



Find Out What's Happening
Check out the second section

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



HUNTER LOVINS

Hunter Lovins Talk Set in Pleasanton

The City of Pleasanton's new Committee on Energy and the Environment kicks off its free lecture series with Dr. L. Hunter Lovins on Tuesday, May 25.

Lovins was named *Time Magazine's* Millennium "Hero of the Planet" for her efforts to promote sustainable development. She will speak at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Boulevard in Pleasanton on May 25 at 7:00 p.m.

Lovins is the co-founder of the Rocky Mountain Institute, a well-known non-profit research and educational foundation focused on the efficient and sustainable use of resources. She is also an author and has promoted sustainable development for more than 30 years with the message that citizens, communities and companies, working together within the market context are a dynamic problem-solving force. Lovins has presented to audiences around the globe including the United States Congress, the

(See SPEAKER, page 12)

LPC Offers Counseling For Veterans

Las Positas College (LPC) has become one of the first colleges in California to offer counseling services for veterans in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Former Marine Nathan Johnson, a readjustment counselor for the VA, is making his services available to student veterans and veterans in the community.

Johnson is working with the veterans program at LPC to try to establish a model for how the VA can interact with colleges to set up local centers for services in the community. He feels it is important to reach out to veterans in college while they are still young.

"LPC is an environment where the majority of student veterans are still young," Johnson said. "We can engage in early intervention before the stress of serving in a combat zone creates major problems in their lives for years."

Johnson provides one-on-one readjustment counseling at the LPC Student Health Center on the first and third Friday of every month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. His services will also be available over the summer. Johnson is also trying to establish a group session for veterans at LPC and

(See VETERANS, page 12)

Medical Cuts Would Impact Valley Provider

By Ron McNicoll

Impacts of the revised budget that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has given the Legislature will affect the Valley's primary medical care provider in the Valley.

AXIS, which contracts with Alameda County, serves 14,000 patients each year, as well as 1000 mental health clients and 2000 people in the Women Infants Children (WIC) program in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin. It is the only direct health care provider for low-income

people.

Sue Compton, CEO of AXIS Community Health, said that the cuts proposed by Schwarzenegger to help offset a \$19.1 billion deficit in the coming year will impact two of its programs. One is the Expanded Access to Primary Care (EAPC). The other is In Home Support Services (IHSS). Schwarzenegger proposes eliminating both programs.

Several years ago, AXIS was receiving \$75,000 annually for EAPC, which paid for doctor

visits for 1000 people. Over the past couple of years in response to the state budget crunch, the funding dropped to \$54,000. This year the funding is \$18,000, and is paying for approximately 250 medical visits.

"We always bill out that contract fully. We could use twice the \$75,000 from earlier years," said Compton.

The IHSS program for in-home caretakers provides 20 to 25 visits per month through AXIS. The caretakers help peo-

ple who can function at home, which keeps them out of nursing homes.

Often the caretaker is a family member who needs the money to stay home all day, instead of losing the money, the caretakers no longer would have health insurance coverage that the program provides.

Compton said that the cuts in both programs for AXIS won't be "devastating, but every bit we lose, hurts. The number of people

we see is up 25 percent from last year. People lose their jobs, and lose insurance. We do all we can do, but we have a waiting list."

AXIS tries to obtain Medi-Cal coverage for people who are coming up short on money, because obtaining it can be a relatively quick solution. However, while most children from low-income families qualify for Medi-Cal, adults typically are not eligible, unless they are pregnant or disabled, said Compton.

(See MEDICAL, page 4)



Traci Peterson (right) talks with Cody about a picture.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Multiple Shunt Surgeries Can't Dampen Cody Peterson's Smile

By Patricia Koning

In August 2007, Traci Peterson called her boss to let her know she'd be a little late to work. Seven months pregnant with her second son, Traci decided to pay her doctor a visit because she hadn't felt the baby move through the night. What she envisioned as a quick heartbeat check turned into an emergency C-section in which both Traci and the baby nearly died.

"My placenta had almost

completely torn away, but was held on by a blood clot," explains Traci. "Cody suffered a significant lack of oxygen for some time."

Cody was blue and lifeless when he was taken out, in a condition the doctors termed "interrupted death." He was given CPR and then taken immediately to the NICU. He was born with seizures, a Grade III intraventricular brain hemorrhage, and a myriad of other premie problems (he was born at 31 weeks).

As a result of his birth injuries, Cody has cerebral palsy and hydrocephalus. Initially, Traci and her husband Kevin were more concerned about the cerebral palsy, but it is the hydrocephalus that has posed greater challenges.

Hydrocephalus, also known as "water on the brain," is a build up of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)—the clear fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord. According to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, (See CODY, page 12)

Proposed Cuts Would Impact those Struggling To Make Ends Meet

Proposals to eliminate the State's main welfare-to-work program, subsidized childcare and other services will have drastic impacts on Alameda County residents struggling to make ends meet amid high unemployment and other economic difficulties. That was the conclusion of Alameda County officials after reviewing Governor Schwarzenegger's revised State Budget plan.

The Governor's budget plan calls for cutting the State's CalWORKS, the state's main welfare-to-work program. The move would mean some 20,000 families in Alameda County would lose assistance including cash benefits, employment services and child care support.

In addition, the Governor has called for cutting the State's In-Home Supportive Services program by roughly a third. The program, which provides care and personal assistance services for

18,000 Alameda County seniors and persons with disabilities, has seen significant cuts in the past few years. Further cuts would result in lower wages for about 18,000 caregivers in Alameda County, while causing several thousand clients to become ineligible to receive services vital to their well-being, according to the county.

"This State budget plan once again asks local communities to endure the greatest pain resulting from the budget problems that continue in Sacramento with no end in sight," said Alameda County Administrator Susan S. Muranishi.

County officials also are concerned about a proposal contained in the Governor's May Budget Revision to shift responsibility for thousands of State prison inmates to local government. They say the plan (See BUDGET, page 4)

Pleasanton OKs Merger Of Transportation Agencies

The Pleasanton City Council approved a joint powers agreement (JPA) that would authorize combining two Alameda County transportation agencies into one.

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) would consolidate the Congestion Management Agency

(CMA) and Alameda County Transportation Improvement Agency (ACTIA).

The proposed 22-member ACTC board will be comprised of the Board of Supervisors, with six votes; two representatives from Oakland with four votes total, one representative each (See MERGER, page 4)

LEA, School District at Odds Over Staff Development Days

By Patricia Koning

Representatives from the Livermore Education Association (LEA), the teachers' union, and the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District met to discuss whether removing three professional development days from the calendar for the 2010/11 school year violated the teachers' contract. The two sides met May 18.

"This will be a wide open conversation about what we can do to resolve the situation as quickly as possible," explained assistant superintendent Mike Martinez. "My hope is that we can settle this dispute before it goes to arbitration."

At issue is the Board's decision to eliminate three professional development days from (See LIVERMORE, page 4)

Pleasanton Schools Hire Leader, Aim for Parcel Tax Talk

By Ron McNicoll

Looking to secure the future, the Pleasanton school board unanimously voted to hire a new superintendent. It also set the wheels in motion to determine whether there would be support for another attempt at a parcel tax.

The hiring of Parvin Ahmadi was completed enthusiastically by the five-member board. She succeeds superintendent John Casey, who will retire June 30.

Several trustees said they

were "excited" about her coming to the district.

Trustee Jamie Hintzke, whose job with the county health department takes her into Fremont schools, worked over a span of two years with Ahmadi, who is an assistant superintendent there. "She was always great, always kept everyone calm, and always has the voice of reason. She would zero in on data that no one else noticed. I was always impressed. I'm thrilled to have (See PLEASANTON, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A worker finishes the colorful cement work around Lizzie Fountain. Work is expected to be completed soon on renovation of the park and fountain at the corner of First St. and South Livermore Ave. in downtown Livermore.

LPC President Accepts Job in Maryland

Las Positas College President DeRionne Pollard has been selected as the new president of Montgomery College, a community college in Maryland.

In a message to the local college community, Pollard stated,

"Las Positas College is a wonderful institution. I have grown both personally and professionally during this experience. Montgomery College, also a phenomenal institution, provides a unique opportunity for me to

align my skills, experiences, and long-term professional aspirations with an organization sharing similar values."

Pollard's last day on campus will be June 30, 2010.

(See LPC, page 2)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Guten Tag! Sven is regal Dachshund who needs a new home. This hearty, handsome German gentleman loves to go for long walks where he can stop and smell, well, everything! He does well with other dogs, cats, and young children too. To meet Sven, come to Valley Humane Society, located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Call 925-426-8656 or visit the web site www.valleyhumane.org for more info. Auf Wiedersehen!

New Tool Developed That Would Detect Bioterrorism Attacks

Law enforcement authorities seeking to detect bioterrorism attacks, doctors diagnosing diseases and regulatory agencies checking product safety may find a new ally in a Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) detection technology.

The advance, known as the Lawrence Livermore Microbial Detection Array (LLMDA), could enable law enforcement, medical professionals and others to detect within 24 hours any virus or bacteria that has been sequenced and included among the array's probes.

Developed between October 2007 and February 2008, the LLMDA detects viruses and bacteria with the use of 388,000 probes that fit in a checkerboard pattern in the middle of a one-inch wide, three-inch long glass slide.

The current operational version of the LLMDA contains probes that can detect more than 2,000 viruses and about 900 bacteria.

"The ability to detect the major bacterial and viral components of any sample can be used in countless different ways," said Tom Slezak, LLNL's associate program leader for Informatics. "This is important because it fills a cost-performance gap that is relevant to many missions: biodefense, public health and product safety."

In the area of biodefense, current systems are centered upon the detection of smaller prioritized sets of high-risk pathogens, rather than testing for a much broader spectrum of organisms.

"The LLMDA allows us to not only identify the biological pathogens on a priority screening list, but also any other already-sequenced bacteria or virus in a sample that you might not have been expecting to find, including possible novel or emerging

pathogens," Slezak said.

Current plans call for the detection array to be evaluated for operational bioforensic use at the Frederick, Md.-based National Biodefense Analysis and Countermeasures Center of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

As the cost of the array is reduced, the LLMDA technology could be used to improve public health diagnostics, Slezak said, adding that dozens of bacteria and viruses can be detected in a single test from the entire spectrum of sequenced organisms.

One advantage of the Livermore array is that it provides researchers with the capability of detecting pathogens over the entire range of known viruses and bacteria. Current multiplex polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques can at most offer detection from among 50 organisms in one test.

While product safety rules require demonstrating that a list of known contaminants is not present, Slezak said the use of modern advances in DNA sequencing and arrays would allow manufacturers to identify the potential presence of contaminating biological material present in quantities large enough to be of potential concern.

"For each bacteria or virus that has been sequenced anywhere in the world, we have several dozen squares on the checkerboard that

will identify sequences from that organism," Slezak explained.

Currently, Slezak's team is testing a next-generation LLMDA that boasts 2.1 million probes. This version contains probes representing about 178,000 viral sequences from some 5,700 viruses, and about 785,000 bacterial sequences from thousands of bacteria.

The latest LLMDA version also encompasses fungi and protozoa - with probes representing about 237,000 fungal sequences from thousands of fungi and about 202,000 protozoa sequences from 75 protozoa.

The Livermore team plans to update probes on the array with new sequences of bacteria, viruses and other microorganisms from GenBank and other public databases about once per year, in addition to using sequences obtained from collaborators for their probes.

LLNL's current collaborators include the University of California, San Francisco; the Blood Systems Research Institute; the University of Texas Medical Branch (Galveston); the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment of Bilthoven, the Netherlands; the Statens Serum Institut of Copenhagen, Denmark; the University of California, Davis; Imigene; the U.S. Food & Drug Administration; and the Marine Mammal Center of Sausalito, Calif.

Court Restricts Use of Pesticides Near Species Habitat

The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) this week won restrictions on the use of toxic pesticides in and adjacent to habitat for 11 endangered and threatened wildlife species in the Bay Area.

A federal court on Monday signed an injunction imposing interim restrictions on the use of 75 pesticides in eight Bay Area counties while the Environmental Protection Agency formally evaluates their potentially harmful effects on Bay Area endangered species over the next five years. The injunction stems from a Center lawsuit in 2007 against the EPA for violating the Endangered Species Act.

In the Valley, Jeff Miller, conservation advocate with the Center, said restrictions would be placed on some areas where tiger salamander and the Alameda whipsnake can be found. That would be in areas adjacent to wetlands or next to vernal pools. He noted that in most cases, there won't be an impact on vineyards.

The endangered species covered by the injunction are the Alameda whipsnake, bay checkerspot butterfly, California clapper rail, California freshwater shrimp, California tiger salamander, delta smelt, salt marsh harvest mouse, San Francisco garter snake, San Joaquin kit

fox, tidewater goby, and valley elderberry longhorn beetle. Similar protections were obtained by the Center in a 2006 settlement prohibiting use of 66 pesticides in and adjacent to California red-legged frog habitats statewide.

The EPA is required under the Endangered Species Act to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over registration and approved uses of pesticides that may harm listed species or their critical habitat. According to CBD, despite an obligation to avoid authorizing pesticide uses that jeopardize endangered species, the agency has consistently failed to evaluate or adequately regulate pesticides harmful to endangered species without citizen lawsuits and court-ordered timelines.

The injunction sets deadlines for the EPA to conduct "effects determinations" and sets aside use authorization for the 75 pesticides in, and adjacent to, endangered species habitats within eight Bay Area counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma) until the determinations and consultation are completed. The consultations should result in cancellation of some pesticide uses and permanent use restrictions for harmful pesticides. The EPA began making effects determinations in October 2008 and must complete them by September 30, 2014.

The injunction also contains

provisions to ensure that information regarding the restrictions is disseminated to pesticide retailers and users. The EPA must develop a bilingual (English and Spanish) brochure describing the settlement, the counties in which the injunction applies, tips for reducing offsite movement of pesticides, and reference to EPA's Web site for information about where buffer zones apply for which pesticides and species.

Reported pesticide use in the Bay Area is about 10 million pounds annually. However, actual pesticide use is estimated to be several times this amount since most home and commercial pesticide use is not reported to the state.

Job Conference in Livermore Targets Those Age 50 and Over

Anyone age 50 and older can learn career tools and options by attending the free 50+ Job Conference organized by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.

The Partners in Your Success 50+ Job Conference will be held from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, June 4, at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. The event includes workshops as well as an exhibit hall. Workshops offered are:

- Overcoming Age Bias: Strategies 50+ for job seekers making their way through the employment search maze.

- Flirting with Retirement: Explore what retirement means to you and create a draft concept depicting your retirement lifestyle.

- Green Careers Roundtable: Green careers for the 50+ job seeker.

- Volunteering for Your Career: Learn how to use volunteer assignments to explore new career options or sharpen existing skills.

- Looking Current and Age Appropriate in the Workplace: Hear tips on how to be well-dressed and maintain a look that is age- and job-appropriate.

- Work and Career Transitions: Using basic career counsel-

ing and interactive discussion, begin thinking about what you want to be when you grow up.

- Government Employment Forum: Receive an explanation of government employment processes, resources and tips.

- Job Search Stress Reduction: Build confidence, present a more vibrant persona and learn practical techniques for a positive outlook throughout your job search.

- Financial Survival Strategies: Create a plan for your career transition. Get advice on

retirement accounts, COBRA and applying for unemployment benefits.

Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. Workshops will be held throughout the day, with the exhibit hall open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sessions are on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to change. Participants may pre-order, by May 28, a \$6 lunch from Sigi's Café at the Community Center. For more information or to RSVP, visit the Special Events Calendar online at www.larpd.dst.ca.us or call

LPC

(continued from page one)

With her departure Las Positas College will launch a search for its fifth president.

Pollard became president of Las Positas College on March 3, 2008. Las Positas College serves over 9,000 students in the Tri-Valley area of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and Sunol and is one of two colleges in the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District.

Chancellor Joel L. Kinnamon and the board of trustees are in the process of developing a transition plan for the college.

"We wish President Pollard well as she embraces this new opportunity," Kinnamon said. "Las Positas College has an established tradition of excellence and I am confident this tradition will continue as we move forward in the selection of the college's fifth president. Las Positas College is a jewel in the Tri-Valley."

Pollard will be the ninth president in Montgomery's 64-year history. Her first day is Aug. 2.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 7-11pm
Vine Cinema & Alehouse
1722 First Street, Downtown Livermore
2 Movie Screenings
Austin Powers, International Man of Mystery
7:30 and 9:30pm
Costume Contest at 9pm
Come dressed as a look-alike from Austin Powers or in your grooviest 60's outfit - Beatles, Sonny & Cher, Hippies, Go-Go Dancers, Jimi Hendrix, Supremes, Adams Family, etc.
Chill Out Lounge
60's music, comfy love seats, themed cocktails, wine, beer and food items available for purchase. Appropriate for ages 16 and up. OH, BEHAVE!
GROOVY, BABY!
This is a fundraiser for LVPAC that benefits the Bankhead Theater and Bothwell Arts Center.
TO BUY TICKETS
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Bankhead Theater Box Office
2400 First Street, Livermore
\$20 - Includes movie, unlimited popcorn and party
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4 Bd 3 Ba, 4,300 sq. ft., 0.50+/- acres. Custom home. Included: full Castlewood CC membership w/ the sale & 1st years mo. dues. \$1,695,000
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All the living area is downstairs and the bedrooms upstairs. The storage cabinets in the garage, kitchen island, fountain and gazebo cover all stay. \$399,000
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FIRST DUBLIN LOCATION! This is a great "turn-key" business for the right investor, owner/operator. Five yr lease w/ five yr option. \$249,000
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11305 BAY LAUREL ST DUBLIN
Bright & open floor plan in beautiful Hansen Hills home. Located in the western foothills of Dublin, this home features 4 bedrooms 3 baths & approx 2,700 sq.ft. \$799,950
Susette Clark-Walker 925.251.2547

3642 REFLECTIONS DR PLEASANTON
3 Bd/ 2.5 Ba. Cathedral ceiling, Kit open to F/R w/ gas fire place. Plantation shutters, SS Appliances, Backyard w/patio, lawn, deck, trees \$579,950
The Wengels 925.251.2510

4263 CORNELL WAY LIVERMORE
Unique custom home; spacious, light & airy w/ 5 bdr in a great neighborhood. New kitchen, new bathrooms, tile fireplace with insert, & a private courtyard. \$429,950
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7810 BLOOMFIELD TER DUBLIN
4 bd/ 3.5 ba. Remodeled w/ high end upgrades. AGA gourmet stove, Sub-Zero Fridge, Stone stairs, Bonus Room, Cherry plank floors. \$975,000
Vickie & Bill Keller 925.583.2182

8044 GOLDENEAGLEWAY PLEASANTON
Designer features throughout w/ extensive use of cherry wood, stone & more. Level park-like backyard, pool, spa, Irig grass area. \$2,998,000
Phyllis Weiner 925.872.1416

2801 GRAY FOX COURT PLEASANTON
4 Bd/ 3.5Ba 1.91 acres of privacy. Resort-like backyard w/ pool, spa, swim up bar, barbecue, palm trees. www.2801GrayFox.com \$2,095,000
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Bluebell Dr Comm Business Opp. \$3,750,000
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Corey Green & Tom Bramell 925.899.6011
Caldeira 6 Beds, 5 Baths \$3,400,000
Custom-built estate surrounded by Petite Sirah vineyard.
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Court location. 1 Bed & full bath downstairs. Close to school.
Michael Bowers 925.583.2196

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Inverness Cmn 3 Beds, 2.5 Baths \$399,999
Updated kitchen w/ nice tile counters & floors. 3 Bd/ 2.5 Ba
Vickie Keller 925.583.2182
914 Essex St 3 Beds, 2 Baths \$379,000
Close to downtown, schools and parks. Pool.
Bill Keller 925.323.3927
Baltusrol Rd 4 Beds, 2.5 Baths \$349,000
Great floor plan with all bedrooms upstairs.
Corey Green 925.899.6011

PLEASANTON
Honey Suckle Ct 5 Beds, 5 Baths \$1,975,000
West side Pleasanton. finest materials & workmanship.
Phyllis Weiner 925.251.2585
Crosby Dr 5 Beds, 4 (2) Baths \$1,898,000
Totally custom home, West Pleasanton, best views!
Phyllis Weiner 925.251.2585
Paragon Cir 5 Beds, 3.5 Baths \$1,588,000
Premium .46 acre lot w/ over \$300k in landscaping. Pool.
Phyllis Weiner 925.251.2585

PLEASANTON
2nd St 4 Beds, 3 Baths \$899,000
Stunning remodel. Walk to downtown. 1,675+/- sq.ft.
Todd Martinez 925.251.2571
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Mostly everything updated or replaced in the last year.
Jared Higgins 925.855.4178
Vineyard Ave Land Only \$399,950
0.75+/- acres of land with views of Mt. Diablo.
Michael Duffy & Kelly Patterson 925.200.2525

DUBLIN
Galway Ct 5 Beds, 5.5 Baths \$1,588,000
New custom contemporary w/ top of the line features.
Phyllis Weiner 925.872.1416
Bay Laurel St 4 Beds, 3.5 Baths \$859,000
Hansen Hill w/ Views! 2,936+/- sq.ft., 8,005+/- sq.ft. lot.
Susette Clark-Walker 925.251.2547
DeMarcus Blvd 2 Beds, 2 Baths \$429,950
Model Perfect, Fully furnished + Appliances!
The Engels 925.251.2510

Information was supplied by reliable sources. J. Rockcliff Realtors believes this information to be correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyer should investigate these issues to their own satisfaction. CA. DRE#01293729

Blackhawk East 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300	Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd. Ste. 200 Danville, CA 94506 925.736.6000	Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000	Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Ste. 100 Lafayette, CA 94549 925.385.2330	Livermore 1983 Second Street Livermore, CA 94551 925.667.2100	Montclair/Piedmont 6116 La Salle Ave., Ste 200 Oakland, CA 94611 510.339.4800	Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100 Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000	Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Road Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500	Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500
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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Sandia Names New Leader

The Sandia Corp. board of directors has selected Paul J. Hommert as president of Sandia Corp. and director of Sandia National Laboratories, effective July 9, 2010. Hommert, currently Sandia's executive vice president and deputy laboratories director for the nuclear weapons program, will succeed Thomas O. Hunter, who has announced his decision to retire.

"I am pleased to announce the selection of Paul Hommert as the next Laboratories director at Sandia," said Marilyn A. Hewson, chairman of the Sandia Corp.'s board of directors and executive vice president of Lockheed Martin Corp.'s Electronic Systems business area. "Paul brings to his new assignment an exceptional record of leadership and achievement, backed by nearly 34 years of diverse nuclear weapons and national security experience. He is uniquely qualified to lead the Labs into the future."

In this role, Hommert manages over 3,000 staff members and is responsible for the oversight of engineering support and design for the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile. Hommert also served as vice president of Sandia's California Laboratory and led Sandia's homeland security and defense strategies.

Hommert's career spans multiple institutions. He worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory from 2003 to 2006, where he led the Applied Physics Division (known within the nuclear weapons community as "X" division). Hommert also worked for three years as the director of research and applied science at the United Kingdom's Atomic Weapons Establishment, which provides and maintains that nation's nuclear deterrent.

Hommert earned a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Purdue University.

Medical Care for Vets

Legislation introduced by Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) to help improve medical care for veterans passed the House Veterans' Affairs Committee last week with bipartisan and unanimous support. H.R. 5145, the Assuring Quality Care for Veterans Act, is supported by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), and Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA).

"Our veterans put their lives on the line for our country," said McNerney. "We must ensure that the Department of Veterans Affairs is adequately prepared to serve these men and women. This legislation will help make sure our veterans get the best possible care from medical professionals by updating their training."

H.R. 5145 will encourage VA medical professionals to participate in continuing education courses in their field of practice by increasing the amount of money the VA will cover for such classes from \$1,000 to \$1,600. This will be the first time the reimbursement rate has increased since 1991.

H.R. 5145 also allows the VA to offer reimbursements for continuing professional education to an expanded list of VA health care employees, such as nurses, psychologists, physical therapists and other medical providers. Currently, only physicians and dentists can be reimbursed by the VA for continuing education courses.

More Money for Service Personnel

Provisions championed by Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) to increase pay for the men and women serving our country in combat zones have passed the House Armed Services Military Personnel Subcommittee with bipartisan support as part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

Hostile Fire Pay (HFP), currently set at \$225 per month, is for service members exposed to hostile fire or explosion of hostile mines. Family Separation Allowance (FSA), currently set at \$250 per month, is a partial reimbursement for

service members involuntarily separated from their dependents and is intended to provide for extra expenses that result from such a separation. Under the proposal currently under consideration, HFP would increase to \$260 per month and FSA would increase to \$285 per month.

During a trip to Afghanistan last year, Congressman McNerney met with soldiers who asked him to work to increase pay for the troops. Many men and women in uniform haven't seen an increase in military specialty pay in years. Upon his return, Congressman McNerney introduced legislation that would increase pay for service members.

Over the past months, Congressman McNerney worked closely with the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee to incorporate a pay increase for troops and their families into the NDAA.

The House Armed Services Committee is next expected to take up consideration of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), including the provisions championed by Congressman McNerney.

Summer School Registration

Pleasanton Unified School District Summer School Office, at 215 Abbie Street, will be accepting late registration forms through June 11 for classes that are still available and have room. Please note that some classes may still be canceled due to low enrollment. Some classes are now closed as they are full. For the latest information and updates on available classes, go to www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/Education/Services/SummerSchool or call the Summer School hotline at 925-463-1104. After June 11, all registration requests will be completed at the summer school site where a child will be attending any classes that may still be available. Specific registration instructions will be posted at that time.

Offshore Drilling Bill

Congressman John Garamendi joined 18 other original cosponsors in introducing his first bill. The West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2010, H.R. 5213, would create a permanent ban on new offshore oil and natural gas drilling from platforms in federal waters near California, Oregon, and Washington.

Bill co-sponsors span a majority of the coastal regions of California, Oregon, and Washington. They include California representatives Howard Berman, Judy Chu, Sam Farr, Bob Filner, Jane Harman, Barbara Lee, Zoe Lofgren, George Miller, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Adam Schiff, Brad Sherman, Pete Stark, Mike Thompson, and Lynn Woolsey, Oregon representatives Peter DeFazio, Kurt Schrader, David Wu, and Washington representatives Brian Baird and Norman Dicks.

"Each of us has a stake in the health of the ocean and a responsibility to protect it. The West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2010 goes a long way toward doing both. From Santa Barbara to Prince William Sound to the Gulf of Mexico, oil spills like BP's Deepwater Horizon rig in the Gulf show that these incidents are not questions of if but when," explained Dennis Takahashi-Kelso, Ocean Conservancy's Executive Vice President, who was Alaska Commissioner of Environmental Conservation at the time of the Exxon Valdez spill. "California's coastal economy alone contributes over \$50 billion to the state. This would be put at stake with each and every oil well drilled off the coast. The time for leadership is now and Rep. Garamendi is showing that leadership."

"The 'drill, baby, drill' crowd has insisted for years that oil drilling from offshore platforms is safe and clean. The millions of Americans who live along the Gulf Coast would now beg to differ," added Garamendi, a member of the House Science and Technology Committee. "If a similar calamity occurred in federal waters in Southern California, we would see an oil slick spanning the coast from Long Beach to Santa Barbara. That is unacceptable."

Bothwell Park Dedication Scheduled

Improvements at Bothwell Park were accepted by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board last week.

The project included demolition, excavation, grading, concrete work, planting of turf, trees and shrubs, installation of irrigation, construction of new picnic and play areas, and construction of two bocce courts with synthetic surfacing. Construction was completed by Goodland Landscape Construction Inc.

A park dedication ceremony is scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 2.

At the request of Director Scott Kamena, the board approved televising last night's budget workshop. Kamena said that with a \$300,000 budget gap, the public would be interested in knowing what would be cut. "People care about how we spend money," he stated.

The cost to televising the session was \$200.

The program will air on Cable Channel TV 29 at various times in the coming week.

The Board also authorized the funding of LARPD's contribution to the Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association 401(h) subaccount for retirees' medical benefits. The amount of \$112,805 is included in the District's 2010-2011 budget.

Building maintenance to repair a hot water leak at the Robert Livermore Community Center was also approved during Wednesday's meeting.

The Community Center, which was built in 2003, has developed a leak seeping through the asphalt on the west side of the facility.

The District has plans to provide a long-lasting correction to this problem. Using in-house staff will offer a cost savings, and \$20,000 will be transferred to fund the repair.

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Axis Receives \$25,000 Gift from Fund

Axis Community Health has received a \$25,000 gift from the Elliott-Risedorph Fund.

"The community need for healthcare for the uninsured and under-insured is huge," says Steve Elliott. "Our hope is that our donation will serve as a call to action to others in the Tri-Valley to contribute and, by doing so, help provide care for those who don't have the resources."

"We have worked with Steve and his wife, Kim Elliott-Risedorph, frequently over the years and they have been extremely supportive of Axis," says Axis

CEO Sue Compton. "In addition to making monetary donations, they have orchestrated many work days at our Railroad Avenue facility. We are filled with gratitude at their very generous gift which will provide for medical visits for low income residents who are unable to pay for care."

Axis Community Health offers medical, mental health, substance abuse counseling and health education services to residents of the Tri-Valley. Founded in 1972 as a licensed nonprofit organization, the agency serves more than 14,000 community members

annually through direct services and school- and community-based education, prevention and treatment programs. Currently, Axis is seeing approximately 300 new patients each month at its medical clinics in Pleasanton and Livermore.

The agency operates three facilities in Pleasanton and two in Livermore and is supported by local, state and federal funding, foundation grants, client revenues and community donations. Detailed information is available at www.axishealth.org.



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EDITORIAL

Superior Court Judge: John Creighton

Voters have three good choices on the June 8 ballot for Superior Court. All have extensive experience in interacting with the court system.

The Independent is recommending John Creighton based on both his experience and his out of court activities.

Creighton gained courtroom experience during his 25 years with the Alameda County District Attorney's office. He prosecuted everything from environmental cases to murder. He has worked with victims, witnesses, judges, and juries. During that time, he developed a desire to divert young people away from criminal activities by providing education and jobs. To make that happen, Creighton has become involved with a program that aims to work with gang members to do just that. As a judge, he believes he can have a bigger impact on efforts to implement such programs.

We urge people to support John Creighton. It will take people like him to improve outcomes, people who realize it is not only important to judge criminals, but to reach them before they begin a life of crime.

BUDGET

(continued from page one)

could jeopardize public safety, create safety concerns in already crowded local jails and hamper County law enforcement services that are already spread thin. The plan would reduce prison costs incurred by the state by shifting the responsibility for about 15,000 nonviolent state inmates to the local level.

Counties would receive \$11,500 per offender to help pay for probation, drug courts, and "alternative" methods of custody, such as home detention, but those subsidies will be insufficient to cover added law enforcement costs associated with the shift of inmates. In addition, the plan would reduce or eliminate Alameda County's ability to house State and federal inmates under contract, resulting in significant financial losses to the County.

