

THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A

Teaching Others to Conquer Hurdles



Find Out What's Happening

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

Behind The Scenes, Lab Expertise Helps U.S. Negotiate With Iran

By Jeff Garberson

In ways that are not publicly evident, expertise at Lawrence Livermore and other national laboratories is being brought to bear as U.S. negotiators in Lausanne, Switzerland seek to firm up details of an agreement and follow-up inspections intended to keep Iran from developing nuclear weapons.

The technical skills available at the laboratories are

not readily available outside the specialized world of the nuclear laboratories, which includes the weapons design facilities at Sandia, Los Alamos and Livermore, as well as Argonne, Oak Ridge and a few others with associated capabilities.

A sign of strong local interest in the talks was seen last week in a briefing given by former LLNL associate director Jay Davis to the

Livermore Rotary Club. He called his presentation a "primer" on the talks to date and the challenges remaining.

Davis has held senior positions at the Defense Department and has participated in high level studies for the defense community. He also participated in several of the United Nations inspections of Iraq's covert nuclear weapons program in

the 1990s.

While much of recent U.S. news coverage has focused on politics and controversies, laboratory support for the diplomatic effort was described in a news article published by the New York Times a month ago.

The Times likened the efforts to a reverse Manhattan Project, referring to the crash effort to develop the atomic bomb in order

to bring World War II to a close 70 years ago. Today it is a "technological obsession" for "thousands of lab employees" to do what they can to keep Iran from developing the bomb, according to the Times.

Exactly what contributions the separate labs are making is difficult to know. LLNL did not respond to re-

(See IRAN, page 5)

Glazer Wins Senate Seat

Orinda Mayor Steve Glazer won the 7th Senate District seat with nearly 55 percent of the vote against Assemblymember Susan Bonilla.

Results with 99 percent of the precincts in the district partially counted showed Glazer with 60,667 to Bonilla's 50,401.

The election fills the seat vacated when Mark DeSaulnier was elected to Congress. Glazer and Bonilla were the top two finishers in a March 17 primary.

Bonilla was backed by the California Democratic Party and labor unions. Glazer received heavy financial support from L.A. businessman Bill Bloomfield.

Democrats comprise nearly 44 percent of the registered voters in the 7th Senate District. Glazer sought to attract Republicans and independents.

Glazer captured 57.1 percent of the vote in Alameda County and 54.1 percent in Contra Costa County.

Only 17.79 percent of those eligible to vote in Alameda County turned in ballots. In Contra Costa the turnout was 24.76 percent of registered voters.

Glazer, the mayor of Orinda, is a trustee of the California State University system, and owns a small business

Committee Pursues Policy on Open Space

The Altamont Landfill Open Space Advisory Committee has launched a process to develop a strategic vision for the committee.

The group is responsible for approving grant proposals to purchase lands using fees generated by the Altamont Landfill Settlement Agreement. Under the agreement, a fee paid

(See ALTAMONT, page 4)

Memorial Day Events Set

The Pleasanton Memorial Day observance will be held at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., on Monday, May 25.

A patriotic ceremony will take place starting at 11 a.m. The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will perform

The event was organized by the Pleasanton American Legion Post 237 and VFW Post 6298 to salute this country's fallen heroes

Livermore VFW Post 7265 will be hosting Memorial Day ceremonies on Mon., May 25.

The first will be held at Roselawn Cemetery, 2104 No. Livermore Avenue beginning at 10 a.m. The ceremony will take place at St. Michael's Cemetery on East Avenue at 11 a.m. followed by Memory Gardens Cemetery at 11:30 a.m.

Ceremonies will include speakers, the placing of wreaths, and a 21-gun salute by the VFW Post 7265 Honor Guard.



Lisa Wilson helps a student with his work. For the story, go to page 8.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore Council Votes to Oppose Off-Road Expansion

The Livermore City Council voted to oppose the expansion of an off highway vehicle park.

An overflow crowd of opponents and supporters were on hand at Monday's council meeting to provide input on the draft environmental impact report (DEIR) for the proposed expansion of the Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area.

The vote was 3 to 2 to oppose the expansion. A second vote, to ask staff to comment on the DEIR, was approved by the same margin. Lauren Turner, Steven Spedowski and Bob Woener were in the majority.

Turner, who made the motion to oppose the expansion, noted that it's the responsibility of the City Council to protect what is important to the community. "We have a policy of protecting open space in Livermore, and though this is on our outskirts, it absolutely does impact the city," she noted.

The majority also supported a letter asking the state to address water, sediment, and noise issues. In addition, they wanted to see a non-motorized alternative

(See OFF-ROAD, page 10)

Fast Results in Curbing Pleasanton School Suspensions

The Pleasanton Unified School District has reduced student suspensions by nearly 29 percent. In addition, there were no expulsions this year, compared to nine students expelled last year. The change came about because of a new program, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), backed by a \$2.3 million federal grant.

The school board at its meeting May 12 gained an overview from staff about the five-year plan for all grade levels. So far, the district has communicated to selected personnel at each school site the philosophy of PBIS, and how it can help all students, not just those at risk. The PBIS approach promotes creation of a good social and emotional atmosphere that supports learning, said senior director of pupil services Kevin Johnson.

Just having staff development this year has raised awareness of the new approach, which teachers have been using to produce the dramatic statistics in the drop in suspensions and the elimination of expulsions, said Johnson.

One major requirement of the grant is to show a reduction of 20 percent annually in suspensions. "We already are ahead of that schedule. We want to keep pushing the idea that for students to be successful, they have to be in class," said Johnson. Three days of unexcused absences earns a suspension.

Social workers will assist the district in aiding with such information as learning why students are not coming to school.

Creating a positive school climate is also important in re-

(See SCHOOL, page 2)

Stanford Finishes Affiliation Pact with ValleyCare

Stanford Health Care (SHC) has completed its affiliation agreement with ValleyCare Health System.

ValleyCare will be a subsidiary. The formal name will be Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare, according to an announcement May 19 from SHC.

"We are delighted to welcome ValleyCare to the Stanford Health Care family," said SHC president and CEO Amir Dan Rubin.

"For more than 50 years, ValleyCare has served Tri-Valley residents with distinction. Now, as part of Stanford Health Care, ValleyCare can further enhance health in the region by advancing the delivery of leading edge and highly coordinated care," said Rubin.

ValleyCare's daily operations will continue to be led by Scott Gregerson, who is

now president of Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare. He will report to Rubin.

Gregerson said, "As a result of this partnership, the new Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare will be well positioned to address today's challenges in health care, and deliver preeminent care to Tri-Valley residents for many years to come."

Dr. Lloyd Minor, dean of the Stanford University School of Medicine, said that Stanford Medicine is leading the biomedical revolution in precision health, working to make possible a future where health care is proactive, predictable and precise.

"Through the new Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare affiliation, we will bring high-value health care to Tri-Valley residents, while

(See STANFORD, page 10)



Plants bloom in area that burned.

Rare Opportunity for Mother Nature to Blossom Following Fire on Mt. Diablo

By Carol Graham

On a hot September night in 2013, a coppery blaze tore up the eastern slope of Mount Diablo. It doubled, and soon doubled again,

as residents of a dozen towns ringing the mountain watched in helpless alarm.

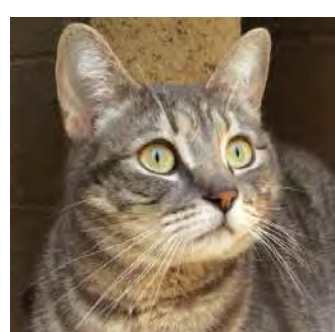
What many didn't know then is that the inferno would open the door for rare beauty

- for life forms to appear that emerge only when the conditions are right, perhaps just once over a period of many decades.

(See RARE, page 8)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Daisy is the prettiest of May flowers. As your affection for this four-year-old brown tabby grows, you'll quickly realize, "She loves me!" Not that there was ever any doubt. Pick Daisy today at Valley Humane Society, or choose from an entire bouquet of dogs, cats, kittens and puppies during Maddie's Pet Adoption Days, May 30-31, when all animals go home fee free! For more information, please visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656. Photo - Valley Humane Society/V. Betz

SCHOOL

(continued from page one)

ducing bullying, especially in middle school, where the highest percentages of incidents occur, said Johnson.

Johnson gave an example of the kind of positive outlook that is the goal, one that focuses on affirming positive beliefs about school. A person should be able to walk on campus and ask students what are the top three or five rules at the school.

"Right now, the district has 32 pages of possible infractions, that no one knows. We have to look them up. We want to change that environment," said Johnson.

Trustee Mark Miller congratulated the staff on its achievement, calling the numbers so far "fantastic." He said the emphasis appears to be on disruptive behavior, but he is also concerned about self-destructive behavior, which he said appears to be related.

