth year, the Livermore Scottish Games are once again "twinned" this year with the Birnam Highland Games in Scotland, which began in 1864. This year will feature the largest contingent of visitors from the Birnam Games, including Rae Pattillo, Chairman of the Birnam Games and Honorary Chieftan of the Livermore Games; Peter Grieg, Secretary of the Games; and "Big" Willie Robertson, member of the Games Committee and World Haggis Eating Champion.

A special offer this year with the Scottish Games will be free parking. In years past, parking was \$5. Also new this year, LARPD is partnering with Renaissance Productions to help make the event a hit. Renaissance Productions produces successful events throughout the West Coast and consults on events of all genres around the country.

Many favorites will be back for the Games, including caber tossing and other heavy athletics. Attendees can also watch traditional highland and country dancing and see Scottish and Celtic music performed by

(See GAMES, page 2)

## Top Grade Begins Work on Stimulus Project

Top Grade Construction has officially started work on the I-80 project. It is the first project to be funded in the state by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The project was awarded to Top Grade April 21, 2009. The company, which is located in Livermore, outbid 12 other companies. The contract is expected to generate approximately 40,000 man hours requiring more than 200 workers to be employed.

The project, which is targeted for completion by the end of 2009, includes the rehabilitation and resurfacing of I-80 between Route 12 and the Putah South Canal, a roadway traveled by nearly 200,000 motorists each day.

"We are excited that over 200 construction workers will be employed by this project," said Will Kempton, Caltrans Director.

Brian Gates, Top Grade's Chief Operating Officer, commented, "As the executive of this very important project, I can say that we couldn't be more excited with the opportunity it provides not only to the Top Grade workforce, but also the 20 other companies that will be involved in helping make this job a major success."

# Big Power Towers Proposed in Wine Country

By Ron McNicoll

Valley vintners, residents, tourism officials, land conservationists, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) and others are concerned about a plan to run new power lines through north Livermore, travel along the east side near Livermore, and through south Livermore wine country.

The huge towers and power lines would also be installed along Highway 84 near Kalthoff Commons, another wine-growing area. They would be located

across the highway from the Ruby Hill subdivision in Pleasanton. The power lines would run through the Sunol Valley, where one of two proposed routes is next to Sunol Valley Golf and Country Club.

A consortium of public power agencies in California is building the lines of 220 and 500 kilovolt size to increase the capacity of the Bay Area power grid. The closest participating city to the Valley is Alameda. It's the only one in the county.

Western Area Power Association

(WAPA) is the partner of TANC on the project.

The project is at the EIR stage. There is no outside agency that will approve or deny the project, according to TANC consultant Janet Thomson, who called back on deadline. She said that the TANC and WAPA boards will vote on it.

Thomson said the project has to meet environmental requirements, and obtain needed permits from agencies, very much in the manner of building any other infrastructure, such as a road. If the

power plan were being constructed by a private firm, instead of municipal power agencies, it would go to the California Public Utilities Commission, she said.

The new lines would help connect to green power sources, such as wind and solar, according to the project's web page. Calls to the executive director of the agency, the Transmission Association of Northern California (TANC), were not returned in time for deadline.

Project information is avail-

able on their web page at <http://www.tanc.us/content/blogsection/7/48/>. The information includes a Google map with the proposed rights of way in yellow. An address must be typed in in order to have the map locate a spot.

### WENTE PREDICTS 'FULL-ON RANGE WAR'

Phil Wente of Wente Vineyards is so upset about the plan that he said, "This will create a full-on range war, if they even attempt to come here. They only

(See POWER, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Students at Vintage Hills Elementary School in Pleasanton got to try out the school's new observatory last week. For more information, see the story on page 6.

## Business Park Lends a Helping Hand 'A Taste of Summer' to Raise Funds

By Elizabeth Campos Rajs

Summer is starting a little early in the Hacienda Business Park with a festive outdoor event on May 29. The event is a community barbecue, a corporate cook-off and a charitable fundraiser all rolled into one TGIF-style gathering.

"A Taste of Summer" will be held from 4-8 p.m. on Friday, May 29, on the lawn at the Shaklee Corp. property at 4747 Willow Road. All proceeds from the event will benefit the park's Hacienda Helping Hands giving campaign.

Open to the public, tickets are \$20 and include admission to the event and a barbecue dinner. Tickets may be purchased on the web at [helpinghands.hacienda.org](http://helpinghands.hacienda.org) or by calling the Tri-Valley Community Foundation office at (925) 734-5673.

"We wanted to bring companies together and to bring a neighborhood feeling to the business park," said Jon Burchett, director of sales at Hyatt Summerfield Suites, the lead sponsor of the event. "There will be the cook-off, live music, games and prizes. It will have a get-to-know-your-neighbor atmosphere."

Adding to the festivities, the Oakland A's pregame show, "Right Off the Bat with Marty Lurie," will broadcast from the barbecue, he added.

Hyatt Summerfield Suites was one of the charter donors to the Hacienda Helping Hands giving

(See SUMMER, page 4)

## Lab Retirees to Petition for Return to Former Status

Lawrence Livermore National Lab retirees who are convinced that they are legally entitled to University of California health care may sign a petition to that effect on Friday, May 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the home at 1217 Blossom Circle, Livermore. Blossom Circle is south of East Avenue from the Robert Livermore Center.

Responsibility for health benefits was shifted at the end of 2007 from the University of Cali-

fornia, the original Laboratory contractor, to the new contractor, Lawrence Livermore National Security, a partnership.

The new contractor has followed health insurance practices more consistent with industrial standards than with those of the University. For example, it has been moving retirees out of group health plans and into more expensive, age adjusted individual plans.

Retiree Joe Requa and others

believe the change was illegal and would like to see it reversed for those who retired prior to the contract change. Their petitions to that effect will be sent to UC President Mark Yudof, Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, California senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, and Congressional representatives Ellen Tauscher and Jerry McNerny.

Requa has set up a website with legal documents, reports on the group's views and activities,

and a history of related events. The website is <http://home.comcast.net/~jrequa/retiree.htm>

"We would like to restore UC health benefits, which I believe LLNL retirees are legally entitled to," Requa said. "We intend to enforce that. If the University sees the light of day, fine. I would just as soon not take legal action. If they don't, we will have no choice."

## Increases in Water and Garbage Rates in Livermore

Residents who obtain their water from the City of Livermore will be paying more for the service.

The city council on Monday approved a 9.6 percent increase, an average of about \$4.87 a month per household. The rate change does not impact customers of California Water.

The council passed a resolution calling for a 20 percent voluntary reduction in water use.

Staff told the council that the rate increase was necessary because revenue projections are lower than originally projected as a result of reduced water usage and fewer new connections than assumed in the 2008 rate study. In addition, Zone 7 has increased its wholesale water rates by 16.7 percent.

The city is in the process of considering adoption of water rates that would be temporarily applied as needed during periods of water shortage to both

promote water conservation and to make up for the resulting revenue shortfalls.

While no one spoke in opposition to the increase at the council meeting, the city did receive a number of letters protesting the increase. Most said that raising water rates at a time when other costs were increasing and the economy was in a slow down was bad timing on the part of the city. One writer suggested it was time to cut costs, not raise rates.

Darren Greenwood, assistant director of public works, pointed out that California Water, the company that also supplies water to Livermore customers, had raised its rates. The rates are very similar, with the average Cal Water customer paying \$55.30 per month, and Livermore water users \$55.24 per month.

As to the reduction in water use, Greenwood noted that at this time it is voluntary. There are no

(See LIVERMORE, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Students at Altamont Creek Elementary School in Livermore got a lesson in agriculture and nutrition when the Dairy Council of California's Mobile Dairy Classroom paid a visit. The Mobile Dairy Classroom, an educational milking parlor on wheels, teaches children how milk starts at a farm and ends up in their school cafeterias. Students also learn about the anatomy of a cow, agriculture's role in the food supply and milk's contribution to a healthy diet. Olivia was chosen to feed Della her bottle.

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### PET OF THE WEEK

Lizzie was found wandering in a neighborhood, abandoned by her owner. She did not enjoy her short life as a stray cat, since her favorite activities are napping and sleeping! She would make a lovely addition to any family, and would prefer a quiet household where she knows she will never be abandoned again. To visit with Lizzie, come to Valley Humane Society's Kitty City, open Tues-Sat from 11AM to 5PM. Call 925-426-8656 or visit the web site [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org) for more details. The Garden Tour is May 17- visit the web site for more info!

# Pleasanton Residents Asked to Cut Water Use

Pleasanton residents are being asked to voluntarily reduce water usage by 20 percent.

The Pleasanton City Council last week approved the resolution calling for water conservation. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman pointed out that the state is in the third year of a serious drought. In addition, there is a regulatory drought with the court stopping delivery of water at various times during the year.

Last year, Pleasanton residents were asked to reduce water use by 10 percent. The new effort is not an additional 20 percent reduction, rather they are being asked to reduce use by an additional 10 percent.

Daniel Smith, operation services director, said the state is the driest it has been in 80 years. In February, Governor Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency, calling for a reduction in water usage.

Pleasanton receives 80 percent of its water from Zone 7. The rest is pumped from underground wells. Smith noted that the state has indicated it will deliver only 30 percent of normal water allocations. For Pleasanton, that means the remainder must come from groundwater. "The request to reduce water use is voluntary



The sculpture, "Monet's Bench," is being donated to the city by Nancy and Gary Harrington.

at this point. We don't anticipate mandatory restrictions, because groundwater is available," said Smith.

There is no penalty if people don't meet the voluntary reduction goal.

Hosterman suggested that people look at planting native landscape and drought tolerant plants as a way to reduce water use.

In addition, the city has sug-

gestions on its website at [www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us](http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us).

Pleasanton residents have not had their water rates increased since 2001. The increase in the costs of purchasing water from Zone 7 has been absorbed by the city.

The city is considering instituting a tiered water rate system that includes lower rates for those who conserve and higher rates for those who do not. There are

records that track water use. The new rates are expected to come to the city council in January 2010.

## ART DONATIONS

The council voted to accept donations of art from two residents.

Nancy and Gary Harrington have donated a bronze sculpture titled, "Monet's Bench," by artist Gary Lee Price. The piece will be placed in Lions Wayside Park near the Firehouse Arts Center.

Artist Debbie Wardrope offered a pastel painting of the Century House to the city. It will be placed in a city facility where it will be visible to the public.

## ATTORNEY TO RETIRE

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman noted that City Attorney Michael Roush will retire at the end of September after 32 years in the municipal attorney profession, including the last 21 years in Pleasanton.

Roush was named city attorney for Pleasanton in 1988, succeeding Peter MacDonald.

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## GAMES

(continued from page one)

groups such as Seven Nations, the Black Irish Band, Tempest and more. The headliner, Seven Nations, is an internationally acclaimed, high-energy Celtic rock band that melds bagpipes and fiddles with electric guitars and drums.

Another popular part of the Games are the re-enactments performed by the living history groups. Children and adults alike can enjoy watching and meeting people portraying highlanders, Celtic warriors and craftspeople, colonial militia and peasants.

Fencing and archery demonstrations, birds of prey and a Children's Glen will also be part of the fun.

Scottish, Irish and English favorites such as haggis, bangers, corned beef and cabbage and fish and chips will be available for purchase. The Games will have five kinds of Scotch Whisky for sampling and five types of Scottish beer.

The Livermore Scottish Games and Celtic Celebration will be held from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, May 16, and from

11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, May 17, at Robertson Park, 3200 Robertson Park Road, Livermore. Parking is free. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for young adults (ages 16-20) and seniors (ages 60 and up), \$7 for children (ages 6-15) and free to children 5 or younger.

A \$2 off coupon can be downloaded from the LARPd Web site at [www.larpd.dst.ca.us](http://www.larpd.dst.ca.us). For more information on the Games, call 925-373-5700 or visit the Livermore Scottish Games site at [www.livermoregames.com](http://www.livermoregames.com)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

First Wednesday Party celebrations kicked off for the summer last Wednesday in downtown Pleasanton. Theme was Cinco de Mayo. Activities included entertainment, food, fun, and a chance to pet a horse from the Horizons East Equestrian Center.

## Spring into Health

PAMF is blooming with healthy events

Attend a health screening, lecture or other healthy offering this May at the Palo Alto Medical Foundation. Visit our Web site at [pamf.org/events](http://pamf.org/events) for more information.

**Palo Alto**

**Palo Alto Center – 795 El Camino Real**  
**Hearing Health Fair**  
**Wednesday, May 27, 3 to 5 p.m.**  
Various presentations by PAMF audiologists and other experts; screenings & informational tables  
**RSVP: 650-853-4873**

**Fremont**

**Fremont Center – 3200 Kearney Street**  
**"Heartburn and Reflux: When is it Dangerous?"**  
**Wednesday, May 20, 7 to 8:30 p.m.**  
Khue V. Saephanh, D.O., PAMF Family Medicine  
**RSVP: 510-498-2891**

**Sunnyvale**

**Sunnyvale City Council Chambers – 456 W. Olive Ave.**  
**"Surviving Spring: How to Manage Allergies"**  
**Wednesday, May 27, 7 to 8 p.m.**  
Steve Rubinstein, M.D., PAMF Allergy  
**RSVP: 408-523-3295**

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**LIVERMORE**  
655 EAST VINEYARD AVENUE \$4,695,000  
Fabulous 20+ acre parcel with 8000 sq-ft custom home, 148 acres of income producing Charbonnet grapes, Gorgeous views, peaceful. Part of Ruby Hill Vineyard Estates. Santa Barbara Architecture. Guest apartment, pool, spa, wine room. This property has it all!  
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LIVERMORE REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**MORGAN TERRITORY ROAD** \$1,850,000  
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**QUAIL COURT** \$1,550,000  
Gorgeous single level 4500+/- sqft home on one acre.  
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**DERBY COURT** \$1,549,000  
Elegant "Country" style home in pristine condition, premium upgrades.  
**CATHERINE KAUFER** (925) 855-4068  
**TESLA ROAD** \$1,495,000  
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Just a ten minute walk to town. 4 Bed 2.5 Bath, 2,719+/- SQFT.  
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**LINDA E. SMITH** (925) 583-2177  
**216 MULQUEENEY STREET** \$389,000  
Great location for this sharp 3bd, 2bth duet. 1,120+/- SQFT  
**LILLIAN COZART** (925) 583-2170  
**CORNFLOWER CMN** \$360,000  
Lovely open floor plan. 3 Bed 2 Bath, 1,352+/- SQFT Built 1999  
**DENISE IVALDI** (925) 251-2532  
**NADINE STREET** \$359,000  
Move in ready. Many updates past 5-10 yrs. 3 Bed 2 Bath, 1,040+/- SQFT  
**KAREN HUHTOON** (925) 455-2020

PLEASANTON REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**CANOSA COURT** \$2,649,000  
Mediterranean style home in Ruby Hill located in a premium cul-de-sac.  
**ANJU BHATIA** (925) 251-2568

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**CASTLEWOOD PLACE** \$1,995,000  
Custom built home in 1996 by Sterling Builders. Above the 18th Green.  
**BRYAN CRAFT** (925) 855-4141  
**GRANT COURT** \$1,595,000  
French Country custom home, Kitzinger Ranch. 5 Bed 3 Bath.  
**PHYLLIS WEINER** (925) 251-2585  
**2ND STREET** \$999,000  
Gorgeous home built in 1910 and restored to its current grandeur in 2004.  
**TODD MARTINEZ** (925) 251-2572  
**CONCORD STREET** \$799,000  
Fristerlin Pool-Side at the Gorgeous Vintage Hills, situated on almost 1/4 acre.  
**EMILY HUNTER** (925) 785-3795  
**VALLEY VIEW COURT** \$563,400  
Remodeled! Granite Kitchen Counter Tops and Stainless Appliances.  
**DEBBIE GIBBS** (925) 389-6751  
**ACADIA COURT** \$549,950  
Beautifully maintained 3 bdrms, 2 bath home. Excellent value!  
**TONNI CHANDLER** (925) 251-2556  
**TOWNSHIP COURT** \$375,000  
Nice 3 bdrms, 1.5 bath townhome, approx. 1132sqft, super location.  
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**VINE STREET** \$339,000  
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Beautiful secluded 4bd /4ba home with approx 4500 sq ft, 6.5 acres.  
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**KINGSMILL TERRACE** Dublin \$1,700,000  
Spectacular home with hundreds of thousands in upgrades.  
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**LEDGEWOOD TERRACE** Dublin \$939,000  
Beautiful home with great open floor plan, great for entertaining.  
**MINA RAJU NUGENT** (925) 251-2540  
**BOULDER CANYON COURT** Castro Valley \$799,000  
Elegant one story with additional master suite at Century Oaks in 5 Cms.  
**JANE MYRENGET** (925) 251-2577  
**BRITTANY LANE** Dublin \$759,000  
Mediterranean 5 year old custom home, views from every window.  
**BOB COMBS** (925) 323-6735  
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# VALLEY ROUNDUP

## Garamendi Most Recognized

Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi would hold a commanding favorability and likely vote advantage over potential competitors in a special election in the 10th congressional district if current Representative Ellen Tauscher is appointed to President Obama's administration, according to a poll.

According to the poll of likely special election voters, 80 percent have heard of the Lieutenant Governor, and he is seen favorably by 35 percent. Only 12 percent hold an unfavorable view.

Mark DeSaulnier is known by 39 percent, with 16 percent holding a favorable opinion and 13 percent holding an unfavorable opinion. Buchanan is known by 45 percent, with 17 percent holding a favorable opinion and 12 percent holding an unfavorable opinion. Warren Rupf is known by 20 percent, with nine percent holding a favorable opinion and nine percent holding an unfavorable opinion.

With 24 percent of likely voters inclined to back the Lieutenant Governor if there is a special election, Garamendi also holds a comfortable 11 point advantage over his nearest Democratic competitor. Sheriff Warren Rupf, Senator Mark DeSaulnier, and Assembly Member Joan Buchanan receive the backing of 17 percent, 13 percent, and 10 percent of voters respectively, with 36 percent of voters forming no opinion.

The poll was conducted between May 1st and May 4th by Jim Moore and JMM Research. Interviews were conducted with a 400-person sample from the 10th congressional district. Turnout was projected at 30 percent, and likely turnout was projected to be 55 percent Democratic, 33 percent Republican, and 12 percent independent. The poll had a +/- 5 percent margin of error.

## Hancock Endorses DeSaulnier

Senator Loni Hancock has endorsed fellow-Senator Mark DeSaulnier for California's Tenth Congressional District should the seat become available upon the confirmation of Rep. Ellen Tauscher to a post within the Obama Administration.

Hancock, who represents part of the East Bay, also served with DeSaulnier in the Assembly prior to their concurrent election to the Senate in 2008. In the Assembly, Hancock represented the Contra Costa County cities of El Cerrito, Orinda, Moraga, Lafayette and Pleasant Hill, which are also contained in the Tenth Congressional District. Hancock's current Senate seat encompasses the City of Livermore, the largest city in the Tenth Congressional District.

"Senator DeSaulnier is a real joy to work with. He is passionate about policy, but he also cares deeply about people. As chair of the Senate Labor and Industrial Relations Committee, he has consistently gone to bat for good-paying jobs," Hancock said.

Hancock is also a member of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee and former chair of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher, D-Walnut Creek, is expected to vacate the seat upon her confirmation as Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security in the State Department of the Obama administration.

## Green Building Ordinance

Alameda County took another step forward in its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions when the Board of Supervisors adopted the Public Works Agency's "Green Building Program" for private development. This new Ordinance will require certain residential and non-residential type projects in the unincorporated areas of Alameda County to comply with green building standards.

The new Green Building Program for private development is intended to encourage water and resource conservation, reduce waste generated by construction projects, increase energy efficiency in buildings, provide durable buildings that are efficient and economical to own and operate, and promote sustainable residential and non-residential construction within unincorporated Alameda County.

Using LEED and "Build It Green" rating systems, the Green Building Program will establish

minimum requirements that must be achieved prior to the issuance of a building permit. Both of these rating systems are used to evaluate residential green building projects within the state of California. Furthermore, the Green Building Program provides incentives such as expedited permit review and inspection process for projects that exceed the minimum requirements.

"In the United States alone, building accounts for 72% of electricity consumption, 39% of energy use and 38% of all carbon dioxide emissions. Our Green Building Program will help minimize these percentages while creating sustainable development and quality housing for our constituents," said President of the Board, Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker.

## Speed Limit Lowered on I-680

The speed limit has been reduced to 55 miles per hour for the I-680 Express Lane project construction zone, due to the narrow 11-ft. lane width. The 55 MPH Zone is in effect for southbound I-680, from just north of the State Route 84 in Sunol to Calaveras Blvd. in Milpitas.

Traffic signs have been installed from the SR 84 / I-680 Interchange to South Mission Blvd. Additional signage will also be installed for southbound I-680 between South Mission Blvd. and Calaveras Blvd.

The reduced speed is necessary both for the safety of construction workers and motorists traveling through the construction zone. Caltrans would like to remind the public that traffic fines are doubled in a construction zone.

## California Apprenticeship Council

Julia Dozier, Chabot-Las Positas Community College District executive director of economic development and contract education, has been appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to a four-year term on the California Apprenticeship Council.

Established by the Shelley-Maloney Apprenticeship Labor Standards Act of 1939, the Council provides policy advice on apprenticeship matters to the director of industrial relations, issues rules and regulations on specific apprenticeship subjects to be published in the California Code of Regulations, and conducts appeals hearings.

Dozier has worked for the District since 2001, holding her current position since 2008. Prior to that, she served as the director of economic development and contract education from 2006 to 2008, program development manager from 2003 to 2006 and apprenticeship coordinator from 2001 to 2003.

## Fraud Charges in Arrest

On April 7, 2009, the Livermore Police Department began receiving reports that Maynard Weldon Moreland, a forty-nine year old Certified Public Accountant and life long resident of Livermore, had committed acts of felony investment fraud.

Moreland has since been charged by the Alameda County District Attorney's Office with seven counts of felony investment fraud theft and fiduciary elder abuse in which eight of his elder clients have suffered cash losses totaling \$734,000.

Financial records obtained by search warrants show that the defendant promised between 8% and 10% interest on client investments he received; however, in the majority of cases he deposited funds into investments accounts under his name only. It is alleged that he personally self enriched from the investment funds, funding a personal lifestyle that exceeded \$30,000 per month. Little or no money remains available for victim restitution because of the nature of the crimes. Many of Moreland's client's were long time acquaintances and entrusted their life investments and savings to him. It is possible that other individuals may have suffered cash losses due to the practices of Moreland.

Detectives at the Livermore Police Department believe that there are numerous additional victims of Moreland's practices. Any person believing they are a victim of Moreland's Ponzi scheme and alleged fraud or who has information regarding Moreland's activities are asked to call Lt. Matt Sarsfield at 925-371-4730.

# Energy Audits Available for Low Income Homeowners and Renters

California Youth Energy Services (CYES) is a Bay Area summer youth employment and free energy efficiency retrofit program. It will be offered in Livermore this year through Rising Sun Energy Center.

The program is funded by the City of Livermore by \$50,000 for Community Block Grant funds provided from the stimulus package.

CYES trains Bay Area young people (15-22 years of age) and employs them to spend their summer serving their communities with free green house calls. In Livermore, the program will be used to provide energy audits and basic water and energy efficiency upgrades for 260 low income homeowners and renters. Youth Energy Specialists educate the resident about sustainability, install free equipment that saves energy and water, and provide personalized recommendations for further energy savings.

CYES's innovative model meets three community needs si-

multaneously. It provides much-needed youth employment opportunities and job development, provides a free money-saving service to the community, and cuts pollution and global warming by saving energy.

The CYES summer season is organized into seven weeks: one week of intensive training and six weeks of field work. CYES Energy Specialists meet each morning at a satellite office, then venture into the field in pairs (one youth, one young adult) to market the program and/or to make CYES 'green house calls'.

Residents contact CYES to sign up to schedule an appointment. Each 'green house call' can last from thirty minutes to two hours, depending on the size of the home and amount of free equipment installed.

Among the actions to be taken at each 'green house call,' are the following:

- Check the home's water meter and water pressure.
- Inspect all faucets and toi-

lets for efficiency and check for leaks.

- Install free water-saving faucet aerators and free high-pressure efficient showerheads.
- Replace all incandescent bulbs with free energy-saving compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Swap out energy-wasting halogen floor lamps for an efficient fluorescent version.
- Check the quality of the attic insulation of the home (if applicable) and see if the resident might qualify for Rising Sun's subsidized attic insulation program.
- Mount a retractable clothesline to reduce dryer use.
- Educate the resident in energy efficiency and present them with a results summary and a personalized energy-saving plan.