Other proposed cuts include: Elimination of subsidies providing AIDS drugs to County Jail inmates. Alameda County would be left to pick up the tab for about \$525,000 in annual expenditures for AIDS drugs for about 250 inmates who currently receive them at Santa Rita Jail.

Cuts to the Healthy Families Program that would require low-income families to pay a 75% increase to maintain health insurance for their children.

Cuts to the state's Medi-Cal program that would limit physician visits and prescription

medication for seniors, as well as restrict their access to hearing aids and other supplies.

A loss to Alameda County of \$21 million due to a plan to redirect Mental Health Realignment funds to fund Food Stamps and Child Welfare Services instead of using the State's General Fund.

A cut in Medi-Cal Administration support that would cost Alameda County an estimated \$2 million.

Cuts to the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants would result in a loss of income to about 1,000 legal immigrants in Alameda County who are elderly or disabled. The loss to Alameda County would be about \$4 million annually.

A potential loss of nearly \$22 million to Alameda County under the Governor's proposal to divert from local governments Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) funds that Alameda County has been receiving under the federal stimulus package enacted in 2009.

Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, stated, "We have seen this train-wreck of a State budget coming for months, and next to nothing has been done in Sacramento to prevent it. These are very difficult times in California for our most vulnerable populations, and the difficulties will continue to get worse until we get some leadership in Sacramento."

MERGER

(continued from page one)

from Fremont and Hayward with two votes each, and one representative each from the other 11 cities in the county, AC Transit and BART. They will have one vote each.

One ACTC vote is allocated for every 100,000 in population.

The council vote was 4 to 1 to approve the JPA with Matt Sullivan dissenting. While supporting the merger, Sullivan said he objected to the governance structure.

His main objection, and one that was also raised by Cindy McGovern and Jerry Thorne, related to how votes are allocated. Sullivan said in the past, the impact of voting by population was that decisions were political and geared towards high population areas.

It is anticipated the new agency would begin operating sometime in September. However, in order to make that happen, the majority of cities, county, and two transit agencies will need to sign off on the JPA.

Art Dao, deputy director of ACTIA, explained that a study was undertaken that led to the decision to merge the two agencies. The study found that there could be as much as \$1 million in savings each year. The savings would come through the elimination of redundancies. Dao also noted that having one agency would streamline the planning and delivery of projects, and

streamline legislative, policy and funding strategies. "There would be one set of priorities. We would speak as a unified voice in legislative advocacy."

McGovern wondered how projects would be selected for funding. She said, based on the vote allocation, some areas of the county may have difficulty obtaining funding for projects.

Dao said that one of the functions of the new agency would be to come up with a long range plan for countywide transportation projects. He said the process would be different. In the past, favorite projects tended to receive funding, he said. This time gaps and problem areas in transportation would be identified. A list of priorities would be established. It would be approved by a simple majority of the board.

Sullivan suggested there should be more votes allocated to cities where the congestion problems are located. As it is set up, a minority could pass something because it has the majority of the votes, he stated.

Dao said that the transportation needs in various parts of the county are different. In the north, transit is the issue. In the east, projects are capital intensive. He pointed out that over the last ten years, \$400 million has been spent on projects in the Valley. One of the projects that was funded was the Isabel/580 interchange.

Livermore Schools Fare Well in Rankings

By Patricia Koning

The Academic Performance Index (API) reports released last week by the California Department of Education (CDE) show that Livermore schools performed well in statewide rankings. Eleven of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's 16 eligible schools were ranked in the top third of schools statewide.

The statewide and similar schools rankings are key components of the new report. Statewide rankings sort schools by type (elementary, middle, high) and then divide the API scores from each school type into 10 deciles, with 10 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. A statewide rank of 10 means that school falls into the top 10% statewide.

While no Livermore school received a statewide rank of 10, four schools—Altamont Creek Elementary, Smith Elementary, Sunset Elementary, and Granada High School—received a statewide rank of 9. The lowest ranking schools in the District were Portola Elementary, with a

statewide rank of 3, and Marilyn Avenue Elementary, with a statewide rank of 5.

"We are thrilled that 14 of our 16 schools either stayed the same or increased their state ranking," says Cindy Alba, executive director of curriculum and special projects. Livermore High School and Croce Elementary School each lost one point.

Similar schools rankings show a school's relative placement in comparison to 100 other schools with similar opportunities and challenges.

Some of the characteristics considered are ethnicity, socioeconomic status, number of English language learners (ELL), teacher credentials, average class size, pupil mobility, and parents' education level.

"The similar schools ranking is helpful because our schools can sometimes learn from the schools they are ranked against," says Alba. "Our principals may contact those schools to discuss best practices and, in some cases, go visit those schools."

She adds that each site needs to look closely at its list of simi-

lar schools to find those schools that are truly similar. "With all the criteria that the state uses to create the group of 100 similar schools, there is some variation on factors that can be important," explains Alba.

While Marilyn and Sunset each received a rank of 10 against similar schools, other Livermore schools did not fare so well. Ten schools received a similar schools ranking of 5 or less and eight were ranked in the bottom 30%: Altamont Creek, Arroyo Seco Elementary, Croce, all four middle schools, and Livermore High School.

Portola, which had the lowest statewide rank in the District of 3, received a similar schools ranking of 8. Jackson Avenue Elementary was ranked a 9 against similar schools.

The Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS) received a ranking of 8 statewide and 2 against similar schools, down from the previous year's rankings of 9 statewide and 5 against similar schools.

While LVCS is a K-8 school, most of the schools in its simi-

lar schools list are elementary schools, including the five schools in Alameda County: Ocean View Elementary (Albany), Proctor Elementary and Vannoy Elementary (Castro Valley), and Kaiser Elementary and Redwood Heights Elementary (Oakland Unified).

Christensen Middle School and East Avenue Middle School fell into the same similar schools group and both were ranked 8. Sunset, Rancho, and Arroyo Seco also fell into the same similar schools group, but these three schools have their differences. Arroyo Seco, which scored a 3 in the similar schools ranking, has twice as many ELL students and more students on free and reduced lunch than the other two schools.

Students in the Livermore School District and at LVCS finished taking state tests this month. Those results, which are used to calculate the API, will be available in August. To see the API report and the list of similar schools for each school, visit <http://cde.ca.gov> and choose "API reports".

High Scores Again for Pleasanton in API

By Ron McNicoll

The Academic Performance Index (API) scores for the Pleasanton Unified School District show that 12 of its schools are in the top decile (10 percent) in performance on the tests that comprise the index.

Alisal and Lydiksen elementary schools are in the ninth decile in the rankings, which were released May 13.

Village High School, the district's continuation school, scored 629, but is assessed on a different judgement scale than comprehensive high schools.

All of the schools scored over 800, which state standards regard as exemplary, said district spokesperson Myla Grasso. The district as a whole scored 901 on the API. The scores are typical of Pleasanton's performance on API in the past several years.

Grasso said that comparing the new baseline scores to the previous year's baseline scores is invalid. The baseline announced May 13 forms the base only for the growth scores that will result from the tests taken this spring. Those API numbers will be announced by the state department of education in August.

The state expects growth in API scores each year, until all schools in the state score 800 or higher.

Districts with schools that score above 800 use the test as an indicator of how they might further improve programs to achieve even better performance from students.

The baseline test scores illustrate that "our kids are doing fantastic. However, we want to do better. When we receive the Spring 2010 results, we'll look

at the data, see how the kids did, and where we can improve," said Grasso.

Even in the baseline scores, there is an indicator that indicates there can be improvement, said Grasso. The "similar schools rank" category shows where a school stands in relation to the 100 schools statewide that are closest to it in a variety of factors.

The similar schools rankings change from year to year as data for those factors change. The factors include such things as student mobility, teacher mobility, average class size, number of students with reduced-price meals, and number of fully credentialed teachers.

In the Pleasanton district, the lowest score in the "similar schools" category was 2 at Lydiksen. The highest score was 8

at both Donlon elementary and Foothill high schools.

Grasso said that the similar schools ranking is valuable because the district can identify similar schools that are performing at higher levels. "We can visit them, see the difference in instruction, and maybe pick up ideas," she said.

Scores for each school and the school's "similar schools" rank follow. Among the elementary schools, Lydiksen (885, 3), Donlon (924, 8), Fairlands (947, 7), Hearst (941, 5), Lydiksen (903, 2), Mohr (961, 6), Valley View (911, 7), Vintage Hills, (922, 3), and Walnut Grove (930, 3).

Middle schools rankings were Hart (899, 5), Harvest Park (921, 7), and Pleasanton (922, 7).

High school rankings were Amador Valley (879, 7), and Foothill (899, 8).

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

her lead the Pleasanton school district," said Hintzke.

Ahmadi brought her husband and three children to the board meeting. Some of her Fremont staff were on hand as well. She said, "I will familiarize myself with the culture of the district, find out what you are proud of, and what you would like to work on."

Ahmadi will start her new job July 1 on a three-year contract. Overall, Ahmadi will be paid less than Casey. School board president Chris Grant told The Independent that the district wanted to economize because of the current revenue difficulties.

Ahmadi will start at \$220,000 annually, compared to Casey's current \$228,000. She will receive a \$600 monthly car allowance, which Grant said will be \$4800 less annually than Casey's allowance.

Casey also has had \$10,000 annually flowing into a tax-sheltered annuity, something that is not in Ahmadi's contract. She will receive about \$4500 less each year than Casey has

received in a payment on a life insurance policy.

FINANCES STILL ON CENTER STAGE

School finances continued to have a strong presence at the board meeting. The board approved final layoff notices for 10 certificated positions held by a total of 16 people. Certificated positions include teachers and counselors.

The board also authorized layoffs of 16 full-time equivalent jobs, held by a total of 45 people. The jobs include custodians, office staff, technology employees and library assistants.

Casey said that some of the library assistants and technology employees might be hired back, depending on how much money is raised in a community effort called CORE (Community Outreach for Education).

As of May 17, there was \$356,000 in the CORE fund, almost 40 percent of the goal. The drive, aimed at families with children in the schools, has a deadline of June 8.

The district has been able to

weather the lack of funding for the coming year from the state because of concessions from its employee unions and administrators.

The last contract containing concessions was made formal at the meeting May 13, with CSEA president Alex Sutton signing off on \$425,000 in concessions from the classified employees.

Sutton urged the board to consider negotiating with CSEA simultaneously with the teachers union next time, so that CSEA members are not kept on hold until the last minute regarding their employment status. Trustee Pat Kernan said, "We have to find a different way to proceed, so that they are not at a disadvantage."

SERIOUS LOOK AT PARCEL TAX

Barbara Kirk, a member of a district subcommittee on revenue enhancement, urged the board to start the process of seeing whether a parcel tax election will be feasible. She suggested establishing a panel with about a dozen people on it representing the district and community.

Board response was supportive. Kernan said, "I'm totally supportive. Without question, we need a parcel tax." He said he went to Sacramento to look at the future revenue prospects. They are so poor that local districts must ensure their own financing of key areas, he commented.

Board president Chris Grant told The Independent that the parcel tax will be an agenda item soon, possibly at the board's next meeting May 25.

The board also recognized the high school valedictorians and salutatorians for this year. They are valedictorian William Chen and salutatorian Krishna Bommakanti at Amador Valley, and valedictorian Prihatha Narasimmaraj and salutatorian Eugene Park at Foothill.

MEDICAL

(continued from page one)

If people are not eligible for Medi-Cal, AXIS must try to find other programs. "There are not as many as there used to be," she said.

If no programs can be located, people can use AXIS services on a sliding scale, based on income and family size. "It works well. However, we do have to ask them to pay for the cost of services. If they lost a job, and can't pay their rent, that is just another burden," she said.

NO NEW IMPACT ON SCHOOL BUDGETS

Schwarzenegger's revised budget has no surprises for school districts, said Pleasanton assistant superintendent Luz Cazares. She noted there are significant cuts in areas outside education: elimination of the state's welfare-to-work program, and cuts to child care for low-income families.

Unless the Legislature and governor take money from schools to help save the health and welfare programs, there won't be any new impacts on schools, she said.

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Farmers Market Mary McMahon Livermore

Hooray Hooray
The 20th of May
Farmers' Market
Opens today.

Money for Schools Paul Ebright Pleasanton

It should be clear by now that Oak Grove developer, Frederick Lin, will not write a check to the school district for \$2,000,000. That money would come from home builders if and when permits were issued. Even the mayor gave an affirmative nod when I made that statement at the May 4th council meeting. Furthermore, the \$1,000,000 in traffic fees that Frederick Lin is trying to imply is a gift is required if the project goes forward. This is the standard cost of doing business – it is not a gift.

In June 2008 the people of Pleasanton passed measure PP by a substantial margin. You will recall that this measure, which is now law, protects the hills and ridges that are the subject of Measure D in the June 8 election.

So people of Pleasanton, let's do what the council majority could have and should have done, rescind the approval of Oak Grove by casting a NO vote on Measure D.

Then if Mr. Lin wishes to build some houses on his property he can proceed under our current law.

Measure D is the last item on the ballot, so be looking for it. Be sure to vote and vote No on D.

Hike for Hope Dolores Bengtson Chair, Hike for Hope Hope Hospice

On behalf of the Hike for Hope 2010 volunteer committee, the Hope Hospice Board of Directors, and staff, I would like to thank all the hikers, their sponsors, the event sponsors, and the volunteers for the incredible work they did to help create the most successful fund-raising event in the history of Hope Hospice. The funds raised from Hike for Hope will benefit grief support programs for adults, teens and children and other programs and services of Hope Hospice.

The day of the event, May 1, was a beautiful day, and many hikers – young and old – experienced the beauty of spring time in our Sunol Regional Wilderness Park. Wildflowers were blossoming, the hills were green, and the oak trees were magnificent. Many of the hikers were hiking in memory or honor of a loved one, and were given wildflower seeds to scatter and also a brochure to identify the various flowers that were in display along the trails.

There were 735 registered hikers and over \$80,000 was raised from generous hikers, their sponsors, and the event sponsors.

The event was coordinated by the Hike for Hope committee members Rich Guarienti, Jacky Poulsen, Becky Dennis, Rosie Yandell, Kathy Molinari, Joanie Fields, David Lunn, Chuck Deckert, Sue Evans, and Jim Kohnen.

Special thanks also to the Sunol Regional Wilderness staff Kelly Barrington and Rob Reid for their valuable support of this large signature event. We are so fortunate to have the wonderful Sunol Park in our back yards!

Join us next year on April 30, 2011 for the 2nd Annual Hike for Hope!

Yes on D George Hefner Retired Director of Facilities Pleasanton Unified School District

It's disappointing that Steve Brozosky would oppose a measure that would benefit the Pleasanton Unified School District he once served. Could it be he's a NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard)? Perhaps opponents of "D" should go to MapQuest and find out exactly where Brozosky Hill Lane is located.

Measure D would benefit Pleasanton schools in many ways. If Measure D passes, \$2 million dollars comes to the school district immediately and after that \$300,000 per year for years and years. Mr. Brozosky apparently has put his self interest in front of good sense. He is failing to recognize that Pleasanton schools, though generally in very good condition, could still benefit from improvements and from modernization and updating projects. These projects would be partially funded by the

State. State funds are available to school districts on either a 50-50 or 60-40 funding split between the district and the state.

If Pleasanton had some facilities money, it could start some very beneficial projects almost immediately. PUSD has already had several projects approved and funded by the state allocation board. One such project would purchase engineering teaching equipment for a career technical education class at Amador Valley High School. Two other projects that are already funded by the state that could be started immediately are the other career technical education projects. These projects would provide training facilities at each high school for athletes and students who want to study and benefit from physical therapy training.

Another project, supported by Mr. Brozosky when he served the district, would renovate a badly deteriorated playing field at Foothill High School. This project, though fully designed, sits on the shelf for lack of district funds.

Besides the benefits to the district, the Oak Grove development would provide 496 acres of open space that will be available to everyone. It is misleading for some to say the proposed development would damage the visible ridgeline of the Pleasanton hillsides. This is simply not true. Let's not forget we are talking about only 51 homes scattered on hundreds of acres of hillsides that will soon be virtually hidden from view with trees and other enhancements. The park created will be for all the citizens of California to enjoy, not just a few trespassers who ignore the private property signs.

There Will Be Dust: No on D Patricia Bacon Pleasanton

The mysterious Lin family, from parts unknown, who never appear at public forums, were able to purchase, through their agents, large amounts of land in the Tri-Valley in the 1970s and are once again attempting to push through another eye-clogging development.

This involves bulldozers scraping off pristine ridges, dumping the dirt in nearby ravines, uprooting "other oak groves" in the process, and last, but not least destroying ages old wildlife habitat. Then the cement trucks come and 51 homes very large homes arise out of the dust and, there will be dust. But wait, each home will need a pool, a cabana, a 3-car garage, the gatekeeper's humble cottage, perhaps a landing strip for a private copter, and of course, the obligatory small dungeon for those who don't appreciate ostentatious displays of wealth.

Have the advocates of this disaster given any thought to how much power is needed to heat and cool these places and the amount of water they will require?

Here's a great idea for the Lin family. Donate all the land to the City of Pleasanton as a "preserve" and get a tax write-off. Then you will be a hero. Pleasanton will have a parade in your honor and all the townsfolk can finally get to meet you. The Oak Grove development plan is a bad idea. However, voting No on Measure D is a very good idea.

What If "D" Passes? Howard Neely Pleasanton

In simple terms: The Lins could sue the City of Pleasanton for breach of Property Rights. That could cost Pleasantonites millions, since it would be difficult suing those citizens who voted "No." The whole issue could end up in the State Supreme Court.

Or: The Lins could just forge a head and build those previously authorized 98 homes (15% would have to be affordable), which may or may not have square foot restrictions. Said homes could be built on the lower areas above Kottinger Ranch. Rainwater off 98 large homes could cause an overflow in catch ponds at Kottinger Rand, thus causing flooding of Kottinger Creek.

Or: The Lins could simply divide up their property in to 5, 10 or 20 acre parcels and sell

them off. Restrictions would then be on individual property owners, who would no doubt want a gated area and probably not be restricted on home size.

Or: If "D" doesn't pass, Pleasantonites lose out by:

A. No trail area on our East Side Hills.

B. No real control on home sizes or size of lots/acreage.

C. Potential lawsuit.

D. A more dense Kottinger Ranch concept.

Please think about it, then drive/walk the area. Vote yes.

Support Torlakson Clarence and Pat Hoenig Livermore

Please consider Tom Torlakson for California State Superintendent of Public Instruction when you vote on Tuesday, June 8, 2010. For many years, we have known, Tom to be a dedicated former teacher and experienced legislator. His Goals and Priorities for California Schools will rebuild and restore excellence to the classroom experience for our children and grandchildren.

First and foremost, ensure ample and secure state funding to schools. Ensure safety, healthy food and quality physical education in all schools. Promote innovation to achieve a competitive 21st century environment. Support teachers and empower parents to take more responsibility. Finally, restore the promise of California's world renown higher education system.

Again we ask for your vote for Tom Torlakson on June 8, 2010

No on Measure D Karla Brown Co-Chair for No on D

Beware! Multi-million dollar homes on the Oak Grove ridges will not be paying their full share of expenses. Here's why:

School Fees: By law, future homeowners must pay mandatory school impact fees, but they fall short. Operating school fees come from the state on a "per student basis," called ADA. Schools get the same ADA for all students, and it is not enough. We ask kids to sell wrapping paper, cookie dough, magazines, etc. for more money, but it is not enough. More students mean even MORE shortfalls for the schools. Vote NO on D.

City expenses: We'll pay for more firemen to keep their homes safe due to the high fire danger region. Plus we need more police, librarians, planners and road repairs. We will need more coaches, fields and pools for kids to play football, baseball, swimming and soccer. The income from their taxes will not begin to cover the total City costs. Vote No on D.

Carbon Footprint: We teach our children to conserve resources, save water, gas & electricity, or just walk. This development is a GIANT black carbon footprint on our Earth. Resources to build and maintain huge mansions are a staggering. Vote NO on D.

This development was approved before Pleasanton's ridgeline protection in 2008. Delays were due to legal bullying by the land owner. We fought and won, so now YOU have the opportunity to vote NO on Measure D/Oak Grove.

Vote No Again! John Carroll Pleasanton

Why did Mayor Hosterman, Jerry Thorne, and Cheryl Cook-Kallio fail to follow the obvious will of the people of Pleasanton?

The City Council's approval of Oak Grove in November of 2007 instigated both a referendum of their Oak Grove approval, and a citizens' initiative to protect the Pleasanton hillsides. The people of Pleasanton voted to approve hillside protection ordinances with the passage of Measures PP & QQ in November of 2008. While it is true we did not vote specifically on Oak Grove, we did vote for Measure PP, which prohibits this type of development on ridges.

Pleasanton voters passed PP, and thus clearly stated by virtual proxy that the Oak Grove development was NOT the type of development we want in Pleasanton. Somehow, the City

Council majority determined that voters need to vote NO again in order to be heard.

I don't see how the City Council majority could have failed to simply rescind their approval of Oak Grove. But no, the City Council majority decided to give the Taiwanese land speculator one more chance to push through the Oak Grove development.

If you are irritated by having to vote AGAIN on an issue that should have been resolved with the passage of PP, or because putting measure D on the June ballot has cost Pleasanton \$95,000; you don't have to look far for the people to blame! The Council majority caused this mess!

Don't be fooled by misleading promises, please vote NO on Measure D!

Measure D – Take a Tour Alyssa Williamson Pleasanton

Up until this weekend, the only information I heard about Measure D was from the opposing side. This is unfortunate as there are quite a few positives to Measure D and the pros and cons of this plan need to be considered in the basis of reality.

First off, this land is going to be developed eventually, voting 'No' now will only delay the inevitable. This is the third proposal by the developers and quite generous in several respects:

a. The plan guarantees that 496 acres of park land will be created AND permanently blocks any future development on the land to the southeast

b. \$2 million will be paid to the school district in one time fees

c. \$1 million will be provided to local residents so that they can create and implement plans to deal with all the increased traffic they are complaining about

d. Various other amounts will be paid yearly, to our local schools and city

e. Only 51 homes sites are being considered, rather than the 98 sites originally approved.

I love the local ridgeline and open spaces of Pleasanton just as much as any of the opponents to Measure D, however, I am modifying my love of nature with the reality of this situation. Progress is a fact of life and is required for growth and improvement. There is no way to stop progress – what we must do is control and guide it to best suit our needs. This plan protects our ridgeline from future growth and creates parkland for all residents to enjoy!

This weekend I took a tour of the land (organized by Becky Dennis) and learned about development plans first hand from Marty Inderbitzen. I recommend that everyone take a chance to walk the land and learn how the development plans work with the local environment to decrease ridgeline impact and also provide the city of Pleasanton with brand new parkland and trails for future generations to use.

Become fully informed about both sides of the argument before you make a decision.

Lilies: Death Sentence for Cats David Lewis Livermore

I didn't want to get a cat—after all, I was a dog man and had no interest in having another creature to feed, clean up after and occupy my time.

It didn't take long for me to fall in love with LG

The black kitten with melt-your-heart eyes would crawl under our covers, lick our faces and sleep on top of our heads. The hours of lost sleep would leave us drowsy in the morning but my family could see right through my feigned irritation.

My restless nights now come from a broken heart.

On Mothers' Day, LG nibbled on a bouquet containing lilies, at the time not known to our family as a death sentence for cats. We never saw him eat the flowers—only the results with a

loss of appetite, loss of energy and vomiting.

By the time we took him to the vet, it was too late. Blood tests revealed extremely high kidney levels and we rushed him to a 24-hour facility in Dublin where his kidneys could hopefully be cleansed of the poisons. We were told the chances were slim but it was the only chance we had to save him.

The next morning about eight, the phone rang with the grim news—LG's kidneys had shut down and there was no hope. I rushed to the hospital so he could be put to sleep. Dr. Clooten asked if I wanted to be in the room at the end and trembled when I told her "yes". LG and I played for about 45 minutes in a waiting room and I told him with watery eyes how sorry I was. He was in my arms when the final injection was administered into his catheter, leaving me inconsolable when the doctor solemnly said, "Mr. Lewis, he's gone."

Non-pet owners could never relate to someone weeping for animal. After all, "it's just a cat". But they are family members, who are often around us more than the people in our lives. Pets love us unconditionally and unlike my children, appreciate when I feed them.

By now, everyone knows the human dangers of alcohol and drugs—either dismissing or embracing the information with their own choices. Lily toxicity for cats is not commonly known and the more that's disseminated could result in lives being saved

I miss LG and will not let his death be in vain. Message to pet owners: educate yourselves for your companion's well-being and your own conscience. Just placing a leaf of a lily in a cat's mouth is enough to cause the poison to be ingested, leaving you only a few hours to seek emergency treatment.

Florists probably will not place warning signs in their stores—essentially driving away business. That leaves it up to us as animal owners to be armed with information and spread the word. Protect your pets by keeping away the assassins in a vase.

I hope somewhere LG is proud of me.

Vote No on D Tiffany Tarver Nakken Pleasanton

The developer/land speculator of the proposed Oak Grove development on our southwest ridge lands has sued the city, sued the petitioners that have given you the opportunity to vote on this project, made large donations to city council candidates and continues to make false and misleading statements now leading up to the election on June 8.

This developer/land speculator from Taiwan has large land holdings throughout the Tri-Valley and their only interest here is to make as much money as

possible. They do not care how the development that they have proposed would affect Pleasanton. Please vote No on D and protect the beautiful hillsides that make Pleasanton so unique.

Gun Laws Ted Lick Livermore

My deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Duncan Anderson and to every victim of a senseless criminal act. With the early release of thousands of prisoners and cuts to local police departments due to the State's fiscal crisis, the right to self defense is more important than ever. California's gun laws are already some of the most restrictive in the nation. I take exception to Mr. Tenbrink's statement that AB1934 revokes "archaic" law. It revokes no law, only my Constitutional right to defend myself and those around me, by the creation of a new law. In addition, it would prevent armed citizens from making arrests. At the time of the Anderson tragedy we already had laws against carrying a loaded weapon in public, use of a firearm in the commission of a crime and regulation of possession by a criminal.

None of these laws were effective in preventing that crime. Arguing that having a law preventing carrying of an unloaded weapon would have prevented that crime makes no sense. To the contrary Mr. Tenbrink, if Mr. Anderson or a citizen nearby had been armed, this tragedy might have been prevented, if by deterrent alone. To those people living in fear of the SIGHT of an openly carried weapon, I might remind you that we have all had to pass a background check and a safety certification, and register our gun with the DOJ.

Here are some more facts: There have been no acts of violence in California committed as a result of open carry, violent crime is lower in those States that permit their citizens to carry, and the Supreme Court has recently ruled "police do not have a constitutional duty to protect a person from harm." I am able to write this letter because in August, 2007 while at a gas station late at night, an attempted carjacker tried to rob me at gunpoint. It was my openly carried pistol that made him think twice. This is supposed to be "The land of the free, and the home of the brave." If AB 1934 passes, we are neither free (to defend) nor brave (scared by the sight of an unloaded weapon).

If anyone has been offended by my words, including Mr. Tenbrink, I apologize. Perhaps we could pass a law to do away with our "archaic" 1st amendment. Restore Californian's hope in a safe and fear-free future. Call/write/email your California State Representatives and respectfully urge them to vote no to AB1934.

Livermore Sanitation

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The Livermore City Council voted last summer to contract with Livermore Sanitation for the collection of garbage, recyclables, and organic materials starting July 1, 2010. While Livermore Sanitation is a new name, it belongs to a company owned and operated by people that are not new to the garbage and recycling industry. In fact, Livermore Sanitation has generations of experience! Our affiliates have been serving Bay Area communities for decades.

During the next several weeks, you will receive information about the exciting changes being made to your curbside service collection. We look forward to providing you with service beyond your expectations!

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SPORTS NOTES



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Foothill High School boys varsity lacrosse team captured the EBAL regular season title with a 10 to 4 win over Amador Valley (photo at right). Both teams advanced to the NCS playoffs. Amador played Clayton Valley on May 19. Foothill took on Marin Academy, also on May 19. The Falcon girls varsity lost to the Dons 11 to 10. Teresa Li scored a game high 4 goals for the Falcons. In NCS action, the Falcons played Berkeley on Wednesday, while Amador took on Las Lomas.



New Indoor Softball League

Parents have created an indoor summer softball league for Tri-Valley youth. They decided to do so because over the summer there are no softball or baseball programs for kids unless they are playing competitive travel ball. Darwin Stephenson, league manager, said he Cabernet Indoor Sports and asked if they would help to launch a grass-roots, parent-run softball league. They agreed and a week later the Tri-Valley Fusion Indoor Softball League was formed. The rules for indoor softball are different. The game is played indoors on a regulation baseball diamond with the entire field enclosed in spring-loaded nets. There are seven to nine players. The outfield is reduced and players can make outs by catching balls off the walls and ceiling. An inning is closed out with 16 pitches instead of 3-outs. The defense scores a point for every out. Stephenson described the game, "It's a fun, fast paced game that will be really exciting for the kids to play and for the entire family to watch." The game is open to boys and girls age 9 to 12. There are high comp and regular competition brackets. Tryouts are on Saturday, May 22 at 10 a.m. The fee is \$100 plus Cabernet membership. For information go to www.fusionsoftball.com or send an email to leaguemanager@fusionsoftball.com.