Speaking to Miller's point later in the discussion, Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi said that the key to the program works on the levels of both the self and society.

A climate created by the positive behavior enabled by PBIS helps children to manage their behavior. "Then we have to find ways to focus on positive behavior. If you don't have that system, you are always focusing on negative behavior, not positive. We need the program for five years. It would not work in just one."

Over the five years, the program will go through three tiers. It will begin Tier 1 in the elementary grades next year, and in the middle and high schools the following year.

More Money for Schools in California Budget

With California continuing the recovery from economic poor times, Gov. Jerry Brown has been able to add \$6.7 billion to his general fund budget since his initial presentation in January, raising the total to \$169 billion.

However, the governor warned in a news conference in Sacramento on May 13 that the state's economy could be back in trouble in four years or so, according to the state's calculations. For that reason, he is putting \$633 million into the Rainy Day Fund, as required by Proposition 2. An additional \$633 million to help pay down the state's wall of debt. Further, he won't start any new social programs.

The new budget adds \$2.1 billion for k-12 education. It is expected to average \$3000 more per pupil than the average in the 2011-12 budget.

Susan Kinder, chief business official for the Livermore School district, said that no details have been released yet to the district. When they are known, the school board will be considering "a combination of staff recommendations that include direct services to students, program restoration and/or redesign, as well as competitive compensation adjustments," said Kinder.

Comment from the Pleasanton school district was unavailable at deadline.

Health is another category earmarked for higher income. Medi-Cal rises from \$19 billion in the January budget to \$24 billion in the May revision. With President Obama working to give some immigrants a pathway to citizenship, the state should be ready to fulfill its obligation for health costs associated with the Affordable Care Act, said Brown.

There is also a new proposal for an earned income tax credit "to help California's working poor," said Brown. On the federal level, one was instituted by President Ford, and "it has given tremendous growth in income, so I thought it would be reasonable to establish this in California," said Brown.

"I like it, because there is no bureaucracy or complexity. It's just straight deliverance of funding a lot of people who are working very hard, and earning very little money," said Brown. He estimated it could bring a few hundred to as much as \$2000 annually to workers.

Brown also talked about his agreement with UC President Janet Napolitano. UC will hold tuition flat for two years. In exchange, the state will take Proposition 2 revenue and pay it on a temporary basis to UC to fund its unfunded pension liability. UC will implement a pension cap, as called for in 2012 legislation.

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Come celebrate.

ValleyCare Health System has partnered with Stanford Health Care.

For more than half a century, ValleyCare has provided quality care to Tri-Valley residents. Our new partnership will enhance those efforts by bringing Stanford Health Care's leading edge and coordinated care to the region.



We invite the Tri-Valley community to join us for a reception.

Tuesday, June 9th, 4pm – 6pm

Remarks at 4:30pm

No RSVP Needed

ValleyCare Medical Center
 5555 W. Las Positas Blvd.
 Pleasanton, CA 94588



VALLEY ROUNDUP

College Commencement Ceremony

Las Positas College will hold its "Silver Anniversary" 25th Annual Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the Physical Education Complex, Building 2500.

The College will confer more than 900 degrees and certificates this year, a slight increase over last year.

It is expected that more than 250 graduates will participate in the commencement ceremony. Tickets, while free, are required. All student participants must take part in a rehearsal beginning at 7:00 a.m. On-campus parking for the graduation rehearsal and ceremony will be complementary for the day.

Congressman Eric Swalwell will be the featured speaker. Commencement ceremony music will be provided by the Las Positas College Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble. The College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. For tickets and other information, please visit the College website at www.laspositascollege.edu/graduation.

Those unable to attend will be able to view the ceremony on streaming video by clicking the link on the college's website: www.laspositascollege.edu.

Attempted Murder Charge

Livermore Police Department Detectives, as well as members from the Livermore Police Department's Special Operations Unit, arrested Miguel Alvarez on May 14 for the attempted murder of a Livermore Police Officer. Lizbeth Gonzalez, an associate, was arrested for the reckless discharge of a firearm during a separate unrelated incident. Both were transported to Santa Rita Jail for their charges in Alameda County.

Alvarez and Gonzalez, who are currently residents of Tracy, have substantial criminal histories related to Livermore. The search, less than twelve hours after the attempted murder of Livermore Police Officer, Dirk Stoddard ended with their arrests at their home in Tracy.

The public's support enabled police to solve this crime in less than twelve hours and remove an extremely dangerous person from the community. Assistance was provided by the Pleasanton Police Department, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, as well as the Tracy Police Department.

At around 1 a.m. on May 14, Livermore Police responded to a report of shots heard in the area of Chestnut Street and North I Street. Prior to this incident, dispatch had received multiple calls for service throughout the night regarding shots heard within the general vicinity of Chestnut Street and North I Street.

Officers saw an unknown male, approximately six feet tall, shirtless with blue jeans, walking east on Chestnut Street. While Police attempted to make contact, the unknown male continued walking east on Chestnut Street, eventually turning north onto North I Street where he quickly ducked behind a vehicle. As one of the officers approached the male, the male suddenly turned and without provocation fired multiple gunshots at the officer.

The officer avoided being struck by bullets as he ducked into his patrol vehicle and watched the unknown male run north on North I Street and east on Park Street. A perimeter was quickly established within the two block radius. The East County Tactical Team was activated in order to assist with an active yard to yard search for the suspect.

The officers on scene did not return gun fire and none of the officers or residents in the area were injured.

Certificate of Excellence

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States has awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award to the City of Dublin for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This marks the 24th consecutive year that Dublin has received this award.

According to the GFOA, the Certificate of Achievement is the "highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management."

Honor Roll

Susan S. Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator, has been named to the Forever Influential Honor Roll of Exceptional Women Leaders by the San Francisco Business Times. She was previously named as a leader in 2013.

The Honor Roll is described by Mary Huss, Publisher of the Business Times, as a kind of "Hall of Fame" of Bay Area women leaders who previously have been honored through the publication's annual "Most Influential Women in Bay Area Business" awards.

Muranishi has been Alameda County's Chief Administrative Officer since December 1995, leading an organization of more than 9,500 County employees with an annual budget of \$2.8 billion. An Alameda County native, she has gained a reputation for strong fiscal management that has served the County well in an era of constant strain on local government budgets.

Scott Haggerty, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, said Muranishi's leadership has been a stabilizing force as the County has struggled with the impacts of a prolonged recession and diminished financial support from the State and federal governments. "Susan was appointed Alameda County's first female County Administrator at a time when there were fewer than five female County Administrators statewide."

Haggerty added, "She is a home-grown leader who is incredibly creative in finding ways to maximize our resources to support the residents of Alameda County."

Pictured are graduates of Livermore's first Key to the City - Local Government Academy. The graduation ceremony was held on Tuesday, May 12th. This 11-week program offered insights into local government including tours of numerous city facilities such as police, fire, water treatment plant and City Hall. There were twenty-two participants in this inaugural class. The program will be offered again in 2016.



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EDITORIAL

Memorial Day

Monday marks the annual Memorial Day observation across the nation.

The holiday was formerly known as Decoration Day and originated after the American Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the war. By the 20th century, Memorial Day had been extended to honor all those who died while in the military service.

Livermore and Pleasanton will hold ceremonies providing a place for people to gather and remember together.

In Pleasanton, the event will be held at the Pleasanton Senior Center starting at 11 a.m. with music performed by the Pleasanton Community Concert Band.

Honors in Livermore will take place at its three cemeteries starting at 10 a.m. at Roselawn, followed at 11 a.m. at St. Michael's and 11:30 a.m. at Memory Gardens.

We urge all to take the time to remember what is important in this country and honor those who helped to make it possible.

MAILBOX

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

Park Expansion Bob and Deanna Holm Livermore

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council members,

I am contacting you today in hope that you will loudly and vigorously oppose the proposed expansion of Carnegie OHV park, after your review of the Preliminary General Plan and the DEIR. This site is not just some more brown hills. It is truly a unique environmental treasure and needs to be protected from the State for the public's enjoyment. Our State is assigned the responsibility to protect us from this very type of environmental disaster, not to foster it. A private entity could never obtain the necessary permits or approvals for such a project, yet the State is attempting to override public opinion and force this destructive expansion on us.

Our family's ranching business included the leasing of this property for several decades and I spent my youth there so I am intimately familiar with it. Why is it unique? Not only because of the historic and geographic features, but for the diverse and rare plant life, the 20 plus reservoirs (if I remember correctly) each with their own individual wildlife habitat, Indian camps and artifacts, kit fox and other endangered species' habitat, home to the reintroduced Tule Elk herd, and all the more common species that call this potential expansion home. To me the most amazing aspect of this debate is that there is any debate at all. A decision to support this project is forever. There will be no undoing of the damage to the environment if we make the wrong choice now.