Residents can schedule a free 'green house call' by calling (510) 665-1501 ext 10, visiting the Rising Sun Energy Center office at 2033 Center St. Berkeley, or by going to the website at [www.risingsunenergy.org](http://www.risingsunenergy.org)

# Continued Vigilance on Flu Urged

Although the threat of a major epidemic of swine flu has subsided, parents and students need to remain vigilant, and follow good health precautions, says the Pleasanton school district.

The district has a declining number of absences of students who have flu-like symptoms, said district public information officer Myla Grasso. No cases of swine flu have been reported in the schools, or the Valley.

Nevertheless, the district continues to monitor daily absences. The district nurse calls parents, and discusses any flu-like symptoms with them, as a sort of helpful screening, said Grasso. Medical diagnosis and treatment would come from the students' physicians, she added.

The district administrative staff had been meeting daily at 10 a.m. for a briefing about the flu, including county health reports. The daily meetings stopped last week, with the lowered threat. The administration now covers the subject at the weekly cabinet meetings.

The district is encouraging students to stay home, if they are ill, and to wash their hands thoroughly and frequently. If a child is ill with flu-like symptoms (fever and cough or sore throat), parents should report those symptoms when phoning in the absence, said Grasso.

Grasso relayed recommendations drawn up by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about handling flu in general. The tips include covering nose and mouth with a tissue during a cough or sneeze, and throwing tissues away afterward.

If there is no tissue available, cough or sneeze into a sleeve.

It's important to wash hands with soap and water, especially after a cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective. Touching eyes, nose or mouth should be avoided, because germs can be spread that

way. Stay home and limit contact with others. Students should stay home at least 24 hours after symptoms have subsided.

Questions may be addressed to Grasso at 925-426-4304 or her e-mail address, which is [publicinfo@pleasanton.k12.ca.us](mailto:publicinfo@pleasanton.k12.ca.us).

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# EDITORIAL

## Renaissance Of Our Own

When The Independent began publishing in 1963, one feature of the newborn paper was a special second section called Lively Arts.

The Valley's growth boom was just starting, but a vibrant arts scene was already developing. In the Lively Arts we had a lot to write about.

This little section was important to us. It expressed our identity, our values, our sense of vision. For various reasons the section was discontinued.

Some three decades would pass before we would reintroduce the Lively Arts. Under the name Art, Community & Education, the new section made its debut three weeks ago. It owes its existence much to the rejuvenation of the downtowns and the wineries now going on. We've supported this tide and been much affected by it. We are enjoying a renaissance of our own.

## SUMMER

(continued from page one)

campaign. Burchett said he wanted to come up with a fund-raising event that also fostered a friendly, neighborly atmosphere in the park. He proposed the barbecue and the Tri Valley Community Foundation, which oversees the giving campaign, helped organize the event.

"I'm really hoping people outside the park will come too. Everyone is invited," said James Paxson, general manager of the Hacienda Business Park Owners Association. "Hacienda Helping Hands is a community-giving initiative. We're hoping this grows and the opportunity for significant giving is there. We're off to a really great start."

Hacienda Helping Hands was quietly launched a year ago by the association in conjunction with the Tri Valley Community Foundation, a non-profit fund-raising organization located in the business park.

The focus of the Hacienda Helping Hands campaign is to provide a coordinated effort for the 475 businesses, 17,800 employees and 3,500 residents of the Hacienda Business Park to make a difference in the community with charitable grants, Paxson said.

"We're a large part of Pleasanton, being an identifiable collection of businesses. As an entity, we want to make a statement about the importance of community," Paxson said.

A coordinated giving campaign provides the park's businesses, employees and owners with a way of using their collective power to make a real impact on local charities, he explained.

"There is just this huge wealth of goodwill among our tenants, owners and people who work in the park. This focused campaign gives people a rallying point," Paxson said. "There is a lot of power in our collective effort."

The campaign slogan, "Because Community Matters," is a great summation of what Hacienda Helping Hands is all about, he said.

"I really love this and believe it. It's the focus of what we do," he explained.

There are so many community organizations that need sup-

port, Paxson said.

"I don't think people recognize that there are significant needs in the community. These organizations perform really important roles, but often go severely underfunded," Paxson said, citing Axis Community Health Center as just one example. "We want to highlight the good work that these organizations do and give them support."

To date, the campaign has raised nearly \$75,000, said David Rice, president of the Tri Valley Community Foundation. His goal is to reach \$100,000 before the first grants are awarded in October. Given the success so far, he fully anticipates meeting that goal.

Employees have contributed as well as businesses, he said, and momentum is growing. He's predicting that the giving campaign will grow to \$2 million a year in the next five to 10 years.

"As far as we know, Hacienda Helping Hands is the only fund-raising effort like this by a business park in the country. It's a unique activity for a business park," Rice said. "Not only companies are participating, but many employees and employee groups as well. Hyatt Summerfield Suites came up with a way to involve the whole community."

Rice believes that momentum will continue to grow. Kaiser Permanente recently contributed \$25,000 to the initiative.

An advisory board comprised of members of the Hacienda Business Park as well as the foundation will decide in October how to award the grants to health and human service organizations, educational programs and cultural projects in the Tri Valley.

"I am extremely gratified by the outpouring of support from our tenants and owners," Paxson said. "This has really resonated with other organizations as well. Pleasanton Leadership put on an event and donated the money to Hacienda Helping Hands. I think we've really registered with people."

For additional information about Hacienda Helping Hands or to make a donation, go to [helpinghands@hacienda.org](mailto:helpinghands@hacienda.org) or call (925) 734-5673.

## Garamendi Calls for Refocus on Education

As part of his ongoing "listening tour" of California's public colleges, Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi on Monday visited Las Positas College to talk to students and faculty about the role California's community colleges play in educating the future workforce and retraining unemployed Californians.

Garamendi said that the recent cuts to higher education, hikes in student tuition, and cutbacks in enrollment are putting California's workforce in jeopardy and leaving California unprepared to deal with an economy increasingly reliant on a post-high school education.

"We have lost our way," Garamendi said. "We have lost our understanding that education is the single most important investment for our future workforce in this state."

Garamendi toured the campus, seeing several new construction projects funded by a local bond measure. The new construction includes a child development center where instruction and childcare for students will be provided, a college center for the

arts, and new sports complexes. The campus has an instructional vineyard and also hopes to be the first community college in the state to get off the power grid through green technology advances including wind turbines.

Adjusted for inflation, student fees at UC and CSU have more than doubled since 1990, while student fees at California's community colleges have more than tripled. Because of budget cuts to the systems, UC has cut fall 2009 freshman enrollment by 2,300 students, and CSU has cut fall 2009 freshman enrollment by 10,000 students.

If an additional two percent of Californians earned associate's degrees and another one percent earned bachelor's degrees, it is estimated that California's economy would grow by \$20 billion, state and local tax revenues would increase by \$1.2 billion a year, and 174,000 new jobs would be created. According to a press release, of the 4.5 million new jobs that will be available by 2025, it is estimated that 3.5 million will require at least a bachelor's degree.

## POWER

(continued from page one)

way they can sit and talk to us, is if they are willing to get the (current) transmission line users to clean up the mess they already have here."

Wente said there are three "antiquated lines" installed decades ago, and three others that are old enough "to lag behind modern conservation technology." It would be easier to absorb the environmental impact of power lines if all of them were consolidated into one corridor and one set of lines, he said.

Wente, whose Livermore wine-making family goes back five generations, said, "I am sick of being trampled on by PG&E and Standard Oil, with transmission lines across the Valley."

Several wineries near Wente, such as Garre and Rios Lovell, are in the direct paths of the rights of way, or a block away, said Wente.

Wente noted that the property he intends to donate to the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) is close to one proposed right of way, and not very far from the other. The value of the property would drop, as would other properties. It doesn't matter whether the power lines are on top of a vineyard, or some distance away, they dim the appeal for all of Livermore wine country, Wente said.

Chris Chandler, executive director of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, said

that she and the Tri-Valley Conservancy are trying to set up a meeting with the power project staff. "People come to the wine region, in part for the wine, and in part for the whole wine country experience. We have vineyards, rolling hills, golf courses. To put more power lines out here will affect property values, and the bucolic ambiance," said Chandler.

### CONSERVATION EASEMENTS ON SOME PROPERTIES

The Tri-Valley Conservancy holds easements on 55 parcels in or near the proposed rights of way. Executive director Sharon Burnham said the conservancy is trying to obtain more specifics from TANC.

"Do we know whether they will have to rip out vineyards? I think one (right of way) goes through a habitat area. We'd be concerned, if it did," she said.

"We are concerned about scenic value. We hope we can convince them to move the lines outside the area, and put them somewhere else," said Burnham.

Locating them next to existing lines is not good, either. "That would be more of the same," she said.

Locating the lines underground also would not be good. "That would dig up agriculture (for tower placement). The best way is to move out of the area, and take the whole project out

of south Livermore," said Burnham.

Friends of the Vineyards, the Tri-Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Livermore Chamber of Commerce are all interested in this issue, said Burnham. "Everything is tied together for this Valley to be successful," she said.

### HAGGERTY IS CONCERNED

Chris Gray, chief of staff for Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty, said that Haggerty found out about it earlier this month, like many people in Alameda County. "Scott's initial reaction was concern. We need to find out more about it," said Gray.

"There were multiple hearings about the project, but none in our county, which was not notified. There should be a comment period extension, until there is a hearing in this county," said Gray.

Thomson also said that the TANC record shows that a notice about the project was sent to the county clerk's office Feb. 27.

LARPD general manager Tim Barry said that he was notified of the project on May 4. He has been meeting with other agencies, and will comment formally on the EIR before the deadline May 31.

LARPD already has power lines impacting two of its parks, Holdener and Sycamore Grove. "In this proposal, there may be additional towers beside these current utility easements. We'd

naturally have some concerns about that," said Barry. LARPD has conservation easements on some of the land in the proposal's path. "Construction there violates that easement," said Barry.

### 'VALLEY SHOULD REQUIRE UNDERGROUNDING'

Jon Christensen, a resident and winegrower at Kalthoff Commons in Livermore, near Highway 84 and Vineyard Avenue, said that it's fine to build the infrastructure to meet tomorrow's power needs, especially green power, but not at the price of hurting dedicated open space.

He suggested running the lines "through the back country" south of South Livermore. It might be even better to require the lines be put underground, he said. "In my own opinion, the Valley should consider it mandatory at this time" to underground such power lines, he said.

Putting power lines underground adds to the cost of installation, and is usually resisted by power companies.

### SUBMITTING COMMENTS

Comments on the project may be sent to David Young, NEPA Document Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Region, 114 Parkshore Drive, Folsom, CA, 95630. Comments may be sent by fax to 916-353-4772, or by email to [TTPEIS@wapa.gov](mailto:TTPEIS@wapa.gov).

## MAILBOX

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

### Need for Housing Alvin C. Baer Pleasanton

I have been a resident of Pleasanton since 1968. My wife and I are living in our 3rd home in town. I am completely in favor of the proposed Staples Ranch development. We have put down our deposit to move into the senior housing there as soon as it is constructed. At last count, there are over 500 families who have put down similar deposits and are waiting to move in. This is not a project that can stand to be delayed for an extended period of time. As two of my friends said at a recent city council meeting, the longer this project is delayed the greater likelihood of them not qualifying to move in.

I would like to challenge any of those threatening to bring a lawsuit against the City of Pleasanton to come and meet me face to face. They must look me in the eye and tell me that the habitat for the red-legged frog is more important than the habitat I need to live out my days in Pleasanton.

Come on folks, get real. There is a rapidly expanding need for this kind of housing. All of us would rather have it built here and now, so we can stay.

### Support Schools Vicki Stephens Pleasanton

When I became a teacher, I didn't have any idea how diverse the abilities in one classroom could be. It's been many years and I'd like to think I can now accommodate most kid's needs, but it takes time. The number of children who need special attention seems to be growing each year. Our goal is to "leave no kids behind," but obviously we are. Twenty percent of any classroom needs special attention of some sort. Class size reduction has allowed us to accommodate these kids.

Whether or not you have children, no one can say they would

like to see children suffer, and suffer they will if class sizes grow to 30 students. With cuts in Reading Specialists, Librarians and Counselors too the increased class size is just the beginning of the problem. Kids who do not get the attention and resources they need to accommodate learning styles, disabilities, attention deficits and social-emotional issues will fall even further behind in school. In correlation, their self-esteem will plummet which could result in behavior problems, lack of concentration and possibly depression. I am not exaggerating. I have seen it happen. We will be leaving more kids behind than ever.

Pleasanton Unified School District's motto is that "Kids Come First." We can support that slogan by voting YES on Measure G on June 2nd.

### Minimum Standards Max Curtis Livermore

Letter sent to the Livermore City Council.

I want to clarify for each of you my views of airport expansion. I want what is best for Livermore, and I hope you will take a few minutes to consider my position.

I am not opposed to improvements to Livermore airport facilities. I am not opposed to hangers being built to replace tie-downs. It is not important to me that \$354,000 of airport funds is being used to fund the EIR, or that another \$4.0M of airport enterprise fund money may be allocated for replacement of the well-used Airport Administration Building.

What I oppose is the Minimum Standards for Commercial Aeronautical Activities allowing Air Cargo and Air Charter services to be based at the Livermore airport. The public fears airport commercialization as it would inevitably lead to a significant increase in noise and pollution. Placing restrictions on these services within the Minimum Standards would go a long way toward relieving these fears. Requiring the FBO developer to install noise monitoring and night landing surveillance equipment would also show concern for the quality of life of Livermore & Pleasanton citizens.

I am most discouraged about the way the City Council & Staff

have handled this whole issue. Instead of acknowledging and addressing specific concerns, the Council takes the stance that airport expansion is not happening and therefore the concerns are not valid. Instead of addressing the concerns of your constituency, you attack their integrity. The Airport Advisory Commission is sensitive to pilot concerns, but has no members to represent those citizens who are not pilots.

I am aware of the economic benefits to both the community and city government that improved facilities and privatizing fuel sales will bring; however, environmental and quality-of-life issues should take precedence over economic benefits. It is not too late for the Livermore City Council to do the right thing and address the environmental concerns that would result from airport commercialization. The time to do so is now.

I implore the Council to amend the Minimum Standards to state that Air Cargo Service will not be allowed. I also implore the Council to further restrict the size and number of Air Charter aircraft based at the Livermore airport (30-passenger jets are too large and noisy, which will adversely impact Livermore & Pleasanton neighborhoods). With these amendments, the City will still see enormous economic benefits from airport improvements, and the local environment and quality of life enjoyed by Livermore & Pleasanton citizens will be preserved.

### Parcel Tax Idea Tom Hansen Concerned Pleasanton Parent

Private sector companies are enacting salary reductions to keep themselves viable thru these economic times. I've recently accepted one myself. Why hasn't this been suggested by our school board in their quest to cut \$9M from their budget? If I read it right, '07-'08 PUSD budget lists Certificated Salaries at \$70M and Classified Salaries at \$16M, for a total of \$86M. A 10% salary reduction comes to about \$8.6M. This reduction, coupled with a district-wide salary freeze, including your 'step and ladder' increases, would get ALL employees through this downturn with their jobs intact.

Our teachers do a great job, lets keep them ALL. Let them return their pink slips - by trying a salary reduction, instead of asking others (tax payers) who have had their salaries reduced, to take another salary reduction in the guise of the parcel tax.

### Pleasanton Ice Rink Michael Doyle Pleasanton

I'm all for anything that can add some life and interest to downtown Pleasanton and help the poor retailers and restaurants that have been suffering because of the poor planning that allows banks, real estate offices and title companies to take prime retail (ground floor) space. We didn't have enough space to attract more good restaurants and retailers and now we see the results with lots of empty space and not enough stores and restaurants to attract people. Now that the economy has cratered, no doubt there will be more businesses that don't make it downtown. Going forward, I hope we do a better job of

getting the downtown planned to encourage more people to come and visit (day and night) and that is probably going to take a "new plan". I'm not a planner but I can see that without retail there is no downtown.

So the ice rink sounds like a great idea but I didn't see anything about what the environmental (carbon) impact would be and how that was factored into the decision. It sounds like the plan is for a real outdoor ice rink which would require a huge amount of energy to create and maintain the ice involving the need for generators and chiller units resulting in large levels of carbon emissions, excessive water consumption, and requiring plumbing and re-surfacing at regular intervals. Since this is really a thing to bring the kids to for an experience and not for serious skaters, why not use synthetic ice? Synthetic ice rinks are out there.

I think every project in every city needs to be looked at as much from an environmental standpoint as a financial standpoint. Don't we already have new greenhouse gas/carbon regulations that we already don't think we can meet? If so, how can we just keep adding to the problem?

### Main Street Award Violet Moore Livermore

When I think of historic main street, I envision a small town in the deep south that has emerged from cotton-picking and mule-shoeing and blossomed into artisan boutiques. I imagine stepping from a boardwalk into a restored general store. I smell the fudge and popcorn and hear the clink of a soft drink bottle being pulled from a vintage dispenser. I purchase saltwater taffy and other bite-sized candies before making my way to the next historical tourist attraction.

How surprised I was to see modern Livermore, California honored with the 2009 Great American Main Street Award (GAMSA). A tip of my hat to Mayor Marshall Kamena, Vice Mayor John Marchand and other Livermore officials who are honored by this GAMSA, a first-time award to a northern California city.

### Good Job Herbert Newkirk Livermore

In the last several weeks much attention, some bordering on hysteria, has been given to the nationwide and worldwide health impact of the H1N1 virus. Several people have been reported to have died and many sickened by this deadly disease. This epidemic will pass.

I wonder how many of us realize that hundreds of children and adults die every day in many of the Third World African villages. The reason: lack of access to a clean water supply. And, this goes on every day of the year, year after year, with very little media attention.

Fortunately, this has not been the case with the members of the Rotary International Foundation. This organization, together with Volunteer high school Interactors from District 5170, has launched Project Hydro. To date, Interactors have raised over

(continued on page 5)

# Livermore High Schools Offer Freshmen in Transition Course

By Patricia Koning

Three years ago, Granada High School Principal Chris Van Schaack became concerned that his school was not preparing students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. To address these concerns, he and his staff developed the Freshman in Transition (F.I.T.) class, a one-semester course required of all freshmen. This fall Livermore High School will also be offering the course.

Van Schaack was alarmed by the high college dropout rates and decrease in jobs for unskilled workers. Nearly 1/3 of all California students drop out after the first year of college (up to 40% for community colleges) and only half will earn a degree.

"We needed to change the mindset of how we teach and train students to think about school. In today's world, students have instant access to so much information that knowledge and memorization is not enough," he explains. "We decided to spend more time teaching students to analyze, evaluate, and create."

Initially, Granada built a 30-minute seminar for all students into the school schedule. Van Schaack says that 30 minutes were not enough. Freshmen seemed to be benefiting the most, so when the trimester schedule was adopted last year, his staff transformed the seminar into F.I.T.

Van Schaack and three Granada teachers, William Rasor (physics), Deborah Bailey (digital photography), and Monica Brickwedel (honors geography), presented the F.I.T. program to the Livermore Board of Education on Tuesday, May 6. All three teachers teach F.I.T. in addition to their regular subjects.

The F.I.T. class size is smaller—20:1 in the current school year and 25:1 in 2009/10. "The students develop a sense of belonging at the end of the 12 weeks," says Rasor. "There is truly a sense of family within the F.I.T. class."

F.I.T. introduces the freshmen to the school through a walking tour and meeting with the principal, counselors, and other adults who will impact them. The students learn about support services, clubs, sports, student leadership, and other extracurricular activities. They also create a four-year plan, learn personal or-

ganization and study skills, and practice public speaking and essay writing.

Some of the topics covered seem basic, like using power point, but Van Schaack says students in general have not been well-trained on such tools.

"With our students coming from a variety of feeder schools, we have come to take very little for granted," he explains. "PowerPoint and persuasive speeches, along with note-taking, study techniques, general essay structure, and organizational skills, for example, are taught through F.I.T. so that when students learn curriculum in their academic subject areas, they can use the time to focus on learning the standards of the course, rather than on the tools to organize the information or create their projects."

He believes that F.I.T. made a positive impact on Granada this year. He pointed out that the school's average GPA had increased from 2.68 to 2.76 and that tardies, absences, suspensions, and referrals to the office had all decreased. "I can't draw a direct correlation between these numbers and F.I.T., especially since we made a lot of changes, like the trimester schedule, this year," he adds. "But it is a very positive trend."

Some parents, however, question whether such a class is necessary for all students. During budget cut discussions, several parents suggested setting criteria to allow students to opt out of F.I.T., thus cutting back the number of sections.

Students have mixed reactions to the class. One freshman describes it as a good introduction to high school. "Overall it was very fun, with lots of good activities. It helped us get adjusted to the high school work in. A lot of my friends thought it would be a waste of time, but wound up really liking the class," he says. "It would be nice if it could be offered in the summer, since some people realized they'd made the wrong class choices after completing the four year plan."

Another Granada freshman said that while F.I.T. is "a useful tool when entering high school because it helps students adjust in a low pressure environment with other people making the

same adjustment," it is really just a "drawn out orientation." She says that adding F.I.T. to her schedule impacted her entire four year plan. "F.I.T. displaced my foreign language classes for all four years. This year, I could only take half of the Spanish II course," she explains.

This student also believes that "most students do not especially need a class like F.I.T. However, there is a select group that will benefit greatly from the guidance and organization practice. I understand why the administration forces all freshmen to take the course, to ensure the individuals who need it are given that opportunity. Given the choice, they would most likely not take it. In fact, given the choice, I would not have taken the class because it would have made planning my schedule much less difficult."

Van Schaack disagrees with this sentiment. "We don't believe that taking F.I.T. precludes a student's chance to take other courses; we believe that it will ensure their active participation and success in them," he says. "The unfortunate reality is that many freshman struggle in their transition to high school, leading to lack of success in their academic courses and even in their elective courses. Having to retake classes costs money and reduces students' options in future course selection."

Livermore High Principal Darrel Avilla says the LHS staff is very excited about adding F.I.T. to their schedule. "We're going to build on Granada's success, but we will put a Livermore High spin on the class," he says. "One thing I like about this class is it touches every single kid in the same way. We're providing a common experience and equity."

School superintendent Brenda Miller pointed out another benefit of F.I.T.—that it brought the teachers out of their individual departments and enabled collaboration. "Just listening to you, we can see the powerful connection you've developed," she says. "It's very impressive."

The trustees suggested to the high school principals that a newcomer's F.I.T., for students entering Granada during or after freshman year, might also be useful.

# Pleasanton Delays Decision on Mobile Home Park Conversion

The Pleasanton City Council delayed making a decision on whether to allow Vineyard Villa Mobile Home Park to convert to condominiums.

The council said it needed more information. In particular, they wanted a new survey conducted of current residents of the park to determine support for the change. In addition, the council wanted answers to a number of questions. Among them are: how would renters be represented within a homeowners association; who pays to ensure that infrastructure is up to code; and can someone buy land and not the structure.

Councilmember Cheryl Cook-Kallio commented, "I'm left with many more questions. I would like to see the survey conducted in the current economic climate. There should be information provided to residents of the park as to why conversion is a benefit."

The Planning Commission denied the request for the conversion believing that the survey was not adequate. In addition, the Commission was concerned about the loss of low income units. The park owner appealed the decision to the city council.

State law requires that the current owner conduct a survey to determine the level of support for conversion. One was completed in March 2008 showing that 41 supported the change, 38 were opposed and 50 had no opinion. Other residents did not respond. There are 208 units on the 30 acre site.

Tenants own their mobile or manufactured home, but they pay rent for the land on which it is located. New condominiums would not be built on the Vineyard Villa Mobile Home property. The conversion would involve selling the land on which a unit is located to the owner of the unit. The application includes a provision that no property would be sold for ten years.

Residents who don't want to purchase land would not be required to do so and instead would continue to pay rent. They could not be evicted. Low income residents would be protected when it comes to rent increases. Any increase would be based on the CPI. However, residents who are not low income could see their rents raised to market levels over a five year period.

The property is currently sub-

ject to a rent stabilization agreement with the city that runs through 2017. If allowed to convert the park, the current owner has agreed to extend the agreement to 2025.

Another state requirement is that the owner submit an economic report on how the change would impact the current residents. City councilmembers felt that the report was unclear.

Two attorneys, Richard Close and Susie Forbath, who represented the mobile home park owner, made a pitch as to why they believe the conversion is a good idea.

Close noted that mobile home units do not appreciate in value, the land does. The conversion provides the unit owners with value.

Forbath pointed out that allowing the sale of the land to individual owners, would ensure that the park remains a mobile home park. She said there is the potential that the heirs of the current owner would want to put the property to some other use. "The owner is looking at retirement. He would rather see the residents buy it."

Forbath said that living in the park may not be as affordable as it appears on the surface. There are mobile homes that sell for \$200,000 and up. The mortgage plus the cost of renting the land can be expensive.