Amador Swimming

The Amador Valley High School varsity boys swimming and diving team took six of the 12 first place finishes and narrowly missed a seventh at the EBAL Championship meet. The top finishes allowed the Dons to finish fourth overall at the meet. Kyle Surber led the way for Amador with a pair of firsts, taking the top spot in the 50 and 100 free events. Bryan Hughes very nearly matched Surber taking first in the 500 free and finishing only .01 seconds behind in the 200 free. Andrew Seitz also came close to a pair of firsts. He won the IM, and then finished only .52 seconds in second place in the fly. The final first place finish for Amador was by Tyler Pullen who handily won the diving competition. The Dons, who took five of nine individual firsts, capped the meet with by taking the 400 free relay. Seitz, Krish Rajagopalan, Hughes, and Surber did the honors in the event. The 500 free was a good event for Amador. Nick Johnston finished sixth, behind Hughes, and Tim McLaughlin took eighth. Eight was McLaughlin's number for the day as he also took eighth in the IM. Johnston took a second top eight finish by taking fourth in the backstroke. Amador's 200 free relay team, composed of Rajagopalan, Jack Payan, Seitz, and Surber, also turned in a good performance, taking third. The Amador Valley Varsity girls swim team avenged its early season loss to Cal High and posted a fourth place finish at the EBAL championship meet. The Dons were led by Catherine Breed who placed first in the 100 free and second in the 200 free. Tory Houston was also a strong contributor taking second in the breaststroke and six in the IM. Finishing two spots ahead of Houston in the IM was Natalie Wong. The Amador diving team contributed 41 points to the Dons total. In a very closely scored event, Haley Brott finished fifth, only .45 points out of fourth and Emma Rigl was less than four points out of fourth, but finished in seventh. Marina Mihov also finished in the top 10 with a ninth place finish. Elaina Gates had a great individual meet for the Amador Valley Swim JV girls swim team at the EBAL Championship meet, finishing second in the 50 free and fourth in the breaststroke. Overall the team finished sixth. Finishing just ahead of Gates in the breaststroke was Erica Efigenio. Kayla Miller also had a good meet, finishing sixth in the 200 free and ninth in the 500 free. Despite losing several of its best swimmers to the varsity, the Amador Valley JV boys swim team still posted a stellar performance, finishing third in the EBAL League meet. Joey Silva and Chris Iniguez led the way in the individual events both collecting a third and a sixth. Silva also anchored the 200 and 400 free relay teams which placed third. Silva and Iniguez had the free events covered as Silva took third in the 50 and sixth in the 100 while Iniguez grabbed third in the 500 and sixth in the 200. Joining Silva on the successful relay teams were Matt Sun, Alec Grotegut, and Steven Cox in the 200, and Mike Pasquale, Cameron Kurotori, and Chris Mowry in the 400. Mowry also had a good individual day with two top 10 finishes, taking fourth in the IM and ninth in the 500. The Dons placed three in the top six in the IM with Pasquale and Andrew Song finishing fifth and sixth behind Mowry. Also finishing third was Kurotori who in the fly. Sun was only two spots back in the event, good for fifth. The medley relay started the meet off well for the Dons, finishing third, with Pasquale, Song, Kurotori and Sun doing the honors. Other top eight finishers in the league meet were a pair of sevenths, Song in the breaststroke and Michael Chew in the backstroke. The Amador Valley High School swimming and diving team got up early, stayed on top, and finished with a flourish, trouncing cross-town rival Foothill 130-74. The Dons finished first in 10 of the 12 events with Bryan Hughes, 200 free and fly, and Andrew Seitz, 500 free and breaststroke, each getting a pair of individual firsts. Kyle

Surber nearly matched that accomplishment getting a first in the 50 free and a second in the 100 free. Nick Johnston, backstroke, and Tyler Pullen, diving, also grabbed individual first place finishes for Amador. All three of the Dons' relays also finished first with Johnston, Seitz, and Hughes taking the medley relay, the 200 free featured Seitz, Hughes, Surber, and Krish Rajagopalan, and the 400 relay capped the meet with Rajagopalan, Johnston, Tim McLaughlin, and Jason Chen finishing first. Rajagopalan didn't manage to finish first, but did take a pair of seconds in the 200 free and the fly. After a lead change in the previous four events, it came down to the 400 Free relay. Amador Valley holding an 89-83 lead over cross-town rival Foothill. The Dons needed to get at least a second place finish to finish no worse than a tie, but they fell short by less than two seconds and fell to the Falcons 95-91. Amador started off the swim meet with 10 point lead gained via a 1-2-3 finish by their divers, Gabby Schultz, Anna Wishnowsky, and Julia Rosenberg. They were able to hold the lead through the early going before falling behind after the 500 free. Early scorers for the Dons were Nicole Martin who finished second in the 200 free, Lissi Knell and Lindsey DeWilde who garnered a first and a third in the IM by, Elaina Gates, a second place finish by in the 50 free, and another

first place finish by Knell. Despite Kristine Walder's third in the 100 free, the Falcons closed to two points, 56-54. The Falcons then took their first lead of the meet gaining six points in the 500 free although Laura Taylor came in third for the Dons. However, the Dons answered with a six point gain of their own in the 200 free relay with DeWilde, Knell, Gates and Sophie Lair getting to the wall first. The Dons were back ahead 71-69. Foothill owned the backstroke, gaining six points with Nicole Martin the highest Amador finisher in third place. Once again, Amador answered by sweeping the breaststroke behind Elaina Gates, Erica Efigenio and Nicole Guzolek. The six point lead would not be enough, however, as the Falcons answered with a 1-2 finish in the 400 free relay to take the meet. After falling behind by one point to Foothill in the last-to-last event, the Amador Valley swimming and diving team needed to get a victory in the 400 free relay to win the meet. Catherine Breed, swimming anchor for the Dons, went into the water with a deficit to make up and as she turned for the final 25, it was clear that it was going down to the wire. At the wall, Breed out touched Nikki Doi by .23 seconds for an Amador 93.5 to 92.5 victory. Emma Rigl, Haley Brott and Marina Mihov, Amador's "diving divas," gave the Dons a 10 point lead entering the swim portion of

the meet by sweeping the Falcons. The Dons expanded on that lead in the early going gaining eight points in the 200 free, behind a 1-2 finish by Breed and Kirsten Brand, and two more in the IM with a 2-3-4 finish by Tory Houston, Natalie Wong and Chelsea Finn. After four swimming events and the diving event, the Dons led by eighteen, 40-22. Despite Emma McGuness' second place finish in the 50 free Foothill narrowed the score to 45-33 and gained a pair of points in the fly, Natalie Wong's first place finish notwithstanding. Brand won the 100 free and the Dons gained a point back to lead 60.5 to 49.5. A seemingly insignificant tie between the Dons Danielle Sticker and Cassie Stuart for fifth place in this event would end up being the margin of difference in the meet. With Breed winning the 500 free, but Foothill still gaining two points, and the Falcons gaining six points in the 200 free relay the Dons continued to lead, 73.5-66.5, with three events remaining. Stickler and Elle Surber went 2-3 in the backstroke, but the Falcons closed two more points, 80.5-75.5. Then, in the breaststroke, the Falcons finally closed the gap gaining six points and taking an 86.5 to 85.5 lead. Finn grabbed second for Amador who only had two swimmers swim the event. The one point margin meant whoever won the 400 free relay would win the meet and Breed, Wong, Houston, and Brand

made sure that the Dons would go home with the victory.

Granada Lacrosse

The Granada High School varsity boys Lacrosse team finished off the season by hosting the Livermore Cowboys. Both Livermore teams kept it close all throughout the game. The Cowboys came out on top winning 10 to 7. Granada stood strong with 6 goals to the Cowboys 5 in the first half making for an exciting game. The Cowboys came out on top the second half scoring 4 in the first quarter and one the final quarter to Granada's one goal. Both teams took turns dominating the scoreboard, working both their defense and offensive teams for the duration of the game. Final Score Livermore 10, Granada 7. Top scorers for Granada were Jared McAllister with 3 goals, Brian Rogers with two, and Alan Guan and Kevin Trakill at one goal each. Top scorers for the Cowboys were Parker with 4 goals, Holzschruh and Cyroncek with two a piece, and Loberg and Klein with one goal each. Assists were credited to Granada's Zack Swinford, one and Fouts one. Cowboy assists were from Kline with 4 and Cyroncek with one. Goalie, Jim Goritz had an incredible 12 goalie saves and Cowboy goalie, Hart had two.

Pleasanton Girls Softball League

Pleasanton Girls Softball League highlights: Hyatt-Summerfield Suites vs. Healthy Necessity Massage: Ella Gervasoni, Ashlyn Burruss and Erica Haley played great for Hyatt-Summerfield Suites. Mihika Bhatnagar's fielding, Tori Stewart's hitting and Kelly Fietz's catching led Healthy Necessity Massage. Top Players: Hyatt-Summerfield Suites - Ashlyn Burruss, Ella Gervasoni, Erica Haley; Healthy Necessity Massage - Mihika Bhatnagar, Kelly Fietz, Tori Stewart. Mike Sanders vs. TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors: As the girls took the field the fans of Mike Sanders and TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors were ready for a good show. TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors' Oliva Fragomeli played great at third base and had several powerful hits. Sarah Kracke was outstanding as pitcher and had a solid throw to first during the first inning. Ciara Stapleton played well in the outfield. As for Mike Sanders, the game started off with a big play from Kate Sanders to Ava Silversmith for the out at home plate. Izzy McElroy had a nice hard throw to first baseman Lydia Carabello for an out. Later in the game both Lauren Pollack and Lydia had huge hits to the outfield leaving the TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors scrambling for the ball. Overall, a great game for TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors and Mike Sanders. Top Players: Mike Sanders - Lydia Carabello, Izzy McElroy, Ava Silversmith; TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors - Oliva Fragomeli, Sarah Kracke, Ciara Stapleton. Mancebo Corporation vs. Me & My Friends Deli: Mancebo Corporation faced off against Me & My Friends Deli in their second match up of the season. Me & My Friends Deli started off the game with some strong power players. Sarah-Rose Nicolson, Lindsay Hill and Gwen Buteau have all come a long way this season and hit the ball well. Livy Soble also did a notable job during the game, tagging a player at second base. On the Mancebo Corporation team, Kelly Queen started off the game at the pitchers mound, demonstrating good form and quick turnaround as she tossed the ball to Maile Dougherty at first base. Maile showed great improvement during the game, although her sudden attempt to clean home base during the bottom half of the second inning almost

got her knocked down by her teammate, Molly Smith, who showed great speed running the bases behind Maile. Top Players: Mancebo Corporation - Maile Dougherty, Kelly Queen, Molly Smith; Me & My Friends Deli - Lindsay Hill, Sarah-Rose Nicolson, Livy Soble. Richert Lumber Co., Inc. vs. Floor Coverings International East Bay: Sophia Minnite and Avery Ehrlich were power hitters for Floor Coverings International East Bay. Natasha Hicks did a great job fielding at third base. On the Richert Lumber Co., Inc. team, Sierra O'Donnell showed great hustle in running. Lauren Reilly and Arissa Leomiti both had a great day in batting. Top Players: Richert Lumber Co., Inc. - Arissa Leomiti, Sierra O'Donnell, Lauren Reilly; Floor Coverings International East Bay - Avery Ehrlich, Natasha Hicks, Sophia Minnite. Micro Division: Sean Doyle vs. Accurate Impressions: Offense and defense were on top of their game for both teams. Sean Doyle had amazing hits to the outfield by Jillian Brugaletta and Allison Casey. Great base running by Ava Stewart and Sierra Defrietas, and amazing defensive plays by Andrea Harding and Emily Sanchez. Top Players: Sean Doyle - Jillian Brugaletta, Emily Sanchez, Ava Stewart; Accurate Impressions - Alaina Scholhamer Rachel Singh, Sage Smith. Contra Costa Co. Public Auto Auction vs. Sean Doyle: Top Players: Contra Costa Co. Public Auto Auction - Immie Burstein, Kate Carroll, Audrey Voit; Sean Doyle - Hannah Deckinger, Emily Verbeck, Mackenzie Weidel. Jabwire vs. ImagesByLori.com: Top Players: Jabwire - Annika Huston, Peyton Williams, Kendall Witters; ImagesByLori.com - Lourdes Kinnard, Adrianna Martinez, Madison Schooley. Greyhound Properties vs. GFI Stainless: An exciting game on a beautiful sunny day between Greyhound Properties and GFI Stainless. Greyhound Properties' Amanda Dilger had a strong outfield hit, Kelly Meyrath and Ella Camp also had great base hits. Excellent pitching by Camille Gulak. Greyhound Properties performed beautifully working together as a Team. GFI Stainless had some super playing with a great hit by Annika Jerstedt, and super pitching by Samika Goel. Top Players: Greyhound Properties - Ella Camp, Amanda Dilger, Kelly Meyrath; GFI Stainless - Samika Goel, Annika Jerstedt. All Star Sports vs. Jabwire: Stellar defense by All Star Sports, with exceptional plays by Brooke Szurgot at third base, Jackie Machi Harris made a great catch at first for an out, while McKenna Masinter made an great play at the plate for an out. Jabwire had excellent hitting and fielding, with Peyton Williams standing out at shortstop, Amika Hustons but couldn't be stopped, and Megan Rovira was impressive around the bases. Top Players: All Star Sports - Jackie Machi Harris, McKenna Masinter, Brooke Szurgot; Jabwire - Annika Huston, Megan Rovira, Peyton Williams. All Star Sports vs. Contra Costa County Public Auto Auction: A great "in the dirt" game played by All Star Sports and Contra Costa County Public Auto Auctions. In her first outing as pitcher, Sarah Amy Liggett did an outstanding job getting the ball over the plate. Haley Kolon ripped a pitch for a base hit, and Jessie Simonson showed off her base running by outrunning a defensive player, and was a safe at third base. For Contra Costa County Public Auto Auction, Molly Perez was a stand out in the infield, Kannon Phipps was impressive in the outfield and Chole Sarin was menacing with her bat. Top Players: All Star Sports - Haley Kolon, Sarah Amy Liggett, Jessie Simonson; Contra Costa County Public Auto Auction - Molly Perez, Kannon Phipps, Chole Sarin. Accurate Impressions vs. Delores Gragg, Realtor: Top Players: Accurate Impressions - Amelie Chabot, Amanda Engel, Alyssa

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SPORTS NOTES



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore High School varsity boys lacrosse team defeated cross-town rival Granada High School 10 to 7 (bottom photo). Granada took an early 6 to 5 lead. The Cowboys scored five second half goals for the win. The Granada girls varsity team defeated Livermore 10 to 5. The Granada girls moved onto the NCS playoffs, where they faced Marin Catholic in the first round. The top photo shows the junior varsity teams in action.



Orphanopoulos; Delores Gragg, Realtor - Grace Caldwell, Noel Simmons, Kendelle Steuben

Accurate Impressions vs. The Hopyard Alehouse & Grill: Top Players: Accurate Impressions - Camille Rodriguez, Bella Shroff, Emilia Withrow; The Hopyard Alehouse & Grill - Meghann Klein, Ella Melvin, Marin Tollefson

Accurate Impressions vs. Temperature Perfection: Top Players: Accurate Impressions - Kealy Morrissey, Karyna Russo, Julia Thomas; Temperature Perfection - Vanessa Montler, Emma Seitz, Avery Sliwak

Mini White Division: Minuteman Press of Pleasanton vs. Diablo Designs Tile & Marble: Diablo Designs Tile & Marble played its second straight stellar game behind Isabel Mayfield's speedy base running and Rebecca Brakeman's and Samantha Clevenger's fielding. Much improved pitching came from Kate Inman, Wynne Veltzy, Isabel Mayfield, Emily Murawski and Clevenger. Carly Rodrigues showed real courage staying in the game after getting hit by a foul ball. Top Players: Minuteman Press of Pleasanton - Rebecca Brakeman, Isabel Mayfield, Carly Rodrigues; Diablo Designs Tile & Marble - Kristen Green, Madison Harman, Emily Johnson

Diablo Designs Tile & Marble vs. Borg Fence: Diablo Designs Tile & Marble played its best game of the season with truly an all-around team effort. Nikki Harman struck out all three batters she faced. Great fielding plays were provided by Kaitlyn Young, Emily Murawski, Haley Carr and Isabel Mayfield. Offensive stars were Kate Inman, Alanna McComb, Carly Rodrigues, Wynne Veltzy and Rebecca Brakeman. Quinn Lombardi struck out two batters and Sonya Panwar played great at first base for Borg Fence. Top Players: Diablo Designs Tile & Marble - Haley Carr, Nikki Harman, Isabel Mayfield; Borg Fence - Hannah Johnson, Quinn Lombardi, Sonya Panwar

Kevin Martin, Attorney at Law vs. Sports Assoc of Alameda Co Deputy Sheriff: Kevin Martin, Attorney at Law's Anika Nicolas hit a double. Hannah Haynie pitched a terrific inning with strike after strike. Big hits as always by Celia Portugal. Sports Assoc of Alameda Co Deputy Sheriff's Stephanie Silva led her team with some huge hits. Excellent catching from Natalie Larsen, and great pitching from Tierra Moncada. Top Players: Kevin Martin, Attorney at Law - Hannah Haynie, Anika Nicolas, Celia Portugal; Sports Assoc of Alameda Co Deputy Sheriff - Natalie Larsen, Tierra Moncada, Stephanie Silva

Mini Teal Division: Tri-Valley Orthopedic Specialists 6, City Beach 5: City Beach: Superb pitching by Michaela Ritter and Lauren Melvin. Big hit by Hannah Gossett. Tri-Valley Orthopedic Specialists: Solid pitching by Emily Mercer and Brooke Reimer. Great defensive play by Ashley Lopez. Top Players: Tri-Valley Orthopedic Specialists - Emily Mercer, Ashley Reimer, Brooke Reimer; City Beach - Hannah Gossett, Lauren Melvin, Michaela Ritter

Mini Black Division: Construction Testing Services 10, Oden Costa Creative Group 6: For Construction Testing Services, Lauren Slaten was two for three at the plate and had four RBIs. Allison Stowell had a strong pitching outing. Lauren Herms scored two runs on a sac fly and had a strong pitching performance. Top Players: Construction Testing Services - Lauren Herms, Lauren Slaten, Allison Stowell; Oden Costa Creative Group - Julia Camello, Terra McHone, Sarah Mirr

Minor Teal Division: Roof-Life Construction 10, Construction Testing Services 3: Construction Testing Services - For the first time, we had an out on a third base steal with a great throw from Anna Swanson to Katelyn Antilla. Isabella Withrow had great back up on short stop to an out on first in the third inning. Angie Woods had a great catch for an out in the second inning. Erin Browne had a big hit to get her on base in the second inning. Roof-Life Construction - Lani Yee had a great hit in the second inning to get on base. Allyson Camillucci was a great team player with great fielding and a

great steal with a slide into third base. Megan Mannion was consistently a great hitter all game scored for the team and had an RBI. Top Players: Construction Testing Services - Sonora Andrews, Katelyn Antilla, Anna Swanson; Roof-Life Construction - Allyson Camillucci, Megan Mannion, Lani Yee

TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors 7, Concord Feed 4: TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors - Karlee Schweitzer did a great job pitching. Savannah Fried scored the tying run and Nicole White had a base hit and RBI for the go ahead run. Concord Feed - Callan Jackman did a great job pitching. Maria Summersett had a solid hit to center field and Brittany Barrowcliff caught two fly balls. Top Players: TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors - Savannah Fried, Karlee Schweitzer, Nicole White; Concord Feed - Brittany Barrowcliff, Callan Jackman, Maria Summersett

Richard Lumber Co., Inc. 11, Robert Half International, Inc. 9: Emma Patten - Pitched shut out inning - fabulous. Emma Brunner - Excellent double play. Caitlyn Sigua - Great pop fly catch. Katie Tasto - Made great plays. Jessica Emde - Excellent softball player. Olivia Austin - Strong fielding. Top Players: Robert Half International, Inc. - Emma Brunner, Emma Patten, Caitlyn Sigua; Richard Lumber Co., Inc. - Olivia Austin, Jessica Emde, Katie Tasto

J. Lohr Winery-Jeff Meier 12, Richard Lumber Co., Inc. 2: Top Players: Richard Lumber Co., Inc. - Jasmine Benito, Aurelia Escobar, Olivia Smith; J. Lohr Winery-Jeff Meier - Jayna Detweiler, Janet Lee, Hannah Yozzo

TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors 7, Concord Feed 4: Top Players: TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors - Serena Crittenden, Savannah Fried, Karlee Schweitzer; Concord Feed - Emily Greco, Shannon Greenhouse, Maria Summersett

Accurate Impressions 9, TIMMCGUIRE.NET Alain Pinel Realtors 3: Top Players: Accurate Impressions - Rebecca Deckinger, Saloni Methi, Siena Moca

Roof-Life Construction 11, Association Management Solutions 1: Roof-Life Construction defeated Association Management Solutions 11-1. It was a closely contested game through four innings and then Roof-Life Construction broke it wide open led by Sammy Rhoades pitching an excellent game. Alli Isaacs with two big hits and Clarissa Punla providing great catching. Association Management Solutions was led by Claire Helmer who also did a great job catching and got the team's first successful bunt of the season. Krista Buescher pitched two innings and had five strikeouts, and Addie Jeffcoat smashed a single and had an RBI. Top Players: Association Management Solutions - Krista Buescher, Claire Helmer, Addie Jeffcoat; Roof-Life Construction - Alli Isaacs, Clarissa Punla, Sammy Rhoades

Minor Black Division: TPC Softball 5, Pleasanton Glass 4: Great hitting by TPC Softball's Jenna Crawford, Lauren Blach and the hit to drive in the winning run by Emily Trinidad. Pleasanton Glass's Regan Lucy RBIs for two runs. Top Players: TPC Softball - Lauren Blach, Jenna Crawford, Emily Trinidad; Pleasanton Glass - Emma Furr, Regan Lucy, Haley Wesenberg

Pacific Dental Care 12, TPC Softball 4: Great throw out at second by TPC Softball's catcher Lo Lo and Taylor. Strong bats by Karina Galvez and Monica Martinez. Great pitching by Pacific Dental Care's Yoko Petty. Pacific Dental Care's Jenna O'Neal and Sarah Smith nice hits to the outfield. Top Players: TPC Softball - Taylor Campbell, Karina Galvez, Monica Martinez; Pacific Dental Care - Jenna O'Neal, Yoko Petty, Sarah Smith

Major Teal Division: Mancebo Corporation 9, Cardinal Jewelers 8: Mancebo Corporation took a commanding lead after two innings, leading 8 to 1. Cardinal Jewelers sent in Kathryn Kitayama to pitch and she shut down Mancebo Corporation in the third and fourth innings. Cardinal Jewelers came back with 5 in the top of the fifth to tie the game 8 to 8. Mancebo Corporation,

Taylor Gloyne, made a super catch of a fly ball in right center, then made a heads up throw to second to double up a Cardinal Jewellers runner to end the top of the fifth. With Kitayama on the mound, Mancebo Corporation rallied for 1 run in the bottom of the fifth to win. Jillian Quintanal put down a perfect drag bunt to start the inning, then stole second and third. Carrigan James lifted a fly ball to right and Jillian was able to tag up and score the winning run. Top Players: Mancebo Corporation - Carrigan James, Taylor Gloyne, Jillian Quintanal; Cardinal Jewelers - Ariana Banda, Kathryn Kitayama, Tori Koth

3PAR, Inc. 10, ViewMobileDental.com 9: Jenna Reitsma went 3 for 3 with 2 RBIs for 3PAR, Inc. Top Players: 3PAR, Inc. - Carly Krakauer, Jenna Reitsma, Megan Sensiba

Senior Division: Sensiba San Filippo, LLP 10, Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC 4: Sensiba San Filippo, LLP defeated Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC 10-4. Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC led 4-3 going into the last inning, but Sensiba San Filippo, LLP scored 7 runs in the top of the last inning to win. Sensiba San Filippo, LLP was led by Cassidy Butler who had a double in the first and two RBIs in the decisive last inning. Kelsey Butler played a strong game at first base and Lucy Clark was solid at catcher, playing the entire game. Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC was led by Sarah Machado pitching and striking out the side in the second inning. Kayla Hawes and Savannah Goodmanson had breakout games in the outfield, each having spectacular catches. Top Players: Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC - Savannah Goodmanson, Kayla Hawes, Sarah Machado; Sensiba San Filippo, LLP - Cassidy Butler, Kelsey Butler, Lucy Clark

Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC 9, Prestige Portraits by Lifetouch 8: Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC defeated Prestige Portraits by Lifetouch by a score of 9-3. Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the first inning and hung on to win with great defense in the last inning. Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC was led by Stephanie Brennan who had two hits and four RBIs. Emily Helmer who had a hit, two walks and solid defense at second base, and Holly Coles with a single, double and two RBIs. Prestige Portraits by Lifetouch was led by Chelsi Bias who had a single and an RBI, Divya Lambah who had a single and an RBI, and Stephanie Bricker who had a single and an RBI. Top Players: Tracey Buescher, Hometown GMAC - Stephanie Brennan, Holly Coles, Emily Helmer; Prestige Portraits by Lifetouch - Chelsi Bias, Stephanie Bricker, Divyah Lambah

Pleasanton National LL Pleasanton National Little League highlights:

Farm: Rockies vs. Brewers: Top Hitters: Noah Jamison - line drive for double - twice, Will Martens - fly ball past the short stop, Zieren Clark - hit up the middle; Top Defensive Players: Ethan Apalis - fastest base running, Jett Godi - 2 unassisted outs at 2nd base

Single A: Pirates vs. Dodgers: The Dodgers took on the Pirates down at the Sports Park this past Saturday morning. The rematch of these two teams went back and forth right to the end, with both teams making some big plays. Logan Seitz led the charge for the Dodgers. He batted 3-4 at the plate with 2 RBIs for the home team and pitched a scoreless 4th inning, while striking out one. JT Fulmer's bat continued to stay hot as he went 4-4 with a double, while scoring 2 runs from the leadoff spot. Aidan McCarthy chipped in with 2 hits, racing to 1st base in the 3rd to beat out an infield single. That hustle led to an important run later in the inning. Aidan Dougherty was great behind the plate. His solid catching played a big part in Logan's scoreless 4th. Ryan Haley had his fastball working today, pitching a great 5th inning to close the game, striking out two in the process. The Pirates were led by Evan Thomas and Nate McGinty. Their big bats and great fielding make them an imposing duo. At 2nd base, Nate finished the unassisted double-play off of a line drive and then ran down the runner at 1st. Evan covered a lot of ground in the outfield, running down the ball and nearly pulling in a running back-handed catch.

AA Division: Pirates vs. Dodgers: The Dodgers faced the Pirates Saturday where defense was the game for the first two innings as both teams kept their opponent from scoring. But the Dodgers' bats came alive in the bottom of the third when Jake Massie's line drive triple brought a walked Logan Miller home for the first score and began the team's rally. Nick Massie followed with a single bringing his brother home. Victor Alonzo and Ari Solomon also singled while Brady Bosuogo hit a one-run single. Zach Friedman began another rally in the fourth with a single and later, a one-run single by Vincent McMasters brought home a walked Kellen Sabhlok. In the fifth, it was Tyler Nanney's high-flying hit to center field earning him a double that brought fans to their feet. Defensively it was all about pitching. McMasters, Miller, Solomon, Nicholas Maestas and Nanney each struck out the side in the first five innings respectively. Alonzo closed out the game throwing two strike outs, with the third made by catcher Jake Massie's throw to third baseman McMasters to beat a steal.

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Livermore Lacrosse

The Livermore High School boys varsity lacrosse team won two East Bay Athletic League (EBAL) games in a row to finish with their best record in school history.

The team started the week playing the favored California Grizzlies and upset them in overtime by a score of 9 - 8

The Grizzlies scored first; the Cowboy's answered one minute later with a goal by Tommy Parker assisted by Kyle Kline. California scored just 42 seconds later and led 2 - 1 after one quarter. California scored again to take a 3 - 1 lead; 18 seconds, later Parker scored again, assisted by Eric Loberg, and the Cowboys were down 3 - 2. The Grizzlies scored again and, in this seesaw battle, the Cowboys answered right back with a goal by Daniel Rowan assisted by Loberg. California scored two more goals to take a 6 - 3 score at the half.

The Cowboy's started the comeback. Loberg scored, assisted by Parker; the Grizzlies scored to take a 7 - 4 lead with three minutes left in the third quarter. Then the onslaught began. Parker had his third goal of the game, assisted by Kline, and California led 7 - 5 after 3 quarters. Kline scored, assisted by Parker, to start the fourth quarter; then Loberg scored his second goal of the game, assisted by Parker, to tie the game at 7 all when Kline scored, assisted by Ryan Wilkerson, to finally take the lead. California tied the score with their only goal



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Foothill High School varsity women's softball team defeated Granada 5 to 3 in a close contest. The Granada JV thumped Foothill, 14 to 4. Granada came up short in an effort to tag out the runner.

of the fourth quarter with three minutes left to take the game into overtime.

Livermore won the faceoff but turned it over. On the clear, Scott Gragg fought off the California defenseman to take the ball. He then threw a perfect pass to Parker who scored his fourth goal and the game winner to upset the favorite California team whom the Cowboys have never beaten before.

The Cowboys' defense only gave up two goals in the second half and overtime to shut down the very potent Grizzlie offense. Chris Hill (who needed to block a shot on goal when Gavin Herr got trapped down field) lead the charge, with Joe Gonzalez, Rusty Schmidt, Aubrey Gott, Michael Fischer, and Long Stick Middies Travis Cyronek and Gary Chapeta. Gavin Herr had 16 saves in the stunning victory. California committed 15 penalties in the game in trying to goad the Cowboy players into retaliating, but it did not work as Livermore committed only two penalties.

This marked the first time in team history that the Cowboys' beat another EBAL team besides Granada with whom they have split their home and home games the past two seasons. Next up was the Matadors from Granada.

The team finished the week and their season by defeating their crosstown rivals, the Granada Matadors, by a score of 10 - 7

In the game that would conclude Cowboy lacrosse's most exciting week in their history, Livermore scored first on a goal by Eric Loberg assisted by Kyle Kline. The Matadors then scored three in a row to put them ahead 3 - 1. Livermore scored with 19 seconds left as Matt Holzschuh scored a goal, but Granada scored with six seconds left. After one quarter, Granada led 4 - 2. Livermore would then score the next three goals in a row. Parker from Gragg, Parker from Kline, and Travis Cyronek unassisted to take a 5 - 4 lead. The Matadors then scored two goals in a row and then one as time ran out. This gave Granada the lead at the half by a score of 6 - 5.

The Cowboys had enough of the back and forth scoring and went on a rampage, scoring four goals in the third quarter. Kline scored first, then Cyronek scored his second goal of the game from the long-stick-middle (LSM) position, and Holzschuh had his second score of the game, assisted by Kline, and, finally, Parker had his third goal of the game, assisted by Kline, to basically put the game out of reach, as the Cowboys led 9 - 6 after three quarters. Granada scored with two minutes left to bring the score to Livermore 9 - 6. Parker had his fourth goal of the game (for the second straight game in a row) assisted by Kline who finished with five assists to make the final score Livermore Cowboys 10 - Granada 7.

As with the earlier game against California, the defense would wake up in the second half of the game and hold Granada to one goal. The defense was once again led by Chris Hill, Rusty Schmidt, Aubrey Gott, Joe Gonzalez, Michael Fischer, LSM Travis Cyronek, and Gary Chapeta. Gavin Herr had 11 saves in the Victory.

With the back-to-back wins in the EBAL, Livermore finished with a 9 - 11 overall record, which gave Livermore a school record in wins and its most successful season in school history.

The team was led by attackmen Tommy Parker, Eric Loberg, Scott Gragg and Stan Steeper. Middies included Kyle Kline, Ryan Wilkerson, Daniel Rowan, Matt Holzschuh, Jacob Cuellar, Sam Burnett, Remington Joely Youngblood, Keyon Taravati, William Kaufman, faceoff specialist Edgar Molano, LSM Travis Cyronek, and Gary Chapeta. Defensemen consisted of Chris

Hill, Rusty Schmidt, Joe Gonzalez, Aubrey Gott, and Michael Fischer. The goalie was Gavin Herr.

Coaches Gordon Cobb, John Hill, and Austin Silva are very proud of the way the players ended the season on a high note. Throughout the year, it has been an up and down season as the Cowboys dominated play outside of the EBAL, but struggled in the EBAL. With this season doing as well as it did, good things will come next year and beyond with the hard work of the coaching staff, players, and parents.