Pleasanton Eastside Ann Alderete Pleasanton

Dear Councilmembers, I will be out of town for the City Council Meeting on May 19, 2015 and I would like the Counsel to represent me with a permanent NO vote for the development of East Pleasanton. This development is not in the

best interest of Pleasanton residents for many reasons. We need to absorb the state mandated 1900 housing units before planning any new development. Listed are additional key items that support my request for the Council to vote NO.

SCHOOLS: - 1300 NEW students (per PUSD Demographer's report April 2015)

- Developers may offer a K-5 school

- No capital money for our cash-strapped middle schools or high schools

TRAFFIC: - Will create a traffic nightmare with 29,000+ new car trips per day on Pleasanton Streets

- Encourages cut-through traffic from southbound drivers on 580, Dublin and San Ramon

- 1300 new homes will create traffic logjams on First St, Valley, Bernal and more.

WATER: - Pleasanton taxpayers are spending \$19 million for recycled water/ purple pipe systems so YOU can have more drinking water, not 1300 new homes. - This is not the time to add to our limited water supply problems.

HEALTH: - Our valley is "non-attainment" for national and state ozone levels, and small particulate standards.

- Located near noisy and dirty industrial gravel mining companies, in use until 2040+.

The EPSP is poor planning for Pleasanton because

(More MAILBOX, page 10)

ALTAMONT

(continued from page one)

on garbage brought to local landfills goes towards three uses: open space purchase, recycling education, and host city impact fee.

Eighty percent of the open space fees generated are earmarked for purchases in the eastern part of East Alameda County; twenty percent for expenditures in the western part.

The committee began hearing presentations from groups who are interested in receiving grants. Representatives talked about what they had accomplished and wish lists for future acquisitions.

On hand at last Friday's meeting were the Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC), California Rangeland Trust (CRT), Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARP), the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and the Greenbelt Alliance. Save Mount Diablo and the East Bay Regional Park District are scheduled for presentations during the July 17

Charter High School Cinches Deal on New Quarters; Concerns about Bonds

The Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory School (LVCP) has begun a 30-year lease on new quarters.

LVCP is operated by the Tri-Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC), a publicly funded charter school. TVLC CEO Bill Batchelor said that the modern former office building at 3090 Independence Drive, which intersects with North Canyons Drive, will be occupied soon after the start of the 2015-16 school year.

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, which will have oversight of the charter school starting in July, expressed concern about the impact a \$25.5 million debt could have on education. There has been concern about finances related to TVLC, whether it has the ability to pay off the \$25.5 million in bonds without expanding either in Livermore or adding new schools outside the district. TVLC already is paying off a \$27 million bond for its elementary and middle school campus.

There will be a second tenant, San Francisco Bay Academy (SFBA), a private school, which caters to international students. SFBA is owned by California Preparatory Academies, a non profit. SFBA has no students yet, but started recruiting, even before the lease-signing, said Batchelor. Tuition for each student attending the Academy will be \$30,000 annually.

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors unanimously authorized a \$25.5 million bond for TVLC to use for the new site at a public hearing May 5.

The interest rate was set at 6.5 percent. Batchelor commented, "The interest rate is not spectacular, but it's all right, and it's where we expected to be."

Board member Anne White commented that the interest rate seems high for these times.

California-based Goldstone, a Berkeley real estate management company, has purchased the land and building, and holds a 50-year ground lease. With that accomplished the charter school is able to execute its 30-year lease for the building.

The lease payments will be a slightly reduced because the bonds are tax-free on the interest. IRS law allows for the tax free status. The California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA) gov-

erns the process, which requires a public hearing.

A less expensive alternative would have been to continue operations in buildings provided by the Livermore School District. State law requires the school district to provide facilities for the charter school that are comparable to those used by the district's students. The district charges rent and for maintenance.

Assistant Superintendent Chris Van Schaack of the Livermore district stated that the district specifically is concerned about the lease payments. They may take money away from other expenses, such as class instruction or equipment, he said.

It's important to understand all of the financial ramifications, added Van Schaack.

Van Schaack stated, "There is a chance the district could be held financially liable if we don't perform our oversight duties. But I don't think we would be. Part of our oversight is to be aware of what is going on, and ensure the ability to educate students at the two charter schools in Livermore."

The district has no oversight of the Learning Corporation management only the schools. Van Schaack added, "To do our due diligence means to 'be aware of what it is we are looking for. We want to be aware of any plans the Learning Corporation might have, including the bonds."

The Independent was unable to obtain any specific financial information regarding the bond transaction.

Representing the Livermore School District, John Yeh, a private attorney specializing in representing school districts, was the only speaker at the hearing in front of the Board of Supervisors. He asked the supervisors to postpone the hearing, because his client wanted more time to read the relevant financial documents.

Supervisor Scott Haggerty pointed out that the school district already had had two weeks to review material, since the May 5 hearing was a postponement from the April 21 meeting.

Yeh said that the documents were long; therefore, the district needed more time. It will be supervising the charter high school after July 1, and already supervises the K-8 school, which is a block away from the new high school location.

Among documents that the district has been reading is one that is 500-pages

in length from Goldstone, which lists details of the school, its management and the potential risks concerning default. Yeh said it is the district's fiduciary duty to inquire.

Haggerty told Yeh that the Livermore school district would not be responsible for the Independence Drive lease debt, if there were a default. Neither would the county, which was simply holding the hearing. He said that he was satisfied with the "firewall" that protects the school district.

Yeh acknowledged Haggerty's remarks, but stated that he saw there is one threat that could pierce the firewall. The education code says that potentially a charter-authorizing agency, such as the Livermore School District, could be found liable for the debt of a charter school.

The bondholders are to be paid back over 30 years with money that comes to the charter prep from state Average Daily Attendance money, and from a portion of the Academy's tuition.

Share of the debt between the two tenants depends on usage of the building. Every year, the payment will be determined. Batchelor said that over time, we expect the private school to contribute more than 50 percent. Ultimately the two schools will be partnered. We expect the resources of the private school to be significant.

Batchelor addressed potential liability. He said that the Livermore district would have no liability. Batchelor explained what would happen if revenue does not keep up with debt service.

OppenheimerFunds, financial advisors, will issue the bonds on behalf of Independence Support, the borrower. Independence Support owns the building. The two schools make lease payments to Independence Support.

Technically, Independence Support pays the bonds. However, the two tenants pay rent, which goes to Independence to pay off the bonds. The lease payments between the two schools are a little more than \$1 million annually.

Independence Support bought the property on May 8, drawing on the bond money, which was approved May 5. If there were a default, bondholders would talk with the Learning Corporation about a work-around. For example, if there were not enough students, perhaps payments could be reduced.

Also, there is a one-year debt service reserve. That money is already in a

trust account. Beyond that, Batchelor stated, "We also have a full year of pre-paid rent from the private school side. They have paid for the structure to work the way it is."

Asked what would happen if not enough students enrolled in the Academy, Batchelor stated that ultimately, the school itself, is funded well. Even without students, the Academy has a couple of years' worth of interest payments, outside of a reserve already involved in the bonds. The school will have adequate funds. There is plenty of time. It's an incredibly unlikely scenario that they would not get the funds. "The Academy is still raising funds, as we speak. I don't know the exact amount. However, it is multi-million dollars."

"If everything goes bad, in the worst case, they would use up the pre-paid rent," said Batchelor. As the property owner, if Independence Support defaults the bondholders would foreclose on Independence Support.

Observers worry that if Yeh is correct that the firewall could be pierced the district would be in jeopardy in the event of a default. The bond holders, after seeking payment from Independence Support and the two schools, might go after the school district.

The charter school has been meeting for the past five years at the former Portola Avenue School, which is owned by the Livermore School District.

The Learning Corporation had planned to move into 3090 Independence Drive in 2014, but the property changed hands. School officials had to begin negotiations all over again with the new owner.

Bids have now been let for work that will transform the building's interior into school rooms.

Rumors that Batchelor is no longer CEO of the Learning Corporation are not true, he said. Van Schaack agreed, speculating the misinformation is coming from the blog on Facebook's Friends of TVLC page.

Batchelor had been working as CFO of the Academy, but resigned that position. He told The Independent that he will remain CEO of the charter school. He is not currently being compensated by the international school, although in the future, compensation might be negotiated. The Learning Corporation's office in the building will be separate from that of the Academy.

session.

Doolan Canyon, North Livermore, and Tesla Park were areas of focus mentioned by almost all of the speakers. Each location, they said, represents a unique feature or habitat.