Councilmember Cindy McGovern pointed out that Forbath didn't mention the homeowners association dues and the cost of maintaining the park's infrastructure, all of which would likely be costs borne by those who purchase land.

Residents who spoke at the meeting were opposed to the conversion. Amy Ann Vickers

said no one knows how much the land would cost in ten years. "Many of us will be in our eighties. We won't be able to obtain loans. My kids don't want to inherit this place."

Several noted that the park has had a variety of problems over the years, including a sewer that backs up and electricity that can go off for periods of time. A few years ago, residents came down as a group to complain to the council about conditions at the park.

Pam O'Connell spoke for her father. She said that many of the residents responded to the survey with "no opinion" with the hope there would be more information provided as to what is planned. "My father doesn't have the money to buy the land. He will have to continue to rent. Do we have to buy land in order to sell a mobile home in the future. I'm concerned. My father is concerned."

Jack Paris, who builds manufactured homes of the type used in mobile homes, was all for the conversion. He called buying the land investment protection for the residents.

Councilmember Jerry Thorne said he would like the landowner to remove income level requirements from rent changes forever, not just until 2025. He wanted information from an appraiser to determine what the costs might look like in ten years. He wanted the park to remain a senior park and renters to have more representation if the conversion took place.

All of the councilmembers said they wanted better outreach to residents of the park to ensure they understand their options. Councilmembers wanted staff involved in setting up a new survey.



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Assisted Living

## MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

\$50,000 to purchase Dow Corporation portable osmosis units for many impoverished villages. During the month of May, District Rotarians will be in Nigeria to install these units, thereby saving hundreds of lives. Interactors from Granada High School, co-presidents Joanne and Phil, under the leadership of Dick Quigley from the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley, voluntarily raised \$3500 to date toward this project. Congratulations for a job well done and for demonstrating that mankind is Rotary's business.

### Support Schools Michelle Flanagan Livermore

I want to comment on extra incentives, i.e. stipends, which some school district people have received. Some seem to think his is outrageous, but it seems to me that we recruited and retained the best of the best. They have made Pleasanton School District a distinguished district. Pleasanton School District is nationally known for its high rated schools and year after year receives award after award for being the best managed district. It is the integrity of these intelligent people who have helped our students achieve.

Every school in California is losing millions of dollars because of the State Government not managing correctly. We need to stand up and fight for our schools, our home values, and especially our children who will be paying the price...their future. What comes around goes around.

Everyone, on all levels of the school district, is taking cuts. See Save Pleasanton Schools FAQ's to see details. The management team has contributed \$254,000 to be part of the budget solution. Certificated staff voted overwhelming to reduce their work year by two days next year. Some will say it is never enough; and to you I say, step up then!

Being a concerned mom, I and many others, have contributed a lot of time volunteering in classrooms, events, after-school district programs. We see what the teacher and other administrators have been able to do for our children, our future; and we are pleased. Let's work together and give back to those who have given to us and our children- who

will be giving to us when they are out of public school.

### Seniors for Measure G Gretchen and John Clatworthy Livermore

As senior citizens we strongly support Measure G. We encourage all voters to vote yes on this measure.

If you are a senior citizen or are on SSI Disability you may request an exemption if you don't think you can afford the parcel tax. We intend to vote "yes" and pay the tax. We believe we owe it to the our grandchildren, and other Pleasanton children, to keep our schools at their high academic level.

Small class sizes for Kindergarten through 3rd grade are essential for a strong start to a child's education. Reduced size classes for ninth grade math and the other programs specified in Measure G are also very important and need to be retained.

We cannot afford to wait and see if the State or Federal Government will send additional funds. If we lose over 200 high quality experienced teachers, the cost of hiring and processing replacements will be much more expensive than retaining the present ones for a parcel tax of approximately 64 cents a day per parcel.

Every generation has had their education paid for by those generations who have gone before them. Please vote yes on June 2nd for Measure G in order to maintain the high quality of Pleasanton's schools as well as keeping the value of our homes at their present level. We can not afford to let down this present generation of school age children.

### The Lively Arts Joan Boer Livermore

As a former editor of the Independent's old Lively Arts section, I was pleased to see the new weekly Section II, covering local arts and education. Such a section is certainly welcome at a time when local arts are thriving but so many newspaper arts sections are shrinking.

I hope your advertisers and readers will recognize this asset and support it.

### Regional Theater Bob Baltzer Livermore

Once again John Stein has come forward to voice his fears about building the 2000-seat regional theater as proposed by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center. Essentially his complaint is that LVPAC does not have enough funds on hand to build the theater and, therefore, it must be financed at high cost and risk. Perhaps he missed the statement that LVPAC has received initial commitments totaling \$8M in cash and pledges and a \$6M land offer from Wente Vineyards toward the overall fundraising goal of \$20M. LVPAC's share of the construction cost is \$10M.

The proposed financing scenario, carefully worked out by both the City and LVPAC, provides the project with the funds needed to both build the theater and support its early years of operation. Essentially, it is the same scenario that was used to fund the construction and initial op-

### Break-ins in Pleasanton School Lots

Pleasanton school district officials are urging parents who visit campuses to remember not to leave valuables in sight.

Parents parked in the lots at Fairlands elementary and Harvest Park middle schools experienced car break-ins while they were in the schools. The Harvest Park incident occurred May 8. The Fairlands break-in took place a couple of weeks earlier.

It is not known whether the perpetrator was the same person in both incidents. In one break-in, the perpetrator got away with a purse. At the other, the crime was interrupted in the act, and the perpetrator drove off without anything, said school district information officer Myla Grasso.

Windows were broken to gain access to the cars' interiors. Both occurred in the morning, after the start of school.

Grasso urged the public to take belongings such as purses, wallets or cell phones with them, or put them out of sight in the glove compartment or trunk when visiting the schools.

eration of the highly successful Bankhead Theater. For the past two years, Mr. Stein has cited a reoccurring list of things that he feels could go wrong, totally ignoring that the City and LVPAC have patiently examined and put in place measures that would mitigate any such difficulties. Mr. Stein is, of course, entitled to his opinion, but it is just that — opinion — not fact.



### SAADIA KHAN, M.D., FAAP FAMILY PRACTICE

Dr. Saadia Khan has joined ValleyCare Health System specializing in Family Practice.

Dr. Khan graduated from Fatima Jinnah Medical College for Women, Lahore, Pakistan in 1977. She completed an internal medicine and OB/GYN residency equivalent in Karachi, Pakistan, followed by several years in private practice. After becoming a permanent resident of the United States in 1989, she spent a year in a pediatric internship at Harlem Hospital Center in New York, an affiliate of Columbia University. She completed a Family Practice residency in 1994 at San Joaquin General Hospital, a UC Davis affiliate, and served as Chief Resident during her third year. Dr. Khan successfully completed a Faculty Development Fellowship, managed by UCSF and Stanford University, and was awarded the degree of Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians in 1998. Dr. Khan spent more than a decade at the Community Medical Centers in Stockton and Tracy serving as a family physician and medical director.

Dr. Khan joins the ValleyCare Medical Foundation-Pediatric & Family Practice at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd. Suite 110 in Pleasanton. For an appointment, please call (925) 416-6767.



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## Vintage Hills Unveils Observatory

Vintage Hills Elementary School introduced its new observatory last Friday.

Science Specialist Jenifer Perazzo started the event with an orientation that provided information about the equipment, goals for the evening programs and subsequent analysis in the classrooms during the day. The orientation was followed by an evening of star gazing and nebula seeking.

The PTA donated \$2000 and the school received a PPIE grant for \$1500 to finance the observatory. The funds were used to purchase a 10 inch Meade LX90-AFC telescope and a Deep Space Imager CCD camera and imaging software, which will allow the

students to analyze the light in the classrooms during the day-time hours.

Tom Serrano of Serrano Kitchen and Bath built the framework for the building.

The school plans to apply for a \$10,000, 2009 Toshiba grant to add computer stations outfitted with the imaging software to the science lab.

Program goals are as follows: allow students to become familiar with the tools of an astronomer, provide students with a general understanding of the universe including night sky maps, planetary motion, stars, galaxies, solar systems, etc.

Perazzo is quoted as saying, "We will not only view with our

eyes to the telescope but also learn how to take astro-photos using the CCD camera and a laptop with astro-imaging. Later, during the day, in all my 1st- 5th science classes we will observe and discuss our images. Eventually, I would love to establish a website that could be used by other schools across the country -- across the world -- to download images and analyze them themselves. We could also have debates on the results we concluded to those at other schools or countries. In my wildest dreams, I would love to make the observatory into a remote telescope that students from other parts of the world could utilize as we are sleeping here."

## Ranger Vehicles Equipped with AEDs

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARP) ranger staff is now better-equipped to respond to medical emergencies thanks to a donation by the LARP Foundation. Three ranger vehicles have been outfitted with automated external defibrillators (AEDs), potentially life-saving devices that can help people in cardiac arrest.

The Board of Trustees for the LARP Foundation, a nonprofit supporting the District's parks and programs, wanted to make this possible in order for the rangers to be more prepared in the event of an emergency.

"We thought it was an excel-

lent opportunity," said Randy Schlientz, president of the Board of Trustees. "This is a valuable piece of life-saving equipment, which we will hopefully not have to use - but important to have if the need arises."

The devices are stored in hard cases, allowing for durability in the often off-road ranger vehicles. All of the LARP rangers are trained to use the devices. The District also keeps AEDs at the Robert Livermore Community Center, gymnasium and Aquatics Center.

Keeping the AEDs in the patrol vehicles will allow the rangers to help someone sooner if

they are on patrol and encounter an emergency, or if they receive a call while at the ranger station. Equipping the rangers with AEDs may also come in handy if a remote area of the park needs to be reached that typical medical responders are not familiar with.

"It really is a good thing for us to have," said LARP Ranger Supervisor Mike Nicholson. "These will allow staff to do a better job of helping park visitors."

People can donate their time, talents, money or property to help support the Foundation. For information, call 373-5765 or visit [www.larp.dst.ca.us](http://www.larp.dst.ca.us).



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The annual Bras for the Cause was held in Pleasanton last weekend. The Downtown Pleasanton Tri-Valley SOCKs (Stepping Out for Cancer Kures) hosted the event to raise money for breast cancer research.



# The Independent

• Expanded Local



Pleasanton Parade



ValleyCare in Pleasanton

Agricultural Heritage

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

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

We take pride in offering the following in our pages:

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

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

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

# SPORTS NOTES

## Youth Water Polo

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's summer water polo begins this month, with registration open now. The LARPD Lazars Water Polo Team is for youth and teens looking to learn or play the sport with others in their age group. The water polo team is part of the United States Water Polo, which encourages high standards of play and good sportsmanship.

The upcoming water polo session will run from May 19 to July 30. The 14 and Under Water Polo Team will hold meetings from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Cost is \$225. The 15 and Up Girls Water Polo Team will meet from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The cost is \$265. The 15 and Up Boys Water Polo Team will meet from 7:15 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The cost is \$265.

For younger kids looking to learn the sport, two sessions of Introduction to Water Polo will be offered for ages 6 to 9 from June 29 to July 9 and from July 13 to July 23. Sessions will be held from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday at the May Nissen Swim Center, 685 Rincon Ave., Livermore.

For more information or to register, call 925-373-5751, e-mail lazarswp@clubspaces.com or visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us.

## Livermore National LL

Livermore National Little League highlights:

**AAA Division:** A's 15, Giants 9: This promised to be an exciting game, putting the powerful A's offense against the typically sound Giants defense. The A's got off to a rolling start, putting up 6 runs in the first two innings. Seemingly part of every A's rally during the game, Jacob Rasmussen was outstanding at the plate, going 4 for 4 and playing terrific defense at shortstop, as well. The Giants put together a rally of their own late in the game including two timely and perfectly executed bunts by Luke Hernandez and Riley Miller. The Giants offensive attack was cut short by hard-throwing A's pitcher Nicholas Ratinho who returned from a thumb fracture to close out the game for the A's.

Ratinho also went 3 for 3 at the plate and was a key factor in the A's offense.

**Giants 11, Cardinals 10:** Grant Lowenstein of the Giants pitched 3 strong innings allowing just 1 run on 3 hits while Jacob Currie went 2 for 2 with 2 RBIs. Great defensive plays by the Cardinals Nicholas Cragholm and Nicholas Adiao in the first 4 innings kept the game close. In the top of the 5th, Cardinals Christopher Trinh had a solid triple to pull within 1 run to tie the game but then the Giants answered with 4 runs in the bottom of the 5th to surge ahead. The Cardinals came storming back scoring 7 runs in the top of the 6th to take a 10 to 9 lead. Giants Jake Gutierrez who went 2 for 2 with 2 RBIs hit a clutch RBI single in bottom of 6th to lead the Giants to the win.

**Giants 4, Dodgers 0:** The Giants looked to square their season record against the Dodgers on Monday. The Giants pitching was the story of the day as starter John Takemura pitched 4 shutout innings with 9 strike-outs and no walks. Dodgers Max DeSantis singled in the first but was stranded. The Dodgers continued to scatter hits throughout the game, but struggled to get runners home. Dodgers pitcher Joshua Forshaw did a great job of limiting the Giants bats to just 2 runs over 4 innings. Giants Ryan Martin had a great catch of a line drive in the 5th inning and got on base twice including a hard-hit single in the fourth. Giants pitchers had 14 strike-outs and no walks as they shut out the Dodgers.

**A Division:** It was a battle of the bats as the A's took on the Padres Saturday. The Padres came out swinging as Antonio Lamanna and Grant Gomes hit for power. They were met by the defensive maneuvers of Ryan O'Neill, who made a diving tag at third to get the out and end the inning. Then the triple "J" threat of Jeremy Theobald, Jared Persson, and Jack Wilson took to the plate, all hitting line drives to the outfield for the A's. Ronnie Martindill answered back with a big hit for the Padres, and Casey Wilcox finished the match-up with a line drive down the first base line, his second big blast of the game.

**Majors:** Diamondbacks 11, Cardinals 10. After a slow start and trailing by 5 in the third, the D'backs fought back with their bats

and beat the Cards 11-10. The Cardinals, led by Allen with a double and Kline with a pair himself, started off strong, leading 6-1 in the second inning. But then came the heat. The D'backs turned it on with triples from Tylor and Shane Silva, a ground-rule double, 2 RBI from Timmy Harris, and a double from Jay Garay-Telles, pulling them ahead with a 4-run lead. The Cards made an impressive try at a comeback with a 3-run homer from Dimitropoulos, but it wasn't enough. Thanks to the defensive plays of Garrett McDonald, Zach Cantril, and Tylor Silva, pitching to close, the D'backs lead remained intact.

## Youth Soccer

In a hard fought game, **Livermore U13 Girls Gold Crew 95** beat the U12 Girls 2009 State Cup Champions Mustang Mavericks. The game was played at the Mustang Soccer Complex in Danville. The first goal of the game was scored during the first half of play by Jessica Hopkins, who fought off two of the opposing team's defenders, drilling the ball into their net. During the second half, both teams battled to score. Approximately 20 minutes into the second half, Adaurie Dayak scored the second goal of the night, capitalizing on a beautiful cross kick by Mandy Crabb. While the Mavericks team made many attempts to score, every girl on the Crew team, including the Crew's experienced defenders, and outstanding goalie Brielle Preece, worked together to shut the Mavericks out.

## Youth Lacrosse

The first playoff game resulted in a victory for Livermore Phantom Lacrosse U13 B squad over the Scorpion Venom on Saturday. First quarter the Phantom started off with a bang with the Christoff brothers scoring 3 goals holding the Venom to only 1. The Phantom had turned up the heat and was ready to win! In the 2nd quarter the Phantom offense again used the Christoff skill and the assist of S. Ogee to bring the Phantoms up by 4 to now having 6 on the board to the Venom 2. 3rd quarter was a back and forth struggle with each team shooting on goal and each scoring one goal. Goalie S. Waelde held back the Venom and their attack

on the goal. In the final quarter M. Brady, back from a broken arm, scored a goal with the assist of T. Allen. C. Lee, and his excellent face-off skills, scored on the Venom. D. Marks assisted T. Christoff for the final goal of the game. Phantom was victorious over the Venom with a final score 10 to 4.

## Livermore Girls Softball

Livermore Girls Softball Association highlights:

**Senior (High School):** Pleasanton Team #J5 13, Livermore Driver Family Impact 10. 2B - Iacia Pereida, Katelyn Krueger, Victoria Rowell (1), 2 hits - Nicole Sandoval, Ic. Pereida, Amber Simon, Samantha Driver (1), 2 RBI - Rowell, Driver, Krueger (1).

**Livermore Driver Family Impact 16,** Pleasanton Lucky Charms 3. WP - Gianna Devoto, 2B - Amber Simon, Brittani Thurlow, Nicole Sandoval, Victoria Rowell (1), 3B - Indelisa Pereida, 2 hits - Simon, Thurlow, Iacia Pereida, Nicole, Sandoval (1), 2 or more RBI - Simon, In. Pereida, Sandoval, Rowell (1). Pleasanton Chaos 17, Livermore Driver Family Impact 15. 2B - Indelisa Pereida, Iacia Pereida, Victoria Rowell, Katelyn Krueger, Brittani Thurlow (1), 3B - Amber Simon, Ic. Pereida (1), 2 hits: Ic. Pereida, Katelyn Krueger (1), 2 or more RBI - Ic. Pereida, Samantha Driver, Rowell, Thurlow (1).

**Middle School Black:** Playoffs - consolation bracket finals, Rachel Tabaracci Family BAD defeated Da Crew. Championship game, Bruce Bowen Photography Lady Tek No defeated Rachel Tabaracci Family BAD.

**Middle School Red:** Consolation bracket quarterfinals, Bruce Bowen Photography Adrenaline defeated Red Hots; Earth Safety Dynamics The Stealers defeated The Red Sox. Consolation bracket semifinals, Earth Safety Dynamics The Stealers defeated Bruce Bowen Photography Adrenaline.

**Winners' bracket finals:** G.R. Dahl Construction Base Raiders 5, Red and Black Attack 3. The Base Raiders scored three fourth-inning runs highlighted by two doubles, including one by Stephanie Rucker who later scored, Kayleigh La Grutta singled and threw out a runner at the plate from left field to end the last Red Black Attack rally, and Oga

Zemarialai showed hustle by reaching base on a dropped third strike.

**Consolation bracket final:** Red Black Attack defeated Earth Safety Dynamics The Stealers.

**Championship game:** G.R. Dahl Construction Base Raiders 12, Red and Black Attack 1. The Base Raiders received contributions from every player in winning the league championship, and were led by Taylor Dahl who scored twice on a double and single, and struck out 10 batters pitching four of the five innings to combine for a one-hitter. Erica Smith had two hits including a two-run double and caught a runner attempting to steal second at catcher. Rachel Bryant reached base twice, scored a run and played great at first base. Raquel Wilkins reached base every time in tournament play while walking twice and scoring each time. Maureen Thaeer reached on a single and a dropped third strike and made two defensive put-outs at third base, and Corrina Diaz scored on a walk and also made two great defensive plays at shortstop.

**10-under:** Playoffs - consolation bracket second round, Kolka Furniture Lightning Bolts defeated Livermore Police Officers' Association Valley Villains; A.P. Concrete Xtreme Heat defeated WIN Home Inspection Hot Shots.

**Consolation bracket quarterfinals,** A.P. Concrete Xtreme Heat 5, Nummi Red Hot Sliders 3. In a close battle to stay alive in the playoffs, Xtreme Heat was able to make it through thanks to phenomenal pitching by Shelby Rocereto, a double by Miale Smith and a single by Brianna Lima. For the Red Hot Sliders, Gianna Belluomini caught a fly ball and made two outs on first base, Su Vi hit a home run with an RBI, and Savannah Gray hit a double.

**Other result:** KMS Interiors Blackout d. Kolka Furniture Lightning Bolts.

**Consolation bracket semifinals,** KMS Interiors Blackout defeated. A.P. Concrete Xtreme Heat.

**Winners' bracket final:** Burton Family Livermore Crew 6, Thomas Marcel, DDS & Kolka Furniture Lil' Devils 5. The Livermore Crew came out on top in a tightly matched game, and was led by two RBIs by Laura Duterte, and singles by Carmen Best and Mattie Thompkins.

**Consolation bracket final,** Thomas Marcel, DDS & Kolka Furniture Lil' Devils defeated. KMS Interiors Blackout.

**Championship game:** Burton Family Livermore Crew 10, Thomas Marcel, DDS & Kolka Furniture Lil' Devils 9. The Livermore Crew won the league championship in another closely-contested game, and were led by pitcher Jamie Wittmer who brought in two RBIs before sending a pitch goodbye in extra innings for a home run to seal the win. Assisting the win were Laura Duterte who banded in two runs, and excellent fielding by Missy Nunes and catcher Riley Heffron.

**8-under:** Austin Precision Bubble Gum Girls vs. William D. Thompson's The Mighty Tigers. Coaches' selections - Jenny Stoner, Megan Shehab, Sarah Wenzel (BBG).

**Abramson & Thaeer, LLP Xtreme vs. All Pro Mortgage Shooting Stars.** Coaches' selections - Isabella Addington, Julia Castaneda, Jillian Devine (X).

**Nummi Scorpions vs. Hot Tamales.** Coaches' selections - Emme Poe, Abby Andrews, Maya Pilon (S); Amelia Sobrepna, Jamison Gray, Jenna Jorgenson (HT).

**T-ball:** Brent Bowen Photography Firecrackers vs. Real Virtue Lady Bugs. Coaches' selections - Sabrina Pertica, Madeline Addington, Taylor Bond (F).

## Pleasanton American LL

Pleasanton American Little League highlights:

**Farm B:** Indians vs. A's: The Indians played an outstanding game on Saturday against the A's. Nate Braum caught a fly ball at first base to start off the game. The second inning showed off our outstanding batters. Ehong Kuo hit a ball out to left field securing a double. Other excellent hitters were Zoren Ziatak, Nick Skinner, and Blake Zimmerman. Keaton Smith snagged a grounder at third base ending the fourth inning. The final two innings had amazing field plays by Wilson Zhang, Vincent Schillaci, and Cameron Bowers.

**Farm A:** Angels vs. Yankees: On a beautiful Saturday afternoon, it was a great game between Angels and Yankees. For the Angels offense it was Peter Montini who showed his team that he has speed and quickness by diving for a short fly out in the

# ndent is changing...

## ocal News • New Mail Delivery



Bankhead Theater



Pleasanton Racetrack



Pleasanton Downtown



Lizzie Fountain

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

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# SPORTS NOTES

## 'The Big Unit' Visits Livermore High



In the top photo, San Francisco Giants pitcher Randy Johnson (center back) posed for a photo with members of the Livermore High School baseball team. At right, he talks about some of his experiences.

Major League Baseball pitcher Randy Johnson paid a visit to Livermore High School at the end of April. Johnson graduated from Livermore High School. He is currently pitching for the San Francisco Giants.

He pitched one of the 17 perfect games in Major League Baseball history. The 6-foot-10 Johnson has been celebrated for having one of the most dominant fastballs in the game. Johnson has won the Cy Young Award five times, second only to Roger Clemens' seven. His 4,810 strikeouts are tops all-time among left-handed pitchers. He is two games short of reaching 300 wins.

During his visit, Johnson walked around the campus with some of the secretaries and checked out the school and its new baseball facility. According to baseball head coach, David Perotti, Johnson stayed about 15 minutes or so and then left. He then stopped by the police department where Stever Gallagher is a sergeant. They played together in high school and youth ball. Steve was his catcher in high school.

Johnson asked Gallagher if he thought it would be "ok" to stop by baseball practice at 3:00. Gallagher called Perotti, who re-



plied, "Absolutely, are you kidding me?"

Johnson stayed at practice for 2 hours signing autographs, taking pictures and talking to the players. He talked to the varsity for over an hour and to the JV for about 30 minutes or so.

He began with talking about how great the field looked, how lucky the kids have it, and how they should be proud to be LHS Cowboys because he is proud.

According to what he told the players, he never had the goal or dream to play MLB. It just happened as a result of hard work and never giving up.

He described how he had to work very hard to get to the majors because he struggled with his control and did not throw a lot of

strikes in high school. He also spoke about the importance of achieving good grades, so a variety of opportunities are available after graduation. Johnson told the players, "You never know where the road will take you in life."

According to Perotti, Johnson showed one of Livermore High pitchers how he holds his slider, but didn't offer any general tips on pitching.

Johnson said, during the visit, that he was very humbled by the fact that he may be the last pitcher to reach 300 wins. Perotti stated, "He was almost in awe of that fact. Randy said 'you can never feel like you are bigger than the game, because the game is very brutal and humbling'."