The Livermore Boys' Junior Varsity Lacrosse team split their games this week against California and Granada.

The Cowboys took on the California High School Grizzlies on May 11 and came up on the losing end of the game when they scored a last minute goal to beat Livermore by a score of 7 - 6. California scored four goals in the first quarter and to lead 4-0 after one quarter. Livermore finally scored on a goal by Junior McCammon, then California scored to lead 5 - 1. Goals by Max Kreger and Patrick Feltz brought the Cowboys back and they were down 5 - 3 at the half.

California then scored again to take a 6 - 3 lead. Brandon Hall scored, assisted by McCammon, to cut the lead California 6 to Livermore 4 after three quarters. The Cowboys then scored the next two goals to tie the game at 6 - 6 on goals by James Ellis and Max Kreger's second goal of the game, assisted by Robert Nguyen. The Cowboys had numerous chances but could not find the goal, with minutes left in the game, California broke the tie and defeated the Cowboys by a score of 7 - 6. Steven Martinez had 12 saves in the loss.

The season's last game was a winner for the Cowboys as they defeated their crosstown rivals, the Granada Matadors, by a score of 4 - 1 on May 14.

The Cowboys came out in the first quarter and scored three goals and never looked back. Goals by Brandon Hall, Nick Vickers, and James Ellis, assisted by Hall, were all that Steven Martinez and the defense needed as they held Granada scoreless until three minutes were left in the game. Mac Morgan finished the scoring with a goal in the third quarter, assisted by Hall. The game was filled with many penalties by both teams as tempers flared on both sides. Aside from the penalties, the game was played very close by both teams.

With the win, the Junior Varsity (JV) team had the most wins ever in a season with a 7 - 12 record. This year, the JV team lost five league games by two goals or less; with a few breaks here and there, the record could have been better. The attack was led by Kyle (Junior) McCammon, Brandon Hall, Robert Nguyen, Mac Morgan, Aaron Untalan, and Nate Weinstein. Middies were Max Kreger, Nick Vicker, James Ellis, Andre Flores, Patrick Feltz, Tim Braun, Tyler Peterson, Daniel Lanci, and LSM Max Byrne. Defensemen were Chris Alderson, Spencer Davidson, Jacob Farnos, Joe Munns, and Nicklas Palombo. The goalie was Steven Martinez.

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Marty added a single to back Nick Lind's 5 inning, 11 strikeout performance. Griffin Miller led the fight for the Giants with a double and Brandon Zaunbacher pitched two scoreless innings.

Mariners 9, Dodgers 10. Top Hitters Mariners - Anthony Miller 2B, scored x2; Jack Walker 2B, 2 RBI; Adam Padilla 2B, 2 RBI, scored x2; Tyler Griffin 2(1B

SPORTS NOTES

Iliza Shields, Connor Wakle, Hayden Williams

Tea-Ball - Phillies Offense: Ashton Basswell, Jacob Sisto, Elena Woolsey. Defense: Garret Montgomery, Tanner Parker, Carolyn Martin. A's - Offense: Jayden Sylvia, Darren Jackson, Kelly Thomas Defense; Celeste Summers, Hudson Saunders, Reagan James

Livermore American LL

Livermore American Little League highlights:

AAA Division: Padres 1, Giants 14: The Giants hit early and opened to beat the Padres by a score of 14-1. The Giants were led in hitting by Gerardo Cabassa who hit a double, scored twice and drove in one run. Also hitting strong for the Giants were Tristen Mulrooney with two singles and a run scored and Ryan Mitchell with two singles, two runs scored and two RBIs. The Padres were led on defense by Alex Griffin who made two catches in centerfield. Victoria Dominguez played well at second base. Adam Lebish had two singles to lead the Padres. Giants Top Players: Gerardo Cabassa, Tristen Mulrooney, Ryan Mitchell; Padres Top Players: Alex Griffin, Victoria Dominguez, Adam Lebish

Diamondbacks 15, Mariners 3: Diamondbacks closed the 6th inning with a stunning triple play by Tyler McMahon who also pitched a great game, scored twice with one base hit in the 4th. Top offense was led by Trenton Wiedner, Jordan Esling and Dante De Mayo with 3 hits each. Jordan and Trenton both had 3 RBIs followed by 2 RBIs each for Dante De Mayo and Hunter Burke. Travis Fontana, Avneet Singh and Cole Hoover also contributed with base hits to add a great night offensively for the D-Backs. For the Mariners top players included Zachariah Eme had 2 singles, 1 run and a grand slugging, Cole Fairhurst had a double and a run. Noah Petit also had an RBI.

Athletics 19, Mariners 8: Great pitching by the Athletics' Kaine Montez (2.7 innings, only 1 run) led to the 16-8 win over the AAA Mariners Saturday. Montez also got 3 hits, 3 runs, and 4 RBIs. Athletics players Isaac Montes (3 hits including a bases loaded double and 3 RBIs) and Mario Rodriguez (a key base hit and RBI) contributed to the win. Mariners Dominic Bartoni and Trevor Chapman both had good days hitting and fielding. Standout Mariner Noah Pettit got two 2B, one 1B, 2 RBIs and 1 run.

Rockies 6, Angels 12: Rockies top players: Zach Heinz 2 for 2 with a run scored, Zach Hrdlicka 1 for 2 with a triple and 3 RBIs; Angels top players: Chase Dunn for double, single, 2 run s, pitched one inning for 3, Ralph Miller scored 3 runs, 2 walks, hit by pitch, stole one, Parker Brandt single, 2 RBIs, 2 runs

AA Division: Tigers 11, Cubs 9: The Cubs played started the game strong with a great catch by Brad Archer behind 2nd base to end the Tigers 2 run rally in the first. When the Cubs came up to bat in the bottom of the first, Conner Livingston hit a lead off double, and Brad Archer followed with an over the fence homerun. Later in the game, Brad Archer had a 2 RBI single and started an amazing double play in the 4th inning. Even though Shane Clifton hit a 3 run homerun in the bottom of the 6th, the Cubs fell short in their rally attempt. For the Tigers, Ian Toland was on fire offensively and defensively. He caught a high fly ball in centerfield in the 1st inning and hit 2 singles in the game, with 2 RBIs. Colin Barnett hit an RBI single in the Tigers major rally in the 5th inning to pull his team ahead. Nolin Smith also had a hot bat with 3 singles in the game, and 1 RBI.

Indians 2, Pirates 0: Indians Top Players: Nick Bouillere, Tyler Morano, Nick Ragatz. In the 2nd inning, Nick Bouillere stole 2nd base and then stole home for the 1st run of the game. Tyler Morano made a great play in the top of the 5th inning, catching a grounder and throwing it first. He also caught a pop fly for the final out of the game. Scott Ragatz hit a very solid double for an RBI for Andrew Arruda; Pirates Top Players: Matteo Crivello - great defensive play caught pop-up, closing the third inning, Ryan Bond - Ryan caught all 3 outs for the 2nd inning; hit 2-2, and as pitcher, struck out 3 in a row, Luke Sorenson - hit a line drive single

Astros 6, Cardinals 1: The Astros had some great hits: Michael Honeycutt was a hitting machine going 2 for 2 with two doubles. But it was the Astros stellar defense and good pitching that won the game - time after time they halted would-be base hits with amazing catches. Michael Honeycutt made a great play as catcher grabbing a pop-up foul for an out. Both Jared Adams and Nick Herrmann made great catches of well hit fly balls to left-centerfield. Gavin Napier made three amazing diving catches at shortstop by snagging some rocket line drives, and Sean Rolandelli's mitt was ready at first base to grab a line drive that would have went deep into right field. The Cardinals still managed to get some solid hits; James Duperly doubled to start the 2nd inning and the Cardinals had a rally in the 3rd when Parker Hughes singled and then scored on a play by Jacob Hager. The Cardinals' Kevin Lee also played great ball with two singles for the day and Cardinal Joe Hager contributed with a well-hit single. The Astros' strong pitching was a big factor in the game. On the mound, Daulton Johnston pitched with precision, and offensively he was on his game with a key hit in the 4th and a great slide at home plate. Gavin Napier also pitched the Astros out of some tight spots, getting key strikeouts when necessary. The Cardinals were hitting the ball hard but the Astros were always in the right place with a great defense to secure the win. Cardinals top players: James Duperly, Joe Hager, Parker Hughes; Astros top players: Daulton Johnston, Michael Honeycutt, Gavin Napier

Cubs 3, White Sox 0: Cubs top players: Tyler Revay, Joe Bartoni, Blake Bittner; White Sox top players: Jacob Zayas, Cole Gereb, Jacob Burruss

Astros 8, Indians 2: The Astros scored runs in each of the first 3 innings, and it was the bottom of the line-up that really dazzled. Nick Herrmann and Shane Grimes both hit solid line drive singles and eventually scored for the Astros. Defensively, Bailey Kemp assisted with several flawless plays at third base. The Indians countered with rallies in both the 3rd and 4th innings. Grant Peterson hit a solid double in the 3rd to bring home Paul Curbelo. Grant Peterson also made a fantastic defensive play with a diving catch of a foul ball in the 4th inning. The Indians' Justin Moriarty and Tyler Morano made great defensive plays as well; Justin Moriarty stretched to catch a fly ball at first base and Tyler Moriarty made a great play on a hard hit grounder to tag a runner. The Astros answered back in the 5th inning on whopping back-to-back hits by power-slingers Michael Honeycutt, Bailey Kemp, and Sean Rolandelli, which gave the Astros 3 additional runs and secured the lead. Indians top players: Grant Peterson, Justin Moriarty, Tyler Morano; Astros top players: Nick Herrmann, Shane Grimes, Bailey Kemp.

ADivision: Red Sox 13, Braves 12: Red Sox top players: Cole Arnold: He brought in the winning run. He did great fielding and hitting. Ty Wetzell: Excellent hitting and great fielding. Aiden Bartlett: Super hitting and great fielding. Braves top players: Peyton Lemmons: 4 for 4, scored 2 runs and made a crucial out at 3rd. Chris Miller: 3 for 3, hit two monster doubles and scored a run. Tyler Griffith: 3 for 4, scored 2 runs and had great defensive play as catcher.

Orioles 17, Braves 10: Orioles top players: Kaitlyn McDonald - two power hits; Miles Kluball - played great defense, Jacob Carter - Hit crucial line drive. Braves top players: Aiden Edwards - played great defense, made a crucial catch at first base. Dylan Baxter - had a perfect game; 3 for 3 and played great defense. Jesse Wolfson - two solid hits and played great defense, caught a pop fly in the outfield.

Rays 2, Orioles 20: Orioles top players: Kaitlyn McDonald went 3 for 4, Mason Paulo went 5 for 5 with two doubles, Miles Kluball went 4 for 5 with two doubles. Rays top players: Drew McDonald made a nice double play and two base hits, Zachary Medina hit a nice double, Jonathan Farhat had two base hits

T-Ball: Giants vs. Royals. Great game

with lots of exciting plays at home plate. Awesome hitting and fantastic fielding paved the way to a fun-filled game between these powerhouse teams. Giants top players: Michael Bliss, Conner Toland, Drew Karyn, Royals top players: Keith Perreault, Nolan Dennis, Ryan Martinez.

Pirates vs. Rangers: The Pirates demonstrated excellent hitting and fielding skills. Their top players were Tanner Griffith with outstanding fielding, Jake Macadaan with great hits and Adam Tufts who did an excellent job fielding balls. The Rangers did a great job as well. Their top players included Conner Murphy with a big hit to the outfield, Reef Sweeney who did an outstanding job defending first base and had a great hit in the second inning and Damien Stiles who hit a homerun in the first inning that cleared the bases.

Marlins vs. Rangers: The Marlins demonstrated excellent hitting and fielding skills. Their top players included Garrett Bozdeck with outstanding fielding skills, Logan Moore with great hits and Kenneth Lee who did an excellent job fielding balls. Top players for the Rangers included Nolan Durns who did a great job fielding balls with an excellent throw to second base, Ethan Durns with a power hit to the outfield in the second inning, and Tallon Chambers who did an exceptional job defending first base, tagging three players out.

Livermore National LL

Livermore National Little League highlights:

Majors: Giants 9, A's 8: The Major A's met the Giants on Saturday, April 24, 2010. The game was all A's with a 6-0 lead going into the fifth inning. A's Grant Lowenstein pitched four shutout innings. A's Victor Ordonia hit a single in the second for a RBI. Isaac Dugger hit a double straight past center field in the second and had a single in the fourth. The Giants found their bats in the fifth. All in all at the end of the fifth the score was 7-6. Giants: Bruan was on fire in the fifth and sixth inning. He hit a triple with two RBIs with a game total of 4 RBIs. Josh Blaha, Devin Illareguy, Wilkenson, Miller and Resler-Miller all had hits and scored in the fifth inning. Tyrece came into pitch for the Giants. He only allowed two base hits in the fifth and two in the sixth.

AAA Division: Padres 5, Giants 13: Giants highlights: Joey Sullivan - In the top of the 2nd inning, smashed a single to score two Giants base runners, then in the bottom of the inning made a great play at second base to end Padres rally. Christian Petrie - Reached base and scored three times and did a good job pitching the 3rd and 4th innings. Luke Hernandez - Went 4 for 4 at the plate and pitched very well against the dangerous Padres lineup to close out the game. In the 6th inning, took a batted ball of the chin, made the out at first base and continued pitching to finish the game. Padres highlights: Bating well was Reece Kerstetter going 2 for 3 with both hits to center field. Three good innings pitched by Spencer Kramm with 3 strike outs. And Joel Cook played great defense at short stop making several plays.

Padres 10, A's 2: A's highlights: Noah Rakestraw pitched several good innings for the A's. Ben Roller made some great defensive plays at catcher. Jacob Blaha got an RBI on his base hit to right field in the 6th inning for the A's second run. Padres highlights: Andrew William's played great defense at the corners with a few good force outs at both bases. Tanner Gomes, Reece Kerstetter, John Berry, and Joel Cook All hit well with 8 RBIs between them. Berry's double to center in the 1st was an amazing shot. And Brodie Nevis made an outstanding snag at second base in the fifth inning to end the inning.

AA Division: Rockies vs Giants: Rockies Elizabeth Kennedy did a great job pitching, while Niles Moy, Joshua White and Ronald Martindill all batted in runners. The Giants Zach Johnson and Jacob Dennett played strong defense while Evan Purl and Max Johnson played offensively.

Rockies vs Dodgers: The Dodgers Mason Smith hit a triple the first inning, and pitchers Jaiden Jimenez and Todd Neizman were fantastic. The Rockies responded with pitcher Kyle McKinzie and great fielding by Jonathan Mulrooney and Niles Moy.

Giants vs Rockies: A hard fought game between the Diamondbacks and Dodgers. Good pitching performance's from Dodgers Colby and Mason Smith, and hitting from Blake Freeland. Diamondbacks pitchers held Dodgers hitters at bay with quality pitching from Colton Berlin with key hits from Bobby Farnar and Jacob Vane. The Giants top players were Charles Ridings, Grant Dufek and Charles Filippucci. Rockies top players were Brendon Johnston, Zachary Fumero and Niles Moy.

Diamondbacks vs Rockies: The Rockies had impressive pitching performances from Kyle and Jinyoung. The Diamondbacks had a good pitching performance from Colton Berlin. Timely hits from Matthew Hartford, and Grant Ikeda powered the Diamondbacks helping make the game close.

Cardinals vs A's: Cardinals top players: Wyatt Calkins great pitcher; Jonas Lindquist, awesome single hit; Jacob Lord great job catching and caught a pop fly. A's top players: Anthony Barbalino great job pitching. Nick Benfield did a great job at 1st base. Nick Donaldson has a solid single hit.

Diamondbacks vs Dodgers: For the D'Backs defensive players were Ben Tiedemann as catcher and Ian Humes as right fielder. And for offense was Josh Freitas hitting a single sending a runner home. For the Dodgers defensive players, Blake Havey was their catcher (shrugged off a hit to the arm). And Blake Freeland was great at fielding and pitching. Justin Pestana got some great hits in for his team

A's vs. Dodgers: Great hitting displayed by Mason Delisser from the A's who hit a double and Logan Vinson and Tony Barbalino who both helped their team with RBIs. Dodgers players: Blake Freeland, Jeremy Theobald and Blake Havey all displayed great hitting and fielding during the game.

Cardinals vs. Giants: Great efforts for the Cardinals were by Jack Bosso with great play at second base, Mateo Mancada - great hit and pitching and Austin Shadbolt - great pitching. Significant contributions for the Giants were made by Charles Filippucci - great pitching, Jacob Dennett - great pitching and Kyle Betz - solid hitting.

A's vs. Giants: The A's and Giants played a solid game on Monday evening amid less than hospitable weather. Despite the cold temperatures, the A's Jack Wilson heated up the pitching and Nick Benfield provided solid fielding while Nate Findley kept his bat warm with some key hits. For the Giants, Charlie Riding was solid at catcher and Max Johnson kept the pitching mound warm with some key strike outs. Offensively, Evan Purl & Matt Kovac assisted with a good RBIs.

A's vs Cardinals: A hard fought game that came down to the end. Both sides had some great defensive plays, and key hits. Top players for the Cardinals were Wyatt C. Drew Dillon, and Sean H. The Diamondbacks had key defensive plays by Colton Berlin, and key hits from Matthew Hartford. Breaking the game open was the grand slam home run by Jumanee Smith.

Single A: Giants vs. Diamondbacks: Nathan Bruan and Jared Herrera got things

started for the D'backs with two strong at-bats each. Next, Giovanni Fuentes got in on the action with two hits to the grass himself. Then the Giants took the stage with blasts from Cody Franco and Jesse Haight. Dylan Silva followed up with a bomb that one-hopped it to the right-field fence. Defense was on their toes too as D'backs Jimmy Rodriguez and John Stangl made some clean plays in the infield but the play of the game goes to the Giants with catcher Dylan Silva grabbing up a slow-roller down the third-base line and, rolling from his back, completed the throw to Jesse Haight at third for the tag-out.

Cardinals vs. Diamondbacks: The Cardinals' defense made three quick outs in the first inning; Matthew Sciascia, at pitcher, contributed two of those outs with a speedy throw to first base, and by chasing down a runner between bases. In the following inning, Ryan Hanley made an excellent play, stopping a hard-hit ball and throwing accurately to first base to end the inning. Ryan Hanley also hit the ball solidly throughout the game, including one ball which he hit all the way to the fence for a stand-up double. Caden King was also notable, with his huge hit into the outfield and his efficient base running. The Diamondbacks' Wyatt Jackson, Seth Lechua and Gavin Powers were commended by their coach for their excellent efforts and skill in this game Saturday, May 8, 2010: Saturday's game was an impressive exhibition especially of both teams' defensive prowess. The Cardinals made some great plays in the field, including an amazing double play in which Ryan Hoopes caught a fly ball and threw perfectly to Alex Alamillo at third base, who tagged the runner for the out. Austin Statham was also excellent at all his positions, handling all the balls that came his way with ease and poise. The Orange Giants' Landon Ratinho made several exceptional defensive plays. Weslee Brinkman contributed significantly to the Cardinals' offense, as when he hustled to first base to produce an infield single. Landon Rhodes of the Orange Giants hit the ball solidly throughout the game.

Giants vs. The Giants: Brandon York did it all, making several defensive plays while hitting the ball hard and running the bases smartly. Connor Day of the Giants, played great defense including fielding a hard hit ground ball and throwing a perfect strike to 3rd base to get the out. For the A's, Gabe DeCarisy played great on the defense and hit a shot to the shortstop. Nathan O'Neill made some excellent catches while playing catcher and hit the ball hard. Lewis O'Neill earned the game ball for his fantastic plays, including a big hit down the 3rd base line for a double and catching big pop up to get the batter out.

Cubs vs. Black Giants: Cubs: Leif Jensen had 2 solid hits and played 1st base and catcher while Nate Lee played 3rd base and had solid hits, and Ryan Kelly played 2nd base and 3rd base and also had very solid hits for the Cubs. The Black Giants had Collin McDowell playing 1st & 3rd base with 2 Field outs, and Connor Day had his 1st grand slam of the season, while Derek Craven had solid hits and was kept busy as shortstop and Jacob Nixon also had solid hits and did a great job catching.

Cardinals vs A's: For the Cards, Ryan O'Neill had a great game offensively, smacking every ball that came his way. Also, Austin Statham made some great defensive plays at first base. For the A's, Jacob Hutchinson scooped up the ball with ease to get a runner out at first and had an outstanding hit to the second base side. Isaac Romero had some hard hits up the middle. Carter Purl played great defense at 2nd base stopping the ball and getting the runners out.

Cardinals vs. Black Giants: This was a beautifully played game in which both teams showed terrific spirit and effort. In the field, the Cardinals' Weslee Brinkman was notable, elegantly completing several difficult plays. Sundar Thomas threw to second base, making a quick out, and also received the Cardinals game ball for his consistent, careful attention to the coaches. Offensively, the Cardinals were on fire, with Michael Turpin hitting two long balls, one all the way to the fence. Ryan O'Neill also hit strongly into the outfield. The Black Giants' Noah Lignell and Derek Craven both made significant defensive contributions to their team and provided solid offensive support.

T-Ball: Cardinals vs. Cubs: For the Cardinals, Junior Cisneros led things off with a strong first base hit. Luca Montalvo ended the line up, powering through the bases to home after his great hit. Luca also did a great job as catcher, getting multiple outs. On defense, Connor Morgan made an awesome catch for a first base out and JJ Chapman was a great outfield defender, with numerous throws to first base and home. Donovan Umeki and Joey Hutchinson were the power hitters for the Cubs, with nice line drives into out field. Austin Calkins was a great defender and Collin Perotti threw to the bases for several talented defensive plays.

Cardinals vs Giants: For the Cardinals, Luca Montalvo made a great outfield catch to home. Third baseman Travis Kelly did some awesome fielding. Jacob Garrison returned 3 coaches pitches for first base hits. JJ Chapman returned 2 live pitches showing awesome hustle to first base for both. For the Giants- Silveira performed great third base fielding and Pollard was a terrific fielder as well. Pitcher Zach Hoobing had several great throws and York was the Giants' power hitter with a home run.

Dodgers vs Black Giants: The players were on fire, facing pitches from the coaches with tons of great hits. On the Dodgers, Sebastian Salcido, Jordan Dennett and Sean Stots hustled in the outfield. On the Black Giants, Shane Pollard earned the game ball with a double off a coach pitch. Damon Miller made a great play for an out at third base. Joshua Nixon had some powerful hits and nice plays at first base.

Crush Basketball

The 8th grade Tri-Valley Crush #2 team won a nail biter over a scrappy East Bay Bulldogs squad by a score of 36 to 35 in MVP flight action. Tri-Valley can into the game riding high on a four game win streak. The Crush led 16-10 at the half on the strength of Andre Kasten's six first quarter points. The Bulldogs, fighting for their playoff life, never said die and took their first lead with 35 seconds left in the game. Kasten came through in the clutch as he scored the game winning lay-up with just 13 ticks left on the clock. Kasten led the Crush with 10 points, five rebounds and three assists. James Dayton contributed nine points and had two steals and Dominex Kovacs put up six points, three rebounds and played stifling defense.

Saturday's victory by Crush #2 assured playoffs spots for both Crush #2 and their Crush #10 brethren team, leaving Sunday's game between the two to be for club bragging rights. And what a spirited intrasquad match-up it was, won by the White team over the Red 39-37. In a game marked by eight ties and ten lead changes, a missed free throw by the White side with nine seconds left in the game gave the Reds a chance to tie on their last possession. Curt Wigginton drove the length of the court but could not convert a slashing drive to the hoop that would have sent the contest into overtime. All fourteen Crush players present scored, and ten different players grabbed rebounds. Steven Good led with 12 points and six rebounds. Austin

Medeiros had eight points, Jake Trevithick seven points and four rebounds and Justin Nunes four points and a pair of assists. Grant Perry, Michael Ditzel and Trevithick each drained a three point shot from outside.

In 7th grade action, Tri-Valley Crush dominated the Piedmont Highlanders 40-14. Dylan Medeiros, Ryan Nop and Dustin Allen all played strong games. The 7th grade team also advances to next weekend's MVP Flight playoffs.

Foothill Little League

Pleasanton Foothill Little League highlights:

Junior 80's Gold: Pleasanton Foothill 20, Livermore National 1: The Pleasanton Foothill Junior 80's Gold defeated the Livermore National Junior 80's Gold 20 to 1 and 6 to 5, completing a double header sweep. Pleasanton was a hitting and run scoring machine pounding out 21 hits and 26 runs in the double header. Ryan Probst led Pleasanton's offensive attack with a triple, two doubles and a single, 9 RBI and scored 2 runs. Adding to Pleasanton's attack were Stephen Chipman who had 4 hits, 3 RBI and 4 runs scored, Matt Finney 3 hits, 1 RBI and 4 runs scored, Luther Little 2 hits and 3 runs scored, and Logan Azelton 2 hits and 3 runs scored. Pleasanton's pitching was phenomenal. Kyle Lawrence, Zach Shields, Stephen Chipman and Jordan Ott held Livermore to just four earned runs in the double header, while striking out 11. In the first game it was all Pleasanton as the 20 to 1 score would indicate, but in the second game Livermore held a 5 to 1 advantage going into the top of the 7th inning. Pleasanton scored 5 runs to take a 6 to 5 lead and the eventual victory. Jordan Ott shut down Livermore over the final two innings in the night cap striking out 3, while giving up no runs or hits. Top Offensive Players: Ryan Probst, Stephen Chipman and Matt Finney Top Defensive Players: Matt Martel, Kyle Lawrence and Jordan Ott

Pleasanton Foothill 5, Livermore National 2: Jordan Ott pitched 6 1/3 innings for Pleasanton Foothill holding Pleasanton National to just three hits, while striking out four batters. Stephen Chipman pitched the final two outs to secure the victory. Matt Finney had two hits, one RBI and scored two runs, Kyle Freitas had one hit, two RBI and one run scored, Jordan Ott had one hit, one RBI and scored one run and Ryan Probst and one hit and one RBI to lead Pleasanton Foothill Junior 80's Gold offensive attack. Scott Rasnick threw out a runner at first base from his right field position on what could have been a single. Dylan Frades made a great play at second base to rob a Pleasanton National player of a sure hit. Top Offensive Players: Matt Finney, Kyle Freitas and Jordan Ott. Top Defensive Players: Jordan Ott, Scott Rasnick and Dylan Frades

Youth Soccer

The first place Pleasanton Rage U11 Premier team tied, 2 to 2, with second place rivals Lamorinda United Soccer Club 98, tie the leaves the Rage still sitting on top of the division. On this hot day with only one available substitute Rage faced a daunting challenge and was lucky to tie the game.

The first half Ariana Nino opened up the scoring with a beautiful penalty kick into the net, but shortly thereafter Lamorinda answered back with a goal of their own. The Rage clearly had control of the first half but failed to score more goals. After halftime both teams scored equally, the Rage's Rachel Rice popped it in after an enormous team effort to get the ball in front of the goal. However as the half wore on and with only one sub the Rage players had to give it their all and more, the heat and lack of substitutions made it difficult for the Rage to maintain the dominance they held in the first half. The final score was 2-2 which keeps the Rage still in first place.

Pleasanton Spirit Run

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton presents its 17th Annual Pleasanton Spirit Run on Sunday morning, June 20, in downtown Pleasanton. This Father's Day community tradition will benefit the Pleasanton Rotary Club's Scholarship Program - assisting local high school students.

There is a race or walk event for every member of the family, including the 5K Run or Walk, or the 10K Run. In addition, there will be three separate Kid's Challenge Races - for children ages 2-8. The 5K and 10K certified courses are flat and fast, using the monitored downtown streets of Pleasanton and a portion of the paved and unpaved Arroyo Trails. The start and finish lines are located under, or very close to the Pleasanton arch, located on Main Street. The Kids' Challenge is made up of three 100-yard dashes on Main Street, finishing right underneath the arch.

Trophies will go to the top male and female finishers. Beautifully etched glass trophies will be given to the top male and female Masters (over 40 years old) winners. In addition, medals are given three deep in designated age groups for both male and female participants. Each child participating in the Kids' Challenge will receive a finisher ribbon and a cookie from Mr. Cookie, himself.

Pre-Registration: Kids' Challenge - \$5.00; 5K & 10K - \$20.00; grades K-8; \$30.00 high school students and adults; \$20.00 each for families of four, or more. Race-day Registration: Kids' Challenge - \$10.00; 5K & 10K - \$25.00; grades K-8; \$35.00 high school students and adults; \$25.00 each for families of four, or more.

All participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt and goodie bag, as well as refreshments and will each receive ticket to a huge after-race raffle. The 10K Race will start at 8:00 a.m., with the 5K Run and Walk will begin at 8:20 a.m. The Kids' Challenge events will begin around 9:30 a.m. Check-in and race-day registration opens at 6:30 a.m.

For more Spirit Run information and/or an application, call On Your Mark Race Management at 209-795-7832, or visit their Web site at www.onyourmarkevents.com.

Charity Golf Tourney

The 2010 Tri-Valley Memorial Charity Golf Tournament presented by Dentists Against Cancer will be held on May 21, 2010 at Callippe Preserve Golf Course in Pleasanton. One hundred percent of the profits from this event will be donated to the ValleyCare Health Systems' Mammograms For Women In Need Fund, a fund that pays for women to have a mammogram screening and doctor's interpretation. Early detection is the best way to fight breast cancer.

The day's festivities will begin with early registration at 11 a.m. with a barbecue lunch at noon. The 12:45 p.m. shotgun start will begin the four person scramble tournament. The cocktail reception begins at 5:45 p.m. with dinner and awards ceremony to follow. For non-golfers who would like to participate in an evening of fun including a live auction, there are banquet only tickets available. Join us for an evening of fun while helping raise money for a great cause.

The fee is \$175 per golfer or \$660 per foursome. Banquet only tickets are \$50 per person.

Please visit www.Tri-ValleyMemorial.org for registration details.

Junior Football

The Livermore Junior Football League registration for 2010 is underway.

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

Online registration is open at www.LivermoreJuniorFootball.com.

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

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

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

15U Summer Baseball

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

Golf Tournament

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

Proceeds from this event will benefit Livermore Valley Charter School, Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory, and Tassajara Preparatory High School. The cost of each golf tournament ticket is \$175. The golf tournament will be followed by a banquet dinner. Dinner will be \$55 per person. For more information go to www.arounddublinblog.com/livermore-ca-lvcs-golf-tournament-dinner-2010/

PGSL Board

Notice is hereby given that Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League is accepting nominations for its 2011 Executive Board of Directors. Nominations are to be made at the board's regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at the Hyatt Summerfield Suites, 4545 Chabot Drive, Pleasanton. The meeting begins at 8:00pm. Voting will take place on Saturday, May 22, 2010. 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 (5/22/10, 9am-5pm) at the Pleasanton Sportspark next to the Snack Bar by GSB 7.