TVC Executive Director Laura Mercier noted that it is the only land trust based in Alameda County. Currently, there are 4300+ acres under easements. Much of the property is located within the South Livermore Valley Area Plan. There are 3000 acres in agriculture and the remainder in open space including an 8-mile trail through 1900 acres of preserved agricultural land.

Mercier listed North Livermore, particularly Doolan Canyon, the North Livermore Valley and Alkali sink as areas of interest. The alkali sink represents an important habitat with only seven such areas remaining in California. Mercier noted that residents don't seem to be aware of its importance. Kids, dogs and activities are making the area less valuable. There is a need to educate the public.

Doolan Canyon would provide a permanent greenbelt.

The CRT operates throughout the entire state. Since 1998, it has acquired 285,000 acres representing 58 properties. There is a waiting list of 60 ranches totaling 400,000 acres. Bay Area Program Manager, Nancy Schaefer, told the

committee that CRT holds mitigation easements on 800 acres in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.

Schaefer noted that the focus of acquisitions has been on maintaining biological diversity. Critical areas include Mt. Diablo and the Mt. Diablo range. "Priorities of CRT are to help ranchers conserve their land and to stay on it."

Local rancher Darrel Sweet said that the Bay Area is challenging when it comes to easements because ranches typically involve larger acreage. Easements are expensive to buy. For example, in one area of the state, 13,000 acres were purchased for \$300 an acre. "There would be a fair amount of interest in Alameda County on the part of ranchers to enter into easements. However, there is no mechanism to do so. Mitigation for development represents highly technical and time consuming agreements. It is difficult to discuss easements when we don't know what a site is worth or where the money would come from."

John Lawrence, LARPD assistant general manager, said that the district's parks include 1400 acres of open space easements. Brushy Peak consists of 507 acres. Due to the sensitive nature of Native American sites and the sandstone formations, the preserve is open only for tours. The area also features a number of endangered spe-

cies, including fairy shrimp. Lawrence said there are opportunities to expand the area by working with ranchers whose land borders the preserve.

Garaventa Wetlands and the Springtown Alkali Preserve are two areas of biological importance that the park district owns. As an example of their uniqueness, Lawrence said that in the wetlands there are plants that also grow along Furnace Creek in Death Valley.

Watershed above the alkali areas would be of interest in order to protect the land the district already owns, said Lawrence. "We have more needs and priorities than we have money."

Mack Casterman, conservation analyst, East Bay Chapter at California Native Plant Society, also expressed interest in the alkali wetlands, as well as Doolan Canyon.

He called the Springtown Preserve a particularly unique area with so much diversity. Plants include a severely endangered Birds-beak, which is the western most occurrence of the plant.

One of the things that make the canyon unique is the presence of a tar plant that is undergoing an evolutionary divergence. With climate change, such action will become more critical by providing new diversity in the gene pool, said Casterman.

He also mentioned the Altamont area, Corral Hollow and Cedar Mountain as areas of interest. The Altamont area represents a convergence of three of California's floristic environments. It provides a critical wildlife corridor. There is a delphinium (larkspur) that can only be found in this area.

Corral Hollow was described by Casterman as a special region, providing a wildlife corridor between Mt. Diablo and Mt. Hamilton. If the proposed off-highway park were expanded, the habitat would be irrevocably damaged.

Cedar Mountain includes serpentine bedrock, the largest area of this soil type in the East Bay. According to Casterman, the area, noted for the Northern Cypress Forest, has been relatively unexplored by botanist because "it has been pretty much in private hands." His concern related to ongoing demand for rare earth elements that could be mined there in the future.

From the Greenbelt Alliance, Joel Devalcourt focused on Doolan Canyon as an area of importance. He said that his organization used science, policy and funds to advance protection of vulnerable areas, such as the Caanyon.

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IRAN

(continued from page one)

peated inquiries or requests for an interview, apparently at least in part because it was forbidden to respond by its federal sponsor, the National Nuclear Security Administration.

The facility most extensively cited for helping the Iran negotiations has been Oak Ridge National Laboratory, perhaps because identifiable hardware is associated with its efforts. Oak Ridge famously pioneered uranium enrichment during the Manhattan Project using technology developed in Berkeley at Ernest Lawrence's Radiation Lab, predecessor to LLNL.

Washington Post and New York Times articles credit Oak Ridge with operating a mock-up of Iranian centrifuge facilities that enables scientists to test ideas and respond to technical questions that arise in Lausanne about restricting Iranian enrichment capacity.

Countdown to Zero Day, a book about alleged U.S.-Israeli computer virus attacks on Iranian nuclear facilities, goes further, claiming that Oak Ridge has for the past decade operated a covert facility "to research the destruction of centrifuges" in Iran. This claim has not been verified, and Oak Ridge director Thom Mason declined comment recently when asked about it by a reporter.

As for the other laboratories including LLNL, they have considerable expertise in handling and safeguarding nuclear materials. To protect their own resources, to help decaying post-Soviet labs secure nuclear materials in Russia and to combat nuclear smuggling generally, they have spent decades developing methods and technologies for identifying, monitoring and tracking materials - especially uranium and plutonium -- that are key ingredients of nuclear weapons.

How much of these materials Iran will be allowed to retain as well as where and at what concentrations are among the subjects of the negotiations to date. Livermore and the other nuclear laboratories have been advising negotiators on these questions as well as how inspections and technology may be able to verify that the Iranians are complying or failing to comply with agreements, observers say.

Understanding Iran's programs and capabilities in related areas of weapons development, such as high explosive research, is another area where the laboratories can help.

While the role of the laboratories is clearly technical, not policy-centered, negotiators and policy makers had greater confidence in the accords reached so far because they were supported by the expertise at the laboratories, according to the New York Times article last month.

This is hardly a new concept. LLNL has a rich history of supporting nuclear and other arms control effort. Ernest Lawrence, the Laboratory's founder, traveled to Geneva in 1958 to participate in nuclear test

ban discussions with the Soviet Union.

Such efforts continued with the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks with the Soviets starting in 1969, with further test ban discussions and with strategic negotiations that continue to this day under an agreement known as New START. LLNL and the other laboratories have provided technical support that gave U.S. delegates the ability to evaluate the features of proposals and protect U.S. interests.

The Iran agreement to date is called a preliminary framework, a statement of goals that are acceptable to both sides, according to Davis, the former LLNL associate director and Defense Department senior manager who spoke to Livermore Rotary last week.

The framework calls for Iranian research, development and enrichment capabilities to be restricted for the next 10 years. For five additional years, Iran has agreed not to build new heavy water reactors that might produce plutonium or enrichment facilities for uranium. It has also agreed to limit enriched uranium stockpiles.

Details are complicated and enforcement will be difficult, Davis said in an interview. The success or failure of the agreement will be based on verification, not trust. "What are the authorities of the inspectors? What is the access of the inspectors?" Davis asked. "That's the hard part."

Twice the size of Texas, Iran's nuclear facilities are widely spread and in some cases deeply buried. Some were built covertly; it is possible that some remain undiscovered by the west, skeptics of the agreements say.

Inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency, perhaps augmented by other experts, are supposed to get much greater access to key facilities to verify such features as numbers of centrifuges, degree of uranium enrichment and the amount of uranium mined from the ground.

To Lee MacLean, an engineer from the Lab's weapons program who also joined in the Iraq inspections, it will be essential for the inspec-

tors to talk with workers as well as look at facilities up close.

"Doing verification completely remotely is not a good approach," he said. The inspectors need access to a "broad range of facilities on a spot basis," meaning with little notice. They need to be able to cross-check the stories of workers "to look for consistency" in what workers say they are doing within a facility, as well as in programs carried out at multiple facilities.

In Iraq, he said, "we were told lies (about the Iraqi nuclear program) but could confront them" after getting different stories from different people. The Iraqis would back down once the inconsistencies were pointed out to them, he said.

MacLean believes that the only serious leverage the west has is the financial pressure of continued sanctions if the Iranians do not live up to the agreement. It worries him that some of the statements coming out of Iran about the agreements are "soft," meaning that they appear intended to leave room to avoid unwanted restrictions.

Davis recognizes the possibility as well. Still, he believes the agreement is "quite a good one" in that the Iranians have "given up an awful lot of future (nuclear) ability."

If they live up to the agreement, he and many others say, the region may be able to look forward to 10 or 15 years of relative nuclear stability while Iranian society and leadership continues to evolve, hopefully into a more moderate form.

The agreement may be the best we can do, Davis says. If it falls apart, it is hard to see how an already fractious international community could maintain the financial sanctions that now push Iran toward compliance.

Absent an agreement, there would be little to keep the Iranians from moving rapidly toward nuclear weapon capability. This is a development that analysts fear would create an extremely dangerous regional arms race with the Saudis and perhaps others, not to mention the potential for direct conflict with Israel.