Harrison also came up with hits. Ruotolo smacked a double, and Bryan Bottero hit his third home run of the season to help seal the victory. The Diamondbacks produced a total of 7 hits, 9 runs, and 8 RBIs. Eddy Lopez made a dramatic running catch in left field in the top of the sixth inning to help put the game out of reach for the Cubs. On the mound, Zak Harrison had 5 strikeouts and Bryan Bottero had two. The win puts the Diamondbacks at 11-0 for the season in sole possession of first place in the Major's division.

**Farm Division:** Padres vs. Cubs : The Padres and Cubs had a great game and both teams performed well on the field. The Padres offense was led by Josh Freeman who hit the ball solid all four at bats while the defense played well behind the gold glove type plays of Logan Seitz and Curtis Luong. The Cubs were led by great all-around play by Parker Mapes, Spencer Oxe, and Jack Bell.

**AA Division:** Defense was the name of the game for the Cubs in their second meeting with the Cardinals, winning 14-0. A combination of the Cubs' pitching and fielding kept the Cardinals scoreless for the entire five innings of play, while the Cubs enjoyed a good day at bat. The Cubs' pitchers took charge right from the start. Nathaniel Bennett struck out three batters in the first two innings. Meanwhile, on defense, second baseman Matt Delevaux picked up a grounder and beat the runner to the bag. Bennett snagged a grounder at the mound and threw to Nick Massie at first for an out, followed by Massie's quick move on a grounder to beat the runner to the bag. At the mound for the third and fourth innings, Colin Ritchie struck out the side with smoking pitches. Nick Massie also pitched three strike outs in the final inning for the win. The big hitters for the Cubs were Ronak Parikh and Delevaux each earning two RBIs, Trevor Wallace with one RBI and two base hits, Tyler Bonitz with two base hits, Bennett with a base hit, and Jake Massie, who after four innings of sharp catching behind home plate, picked up an RBI on a sacrifice. Lefty Tyler Briggs' sharp eyes got him on base and later came in for a score, while Estevan Arrequin performed well defensively at catcher closing out the game.

### Amador High Swimming

It was a day for record breaking performances as six Amador Valley High School JV boys swim team records fell at the EBAL Championship meet. After finishing fourth in the dual meets, the Dons surpassed that performance, taking third place at Championships, narrowly edging out San Ramon Valley 274-262.5.

Eric Hildebrand led the way for the record breaking group. He set records in the fly and back, finishing second in the back and third in the fly. Hildebrand also participated in the 400 free relay team along with Ben Sorsen, Matt Sun, and Joey Silva for a team record and a third place finish. Silva broke a team record himself with a 55.58 time in the 100 free, good for eighth place, narrowly edging out teammate Alec Grotgeut who finished ninth with a 56.45 time. Silva's finish in the 100 was payback for Grotgeut's edging of Silva in the 50 free. In that event, Grotgeut finished seventh to Silva's eighth by 0.17 seconds. However, the two worked together on the record breaking 200 free relay team that included Sorsen and Nick Wee. The team worked resulted in third place points and a 1:40.30 time.

The final JV record broken was by Nick Janota in the 200 free. Janota finished eighth in the 200 and later paired that finish with an eighth in the 500 free.

In addition to participating in the record breaking 400 relay team, Sun took a fifth in the IM and an eighth in the back. Sorsen also had a good meet, finishing 10th in the 200 free to go along with his two relay placements. Not to be out done, Wee took a 10th of his own in the fly.

The Dons other top 10 finisher was Alec Pskanik who finished fifth in the back and ninth in the 500 free.

The **Amador Valley Varsity boys Swimming and Diving team** finished off the EBAL Championship meet in a big way, breaking the meet record in the 400 free relay. The team of Krish Rajagopalan, Kyle Surber, Andrew Seitz, and Scott Arellano finished second in the event (De La Salle also broke the meet record) to lead the Dons to a fourth place finish overall.

Seitz had an outstanding meet for the Dons, setting an Amador record while winning the IM and also getting to the wall first in the 200 free. Surber wasn't far behind Seitz, winning the 100 free and finishing fourth in the 50 free.

Amador had another three swimmers with a pair top 16 finishes: Arellano took third in the 100 free and seventh in the 50 free while Rajagopalan had a seventh in the fly and a 15 in the 200 free. Jake Bahls also posted dual point getting performances with an eighth in the 200 free and a 10th in the 500 free.

Other swimmers getting points for the Dons in individual events were Tyler Pullen (2nd diving), Eddie Zhang (14th fly), Eric Gates (12th back), Jason Cunningham (13th 50 free) and Tim McLaughlin (14th 100 free). Catherine Breed posted two Automatic All-American times; leading the **Amador Valley Varsity girls Swimming and Diving team** to a narrow fourth place finish in the EBAL Championship meet. Breed's first place finishes in the 200 and 100 free helped give the Dons a 274-248 edge over California High.

Not to be overlooked in the excitement over the swimming portion of Championships is the 34 point advantage Amador posted over Cal during the diving event. Varsity divers Alexa Hernandez, Marina Mihov, Emma Rigl, and Nicole George finished third, seventh, eighth, and 12th to give the Dons a large edge coming into the swim meet.

Building upon that, Amador got off to a good start in the swim meet. The medley relay team of Danielle Stiecker, Tory Houston, Catherine Breed, and Jenno Docto posted an All-American Consideration time of 1:50.06 in the medley relay. In the second event, the 200 free, the Dons put four swimmers in the top 16 with Schmidt (8th), Natalie Wong (9th), and Stiecker (12th) following Breed to the wall. Each of this trio of swimmers also had another top-16 finish. Wong and Schmidt went seven-eighth in the 500 free, and Stiecker placed 9th in the back.

Tory Houston had an especially good meet with two top-five finishes: a third in the breaststroke and a fifth in the IM.

Amador also got individual point gaining swims from Docto and Emma McGuiness, 12th and 15th, in the back, Lindsey Baxter, 15th in the 100 free, and Teresa Martin with a 15th in the back.

Elle Surber led the **Amador Valley JV Girls Swimming and Diving team** to a fourth place finish in the EBAL Championship meet. Surber broke Amador's JV records in both the 100 IM and the Backstroke, placing third in both events. Erica Efigenio also broke a JV record while finishing fourth in the breaststroke.

The 200 Medley Relay team of Michelle Schirle, Efigenio, Sarah Turner, and Surber also broke an Amador record with a 2:09.05

time, finishing fourth.

Other top 10 finishers for the JV girls were Kayla Miller placing seventh in the 500 free, and Christina Zhang with a 10th in the breaststroke.

### Pleasanton Girls Softball

Pleasanton Girls Softball League highlights:

**T-Ball Division:** Williams Witters Real Estate Team vs. Liberty Mutual: Williams Witters Real Estate Team had good fielding and batting by Meaghan Penrice, Megan Rovira and Maille Smith. Liberty Mutual had great at bats and defense shown by Emma Chandler, Kylie Pfothenauer and Jessie Simonson. Top players: Williams Witters Real Estate Team - Meaghan Penrice, Megan Rovira, Maille Smith; Liberty Mutual - Emma Chandler, Kylie Pfothenauer, Jessie Simonson

Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions vs. Williams Witters Real Estate Team: Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions had great at bats and defense shown by Alyson Marzocco, Hayden Jolley, and Estelina Kovacs. Williams Witters Real Estate Team had good fielding and batting by Kendall Witters, Sierra Deavers and Kenna Asmusen. Top players: Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions - Hayden Jolley, Estelina Kovacs, Alyson Marzocco; Williams Witters Real Estate Team - Kenna Asmusen, Sierra Deavers, Kendal Witters

Liberty Mutual vs. Hopyard Alehouse & Grill: In a high energy game between Liberty Mutual and Hopyard Alehouse & Grill, both teams continue to show how much they've learned since the beginning of the season. For Liberty Mutual, Valerie McKeever had some great defensive plays at 1st base. Jessica Simonson was a stand out playing catcher. Kylie Pfothenauer continues to crush the ball when she's at bat. For Hopyard Alehouse & Grill, Emily Gossett made some excellent plays in the field. Bella Shroff ran the bases well, and Ava Stewart had some outstanding hits at the plate. Top players: Liberty Mutual - Valerie McKeever, Kylie Pfothenauer, Jessica Simonson; Hopyard Alehouse & Grill - Emily Gossett, Bella Shroff, Ava Stewart

**Micro Division:** Leslie Wolf-State Farm Insurance vs. Older's Landscaping: Monday night's game between Leslie Wolf-State Farm Insurance and Older's Landscaping was thrilling. For Leslie Wolf-State Farm Insurance there was fast and accurate pitching by Julia Simmons, and hard hitting by Haley Roundtree and Sydney Fluker. For Older's Landscaping we saw outstanding pitching by Jazmen Howe, solid base hits by Addyson Mapes, and an out at 3rd by Haley Carr. Top players: Leslie Wolf-State Farm Insurance - Sydney Fluker, Haley Roundtree, Julia Simmons; Older's Landscaping - Haley Carr, Jazmen Howe, Addyson Mapes

Big Island Rental Condos vs. California Car Sounds, Inc.: Great pitching from Reese Lombardi, outfield hit by Madeline Baalman. Top players: Big Island Rental Condos - Madeline Baalman, Emma Sundstrom; California Car Sounds, Inc. - Kate Carroll, Reese Lombardi, Chloe Sarin

Cardinal Jewelers vs. City Beach: Cardinal Jewelers and City Beach came out swinging. Sarah Shin pounced on balls hit to her and made throws to 3rd and Home. Madsyn Sweeney scooped up a grounder and threw to 3rd to record the out. Aliyah Baxter smacked a power hit down the 3rd base line for Cardinal Jewelers. Big hits from the Hula Girls' Madison Hildebrand, Sophie Clinton and Alexis Gundermann. Top players: Cardinal Jewelers - Grace French, Sarah Shin, Madsyn Sweeney; City Beach - Sophie Clinton, Alexis Gundermann, Madison Hildebrand

Cardinal Jewelers vs. California Car Sounds Inc.: California Car Sounds Inc. came out swinging, with big hits by Sarah Woodall, Sydney Soares, and Reese Lombardi. Grace French power pitched for Cardinal Jewelers. Excellent fielding by both teams. Lindsay Salmon smacked a grounder and made the throw to Kyla Harris to record the out at home. Catherine Murphy hit a strong line drive down the 3rd base line. Sarah Shin had a great day in the field, giving Cardinal Jewelers a strong defense. Top players: Cardinal Jewelers - Kyla Harris, Catherine Murphy, Lindsay Salmon; California Car Sounds Inc. - Reese Lombardi, Sydney Soares, Sarah Woodall

Big Island Rental Condos vs. Older's Landscaping: Top players: Big Island Rental Condos - Annika Huston, Camille Kulak

**Mini Rec Division:** Clearpath Business Advisors vs. CTS: Great game and pitching

from both teams. Special mention to Audrey Morse for great pitching and an awesome out. Lilly Fehrmann for an out, Krista Buescher for another out. Top players: Clearpath Business Advisors - Krista Buescher, Lilly Fehrmann, Audrey Morse

ACC Environmental vs. Ogden Costa Creative Group: ACC Environmental - Outstanding offense and defense contributions by Hailey Fanfa, Gaby Sanchez and Brittany Barrowcliff led to one of ACC Environmental's most memorable games to date. Ogden Costa Creative Group - Maria Summersett great out at 1st base, Celia Portugal and Morgan Seely great offensive and defensive plays. Top players: ACC Environmental - Brittany Barrowcliff, Hailey Fanfa, Gaby Sanchez; Ogden Costa Creative Group - Celia Portugal, Morgan Seely, Maria Summersett

Assist Tel-Com vs. CTS: For Assist Tel-Com, Paige Ryback hit a line drive to center field, Sierra Bohnet had a nice triple, and Emilyann Gervolino made a great tag for the out on 1st base. For CTS, Lindsay Dillon had a great catch of a line drive in the outfield, Keara Greenan caught a line drive and threw to 1st for a double play, and Taylor Novak made a nice catch and throw to 2nd for a force out. Top players: Assist Tel-Com - Sierra Bohnet, Emilyann Gervolino, Paige Ryback; CTS - Lindsay Dillon, Keara Greenan, Taylor Novak

Clearpath Business Advisors vs. TSI: Great game on Saturday afternoon between Clearpath Business Advisors and TSI. Congratulations to the following Clearpath Business Advisors Players: Krista Buescher for a triple play, Victoria Goetz for a great defensive play, Alexis Blaschka for great backup and overall team support. Congratulations to the following TSI players: Lauren Milligan for 2 singles, Lilly Ryan for 2 Doubles and 2 outs, Natalie Lambros for a double and a single. Top players: Clearpath Business Advisors - Krista Buescher, Alexis Blaschka, Victoria Goetz; TSI - Natalie Lambros, Lauren Milligan, Lilly Ryan

Accurate Impressions vs. Eddie Papa's: Accurate Impressions showed particularly strong pitching in the 1st inning, followed by excellent fielding in the 2nd inning with Kiana Meagher catching three fly balls in that inning alone. There were also big hits by Kiana, Taylor Hitchens, and Abigail Hester in the same inning. Kami Kodama and Kallie Emerson each scored a home run. Eddie Papa's started out slowly but gained momentum in the 3rd inning with some big hits, bringing in three runs. They also had a fine 6th inning with another three runs. The team also displayed great fielding throughout the game. Top players: Accurate Impressions - Bonnie Crawford, Abigail Hester, Kiana Meagher; Eddie Papa's - Emily Creco, Morgan Harris, Emily Mercer

Accurate Impressions vs. Bauer's Worldwide Transportation: Accurate Impressions showed great fielding in the 1st inning with excellent pitching from Kami Kodama in the 2nd. There were big hits from Maya Nozaka, Kiana Meagher, and Taylor Hitchens in the 3rd inning with Maya scoring a run. There were more runs from Kiana Meagher and Tes Cayton in the 5th inning. Bauer's Worldwide Transportation had a strong 2nd & 3rd inning with three runs in each. In addition, they gained one more run in the 5th inning. They displayed strong pitching, particularly in the 3rd inning, and solid hitting throughout the game. Top players: Accurate Impressions - Jordan Ciesielski, Eve Schiano, Hannah Yozzo; Bauer's Worldwide Transportation - Courtney Dinelli, Hannah Leyman, Elena Webster

Pulte Homes vs. Niki Ward Photography: Great game for Pulte Homes. Good pitching by Rachel Yetso, and excellent infield play by Maddie David and Juliana Pribela. Niki Ward Photography had strong hits from both Zoe Moura and Tori Maes and had Alia Paul pitching a great game. Top players: Pulte Homes - Maddie David, Juliana Pribela, Rachel Yetso; Niki Ward Photography - Tori Maes, Zoe Moura, Alia Paul

**Mini Upper Division:** J. Lohr Vineyards and Wines 16, John Rocha-REMAX Accord 10; Top players: J. Lohr Vineyards and Wines - Harper Cook, Arabelle Franco, Adrianna Loti

J. Lohr Vineyards and Wines 6, Fritz's Landscaping Company 5; J. Lohr Vineyards and Wines came from behind to win the game with two outs in the bottom of the 1st inning. Jenna and Jessica O'Neal pitched strong games. Top players: J. Lohr Vineyards and Wines - Jenyce Dutcher, Amanda Harding, Jenna O'Neal

**Minor Rec Division:** CPU Tech 9, Pilates on Spring 7; CPU Tech enjoyed their

1st inning. The Yankees proved that they could hit but it was the Angels defense that showed them that they can catch... Akio Fujita who took a quick shot as short stop to quickly catch the ball hit to his position and attempt a double play and Josh Anderson who was hit a line shot as pitcher to snag the ball.

For the offense, it was Ryan Stemplinger who started off the 1st inning with a double and the remaining teammates also provided offensive hits. Josh also had a double in the 3rd inning with again every Angel getting a chance at the plate.

**Minors AA:** Red Sox 6, Angels 2: Red Sox kept up their winning streak with a 6-2 win on a cold Monday, 4/27/09. Noah Moreno started with some solid pitching, striking out all the batsmen in the first inning. He also caught a fly ball and made an amazing double play in the 4th. Michael Wiorn excelled at batting with hits in the 1st, 3rd (double) and 6th (followed by a stolen base). He kept up the pressure with precise pitching in the 4th. Lucas Babati made a great catch in the 6th to help wrap up the game. Matthew Schulz kept the ball in check on the field on 3rd base and Left Field.

**Red Sox 3, Rangers 4:** Red Sox had a good game on a rainy Saturday. Tyler Carlson started off the first inning with some excellent pitching. He also had a fine hit in the 3rd. Salomon Nery had a couple of hits including a very nice double in the 3rd bringing in a run. Matthew Beltran and Blake Bettencourt both made great plays stopping hard hit balls and getting the runners out on first base. Khusaan Bahl had a good hit in the 4th inning.

**Red Sox 5, A's 5:** Red Sox played an exciting game. Paul Dondero was the anchor for the Red Sox with consistent pitching and great fielding. He picked up pitching in middle of the 1st and delivered impressive pitches for the next 3 innings without giving up a score. Salomon Nery carried the batting end with an outstanding double in the 1st, bringing in 3 runs. Lucas Babati made a terrific play in the 5th by getting the runner out on the first base. Ryan Rudolph made an amazing catch in the 6th. Blake Bettencourt displayed some excellent running, sliding in for the final run.

**Red Sox 12, Indians 2:** Red Sox played a sound and well balanced game to win 12-2. Tyler Carlson set the pace of the game

with an opening hit and another in the 4th. He also did a great job of pitching in the 3rd. Brandon Kinsey excelled as the starting pitcher and continued his consistent batting with a double in 2nd and another hit in 4th, bringing in a run with each hit. Michael Wiorn kept up the superb batting with hits in the 1st, 2nd (2 RBI) and 4th (1 RBI). Benjamin Thompson continued the hitting with hits in the 1st (1 RBI) and the 3rd. Matthew Schulz had a tremendous triple in the 1st bringing in 2 runs. Matthew Beltran did an excellent job of stopping well hit balls and getting runners out in the 2nd and 4th innings.

**A's 5, Red Sox 5:** The A's played an outstanding game against the Red Sox Wednesday night. The first inning was finished off with 5 runs with Jackson Hager, Nate Stern, Trent Ines, Jayden Orr and Jon Clatworthy making it around the bases. The fourth and fifth inning Trent Ines struck out three Red Sox players in a row. The final score after an exciting and close sixth inning was tied 5 to 5.

**A's 10, Angels 5:** The A's played an awesome game early Saturday morning against the Angels. The top of the fourth inning John Clatworthy struck out the first two batters and caught a fly ball from the third. The bottom of fourth showed promise as the A's scored five runs bringing home two outstanding players, Zach Bell and Gavin Smith. Great plays were made by Spencer Shin, Devin Pyzer, Harrison Carter and Logan Beavers in the final innings bringing the final score 10 to 5 leaving the A's with yet another win for the season.

**Minors AAA:** Yankees 9, A's 9: The Yankees came out firing this afternoon and got a good lead on the A's until the 3rd inning when they made a great attempt for a win. The game was tied 9-9. The pitching team: Nick Perez, Jared Pletcher, Dillon Shackley, and Tanner Stangmeyer.

**White Sox 9, Red Sox 3:** The White Sox came out strong against the Red Sox and once they took the lead in the first inning, they never looked back. Logan Caton delivered solid pitches for the first three innings. Jake Simmons and Braedan Fitzgerald each showed strong batting skills and slugged massive pop outs to center field. Ryan Westcott among others also cranked out the hits and contributed to the many RBIs recorded in the

game.

**Indians 16, Yankees 3:** Nick Tucker's first inning bunt single drove in an early run, and he alertly raced around the bases to score on the same play propelling the Tribe to a big offensive day. Tyler Moniz made a nice catch in left field and added a long base hit. Jonathan French pitched, caught, and scored two runs in the victory. Denver Schlag also pitched well. Seth Girvan closed out the game by pitching a scoreless 6th inning.

**Indians 9, Yankees 8:** Ben Spears slid home with the winning run in the bottom of the 6th inning as the Indians scored a thrilling come-back victory. Spears also played catcher and added 2 RBIs. Nathan Casey pitched in with two critical base hits and the game winning RBI. Jonathan French also had two base hits and kept the late rally going. Denver Schlag and Bryce Wong were also key contributors to the offensive onslaught by the Tribe.

**Yankees 11, Rangers 5:** The Yankees broke a losing streak with a stellar performance against the Rangers. Vincent Tanisawa had a phenomenal game with superb pitching and massive blasts into the outfield. Cameron Clarke delighted his fans with a tremendous hit that brought him a double and two RBIs. Michael Parisi and Nick Lemmon also nailed great hits to lead the Yankees to a fantastic victory.

### Pleasanton National LL

Pleasanton National Little League highlights:

**T-Ball:** Braves vs. Mets : Great fielding by the entire team as they chased down ball after ball. All the Mets had big hits, some off the tee and some off of coach pitches. Three MVPs are Michael Priscaro, Jeffrey Priscaro, and Austin Nicolas.

**Majors Division:** Diamondbacks 9, Cubs 4: The Diamondbacks fought off the Cubs at the Pleasanton Sports Park Wednesday May 6 and won the game 9 - 4. KC Stevenson helped the Diamondbacks when he roped a booming single into left field. Matt Heath, Will Richardson, Joe Danckert, and Zak

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## SPORTS NOTES

first win! Jayna Detweiler had 3 power hits, stole 2 bases, and scored earlier! Claire Bramo (Chandler) had an awesome single to 1st, and scored a run as well! Tori Palma pitched to strike out 2 batters, and hit a double bringing in the last 2 runs. Pilates on Spring found a hard game! Kamryn Brown had a great pitching game. Jenna Reitsma was a strong home plate catcher, and Samantha Dondro played good defense and had a great day at bat. Top players: CPU Tech - Claire Brannon (Chandler), Jayna Detweiler, Tori Palma; Pilates on Spring - Kamryn Brown, Samantha Dondro, Jenna Reitsma.

Precision Auto Repair 11, Gary West Masonry 10: Hanna Brown had 2 hits and scored 2 runs for Precision Auto Repair. Also Anika Simons got a double and Nikki Gloyne had a single and scored a run. For Gary West Masonry, Rena Dragony hit a triple, Kyra Stemplinger and Kieran West had a great game. Top players: Precision Auto Repair - Rena Dragony, Kyra Stemplinger, Kieran West; Gary West Masonry - Hanna Brown, Nikki Gloyne, Anika Simons.

Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions 7, Pilates on Spring 2: A great game played by both teams. Emily Barber from Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions hit a double. Great defense was also played by both teams. Loren Roundtree from Pilates on Spring made a great double play and McKenna Moura and Myranda Marzocco both caught pop flies for Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions. Top players: Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions - Emily Barber, Cade Florio, Alexa McGeer; Pilates on Spring - Kate Miller, Jenna Reitsma, Loren Roundtree.

Minor Upper Division: E Squared Automotive 6, Four Star Erectors 4: Four Star Erectors' Courtney Gonzaga and Katelyn Moore dominated the game with their excellent defense. Katie had a base hit and scored a run. Haley Wessenberg had a base hit and scored a run. E Squared Automotive's Nadia Firoozmand had two base hits and 2 runs. Marisa Camerena stole home. Katie Jeffries had two base hits and one run. Top players: Four Star Erectors - Courtney Gonzaga, Katie Moore, Haley Wessenberg; E Squared Automotive - Marisa Camerena, Nadia Firoozmand, Katie Jeffries.

Chase Electric 5, Four Star Erectors 5: In a closely fought, exciting game, Chase Electric scored a run in the bottom of the 6th inning to tie the game and Christina Echavia had two strike outs in the bottom of the 7th inning as Chase Electric tied Four Star Erectors 5-5. Courtney Hennings pitched well in the first half of the game and had a double and single. Regan Lacey was flawless at catcher and threw out a runner at 3rd to end the second inning. Regan also had a nice bunt and single. Jennifer Ng scored Chase Electric's first run of the game and made a great stop at shortstop throwing to Kayla Moniz to get the out at 1st and then Kayla fired a shot to Regan at 3rd base who laid a tag for the advancing runner for the out. The entire Chase Electric defense played a great game. Four Star Erectors was led by Kourtney Gonzaga who had two base hits and stole home to score a run. Kyra Sexton played excellent defense and also had a base hit including an RBI and scored as well. Ashley Balestrieri had a nice bunt and played excellent on defense including a double play and a nice throw to the catcher for an out at home preventing the run from scoring. Top players: Chase Electric - Christina Echavia, Courtney Hennings, Regan Lacey; Four Star Erectors - Ashley Balestrieri, Kourtney Gonzaga, Kyra Sexton.