Baseball Camps

Livermore High Variety Baseball Coach David Perotti is hosting two summer camps. Each camper will receive individual instruction from coaches and Livermore High players, a snack each day and a camp shirt. There are two 5-12 year old camps that cost \$100 and \$125. The two dates are: June 28-July 1 (four days only) and July 12-16 and run from 9-12 each day. For more info to sign up please contact David Perotti at (925) 586-2811 or dpperotti@yahoo.com or check website www.eteamz.com/lvb

Charity Cup Golf Classic

Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill is hosting its 15th Annual Charity Cup Golf Classic at Las Positas Golf Course (915 Clubhouse Drive) in Livermore on Friday, May 21, 2010. The cost is \$150.00 per player includes green fee, cart, golf shirt, lunch, dinner, on-course refreshments, awards ceremony, huge raffle giveaway and a chance to win \$10,000 and more!

All proceeds will benefit the Helen Diller Family Cancer Research Center. Lunch & Registration begins at 11am. Shotgun start is at 1:00pm

To register visit www.beebsatlaspositas.com or call (925) 455-7070. Entries limited to the first 144.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 FIRST STREET 443-SHOW	
SHREK FOREVER AFTER 3D (PG) DLP THX	11:45	2:00	4:25 6:40 9:00
SHREK FOREVER AFTER 3D (PG) DLP	11:05	12:50	1:30 3:10 3:50
	5:25	6:00	7:40 8:15 9:15
MAC GRUBER (R) DLP	12:20	2:40	4:50 7:00 9:50
IRON MAN 2 (PG13) DLP THX		1:15	4:15 7:15 10:00
IRON MAN 2 (PG13) DLP		11:30	12:20 2:30 3:20
		5:30	6:20 8:30 9:20
ROBIN HOOD (PG13) DLP 11:00 12:30	2:00	3:30	5:00 6:30 8:00 9:30
LETTERS TO JULIET (PG) DLP	11:35	2:05	4:40 7:10 9:40
DATE NIGHT (PG13) DLP	12:40	2:45	5:00 7:20 9:25
HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG) DLP	11:50	2:10	4:30 6:45 9:10
JUST WRIGHT (PG) DLP	12:00	2:35	4:55 7:25 9:55
SEX & THE CITY 2 MIDNIGHT THE 26TH OPENING MAY 27TH			
PRINCE OF PERSIA PRESENTED IN D-BOX MOTION SEATING OPENING MAY 28			

SHORT NOTES

Volunteers Make a Difference

On Saturday, May 8, 2010, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in coordination with the City's Public Services Department, will provide approximately 250 volunteers for a special work day at Forest Home Farms Historic Park. Volunteers will be accomplishing numerous tasks including: Painting the interior of the Boone House including the Dining Area, Meeting Room, Bedroom; Cleaning and painting the Boone House ADA Ramp; Painting the Sheep Barn, Granary Building, Tool Shed; Grounds clean-up and mulching; Planting annual flowers in designated areas.

The Public Services Department has coordinated the implementation of the volunteer efforts and will be contributing \$6 - 7,000 toward the cost of materials and supplies and City staff time to ensure a safe and successful event. "The City is very appreciative of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints for generously donating their time and talent to Forest Home Farms," said Public Services Director Karen McNamara. "Their contribution is saving an estimated \$40,000 in labor costs."

In 1997, Ruth Quayle Boone bequeathed the 16-acre Boone family farm known as Forest Home Farms, at 19953 San Ramon Valley Boulevard, to the City of San Ramon for use as a municipal historic park in memory of her husband, Travis Moore Boone. After Ruth Boone's death in 1998 at the age of 94, the City expanded the memorial to include Ruth, in honor of her generosity to the people of San Ramon and in recognition of the contribution women made to agriculture in the San Ramon Valley. The southern portion of the property is now home to the David Glass House, an Italianate Victorian style structure and its tank house built in 1877.

Money to Charities

The 2010 Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame has donated \$12,000 to local charities that help women and to a local youth to help with college costs.

Alameda County Administrator Susan Muranishi announced the gifts in closing remarks at the 2010 Women's Hall of Fame luncheon and awards ceremony on April 17. The uplifting event at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Oakland was attended by more than 500 people, including about 50 youth. "Through your generous support of this program, you are helping women here in Alameda County and helping to make our community a better place," Muranishi said.

Donations of \$2,500 each, derived from sponsor donations and proceeds from the annual luncheon and awards ceremony, went to:

- The Women's Cancer Resource Center

- The "Start With a Story" Program, Alameda County Library
- Friends of Faith, Inc.
- Maximizing Opportunities for Mothers to Succeed (MOMS) Program

In addition, the Women's Hall of Fame donated \$2,000 to a special Scholarship Fund set up for Taylor Marie Lyons of Oakland, this year's Hall of Fame inductee in the Youth category. Taylor, 18, is senior at Holy Names High School in Oakland. She will be attending Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in the fall.

The Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame set up its Youth Scholarship Fund in 2007, in an almost spontaneous response to the needs of a youth inductee who needed funds to attend college. For the past four years, funds for the Youth Scholarship Fund have been generated through the sales of table centerpieces created for the annual Women's Hall of Fame luncheon in the spring. The centerpieces were all created and donated by Alameda County District Attorney, Nancy O'Malley, a former Hall of Fame inductee.

Youth Scholarship funds have been augmented by additional contributions from County Supervisors and other donors. In addition, a raffle was held this year to offer attendees another option to contribute toward the Youth Scholarship Fund.

The 2010 Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame honored 11 local women for their outstanding contributions to the community and the inspiring examples they set for young women.

In addition to Taylor, this year's inductees were:

- Suzanne Shenfil, Human Services Director for City of Fremont, Business and Professions; boona cheema, Executive Director of Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency, Community Service; Favianna Rodriguez, an Oakland artist, Culture and Art; Regina Jackson, Executive Director of East Oakland Youth Development Center, Education; Sandra J. Threlfall, founder and Executive Director of Waterfront Action of Oakland, Environment; Gayle Quinn, Director of Health Education at the West Oakland Health Center, Health; LaDonna Harris, Commander with Alameda County Sheriff's Office, Justice; Kathy Kuhner, owner of Dogtown Development of Oakland, Non-Traditional Careers; Lisa A. Poyneer, engineer at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Science; and Vanessa Woodmansee, adult sports organizer for Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD), Sports and Athletics.

For more information about the 2010 inductees, go to the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame website at www.acgov.org/cao/hall-offame.

The Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame is currently accept-

ing nominations for its 18th annual awards ceremony in 2011. To nominate someone or to find out more about the Women's Hall of Fame program, go to www.acgov.org/cao/halloffame, or call the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women at (510) 259-3871.

Allstate Awards

As business leaders and involved citizens in the local area, the following Allstate exclusive agency owners have been designated a Premier Service Agency for 2010:

Kristi Wakamatsu of the Kristi Wakamatsu office in Livermore, (925) 447-2405

Gary Pinkis of the Gary A. Pinkis office in Pleasanton, (925) 484-1300

Bob McGlinchy of the Robert McGlinchy office in Pleasanton, (925) 846-0880

Les Adler of the Les Adler office in Pleasanton, (925) 227-8400

Ronald Yerian of the Ronald A. Yerian office in Tracy, (209) 832-2002

Bestowed upon less than 30 percent of Allstate's more than 12,000 agency owners across the country, this designation is being presented to these local Allstate agency owners for their commitment to exceeding customer expectations in their agency.

The Premier Service Agency designation is awarded to Allstate agency owners who have consistently met designated levels in customer service and business performance. These agents' recognition as Premier Service Agents prove their ability to deliver accessible, knowledgeable and personal customer service, allowing them to achieve outstanding business results.

Coldwell Banker

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage has announced that Rich Biddlecome has joined the company as an associate broker in its Pleasanton office. In his new position, Biddlecome will specialize in residential sales in the Tri-Valley area, Hayward and the surrounding communities.

Biddlecome has been serving the real estate community for the last 28 years, specializing in residential sales and property management. Prior to joining Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Biddlecome was the owner and managing broker of East Bay Properties since 1994.

He is an active member of American Legion (1st Vice Commander), American Legion Riders District 10 (President) and Patriot Guard Riders (State Captain).

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Pleasanton is located at 5980 Stoneridge Drive Suite 122 and can be reached at 925.847.2200. Biddlecome may be reached directly at 510.909.4519 and via e-mail at Rich.Biddlecome@cbnorcal.com.

Au Pair

Local Pleasanton resident Sharon Morris was recently invited to join nearly two hundred of her peers at a national conference in Walt Disney World, FL, hosted by Cultural Care Au Pair. Sharon is a Cultural Care Au Pair local childcare coordinator (LCC) for the Tri-Valley area. At the conference Morris represented the Tri-Valley and, networked with other coordinators from across the country and participated in professional development seminars and social media presentations.

As a local childcare coordinator, Sharon supports area families who are currently hosting an au pair in their home, as well as the au pairs themselves. Sharon earned her invitation to the conference by way of program growth in the previous year for her role as a local community resource for parents interested in intercultural childcare.

Sharon is a member of a nationwide network of more than 600 local childcare coordinators dedicated to promoting global understanding through intercultural childcare. In addition to supporting a local group of host families and their au pairs, Sharon organizes social activities throughout the program year, advises au pairs on educational opportunities in the community and provides advice on intercultural exchange. Sharon and her colleagues use the conference as an opportunity to collaborate on the most effective means to support their families and au pairs locally, ensuring a positive experience for everyone involved with the program.

Sharon is currently interviewing area parents who are interested in hosting an au pair. She can be contacted at 925-989-6082 for additional information on the Cultural Care Au Pair program. She can give you all the details on the AuPair program. Interested families may also visit <http://smorris.aupairnews.com/>

Pam Linney Joins Staff

Pam Linney, formerly of Radiance Day Spa, has joined the staff at Aventine. Pam will be joining a team directed and supervised by plastic surgeons John Romano, MD and Prasad Kilaru, MD. Currently, the combined medical team has one of the largest amounts of medical aesthetic experience in any one location in the Tri-Valley area. Pam's addition will add 10 years of medical aesthetic experience to the total.

Three years ago Aventine Medspa launched at the base of Ruby Hill. It's operated by John Romano, MD and Patrick Wong. Named after one of the 7 hills of ancient Rome, Aventine started as locally operated, non-franchise concept focusing on non-

invasive medical esthetic treatments by a skilled medical staff. While it's still locally operated, Aventine has expanded to uniquely offer a full service hair salon, a path to upgrade to plastic surgery and an entire suite of massage services. During the last year and a half, Aventine's staff has grown from 6 employees to 26 employees and now encompasses 3 suites next to Ruby Hill.

While Aventine is still developing, the goal is be "the spa" to support the Livermore Valley Wine Country. Expansion allows wedding day services, corporate retreats or group gatherings.

Campo di Bocce has developed a "spa" menu for Aventine's patrons.

Centennial Light

The Centennial Light is the topic of the M.O.M.'s (Museum On Main's) Reading Time, from 10-11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 9, 2010 at the Museum On Main, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. This free literacy program designed to introduce preschool-aged children to books and activities about the unique people, cultures, and events in their community.

M.O.M.'s Reading Time takes place the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10-11 a.m. at the Museum On Main, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton.

Topics are July 14, Our Great Nation; August 11, A Ramadan Story; September 8, Autumn Harvest; October 13, Spooky Stories; November 10, Celebrate Duvali; December 8, Winter Holidays.

No admission fee. Donations are always accepted. No reservations are required. Playgroups and large groups are asked to please call in advance.

Information about the program is available by contacting Jennifer Amiel, director of education, education@museumonmain.org or 925-462-2766. Visit www.museumonmain.org. Regular hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday 1-4 p.m.

Growing Up Female

Mothers and their fourth- to fifth-grade daughters are invited to attend an uplifting workshop about body changes and the realities of being female on Wednesday, May 26, from 4-6 p.m. at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave.

Led by RN specialist Amy Sluss, this two-hour workshop explores the normal changes that occur in girls ages 9-16, offers girls tools and tips for handling puberty, and connects girls and adult women together in a powerful and positive way. The session is crafted to build self-esteem, positive body image, and a healthy

sense of "being a girl." A warm and comfortable environment for questions, exploration and learning, this experience sets the stage for future conversations and positive growth as your daughter transitions to adulthood.

There is a \$75 fee per mother-daughter pair for the workshop, which includes \$40 worth of take-home material to continue the learning. For more information, call Sluss at 858-0702 or register online at www.fab2bfem.com.

Animal Camp

The East Bay SPCA is offering an animal camp for children entering grades 1 to 8 in the fall.

There are weekly sessions beginning June 21, 9 a.m. to noon. Animal Camp is an interactive educational program where campers learn about animals and gain an appreciation for all living beings.

The cost is \$150 per week. The camp is held at 4651 Gleason Dr., Dublin. To learn more or to register, visit www.eastbayspca.org.

Community Art Piece

Youth, ages 7 to 17 are invited to participate in the First Tee Tri-Valley Chapter and help create a community Life Skills Art Tile Mural on June 6. Signup is limited to the first 300 youth who sign up.

This art mural will showcase individual youth talent in the community. Each participating child will select one core value (honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, judgment, confidence, courtesy, respect, responsibility, or perseverance) and will paint his or her interpretation on a 6" x 6" ceramic tile. The event will take place at ClubSport on Sunday afternoon, June 6th. This mural will then be installed at the 9-hole Pleasanton Golf Course.

There is no charge to participate. For information, go to www.thefirstteetrivalley.org.

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OBITUARIES

Rebecca Lee Medinas Marizette

Rebecca was born in Hayward, CA on August 27, 1947 and passed away in Livermore, on Tuesday, May 11, 2010. She was 62 years old.

She loved reading, knitting, and gardening.

She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, and great grandchild as well as numerous nieces and nephews. She loved her family and friends; she would always be there to help anyone. She was loved by all who knew her. Rebecca was a Certified Nursing Assistant and former employee of Hacienda Care Center and A Home of Our Own in Livermore.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Mary and John Medinas.

She is survived by her daughters Terri Barentine of Livermore, CA, Sherri Strawn of Windsor, CA, and Michelle Bozmann of Las Vegas, NV; sisters Ann Allen of Redding, CA and Judy Lewis of Tracy, CA, eight grandchildren, one great grandchild and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Friday, May 14th in Livermore. Burial followed at Holy Sepulchre Catholic Cemetery in Hayward. Donations can be made to the Brain or Lung Cancer Society.

Louise Mary O'Hare Ratto

Louise was born in Richmond, California on January 1, 1925 and passed away on Thursday, May 13, 2010 in Pleasanton, California. Louise was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother and adored by many friends and neighbors.

She was preceded in death by her husband Theodore Ricco Ratto and her son Jim Ratto in 1978. She is survived by her two loving sons, Gary and Craig Ratto, her daughters-in-law Lauren and Tamy Ratto, and her grandchildren, Corey, Kevin, Kristi and Theodore (Teddy) Ratto.

Louise will be missed dearly but never forgotten, as she will live within our hearts forever. Louise was 85 years old. A Chapel Blessing Service was held on May 19. Interment followed at St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery in Livermore.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

William Arthur Little

William was born on March 6, 1921 and went home to be with the Lord on May 13, 2010 at the age of 89. He served as a CPL for the United States Army Air Force in World War II.

William was preceded in death by his wife Helen of 55 years, son David in 1962, parents John and Minnie, and siblings Charles and Lucille. He is survived by his fiancé Dottie; son William (Mary Ella) Little Jr.; daughter Alyson; two grandsons Trevor and Kevin (Kelli); one great-granddaughter Maci; as well as many friends and family who were all very dear to him.

A memorial service for William will be held at First Presby-

terian Church, 2020 5th Street, Livermore, Monday, May 24 at 1:00pm.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Lillian Mae Spooner

Lillian Mae Spooner, 87 passed away on May 16, 2010. Lillian was born in Byron, Illinois and lived in Livermore since 1967. She was a homemaker and as a member of Asbury United Methodist Church served as financial secretary for nearly 30 years.

Lillian was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Bob and son Ronald.

Lillian will be greatly missed by her children, Robert Spooner (wife Arden) of Lake in the Hills, Ill., Charlotte Amoroso (husband Rick) of San Mateo, Charlie Spooner (wife June) of Estancia, NM, Raymond Spooner (wife Pam) of Livermore and Lois Spooner Grow of Madera, CA. She is also survived by 11 Grandchildren and 8 Great Grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 20 at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave, Livermore. Burial to follow service at Memory Gardens Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association at alz.org/norcal or Alzheimer's Association, 1060 La Avenida, Mountain View, CA. 94043

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

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Announcing Livermore's 8th Annual Citywide Garage Sale!

Join the fun and give your old stuff a new home!
Saturday • June 19, 2010
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Call Ann Reese at (925) 371-4059 or email at areese@wm.com by June 9th for this one-day-only event!

Ask Kathleen
Kathleen Minser, Waste Reduction Specialist, offers advice about the 4Rs: reduce, reuse, recycle, rot (compost).
Email Ask Kathleen questions to AskKathleen@wm.com

Q. We heard our family can make money by participating in the Eighth Annual Citywide Garage Sale. Do you have details?

A. Yes! You can earn extra cash and give your clutter a new life cycle (in someone else's home) in a one-day event that offers participants:

- An option to hold their own sale or go in with neighbors.
- A free "Garage Sale Kit" with a "how to" brochure and an advertising poster.
- Free newspaper advertising to attract more shoppers.

To sign up, call WM at (925) 371-4059 by June 9, 2010. Since WM does not collect unsold items after the event, participants may keep them or donate them to charity.

WM WASTE MANAGEMENT

Businesses Invited to Veteran Employment Conference

The City of Livermore invites businesses interested in hiring veterans to attend the Veteran Employment Conference on Wednesday, May 26, 8:30am a.m.-11am. There is no cost to attend this conference.

Over the next two years, more than 1.5 million men and women in our military will return from war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Learn the steps that can be taken right now to find future employees and show support for the men and women who have sacrificed so much to serve our country. Participating businesses can expect to learn the steps to meet employment initiatives; network with other businesses and representatives of participating federal and state agencies, as well as veteran organizations; and show their support for veterans.

The goal of the conference is to connect employers to resources and educate them about equal employment and affirmative action requirements, and the services available to help recruit and retain qualified veteran employees. Topics that will be covered include the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), reasons to hire veterans and National Guard and Reserve members, the Vietnam Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act (VEVRAA), as amended, compliance assistance, and tax benefits. Representatives from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) will provide information on employment services offered by the State of California.

The event is being spearheaded by the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs and Veterans' Employment & Training Service, in cooperation with the City of Livermore. Las Positas College Veterans First Program and other local veteran organizations will be providing refreshments and will also be accepting donations during the event.

It will be held in the Cresta Blanca Ballroom at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Livermore Economic Development Department at (925) 960-4140 or email tblavelaga@ci.livermore.ca.us.

Arc Volunteers Will Help Make Taste Of Summer Fund-raiser a Success

Susan Dulik and Ferris Brooks are outgoing, charming people. They are also people with developmental and intellectual disabilities who are served by The Arc of Alameda County at the agency's Tri-Valley facility on Rutan Drive in Livermore. Both love taking part in community activities and they jumped at the chance to volunteer at the 2nd annual "A Taste of Summer Hacienda Community BBQ."

Susan and Ferris, both long-time Arc clients, will be working from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Alameda County Fairgrounds helping organizers keep the games going and the food coming off the BBQ.

Richard Fitzmaurice, Director of Development and Public Information for The Arc of Alameda County, explains that this volunteer activity is part of a program called Project Inclusion.

"The project's goal is to provide the people we serve with community-based learning experiences that are more and more complex and challenging," he said. "The BBQ is perfect because Susan and Ferris will be

working in an unfamiliar environment with people they haven't met before. This will be a great experience for them and I know they'll be a big help to the event planners."

Susan is part of the Arc work crew that cleans bus stops for the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority. In her spare time, she travels around the Bay Area on BART and Public Transportation; mostly to visit family. She loves attending theater productions in San Francisco and says "Wicked" is her latest favorite.

Ferris packages products at the Arc's Vocational Development Center in Livermore and when his colleagues are unavailable, he's willing and able to join vehicle washing crews that keep Livermore police cars, Livermore Pleasanton fire trucks and Pleasanton's city fleet spick and span. He loves music and traveling - especially to Disneyland.

The Taste of Summer BBQ benefits Hacienda Helping Hands; Hacienda Business Park's charitable giving campaign that supports local charities throughout the Tri-Valley.

"Last year, Hacienda Helping Hands supported Project Inclusion," said Fitzmaurice, noting that Ferris attended the grant ceremony last fall. "It's great that he and Susan want to give back by participating in this year's fund-raising event."

The 2nd annual Taste of Summer BBQ will be held on Friday, May 21, 2010 from 4 - 8 p.m.

at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. For additional information and to purchase tickets, please visit: <http://helpinghands.hacienda.org>.

The Hacienda Helping Hands campaign is conducted in partnership with the Tri-Valley Community Foundation. For information, go to www.tvcfoundation.org.

Callippe Golf Course on 'Best Golf Courses' List

Callippe Preserve Golf Course in Pleasanton has once again been included on Golfweek Magazine's list of the Best Municipal Golf Courses in the nation. The 2010 list was compiled by a nationwide team of more than 475 evaluators who rated the courses on the basis of 10 standards including routing, conditioning, variety and memorability of holes. The result is an average of scores, which then dictates a course's overall ranking.

"We at Callippe Preserve Golf Course are very honored to learn that it has again been named one of the top 50 municipal courses in the nation, out of more than 8,000 courses," said course General Manager Mike Ash.

This marks the second time the course has been included on the elite list, which also boasts Torrey Pines course in La Jolla, a U.S. Open venue, and San Francisco's Harding Park, which hosted the President's Cup last

fall. Callippe Preserve Golf Course, which opened in November 2005, is also one of the newer courses on the list, which features some courses with long, established histories dating back as far as the 1920s.

Designed by Brian Costello of JMP Golf Design Group, Inc., Callippe Golf Course was developed as part of a cooperative effort to create an 18-hole golf course, hiking and equestrian trails, endangered species habitat, wetland establishment, and dedicated grazing land.

The course site is a protected habitat for the federally endangered Callippe Silverspot Butterfly and the California Tiger Salamander, and the federally threatened California Red Legged Frog.

There are five sets of tees on this par 72, with the black tees playing at 6,748. The blue tees measure at 6,409, then the white tees at 6,024 yards, the

gold tees at 5,560, and the red at 4,788 yards. Varieties of terrain are spread throughout the course as the front nine is routed through the valley and the back nine sits on a higher elevation

with the Happy Valley Creek winding throughout. Sanctuaries dedicated to the Callippe butterfly are displayed on holes 11 through 14.



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LEGAL NOTICES

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 437660
The following person(s) doing business as: 1)Water & Wastewater Management Solutions, 2)Water & Wastewater Management Systems, 2385 Sandpiper Way, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Stephen S. Cusenza, 2385 Sandpiper Way, Pleasanton Ca 94566

This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/Stephen S. Cusenza
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 23, 2010. Expires April 23, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 437652
The following person(s) doing business as: DVF Construction, 145 Topaz Way, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
David Valente Freese, 145 Topaz Way, Livermore Ca 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/David Freese
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 23, 2010. Expires April 23, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 437600
The following person(s) doing business as: Savantix Ventures, Inc. DBA: Sport Clips, 4338 Las Positas Rd., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Savantix Ventures, Inc., 4726 Cindy Ct., 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/David C. Trabert
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2010. Expires

April 22, 2015.
The Independent Legal No.2770 Publish May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 437580
The following person(s) doing business as: DreamVip Publishing, 1081 Felicia Ct., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
David W. Palmer, 1081 Felicia Ct., Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on March 31, 2010.

Signature of Registrant: /s/David W. Palmer
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2010. Expires April 22, 2015.

The Independent Legal No. 2772. Publish May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 438173-438177
The following person(s) doing business as: 1)JK Industries, 2) Jeffrey's Fine Catering, 3) All American Solar, 4) North Face Construction, 5) Revelation Homes, 3123 Independence Dr., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Jeff's Kitchen & Bath Design Inc., 3605 Huff Court, Pleasanton Ca 94588
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/David Fitch
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 6, 2010. Expires May 6, 2015.

The Independent Legal No.2773 Publish May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 438284
The following person(s) doing business as: RJB Productions, 3283 East Ave., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Robert J. Belt, 3283 East Ave., Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/Robert J. Belt
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 10, 2010. Expires May 10, 2015.

No.2774 Publish May 13, 20, 27, June 3, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 437738
The following person(s) doing business as: Excellent Bookkeeping Solutions, 3504 Ovella Way, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Debra Sindell St. John, 3504 Ovella Way, Pleasanton Ca 94566
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/Debra J. St. John
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 26, 2010. Expires April 26, 2015.

The Independent Legal No.2778 Publish May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 438026

The following person(s) doing business as: NovelTouch, 1169 Farmington Way, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Suzanne Christiana Eddleman, 1169 Farmington Way, Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant: /s/Suzanne Eddleman
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 3, 2010. Expires May 3, 2015.

The Independent Legal No.2780 Publish May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2010.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 437670

The following person(s) doing business as: Cal State Fireplace, 1571 Sunset Dr., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Derek James Huerta, 1571 Sunset Dr., Livermore Ca 94551
This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.

Signature of Registrant: /s/Derek James Huerta
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 23, 2010. Expires April 23, 2015.

The Independent Legal No.2781 Publish May 20, 27, June 3, 10, 2010.

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS
Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted at the Alameda

County Social Services Agency Contracts Office, 2000 San Pablo Avenue, 4th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612 **NETWORKING/SOUTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE** RFP FVC 2010-11 - SSA Family Visitation Center, Friday, May 21, 2010, 9:30AM - 11:30AM, Alameda County Social Services Agency, Eden Multiservice, Brodiaea Room 532, 5th Floor, 24100 Amador Street, Hayward, CA **NETWORKING/NORTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE** RFP FVC 2010-11 - SSA Family Visitation Center, Friday, May 21, 2010, 1:00PM - 3:00PM Alameda County Social Services Agency, North County Self-Sufficiency Center, Oakland Room, 2nd Floor, 2000 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland, CA **Responses Due by 3:00 pm on June 8, 2010 County Contact: Sandra Oubre at (510) 208-9742 or via email: soubre@acgov.org** Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications regarding the above may be obtained at the Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org.

5/20/10
CNS-1860002#
The Independent Legal No. 2775. Publish May 20, 2010.

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS
Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 **NON-MANDATORY NETWORKING/BIDDERS CONFERENCE, South County RFP #900742** Weights and Measures Heavy-Duty Truck, May 25, 2010, 2:00 P.M. - Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Avenue, Chabot Room, Castro Valley, CA **NON-MANDATORY NETWORKING/BIDDERS CONFERENCE, North County RFP #900742** Weights and Measures Heavy-Duty Truck, May 25, 2010, 2:00 P.M. - General Services Agency, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Room 1105, 11th Floor, Oakland, CA **Responses Due by 2:00 pm on June 30, 2010 County Contact: Kai Moore (510) 208-4882 or via email: kai.moore@acgov.org** Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications and bid copies regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County GSA-Purchasing Department or the Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org.

5/20/10
CNS-1860911#
The Independent Legal #2777. Publish May 20, 2010

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS
Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 **RY PRE-BID SITE VISIT and MEETING - N. County Project #CPPADA09017172A, LAS VISTAS RECREATION BUILDING ADA RESTROOM UPGRADE and RAMP INSTALLATION**, Tuesday, June 1, 2010 at 1:00 P.M., Las Vistas Training Building, 2300 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro **Attendance at the Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is required Responses Due by 2:00 pm on June 15, 2010 County Contact: Tom McKimmy at (510) 208-3990 or via email: tom.mckimmy@acgov.org** Information regarding the above may be obtained at the Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org.

5/20/10
CNS-1861680#
The Independent Legal No. 2779. Publish May 20, 2010.

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS
Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 **NETWORKING/SOUTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE**

be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 **NON-MANDATORY NETWORKING/BIDDERS CONFERENCE, South County RFP #900627** Employee Service Recognition Awards, Wednesday, June 2, 2010, at 10:30 A.M. - Dublin Public Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Program Room, Dublin, CA **NON-MANDATORY NETWORKING/BIDDERS CONFERENCE, North County RFP #900627** Employee Service Recognition Awards, Thursday, June 3, 2010, at 2:00 P.M. - Alameda County General Services Agency, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Room 1107, 11th Floor, Oakland, CA **Responses Due by 2:00 pm on July 1, 2010 County Contact: Stefanie Taylor at (510) 208-9610 or via email: stefanie.taylor@acgov.org** Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications and bid copies regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County GSA-Purchasing Department or the Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org.

5/20/10
CNS-1863046#
The Independent Legal No. 2782. Publish May 20, 2010.

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS
Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 **NETWORKING/NORTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE** RFP #900717 for Enterprise Content Management Programming and Development Services, Thursday, June 3, 2010, 10:00 a.m. - General Services Agency, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Room 1107, 11th Floor, Oakland, CA **NETWORKING/SOUTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE** RFP #900717 for Enterprise Content Management Programming and Development Services, Friday, June 4, 2010, 2:00 p.m. - Dublin Public Library, Program Room, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA **Responses Due by 2:00 pm on July 14, 2010 County Contact: Tudor S. Mosu (510) 208-9614 or via email: tudor.mosu@acgov.org** Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications and bid copies regarding the above may be obtained at the Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org.

5/20/10
CNS-1864558#
The Independent Legal No.#2783. Publish May 20, 2010.

ANIMALS

2) CATS/DOGS
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, and PetCo in San Ramon from 11 to 3. Informal, call TVAR at (925) 803-7043 or visit our website at www.tvvar.org

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

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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)

DONATE YOUR CAR! to SONGS OF LOVE! Seen on the TODAY SHOW! Make a sick child smile and get a tax-deduction. Endorsed by Bob McGrath of Sesame Street! Call 888-909-SONG (7664) (CAL-SCAN).

EMPLOYMENT

56) ADULT CARE

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REAL ESTATE

NEWS AND NOTICES

State Tax Credits Still Available for Some Homebuyers

By Cher Wollard
The deadline for the federal tax credit has passed, but certain homebuyers may still be eligible for substantial state tax credits. The pool of money to fund the tax credits is limited, however, so serious buyers are advised to move quickly.

The combination of government incentives, low mortgage rates and increased consumer confidence has been a boon to the homebuilding industry.

The National Association of Home Builders said Monday its housing market index, which tracks industry confidence, is at the highest level since August 2007.

"Builders are more comfortable that the market is truly beginning to recover, and that positive factors for buying a new home – low interest rates, great selection, stabilizing prices and a recovering job market – are taking the place of tax incentives to generate buyer demand," David Crowe, the trade association's chief economist, told MSNBC this week.

Sales of new homes rose significantly in March, the latest month for which complete statistics are available.

Many of those buyers were likely motivated in part by the promise of federal tax incentives. Those expired May 1, but activity continues to be brisk in the new homes sector.