Off-base: Report Misleads On Research Hours, Travel

There probably is no practical military solution either. Davis doubts that even powerful penetrator bombs would destroy the most effectively buried nuclear facilities like Fordow, a centrifuge site. He reminded the Livermore Rotary audience that Iran has a highly effective air defense program to guard against attack. In addition, he said, an air attack would likely "trigger a terrorist explosion" from Iran and its proxies.

In an interview, he said that an invasion might be the only way to destroy deeply defended targets that are widely dispersed in a very large country. "You're not going to do this with a few bombs dropped from 20,000 feet."

The coming six weeks will be crucial in determining how the framework can be filled out and whether an effective inspection and verification regime can be created. Deadline for completing these details is June 30, according to the present schedule.

The New York Times article last month was off-base in suggesting that only under the pressure of the current Iran discussions have Livermore scientists been forced to leave the Lab or put in hours beyond a 9-5 day.

Ernest Lawrence's trip to Geneva for nuclear test ban discussions with the Soviets in 1958, undertaken at the request of President Dwight Eisenhower, probably killed him, as he collapsed and soon died of chronic ulcerative colitis.

Few trips have such dramatic and tragic consequences, but exhaustion and even illness from repeated travel to Russia, Western Europe, Asia and elsewhere have been reported among the many scientists and engineers who have supported diplomatic negotiations, international research collaborations, emergency response and

other activities over the years.

While work hours fluctuate by program and particular deadlines, research by its very nature sometimes requires personal attention for 16 hours, a full day or even longer, while experiments are running. Among others, the Laboratory's laser program has been famous for driving its staff to work late hours and weekends with little regard for a home life.

U.S. Policy Failure Seen As Root of Iran Danger

In a discussion nearly five years ago at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, former Defense Secretary William Perry and former LLNL director Michael May analyzed the risk of nuclear conflict and how to reduce it.

Two of the three most dangerous scenarios discussed by the experts hinged on the possibility that Iran would aggressively move to develop nuclear weapons, perhaps prompting an attack by Israel. (The third scenario had to do with Pakistan.)

Perry described the development of nuclear weapons by North Korea around 2006-7 as "the greatest U.S. foreign policy failure since World War II," not only for its immediate threat to the

stability of eastern Asia, but also because it taught Iran that the U.S. will not take action to protect its interests in the Middle East, the Independent reported in its Nov. 4, 2010, edition.



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SPORTS NOTES



Alex DeGuzman, from EliteTKD Academy in Livermore, lands a head kick during semifinal action last month at the California State Championships in Fresno. The Mendenhall 6th grader earned State Champion designation in Poomsae forms. In sparring, Alex finished 2nd overall in 12-14 year old red belt sparring division.



Livermore Fusion U9 Girls Maroon team scored a 5-2 victory over Dublin's United Xtreme on Saturday. The girls are proving the key to their success is team work as they showed their competition they have the basics down; with swift passes to play the field, trapping the ball to control and great shots. Goals were scored by Jessica Orthmann and Kylie Hahlbeck. Tremendous offense was played by Maya Derting, and strong defense by Mani Ribabaiti.

Livermore Girls Softball

Livermore Girls Softball Association results:

The Livermore Girls Softball Association Stealerz won an exciting 10U Championship Game over the top seeded Purple Bandits by a score of 13-11. The second seeded Stealerz jumped out to a 5-1 lead on RBI hits by Miranda Peters and Ellena Woosley (4RBI in the Game). In the second inning the Stealerz extended their lead to 7-2 when Lindsey Williams delivered an RBI Triple and was driven in by Alizabeth Ruiz. Makala Munoz allowed her top seeded Purple Bandits to get back into the game by pitching back to back scoreless innings. The Purple Bandits were able to pull within 7-5 after the fourth inning with nice hits by Sarah Peterson, Lyndsey Wilson and Makayla Munoz. In the fifth inning the two teams hit the ball around the field with the Stealerz scoring 4 runs and the Purple bandits putting across 5 runs in the bottom of the inning. With the score 11-10 the Championship would be decided in the 6th and final inning.

The Stealerz were able to scrap and steal 2 insurance runs, scored by Sophia Rairidan and Julia King. In the bottom half of the inning Kaitlyn Aguilar limited the Purple Bandits to just one run while striking out her 9th batter of the game in 5 innings of work. Sierra Black also pitched and had a clutch strikeout to end the 3rd inning. The game ended on a high pop up, in foul territory, near 3rd base, caught by Madyson Hayden earning her the nickname "Panda" by her teammates.

U8: Orange Crush vs. Diamond Divas: In their final tuneup before the playoffs, the Orange Crush dominated with a great all around game. Sarah Deplitch went 2-2 with two RBIs, plus had a nice pitch out at third when pitching. Delilah VanderBeek went 3-3, including an RBI double. She also caught a fly ball at third base and had a strike out as a pitcher. Melodie Brassart went 3-3, including a triple, and had three RBIs. Brianna Bernstein went 2-2, made a nice play to Joely Wolf for an out, and pitched. Joely was 3-3 while crushing the ball for three RBIs, while also making a nice play for an out at third. Danielle Hanley was 3-3, including a piped hit past third base for an RBI. Alexis Tanner had two big hits and had an RBI. Katelyn Chow contributed with a nice hit.

8U Semi-Finals: Blue Streak 5, Orange Crush 0: The Orange Crush's season came to an end against a very good Blue Streak team. Delilah VanderBeek finished off an MVP type season throwing three strike outs and throwing out two runners, one to Joely Wolf and one to Sarah Deplitch. Sarah threw a strike out as pitcher, caught a fly ball, and had two hits. Joely pitched a clutch 1-2-3 fourth inning with a strike out, giving her team one more chance. Katelyn Chow made a

nice defensive play catching the third out with two on to stop a Blue Streak rally. Jessica Barger, Danielle Hanley, Alexis Tanner, and Addy Gundry had hits. The Blue Streak pitching and defense was too much to overcome on this day.

West Coast Soccer

West Coast Wave U13G walked away with a 2 to 1 win over cross town rival, Livermore Fusion last Saturday. Midfielders Essabella Grajeda, and Monique Reil were able to net two goals in the first half, both on assists from Alivia Ganz. Great defensive play by Caitlyn Garrison, Arianna Moore, and Kassidy Brackett, along with some great saves by Goal Keeper, Jessica Zogarie allowed the team to end the first half with a 2-0 lead.

Midfielders Alina Garcia, Leila Ganz, Alivia Ganz and Monique Reil battled to keep the ball in their possession in the second half, along with Forward Tori Trautwein. Defenders Jordan Goodwin, Jordan Brown, Lindsay Plant, and Jessa Lyons played an outstanding game.

Granada Little League

Granada Little League baseball results

T-Ball: Rockies vs. Diamondbacks: Rockies took on the Diamondbacks on Saturday. The boys are really starting to hit well without the tee. Jacob Gates got a big hit without the tee as well as Levi Ruppert and Jesse Hunkeler. Caden Teczon played some great defense. Other players include, Myles Rosales, Angela Gates, Elijah Radack, Brayden Costa, Ethan Rago, Jude Kowal and Rylan Boricchio.

A Division: Cardinals vs. Orioles: Top defense: (1st) Zachary Lindstrom(P), one strikeout, and a caught fly ball. (2nd) Carson Williams(P), one strike out, and throwing a batter out at first. (3rd) Nicolai Barron(P) struck out 2, and threw a batter out at first, throwing only 10 pitches. (4th) James Chow(P), saw an unassisted out at first by Carson Williams (1B). Top hitters: Zachary Lindstrom, 2-2; Carson Williams, 2-2, RBI; (pool player, Rangers) D. Mesnickow, 1-2.

AA Division: Diamondbacks vs. Royals: Diamondbacks fought hard for a comeback with Drew Hansen, pitching a great inning with two strikeouts, getting a single for their first hit of the game and stealing his way to 3rd. Cole Camilleri got two outs, one at 1st and the other at 2nd base. Mason Sprague caught a pop-up for an out and a line drive for another out. Connor Rosales, Jack Schwartz and Ben Rohe all played well and Christian Skally pitched a great inning. Final score, Royals 10 and Diamondbacks 4.

Majors: Giants vs. Yankees: Giants jumped out to an early lead on the Yankees and captured a 10-4 victory on Saturday. With six runs in the first



The Livermore Fusion Soccer Club Girls Gold U14 locked up a Semifinal 1-0 win against West Coast Wrath moving them into the NorCal Gold State Cup Championship. Strong play both offensively and defensively, kept the ball on the West Coast side of the field with a beautiful goal after the half. Team members pictured are (back, left to right) Lauren Meeker, Emily March, Katherine Lewis, Kaitlin Krakoski, Christine Aredo, Alaina Sekany, Samantha Kwan, Lauren Moore, Kalea Bartolotto, Kennedy Griffith, Abby Harnish, Abby Frasier, Hayley Thompson, Lindsay Harnish and Sophia Gallardo (not shown Izzy Midgley).