Major Rec Division: Machi Construction & Development, Inc. 9, California Car Sounds, Inc. 5: California Car Sounds, Inc. and Machi Construction & Development, Inc. were battling for sole possession of 2nd place. Machi Construction & Development, Inc., behind the solid pitching of Cassidy Butler kept California Car Sounds, Inc. scoreless in 2 of the 5 innings, while California Car Sounds, Inc. pitchers, Jazzy Perez, and Shelby Sarin, kept Machi Construction & Development, Inc. scoreless in 3 of the 5 innings. Kathryn Kitayama was 2 for 2 for Machi Construction & Development, Inc. with 4 RBIs. Erica Norton doubled for Machi Construction & Development, Inc. driving in 2 runs. Melanie Herbst doubled in 2 runs for California Car Sounds, Inc. Top players: California Car Sounds, Inc. - Melanie Herbst, Cassidy Holmes, Jazzy Perez; Machi Construction & Development, Inc. - Cassidy Butler, Kathryn Kitayama, Erica Norton.

Richard Lumber Co. 12, DPR Construction, Inc. 9: For Richard Lumber Co., Brittney Cooper made some great defensive plays. Chanel Vismara hit a single scoring a runner from 3rd and Erin Emde also hit a single with an RBI. Top players: Richard Lumber Co. - Brittney Cooper, Erin Emde, Chanel Vismara; DPR Construction, Inc. - Lauren Antilla, Lexi Campisi, Catherine Cochran.

California Car Sounds Inc. 8, 3 Par Inc. 4: 3Par Inc. and California Car Sounds Inc. played for 3rd place. 3Par Inc. took an early 4-0 lead in the 2nd inning. California Car Sounds Inc. came back strong scoring 4 in the

3rd and 4th innings to win the game 8-4. For 3Par Inc., Jennie Gentry pitched 2+ strong innings. She kept California Car Sounds Inc. scoreless in her first 2 innings. Lauren West made a super catch in left field to halt a big inning, and Arial Gershman played well as catcher. For California Car Sounds Inc., Shelby Sarin pitched 5 innings, only giving up 1 run. She kept 3Par Inc. scoreless in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th innings. Melanie Herbst played exceptional at 1st base. She made 3 put outs in 2 innings. Libby Howard was 3 for 3 with 2 RBI's. Kristen Morse doubled in the 3rd inning to drive in 2 runs. Top players: 3Par Inc. - Jennie Gentry, Ariel Gershman, Lauren West; California Car Sounds Inc. - Melanie Herbst, Libby Howard, Shelby Sarin.

Major Upper Division: Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning 7, Tim McGuire of Alain Pinel Realtors 0: It was a great day for softball! Dharini Clare and Hannah Stoik both pitched well for Tim McGuire of Alain Pinel Realtors. Their teammate, Madeline McGuire got a couple of good hits and played good defense. Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning's Claire Berkley also pitched well. Nikki Costello made a nice back-handed play at 1st base to end an inning. Hannah Menk was awesome on defense at both shortstop and 2nd base. Top players: Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning - Claire Berkley, Nikki Costello, Hannah Menk; Tim McGuire of Alain Pinel Realtors - Dharini Clare, Madeline McGuire, Hannah Stoik.

### Livermore American LL

Livermore American Little League highlights:

T-Ball: Orioles vs. Jay's: Top Orioles players: James Pitsker, Jarrett Williams, Brett Whitelaw; Top Jays players: Aiden Edwards, Haridit Singh, Keoni Hurskin.

Blue Jays vs. Rangers: The Blue Jays high powered offense was led by speedy base runner Keoni Hurskin and clean-up hitter Haridit Singh. The defense was equally impressive inspired by Amelia Kavanagh and Vance Mowreys hustle.

Blue Jays vs Orioles: The Blue Jays offense continued to hit the ball well with Josiah Alpher and Tyler Martin leading the way. The defense was stout as the left side was anchored by Aidan Edwards and Patrick Harvey. Great game Blue Jays.

Twins vs. Rangers: The Rangers came ready to play this Monday against the Twins. Ethan Durms did an outstanding job in the 1st inning demonstrating great fielding in left-center and an awesome hit to center field. Justin Lam was a star in the 2nd inning with an outstanding hit to right field and impressive fielding skills. Nolan Durms did a great job the entire game with an impressive hitting in all three innings and excellent fielding and throwing skills as well.

A's Vs. Dodgers: The A's had their best defensive game of the season Saturday against the Dodgers. Top players were Samantha Newton, Zachary Miller, and Declan O'Hara.

A Division: Red Sox 13, Yankees 10: For the Reds, Mike Bryson and Nick Hermann displayed powerful hitting in every at bat, each going 3 for 3. Logan Kavanagh had key hit and RBI in the 5th inning to help secure a Red Sox lead. Bryson also had an unassisted double play. For the Yankees, the girls on the team rocked it with excellent hitting by Sierra Bettencourt, Olivia Kohndrow, and Olivia Tabaracci. Adam Logodzinski played great defense earning him the game ball. Top Red Sox players: Mike Bryson, Nick Hermann, Logan Kavanagh; Top Yankees players: Olivia Kohndrow, Sierra Bettencourt, Adam Logodzinski.

Braves 21, Mets 15: The Mets Ryan Grace had a strong night swinging the bat with RBIs in the 1st, 4th, and 6th innings along with a single in the 2nd inning. Carson Mohler played a strong game of defense catching a grounder and beating the runner to second base to make the out at 2nd. Alex Cirina also played a strong game with the bat hitting singles in the 4th and 6th innings. The Braves Shane Grimes bat was on fire knocking in a triple and home run. Issac Tufts had a great night of hitting with two singles and a double. Parker Hughes played an excellent game of defense assisting his team to victory.

Red Sox 15, Devil Rays 11: For the Red Sox, Jake Engemann played outstanding ball for the Red Sox with two triples and 3 RBIs for the day. Tyler Naumann and Luke Sorensen were also in top form, both going 2 for 3, and each with a towering double and several RBIs. Joseph Fields made an awesome play at home to tag out a runner and keep the Red Sox lead. A competitive game was played by the Devil Rays. Nick Hill had several RBIs. Jarred Rittmeyer made a crucial out at home. James Wilcox showed excellent defense with a great play at third base. Red Sox top players: Jake Engemann, Tyler Naumann, Luke Sorensen; Devil Rays top players: Jarred Rittmeyer, Nick Hill, James Wilcox.

Orioles 18, Braves 6: Aidan Taylor, Tristen Lemas and Daniel Tolention had great

hits for the Braves with both Taylor and Lemas hitting doubles. The Orioles' William Steinberg and Jacob Moen both for 3 and Hannah Lipp was 4 for 4 for another great win for the Orioles. Orioles top players: William Steinberg, Hannah Lipp, Jacob Moen; Braves top players: Aidan Taylor, Daniel Tolention, Tristen Lemas.

AA Division: Cardinals 8, Astros 4: Top Players for Cardinals: Alan Conrad caught a pop fly at third and had 2 RBIs; Griffin Bateson had 2 RBIs; Christopher Kilday stopped a steal at 2nd and made an out. Top Players for Astros: Ray Funk caught a popup foul at home; Nick Volponi for solid pitching; Connor Livingston for great hitting.

Cardinals 2, Rockies 1: The Cardinals scored 1 run in the first inning and the Rockies tied it up in the second. Great defense by both teams kept the score tied until the bottom of the sixth with 2 outs and a runner at first. Cole Meyers hit a triple to right field bringing Emilio Lopez home for the win. Top Cardinals Players: Cole Meyers for the winning RBI and an unassisted double play; Trevor Chapman for great hitting; Bobby Payne as catcher. Top Rockies Players: Rigo Zapien for a great defense; Ryan Nostrand for a nice bunt; Jake Sims hit a double.

White Sox 0, Rockies 1: It was a pitching duel when the Rockies met the White Sox last Wednesday! Rockies pitcher Cody Skinner threw 5 K's, and Sox pitcher Kaine Montez 8 K's. Late in the game, the Sox Michael Butterfield got a single; but the Rockies Victor Rivera answered with a hit of his own, while Rigo Zapien got a triple and an RBI when he brought Rivera home. Great fielding by the Sox! Butterfield and Noah Pettit.

White Sox 8, Cubs 5: It was an exciting game with the Sox building up an early 8-1 lead against the Cubs, thanks in part to hits by Julian Chavira (2 singles, 1 double, 2 RBIs, 2 runs), Dante DeMayo (2 singles, 1 RBI, 1 run), Tyler Revay (1 double, 1 RBI), and Neil Patel (1 rebase). Chavira also kept errors (and runs!) to a minimum with some outstanding plays at first base. The Cubs Chase Dunn pitched 2.5 innings w/5K's; and in the top of the 6th the Cubs rallied, helped out by Dunn (2 singles, 1 RBI, 2 runs), Austin Brown (1 triple, 1 HR, 3 RBIs), and Michael Honeycutt (1 double). But great White Sox defense secured the win.

Cubs 12, Reds 3: Cubs top players: Jordan Esling tagged out a runner going to 2nd, then tagged 1st base for a double play, caught a fly ball at 1st base, and singles twice and doubles; Ryan McDonnell caught a high fly ball hit to left center, RBI single bring home Hunter Burke; Austin Brown tagged out a runner at home off a throw from Hunter Burke; Zack Ridenour 2 RBI double bring home Hunter Burke and Austin Brown. Reds top players: Cassidy Herberth pitched the last inning; Avneet Singh hitting, and Luke Foscalina, solid hitting and defensive play.

AA Division: Mariners 18, Giants 9: Mariners had another great game against the Giants. The Mariners hitting and fielding were firing in all cylinders. The Giants never gave up and played with determination.

Angels 11, Padres 8: The Angels won this game with their strong offense and defensive plays. Miguel Echeverria started the Angels off with a powerful base hit. Tyler Gonzales played tough defense as catcher, and Bobby Cantelino closed the game down with his awesome pitching in the last three innings of the game. The Padres played aggressive with Connor Parkerson batting 2 for 3. Carlos Hernandez also made an awesome catch in the outfield and John Langerud played great defense. The Angels ended up with the win with a final score of 11 to 8. Top players: Angels - Tyler Gonzales, Bobby Cantelino, Miguel Echeverria; Top players Padres: John Langerud, Carlos Hernandez, Connor Parkerson.

Athletics 6, Mariners 2: The Athletics brought their A game against the Mariners in Saturday's game. Benjamin Kerling struck out 10 batters, caught a pop fly, and got on base all 3 times at bat. Daniel Nunez hit a single for an RBI and caught a fly ball in right field. Jacob Kerling walked and hit a nice ball out to left field for a single and an RBI. He also caught a fly ball at 2nd base. The Mariners pitcher Darian Look had a great game. The Mariners were determined for a come from behind win when their hitting struggled and fell short in the late innings. Great sacrifice fly by Jarod Heise which drove Jamie Osorio home for a run. Consistent hitting again by Nathan Tabaracci.

Angels 10, Padres 8: The Angels played a tough game to get this win. CJ Malksi started the Angels off with phenomenal pitching for 4 innings and a great offensive game. Nate Redditt came in as the awesome closing pitcher that led the Angels to the win. The Padres had some great offense and defense with Austin Birdwell's excellent pitching and 2 RBI double. Connor Parkerson also had a 2RBI single, and Carlos Hernandez had an excellent play at 3rd base. The Padres had an exciting rally in the 6th inning scoring four runs, but the Angels' great defense clinched the win with a final score of Angels 10, Padres 8. Top players for padres: Austin Birdwell, Connor Parkerson, Carlos Hernandez; Top players for Angels: CJ Malksi, Nate Redditt.

Orioles 18, Braves 6: Aidan Taylor, Tristen Lemas and Daniel Tolention had great

Major: A's 5, Red Sox 2: Pitching from both sides had kept the game close up to the 5th inning but John Christian finished pitching shutout ball. Sam Bothwell broke the game wide open with his second hit in the 5th to bring in a five insurance runs. Vincent Bartoni made some excellent defensive plays for the A's to keep Red Sox scoreless until the 6th. Top A's players: Sam Bothwell, John Christian, Vincent Bartoni; Top Red Sox players: Sammy Marco, Steven Perry, Taylor Withr.

A's 6, Giants 2: The A's played a great game, thanks to great pitching from Tito Martinez, a single by Matt Calgano and great defense by Vince Bartoni. For the Giants, Garrett Cordisco had a single and a stolen base, Aaron Jennings a single and great pitching by Daniel Cavielleri.

Indians 2, Giants 2: The Giants scored early thanks to hits by David Harmon, Jack Freivert and Sean Stavert, but couldn't hold the lead as the Indians tied it up in the top of the 6th. Keys players for the Indians were Reavy with a great outing on the mound, including the game ending pick-off from 2nd base, Thomas Brown with a clutch single, and Sammy Marco with a great catch in the outfield.

JR 80 House Division: Giants 6, Padres 1: The LALL Jr 80's Giants improved their first-place record to 13-3, with a 6-1 win over the L.NLL Padres. Giants pitcher, J.T. Mahler, held the Padres in check for six innings with a two-hitter, recording five strikeouts and allowing only three base-runners. Michael "shut-em-down" Brown closed it for the Giants in the last inning by facing the minimum three batters. The Giants offense was led by Javonn Williams who had three hits on the day and Brown who had two. Also getting in on the hitting and run-scoring action were Travis Adams, Trevor Escover, Kyle Christopher and Leroy Williams.

JR 90s Division: LALL A's 5, L.NLL A's 3: Two A's steam playing each other, both A's teams went into this game undefeated. LALL A's had outstanding pitching from Matt Pust. Matt settled in and pitched his finest game of the season striking out 8 over 7 innings. William Stewart kicked off the game with a shot to left that netted him a stand up triple. Fast forward to the sixth LALL put up 2 runs thanks to a 2 out rally that started off the bat of Nick Gaul then came Drew Falabella. That's when Gaud Warner stepped in and delivered a clutch double that scored 2 runs for LALL putting them up 5-3 heading into the bottom of the sixth.

LALL 90s Red Sox (home) 11, San Ramon Jr2 Rockets 1: The Red Sox got back on track Thursday as the beat the Rockets. Hitting, pitching and defense all worked well. Noah Robbins got the offense started with an RBI single in the first inning. Sean Amaral made a nice running catch in center field in the second inning. Alex Kohn closed the game on the mound, keeping the Rockets to one run.

LALL 90s Red Sox (home) 14, Danville Giants 6: The Red Sox used hitting, base running, and defense to pull ahead and then beat the Giants. Alex Kohn had a single for two RBIs, Trevor Houghton hit a sacrifice fly for an RBI, Ryan Faulk hit a bases loaded double for three RBIs, and Chris DiPeso when 2 for 3 with two singles and three RBIs. Devin McMahon showed great base running, by stealing home after the Giants catcher did a routine stop back to the pitcher. For the defense, Ryan Faulk caught the whole game, throwing out runners attempting to steal second and third. Devin McMahon made a great diving catch in the seventh inning to help finish the game. Earlier in the inning, Trevor Houghton made a great attempt at a diving catch in right field.

LALL A's 5, Granada Orioles 3: The A's got a great game from their starting pitcher William Stewart who went 5 and 1/3 innings and struck out 7 only allowing 2 hits and 1 run. Offensively the A's were led by Joe Halliwell and Nick Ketchum who each had 2 hits and an RBI. The Orioles pitchers kept the A's powerful offense off balance all game and really did a nice job.

LALL A's 14 - Danville Giants 4: The A's were led by a great all around game from Nick Gaul. He pitched 4 shutout innings and was 2-2 at the plate with 3 RBIs. The A's had a rough first inning giving up 4 runs, but quickly got back on track scoring a couple of runs in the bottom half of the first. They blew the game open in the bottom of the 2nd scoring 7 runs and continued to score in every inning. Offensively the A's delivered, highlighted by Dhru Merrill who chipped in with 3 RBIs, Nick Ketcham added a couple of hits and had 2 RBIs, and Drew Falabella who had a double and drove in a run, he also stole 3 bags. Another good win for the A's.

### Bocce Standings

Spring League at Campo di Bocce of Livermore is coming to an end. The Monday night open play features the entry level bocce players. Final Spring standings are as follows:

First place, Rolling Stones; Second Place, Tahoe Thunder; Third Place, Crazy Pallinos and Fourth Place, The Incrediballs. Finishing off the standings, Point and Shoot,

11 and 5; Bocce Bangers, 6 and 10; Here for the party, 3 and 13 with 110 points scored; The BG's, 3 and 13 with 106 points scored and The Grape Stompers, 2 and 14.

Tuesday night PRV (Punto, Raffa, Volo style) features the more advanced bocce players. Each team has years of experience under their belts. There are 10 teams competing. The current standings as of 05/05/09 are as follows:

Napoli still holding on to first place, 9 and 1; Gung Ho II, 9 and 3; Son of a Bocce, 8 and 6; Point & Shoot, 7 and 3, Montoni, 7 and 5; Azzurri, 7 and 7; Left Coast Bocce Club, 4 and 4; XXX, 3 and 7; DeBocceRI, 3 and 9 and Bocce Bangers, 1 and 13.

Wednesday is the newest bocce league, the Winery league. There are 8 teams competing. The standings as of 05/06/09 are as follows:

McGrail Vineyards, 7 and 1; Wente Vineyards, 6 and 2; Cuda Crushers, 4 and 4 with 86 points scored; Concannon Vineyards, 4 and 4 with 74 points scored; Steven Kent Grande Pale, 4 and 4 with 72 points scored; Wood Family Vineyards, 4 and 4 with 71 points scored; Ruby Hill Winery, 3 and 5 and Page Mill Winery, 0 and 8.

Although league entrants are closed for the Spring Leagues; all are welcome to stop by Campo di Bocce of Livermore to take in some games. All games start at 7:30pm. For more information on leagues, visit [www.campodibocce.com](http://www.campodibocce.com). Registration for Fall League will be held later this summer.

### Bowling News

Last Friday, Reno Getaway bowler Charlie Butkiewicz bowled his all time highest with a perfect "300" game to go with a 175 scratch series at the Granada Bowl in Livermore.

Also in the same league, Dan Turina rolled a 221. In the Kings & Queens league Jeff Spencer rolled a 241, Graham Scott a 224 game. Four Seasons Modified Guys & Dolls league bowler David Drab rolled a 778 series with games of 277-257-244. More high games from Gabe Donohue with a 254, Joe Dimmaggio a 247, Bill Lindke Jr. a 235 and Norm Schlaegel rolled a 230 game. In the Balhorn/O'Dell Construction Match Pt. League, Gerald Cain bowled a 266, Tim Weiland rolled 67 over with a 244 game and Dave McGuigan rolled 120 over series average with games of 224-226-185 for a 635.

Senior Bowler Chico Mesa in Donna's Mixers rolled 54 over average with a 178 game.

Youth Bowler Payton Giambrone rolls 57 pins over for a 256 game.

### Open Water Swim Group

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

### Phantom Board

The Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League is accepting nominations for its 2010 Executive Board of Directors. Nominations are to be made at the board's regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 14, 2009 at the Hyatt Summerfield Suites, 4545 Chabot Drive, Pleasanton. The meeting begins at 7:30pm. Voting will take place on Saturday, May 16, 2009. 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. Ballots will be available on Saturday (5/16/09) at the Pleasanton Sports park next to the Snack Bar by GSB 7.

### Golf Tournament

Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill will host the 14th annual Charity Cup Golf Classic on Fri., May 15.

The event benefits the Aldon Wright Fund.

Play is at the Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore. The \$150 fee includes green fee, cart, tee, prizes, lunch, dinner, on course refreshments, and awards ceremony. In addition, there will be a raffle prize give-away. The tournament will be 4-man scramble format (gross and net). Lunch begins at 11 a.m., shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Contact Beeb's 925-455-7070 for registration.

### Football and Golf

The Granada Football Golf Tournament will be held Fri., June 26 at the Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Granada High's football program is currently 200 players strong. Prizes for 1st, 2nd,

& 3rd place, as well as longest drive & closest to the pin. Raffle prizes will be awarded at the dinner. Fees is \$15 per golfer, includes range balls, green fees, and full BBQ dinner; \$25 per person for dinner only.

Putting contest is at 12:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. Go to [www.granadafootball.com/articles/announcements.htm](http://www.granadafootball.com/articles/announcements.htm) to download form.

### Football/Cheer Signup

Livermore Youth Football and Cheer Livermore Youth Football and Cheer (LYFandC) is starting registration for the upcoming season.

This is a full contact football league that has been established for 36 years. The goal is to teach the fundamentals of both football and cheer needed to make the transition into high school. The league works together with the local high schools to ensure its participants are learning the fundamentals needed for their very competitive football and Cheer programs. LYFandC's emphasis is on proper technique and fundamentals, responsibility, accountability, and most importantly being a good person and teammate.

All coaches are required to attend coaching clinics each year to strengthen their knowledge of the game.

Football and cheer squads have been very successful in the highly competitive Diablo Valley Youth Football Conference (DVYFC). Registration will be held May 26 from 6-8 pm at Round Table Pizza 1024 East Stanley Blvd. Discounts are available at January and February dates. Information go to website [www.eteamz.com/lyfc](http://www.eteamz.com/lyfc) or email [lyfc@onebox.com](mailto:lyfc@onebox.com)

The league is currently accepting applications for both football and cheer coaches for the upcoming season.

### Hats Off America

The 15th Hats Off America Red T-Shirt 10K Run/5K Run or Walk will be held on Saturday, June 6 beginning at 10 a.m. at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive, Danville, rain or shine. Entry fee is \$35 per person. There is no entry fee for volunteers. All runners and volunteers will receive a red t-shirt and lunch.

Hats Off America is a non-profit organization that raises awareness of and money for the families of soldiers who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

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

### Special Olympics

Special Olympics East Bay Summer Games will feature events in Pleasanton and Oakland. Athletes who win gold in our regional competitions will be eligible for the 2009 Summer Games at UC Davis this year.

More than 600 Special Olympics athletes from the East Bay area will compete in regional qualifying events in volleyball, track & field and swimming.

On Sunday May 17, Swimming will be held at Lancy College, 900 Fallon St., Oakland. On Saturday, May 30 - Volleyball and Track & Field competition will take place at Amador Valley High School, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton.

Track & Field and Volleyball begins with an 8:30 a.m. opening ceremony. Competition gets underway at 9:30 a.m.

For information go to [www.SONC.org](http://www.SONC.org).

### Swim Free

During the month of May, American Swim Academy will celebrate National Water Safety Month by offering a free swim class to anyone wanting to learn. The free classes will be available at any one of their four Bay Area locations (Fremont, Newark, Livermore and Dublin).

"With summer quickly approaching, now is the best time to begin water safety instruction. We are hoping that the free class will encourage new or apprehensive students to try it out," said Matt Alberti owner of American Swim Academy. "Water safety and learning to swim are crucial. There are many sports and activities for children, but swimming is the only one that can save a life," he added.

"We believe that it is vital to get children acclimated to the water at an early age, so they will not develop apprehensions and fears as they get older," said Alberti. American Swim Academy offers year round, daily classes and teaches all ages ranging from six months to adult.

For more information about the National Water Safety Month free swim classes, call 1-800-810-SWIM or visit [www.AmericanSwimAcademy.com](http://www.AmericanSwimAcademy.com)

## SHORT NOTES

### Teen Police Academy

The Pleasanton Police Department is accepting applications from Pleasanton youth for its annual summer Teen Police Academy. The three and a half week program begins June 23.

A limited number of openings are available for enrollment.

The academy strives to develop stronger partnerships between Pleasanton's police and its youth. Participants will have an opportunity to learn about law enforcement procedures from the officers themselves. Topics will include patrol procedures, communications, SWAT, narcotics, investigations, juvenile traffic issues, K-9's, evidence collection and animal services.

The academy is offered free of charge to local high school students, generally between the ages of 14 and 18. This program consists of seven consecutive classes held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 5 p.m. starting June 23 and concluding with a graduation dinner on Tues., July 14.

Interested Pleasanton teens can obtain an application, as well as additional information, at the front counter of the police Department or by calling one of the academy coordinators, CSO Shannon Revel-Whitaker, 931-5240, or Officer Ken McNeill, 931-5233.

### Winery Open House

Thomas Coyne Winery will host the annual spring open house on May 23, 24 and 25. Hours are noon to 5 p.m. each day. Five new wines will be released. A selection of fruits and cheeses will be served.

For the last time this year, the winery will offer an interactive experience "Bottle Your Own Wine," selling Vino Tinto Barato, a red table wine, at the Open House. Bring a clean bottle. The winery will fill, cork and label it for you for \$5.50 per bottle, or bottle label and cork it yourself. Use a winery bottle for \$6.00. This is only available May 23. Limit is six bottles per person.

New wine releases are 2008 California Viognier, 2008 Livermore Pinot Blanc, 2006 Contra Costa Mourvedre, 2005 California Port, 2005 Livermore Cabernet Sauvignon.