Foot traffic from prospective buyers was up in May, based on a survey of 416 residential builders nationwide.

In California, at least, some of those buyers may be motivated by the state tax credit, which just took effect.

The state incentive allows first-time homebuyers and those purchasing new construction who close on a transaction after May 1, 2010, to apply for tax credits equal to 5 percent of the purchase price up to \$10,000. The buyer must occupy the property as his/her principal residence.

The credits will be paid out over three successive tax years. The tax credits cannot reduce regular tax below the tentative minimum tax (TMT) level, and unused credits cannot be carried over.

The state has reported receiving a high volume of applications already. A note on the California Franchise Tax Board's website is telling:

"Due to the high volume of faxes we are receiving, you may experience some delays or difficulties in connecting to our fax number during normal business hours. It can take several minutes or possibly up to an hour to connect and transmit the fax. If you receive a busy signal, try again later."

Unlike the federal program, the state credits draw from a defined pool of funds — \$100 million for first-time homebuyers and \$100 million for those who purchase new construction.

So while the program does not expire until 2011, the funds are expected to run out this month. That means buyers need to hurry if they hope to benefit.

To be eligible for either program, you must:

- Purchase a single-family residence in which you intend to live for at least two years. If you are purchasing a multiplex, you are only eligible for a credit on the unit you will occupy.
- You did not receive 2009 New Home Tax Credit from the state.
- You are 18 years old or older on the date of purchase.
- You are not related to the seller, as defined by the Internal Revenue Code section 267. (See www.irs.ustreas.gov)
- You do not qualify as a dependent of any other taxpayer in 2010.

In addition to these rules, there are other slightly different requirements for the two programs.

First-Time Homebuyers

- You are defined as a first-time homebuyer if neither you nor your spouse has owned a principal residence within the last three years. If your spouse has owned a home, even if you are not on the deed, you do not qualify for the credit.
- You must complete the purchase of your new home between May 1, 2010 and Jan. 1, 2011.
- Buyers must apply for the tax credit by submitting an Application for New Home/First-time Buyer (form 3549-A) along with a copy of the HUD-1 closing statement to the California Franchise Tax Board within two weeks of close of escrow.

You can find the form at www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/New_Home_Credit.shtml

The HUD-1 will be included in your closing packet from the escrow company that handles your transaction.

Applications should be faxed to (916) 855-5577. Check your fax confirmation to make sure all pages were transmitted successfully and keep a copy of the confirmation. The fax number is open 24 hours a day, so you may want to fax your application during non-business hours when the line is less busy.

Buyers of New Construction

- You do not have to be a first-time homebuyer to qualify for the New Home Credit – you just have to purchase a home that has never been lived in after May 1.
- As soon as you enter into a contract to purchase a home, you may apply for a "reservation" to hold your place for a credit by using the Reservation Request for New Home Credit form (FTB 3549-RR). You and a representative of the seller must certify on the form that you have entered an enforceable contract. Then you must fax certain pages of your purchase agreement along with the form to the Franchise Tax Board as soon as possible.
- Once you close on your home – which must be on or before Aug. 1, 2011 – you submit the application (form 3549-A) within two weeks of close of escrow.

Only one tax credit is allowed per taxpayer. If you are a first-time homebuyer purchasing new construction, you will be allocated a New Home Credit. This is because the state expects the First-Time Credit pool to run out of funds first.

There are several new home communities being built in the Tri-Valley, at various price points. There is also a variety of inventory suitable for first-time homebuyers at any price point.

Make an appointment with your Realtor to tour these homes. Most builders require your agent to accompany you to their sales office on your first visit if you want him/her to assist you with your purchase.

Student Art Show at Windermere

A reception will be held Thursday, May 20, 5-7 p.m. for art and photography students from Livermore and Granada, who have their work on display at Windermere Welcome Home Realty, 1790 First Street, Livermore.

The show, the latest in an ongoing series featuring the work of local artists at the real estate office, was organized by teachers from the two schools. It runs through June 5.

The public is invited to view the show during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or by appointment with Cher Wollard, 925 824-4824 or cherw@windermere.com.

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

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The 16th Annual Bike to Work Day on May 13th was a big success in the Tri-Valley, with over 430 cyclists visiting the Energizer Station co-hosted by the Cities of Dublin and Pleasanton, Hacienda Business Park, Dublin Cyclery, and BART. Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti and Councilman Don Biddle were present at the event and distributed free T-shirts, giveaways, and refreshments to the cyclists. The increased participation in this year's BTWD showed that Bay Area residents - eager to address the growing concerns over health, rising gas prices and global warming - are choosing to be part of the solution by turning to the bicycle for their everyday transportation needs. Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti poses with some of the volunteers at the Bike to Work Day Energizer Station, co-hosted by the Cities of Dublin and Pleasanton, Hacienda Business Park, Dublin Cyclery, and BART. Mayor Sbranti, along with Councilman Don Biddle helped to distribute free giveaway bags and refreshments to over 430 cyclists at the annual event on May 13th. Photo taken by Hacienda Business Park

Seat Belt Ticket Increases to \$142

If you're planning to hit the road for a late spring or early summer getaway, be sure that everyone in the car wears their seat belt on every trip, day and night. Law enforcement throughout the state, including the Livermore Police Department will be looking for unbelted drivers and passengers as part of the 2010 *Click It or Ticket* mobilization, May 24 - June 6. This year, fines and fees have increased from \$132 to \$142 for first time adult seat belt violations. For children under 16, the fine is now \$445 for a first time offense.

"Keep your friends and family safe by buckling up no matter where you're going," said Steve Sweeney, the Chief of the Livermore Police Department. "We will be looking for motorists throughout the area who are not buckling up, day and night. It's not just about avoiding a ticket;

it's about keeping the ones you care about alive."

Seat belt violators will receive citations - no warnings. The *Click It or Ticket* campaign relies on heavy enforcement and public education as a means to help save lives on California's roadways.

"Wearing a seat belt is just simply the easiest and most effective thing you can do on the road to protect yourself and your family," said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. "That means buckling up day and night, on every trip."

More than 600 permanent *Click It or Ticket* highway signs, which have been up since 2005, will be updated to reflect the new 'Minimum \$142' in the coming months.

Currently California has a seat belt usage rate of 95.3 percent, but that still means over half a

million people are not buckling up. Properly restrained drivers, passengers and children have a 50 percent better chance of surviving a crash than unbelted occupants. Those ejected from vehicles in crashes or roll-overs are up to 35 times more likely to die than restrained occupants. The seatbelt usage rate in Livermore has been in the high 90s for the past several years, and was an amazing 99% during a survey in October 2009.

More than 150 local law enforcement agencies statewide and the CHP will be participating in this year's *Click It or Ticket* mobilization. Funding to support California's *Click It or Ticket* campaign was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

VETERANS

(continued from page one)

assess the need for his services so that he can expand the number of hours he is available.

"At a time with a lot of budget cutbacks," Johnson said, "these services have been added with no cost to the college through GI Bill funding."

The most common issues Johnson sees veterans facing are Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, depression and anxiety.

Johnson served during the Iraq invasion. After his last tour was over, he used his GI Bill benefits to attend Modesto Community College. He then transferred to UC Berkeley where he studied to be a counselor and began a work-study program with the Concord Veterans Center.

Johnson indicated he was able to get back into "civilian life" with help from friends, family and other veterans. He is hoping his services will help others to return to civilian life.

The program was launched after Todd Steffan, Veterans Benefits Specialist at LPC, and Johnson ran into each other at

several veterans' workshops and events. They began talking about how they could start providing VA services at LPC. The Concord Veterans Center was trying to reach out to the community to help fill the gap in services in the East Bay, according to Johnson.

From campus, the closest veterans centers with readjustment programs are in Concord, 24.4 miles away, San Jose, 26 miles away, Oakland, 28.9 miles away, and the Peninsula center in Redwood City, 32.8 miles away.

In addition to the gap in services in the area, the reason LPC has been chosen for an outreach center is that the door is open

there. A large number of student veterans exist, according to Johnson.

Bringing Johnson's services to campus took a year and required approval from the Board of Trustees and President Pollard.

The Concord Veterans Center is also trying to establish outstations at SF City College.

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CODY

(continued from page one)

the excessive accumulation of CSF results in an abnormal widening of spaces in the brain called ventricles, which in turn creates potentially harmful pressure on the tissues of the brain.

The most common treatment for hydrocephalus is a surgically inserted shunt system that diverts the flow of CSF to another area of the body where it can be absorbed as part of the normal circulatory system. Cody had his first shunt surgery when he was 12 weeks old and had three more shunt surgeries by the time he was two.

Before Cody had even left the hospital following his birth, Traci had already gotten in touch with the Hydrocephalus Association (www.hydroassoc.org), at the urging of her sister, who is a pediatric nurse in San Jose. "They were a tremendous resource, answering a lot of questions, providing information on hydrocephalus, and just giving general support," says Traci. "I really wish there was a way to treat hydrocephalus other than shunt surgery."

Cody will continue to need new shunts as he grows. He is approaching the one-year anniversary of his current shunt later this month, which his family sees as a big milestone since it also means he hasn't had to undergo major brain surgery in that time. For Traci's family, another challenge is that they don't know Cody needs a new shunt until he starts showing symptoms of pressure in his brain.

The circumstances of Cody's birth—severe pressure on his brain and the fact that he had his first shunt surgery before he was six months old—mean he is highly susceptible to multiple shunt malfunctions. In 2008 alone he was hospitalized 15 times for shunt malfunctions.

Despite Cody's medical difficulties, Traci says she can't imagine him or her family any other way. "He's so easygoing and he just smiles through it all," she explains. "It's a relief to me to know he is not in pain. With everything we've been through since Cody was born, we've never had a bad experience. We've been very fortunate and we have such wonderful support from our family and friends."

Traci and Kevin try to stick with the doctor's advice of treating Cody like any other child—just like his four-year-old brother Ty—to the extent possible. He can never play football or wrestle, but all other normal childhood experiences are open to him.

Traci works as the director of preschool and schoolage programs at the Laboratory Employee Children's Center (for employees of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories). Ty is in the pre-K room and Cody is in the 2-year-old room when he's not at physical therapy, speech therapy, or special classes at the School of Imagination in Dublin.

"One day the kids in Cody's room were sitting around a table

having a pretend tea party. One child was serving tea to everyone, but when he got to Cody he didn't pour the tea into a cup, he walked over to Cody's feeding tube and pretended to pour the tea into it," says Traci. "It warmed my heart to see the kids acknowledging Cody's differences while still accepting and including him."

Traci, Kevin, and that network of family and friends have formed "the Bear Brigade" for the Hydrocephalus Association's annual walk fund-raiser, which will take place in Mountain House for the first time later this month. In 1991, the Hydrocephalus Association held its first walk in San Francisco with 23 participants; last year there were walks in 24 cities with 5,000 participants.

The Bear Brigade, so named because Cody's nickname is "Cody Bear," is currently the top fund-raising team for the event. The 1st Annual San Joaquin Valley Hydrocephalus Walk will take place on Saturday, May 29 at the Central Community Park (25 East Main Street) in Mountain House. Registration begins at 9 am and the walk begins at 10:30 am. For more information, go to www.hydroassoc.org/get-involved/walk-2010/ and choose "California - San Joaquin Valley" from the list of locations.

99 Ranch Market Opens in the Rose Pavilion

Centro Properties Group (ASX:CNP) announced an approximately 45,000 square foot 99 Ranch Market, an Asian American supermarket, recently opened at Rose Pavilion Shopping Center, located in the northwest corner of the intersection at Santa Rita Road and Rosewood Drive in Pleasanton, CA. Its location in Pleasanton will mark the grocery retailer's twelfth store.

The new 99 Ranch Market at Rose Pavilion features a seafood department, meat department, fresh produce section, bakery, deli, and wine and beer from around the world. The store also offers a full selection of oriental grocery items as well as ethnic offerings including Hispanic, Filipino and Indian foods.

Centro Properties Group is the owner of Rose Pavilion and was represented by Jason Ball and Matthew Berger with Centro Properties Group.

For leasing information at Rose Pavilion, please contact Centro Properties Group, Matthew Berger (888) 457-3179 or matthew.berger@centroprop.com.

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SPEAKER

(continued from page one)

United Nations, and the World Economic Forum.

At the May 25 event in Pleasanton, Lovins will speak on "Energy Efficiency and Long-Term Sustainability," drawing from the Natural Capitalism concept she co-created to work with businesses, governments and organizations to implement a profitable approach to developing sustainable businesses and communities.

Also speaking at the event will be Elliott Hoffman, the co-founder and CEO of Natural Capitalism and Chairman of the Board of New Voice in Business, a non-profit organization that addresses issues surrounding the creation of a sustainable and prosperous economy for the 21st century.

Interested participants may call (925) 931-5500 to reserve a seat at this free event.

Art, Community, & Education

California Living History Comes to Arroyo Seco Elementary School



Alejandra Quzada (center) and Elisa Bonfiello look for gold.

By Patricia Koning

When it became clear that the annual fourth grade Sacramento field trip was not in the cards, the teachers at Arroyo Seco Elementary School decided to bring the experience into the school. On Monday, May 10, the fourth graders panned for gold, studied artifacts from the gold rush days, participated in a frog jumping contest, and cooked their own “miner’s grub” the 1850’s way.

“Because of the economy, we decided to do something at the school this year,” explains fourth grade teacher Lisa Wilson. “The goal was to bring the California History standards to life. We want the students to be proud Californians and understand the rich heritage of our state.”

Each of Arroyo Seco’s fourth grade teachers ran a different station that the four classes rotated through during the course of the day. The stations covered four California state history standards: how and why people traveled to California; how the movement of people and ideas changed in California; how the Gold Rush

changed the state’s economy; and how the different people coming to California affected the state.

Ms. Ault ran a lively Golden State jeopardy-style game in which students supplied the questions to answers about California attractions, symbols, “musts,” and trivia. For fun, they also answered questions about the fourth grade teachers—Ms. Ault, Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Whichard, and Ms. Wilson.

In Ms. Mitchell’s classroom, the students first participated in an interactive tale by Mark Twain about a frog-jumping contest, supplying the “ribbits” and other sound effects. Then, they jumped their own paper frogs, with the farthest jumpers easily sailing over three rows of desks.

Ms. Whichard’s classroom was transformed into an 1850’s style kitchen. The students prepared their own meal of “miner’s grub”—“sow bellies” (hotdogs) and beans, cornbread, honey butter, and ice cream—using mostly authentic ingredients and cooking methods. The students quickly learned that 1850’s style cooking is driven by elbow grease. To make



Lonny Johnson shows Alejandra Quzada (far right) how to pan for gold.

Photos - Doug Jorgensen

ice cream, they mixed together vanilla, sugar, and milk, packed it in ice and salt, and shook until the mixture took on a solid consistency.

For Whichard, reigning in 25 or so fourth-graders to prepare each menu item posed no great challenge, as she frequently uses cooking to teach math skills. “I do a lot of cooking with my students because it’s a practical application of math,” she said. “It’s a great way to teach fractions and measurements.”

The hands-down favorite ac-

tivity was the Gold Rush station in Wilson’s classroom. Lonny Johnson, owner of Ancient Artifacts, shared a pick axe, cup, bowl, candleholder, and other Gold Rush artifacts and instructed the students in the proper way to pan for gold. Then, the students tried their hand at panning in a trough provided by Johnson.

For fourth grader Han Wilson, the gold panning was very exciting because the kids got to keep any gold flakes they collected. “I think I have about three dollars worth,” he said.

At the end of the school day, after the students had frog-jumped, panned for gold, and showed off their California knowledge, the classes came together to enjoy their miner’s grub in an indoor picnic due to some unexpected rain. Wilson said the event was a great success and the fourth grade team plans to hold it again next year, hopefully without the rain. The Arroyo Seco Parent Teacher Association provided grade level enrichment funding to help with this event.



'Austin Powers' Event Invites Lots of Participation

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center will stage a costume and movie social to benefit the local performing and visual arts center and its programs.

On Thursday, June 3rd, LVPAC will host the Austin Powers Movie & 60's Era Costume Party at the Vine Cinema & Alehouse located at 1722 First Street in downtown Livermore.

After the success of Tony 'n Tina's Wedding, LVPAC's fundraiser with a twist that featured a wacky wedding dinner spoof at the Bankhead Theater, patrons have been looking for another unusual event to dress up and participate in an interactive group setting.

With one of the Vine's two auditoriums dedicated to show-

ing the movie Austin Powers, International Man of Mystery and the other will be designated as a chill-out lounge with 60's music and comfy love seats.

Guests will be entertained and be able to socialize and savor themed cocktails, wine, beer, soft drinks and a variety of food items that will be available for purchase. Of course, unlimited popcorn is included in the ticket price.

Austin Powers movie screenings will be at 7:30 and 9:30 pm. For those that wish to strut their stuff, there will be a costume contest in-between the two showings at approximately 9 pm.

Dressing up is encouraged, so arrive in your grooviest outfit or character look-alike from Austin Powers or the 60's era, i.e. Sonny

& Cher, Beatles, Hippies, Go-Go Dancers, Jimi Hendrix, The Supremes, Monkees, Adams Family, Woodstock, etc.

General Admission is \$20 and includes the party, lounge cover charge, movie and unlimited popcorn. \$10 of each ticket is tax deductible. The event is appropriate for ages 16 and older.

Tickets are on sale now at the Bankhead Theater Ticket Office, 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by phone at 925.373.6800. Remaining tickets will be sold at the Vine Cinema & Alehouse door on the night of the event, if available. This fun event is likely to sell out, so advanced purchase is recommended.

Art by Gerald Brommer on Display at the Museum on Main

The Pleasanton Art League, Museum on Main and the City of Pleasanton will present an exhibit of the art works by Gerald Brommer from May 21-29, 2010 at the museum, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton.

A reception for Brommer will be held at the museum from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, May 22. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited.

Brommer has had 165 solo exhibitions and has won many major awards nationally. His work has appeared in over 200 international exhibitions, and is represented in over 4,000 private collections in 37 states and five foreign countries. He has authored more than 35 art books and developed 12 instructional art videos.

Brommer is a life member and former president of the National Watercolor Society; honorary president of the National Association of Painters in Acrylic; and a member of several other art organizations including the West Coast Watercolor Society and the National Arts Club. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Admission is a \$2 requested donation. Contact (925) 462-2766 or curator@museumonmain.org, or visit www.museumonmain.org.

The exhibit is being held in conjunction with the Pleasanton Art League 41st Annual Art Show on May 21-23 at the Alviso Adobe, 3465 Old Foothill Road, Pleasanton. The exhibit will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Brommer is judging the show. There is no admission charge. The public is invited.

(Note: the photo of the Alviso Adobe on the front page of last week's Section II was painted by Judi Caplan.)



Laurie Search, "What Lies Below"

New Exhibit on View at Ryan Fine Art Gallery

Now through June 19th, 78 artworks exploring surface, depth, opacity & transparency will be shown in "What Lies Above, Below & Through" at Ryan Fine Art Gallery, 171 So. J Street, Livermore.

An artists' reception is set for the evening of May 28. It coincides with the downtown Art Crawl. An extension of the exhibition will be shown at Panama Red Coffee Company, corner of First & K, from May 18th through June 19th.

With the concept open to artistic interpretation and media, artists responded with works ranging from textile art such as Caryne Finlay Mount's wearable "Stained Glass Kimono" to the elegant folded paper and metal of Goran Konjevod and the color-charged cubist nudes by Cuban artist Alfredo Mordds. Other highlights include gel works on plexiglass, collage and mixed media, assemblage, metal sculpture, digital art and photography.

To see samples of the artists' works and the gallery schedule, please see the gallery's website at www.lindaryanfineart.com.



St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble

Ensemble Performs in Livermore

The St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble will be performing at Asbury United Methodist Church on Sunday, May 30, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

The ensemble, led by Kirill Sokolov, is a vocal quartet of baritone, bass, and tenor voices and includes master accordionist, Alexander Korbakov. The group per-

forms a variety of music, including sacred and liturgical music, ancient Russian chants and folk songs, as well as modern compositions and popular melodies.

Tickets are \$10 and are available in the office, Asbury UMC, 4743 East Ave., Livermore, or by mail. Please make checks payable to Asbury UMC. For more information go to www.AsburyLive.org

Tom Rigney, Flambeau Perform

Tom Rigney and Flambeau will fire up the Pleasanton Public Library in a Sunday afternoon free performance on May 23, 2010, from 2pm to 3pm.

Flambeau specializes in blazing Cajun and zydeco two-steps, low-down blues, funky New Orleans grooves, and heartbreakingly beautiful ballads and waltzes.

Most of the repertoire is composed by Rigney. They also mix in a few classics from the Cajun/zydeco/New Orleans songbook. If, along the way, you pick up a trace of Rigney's Irish roots, or echoes of Eastern Europe or the coast of Spain, it just makes the musical gumbo that much tastier.

This free concert will be held in the Pleasanton Library's meeting room.

Library programs are free and open to all. No registration required. Please arrive early to find parking. Seating is limited.

For more information call Penny at 925/931-3405 or the library at 925/931-3400.



TOM RIGNEY

CattleWomen Taking Entries in Father's Day Photo Contest

Alameda County CattleWomen's Association is holiday a Father's Day Photo Contest.

Cash prizes are being offered, with \$50 for first place, \$30 for second place, and \$20 for third place.

Anyone can enter. The winning photos will be published in The Independent as well as on the Alameda County CattleWomen website.

The photo theme is "Show why your father deserves BEEF for Father's Day." The photo can be of Fathers, Grandfathers, or "Father-like" figures.

Entries are due by June 17, 2010. For contest details go to AlamedaCountyCattleWomen.com.



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A label of their own

Harris Tesla Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon

by Harry Stoll

The insurmountable problem with a best-kept secret is that nobody knows it. Harris Tesla Vineyard holds the high ground for Cabernet Sauvignon growing—above the east end of the valley, on the same bench with Ghielmetti (suppliers to Steven Kent), Boa Ventura deCaires, and McGrail vineyards.

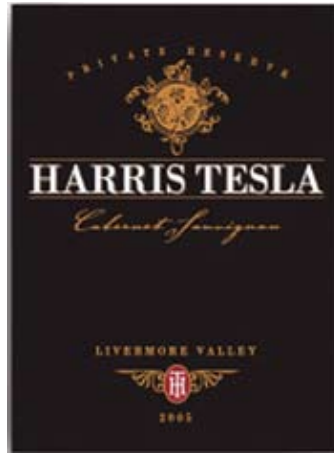
Bill and Sandy (nee Harris) and Sandy's mother, Sharon Harris, bought the vineyard in 2000. Harris Tesla is well-known in the valley, selling its ready-for-prime-time-fruit to Eagle Ridge Vineyard, Picazo Vineyards, Ruby Hill Winery, and Wood Family Vineyards. They also sell a small amount to immediate neighbor Boa Ventura.

The unfortunately well-kept secret is that Harris Tesla is also a brand. The Cabernet Sauvignon

from its vineyard's 2005, 2006, and 2007 vintages is in bottles with good-looking labels, at a reasonable price. Both of Livermore's Safeway stores have it for \$24.50. These are good wines, with luscious fruit, various flavors, hearty tannins, and plenty of complexity. With a combined purr and growl they want to meet meat. It am cab. Air them out good before serving them with barbecue on the deck and enjoy their presagings, flavors and farewell.

"It's about the wine," says Bill, in the forceful this-is-truth way of a lawyer addressing the ladies and gentlemen. He praises veteran winemaker Derek Holstein, who makes the wine at the ginormous Ranch Winery in St. Helena, for figuring out what nature gives in any vintage and going with that.

But, of course, no matter how



good the wine, if you can't sell it, you're toast. Bill lawyers all week and Sandy manages a heavy equipment business so any marketing has to be done at night or on weekends. But if anybody can do it, Harris Tesla can. Soon after they bought the vineyard—40 acres of dirt, rocks and grass—says Bill. Sandy started making cold calls to big wineries. Cold calls. That's gutsy. Imagine fighting through the voice mail to get to the right person. So who expresses interest? King Kong Kendall Jackson. It received about 100 applications and looked at only seven. One of them was Harris Tesla Vineyard.

Kendall Jackson sent its team of wind, sun, precipitation, dirt and rocks, and elevation experts. Big break. They liked the bench. Kendall Jackson designed the vineyard, selecting the clones with the DNA determining the variety, and the rootstock to which the clones were to be grafted. Harris Tesla delivered its first harvest to Kendall Jackson in 2003. The downside was the Harris Tesla Vineyard name wasn't on the bottles. In 2005, Ranch Winery began producing Cabernet Sauvignon under the Harris Tesla label.

Originally, the family managed the vineyard. It's now managed by the Wine Group and by Coastal Viticultural Consultants, which has Michael Princevalle, an associate of Bill's, as a managing partner.

True to the principles of the winemaker, each vintage, while no doubt Cabernet Sauvignon, differ from one another. The 2005 is very much like Bordeaux, relatively, "... low in alcohol, like Cuda Ridge," says Bill. Smells

real good. Smooth but with stout tannins. Hearty and complex with bright cherry and, oh yes, cassis.

The 2006 vintage was under a heat wave, making for some interesting, intense fruit flavors. It's all balance and grace with plenty of pop. Reminisces of blackberry pie cooling on a windowsill. It rolls around the mouth giving great pleasure of cherry. After it's gone it's not forgotten.

The 2007. Ooh, classic character of a nose of rich invitations and song in your heart and mouth. Layers and layers of flavors. Some say mint, others say black cherry. But there's no doubt about the earthiness that tells you this is one classic Cabernet Sauvignon.

The 2007 vintage was an enormous bounty of good grapes. Unfortunately it was also a glut check. After providing grapes to its clients and to its brand, Bill said, "We had it made into bulk wine and sold it to some guy in New York." It was 5,000 gallons. Bill didn't name a name, but goliath Canandaigua Wine Company is in New York.

Bill talks about the huge finan-

cial toll of vineyard and winery operation. One year it was \$18,800 for French oak barrels. That's what the winemaker wanted and that's what Bill and Sandy gave him. "You can't hammer this on you MasterCard or Visa," says Bill. "It has to be in Euros," and the exchange has to deliver the money before the barrels roll.

Local marketing is a difficult deal. Not many restaurants offer a large range of valley wines. Distributors have tremendous leverage with their, "You can have that but you must buy this," methods. And, of course, they carry wines with label recognition. But that won't stop these two from buttonholing local eateries to try their wine. Bill recently talked with Swirl on the Square owner Rocco Maitano about trying some Harris Tesla. It would go well at Rocco's small, small plates with great tastes, great place with a preponderance of valley wines poured at decent prices.

It's a very old grape-growing area but it is a well-kept secret. Growers and wineries want the word to get out.



New works by Livermore artist Joanna Crawshaw displayed through June 30, 2010 at the Wild Vine, 2187 First Street in Livermore. Artist reception to be held on Thursday, May 20 from 6pm to 8pm. Refreshments will be provided. Joanna is an abstract artist from Livermore. She is a 2005 graduate of the Art Institute of Boston. Since her move from Boston, she has concentrated on finding a way to marry her love of the human form with her passion for abstract art. Joanna's current work represents a move from mood based art to work that provides an atmosphere in which the work can come alive and communicate with the viewer.

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For more info on this & other events,
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A Musical Feast of Strings, Tuba and Mahler

By Nancy O'Connell

The audience at the Bankhead Theater on May 15 enjoyed the Livermore/Amador Symphony's program. Two of the works were not heard before in Livermore – Arutiunian's *Concerto for Tuba and Orchestra* and Mahler's *Symphony No. 1 in D Major*. Also on the program was Gustav Holst's more familiar *St. Paul's Suite for String Orchestra*.

The pre-concert talk began at 7 PM during which Tony Clements, the tuba soloist, explained his early fascination with this big brass instrument. He said, "When I was 12 years old I wrote that I wanted to be a tuba player." He had private tuba lessons until his family moved from New York to Modesto when he was 14. Then he had to work on his own for several years until he went off to college. Some of his teachers have been Floyd Cooley of the San Francisco Symphony and Roger Bobo while at Cal State, Northridge.

He spoke of the Armenian composer Alexander Arutiunian, who composed the concerto he will play in this concert. Arutiunian, who was born in 1920, and Khachaturian are perhaps the best known and most famous Armenian composers. This tuba concerto is one of Tony Clements' favorites, and he said he is delighted to be playing it. He told the audience that the first movement is a pirate song, the second is a love song with a good duet to listen for between the tuba and the 1st clarinet, and the 3rd

movement is very fast and contains a cadenza that his teacher, Roger Bobo, wrote. There are many types of tubas, and he will perform tonight on an F bass tuba.

Dr. Arthur Barnes, the conductor of the Symphony, explained that all three pieces on the program feature folk tunes and all were tonal. Gustav Holst wrote his work for an all girls' school, St. Paul's, where he taught for many years. Holst had been an organist and choirmaster until neuritis in his right hand forced him to give up the organ. He turned to playing the trombone professionally, to composition and teaching.

Barnes spoke of the Mahler symphony which had originally been in five movements, until Mahler eliminated the 2nd movement. Barnes said to listen for the folk song, "Frere Jacques" in the 3rd movement, which is slow and has a counter melody. The 4th movement has big sounds, lots of brass and 7 French horns. He called this movement eclectic with quotes from military bands. He closed his talk by saying that Mahler was a superb conductor, but was known for reorganizing his orchestras to get the exact sound he wanted.

After the break, the curtain opened to only the strings seated on the stage. Holst's *St. Paul's Suite for String Orchestra* was written in 1912-13 and began with a lively jig. The meters changed constantly, and the tempo accelerated. In many of the melodies the

cellos were up on the fingerboard playing in thumb position. In the 2nd movement, the concertmaster, Kristina Anderson played a beautiful solo while the rest of the orchestra played an ostinato accompaniment. The *Intermezzo: Andante con moto* again featured Kristina with a violin solo which was answered by the richer, deeper tones of a viola solo by Hazelle Miloradovitch. When all of the strings played the theme it resembled a Moorish North African tune. The viola and violin joined in a duet and the movement ended in a quiet, contemplative mood. The *Finale* featured two well-known English melodies: "the Dargason" and "Greensleeves." Again, there were many tempo changes. As the counterpoint between the two tunes became complex, one wondered how teenage girls had managed to perform this work. (But Sunday's newspaper carried the tale of the amazing 16-year old girl from Sydney, Australia who just sailed solo all around the world, so perhaps one should write that young girls can accomplish anything they want to.)

The tubist, Tony Clements came out on stage and wowed the audience with his performance. He has played with many symphony orchestras, including the San Francisco Symphony, says that he has performed the "Nutcracker Ballet over 600 times," is the principal tubist for the Symphony Silicon Valley and is the band director at Ohlone College. From his first

notes, one realized the versatility of this amazing instrument. While the string players scrambled between constant changes between pizzicato and arco passages and numerous tempo changes, his tuba had a rich and intense sound. All of the melodies were Arutiunian's own, but there is a flavor of Middle Eastern folk music present. The first clarinetist, Kathy Boster, played very well in her duet with the tuba in the 2nd movement. His cadenza towards the end of the concerto was a *tour de force* for the tuba, and everyone realized they were hearing a true virtuoso.