Livermore Girls Softball Association 10U Champion Stealerz pictured are (top row, from left) Sophia Rairidan, Sierra Black, Julia King, Amy Dempsey, Lindsey Williams; (bottom row) Elena Woosley, Madyson Hayden, Madelyn Robbins, Miranda Peters, Alizabeth Ruiz and Kaitlyn Aguilar. Team Manager Rudy Peters, Coaches: Elvis Aguilar, Dan Ruiz, Tim Williams, Steve Black; not pictured Josh Hayden.



Pictured in the lead is Granada High School who finished first in the 100 meter hurdles to take the EBAL title.

three innings, the Giants left no doubt about the eventual outcome. A wild pitch, a passed ball, a walk by Neil S, and a steal of home by Antonio R in the first inning supplied the early offense for the Giants. Antonio went a perfect 2-2 at the dish for the Giants. He singled in the first and sixth innings. Cooper M racked up three RBIs on one hit for the Yankees. He homered in the fifth inning. After pushing across four runs in the bottom of the fifth, the Yankees faced just a 8-4 deficit. A three-run home run by Cooper and a walk by Dylan L triggered the Yankees' comeback. Cameron S struck out to end the Yankees' threat.

Royals vs. Rangers: Dylan B was strong at the plate and on the rubber in carrying the Royals to a 12-1 victory over the Rangers on Saturday. Dylan racked up two RBIs on one hit for the Royals. He singled in the first inning. Dylan shut down the Rangers while he was on the hill. The Rangers managed just three hits off of B, who allowed no earned runs, walked one and struck out three during his three innings of work. Twelve runs in the opening three innings allowed the Royals to easily put away the Rangers. An RBI single by Mateo W, an RBI single by Dylan, an error, and an RBI single by Mike C in the first inning and an error, an error, and a two-run error during the second inning helped the Royals put some runs on the board early. Nicholas L was charged with the loss. He allowed 10 runs in two innings, walked two and struck out three. The Royals quickly matched the Rangers' strong inning with a four-run inning of their own in the second.

Cardinals vs. As: The Cardinals jumped out to an early lead on A's and captured a 16-6 victory on Saturday. Thirteen runs in the first three innings allowed the Cardinals to put the game away early. An RBI single by Austin M, a steal of home by Eric H, a single by Connor C, an RBI double by Braeden C, an RBI single by Gabriel E, and an RBI single by Lucas S during the first inning and an RBI single by Connor and a groundout by Braeden in the second inning supplied the early offense for the Cardinals. The Cardinals' Austin was perfect at the dish, going 4-4. A's couldn't get anything going as long as Jacob K was pitching. Jacob held A's hitless over one inning, allowed no earned runs, walked none and struck out three A's was hurt by a number of miscues in the field. M-A's committed three errors which led to two unearned runs for the Cardinals.

The Cardinals easily handled A's pitching as six hitters combined for 13 hits, 11 RBIs and 12 runs scored. Colin P lasted zero innings on the mound for A's before the call to the bullpen. Colin gave up one hit and four runs.

Hook and Ladder Run

The Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation will be hosting the 7th Annual Hook and Ladder Run, Sunday, June 7, 2015 at Wente Vineyards, located at 5050 Arroyo Rd. Livermore. This event will include a 5K run/walk, 10K run, and a kids' 1 mile fun run. The event benefits the Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) that supports, injured and fallen firefighters, the Burn Foundation and other local charities in the Tri-Valley.

Through April 30th, registration is \$30.00 for the adult 5K or \$35.00 for the 10K (\$20 and \$25 respectively for those 17 and under) and \$10.00 for the kids' 1 mile fun run. On May 1st, 5K and 10K registration fees increase by \$10.00 and kids 1 mile fun run by \$5.00. Registration closes May 29th, or when sold out. Starting time for the 5K and 10K is 8:00 a.m., followed by the kids' 1 mile fun run beginning at 9:30a.m.

To keep this event safe and enjoyable for all, we need to limit entries to 1,500. Please keep in mind that when registration reaches 1,500 participants, registration will close.

The 5K is a stroller friendly run/walk that is a 50/50 paved, dirt road course. The 10K is 90/10 dirt and paved road. Strollers are not permitted on the 10K course. Both courses travel through Sycamore Grove Park. The Kid's One-Mile Fun Run (for ages 12 & under) will take place at Wente Vineyards. No dogs are allowed on either of the courses or the fun run.

Awards will be given 3 deep in each age group (M & F) 12 and under, 13-17, 18-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80+. Special prizes for overall top 3 male and female race winners 5K and 10K run. Top 20 male and female racers in both 5K and 10K will receive a "TOP TWENTY" technical tee shirt. Special top 3 Firefighter awards for both 5K and 10K. Ribbons, fire prevention materials, and ice cream will be served to all kids participating.

Water and refreshments will be provided at the end of the race. Wente Vineyards will have additional food and wine tasting for purchase. Many of the event sponsors will have



Cooper Meyer hit a 3 run home run in a Granada Little League Major's game between the Yankees and the Giants. The Giants won the game 10 to 4. Photo - Bill Nale



Pictured is West Coast Wave U13G Essabella Grajeda, as she moves the ball down the field. Also pictured are teammates Savannah Maselli, Jordan Goodwin, and Lindsay Plant.



The Livermore Phantom U15 team traveled to Danville for the end of the season tournament last weekend. Tin the morning they played a rematch with the Sacramento Stingers. It was a challenging game with Michael Nowaczky scoring one goal assisted by Angus Stewart. Justin Forsberg on attack and middies Jace Gersten, Ethan Weisbrod, and Luke van Buuren provided valuable support. Goalie Shane Grimes made eight saves backed up by strong defense by Ryan Patchen. Pictured is of Jaxen McLaren dodging an opponent.

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Amador Valley High School volleyball team will take on De La Salle in the families. They reached the next round by defeating College Park, 25-13, 25-22, 22-25, and 25-11.



Amador Valley High School lacrosse team advanced to the semifinals of the NCS playoffs with a 10 to 7 win over Granite Bay. They faced San Ramon Valley in the semifinals.

booths. All participants will receive a tee shirt and gift bag. Great raffle prizes are available to all runners and additional tickets will be available for purchase. The event is family friendly. On line registration can be filled out at <http://www.active.com/livermore-ca/running/distance-running-races/7th-annual-hook-and-ladder-run-2015>
Event website: www.onyourmarkevents.com

Triathlon Series

On Saturday, June 20, a field of close to 700 first-timer, few-timer, and many-timer triathletes will be on hand to kick-off On Your Mark Events' 28th annual Tri For Fun Triathlon Series (four triathlon events), at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, in Pleasanton.

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

After the novice athletes master the first three prior Tri For Funs, they can meet the challenge of the final event – the Tri For Real. The final event of the series is held at the same location, but the distances have been increased to 700-yard swim, 19-mile bike, and 4-mile run. The Tri For Real is also professionally chip-timed for all participants.

The 2015 On Your Mark Tri For Fun Series dates are June 20, July 18, and August 15. The Tri-For-Real will be held on September 20. All races will start at 7:00 a.m., at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton.

The three Tri For Fun triathlons are non-timed and non-competitive. A clock is provided at finish line for participants to view their personal time. Triathletes can choose to participate in this mode, or they can officially chip-timed. Should participants choose to be timed, their results will be recorded and posted on the On Your Mark Events' website's results page.

New this year, On Your Mark Events will be crowning a Series Champion (must be timed for all four events). The top male and female entrants will be announced and awarded at the Tri For Real in September.

Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, plenty of refreshments and snacks, and entry into the always-exciting raffle (must be present to win).

Entry fee for the three Tri For Funs is \$75 (non-timed) and \$80 (chip timed) in advance, \$10 will be added to race-day registrants.

Preregistered entry for relay teams is \$210 (non-timed) and \$215 (chip timed), \$10 will be added to race-day registrants. For September's Tri For Real, all participants are chip timed (\$85.00 advance, and \$95.00 day-of). Preregistered entry for relay teams is \$210, \$240 race-day. The Tri For Real includes the same goodies as the Tri For Funs, with addition of trophies and medals. Multiple-triathlon discounts are available.

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

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

Lacrosse and Learning

Members of Foothill High School Boys Lacrosse Team from Pleasanton, used the Disneyland Resort as a classroom on April 3, 2015 when they participated in the Disney Youth Education Series "Disney's Approach to Leadership & Teamwork" at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim.