Active military who present valid ID can receive a deep discount. For more information call (925) 373-6541 <http://thomascoynewinery.com>. The winery is located at 51 East Vallecitos Rd., Livermore.

### Historic Wineries

Chateau LARPD is the theme of a program to be led by Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) ranger staff on Sat., May 16. Meet at 10 a.m. at Veterans Park.

The Dos Mesas, Olivina and Ravenswood wineries are all owned by the District; however, it has been many years (in some cases over a hundred) since they produced any wine. Join a ranger program to visit the remains of these original buildings and learn the history of their origins and owners along with their influence on the valley. Please call 925-960-2400 to reserve a space in the van.

There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs.

### Book Events

Towne Center Books upcoming events:

Kids Outer Read Day; Sat. May 16, 1-4, 55 authors 1 day! Ten bookstore members of the Northern California Children's Booksellers Association are hosting 55 authors from Northern California in their stores. Authors are t Ying Chang Compestine, author of the award winning book Revolution Is Not a Dinner Party; Erin Dealey, author of Goldie Locks has Chicken Pox; Caren McCormack, author of the Fiesta Dress; a Quinceanera Dress; Clarissa Yu Shen, author of Paper Horse. There will be stories, crafts, and author sharing. This event is Open House style. Free. No reservation necessary!

Happy Hour, 6 p.m., May 21 with Andy Raskin, the very funny author of the Ramen King and I; How the Inventor of Instant Noodles Fixed My Love Life. Join us for happy hour beverages, ramen, and fun. Free with book purchase or \$5.00 without. Reservations helpful.

Publication Party for local author Sandra Kay, 11 a.m., May 23.



# LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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## How Sellers Think

By Cher Wollard

The slowdown in the real estate market and the resultant decline in prices over the past few years have had clear effects on homebuyers' expectations and behavior.

But sellers too have had to adjust to these changes – maybe more so.

"We definitely are seeing changes in attitude among sellers," says Leo Apostal, a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Stoneridge. Apostal partners with his father-in-law, Rich Novotny.

"When we put a home on the market we really set the stage in the beginning to make clear their expectations of what to look forward to: longer escrows, prices coming in lower than asking price. Most sellers know this. However, a few are still stuck in the idea of the market three or four years ago, and we have to educate them."

The California Association of Realtors conducted two extensive surveys in 2008, one about homebuyers and one about home sellers. The results of these surveys reveal some interesting changes in sellers' motivations and behavior.

In 2006, the overwhelming majority of people considering selling property did so out of desire for a better home. About 55 percent wanted a larger home; another 20 percent were seeking a better location.

Many of these moves – about 24 percent – were precipitated either primarily or secondarily by a change in family status: marriage, birth of a child or a parent moving in, for example.

By 2008, the desire for improvement had been supplanted by distress. Only 14 percent of sellers said they were looking for a bigger home. A slim 7 percent were selling in order to move to a better location.

More than half of home sellers last year cited economic problems as their prime motivation for listing their property: 20 percent said they had difficulty making mortgage payments, 19 percent were moving to rentals to save money and 16 percent said their mortgage payments had risen beyond what they could afford.

In contrast, very few homeowners in 2006 said they were selling out of financial distress.

These recent distress situations, combined with the high numbers of bank-owned properties on the market, put downward pressure on sales prices and have made potential buyers wary, thus lengthening the time it takes for homes to sell.

The good news is that many homeowners who are financially secure are recognizing the opportunity to purchase second homes or investment property, or to move up to a larger home and/or a more desirable neighborhood.

About 32 percent mentioned move-up opportunities and another 10 percent cited low interest rates as motivations for selling their current homes in 2008.

Since the start of 2009, we have seen an even greater trend in this direction, which should be reflected in future C.A.R. surveys.

In 2008, homeowners who decided to sell were faced with a different set of challenges than those experienced in previous years. The most pressing seller concerns in 2008 were, in order of importance:

1. Time it would take to sell – 88 percent, unchanged from 2007.
2. Sales price of the home – 86 percent, down slightly from 2007.
3. Cost of sales transaction – 56 percent, unchanged since 2007, but more than double 2004-2005.
4. Buyer ability to acquire a mortgage – 54 percent, a new response.
5. List price of the home – 29 percent, down dramatically from 2005-2007, but higher than 2004.
6. Finding qualified buyers – 11 percent, unchanged over the past few years.
7. Terms of sales transaction – 9 percent, unchanged over the past few years, but down dramatically from 2004-2005.

Disclosure issues and home repairs have consistently been minor concerns.

Changes in seller attitudes reflect changes in market conditions. For example, sellers today are less likely to be concerned about the non-financial terms of a sale.

But in 2004-2005, when the market was moving very quickly, many sellers worried they would sell their home so fast they could not be able to purchase a new one in time.

So it was important for their agents to negotiate terms that allowed them to stay in the property until they closed on their new home.

Timing is a perpetual concern of sellers. In the previous market, the concern was the market was moving too fast.

Nowadays, sellers fear their property will remain on the market longer than they desire. In some price ranges, this is a valid concern, although homes at the bottom of the market and in certain locations have been selling quickly since late last year.

Sellers have always been concerned about how much they will make on the sale of their property. Concerns about price peaked in 2006-2007, when the market was shifting; concerns about sales price actually moderated in 2008, as sellers became accustomed to the new reality about pricing.

Apostal agreed, although he said, "For some of them, they actually have to experience that by listing it higher and getting lower offers."

The most dramatic change in 2008 is that, for the first time, sellers are concerned about buyers' ability to obtain mortgages. It is a valid concern, which is why most sellers' Realtors will require buyers submit a pre-approval letter from a reputable lender with their offer.

"As listing agents we have to do our due diligent, researching to find out how qualified these buyers really are," Apostal said. "When there are multiple offers, especially, sellers get excited about the highest offer. But you have to pick and choose."

In late 2007, as the credit crunch began setting in, buyers and their mortgage specialists were faced with new challenges: loan programs suddenly changing guidelines or disappearing altogether.

This resulted in frequent delays in close of escrow. In 2004, for example, only 17 percent of escrows did not close on time. That number crept up to 30 percent in 2007 and more than doubled to 36 percent last year. The overwhelming reason: buyers having difficulty obtaining mortgages.

In some situations, the credit crunch has meant that buyers are not able to purchase the property at all.

"As a listing agent, you look at who is more likely to close the transaction, the higher offer or the stronger buyer," Apostal said. "It's a juggling act between qualifications of buyers and price."

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

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 424147

The following person(s) doing business as: Cheryl's Shoppe, 7 California Ave, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cheryl Teare, 2892 St. Denis Dr., San Ramon, Ca 94583. This business is conducted by: an Individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Cheryl Teare. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 28, 2009. Expires April 28, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2494. Publish May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 423976

The following person(s) doing business as: ABC Music Source & Academy, 2156 First Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Stanley M. Houston, 767 Violet Court, Benicia Ca 94510. This business is conducted by: Husband and wife. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Stanley M. Houston. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 24, 2009. Expires April 24, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2495. Publish May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 424111

The following person(s) doing business as: Quest Consulting, 1047 Serpentine Lane #300, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Cort Allen, 366 Christina Ct., Pleasanton Ca 94566. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on September 1984. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Cort Allen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 28, 2009. Expires April 28, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2496. Publish May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 2009.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 424098

The following person(s) doing business as: Kandel Insurance Agency, 4355 Technology Dr., Unit H, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Eric Lawrence Kandel, 1879 Paseo Laguna Seco, Livermore Ca 94551. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on March 01, 2009. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Eric Kandel. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 27, 2009. Expires April 27, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2497. Publish May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 2009.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 424453

The following person(s) doing business as: In The Dark Productions, 2243 Hampton Rd., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jensen & Associates Inc., 2243 Hampton Rd., Livermore Ca 94550. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Stanley L. Jensen Jr. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 7, 2009. Expires May 7, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2498. Publish May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 424188

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) Door 2 Door Tech Solutions, 2) Threewisebabies.com, 298 Goldfinch Way, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gregory Caulder, 1611 Swarthout Ct., Tracy Ca 95376. Amanda Caulder, 1611 Swarthout Ct., Tracy Ca 95376. This business is conducted by: Husband and wife. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Amanda Caulder. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 29, 2009. Expires April 29, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2499. Publish May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 423928

The following person(s) doing business as: WaterColors By KB, 6864 Calle Altamira, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Karen Fleschler, 6864 Calle Altamira, Pleasanton Ca 94566. This business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on December 1, 2002. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Karen Fleschler. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 23, 2009. Expires April 23, 2014. The Independent Legal No. 2500. Publish May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 2009.

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Date of Filing Application: APRIL 24, 2008. To Whom It May Concern: The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: WINE GROUP LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 4590 TESLA RD LIVERMORE, CA 94550. For the following type of License: 20 OFF-SALE BEER AND WINE. Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 1515 Clay St, Ste 2208 Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 622-4970. The Independent Legal No. 2501. Publish May 14, 21, 28, 2009.

### Notice of Warehouseman's Lien Sale Auction

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below pursuant to Sections 7201-7210 of the California Commercial Code and relevant Sections of the California Civil Code. The undersigned will sell at public sale, by competitive bidding on the 6th day of June, 2009, at 6475 Las Positas Boulevard, Livermore, CA 94551, the goods referenced below subject to a warehouseman's lien:

These goods are the lien property of the following individuals:

- Kvidera, Donna – used furniture, marble tops, patio furniture, treadmill, and other unknown items
- Keith, Danny – used furniture, electronics, books, tools, school supplies and other unknown items
- Porter, Karlin – used furniture, appliances, electronics, and other unknown items
- Dovgij, Eugene – used furniture, camping equipment, doghouse and other unknown items
- McClure, Dustin – used furniture, big screen TV, appliances, and other unknown items
- Guinn, Clyde – used furniture and other unknown items

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash or cash equivalent only. All purchased items sold as is where is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between the Seller and the obligated party. Bidder's Deposit may be required. Call ahead to make sure sale is still scheduled.

Seller: Rossiter Relocation Services. Dated this 14th day of May, 2009. Forrest O'Brien, Bond Number #00104533207 (925) 371-0933. The Independent Legal No. 2502. Publish May 14, 21, 2009.

### ANIMALS

#### LOST OR FOUND AN ANIMAL? Free Section. Call Barbara 243-8000 to place an ad.

#### 1) CATS/DOGS

#### ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at 925 426-8656.

Adopt a new best friend. TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, both dogs and cats are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin from noon to 4 and the Pet Food Express in Livermore from 1 to 4. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and PetCo in San Ramon from 11:00 to 3:00. For more information, call TVAR at (925) 803-7043 or visit our website at www.tvar.org.

#### FOUND AN ANIMAL? FREE SECTION. Call Barbara 925 243-8000 to let 49,118 households know!

### 4) FOUND

FOUND Charcoal Grey Long Haired Male Cat near Madison Ave. Livermore 926 443-8050

FOUND Small Female Dog in Livermore near Springtown/1st & Southfront. Call Robin 916 845-8175

FOUND AN ANIMAL? FREE SECTION. Call Barbara 925 243-8000 to let 49,118 households know!

### 5) FREE KITTENS

FREE KITTENS to Good Home. All Shots & Litterbox Trained. 3 Ten-Wk-Old Kittens - Will email Pictures 209 485-4632

### 6) LOST

LOST Large Tabby Cat Grey, Blk & White Male Vicinity of Shore Haven Cir Livermore 925 449-4300

LOST A FAMILY PET? FREE SECTION. Call Barbara 925 243-8000 to let 49,118 households know!

### AUTOS/BOATS/RVS/TRUCKS

#### 9) AUTOS FOR SALE

2002 Volvo S80. 50K miles. Blue w/ tan leather. \$11,500 OBO. Excellent condition. Call 925-245-1633.

#### 10) AUTOS WANTED

DONATE VEHICLE: RECEIVE \$1000 Grocery Coupon. Your Choice. Noahs Arc - Support No Kill Shelters, Advance Veterinary Treatments. Free Towing, IRS Tax Deductible, Non-Runners. 1-866-912-GIVE. (CAL\*SCAN)

#### DONATE YOUR CAR: Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research & Support! Free Vacation Package. Fast, Easy & Tax Deductible. Call 1-800-252-0615. (CAL\*SCAN)

#### SELL YOUR USED CAR HERE. Call Barbara at 925-243-8000

#### OR www.independentnews.com Pay by Credit Card for any Classified or Display ads.

### EMPLOYMENT

#### 56) ADULT CARE

CAREGIVERS NEEDED for elder care. Light housekeeping errands transportation meal prep personal care. Please fax resume 925 371-8118

#### 60) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

100% RECESSION PROOF! Be Your Own Boss! Your Own Local Vending Route. Includes 25 Machines and Candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC, 1-888-625-2405. (CAL\*SCAN)

#### BEWARE of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send any money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

#### 71) HELP WANTED

INTERNET SALES MANAGERS Experience preferred but will train the right person Plenty of leads and great hours EOE Call 925 456 1239

#### ATTENTION: COMPUTER WORK! Work from anywhere 24/7 processing nutritional supplement orders. Great pay. Will train. Bilingual a plus. Request info online: www.KTPGlobal.com or 1-800-330-8446. (CAL\*SCAN)

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### 72) HELP WANTED/DRIVERS

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS & COMPANY DRIVERS. All 53' Refrigerated. Various Lanes, 7 Western States. Contact Brent Redmond Transportation Safety Department for details, 1-800-777-5342 or www.BrentRedmond.com (CAL\*SCAN)

### 151) ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### 155) NOTICES

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

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### MERCHANDISE

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#### 121) GARAGE/YARD SALES

Multi-family garage sale; clothes, collectibles, furniture, kitchenware, linens, garden accessories and more NO EARLY BIRDS. Saturday, May 16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Marlys Common at College Avenue (near South Livermore).

#### Breast Cancer Garage Sale. 1170 Aster Lane. Livermore. May 16th/17th 7am-4pm. 100% proceeds to Avon walk for breast cancer. Multi family collection!

#### Springtown Yard Sale, Sat May 16th, 2152 Bucksin Rd. Bluebell, Livermore Tools, Office, Sports, Toys, more...

### Huge Moving Sale! Large variety of household items including furniture, and other great things! Everything must go! Sat May 16th 8-3pm. 871 Hazel St. Livermore, CA

### 125) HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Place your household items here for sale. Call 925 243-8000 or go on-line at www.independentnews.com Also you can pay by Credit Card for Classified and Display Ads.

### 127) LOST/FOUND

LOST or FOUND AN ITEM FREE SECTION Call Barbara 925 243-8000

### 151) ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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### REAL ESTATE

The Federal Fair Housing Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes, including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

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Photo - Doug Jorgensen  
Vineyards in Ruby Hill were cleared of vegetation between the rows.

## Coins for Campers Campaign Underway

Fry's Electronics, Inc. will be partnering with The Taylor Family Foundation (TTF) to launch TTF's "Coins for Campers" campaign to help send these children to a very special camp.

The Taylor Family Foundation offers summer and weekend camps to children with conditions such as brain tumors, skin disease, heart disease, Crohn's & colitis, autism, diabetes, bipolar, celiac, hemophilia, asthma, pre-school burn survivors, and HIV/AIDS at no cost to their families.

"We know that many people have loose coins around the house or office, in cups and drawers, for example," said TTF

President and co-founder Elaine Taylor. "We are thrilled that Fry's Electronics, Inc. will be hosting 'Coins for Campers' in all Fry's Bay Area Stores; which are located in San Jose, Sunnyvale, Campbell, Palo Alto, Fremont, and Concord, and at the Fry's Corporate Headquarters.

By donating to our campaign, their change can make a change in the lives of these children."

For every \$500 raised, another child can attend TTF's Camp Arroyo for a week or weekend at no cost to their family.

Campers enjoy the 40 ft. rock wall and ropes course, a special wheel-chair accessible swim-

ming pool, healthy, organic food and many other experiences unique to summer camp. TTF's Camp Arroyo provides a safe, nurturing environment, filled with positive energy and support. It's a unique place where kids will meet children who are just like them.

During their time at Camp Arroyo, these children have an extraordinary opportunity to experience abundant joy, make new and lasting friendships and the chance to observe and develop a sense of well being and hope.

The kick-off for Coins for Campers is underway.

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<b>2004 LINCOLN TOWN CAR ULTIMATE CERTIFIED PREOWNED</b> \$14,995	<b>2007 DODGE CHARGER SE SEDAN PREVIOUS RENTAL</b> \$16,600
<b>2005 LINCOLN AVIATOR SUV CERTIFIED PREOWNED</b> \$17,895	<b>2008 MERCURY SABLE PREMIER CERTIFIED PREOWNED</b> \$19,895
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# Art, Community, & Education



## One-woman Show Draws the Positive Out of Adversity

By Ron McNicoll

Faith Alpher has arranged it so that an audience at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore will be helping two good causes on May 29.

One expected good result is the show's proceeds, which will benefit the Tri-Valley Haven. Begun in Livermore in 1977 as a domestic violence shelter, the Haven has added many services for women and families in need.

The other cause is personally more exciting for Alpher. It will mark the debut of her one-woman show, which she hopes to take on the road, all across the United States. Her big dream is work on Broadway, although the real goal and reward is telling her story to the audience.

Alpher, who has sung professionally and acted in TV commercials and

(continued on page 2)

# FAITH

(continued from front page)



Just a few of the many faces of Faith Alpher. The cover photo was taken at KKIQ.

plays, feels that it's time at age 41 to take the big leap to making it as a solo act in show business.

The acting experience helps her with portraying more than 30 characters in her show. The characters range from children to a 70-year-old man. These are all people from her life, which she said presented a few struggles for her.

What Alpher learned from life's challenges has made her upbeat. She said that is reflected in her show. "People want something encouraging, hopeful and inspirational, especially in this climate, with the economy. Everyone wants some kind words. It's something I can do," said Alpher.

Alpher is optimistic about her future. She hopes to obtain corporate sponsors to take the show on the road. It won't be charity, but an actual investment in her show, which she believes will pay sponsors dividends from a slice of the admission profits, and some program advertising, too.

It's a different approach to comedy from 20 or 30 years ago, when comedians came up through the comedy clubs and cafes, and finally got recognition on the Tonight show.

## APPEARANCES IN COSBY COMMERCIALS

Alpher, who grew up in Teaneck, N.J., started early in the entertainment business. A friend of her mother suggested that she have

*"People want something encouraging, hopeful and inspirational, especially in this climate, with the economy. Everyone wants some kind words. It's something I can do," said Alpher.*

Faith's picture taken "to see where it gets her." That brought her first commercial appearance, with Bill Cosby, as one of the Jell-O kids. Other commercials followed, as well as appearances in TV dramas and public service announcements.

As an adult, she appeared in plays in various cities where she lived—Virginia Beach, Va., Pittsburgh, and Santa Cruz, where she played in "Othello." Alpher was living in Scotts Valley near Santa Cruz then. She moved to Livermore 10 years ago, with her husband, Daniel. They have three young children.

Daniel is a real estate broker in Danville. However, that won't stop him from traveling with Faith, if she starts on a cross-country tour. Thanks to computers, Daniel was able to complete a Danville house sale while he was out of town on travel, said Faith.

Asked whether she is nervous about the prospect of taking the big leap for a full-time career in

entertainment, Alpher said, "I have nothing to fear, nor is failure an option. I have three phenomenal kids, and an amazing husband. I have people pushing me, saying now is the time. There is something special about turning 40."

The children are bright, doing well in school, and would have tutors, if Alpher were able to take her show on the road.

Alpher launched her local performance career at a comedy club that was running a contest to find "the funniest mom in America." She has performed at Tommy T's in Pleasanton, and the Livermore Chamber of Commerce gala. Alpher has completed substitute stints for other disc jockeys on KKIQ-FM in the valley. She has made appearances at several programs conducted by corporations. It has all built the experience that led up to her one-woman show that will debut at the Bankhead.

As she looks out at the future from the upcoming footlights, Alpher sums it up with a Biblical

quote about being confident, that says, "he which started a good work in you" will complete it. She relies on her first name to tell her that what success truly means is "unconditional love, and always

keeping the faith."

Tickets for the show, which will begin at 8 p.m., may be purchased at the Bankhead box office, or online at [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org), or on the phone at 925-373-6800.

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Ruth Meier's roses captured two top awards at the annual Pleasanton Rose Show. She received the Al Welham Award for best climber and the Perpetual Award for best of show. Complete results will be printed in next week's Independent.

## Concert Chorale Serves Up Musical Comfort Food

By Susan Steinberg

It's a tough time for Americans and people are hunkering down in many ways. Homes and even restaurants are offering more of those good old-fashioned "comfort foods" like meatloaf or mac-and-cheese to ease the stress of hard times and tightened budgets.

Valley Concert Chorale obviously made a wise choice for its spring program this year. Always highly praised for its superb performances of traditional works like the Mozart "Requiem" or rousing "Carmina Burana," the group switched gears to present selections from famous hit musicals.

No previous well-attended performance reached the capacity-plus numbers (nearly 300) squeezed into capacious Trinity Lutheran Church in Pleasanton last Saturday. And no concert in memory evoked the happy, nostalgic, sentimental expressions on the listeners' faces, as one familiar tune followed another on the program.

Classical music connoisseurs happily swayed, nodded, and mouthed the words alongside popular music fans, in the kind of unspoken camaraderie that exists even among strangers around ranger campfires in a national park.

Artistic Director and Conductor John Emory Bush had selected

a historic list of musicals, each represented by a carefully-chosen medley that varied from tender to tragic, romance to heartache, sprightly to sorrowful.

Opening with the infectious bounce of "Comedy Tonight" ("Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum") and closing with the fairytale optimism of "When You Wish Upon A Star" ("Pinocchio"), the music carried the audience through the gamut of human emotions, from first love and loss, aspirations and defeats, community celebrations, and the shared faith in a brighter future.

Selections from all-time favorites "Brigadoon," "Carousel," "Showboat," "The King and I," and "Oklahoma" melded smoothly with more modern hits from "Phantom," "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," "Cats," "Jesus Christ, Superstar," "Evita," and "Les Miz," all beautifully and tastefully sung.

Finally, the audience's palpable urge to join in was satisfied by a welcome sing-along segment at the end of each half of the program. What a relief for those of us (like this reviewer) who had been singing along under our breath to every well-remembered melody.

After appreciating the perfect intonation, crisp entries, unison finales, and clearly-enunciated lyrics by the well-trained chorale, the ragged, multi-pitch outburst from

a crowd of amateurs might have sounded jarring to trained ears, but it provided a great rush of spontaneous warbling by an enthusiastic audience.

For two blessed hours, financial troubles, family problems, political and environmental concerns had been banished and forgotten. And what might have been a hokey "feel-good" finale became a powerful evocation of everything that binds us together, reminding us of the shared history and national cultural memory that goes far beyond singing the anthem at ball games.

For those few moments, we were a united community. What a wonderful gift to all of us. Thank you, Valley Concert Chorale!

NOTE: For those who loved this memorable evening or were unhappy to have missed it, more "Great Choruses Of Broadway" will be presented by The Broadway Chorus over Memorial Day Weekend. Other favorite shows from "Guys and Dolls" to "Peter Pan" will be on the program, with San Francisco soloist John Owens as guest tenor. Broadway Chorus Kids will add an extra appeal for performances scheduled at 8 PM May 22 and 23 and 2 PM May 24 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road in Pleasanton. Tickets are available online at [www.trivalleyrep.org](http://www.trivalleyrep.org) (925) 462-2121 or at the Amador Box Office.

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THE VALLEY TIMES 101.7KKIO Tri-Valley Herald

## Entries Being Accepted in Dad's Day Photo Contest

Amateur photographers can win cash prizes by entering the Alameda County CattleWomen's "He Oughta Beef in Pictures" Father's Day photo contest.

Along with prizes, the winning photo will be published in The Independent.

"Families are an important part of American society. As the guiding member of the family, father deserves some special recognition at least once a year," said Allison Batteate of Alameda County CattleWomen. "We think this contest is a great way to show dad how important he is to our way of life."

Contest entries, which can be black and white or color, are to show why father deserves beef on Father's Day. Photos must be 3" x 5" or larger. An optional 25 words or less description of the photo may also be submitted.

Amateur photographers of all ages are invited to enter the contest. Official entry forms may be obtained at the website, [www.alamedacountycattlewomen.com](http://www.alamedacountycattlewomen.com), or by calling 455-5755.

Entries must be post-marked by Fri., June 12, 2009. All entries will be displayed on the Alameda County CattleWomen website.

## Concert Offers 'Songs of Gratitude'

The Tri-Valley YMCA will present a night of music and community celebration, "Songs of Gratitude," on Sat., May 16.

Artists will perform music inspired by appreciation and thanks at 7 p.m. in the new activity center at St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Pleasanton. Performers include harpist Dominique Piana, solo handbell artist Lisa Arnold, and singer/songwriter Lara Marriott.