After the intermission, the Mahler Symphony began ethereally with high harmonic tones. The cellos had a muted melody line with an answer in the upper strings. The brass had some tricky rhythmic parts and the lower strings accompanied the high violins with pizzicato. The 2nd movement began with low tones in 3/4 rhythm like an Austrian folk dance. There were fiery parts in every section, then the opening themes returned and it ended with a rousing chord. The 3rd movement began with a whisper, and the strings were again muted, now with a refrain from "Frere Jacques" played with slow deliberation. Later in the movement the harpist, Wendy Tamis, was heard playing with the winds in an effective blending of sound. The theme of "Frere Jacques" returned quietly, muted, in 4/4 time. Mahler himself describes this section as an expression of "dreadful irony," a chaotic juxtaposition of "the hero's terrible cries of pain and all the coarseness, mirth and banality of the world."

The 4th movement began with musical fireworks in the brass and percussion sections. The timpanist, April Nissen was a marvel to watch with her impeccable timing. Many in the audience watched the youngest member in the section,

Peter Lalor, a 13-year old student at Christensen Middle School. He played two percussion instruments and knew exactly when to enter each time. After growing to a big fortissimo the music dropped to a whisper. Distant melodies were heard as though from far away, and then the pace quickened. The key returned to the more cheerful D Major, and built to a dramatic, triumphal climax as the entire French horn section stood. Loud, forceful clashes of the cymbals and brass brought the work to a close.

Many in the audience cheered for the Mahler and paid tribute to the superb conducting of Dr. Barnes who gave every section excellent cues throughout this historically difficult work. At least two curtain calls followed. The French horns stood again to thunderous applause, and Dr. Barnes was presented with a bouquet as the orchestra clapped for him rather than standing.

The symphony has already planned an exciting season for next year. It is not too early to order your tickets. If anyone in the community plays an instrument and would like to play in this largely volunteer group you are encouraged to call 447-8789. Strings are especially welcome.

Nominations Open for Arts Leadership Awards

The Alameda County Arts Commission invites County residents to submit nominations for the 2010 Arts Leadership Awards. This annual program enables the Alameda County Arts Commission to recognize five individuals, one from each of the five districts of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, for their outstanding achievements and contributions impacting the arts community and the residents of Alameda County. Award recipients will be presented to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors by the Arts Commission.

Nominees must be residents of Alameda County. Nominees can be involved in any arts discipline including, but not limited to, music, dance, visual arts, literature, theater, film and video, traditional crafts and folk arts, and new media. Nominees may participate in a wide range of activities with an Alameda County based arts organization such as an artist, staff or board member, volunteer, donor, supporter, advocate, etc. This

award is open to all individuals, including youth, who live in Alameda County regardless of race, color, national origin, physical challenge, religious or political affiliations.

Nominations must be submitted by Alameda County residents. Each individual may submit one nomination. Nominations must be emailed to the Alameda County Arts Commission by the deadline of June 16, 2010.

The Members of the Alameda

County Arts Commission will review the nominations in July and recognize the award recipients in late September or early October to celebrate California Arts Day and National Arts and Humanities Month.

For more information, or to request the official nomination instructions, contact the Alameda County Arts Commission email: artscommission@acgov.org or ph: (510) 208-9646.

The King's Players Present
12 ANGRY MEN
 Written by Reginald Rose Adapted by Sherman Sergel
May 21 & 22 - 7pm
May 23 - 6pm
 Cedar Grove Community Church
 2021 College Avenue, Livermore
FREE ADMISSION



On Saturday, May 8, 2010 some 75,000 volunteers, 8 years and older participated in the "Mormon Helping Hands - Renewing California Parks" service project. Mormons in every community in California worked with park and civic officials cleaning and beautifying their communities. In Livermore approximately 470 volunteers from the age of 2 years to 85 years worked in the Arroyo from the Stanley Bridge to the Holmes Bridge, clearing debris from the dry creek bed, spreading mulch, digging drainage ditches, cutting down trees and helping to beautify the nature park. We also had a group of young people working the Arroyo at the Rodeo Grounds performing some of the same tasks. Our contact person from the city was Justin Drinkwater, who works in the maintenance department for the City of Livermore. His expertise and assistance was invaluable. Livermore Councilmember John Marchand joined the activity and presented a Proclamation from the city for service to the community. Volunteers wore the distinctive yellow Mormon Helping Hands vests, the official vests used by members of the church when participating in humanitarian service projects and disaster relief efforts throughout the world.



Pictured are five Pleasanton/Tulancingo Exchange Students selected to participate in this year's Summer Exchange Program. They are, from left to right, Athena Lathos (Foothill HS), Nayo Clinchard (Amador HS), Andre Chan (Amador HS), Kathy Yuh (Amador HS), and Becca Brown (Foothill HS). Over 85 members of The Pleasanton/Tulancingo Association gathered to meet them at an early Cinco de Mayo party, Sunday May 2. A delegation of 28 had just returned from the annual visit. The students also received information packets prepared by their counterpart students coming here. They will be arriving mid-June for four weeks.



Fan club members gossip about the contest for the last kiss from Conrad Birdie, before he leaves for the service.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

'Bye Bye Birdie' to Be Performed at Middle School

Christensen Middle School drama class will perform the musical "Bye Bye Birdie" on May 21 and 22.

Set in 1958, the play centers on Conrad Birdie, an Elvis Presley-type rock 'n roll superstar. Complications arise when his agent stages a publicity student on The Ed Sullivan Show that consists of him giving a kiss to one lucky girl from his fan club in Sweet Apple, Ohio, before he is drafted into the army.

Performances are Fri., May 21 at 7 p.m. and Sat., May 22 at 2 and 7 p.m. at the school.

The school is located at 5757 Haggin Oaks Avenue, Livermore.

Tickets are \$5. To order tickets, downtown the order form at <http://chms.schoolloop.com>. Seating is reserved.

The book was written by Michael Stewart, music by Charles Strouse, lyrics by Lee Adams and originally produced by Edward Padula. The play is produced by arrangement with and the music and dialog materials furnished by Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc., New York.

Youth Commission Sponsors Essay Contest

The Livermore Area Youth Advisory Commission sponsored an essay contest. The focus of the commission this year was on teen mental health issues.

To raise awareness of teen stress, we hosted an essay contest: "What I've Been Through and How I Survived." The contest wrapped up in April. The winner in the Middle School Division was Noah Banks from Mendenhall Middle School. The winner in the High School Level was Sean LaTourrette from Granada High School.

The high school winning essay is printed this week. The middle school essay will be published next week.

What I've been through (and how I survived)

By Sean LaTourrette

One might say that a teenager's life is difficult, but difficult is hardly a term that could be used in everyday life in such a place as Livermore. One would have to of endured drastic happenings to even scrape the surface that some call life. I believe that the average experiences that a person in my town calls difficult are restrained to the simplicity of a mere break-up or bad grades. On the contrary, I know of a few, who have been packed up, shipped away, and locked up in the most desolate of places, places in which no person could wish to be. My story begins with just this, the taking of my home and everything I had ever assumed were just "granted". I was pulled from my friends and family to the mountains of Utah to live... with no knowledge of how long I was to be there. And take it from me, not many things can strike as hard as having everything, and suddenly nothing.

Half way through my junior year I came to a point in my life where all I feel while reminiscing, is regret. My typical day was consumed with drinking, tobacco, and weed, all of which I considered normalities. I would wake up at about noon, drink my parent's alcohol, and go to school... maybe. I felt as though everything was going to be done my way, and that consequences were as much a joke

as a blind man in an art gallery. It came as no surprise that my parents would eventually take action, but the events that I had expected were no more right than my misdeeds.

I was taken to the San Francisco airport, put on a plane to Vegas, and driven a couple hundred miles through three states until I had reached my destination; a small town by the name of St. George, located at the base of Utah's southwest corner. Here I was "processed", made to undress and perform humiliating positions as to test if I was hiding weapons, or other such atrocities. It was also here in St. George that I was told what was to be held in my future. I was not to see my family, friends, bathe, use any form of technology, or even have the privilege of floors, walls, and ceilings. In short, all basic "necessities" were taken from me; only what my body needed to live is what I could have. After being told this, I was flung into a bulky truck, and locked in by a crew. I was then blind folded and driven three hours into the high mountains of Zion national park, beautiful only to the free man.

If I wrote of every emotion I felt through my 65 day stay, I would have a book with more words than a dictionary. So as to explain in the most embellished of ways, my life was a holocaust, and this was my Auschwitz. I probably designed a hundred ways I could end my life with a rock and a stick, and I cried for the first time in years. But through the days I was left to think... and think, and think, and think! Sixty-five days of thought can reform ones opinion quite well. So weeks took their toll and persuaded change, and in little time my head was clear.

My days in the desert were haunted by self inflictions of pain, and ultimately suicide. So how did I refrain from going insane? And how did I survive?

The answer to my riddle is in but one word. Hope. Hope in the future, hope for tomorrow, hope that the next day when I woke up, I would get to go home. The love of my family and friends that I knew was waiting for me back home kept my heart above water, and the tears at bay. I guess that in all my moments gone, I could say without doubt that hope, among itself, is the greatest way to touch tomorrow.



Photo by Mary Denham, GHS Yearbook Staff.

Pictured are Granada High School students who helped with the program, along with 2 of the Spanish Dancers from Portola Elementary School here in Livermore. They are (left to right) Mrs. Bazaldua, Mrs. Ventura, (teachers at GHS), Silvia, Jaime, Emilia, Alejandra, Cynthia, Dora, (Portola Dancer), Yari, Rosa, Jessica, Yvette, Alejandro, and (Portola Elementary School Dancer)

ELAC Stages Cultural Festival

On April 17 2010 ELAC (English Learner Advisory Committee) held a second Annual Cultural Festival at Granada High School with the help of Granada high school students and their parents, who are members of ELAC.

ELAC is a committee of parents from families who have English as a second language.

The purpose of ELAC is to join together once a month to discuss and give advice on a variety of topics concerning their children's education and well being. Those attending talk about their grades, upcoming state tests, registration, getting prepared for college, and upcoming school events.

ELAC held this particular event as a fund-raiser for scholarships meant for these students. By the end of the day ELAC earned approximately \$1000.

However, the cultural festival did much more than help raise money for a good cause. It provided entertainment for parents, teachers, students, and young children from the community. Games were very popular for kids; Children would buy a ticket for each game they wanted to play. There were variety in games such as one

that called for knocking over cans with three plastic balls, another racing to pop their five balloons first, or playing Macarena music chairs where participants danced until the music stopped. The winners got to choose a prize from a prize table filled with toys, books, and candy. ELAC earned a total of 120 tickets.

Hispanic culture was shared amongst the people who attended. People observed and tried various traditional Hispanic and Salvadorian foods: tostadas de tinga, posole, tamales, pupusas, and carne asada. Traditional drinks were served as well, atole, agua de horchata, and agua de Jamaica. There was also cultural folkloric dancers (El baile folklorico) performed by groups of young kids, older kids, and adults. The children who performed come from Portola Avenue School in Livermore and were taught by Jose Somoza, an adult who also performed.

The parents and their kids were attending ELAC meetings for the festival, helping to organize the festival together, cooking the food for it, bringing game prizes or raffle prizes, or buying supplies. Many of the parents from ELAC

have kids who attend Granada High School.

This festival also gave parents the chance to walk around Granada campus and receive more insight on it and possibly making it a more comfortable place to visit for them.

Art Show Has East Meets West Theme

East Meets West, a celebration of Asian American Heritage Month Art show will be presented by Kids Love Art Studio on May 22 from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

It will be in the Pleasanton Library conference room, 400 Old Bernal Ave. It incorporates the artistic traditions of Thailand and China with Western styles. Over 30 pieces of art in various media ranging from acrylic paintings, mixed media to printmaking will be on display. The selected artworks were created by students ranging in age from 5 to teenagers.

The public is welcome to attend. For information go to www.kidsloveart.com.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

2nd annual Paint the Town, June 5. Open to artists ages 14 and up. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Register for the outdoor fund-raising event at the Museum on Main, 603 Main St., Pleasanton. Fee \$5 per person. Family art activities will take place in front of the Museum on Main between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. There will be a no-host champagne, wine and soda bar. For more information about Paint the Town, contact the Museum on Main at (925) 462-2766 or visit www.museummain.org.

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

Art and photography students from Livermore and Granada high schools will have their work on display May 5-June 5 at Windermere Welcome Home Realty, 1790 First Street, Livermore. The show, the latest in an ongoing series featuring the work of local artists at the real estate office, was organized by teachers from the two schools. The public is invited to view the show during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or by appointment with Cher Wollard, 925 824-4824 or cherw@windermere.com. A reception will be held later this month, date and time to be announced.

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

The Contra Costa JCC will open three new exhibits featuring work by Michael Yashar, a collection of Ketubot, and Traditions: From Generation to Generation, an eclectic collection of Judaica from the local community. The exhibits will be housed at the Contra Costa JCC's Friedkin Art Gallery, Gallery 925, and Tice Valley Gallery from May 12 through September 17, 2010. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 8:00 p.m. and Fridays, 9:00 am to 3:00 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy the exhibits. Admission is free. The Contra Costa JCC is located at 2071 Tice Valley Blvd. in Walnut Creek.

Louise Gibler Exhibit, oil paintings consisting of still life, landscape, floral and figurative subjects for the months of May and June 2010 at the Garre Vineyard & Winery 7986 Tesla Road, Livermore. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and weekends 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All the pieces are framed and done in the chiaroscuro style of painting.

Diapers to Diapers, poetry, prose and photography exhibit. Vogue Studio, 5410-4 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Reception with artists Sat., May 22, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Creative director: Sandra Kay; photographer: Monica Dawn. Gourmet appetizers. Live

music by the band 256. \$3 at the door. Tri-Valley Haven fund-raiser.

Art exhibit, May 21-June 30th - Occasio Winery hosts artist Patrick Segui's latest exhibition, "Back Behind the Big Top." This show depicts many scenes of an Edwardian circus - Ringmasters, trapeze artists and gypsy caravans. Patrick's unique style has decorated the Winery's previous auction lots, and his intriguing mis-ensemble transports the viewer to another era. Fridays - Sundays, noon - 5 p.m. 2245B South Vasco Road, Livermore, 371-1987, www.occasiowinery.com

Pleasanton Art League, 41st Annual Art Show, May 21-23, Alviso Adobe, 3465 Old Foothill Road, Pleasanton. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday. No admission charge. Public is invited.

New works by Livermore artist Joanna Crawshaw will be displayed through June 30, 2010 at the Wild Vine, 2187 First Street in Livermore. Artist reception to be held on Thursday, May 20 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. Joanna is an abstract artist from Livermore, California. She is a 2005 graduate of the Art Institute of Boston. Since her move from Boston, she has concentrated on finding a way to marry her love of the human form with her passion for abstract art. Joanna's current work represents a move from mood based art to work that provides an atmosphere in which the work can come alive and communicate with the viewer.

Art Crawl, Friday, May 28th, the public is invited to a free Art Crawl to view open studios, art displays and exhibitions in downtown Livermore. Art Crawl has changed its hours to 6 to 9 p.m. in order to coincide with the downtown merchants' Girls' Night Out event. Pick up a tour map at Ryan Fine Art gallery, Panama Red Coffee Company, and many downtown locations. For further information please see www.lindaryanfineart.com.

What Lies Above Below & Through Juried Art Exhibition, May 14th through June 19th, explore 31 artists' responses to the subjects of surface, depth, transparency and opacity at Ryan Fine Art gallery, 171 So. J Street, Livermore, with a reception on May 28th to coincide with the downtown Art Crawl from 6-9 p.m. The gallery is open lunchtimes Thursday - Saturday and Friday evenings. An extension of this exhibition will hang at Panama Red Coffee Company, corner of First & K Street, from May 18 through June 19. See www.lindaryanfineart.com for details.

Art in the Vineyard, May 30, Wente Vineyards Estate Winery, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Artwork by thirty-six artists will be on display. Live music will be performed by "Vested Interest." Art demonstrations will be held throughout the day. Admission is free. Wine tasting begins at 11.00am. \$15.00 Wine tasting fee includes a commemorative wine glass (\$10.00 for Club Wente members). Food and refreshment will be offered by Wente Vineyards and Strizzi's Restaurant for a nominal fee.

WINERY EVENTS

Champagne artist reception, Little Valley Winery, 739 Main St. in Downtown Pleasanton. May 22, 5 to 8 p.m. Featuring local artist Kelley Heath. Creates work on canvas plus jewelry for every occasion. Music is by Mathew Heath & Brian McNeely. Wine and savories to top off the evening. There is no charge for this special event. www.littlevalleywinery.net

Occasio Winery, Thurs., May 27, 5:30

- 8:30 p.m., artist reception for Patrick Segui. Patrick's new show "Back Behind the Big Top," which depicts the many scenes of an Edwardian circus - Ringmasters, trapeze artists and gypsy caravans. His unique style has decorated the Winery's previous auction lots and now Patrick has painted two additional bottles - a 1.5L 2008 Petite Sirah (Double Gold medal winner) and a 1.5L 2008 Zinfandel - these two very special bottles will be for sale. Work featured in Library Room May 21st - June 30th. Patrick will be in attendance on May 27 to describe his artwork and motivation of his current show. Also, on this evening, release of the new 2008 Petite Sirah, already a Double Gold medal winner, and the new 2009 Pinot Gris, before the wine is released to the public on the weekend. This event is open to everyone, please RSVP to info@occasiowinery.com. **Memorial Day weekend**, May 29 - 31: release of Double Gold Medal winning 2008 Petite Sirah and 2009 Pinot Gris. On Saturday, May 29th, 1 - 4 p.m., live bluegrass music and food will be served all weekend long. Open holiday Monday as well, noon - 5 p.m. 2245B South Vasco Road, Livermore, 371-1987.

Lavish Laines Winery, May 21 - 23: New Release 2008 Chardonnay. New wine paired with a variety of cheeses, meats and crackers. lavishlaines@yahoo.com. May 29 Winemakers Dinner. There will be a live band and dancing. Dinner paired with library wines. \$30 per person and \$25 for scarlett members. RSVP at lavishlaines@yahoo.com. Tasting Room at the Good Brewer, 2960 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. Fri.-Sun. 11-5.

Red Feather Winery, Saturday, May 22 from noon - 4. Doris Williams, with Karl Franzen will be performing Celtic, Renaissance, and American music with vocals, lute, guitar, accordion, and whistles. Karl Franzen will play some Turlough O'Carolan music on his guitar, and also sing some Old Tyme music, such as Crow Black Chicken. Red Feather Winery, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore.

Wood Family Vineyards. Sat., May 22, 2 to 5 p.m. wine tasting with winemaker Rhonda at Gene's Fine Foods, Pleasanton. Tracy Spring Wine Stroll, May 21, 6 to 9 p.m. Jazz music, tickets \$20 presale, \$25 day of event. Information, (209) 831-6858 or visit www.ci.tracy.ca.us. Information about Wood Family Vineyard activities, go to www.woodfamilyvineyards.com.

Murrieta's Well, blending class, Sat., May 22, 1 to 3 p.m. Practice blending skills and sample some wonderful blends that you create. Enjoy a lively discussion on the art of blending and enjoy special promotions for the day. Silver Spur Members \$30 per person, plus tax. All other guests \$35 per person, plus tax.

La Luna Friday, May 28, 6 to 9 p.m. Spanish-inspired tapas and Murrieta's Well wines served on the terrace under the light of the full moon, accompanied by a live music. Silver Spur Members \$45 per person, plus tax. All other guests \$55 per person, plus tax. Reservations required for both events. For reservations, directions, or more information, please call (925) 456-2395 or purchase online at shop.murrietawell.com

Wente Vineyards winemaker's dinner, Wed., May 26, with Karl Wente. Four course dinner and accompanying wine pairings. \$89 Club Wente Members, \$109 for all other guests, plus tax. The Event Center at Wente Vineyards, 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore. For reservations, call 925-456-2405 or purchase tickets on line at shop.wentevineyards.com

Occasio Winery Tasting salon: May 29-31, 2010 - New Release Celebration: Double Gold Medal winning 2008 Petite Sirah and 2009 Pinot Gris. In the Library Room will be the art show "Back Behind the Big Top," by Patrick Segui. Memorial Day weekend: Saturday, May 29th, 1-4pm, live bluegrass music and wonderful food will be served. Also open Monday as well, noon - 5pm. 2245 So. Vasco Rd., Livermore. www.occasiowinery.com or 785-0872.

Cuda Ridge Wines, Saturday, May 29th from 1:00 - 5:00, Livermore's Roger Kardinal will play 60's and 70's folk music and lead an open mic jam with friends and family. Cuda Ridge will be tasting the 2009 Sauvignon Blanc, 2008 Merlot, 2007 Award winning Cabernet Sauvignon, and 2008 Petit Verdot. There is a minimal \$5.00 tasting fee which is refundable with purchase of wine. Come on out and purchase a bottle of wine and enjoy the music at Cuda Ridge. Those interested in participating in the jam, please contact Larry Dino at 510-304-0914 or Roger Kardinal at rkardinal@comcast.net. Cuda Ridge Wines is located at 5385 East Avenue.

Thomas Coyne Winery, Spring Open House May 29, 30, & 31 noon to 5 p.m. at the historical tasting room at 51 E. Vallecitos Road, Livermore. Release two new wines 2003 Merlot, El Dorado and 2006 Merlot, California. Selection of fine fruits and cheeses will be served. For the last time this year we will offer an interactive experience "Bottle our Own Wine:" Vino Tinto Barato, a red table wine, at the Open House. Bring a clean bottle, we will fill, cork and label it for you for \$5.50 per bottle. Use our bottle for \$6.00. Or you may bottle label and cork it yourself. This is only available May 29. Limit is six bottles per person. Watch the video <http://thomascynewinery.com/bottley-ourwincell.wmv>.

Thomas Coyne Winery at Blacksmith Square, Downtown Livermore, 25 S. Livermore Ave. Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 6 p.m. Live music every Saturday: May 22 Chris LeBel, May 29 KNR, May 30 Charles Sedlak, June 5 Roger Kardinal, June 12 Hurricane, June 19 Kenny Robbins Band, June 26 Liam. <http://thomascynewinery.com>.

Rodrigue Molyneux Winery, June 5, Taste of Tuscany, Come celebrate the release of our two new wines: iSegreto & Primitivo 2008. Live music by Latin guitarist Tom Duarte from 1 to 4 p.m. Food and wine pairings and passed Hors D'oeuvres until 4 p.m. Wine Club free, \$8.00 pp, \$15.00 per couple. Tickets available the day of the event at the winery. Street & winery parking available. For more info, please e-mail events@rmwinery.com. 3053 Marina Ave., Livermore.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Pacific Chamber Symphony concert, Thurs., May 20, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Soli Deo Gloria and Orchestra Gloria, conducted by Allen H Simon with organist Angela Kraft Cross presents "From the Heart," a concert of choral and orchestral music composed in loving memory of mothers and fathers featuring the Durufle Requiem and works by Rutter, Daley, Chatman, plus four specially-commissioned premieres by Bay Area composers: Conrad Susa, Jay Lyon, Julia Simon and Artistic Director Allen H Simon. Sat., May 22, 5 p.m. First Lutheran Church, 600 Homer Ave, Palo Alto; Sun., May 23, 3:30 p.m. Christ Episcopal Church,

1700 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda. Tickets are \$25 (general) and \$20 (student/senior) at the door; discount for advance purchase. Student in grades K-8 are free. Call 888/SDG-SONG or www.sdggloria.org.

Concert at Our Savior, The public is invited to "Musical Moments for May," a free concert of light music presented by the musicians of Our Savior Lutheran Ministries on Sunday, May 23, at 2:00 p.m. The church is located at 1385 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore. Included in the performance will be several spirituals, *Fiddler on the Roof* selections, Spanish guitar music, a bit of Bach, and more. The choir, handbell, and brass ensembles will participate, as well as guitar, violin, horn and clarinet soloists. Refreshments will follow the concert.

Sycamore Strings Academy students will perform in the Spring Concert on Sunday, May 23, 2010 at 6:00 P.M. at the Centerpointe Presbyterian Church, 3410 Cornerstone Ct. in Pleasanton. The students will perform a wide range of music from advanced classical pieces to our smallest beginners just starting out. On the program will be student in the fledgling cello program taught by Beth Foorth. Free admission to the concert and a reception following the program. Donations are welcome. For more information, visit our website at www.sycamorestringsacademy.com or call 925-606-5818.

JAMfest Youth Concert, May 28, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Lions Wayside Park, corner of First and Neal Streets, Pleasanton. Local youths perform. City of Pleasanton Parks & Community Services contact at Mark Duncanson at 925.931.3481.

A Tribute to Harry Chapin, Fri., June 4, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. LVPAC Presents The Steve Chapin Band with special guest Jessica Craven of The Chapin Sisters. Tickets on-sale to public Tues. April 27 at noon. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

The Saddle Cats, Adventures in Western Swing, perform Sun., June 6, 2 p.m. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Western swing pocket orchestra comprised of steel guitarist Bobby Black, fiddler and vocalist Richard Chon, guitarist Gordon Clegg, and bassist Bing Nathan. Their repertoire runs from rustic Texas breakdowns to the sophisticated swing of Benny Goodman, from Bob Wills high-energy California swing to their own stylish originals. Admission is free. For more information call 925-373-5505.

Doo Wah Riders, Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Presents. June 11, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

2010 Concert at Wente Vineyards, Thurs., June 17, The Fray. Thurs., June 24, Liza Minnelli. Ticketmaster.com or by calling the Wente Vineyards Box Office at 925.456.2424. Wente Vineyards, 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore.

ON THE STAGE

Dark Deeds as Swan's Place or Never Trust a Tattooed Sailor, May 21-23. San Ramon Community Theater presents the tongue-in-cheek, uproarious melodrama. Classic Olio songs, skits, and dances between scenes. Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramoncommunitytheater.org

City of Pleasanton Civic Arts' teen improv (improvisation) troupe, Creatures of Impulse, will present Tri-Valley High: The Impossible Film Project on Thursday and Friday, May 20 and 21, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

and on Saturday, May 22, 2010 at a 2:00 p.m. matinee. All three shows will take place at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main Street in Pleasanton. Tickets for Tri-Valley High: The Impossible Film Project will be sold at the door only. General admission is \$10.00 and student tickets are \$5 with a valid student I.D. Please note that no advance tickets will be available through Civic Arts Tickets for this show. Information about the entire Pleasanton Civic Arts program is available at www.pleasantoncivicarts.org.

Celebrate!, a Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment (PSEE) benefit to Save the Arts in Pleasanton Schools. Two-day fund-raiser and celebration showcasing the talent of Pleasanton students through a visual arts show and performing arts extravaganza at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, May 21-22. Proceeds will go to support PUSD's elementary band and strings programs and Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) specialists for the 2010/11 school year. PSEE's goal is to raise \$290,000. Visit www.psee.org for updated information or to make a donation. May 21 will feature a visual arts show with wine and cheese tasting. May 22 will feature performances by groups from all PUSD schools, starting at 9 a.m. www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Tri-Valley High: The Impossible Film Project, May 20, 21, 22. Creatures of Impulse, teen improv group, creates short films based on audience suggestions. Veterans Hall, 301 Main St., Pleasanton. \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door; student tickets with valid ID \$5 in advance and at the door.

Twelve Angry Men, presented by the King's Players, a local, amateur theater company. May 21, 22, and 23, 2010. 7 p.m. Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. 925-447-2351.

Desire Under the Elms by Eugene O'Neill, May 23, 2010, 3 p.m. A classic play, one of O'Neill's renderings of Greek tragedy transported to American soil. Directed by Soren Oliver. The Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, Tao House Tickets \$25. www.eugeneoneill.org/events.

The Heidi Chronicles, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre Studio Theatre production. June 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27. 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton. Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m. Sun. 2 p.m. Ticket information 462-2121 or www.trivalleyrep.com.

Track of the Cat, June 6, 2010, A Stage adaptation of the classic American novel by Walter van Tilburg Clark. Directed by Graeme Maley. 3:00 p.m. The Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, Tao House. Tickets \$25. www.eugeneoneill.org/events

DANCE

Footloose, Livermore School of Dance Jazz & Tap Divisions presents "Footloose!" This diverse show has music and dance styles for everyone from jazz, tap, lyrical and musical theater to contemporary and hip hop. Some of the numbers include "The Garden" with Mirah, "In The Money" with Gold Diggers and "Dreams" like Van Halen, Livermore High Performing Arts Theater, 600 Maple Street. Friday, June 4 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 5 at 2:00 p.m. All tickets are only \$12.00 for this full-length production! For tickets, call 925-245-9322 or email Isodjazz@yahoo.com. For more information about our dance studio, please contact Livermore School of Dance, 1635 Chestnut Street, Suite C, Livermore, (925) 245-9322, livermoredance@gmail.com, or www.livermoredance.com

A Midsummer Night's Dream, presented by Livermore School of Dance Ballet Division. A full-length ballet of Shakespeare's comedic tale. Livermore High Performing Arts Theater, 600 Maple Street. Saturday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. & Sunday, June 6, at 2:00 p.m. Tickets: 925-245-9322 or lmballet@gmail.com.

Natya Mela 2009 (Bengali Drama Festival), June 5 and 6, 2:30 p.m. Amador Theater, 1188 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Information www.sanskriti.org or www.porshi.com.

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

A String of Pearls, Saturday, June 19, 2 and 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Valley Dance Theatre's 30th Anniversary Celebration brings to life Gershwin's An American in Paris, Glenn Miller's classic A String of Pearls, and Vivaldi's Four Seasons, plus exciting new works. Tickets www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

The Wizard of Oz, presented by Dance Studio at Gymfinity. Sat., June 19, 11 a.m. 230 So. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Public is invited to attend.

MOVIES

Book Into Film, "Clueless," May 30. Read the book, then view the movie at 2:00 p.m. in the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, followed by a comparison of the movie with the book. Free. Information: 925-931-3405

CHORAL

Cantabella Children's Chorus, annual spring concerts, "Hope for Resolution," Saturday, May 22, at Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Award-winning choral group presents training and performing choirs, grades K-12, at 1:30 PM; performing choirs only, grades 5-12, at 4:00 PM. Concerts will conclude with performance of title song, composed for Mandela and de Klerk, a message of peace and unity for all people. Tickets at the door: \$15 for adults, \$5 for children.

Folk Songs From Around the World, Valley Concert Chorale, Sat., May 22, 8 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasanton. Music from Norway, Japan, Nigeria, Argentina, Iceland, the USA, (of course!). www.valleyconcertchorale.org.