In this three-hour academic adventure students practiced overcoming obstacles by working as a team and thinking creatively to develop solutions. The students also completed exercises designed to reinforce courage, curiosity and constancy aim to give them the confidence to set goals and accomplish their dreams.

The Disney Youth Education Series allows students to see how the principles they are learning in the classroom are making things happen every day at the Disney Parks.

Baseball Camps

Thunder Sox Baseball Club is holding baseball camps in Livermore this summer. The first camp will be held July 6-10, the second, July 13-17,

both from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Camps are open to ages 8U-13U. Cost is \$250 per week. For information go to www.TsoxBaseball.com. To register, email Coach Lonsdale at TsoxBaseball@gmail.com.

Spirit Run

The 22nd annual Father's Day Spirit Run hosted by the Rotary Club of Pleasanton will be held on Father's Day, June 21 in downtown Pleasanton. It includes a 10k run, 5k walk/run and kids challenge.

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. Commemorative tech T-shirts will be given to all participants. Etched glass trophies will be awarded to top male and female finishers, as well as the first place male and female Masters (over 50-years old) finishers. Medals will be given three deep in designated age groups for male and female participants. Each child participating in the Kids Challenge will receive a finisher ribbon. Over \$3000 in door prizes will be given to all 5k and 10k participants.

This year the Rotary Club of Pleasanton is celebrating 50 years of community and international service. This race has raised over \$900,000 for college scholarships for Pleasanton students. The last two years giving has been expanded to include: Wheelchairs, Rotaplast, The Valley Humane Society, The Tri-valley YMCA, victims of the Boston Marathon tragedy, Open Heart Kitchen, Hope Hospice, Amador Valley High Schools Robotics and Competition Civic Clubs and Assistance League of Amador Valley.

The 10K run begins at 8 a.m. under the arch on Main Street, followed by the 5K run/walk and Kids' Challenge at 9:30 a.m.

More information and registration can be found at www.SpiritRun.com

Duo Recognized for Work in Community

Dennis Gams and Steve Neef will represent the Rotary Club of Livermore in the Livermore Rotary Parade as recipients of the community service award.

Both are engineers who worked together to design and build the new community bandstand in Carnegie Park. The bandstand will be available as a music venue as well as for ceremonies and theatrical events. This is part of a long-range goal of revitalizing the entire park.

The idea for the bandstand came from Livermore Downtown Inc. The Farmers Market held in Carnegie Park has no venue for musicians to perform. The scope of this bandstand project was well beyond the typical Rotary project, both in cost and effort. So longtime friends and Rotarians Steve Neef and Dennis Gams teamed up to make the bandstand project happen. Neef, a building designer whose office is located directly across the street from Carnegie Park, designed the bandstand. While Gams, a project manager with experience in working with public agencies, shepherded the project through the public review and city approval process.

The bandstand is a 20 foot octagon shaped gazebo over 18 feet high at the center. It includes a conical wood roof with a cupola that is supported by steel columns on a concrete foundation. The bandstand is being constructed in Carnegie Park adjacent to "K" Street and is scheduled to be completed this summer. In addition to being used as a music venue for Farmers Market, the bandstand can be used for concerts, community ceremonies and theatrical events. In the future, the bandstand will also be used to acknowledge rodeo parade awards.

Gams is a fourth generation Californian. He moved to Livermore in 1980 with his wife Lisa where they raised their sons Christopher and Joseph. They have since



Steve Neef (on left in picture) and Dennis Gams (on right in picture), coordinators for the Carnegie Park Bandstand Project.

gained a daughter-in-law, Kelly, and grandson Henry.

He has been an active member of the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley since 1999. He is a past club President and recipient of the Bill Webster Rotarian of the Year Award. He served on The Rotarian Foundation of Livermore's Board for seven years.

He is also a member of the Tri Valley Adult Day Care Board, which is working to re-establish a local adult day center. He has served on the City of Livermore Design Review Committee and Alameda County Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Most of his professional career was spent with the Zone 7 Water Agency where he held a variety of positions responsible for planning, designing, and constructing water supply and flood control projects. He recently retired from the agency as a Principal Engineer after 34 years of service.

Neef has lived in Livermore since 1958. He is married to Ludy who was from Medellin, Colombia but has

recently become an American citizen. He raised three sons, Michael, Christopher and David and has an eight-year-old daughter, Jessica at Junction Ave. School. He also has three grandchildren who live in Oregon.

He has been a member of the Rotary Club of Livermore since 1998. He served as club secretary for three years and has helped manage several construction related projects for the club. He also chaired the Livermore Design Review committee for three years and is an active volunteer at Cornerstone Fellowship.

He became a licensed civil engineer in 1984 and after a few years building wind turbines he established A. and E. design services. Steve has engineered over six thousand structures in twenty-eight years, including additions and remodels, custom homes, churches and a one hundred and fifty thousand square foot Factory Outlet Mall.

He has seen a lot of change in Livermore over the last fifty-seven years and hopes to continue to help the community progress in the right direction.

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Livermore Rodeo 2015 Window Decorating & Dress Western Contest

Livermore Rodeo Foundation (LRF) and Livermore Downtown Inc. (LDI) invite businesses with storefront windows to contribute to the festive atmosphere and enter the 1st Livermore Rodeo 2015 Window Decorating & Dress Western Contest. The window-decorating contest is a fun way to celebrate the Rodeo Season, create a western downtown, attract visitors to downtown Livermore.

This is a free promotional opportunity for downtown businesses. Enter to win FREE future Advertisement for your Business!

For more information: livermoreroedofoundation.org
Deadline to enter: May 29, 2015

Gold Award Teacher Shines in the Classroom

By Carol Graham

For teacher Lisa Wilson, it's the unexpected moments that bring the most joy.

"Most of my favorite memories involve funny things kids say," said Wilson, an Arroyo Seco Elementary School teacher. "Like asking if I remember the Revolutionary War, or saying, 'My dad works at the Lab. Where do you work, Mrs. Wilson?' I'm glad I can make my classroom so fun that the students don't think it is a job."

Yet it is her talent, skill and dedication as an educator that earned Wilson this year's California Teachers Association's Gold Award, which she received at the annual "We Honor Ours" luncheon on April 18.

"I was so honored to receive this award because it came from my peers - fellow teachers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties," said Wilson. "There are many teachers I consider Gold Award educators who teach in California schools every day."

Wilson is a combination 4th-5th grade teacher at the Livermore school, where she also serves as the Technology Leader/Trainer.

"Throughout her teaching career, she has always gone the extra mile," said Kelly Bowers, Superintendent of the

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD). "Whether it's spearheading technology-integration efforts, coordinating school-wide mock elections, procuring grants, or serving as a teacher leader and representative to district curriculum committees, she is a student-focused, resourceful and respected advocate for her classroom, her site and our district."

The awards luncheon was held at Scott's Seafood Bar & Grill in Oakland's Jack London Square. Wilson accepted an engraved plaque reading, California Teachers Association Gold Award, Outstanding Educator, 2014-2015.

"At the awards ceremony it was remarked that I'm using technology to change the way students learn and also the way teachers teach," said Wilson, who has been teaching for 24 years. "Students are learning in new ways, so teachers have to teach in new ways. I believe in being a classroom innovator and taking risks. Parents, teachers and students thought I was crazy to write grants for laptop computers in 2009. I now have a device for each student in my class."

In fact, Wilson is working toward making her classroom the first paperless class in the district. To ensure students' equitable access to computers, she opens her classroom doors at 7:30 each morning.

"She has been featured in national publications that highlight innovative teaching and technology integration, and was recently visited by Representative Eric Swalwell who experienced her hi-tech classroom environment firsthand," said Bowers.

"Lisa is on the cutting edge of instruction, bringing the newest and best strategies to her students and fellow teachers," said Principal Denise Nathanson. "She treats every student at Arroyo Seco as if they are her student, and

is always looking to do what is best for our school. Lisa is the model for other teachers, serving as a mentor for many."

This summer, Wilson will attend a Google for Education Summit, a two-day, high-intensity event that focuses on integrating Google Apps for Education - and additional products like Google Earth, YouTube for Schools, and Google Search - to promote student learning.

Yet for her students, it's Wilson's engaging style that sets her apart.

"I've had students become entomologists because I had them collect insects," said Wilson. "I've had students work as staffers in the State Capitol building because I taught them about civics, government and voting. And just yesterday, one of my students remarked that our class is just like the gold miners during the California Gold Rush - having adventures, taking risks, sometimes failing, but always solving problems. It was called the 'Go Ahead Spirit.' I'm glad my class has that spirit."