There is no admission charge for this family event. For more information, contact Kris Farro at 475-6110.

## Middle School Students Earn Top Music Awards



Pleasanton Middle School students show off trophies.

Pleasanton Middle School and Harvest Park Middle School knew just the right notes to play to earn overall top awards at the Music in the Parks Festival held at Disneyland on April 24-26.

Pleasanton Middle School's Jazz Band won overall top Jazz Band and 1st place in their division. The Pleasanton Middle School 8th grade Symphonic Band also won the overall top award and 1st place in their division. The 7th grade concert band won first place, with the orchestra finishing in 1st place and the chorus in 2nd place in their divisions.

Harvest Park Middle School also won top awards. The jazz band won 3rd place and their orchestra won 3rd place. The chorus won 2nd place.

Music in the Parks Festival is a national competition that featured over 20 middle school and junior high schools competing in several divisions. Pleasanton Middle School Music Director Jason Ravina brought 150 students and chaperones to the competition. Harvest Park Middle School Music Director Paul Perazzo and Choir Director Ana Hartwick brought a team of 153 students and chaperones to the competition as well. Both schools also participated in a day at Disneyland following the competition.

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# Moorefield Leaving Legacy of Excellence

Hundreds of people are expected to converge on Foothill High School in Pleasanton between 3-7 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, to honor Bob Moorefield, the school's one and only band director since it opened in 1972-73. These anticipated visitors are the past and present music students, plus their parents and children, and also those who are friends and colleagues of Moorefield's.

"It really is like a big family," said Moorefield's wife, Anne. "Some of the guests had as many as four classes a day with Bob when they were in high school. They have kept in touch with us. About 20 former band members have married someone he/she met in band, and they bring us their babies to hold."

Band members' parents, the former Foothill Band Boosters, also have kept in touch over the years. In some cases, several children from the same families have been band members. At least 10 second-generation band members have had the benefit of Moorefield's teaching.

Current and alumni band members will assemble on the football field to all join in playing "Stars and Stripes," starting at 5 p.m. on June 6. Some Foothill graduates will be lugging their musical instruments with them from as far away as Boston to be part of the musical tribute to the man wielding the baton. The event is open to the public.

Those planning to attend are asked to go to website <http://event.pingg.com/Moorf> (Please note that there is no "www" in that e-address.) There they can RSVP, see who else is planning to attend, sign up to bring finger food, and donate toward a group gift. Because there is no budget for this event, attendees are asked to bring along appetizers or desserts to share – food requiring no utensils. Those traveling some distance can sign up to bring paper goods. Nametags, decorations, and a guest book already have been donated.

A memory album is being assembled. Those wishing to contribute a page by May 23 will find instructions at the website on how to contact Ellen Holmgren regarding that project. Former band members unable to attend the party can still "be there" via the memory album. Donations to the group gift can be mailed to: Moorefield Retirement



**Bob Moorefield will conduct his final concert for Foothill on May 26.**

Photo - Ellen Holmgren

Gift, 7492 Alder Court, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

For those now living outside the area, a block of rooms has been reserved at a special rate of \$69 per night at Larkspur Landing Hotel, 5535 Johnson Drive. Reservation information is included at the website. Also included are photos and videos of Moorefield's era at Foothill High School.

Guest speakers will include Congressman Jerry McNerny, plus current and former school/district administrators.

Moorefield's final public concert will take place on Tuesday, May 26, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, starting at 7 p.m. That concert will include Foothill's award-winning jazz band, which last month participated for their third consecutive year in the Next Generation Monterey Jazz Festival. For ticket reservations, go to

[www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org) and click on "tickets." Cost is \$12 per person for tickets reserved by May 20; as of May 21, ticket price is \$17.

Moorefield's teaching career began in 1968 at St. Mary's High School in Stockton. A cousin of Bev Sweeney, wife of the first Foothill principal, Neil Sweeney, told him about Moorefield, who was recruited to begin a band program at the brand-new Foothill High.

Foothill opened in the fall of 1972, before the campus construction was completed, with only freshmen students. Of these, Moorefield recruited 17 to form the first band. Today, Foothill's music program has grown to include 400 students in classes that include not only marching band, but also symphonic, jazz, and concert bands, wind ensemble, percussion, and color guard. Over the

years, these student musicians have won 3,500 awards – trophies that gleam in a dazzling display within the band room.

One of Moorefield's lasting legacies is the creation of a band review that annually draws dozens of bands from throughout northern California. The Foothill Band Review is held on the fourth Saturday of each October (since 1975). Besides the parade, there are concert band performances and a field show competition in the evening.

Every other summer since 1978, Moorefield and his wife have taken band members to Europe, where they perform as part of the Ambassadors of Music program in England, France, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. The band performed non-stop from Paris, France, to London, England,

aboard the Euro Star Express during a Chunnel crossing – setting a world record in 1995 for their 5-hour-plus concert. Immediately after that feat, the band marched at the head of a two-mile New Year's Day parade in London, undaunted by the freezing weather.

The Foothill Marching Band also has performed in Canada and Hawaii. They have made a dozen appearances in the Portland (Oregon) Rose Festival. Pleasanton residents have watched them on television as they marched five times in the famous Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade – the most times any northern California band has been invited to participate.

Moorefield has been elected president of the Northern California Band Association. Last December, he was named "Man of the Year" by the Pleasanton Weekly.



"Spring Garden," an acrylic painting by Esther Longerbeam is included in the First Presbyterian Church's Art in the Narthax Exhibit.

## New Exhibit Opens

First Presbyterian Church in Livermore is featuring a new exhibit in their "Art in the Narthax Gallery."

The theme of the new exhibit is "For the Beauty of the Earth." Works in various mediums, created by artists of the congregation, feature landscapes, flowers, gardens and mountains.

Artists exhibiting are Bettie Goosman, Dee Haag, Pat Hoenig, Esther Longerbeam, Nancy Saltsman, Tania Seldon, Charlotte Severin, and Dorothy Timourian.

The exhibit will run May through July. It will be open weekends during church services and other events. The church is located at the corner of 4th and L Streets in Livermore.

## Gloria's Wheels: The Original Vespa Super Model

By Laura Ness

I'll bet there's something you didn't know about Gloria Retzlaff Taylor: she was an early victim of the Vespa craze back in her carefree college days. She and her Berkeley roommates were on a summer trip to Europe when they caught wind of this amazing new scooter, and it captured their highly active imaginations. Gloria recalls they were in Sweden at the time when she concocted a plan. "Say, why don't we go to Italy and look up the Piaggio people and see if we can talk them into giving us a Vespa?" she posited. Soon, Sweden became a Baltic memory as they hightailed it back to Paris in the car they had purchased for their summer fling, selling the car back to the dealership and jumping on a train to head for Pontedera, Italy, Piaggio headquarters.

Says Gloria, "We found the man in charge and told him

about our idea for promoting the Vespa in the United States. They were charming and smiled a lot, not quite sure what to do with this idea. But in the end, what could they say to three really cute young college girls? We made a compelling case! They made arrangements with their dealer in New York City to outfit us with scooters and away we flew." She and her girlfriends arrived in New York, did the deal and rode off across the country on their new steeds. They must have made quite a sight, the three of them streaking across the country on a whirlwind promotional tour. Back at Berkeley, Gloria for one was not about to give up this newfound mode of freedom and self-expression. She rode her beloved Vespa everywhere.

Her mother, though, did not approve of her zipping around on what she viewed as a boy's toy. "Gloria," she said, "How will you ever meet a boy when you're buzzing around on that scooter?"

It won't surprise you to learn that Gloria's answer was quite simply, "Mother, any boy who doesn't like my scooter isn't the kind of guy I would have any interest in anyway!" Shortly thereafter, she met just the right kind of guy: her husband Bob. They both loved Vespas. Sadly they had to sell their scooters when a job change forced a move East. But you'll be happy to know that Bob bought his ever trend-setting bride a new Vespa last year. She's not as crazy about riding it as she once was, which is why, more often than not, it's Bob you will see zipping around Livermore and the back roads of Silicon Valley, on a hunt for interesting rock formations. In addition to being a winemaker, Bob is a geologist and there's no better way to explore the outdoors than on a motorcycle or in this case, a Vespa.

You can also look for the winner of a pair of 2009 Vespa 150's raffled off during the Livermore Wine Auction.

## Meet the Author Event Set

A Meet the Author program will be held starting at 10 a.m. on May 15 at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

Authors Len Harris, Annette Langer, and Lynette Pierce will present readings from their books, followed by discussions with questions and answers.

The public is encouraged to attend. The center has a \$2 fee.

Langer's first full-length book is *Healing Through Humor: Change Your Focus, Change Your Life*. Pierce's first novel, "Crystal of My Heart," not only won the Editor's Choice Award, but also the Reader's Choice Award by IUniverse. Currently she is working on her next novel which will be titled, "Reflection of My Heart." Harris's books include "Artos" and "Russian Roulette."

The address of the Pleasanton Senior Center is 5353 Sunol Blvd.



Nate Sulaver was the winner of the drawing for two new Vespas at the Livermore Valley Wine Auction Experience on May 2 in Concannon Vineyard's barrel room.

## Sold Out Auction Raises Over \$200,000 For Local Groups

Every seat was taken and bids were plentiful at the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation Wine Auction held last Saturday night in Concannon Vineyard's barrel room. The gala was redesigned this year with the economy in mind and successfully raised more than \$200,000 for local children's charities—the same amount raised in 2008.

"The winegrowers lowered the ticket price and offered several wine and food pairing stations instead of the traditional banquet. Then, new things like the cake auction, a ring toss using wine bottles and a drawing for a pair of Vespas were added," said Darcie Kent, Winegrowers Foundation auction chair. "We are thrilled that, despite the economy, people came out to support these wonderful charities that need our help now more than ever."

With 250 people in attendance, there was a four-way tie for highest bid of the evening when \$5000 was paid for each of the following live auction lots:

Cuda Ridge Portuguese Clam Bake in the Vines (one package for ten people) Create Your Own Taste Experience with Tamas Estates (two packages for eight people) Darcie Kent Commissioned Painting

The beneficiaries of the 2009 Livermore Valley Wine Auction are Oakland East Bay Symphony (music education in area schools), ValleyCare Foundation (Mobile Health Unit), Children's Skin Disease Foundation (services for affected kids and their families) and Kaleidoscope After-School Program—Easter Seals Bay Area (giving special needs children access to area amenities).

"The Wine Auction has assisted us over the last 15 years in providing monies for the first phase of the Emergency Room expansion, monies to provide free care to indigent children and to buy beds for the pediatric unit," said Ken Mercer, vice president of the ValleyCare Foundation. "Without the Wine Auction it would be very difficult to continue to provide the top-notch care we provide."

ART & ENTERTAINMENT



The Livermore Art Association (LAA) and Pleasanton Art League (PAL) invite the public to attend their joint monthly meeting May 18, featuring a demonstration in Plein Air painting by Teresa Onoda. An expert in this technique, Teresa will show how to choose the right palettes, depending on the subject and desired effect. She will discuss how light and shadow and weather conditions affect visualization. Teresa will review the differences between the palettes used by painters in Southern and Northern California, as well as traditional palettes used by noted American painters. This is a free event. The public is welcome to attend. Refreshments available. The meeting is on Monday, May 18, 7:30-9:00 pm in the Almond Room of the Almond Avenue School, 1401 Almond Avenue in Livermore. Additional parking is at the rear of the school. For more information visit [www.livermoreartassociation.org](http://www.livermoreartassociation.org). Pictured is one of Teresa's works in oil, titled "Carl's Surprise."

**Retzlaff Winery** will feature local artist Sherri Kelcourse's recent oil paintings. She describes her work as a blending of realism and abstraction where color takes flight. The paintings will be on display through June. 25 So. Livermore Ave. at Blacksmith Square. Open W-F from 4 - 6 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 12 - 4:30 p.m.

**The Wild Vine Gallery** featured artist for May is Judy Chamberlain. She presents her richly symbolic abstract landscapes in oil. The artist's reception will be Thurs., May 14, from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Wild Vine Art Gallery & Wine Lounge, located at 2187 First St., Livermore.

**Sympathy**, new works by Livermore artist Joanna Crawshaw, exhibited May 1-31, at Panama Red Coffee Company, 2115 1st Street, Livermore.

**Fusion Teen Zine deadline extended.** Livermore teens: Send art, poetry, and short story submissions to the Livermore Public Library's *Fusion Teen Zine* by May 20, 2009. The first *Fusion Teen Zine* magazine will be published in July of 2009. To view the Submission Guidelines and download the Release Form, please visit Teen Space on the library's website: [www.livermore.lib.ca.us](http://www.livermore.lib.ca.us). For further information, please contact Sandy Fouts 925-373-5500 ext. 5583.

**Pianos N' Strings**, music teaching studio in Dublin is forming blues and rock 'n roll workshops for adults and teens. Groups will get together for two hours once a week for 8 weeks starting June 15. Bring instruments and practice amp to the sessions; keyboards, drums and a sound system will be provided. The last session will be a live performance. Registration, call Phil at 556-4446 or go to [www.pianosnstrings.com/blues](http://www.pianosnstrings.com/blues) or /rockon.

**Les Miserables**, school edition, musical staged by Livermore High School. Performance May 14, 15, and 16 at 8 p.m. at the high school, 458 Maple St., Livermore. Reserved tickets are \$8 and balcony seats are \$5. Call 925-606-4812 x2446 for more information or to reserve tickets.

**Wood Family Vineyards**, Thurs., May 14, 6 to 9 p.m. Dinners Galore and More! Sip & explore! Prepare family dinners while sipping Wood Family Vineyards wines. Wood Family Vineyards wine will be poured. Call Dinners Galore 925-456-3257 or visit [www.dinnersgalore.com](http://www.dinnersgalore.com) for reservations or information. Make reservation. A second event, Tues., May 21st, 5-8pm. at The Carvery at Harry's Hofbrau located downtown Livermore. Wood Family Vineyards will be sampling wines at the restaurant (no charge).

**That's Entertainment: A Gala Benefiting the Firehouse Arts Center**, May 16, 6:00-10:00 pm, at the Castlewood Country Club with dining, live entertainment, an art sale and live auction. Tickets are \$140 each. Sponsors/volunteers welcome. [www.pleasantonartsfoundation.org](http://www.pleasantonartsfoundation.org).

**Wonderland: A Circus Adaptation of Alice in Wonderland**, May 16 at 2 and 7 p.m.; May 17 at 2 p.m. Created and Performed by the Clown Conservatory of the San Francisco Circus Center. Directed by Jeff Raz of Cirque Du Soleil. Front Row Theater, San Ramon. Tickets, \$14 [www.SanRamonPerformingArts.com](http://www.SanRamonPerformingArts.com) or 925.973.ARTS.

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

**Songs of Gratitude**, presented by the Tri-Valley YMCA, Sat., May 16, 7 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Church, Pleasanton. Free admission. Information Kris Farro, 475-6110.

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

**Livermore Scottish Games**, May 16 and 17, noon to 8 p.m. Robertson Park, Livermore. Bands, dancing, history re-enactments, etc. Presented by Livermore Area Recreation and Park District. [www.livermoregames.com](http://www.livermoregames.com).

**Along the Rhine**, May 16, 8 p.m. Livermore-Amador Symphony concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

**O'Neill's One Act Plays**, Playwrights' Theatre performs, The Sniper, The Movie Man, and Shell Shock, plays dealing with the collateral damage of war. May 17, 3 p.m. at the Old Barn, Tao House, Danville. \$25 on sale at the Eugene O'Neill Foundation in Danville, 820-1818, [taohouse@pacbell.net](mailto:taohouse@pacbell.net) or [www.eugeneoneill.org](http://www.eugeneoneill.org).



**Toying with Science**, Sun., May 17, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Presents Garry Krinsky, who along with the audience delve into the imaginations of scientists who played pivotal roles in the exploration and discovery of concepts that define the world. 925-373-6800, [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**Sycamore Strings Academy** student concert on Sun., May 17, 6:30 p.m. at Centerpointe Presbyterian Church, 3410 Cornerstone Ct., Pleasanton. Classical pieces, folk music from Japan, America and Sweden, and chamber music ensembles. The new cello and bass program will also be introduced. For more information see the website at [www.sycamorestringsacademy.com](http://www.sycamorestringsacademy.com) or call 925-606-5818.

**Hidden Gardens of the Valley**, Sun., May 17, eleven private gardens open in Pleasanton, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fund-raiser for Valley Humane Society. \$35. [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org).

**Amador Valley High School Presents**, choirs, orchestra and jazz - a concert May 18, 7:30 p.m. symphonic band and wind symphony concert at 7 p.m. May 19. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. [www.amadorband.org](http://www.amadorband.org).

**Dance Performance**, Wed., May 20, 7:30 p.m. featuring Las Positas College students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org). 424-1100.

**One Act Plays**, Wed., May 12, 12:30 p.m. and Fri., May 22, 8 p.m. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Free admission. 424-1100.

**Celebration at the Ranch**, honors cancer survivors and their families. May 21 at Little Hills Ranch, 18013 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. Hosted by the Picnic People and sponsored by the East Bay Cancer Collaborative. Lunch provided. Celebration begins at 11 a.m. and lasts until 4 p.m. Includes live music, dancing, games, swimming, bingo, ping-pong, foosball, volleyball, basketball, massages and games for kids. Those wishing to attend should RSVP to May at 934-3319 by Wed., May 27.

**History lecture**, May 21, "Meet the Museums." An event in the Ed Kinney Lecture Series. Presented by representatives from three area museums at 7:00 p.m. at the Museum on Main, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. Cost: \$10 donation, \$5 for museum members. Reservations are recommended. For reservations call 925-462-2766. [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org).

**Broadway Chorus**, Pleasanton Playhouse presents, The Great Choruses of Broadway. May 22 and 23 at 8 p.m. and May 24 at 2 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets at 462-2121 or [www.pleasantonplayhouse.com](http://www.pleasantonplayhouse.com).

**Art in the Vineyard**, May 24, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wentz Vineyards Estate Winery, Livermore. Art displays and demonstrations, wine tasting (fee), food booths and live music. No admission charge.

**Oakland Ballet Company**, directed by Ronn Guidi, will perform the full length ballet, "The Secret Garden," based on the Frances Hodgson Burnett's children's classic. May 23 and 24. At 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. Bankhead Theater, Livermore Performing Arts Center, 2400 First Street, Livermore. Cost: \$24 to \$40. [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

**Foothill Band Concert**, featuring concert and jazz bands, Tues., May 26, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Final concert of director Bob Moorefield. 925-373-6800, [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

**Beethoven's 5th**, Thurs., May 28, 8 p.m. Pacific Chamber Symphony performs Beethoven's most well known work. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets 925-373-6800, [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org).

**One Woman Show**, "Through the Eyes of Faith," a show about everything from generational ties, family secrets and what happens when a little girl mixes her Catholic faith with a black Pentecostal Church. May 29, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets at 925-373-6800, [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

**A Taste of Summer**, BBQ cook-off, food and entertainment. Hacienda Business Park Helping Hands Foundation fund-raiser. May 29, 4 to 8 p.m. outdoors at the Hacienda Business Park at the Shaklee Corporation. [helpinghands@hacienda.org](mailto:helpinghands@hacienda.org).

**Top Chefs Grand Tasting**, May 29, 6 to 10 p.m. San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Dublin Rotary Club fund-raising event features food and wine in an evening of frivolity. \$75. [www.rotarydublin.org](http://www.rotarydublin.org).

**Cantabella Children's Chorus**, Saturday, May 30. Spring concert entitled "Cantemus!" (Let Us Sing!) includes sixteenth century music by Bertaux and Purcell; choral art songs by Schubert, Mendelssohn and Brahms sung in German; an Ecuadorian melody; traditional Native American lyrics; and American folk songs. A commissioned work sung in Korean

will be premiered. Students in K-12 grades will perform, accompanied by pianists and other musicians, at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. First concert at 1:30 p.m. featuring Training and Performing Choirs; second concert at 4:00 p.m. featuring Performing Choirs only. Tickets \$10 at the door. More information at (925) 292-2663 and [www.cantabella.org](http://www.cantabella.org).

**Big Bad Voodoo Daddy**, Sat., May 30, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd. \$39. Tickets at [www.SanRamonPerformingArts.com](http://www.SanRamonPerformingArts.com), 973-ARTS.

**40th anniversary Pleasanton Art League**, hosting its annual art exhibit May 29 through June 1 at the new Alviso Adobe Community Park. The exhibit, which will feature approximately 200 works of art as well as painting demonstrations and an art sale. Open to the public. No admission charge.

**Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf**, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse) Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton. June 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28. Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m. Sun. 2 p.m. Ticket information 462-2121 or [www.trivalleyrep.com](http://www.trivalleyrep.com).

**The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**, "Funnier Thing in Seven Consonants" (The Washington Post). Sponsored by Wells Fargo, Saturday, June 6, - 3 & 8 p.m., Sunday, June 7, - 2 & 7 p.m., Broadway and Tony Award winning new musical. Tickets \$75/\$65/\$45/\$35. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets available at 925-373-6800, [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

Saturday Salon Slated

4th Street Studio Saturday Salon invites writers to read and listeners to listen on Saturday, May 16 at 7:30 p.m. 4th Street Studio is located at 2235 Fourth Street, in Livermore. Everyone has up to 10 minutes to share.

4th Street Studio celebrates literary artists—writers who are dedicated to the art and craft of writing. All literary forms are welcome: fiction, creative non-fiction, memoir, poetry, monologues, whatever.

In addition to hosting literary readings, 4th Street Studio has published four annual anthologies. The most recent, *4th Street Studio's Saturday Salon Literary Harvest*, was published in October, 2008. Submission deadlines for the 2010 Anthology is June 15th, 2009. Contact Karen Hogan at [harvestanthology@pacbell.net](mailto:harvestanthology@pacbell.net) for more details.

Bring a nosh and something to drink to share.

Check out 4th Street Studio blog at [4thstreetstudio.wordpress.com](http://4thstreetstudio.wordpress.com). Contact Karen Hogan at 925 456-3100 if you have questions.

# Livermore's Amber Carey Skates from Valley Roller Hockey to the World Games

By Patricia Koning

Amber Carey just might have her older brother to thank for her spot on the USA Women's National In-line Hockey Team. As a kid, her brother and his friends would only let her play hockey with them if she was the goalie.

Last month Carey, a Granada High School graduate (2007), tried out for the national team on a coach's advice. "I really had no idea what to expect, since I'm much more experienced at ice hockey," she says. "I'm pretty excited. I'm sure once the competition gets closer, I'll start getting nervous."

Amber grew up playing hockey. First it was roller hockey at Valley Roller Hockey, an outdoor rink located behind Junction Avenue Middle School. Then she went onto ice hockey, serving as goalie for the all-girls San Jose Jr. Sharks hockey team and the Tri Valley Blue Devils, where she was the only girl.

She got back into roller, or in-line, hockey a few years ago. At Sonoma State University, she's the only goalie for the school's Division II in-line hockey team, which finished fifth in the state this year. She also goal tends for the East Bay Jawz, a men's semi-pro roller team out of Alameda. Last year she became the first female to play in the North American Roller Hockey Championships (NARHC) Gold Division in San Jose.

"In playing goalie, there is more mental pressure than physical pressure. If you get scored on, you have to stay focused and keep your head in the game," she says. Roller hockey games tend to have higher scores than ice hockey—five or six goals are typical, versus one or two on the ice. For many of the Sonoma games, especially early in the season, Amber says the opposing team was constantly in her team's zone, keeping her on the move.

It's that calm attitude that has helped her succeed, says Beau Grant, owner of Valley Roller Hockey. "She came to us as this cute, bubbly, good-spirited little girl. She always gave her best and had fun, a perfect mentality for a goalie," he recalls. "As a goalie you have to shake it off when the other



Amber Carey's skills in the net have earned her a place on the national team.

team scores on you and not get too excited when you make a save."

Grant says he never imagined Amber would one day be playing roller hockey for a national women's team, because such a level didn't exist for women ten years ago.

"Never in our wildest dreams did we think Amber would take hockey to this level," says her father, John Carey. "I hope this helps show other women and girls that if they put their mind to it, with a lot of dedication and effort, they can do anything. I am most proud the fact that she can compete equally with men, proving that gender does not matter in today's world."

Amber is one of two goalies on the 12-member Women's National

In-line Hockey team. Five of the players are from California, but she is the only one from Northern California. The remaining players are from Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, New York, North Carolina, and Oregon.

The U.S. team will compete in the Federation International de Roller Sports (FIRS) World Inline Hockey Championships in Varese Italy from June 28 to July 4. They'll play against teams from Italy, France, Czech Republic, Canada, Germany, and Japan. Last year, the U.S. team earned a bronze medal in a field of 10 teams. Sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee, the Women's National In-line Hockey team would represent the U.S. should roller



hockey become an Olympic sport.