Foothill High School Choir, spring concert Wed., May 26, 7:30 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, Pleasanton. www.foothillfalcons.org

MISCELLANEOUS

An Evening with Teddy Roosevelt, Thursday, May 20. Sit back and enjoy an evening with U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt. Museum on Main Ed Kinney Lecture series. 7 p.m. at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$5 members and seniors, \$10 nonmembers, \$3 students and teachers with ID. Reservations are suggested. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Call the Museum on Main at 462-2766.

Coffee and Conversation with Jennie Shortridge, Fri., May 21, 11 a.m. Her latest novel, *When She Flew*, is a compelling story of a father and daughter living off the grid in Portland - until the social services step in. There is no admission charge. No reservations are

required. Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., Pleasanton.

The 2nd annual "A Taste of Summer" BBQ Cook-off competition will be held Friday May 21, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, from 4 to 8 p.m. The event is a charity fund-raiser for "Hacienda Helping Hands" the charitable giving arm of the Hacienda Business Park in Pleasanton. <http://helpinghands.hacienda.org/>. Admission is \$25 and includes a complete BBQ dinner with dessert, a drink ticket, great music and some wonderful, fun auction items. "A Taste of Summer" is being organized and managed through the Tri-Valley Community Foundation. If your company, team, or organization would like to compete, please contact Jenna Heath at the Tri-Valley Community Foundation, at (925) 734-5677 or at jheath@TVCFoundation.org. For ticket info see: www.TVCFoundation.org.

Design 4 Living Women's Conference at Cornerstone Fellowship in Livermore, May 21st & 22nd, featuring Elisa Morgan, former CEO of MOPS International. The theme is "She Did What She Could." Christian comedian Kerri Pomaroli will perform, along with a Friday night concert from FFH. Early Bird pricing has been extended. For more information and to register, go to http://www.design4living.org/d4l_conference.php

Celebrate!, a Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment (PSEE) benefit to Save the Arts in Pleasanton Schools. Two-day fund-raiser and celebration showcasing the talent of Pleasanton students through a visual arts show and performing arts extravaganza at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, May 21-22. Proceeds will go to support PUSD's elementary band and strings programs and Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) specialists for the 2010/11 school year. PSEE's goal is to raise \$290,000. Visit www.psee.org for updated information or to make a donation. May 21 will feature a visual arts show with wine and cheese tasting. May 22 will feature performances by groups from all PUSD schools, starting at 9 a.m. www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Open Heart Kitchen fund-raiser, May 22, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hosted by HK Cycles at 196 Airway Blvd., Livermore. There will be a band, food, drinks. Everything is being donated, so any proceeds raised will go directly to Open Heart Kitchen. Cost to partake is \$15/single person, \$20/couple. The band performing is "Relic." All are invited to attend.

A Grand Afternoon, May 23, 3 to 6 p.m. at a private vineyard estate in Livermore Valley's wine country. This is a musical awards event hosted by Livermore Valley Opera to honor grand patrons, donors who annually contribute \$1,000 or more. All donors and friends of LVO are cordially invited. Mingle with opera singers from previous productions and enjoy fine wines and food. Guest artists performing will be Duana Demus-Leslie, soprano, David Gustafson, tenor, Susanna Jimenez, soprano, and LVO Music Director and Conductor, Alexander Katsman, pianist. The event is complimentary for Grand Patrons. Tickets for others: \$75 per person, and complimentary for an annual contribution to Grand Patron level before or at the event. RSVP requested by May 18, 2010. For more information, call Event Chair, Monica Kulander, at (925) 449-0419.

Author Peggy Kennedy, discusses her book, *Approaching Neverland: A Memoir of Epic Tragedy and Happily Ever After*. Sun., May 23, 2 p.m. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Admission

is free. For more information call 925-373-5505.

Let's Go Science, Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Presents. May 23. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Livermore Heritage Guild Auction, May 29, Duarte Garage, corner of Portola Avenue and L Street. www.livermore-history.com.

Spring Antiques & Collectibles Street Faire, May 30, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Main Street, downtown Pleasanton. 484-2199. events@pleasantondowntown.net. Pleasanton Downtown Association.

Major General Alford Pleasanton will appear at Trinity on May 30 at 6 p.m. He will present a dramatic monologue entitled, "Serving God and Country as a Family." Gen. Pleasanton will be portrayed by Jim Meek in full uniform. The performance is free. Child care available. Trinity is at 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore, 447-1848.

1st Wednesday Party, June 2, 6 to 9 p.m. "Jump Into Summer" theme. Downtown Pleasanton. Featured band, Cocktail Monkeys. Pleasanton Downtown Association hosting. 484-2199. events@pleasantondowntown.net.

Poetry Rocks in Many Languages, Sun., June 6, 2 to 4 p.m. Century House, 2401 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Pleasanton poet, writer and on-line poetry publisher Liz Fortini will guest host an afternoon of poetry in the languages of Western Europe. Liz and three featured poets will read a blend of poems they or famous poets have written in Italian, Spanish, French

and German and then translate the poems. At the Open Mic following, the public is invited to read a poem, one page or less, in a Western European language and read their translation or read a poem they've written in English. Cost: \$5.00, students free. pleasantonpoetry@gmail.com.

Livermore Rodeo Parade, Sat., June 12, downtown Livermore along 2nd and 3rd Streets. 10 a.m. start. Free.

Livermore Rodeo, June 12 and 13, Rodeo Grounds at Robertson Park, Livermore.

Joaquin Murrieta: Dead In The Sierra, Thursday, June 17, Join filmmaker, Warren Haack, for a screening and discussion of his narrative film on the famous outlaw Joaquin Murrieta. Museum on Main Ed Kinney Lecture series. 7 p.m. at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$5 members and seniors, \$10 nonmembers, \$3 students and teachers with ID. Reservations are suggested. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Call the Museum on Main at 462-2766.

Book Into Film, June 27, "The Namesake," a film based on the book by Jhumpa Lahiri. View the movie at 2:00 p.m. in the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton. A comparison of the movie with the book follows. Free. Information: 925-931-3405.

Alameda County Fair, June 23-July 11 (closed Tuesdays), Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. Farm animals, 16-days of live horse racing, professional entertainment, midway and carnival, food, fun for all ages. www.alamedacountyfair.com.

BANKHEAD THEATER

PACIFIC CHAMBER SYMPHONY

Lyric romanticism with a Spanish twist, Beethoven and Rodrigo, "Eroica" to "Aranjuez" - together!
Thursday, May 20 at 8:00pm | Adults \$26 - \$38, Students \$7

CELEBRATE!

Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment Foundation fundraiser and celebration showcasing the talent of Pleasanton students through a visual arts show and performing arts extravaganza!

Gala Art Show: Friday, May 21, 5-8pm - Free
Concerts: Saturday, May 22, 9am-6:30pm
Adults \$15, Students & Seniors \$10

LET'S GO SCIENCE

Lots of audience interaction, great scenery, awesome lighting & illusions, make this a wacky science event families won't want to miss!
Sunday, May 23 at 3:00pm | Adults \$25, Students \$12

TRIBUTE TO HARRY CHAPIN

Songs of Harry Chapin, "Taxi," "Cat's in the Cradle," performed by his brother, The Steve Chapin Band.
Friday, June 4 at 8:00pm | Adults \$20 - \$40, Students \$12

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

Community

County Fair CEO Receives Distinguished Eagle Scout Award

Rick Pickering, CEO of the Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association, has been recognized with the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award. This national award is granted to a very limited number of Eagle Scouts who have distinguished themselves in their life work and who have shared their talents with their community as an active volunteer. Of America's 2,000,000 Eagle Scouts, only one in a thousand Eagles have been presented with the national Distinguished Eagle Scout Award. The Western Fairs Association, in concert with the San Francisco Bay Area Council, and the Boy Scouts of America, nominated Pickering for this special recognition.

Pickering has continued to distinguish himself through his career in the fair, festival and event industry, along with his work in government and community volunteerism. Pickering is also a top leader in California's billion dollar Fair horse racing industry. He has positively impacted the lives of millions in his service as President of the Western Fairs Association, President of the California Fairs Service Authority, President of the California Authority of Racing Fairs, Board Member of the California Construction Authority, and

Chairman of the California Fairs Alliance. He has been named by Amusement Business Magazine as, "One of the Most Creative CEO's in America," and is a sought after speaker and mentor.

According to Stephen Chambers, Executive Director of the Western Fairs Association, Pickering exemplifies honesty, integrity and leadership. "Rick Pickering is the 'go to guy' in our industry. He is regularly called upon to help address the most complex financial, legal and political issues in our very complicated industry." Chambers added, "As we approach the 200th anniversary of Fairs in America, we are proud that fair management has become recognized as a valuable profession, and that Rick Pickering is being nationally recognized as one of our most talented leaders – a CEO that leads with exemplary character."

His success and positive impact is tied to the key principles of the Scout Oath and Law - duty to God and country, and duty to others. Pickering was a 1st Class Scout at Maxwell Park elementary school in Oakland. He obtained the Rank of Eagle Scout with Crossed Palms while attending Pittsburg High School, where he also served as Student Body President. As an

adult Scouter he serves as an Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 941, Assistant Advisor for Crew 940, and backpacks every 6 weeks with older Scouts. He has received numerous Scouting awards including the National Vigil Honor, Silver Beaver Award, District Award of Merit, God and Country Award, etc... He is currently the President Elect of the Board for the San Francisco Bay Area Scout Council, which has more than 40,000 young men and young women in its character building programs. Pickering is also an ordained Elder and Deacon, and has served on the Western Region Board for his denomination. He holds a Masters Degree from the University of Southern California and a Bachelors Degree from Biola University, in La Mirada, CA.

As a Distinguished Eagle Scout, Pickering will join the company of prestigious recipients, which include Governors, Senators, Astronauts, University Presidents, CEO's of Fortune 500 companies, and nationally known judges, doctors and educators.

Pickering is the proud dad of two Eagle Scouts, Chris and Nick, and Life Scout Josh. He is married to Dawn Pickering, who also works with local youth as a

teacher and the head of the Bible Department at Valley Christian High School in Dublin.

Pickering will be presented with the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award at a special dinner ceremony at the Hilton Airport Oakland on June 2, 2010. The dinner will also recognize the more than 200 young men who locally earned the Eagle Scout rank in the past year. Friends of the Pickering family and all Eagle Scouts in the Bay Area are invited to attend the prestigious ceremony. Limited

tickets are still available by contacting the SFBAC office in San Leandro, at 510-577-9000.

As CEO of the Fair Association, Pickering has steered the Alameda County Fair to being recognized as the "Fastest Growing Fair in North America for 2009." Of more than 3,200 Fairs in North America, the annual Alameda County Fair is now ranked number 41. Additionally, the Fairgrounds have received more national and international awards than any Fair in America, for each of the past five years.



Home Is Where the Heart Is by Taylor Common.

Livermore Student Selected State Beef Ambassador

The Alameda County CattleWomen has announced that Jessica Sweet, a native of Alameda County and a senior at Livermore High School, took home first place honors in the senior division (ages 17-20) for the State Beef Ambassador Contest on April 10, 2010, at California FFA Center in Galt.

Eleven contestants ages 14-20 from eight counties competed for two titles in the statewide Beef Ambassador competition. Alameda County CattleWomen sent Jessica Sweet as the county winner for the senior division.

Jessica grew up on her family's cattle ranch in the Livermore hills and has shown livestock at the Alameda County Fair since the age of nine. She is active in her high school's Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter, currently serving as the chapter's president. In the fall, Jessica plans to attend Modesto Junior College, pursuing



Jessica Sweet

an associate's degree in agriculture science.

The contest challenged contestants knowledge of the beef industry including: beef production, nutrition, and current hot topics. Each contestant wrote a brief response to an industry article and answered

questions and identified misinformation in the article. Contestants were also judged on their ability to think on their feet by conducting a mock consumer promotion event. Contestants were also judged on their ability to educate the consumer and provide them with the appropriate information to answer their questions. Senior division contestants also participated in a mock media interview.

As winner in the Senior Division, Jessica will go on to represent California in Rapid City, South Dakota this October to compete for National Beef Ambassador. Alameda County CattleWomen will co-sponsor Jessica's expenses to the competition. The top speakers at the national contest become part of a team, which spends a year traveling and speaking about the beef industry. They also receive a \$1,000 cash prize as well as a \$750 scholarship.

PAL Awards Scholarship

Taylor Common is the recipient of the 2010 PAL Scholarship Competition award.

Taylor was selected by a panel of PAL judges to receive a \$1,000 scholarship award in recognition of her art and in support of her continued art practice. Taylor's scholarship competition entries featured her work in acrylic titled Modified Beauty, Home is Where the Heart Is, and A Shoulder to Cry On.

Taylor, a 19 year old emerging artist, is majoring in art at Las Positas Community College. She aspires to be a teacher of art and encourage children to express themselves through art. Inspired by her art teachers, Taylor wrote, "When I was in high school, no matter what, my art teachers encouraged me and made me feel like I was amazing at what I did, even if it wasn't the best I've ever done. It has pushed me to grow as an artist, and now I have art to show how far I've come."

Taylor is currently taking classes in acrylic painting, watercolor painting, and figure study drawing. In her spare time Taylor enjoys painting with acrylics and often receives requests from others to create paintings for them. Painting is a passion for Taylor; she considers it an "escape from the chaos of my everyday life." Taylor plans to use the scholarship award to "expand her artistic horizons."

Taylor's artwork will be on display at the 41st Annual PAL Art Show, May 21-23, at the Alviso Adobe on Foothill Road in Pleasanton. Friday and Saturday show times are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday show times are 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The scholarship award will be presented to Taylor at the show's reception on Sunday, May 23 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Milestones

Community

Education

Marla Silversmith Selected as Pleasanton Teacher of the Year

Marla Silversmith has been selected as the Pleasanton Unified School District Teacher of the Year for 2010/11.

She teaches the life skills class at Amador Valley High School.

Silversmith started in the District in 2001 after receiving her bachelors and masters degrees from Cal State Sacramento, along with a special education teaching credential. She has taught at Foothill and Vintage Hills.

The special skills class has students with a range of abilities. They practice adult daily living skills with the goal to live as independently as possible.

Her work touches the entire school. Students are mainstreamed. They invite special guests to lunch at The Dons' Diner and run a cookie business - taking orders, baking, and delivering cookies.

Silversmith organizes outings for her students to football games, school dances, ice skating, and even Disneyland. On all of these trips, students are able to practice and then use the skills they learn.

Her nomination form said that virtually all of Amador Valley's 2500 students, "have learned to better understand and to embrace the world of special needs kids."



Marla Silversmith

Pleasanton PTA Council Announces 2010 Excellence in Education Awards

The Pleasanton PTA Council has announced the 2010 Winners of the Excellence in Education Awards. Honorees will receive their awards at the 20th Annual Excellence in Education Awards Ceremony on June 2, 4 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church. Friends and families of the honorees are most welcome to attend to celebrate their achievement! Refreshments will be served.

The 2010 Honorees are as follows: Jacquie Barker (Foothill), Manette Barlow (Adult Ed/ESL), Linda Boveda (Lydiksen), Christie Carhnan (Valley View), Jeremy Detamore (Foothill), Shay Galletti (Foothill/Amador ROP), Abby Johnson (Lydiksen/Valley View), Kim Lounsbury (Hearst), Kim Michels (Fairlands), Maria Primeau (Foothill), Tami Raaker (Foothill/Amador ROP), Kath-

leen Murray Rief (Hart), Marc Schweitzer (Donlon), and Lori Sjordahl (Mohr).

The Awards Ceremony is made possible by the support of Trinity Lutheran Church and Cold Stone Creamery in downtown Pleasanton.

For more information, please contact Diane Van Wagner at 925-846-3327.

Students Earn Academic Honors

Patrick Schalin of Dublin was recently honored during William Jessup University's annual celebratory chapel session designed to honor 43 students with various scholarship opportunities totaling over \$55K. The university is the only private residential university in the greater Sacramento region. Schalin received the Marjorie Phillips Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$400. The scholarship is given to honor an outstanding student.

Several local residents made the academic Deans' List at Azusa Pacific University. These students are honored for a fall semester 2009 academic standing of 3.5 or better grade-point average. A total of 1,565 students received the

same honor. From Pleasanton: Athletic Training Interest Major, Cristen L. Carrell; Art Major, Caroline J. Craner; Biology Major, Chad J. Jensen; Psychology Major, Nikki R. Liu; Nursing Major, Paige K. Moxley; Nursing Major, Kelsey A. Parkinson; Nursing Major, Alexandra M. Renton; Liberal Studies Major, Amanda C. Schultz; Psychology Major, Daly M. Sims; Political Science Major, Suzanna E. Sund; Social Science Major, Justin L. Worley; Liberal Studies Major, Mariah K. Worley; From Livermore: English Major, Luke W. Gutierrez; Undeclared Major, Justin McPherson; Journalism Major, Kyler R. Reeser; Accounting Major, Kimberly D. Trautloff

The following students made the Seattle Pacific University 2010 Winter Quarter Dean's List: Emily Kathleen Aldrich of Livermore; Ethan James Moody of Livermore; Katie Jeannette Thralls of Livermore. Students on the Dean's List have completed at least 12 credits and attained a 3.50 or higher grade point average

Loyola University New Orleans held its commencement ceremony at the Louisiana Superdome on Saturday, May 8. The following local student was among those receiving degrees: Pamela I. Spooner, from Livermore, received a Master of Science in Nursing degree from the College of Social Sciences.

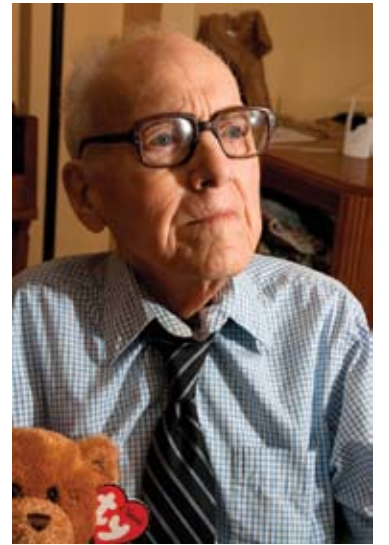
Toys for Tots Creator Celebrates 103rd Birthday

As America's veterans from World War II pass from society's landscape, there are fewer and fewer to remember the sacrifices and glories of a generation. Lt. Colonel John Hampton, a retired Marine, is the personification of a group quickly disappearing and a shining reminder of the enduring relevance of Memorial Day for us all.

On Monday, May 24, 2010, John Hampton will celebrate 103 years of adventures, accomplishments, and accolades. When hospice nurses Jennifer Natsch and Kari Rayford met him for the first time, they knew he had a story to tell. He delighted the residents and staff at Deer Hill Care Center in Lafayette as well as the team from Hope Hospice.

Hampton's full life has included stints in journalism, public relations, and the military. After a career in the newspaper business, John joined the Marines and began a journey filled with opportunity and challenges. He recalls, "The Marine Corps commissioned men with certain abilities. I applied and was sent to officer training camp in Quantico, VA. A few weeks into the training, during a snow storm, we were dumped in a forest one dark night with a compass and flashlight and told to find our way back to camp!" After he graduated and got "those silver first lieutenant bars pinned on my shoulders," he worked in the cryptology office at USMC Air Station in Santa Barbara coding and decoding messages and later served in Japan, the Philippines, and Hong Kong.

His most notable accomplishment came in 1947 when Hampton worked as a public information officer for the Marine Corps Reserve in Los Angeles. Fellow Marine reservist Major Bill Hendricks, the public information officer at Warner Brothers, had an idea for helping needy children. Hendricks drafted Hampton to help organize a toy collection. He and Hendricks decided to place a toy barrel in a Warner Brothers theater entrance. The sign on the barrel



JOHN HAMPTON

read: Toys for Tots...a campaign that would eventually become a national effort.

The first year Hendricks and Hampton recruited other reservists who collected 5,000 toys for children in the Los Angeles area. Based on the success of that first campaign, the Commandant of the Marine Corps directed every Marine Reserve Unit to conduct a local Toys for Tots campaign. In support, Walt Disney designed the first promotional poster for the nationwide campaign in 1948 and also designed the three car train logo that continues to serve as the official logo of Toys for Tots today.

Looking back, John Hampton doesn't boast about his ties to the famous program which has distributed over 419 million toys to 195 million needy children in the US, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. "He's very modest," says his daughter, Clare Revelli. "He has always harbored a soft spot for children," she added.

Hampton's 103rd birthday will be celebrated at Deer Hill Care Center with much fanfare. Sharing the day with his daughter, fellow residents, staff members, and Hope Hospice nurses, John Hampton has much to be proud of.

BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

Hearing Loss Association of America, Tri-Valley Chapter, meets 7 p.m. May 20 in the Valley Community Church, at 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton. The program will start at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public, are free, and refreshments are served. The meeting will be captioned for the benefit of those with extreme hearing loss. For more information contact Hiram Van Blarigan at hvanblarigan@hotmail.com or 925 455 6591 or Richard Taylor at 925 846 3647.

Plant Sale, Sat., May 22, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the parking lot, corner of Pacific Ave. and So. Livermore Ave. Below wholesale prices: trees, shrubs, California natives, Japanese Maples. Benefit Livermore High's 2010 Safe and Sane Grad Night.

Free Diabetes class tonight, May 13 through June 17, 6-8 p.m., 2155 3rd St., Carnegie Bldg., Livermore. 6 week Diabetes Self-Management class will help manage diabetes. Offered by the Alameda County Diabetes Program Call Marisa Castaldini RD CDE at 408-768-3763 with questions.

The 13th Annual Pooch Parade will take place on Wednesday, August 4, 2010 in downtown Pleasanton. This event runs in conjunction with the "1st Wednesday Street Party" sponsored by the Pleasanton Downtwon Association. Registration begins at 5 p.m. and the parade starts at 6 p.m. at Lions Wayside Park, corner of First Street and Neal. Enter your pooch, any size, in any of the seven categories for great prizes! The entry fee is \$10.00 per category. All proceeds benefit the Tri-Valley Guide Dog Puppy Raisers. For complete details and registration, go to www.trivalleyguidedogs.org

Livermore Valley Business and Professional Women, meet Wed., May 26 at Applebees in Livermore. Guest speaker is CAP Evelyn Saunders. She will speak on "Planning Your Business Year with Tax Advantages." Registration and networking at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the program. Public is invited. Cost \$20 for dinner and program. RSVP by May 23 to Madge at 449-3306.

Exceptional Needs Network Murder Mystery Dinner Gala, Fri., June 25, 6 p.m. Raise funds for Tri-Valley developmentally delayed children and ENN's Camp Arroyo. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore. Tickets can be purchased at http://ennnetwork.org/MMN/Murder_Mystery_Night/Home.html

Road Warriors 2010: ave fun and raise money for our wounded vets and their children on Sun., May 23, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. There will be an informational kick off at the Pleasanton Ridge Park staging area on Foothill Road. The fundraising tactic is to run, walk, bike, or hike 100 sponsored miles anytime between Memorial Day and Veterans Day, anywhere you want. That's 5 months to log miles. Stop by the info booth, grab a cookie and explore the park. Open to participants of all ages and skill levels. So gather sponsors, find a trail, and have fun outdoors this summer. All money raised supports this country's wounded warriors and their families through Wounded Warrior Project and Freedom Alliance. For more info, visit www.roadwarriors2010.blogspot.com or call 925-600-0664

1980 Granada High 30th Reunion: June 25, 2010 Pine Street Bar & Grill Mixer 8:00pm, June 26, 2010 The Club at Las Positas-Beeb's Dinner Reception 6:30-11:30pm. After Party, Jackie Tarin Rankl's Residence 11:30pm to 1:00am. Tickets on sale now \$95 per graduate, \$70 for guest through June 1st. Find information on www.GranadaHigh.com/alumni /free register, Facebook and Classmates

Bikers and Bands Ride for Autism, Sat., June 12, Livermore. Live music from 6 Livermore bands, food and drinks. 10 a.m. start in front of Pit Stop, 4084 East Ave. concludes at the Pine Street, 875 Rincon. Ride is \$25 per person and includes a Luau Lunch halfway

through the ride at noon and admission to Pine Street after the ride. Entertainment starts at 5 p.m. Admission if not riding is \$10. Benefit for the Early Intervention of Autism and Autism Speaks. Information at facebook.com/autismarmy.org or marty.seagrave@yahoo.com.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., May 22, 60 miles Calaveras Road to Millpitas, meet 9 a.m. Val Vista Park in Pleasanton, John Woodworth, 784-6350. Sun., May 23, 10 miles single track in Del Valle Park, meet 10 a.m. at Del Valle, Bob Heady, 980-7989. Tues., May 25, 8-13 miles mountain bike trails, meet 7 a.m. Lake Chabot Loop, Janie Page, 408-598-0247. Wed., May 26, 35 miles Pleasanton Ridge to Calaveras summit, meet 10 a.m. Gail Blanco, 872-100. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring..

Livermore Library Board, meets 7 p.m. Thurs., May 27 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting.

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club invites new & longtime residents to their monthly luncheon on June 17 at Faz Restaurant, 600 Hartz Restaurant, Danville from 11:30 to 2pm. The speaker will be San Ramon Mayor Abram Wilson. Cost is \$19. For information, call Myrna, 560-0656.

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, May 26 between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Questions?? Call Cathie Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or krdowling@pacbell.net. Website www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, is holding an orientation for new volunteers. Come and learn about volunteer opportunities such as fostering dogs/cats, socializing shelter animals, helping at adoption events and fund-raisers, plus many other roles. Orientation is June 6, 1:00-2:30 PM at East Count Animal Shelter, 4595 Gleason Drive in Dublin. Must be 18+. Bring \$10 cash or check to help cover the cost of material. Information at www.tvr.org.

Widowed Men and Women of No. California, Birthday dinner in Fremont, May 22, 5 p.m. RSVP by May 20 to Ramona, 510-471-9630. Brunch/sculpture walk in Pleasanton, May 23, 11 a.m., RSVP by May 20 to Ruby, 462-9636.

Pleasanton VIP Travel Club, visits Peter Pan in San Francisco at the Threesixty Centre. Wed., June 9. Stop first at Westfield San Francisco Centre for lunch and shopping. Tickets are limited. For reservations, sign up at the travel desk, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton, 931-5370 or Joanne Kelly 224-9888.

Granada High School Class of 1980 reunion, Friday, June 25, 2010 Pine Street Bar & Grill Mixer 8:00pm; Saturday, June 26, 2010 The Club at Las Positas-Beeb's Dinner Reception 6:30-11:30pm; After Party, Jackie Tarin Rankl's Residence 11:30pm to 1:00am. Find information on www.GranadaHigh.com/alumni /free register, Facebook and Classmates. Tickets on sale now \$90 per graduate, \$60 for guest through May 1st. Questions/Concerns please contact Patti Wilson Smylie 925.487.2080 or seeme@pattismylie.com

Chefs Grand Tasting, Fri., May 21, 5:30 to 10 p.m. Shannon Community Center, Dublin. Food samplings and fine wines from

top local restaurants and wineries, musical entertainment, silent auction. Hosted by Rotary Club of Dublin. Proceeds go to Open Heart Kitchen and the Rotary Club charitable projects. Tickets \$75 per person. www.rotarydublin.org. Tickets available at Cauchi Photography, Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl, or Jon Ric Express Spa.

Pleasanton VIP Travelers, Culinary Institute of America and Rachael Dunn Chocolates in St. Helena, Wed., May 26, \$88 members, \$89 nonmembers. Columbia State Park, National, Hotel and Railtown, June 19, \$78 members, \$79 nonmembers. Reservations sign up at the travel desk at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd.

Learn Scottish Country dancing at the Livermore class of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, San Francisco Branch. Lively reels and jigs, graceful strathspeys. All ages. Adults Mondays 8 to 9:30 p.m. Livermore Veteran's Hall, 522 South L St., Livermore; youth or adult Fridays 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Valley Dance Theatre School, 2247 Second St., Suite B, Livermore. Call Margaret Ward, 449-5932 or Sheena MacQueen, 447-1833.

Veterans Employment Conference, Wed., May 26, 9 to 11 a.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. Employers and Federal Contractors are invited to learn about government programs and incentives for the hiring of veterans. Information, call the Livermore Economic Development Department, 960-4140.

Good News Bears, nonprofit with a mission to distribute stuffed animals to social services, emergency services, medical facilities and anyone who needs a hug. Based in Livermore, the group reaches around the Bay Area and the world. Volunteers needed to hold collections of gently used teddy bears and other stuffed animals, assist with fund-raising and deliver the animals to organizations supported by the group. Meetings 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at the Livermore Police Station. Log on to www.goodnewsbears.org or call 373-7982 for more information.

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group, (CL) is a nonprofit, peer-based, self-help support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Meetings in Room 7 at 7 p.m. every Monday 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the St. Mary & St. John Coptic Orthodox Church, Room 7, 4300 Mirador Drive, Pleasanton. Just come or call our one of the volunteers: 925-200-1943, or go to www.ClutterLess.org.

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

The Tri-Valley Youth Court is looking for adult and youth volunteers to act as Spanish-English translators. The volunteers will work with non-English speaking families during their entire involvement with the program. TVYC is a youth-driven diversion program that acts as an adjunct to the traditional juvenile justice system for first time teen offenders.

For more information, visit our website at www.trivalleyyouthcourt.com or call Tonya at 925-337-7171.

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

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

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

The Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave. in Livermore and is open Mondays, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays. Buenas Vidas Youth Ranch has been running Bingo for 16 years and is now working with Christensen, Arroyo Seco and East Ave Schools, and Exceptional Needs Network and All American Sports Academy Teams. Come play Bingo and support the kids in Livermore. Call 925-606-7777 for more information.

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

RELIGION

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

Meditation Study Group - Practice new meditation methods, based on teachings of

Shinzen Young, using audio, video and hand-outs. Meeting 7:00-8:30 pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, at Tri-Valley Unity's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, Dublin. Contact Gayle at gstaele@comcast.net

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

St. Matthew's Baptist Church, 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

United Christian Church, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley, 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worships on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820.

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

Finding Certainty in Uncertain Times: Prayer-Based Solutions, talk by David Stevens, May 23, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Four Points by Sheraton Pleasanton Hotel, Amador Room, 5115 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. There is no admission charge. Stevens' ideas are based on the teachings of Jesus as recorded in the Bible, and as discussed in Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy. More information go to www.seekanswers.info. This talk is hosted by the Christian Science churches in Hayward and Livermore. Care for children too young to attend the talk will be provided onsite.

Trinity, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8:30, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. with Sunday school or Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Bible study for adults and activities for all ages on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. 447-1848.

Human Good: The Faith That Sustains Me, Rev. Lucas Hergert, preaching, Sun., June 6, 10:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalists, 1893 North Vasco Rd., Livermore. Lucas will argue that liberal religionists must reclaim their belief in human good for a world that is hurting. All are invited. www.uucil.net.

Major General Alford Pleasanton will appear at Trinity on May 30 at 6 p.m. He will present a dramatic monologue entitled, "Serving God and Country as a Family." Gen. Pleasanton will be portrayed by Jim Meek in full uniform. The performance is free. Child care available. Trinity is at 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore, 447-1848.

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