For more on the national in-line hockey women's team, visit <http://usarollersports.org>. For more on Valley Roller Hockey, visit [www.valleyrollerhockey.net](http://www.valleyrollerhockey.net).

## Amador Shines at Math

Amador Valley High School has some of the best high-school mathematicians in the country, as demonstrated by their 12th-place finish in the 2009 Collaborative Problem-Solving Contest, a national mathematics contest administered by National Assessment & Testing.

While most math competitions encourage rote memorization, familiar problems, and quick mental reflexes, the Collaborative Problem-Solving Contest presents schools with fifteen unique, intricate problems to be solved over the course of a week. Under the guidance of coach Kevin Kiyoi, Amador students worked together using brainstorming, collaboration, research, and technology to solve the problems.

The 2009 Collaborative Problem-Solving Contest included creative problems accessible to students of all abilities, such as one asking teams to find related sets of mathematical words when their letters had been combined and arranged in alphabetical order, then identify what related word was missing. One part gave the list BEGHIORSTTU, which unscrambled to RIGHT and OBTUSE (two kinds of angles), so that the answer to the problem was ACUTE.

Other problems on the test started out simply, but progressed to some very difficult conclusions. One such problem involved determining the number of points of intersection of the diagonals of a regular polygon. The first part (a square) was easy, because there are only two diagonals and they intersect at one point. The last part (a dodecagon with 12 sides) was much more difficult, however, because there are 54 diagonals with up to six meeting at the same point (the answer turned out to be 301).

In addition to their overall 12th-place recognition, Amador Valley High School was commended for having the highest score on problem 2, one of the most difficult.

This problem involved determining what various mnemonic devices might help you remember (e.g. the first letters of "Oh boy, can Bill raise crops for nine jealous kings!") might help to remember the names of the ten most recent American presidents, from Obama to Kennedy, while the lengths of the words in "I want a trip to a fun place: trendy, in, and popular." might help to remember the decimal approximation of the square root of two: 1.414...).

## Children's Film Festival in Danville

The sixth annual Danville International Children's Film Festival will be held Friday-Sunday, May 15-17 shown throughout the weekend at the Village Theatre, 233 Front St.

Nearly 40 films will be screened at the three-day event.

The festival is a co-production of the California Independent Film Festival Association and the Town of Danville.

An opening night reception is scheduled for 6-7 p.m. Friday. It will include a meet-and-greet with Emmy Award-winning actress

Nancy Cartwright. She is best known as the voice of spike-headed underachiever Bart Simpson. She will be presented the 2009 Humanitarian Award. "The Simpsons Movie" from 2007 will be screened. Cost of the evening is \$10.

Cartwright actively supports many nonprofit organizations that help children, including Famous Fone Friends, Make-a-Wish Foundation, The Way to Happiness Foundation and World Literacy Crusade, in addition to her own non-profit organization, Happy

House.

The 2009 Rising Star Award will be presented to 15-year-old actress Raini Rodriguez on May 16. At the age of 15, Raini has gained such great experiences through her passion for acting and singing. Raini had the time of her life filming in Boston playing Kevin James' daughter "Maya Blart" in the huge hit "Paul Blart Mall Cop." Most recently, Raini recorded for Marc Williams of Indasoul Entertainment and filmed the movie "Gordita" playing the

role of "Tatiana."

In addition to movies, a variety of seminars will be offered at the Town Hall in Danville. They include the following:

Acting For Kids! will be offered 11 a.m. to noon. Richard Van Vleet (All My Children & Guiding Light) and director of kids' film Ryan and Sean's Not So Excellent Adventure will present the seminar.

Make an Independent Film that Sells! noon to 1 p.m. Panel includes Wendy Madden (Dead & Breakfast); Leonard Pirkle and Derek Zemrak (Producers, Fallen Angels and Ryan and Sean's Not

So Excellent Adventure)

The Steps of Animation, 1 to 2 p.m. Join Daniel Racusin and Jennifer Koster, the creative masterminds behind Danamation Studios, for a behind the scenes look at the creation of the short film "I'm Bandrilla" and learn the steps that go into the creation of an animated film.

Editing for Kids!, 2 to 3 p.m. Learn the secrets of film editing from Chad Caines, editor of Ryan and Sean's Not So Excellent Adventure.

For a complete list of events, go to [www.caindiefilmfest.org](http://www.caindiefilmfest.org)

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**GREEN TIPS:**

Dave Ferguson of the Mr. Rooter(r) of Tri-Valley franchise offers the following tip on how to conserve water: To find a possible leak, place several drops of dark food coloring into the toilet tank. If dye appears in the bowl, it's a leak. Replace the flapper at the bottom of the tank or adjust or replace the fill valve. Caution: if base of toilet is leaking, dye could stain flooring.




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# Milestones

## Military

Air Force Airman Jacob G. Pickett graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Laura Farnam of Livermore. Pickett is a 2007 graduate of Granada High School, Livermore.

Air Force Airman Elizabeth A. Martinez graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. She is the daughter of Marty and Suzanne Martinez of Pleasanton. The airman is a 2005 graduate of Village High School, Pleasanton.

Bradley Davis of Livermore has received an appointment to attend the U.S. Coast Guard Academy as a member of the class of 2013. His selection was based on "superior academic achievement and leadership potential." Bradley attends Berean Christian High School in Walnut Creek. He is the son of Jim and Wendy Davis of Livermore.

## Education

Recently, Abhiraj Chowdhury, a junior at Foothill High School has won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the district and a Regional Award (CA & NV) with Fleet Reserve Associations (FRA) Americanism Essay Contest. He also won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in VFW Voice of Democracy and 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize in Optimist Essay Contests, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize at Lawrence Livermore Lab's Tri Valley Science Fair with 3<sup>rd</sup> prize for his research work on Obesity in Adolescents. He has also participated in YES Epidemiology National Competition and Davidson Fellows Scholarship Contests for his research work on Adolescent Obesity.

Chowdhury has also represented Foothill JV teams in Football and Tennis for the past two years. He has founded and presided over two school clubs at Foothill – Public Speaking and Cricket Club. Chowdhury was nominated for Prudential Spirit of Community Award at Foothill. He was awarded PPIE grants twice in past two years.

## Honors for DECA Student

Mark Larik, a senior, at Livermore High School, earned second place honors in the DECA/IFA/7-Eleven Entrepreneurship Franchising competition, at DECA's 2009 International Career Development Conference, in Anaheim, CA, April 29- May 2, 2009.

In DECA's Entrepreneurship Franchising Event, sponsored by the International Franchising Association and 7-Eleven, Mark Larik and competitors from around the world, were tested on their skill and proficiency in developing a franchise business. They were measured through the development of an 11-page business prospectus that focused on a franchise business. The students also had to defend their plan to franchise industry professionals, who help DECA identify the skills that were tested and judge DECA's competitive events.

To qualify for competition at DECA's International Career Development Conference, students must be a top winner in their California competition. Mark Larik qualified to compete in the DECA/IFA/7-Eleven Entrepreneurship Franchising Event by placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in his California competition held in Santa Clara, CA, March 6-8, 2009. In addition to his second place award, Mark Larik also received a \$500 cash award from DECA, IFA and 7-Eleven. In addition, Mark also received the prestigious Pedrozzi Foundation Scholarship for \$20,000 (\$5,000 a year for four years)



Mark Larik

as well as \$2,000 for the DeBolt Scholarship foundation, for a grand total of \$22,500!

DECA's renowned Competitive Events Program uses role-play events, comprehensive tests, online simulations and written projects to evaluate the academic and job skills their members develop in their marketing education classes, workplace experiences and through the DECA activities. Both the education and business communities recognize these skill sets as essential for future success.

## Community

## Eagle Scout Honors

Kyle Gene Tripp earned Boy Scouts highest award of Eagle Scout on October 27, 2008. His Eagle Court of Honor ceremony took place on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in the Clubhouse of Las Positas Golf Course. Kyle started as a Cub Scout in Pack 917 and joined Boy Scout Troop 975 in 2001. He is the son of Dale and Sue Tripp of Livermore and the grandson of Don and Elsie Tripp of Castro Valley, and Gene and the late Marleen Harl, formerly of San Lorenzo.

To reach the rank of Eagle, Scouts are required to earn at least 21 merit badges and hold various leadership positions. Kyle earned 30 merit badges. He held several leadership positions in his troop including Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader. Kyle has a total of 76 nights camping with his Troop. Kyle is an active member of the Order of the Arrow, and a Brotherhood member of Achewon Nimat Lodge.

An Eagle candidate must also plan, obtain approval for, manage and complete a leadership service project. For his Eagle Scout project, Kyle led the construction of a cross shaped bench under two memorial trees and renovated the area around it for his church, Holy Cross Lutheran Church 1020 Mocho St. in Livermore. This project not only benefits the church by beautifying the area and adding extra seating, but it also benefits the students from Granada High School. The bench is meant to invite the youth onto the church grounds and give them a place to sit in the shade while they wait for their parents to pick them up.



Kyle Tripp

Outside of scouting, Kyle has been involved in various athletic activities such as Little League and wrestling. Then he found his niche in the water. He swam in summer recreation league for Sunset Cabana Club and played water polo for the Livermore Lazars. Kyle earned his varsity letterman block on both the swim team and the water polo team for Granada High School.

Kyle graduated from Granada High school in 2008 with academic honors. He is now attending Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park. Kyle will continue to give back to scouting by working at Camp Royaneh in Cazadero, CA this summer as a BSA staff member for the entire 2009 Boy Scout summer camp and Webelos adventure camp season.



Current Directors, Steve and Carla McRee, with Founder, Alice Ann Cantelow.

## Shepherd's Gate Celebrates 25 Years

Throughout two and a half decades, many lives have been transformed because of Shepherd's Gate. During that time, Shepherd's Gate has provided over 9,000 battered and homeless women and children with a safe place to live, quality resources, and unconditional love. Facilities are located in Livermore and Brentwood, as well as San Jose, Costa Rica.

To celebrate 25 years of serving women and children in-need, Shepherd's Gate hosted an Open House, on May 2. The community was able to tour the Livermore campus, guided by women currently in the Programs. "It was really neat to hear from some of the women—their stories of where they came from and the changes they have made since coming to Shepherd's Gate, are amazing," said supporter am Anzalone.

Alice Ann Cantelow founded Shepherd's Gate 25 years ago in Livermore. Since its inception, it has grown from serving 16 women and children at a time, to over 120

at a time. Introduced by current Directors, Steve and Carla McRee, Alice Ann recounted the need to expand to the current 3-acre Livermore campus in order to provide a comprehensive, Long-term Program.

"The women and children that we serve have been through so much in their lives. Shepherd's Gate is a place where they can heal, and learn new skills so that they do not return to the homelessness and violence that they fled. We are grateful for the support of the community for 25 years and ask that you continue to think of Shepherd's Gate, during this difficult financial time," said Carla McRee, Shepherd's Gate's Associate Director.

Shepherd's Gate is a Christ-centered non profit organization that receives no government funding and relies on community donations and support. For more information, visit the website [www.shepherdsgate.org](http://www.shepherdsgate.org).



This year's 24 person Pleasanton Delegation arrived home April 29th after 5 wonderful days in the Sister City of Tulcingo, Mexico. The flu scare hit, but everyone took it in stride. Pictured are some of the delegation at a Rotary Hosted luncheon, "Just Clowning Around." The annual May get together (belated Cinco de Mayo) will be held on Sunday, May 17th at the Laguna Oaks Rec Center, 2700 Lylewod Dr. in Pleasanton from 2:00 to 4:00. The community is encouraged to attend. Bring something to share; beverages provided. A \$5.00 donation at the door. Please RSVP to Alice Pryor 462-5786 ([alicepryor@comcast.net](mailto:alicepryor@comcast.net)), or Jorge Victoria 462-6723 ([jvictoria45@comcast.net](mailto:jvictoria45@comcast.net)).

## Spaghetti Feed Benefits Tri-Valley Haven

A family spaghetti feed at the Pleasanton Veterans Memorial Building on Saturday, May 16 offers food and fun for the whole family while raising funds to support Tri-Valley Haven's programs. The doors open at 5 p.m. at 301 Main Street in Pleasanton.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children if reserved in advance by calling Tri-Valley Haven at (925) 449-5845. Adult tickets are \$15 if purchased at the door.

Dinner includes pasta, salad, bread, beverages and dessert. There will be entertainment for all ages, crafts for children and a silent auction.

All proceeds from Pasta for Peace will benefit the Tri-Valley Haven which provides shelter, counseling, a 24-hour crisis line, food pantry, case management and legal assistance to those who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness,

or who are at risk of homelessness. The Haven also offers community education for schools, businesses, clubs and faith communities, and self-defense classes for girls and women.

"We're very excited," said event organizer Cheryl Cohen, a Tri-Valley Haven Board member. "This is a great family night out at a great price, and your attendance helps the Haven in its mission to build a world without violence. What could be better?"



## Program at Pleasanton Library Focuses on Autism

The Autistic Brain: Treatment options from Different Perspectives is the topic of a panel discussion to be held at the Pleasanton Library May 16 starting at 2 p.m.

Laura Shumaker, the author of *A Regular Guy: Growing Up with Autism*, will moderate a panel of four experts in the field of autism treatment.

The panelists include Dr. Kent Grelling, Psychologist from Grelling Psychology Associates, Dr. Deborah Sedberry, Developmental Pediatrician, Dr. Candida Brown, a Pediatric Neurologist from Children's Hospital of Oakland, and Dr. Thaina Abrin, ND, a Naturopathic Doctor and Defeat Autism Now trained doctor.

Shumaker is an award winning writer and author of the memoir, *A*

*Regular Guy: Growing Up With Autism*. A regular contributor to NPR Perspectives, her essays have appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle, the Contra Costa Times, the East Bay Monthly, Hallmark Magazine and in several anthologies, including *Voices of Autism: The Healing Companion: Stories for Courage, Comfort* (LaChance, 2008).

Shumaker lives in Lafayette with her husband Peter and their three sons.

This program was funded in part by a grant from Fit for Life, an initiative of Libraries for the Future and Metropolitan Life.

The program is free and open to all. No registration required. For more info regarding the program call Penny Johnson at 931-3405.

# BULLETIN BOARD

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

**Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club** will hold a **Garage Plant Sale** on Saturday, May 16 from 9 am to 3 pm at 336 Sycamore Road, Pleasanton (off Sunol Blvd.). Many annuals, perennials, vegetables and succulents will be for sale at low, low prices. These plants are tenderly grown by club members. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the club's community projects. For more information on this sale, please call Bev at 925-485-7812.

**Tri-Valley Democrat Club** meets Mon., May 18, 7 p.m. at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Meet Lt. Governor of California John Garamendi, also invited are Assembly Member Joan Buchanan & State Senator Mark DeSaulnier, Adriel Hampton & Anthony Bothwell. There will be a discussion of local, state and national politics. Refreshment served. Wheelchair accessible. Public invited Press welcome. [www.trivalleydems.com](http://www.trivalleydems.com).

**College Admissions 101**, Hear about the top ten college admissions myths. Learn how colleges really evaluate applicants, how to find "best fit" colleges, and how to prepare for the college application process. Presented by Diane Keller, independent college admissions advisor in Pleasanton and a member of HECA, NACAC, and WACAC. She holds a certificate in college admissions and career planning from UC Berkeley Extension. Contact Diane at 925-963-2932 or [drkellercc@yahoo.com](mailto:drkellercc@yahoo.com). This event is free.

**Free yoga** all day at Cosmic Dog Yoga to celebrate the first anniversary, Saturday May 16th. Check the website for details - [www.CosmicDogYoga.com](http://www.CosmicDogYoga.com). Refreshments and raffles.

**Day Trippers**, Capitola/Bargetto Winery, June 4, 2009. 8:30am-4:30pm. Visit Capitola, tour Capitola Historical Museum, browse the many shops, enjoy a no host lunch beachside. Wine tasting at Bargetto Winery. Preregistration required. \$56 Residents, \$60 Nonresidents. Call the Pleasanton Senior Center, 931-5365.

**The Ins & Outs of Today's Real Estate Market**. A casual, no pressure way of finding out about the realities of buying and selling real estate in today's economy. Thurs., May 28, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. Topics include market conditions, loan modifications, short sales, bank owned properties, homebuyer programs, plus question and answer opportunities.

**Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club**, Wed., May 20, 40 miles, ride to nowhere, meet 10 a.m. at the corner of Bluebell and Springtown in Livermore, Bill Goodwin, 487-0521. Thurs., May 21, 26 miles from Shannon Center in Dublin, meet 6 p.m., Jim Duncan, 209-1369. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

**The Livermore Lions Lunch Branch** invites the public to a luncheon meeting Wednesday, May 27th from noon to 1:30 PM at the Zephyr Grill, 1736 First Street in Livermore for a presentation by Ann Dexheimer, Deaf/Hard of Hearing Specialist, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. \$15 for lunch and program - pay at the door. Call Lion Gary Potter at 925-443-4144 for reservation.

**Widowed Men and Women of Northern**

**CA., Happy hour in Castro Valley**, May 22, 4 p.m., RSVP to Margaret by May 20 to 510-782-5852. Party with George in Livermore, May 23, 4:30 p.m., RSVP by May 19 to George at 447-3466. Luncheon in Sunol at Bosco's Bones and Brew, May 27, 1 p.m., RSVP by May 25 to Ginny, 656-5625. Friendly bridge, optional lunch in Pleasanton, May 30, 1 p.m., RSVP by May 27 to Kay, 606-1757. Champagne birthday brunch at Marie Callender's in San Ramon, May 31, 11:45 a.m., RSVP by May 28 to Marsha, 830-8483.

**Grand Finale**, May 16, Castle Rock Restaurant, Texas Hold'em Tournament. Benefit for Livermore High School Safe and Sober Grad Night. Sign in 7 p.m., first hand 7 p.m. Special menu and bar available for purchase. Cash prizes. Buy in \$40, re-buy \$20, add-on \$20. Prepaid reservations receive \$200 in extra chips. Reservations due by May 9 at 5 p.m., walk-ins welcome. Information at [patticoggin@comcast.net](mailto:patticoggin@comcast.net) or 294-9213.

**Kaplan's ACT/SAT Combo**, free. Sat., May 30, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pleasanton Public Library is hosting a free opportunity for students in high school to take the ACT/SAT combination sample test provided by Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions. Kaplan will also go over some great test taking strategies to help students succeed on test day. Students must register on-line at [www.kaptest.com/practice](http://www.kaptest.com/practice) test. Please do not contact the library. Space is limited. Follow up exam results seminar Wednesday, June 3 at 6:30-7:30pm.

**Hearing Loss Association of America**, Tri-Valley Chapter will gather in the Valley Community Church, at 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton California on May 21, 2009 at 7:00 PM. The program will start at 7:30 PM. Meetings are open to the public, are free, and refreshments are served. The meeting will be captioned for the benefit of those with extreme hearing loss. For more information contact Hiram Van Blarigan at 925 455 6591 or Email [hvanblarigan@hotmail.com](mailto:hvanblarigan@hotmail.com).

**On-line auction**, Valley Christian Schools is planning the 4th Annual Children of Faith Auction. This year's theme is "Foundation For Your Future." The auction is on-line May 13-27. [www.valleyauction.org](http://www.valleyauction.org).

**San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club**, luncheon June 18, 11:30 p.m. at the Crow Canyon Country Club. Spencer Christian, the TV personality, will be the guest speaker. Contact Paula at 735-6483.

**Essential Tremor**, East Bay Essential Tremor Support Group meets 10 a.m. to noon the third Saturday of each month in Blackhawk A&B conference rooms at San Ramon Regional Medical Center, 6001 Norris Canyon Rd., San Ramon. Those recently diagnosed with ET or wanting to learn more about the most common movement disorder, welcome to attend. Information, call 487-5706 or email [galexplor@comcast.net](mailto:galexplor@comcast.net).

**Free teen workshop**, ways to keep busy, have fun and stay safe over summer vacation. Pleasanton Community Counseling Center will lead discussion of plans, goals, potential pitfalls, peer pressure and ideas for safety and support. Sat., May 16, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Pleasanton Library. Snacks and a \$10 jamba juice gift card for attendance. Call Jenny to register, 600-9762, ext. 7#.

**Free voice lessons**, Pride of the Pacific, a women's a cappella chorus, offering free voice lessons for four weeks starting May 27, on Wednesdays 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. followed by rehearsal with the chorus. Aahmes Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore. Information, [www.prideofpacificchorus.org](http://www.prideofpacificchorus.org) or 426-

0266.

**Workshop: Coping Well With Financial Stress Here and Now; Being Present is 90% of Adaptively Handling Stress to Achieve Success**. Asbury United Methodist Church is hosting this workshop offered by Will Joel Friedman on Saturday, May 16 from 9:30 to noon. 2 1/2 hour interactive. Suggested donation for the workshop is \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Purchase tickets in advance to ensure there will be enough materials. Tickets are available in the office at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore, phone 925-447-1950 ext. 4.

**Tri-Valley Vegetarian Potluck**, Saturday, May 16th, from 1pm to 4pm. This event will allow Tri-Valley residents to share plant-based foods and listen to a guest speaker talk about the relationship between food, health and the environment. Participation is open to everyone. The San Ramon Library is located at 100 Montgomery St. in San Ramon. For further information, persons can call 925-989-1811 and [www.ThriveHolistic.com](http://www.ThriveHolistic.com). Lisa and Bob Williams are hoping to start a vegetarian club or group in the Tri-Valley. Kickoff event.

**Sons in Retirement (SIRS)**, informal social group of active retired men who meet once a month for lunch. No fees, dues, etc. Variety of activities offered from golf to dinner dance. Further information, go to [sir.org](http://sir.org) or contact Chuck Petty, 447-4704, [cpontrail@comcast.net](mailto:cpontrail@comcast.net).

**Livermore High School 1971-74 Reunion**, Aug. 8. Rod and Gun Club in Livermore, no host bar, buffet dinner. Tickets \$45, couples \$85. Information Mike Lutz, 988-8655, Jeff Hannon, 209-243-2712; Phil Martin, 650-454-6218; Shauna Pope, 456-0576. email [LHS71-74reunion@hotmail.com](mailto:LHS71-74reunion@hotmail.com).

**Hoofprints Fair**, Saturday, May 16 from 11 am to 4 p.m.. Sponsored by Hoofprints on the Heart Adaptive Riding Center at the historic Hagemann Ranch, 455 Olivina Ave. in Livermore. The fair will include food, arts and crafts, children's activities, equine demonstrations and live local music. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, 6 and under free. Tickets can be purchased in advance via Pay Pal at [www.hotharc.com](http://www.hotharc.com). This fund raising event is being held to help us build a much needed covered arena. HOTHARC is a nonprofit serving Bay Area children who are physically and/

or mentally challenged. For more information contact: Pat Murray 925/858-9922.

**Teaching**, Interested in sharing a talent or teaching a class? Livermore Adult Education is looking for teachers for the Fall, need not be credentialed. Call 925-606-4722 for more information.


**Tri-Valley Seniors**: Need a ride to your medical appointment? Seniors who require door-to-door service are now eligible for a ride to their medical appointments. Volunteers use their personal vehicles to drive seniors to and from medical appointments. Seniors must be 60 and over, living in Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton or Sunol, and unable to find a ride (relative, friend, bus, paratransit.) For a ride, or to volunteer, contact Jennifer Cullen at (925) 931-5387 or [ja.cullen@yahoo.com](mailto:ja.cullen@yahoo.com). Funding for the Senior Transportation Program is provided by Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority and Measure B Funds.

**RELIGION**

**Calvary Chapel Livermore**. "Unequivocally teaching for today the whole counsel of God's Word" Sunday Services 10:30 am and 6:00 p.m. 545 N. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - [www.calvarylivermore.org](http://www.calvarylivermore.org).

**Dealing with grief**, support group for those who have lost a loved one. Sessions Thursdays to June 4, 7:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Preregistration is required. Space is limited. A \$15 donation is requested. Meetings open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Call Mary, 846-5377 with questions.

**Aglow International Tri-Valley Lighthouse**, meets 7 to 9:30 p.m. May 15 at International House of Prayer at Parkway Baptist Church 7485 Village Parkway, Dublin. Guest speaker is Chad Taylor. Contact Information: Shannon Granado 925-980-0431, Suzanna Martinez 925-462-5840, Sandra Diaz 408-829-5300, or Kathy Bireley 925-443-3555.



axis  
community health

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

For more information about our services or to arrange a tour, please call 925.201.6201 or email [asousa@axishealth.org](mailto:asousa@axishealth.org).

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[www.axishealth.org](http://www.axishealth.org)

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