Along with the Gold Award for Outstanding Educator, Wilson has garnered a host of accolades that this year include being named the Rotary Educator of the Year and LVJUSD's Teacher of the Year. Additionally, she earned a 2015 Technology Innovator Grant Award, LVJUSD's 2014 Above & Beyond Teacher Recognition, 2013 Herb Turnbull Computer Educator of the Year award, and 2013 Daughters of the American Revolution, Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter's Outstanding Teacher Award.

"We've all had one memorable teacher who made an indelible imprint and transformed our educational experience in remarkable ways," said Bowers. "For every student she encounters, Lisa Wilson is that memorable and impactful teacher."

RARE

(continued from page one)

"Mother Nature has a way of recovering," said naturalist Michael Marchiano, "that we all can learn from."

Save Mount Diablo recently hosted a 24-hour BioBlitz as part of a study on the Morgan Fire's effects and nature's promising response.

"The BioBlitz was to account for as many species from as many taxa as possible in the Morgan Fire footprint in Mount Diablo State Park," said Jim Cartan, Save Mount Diablo (SMD) Land Conservation Associate and coordinator of the BioBlitz. "We invited the local scientific community to investigate the area using visual, acoustic and physical collection methods for accounting species."

Dozens of people participated over the course of the BioBlitz, including volunteers, media and photographers, SMD staff, and scientific experts in fields of study involving bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, amphibians, reptiles, bats, and beetles.

"The baseline information we gathered will allow us to understand how insects respond to fire, seasonal weather, and extreme climate variation like this drought," said Kip Will, Director of the Essig Museum of Entomology at UC Berkeley. "I enjoyed working with and showing other volunteers some of the fascinating insects that live on the mountain. For example, the primitive bombardier beetle, a common but very inconspicuous species that produces a hot discharge of defensive chemicals. I was able to get live beetles to spray and make their little puff of steam. It's something most people have never seen."

Will also spotted a Minute Moss Beetle, a tiny creature whose last reported sighting on the mountain occurred in 1966.

"A BioBlitz is a great way to take a snapshot of how many species there are in an area by identifying as many as you can within a 24-hour period," said Beryl Anderson, SMD's Communications Manager. "We've been doing BioBlitzes for a few years but, like the fire-following wildflowers, it's been reinvigorated after the Morgan Fire."

Fire-follower plants, such as blazing stars and fire poppies, emerge only after a wildfire has devastated the landscape.

Cartan noted that fire benefits plants in a number of ways: clearing away the existing canopy which allows more light to reach the soil, giving species normally shaded out a chance to thrive; allowing ash and soot associated with burned plant material to add carbon and nitrogen to the soil; and enabling plants that require

the flames, smoke or temperatures of fire to reproduce and be competitive.

"At the eastern edge of the burned zone was a stand of bee plants that were being worked by the largest concentration of hummingbirds I've ever seen around these parts," said participant Jerry Britten. "I've read that bee plants do well after fire and the hummingbirds attested to that. There was a bird every few feet -Anna's, rufous and calliopees all zooming around."

The BioBlitz took place from 2 p.m. on April 24th till 2 p.m. the next day. It is the second in a series of three annual BioBlitzes designed to study how the mountain's species are recovering from the fire.

"Many species have adapted to make fire a part of their lives," said Anderson. "This is a chance to study how all of the mountain's species are recovering from the fire and to get a better understanding of what role fire plays for plants and animals. It also allows us to take better care of our protected lands and to know which lands should be a priority to protect because of the species they support."

Since Save Mount Diablo's founding in 1971, preserved open space on the mountain has increased from less than 7,000 acres to more than 110,000 acres. Yet development still threatens Mount Diablo's wilderness areas, which would lead to a loss of ecosystems, wildlife corridors and recreational opportunities.

The BioBlitz cost less than \$1,000 to host, said Cartan, and was funded through a grant from the California State Parks Foundation. Collected information will be forwarded to natural resource managers at the state park, as well as being added to SMD's databank.

"Mount Diablo is an island in the middle of suburbia that offers an opportunity to experience, learn about and appreciate a plethora of flora and fauna," said Marchiano. "The fire area is well on its way to rebirth. Even though the scars of burned trees and chaparral are visible, the new growth under them is thriving, and birds, mammals and reptiles have returned."

To learn more, visit save-mountdiablo.org. For full BioBlitz details, visit inaturalist.org, and search under Projects.

LARPD to Increase Field Use Fees

Fees for sports field use in Livermore will go up in January 2016. The increases are needed to help cover the escalating costs for ongoing maintenance, water and reservation/scheduling.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors okayed the fees at its meeting last week. They were approved in June 2012 for 2013 and 2014. However, due to concerns raised by youth leagues, there were no increases in calendar years 2014 or 2015. The drought and the rising cost of water have caused a need for the increases as part of the 2015-2016 budget.

According to the district, there is high demand for sports fields. They must be maintained to keep up with heavy use.

The fees differ depending on the type of field. Synthetic fields will go from \$55 an hour to \$60 an hour; premium fields (Robertson, Max Baer, and Ernie Rodrigues) will see an increase from \$15 an hour to \$18 an hour for youth and \$25 to \$28 per hour for adult sports. The premium fields are lit. All other fields will see fees going from \$12 to \$15 an hour for youth and from \$22 to \$25 for adults.

A new special sporting events fee was approved to cover field use for such things as tournaments, camps and clinics. The fees are set at \$75 an hour for synthetic turf; \$35 an hour for premium fields; and \$32 an hour for all other fields.

The board was advised that the special events tend to include mostly out of town users. For example, at one recent tournament with 64 teams, 90 percent were from out of the district.

Director David Furst commented that it makes sense to readjust the fees since they haven't been changed in the last year or so.

Director Steve Goodman felt that delaying the increases until 2016 would provide time for teams to plan for the cost. "I wish we didn't have to charge."

Board Chairman Bob Coomber added that the increases are in line with cost increases to the district.

During the meeting Wednesday, the Board also postponed a decision on replacing the current Social Security contributions for all part-time employees, who are not eligible for coverage in the Alameda County Employees' Retirement Association, to the Keenan Accumulation Program (APPLE - Accumulation Program for Part-time and Limited-service

Employees).

LARPD currently participates in the Social Security (FICA) program, which requires a mandatory joint contribution by the employee and employer of 12.4 percent. The APPLE plan is compliant under current law with the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, and can be structured as a 457 defined contribution deferred compensation plan. It must have at least a 7.5 percent contribution, completely or partly paid by the employee. The proposal to the Board was for part-time employees to contribute 6.2 percent, the District 1.3 percent.

The proposal included an option for current employees to have a one-time opt-out of the APPLE program and remain in Social Security. The APPLE program would save the District money in the long-term - estimated at \$75,000 to \$100,000 per year based on how many employees choose to remain with Social Security. All future part-time employees would be required to participate in APPLE.

The Board expressed concerns over the impact on affected employees and also raised questions about the percentage split between employees and the District. The matter will be sent back to committee for re-examination.

Also as part of the meeting, Laura Mercier, Executive Director of the Tri-Valley Conservancy, gave a presentation to the Board about efforts to establish a bridge over the arroyo along the regional trail from Sycamore Grove Park to Del Valle Regional Park. LARPD and the TVC are collaborating with the East Bay Regional Park District and other partners, looking at a two-year time-line for the bridge project.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 FIRST STREET 443-SHOW
TOMORROWLAND (PG) DLP-CC	12:30 1:00 3:45 4:35 6:50 7:45 9:55	
TOMORROWLAND (PG) DLP	11:45 2:50 6:10 9:25	
POLTERGEIST (2015) (PG13) DLP	11:50 2:10 3:30 4:40 6:30 7:15 9:45	
POLTERGEIST (2015) (PG13) DLP-3D	12:50 9:00	
PITCH PERFECT 2 (PG13) DLP-CC	1:00 3:45 6:45 9:30	
PITCH PERFECT 2 (PG13) DLP	12:00 2:45 5:45 8:30	
MAD MAX: FURY ROAD (R) DLP-CC	12:45 4:15 7:15 9:55	
MAD MAX: FURY ROAD (R) DLP-3D-DBOX	12:00 2:50 5:45 8:45	
MAD MAX: FURY ROAD (R) DLP	11:40 2:20 5:15 8:15	
AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON (PG13)/11:55	1:00 3:20 4:30 6:50 8:10 9:25	
HOT PURSUIT (PG13) DLP	2:15 4:35 7:00 9:25	
HOME (PG) DLP	11:50	
PREVIEW MAY 28:		
SAN ANDREAS (PG13) DLP	7:00	
ALOHA (PG13) DLP	7:00	

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SHORT NOTES

Rummage Sale Spaces

A Rummage Sale will be held on Sat., May 23 from 8 a.m. to noon at Trinity Lutheran Church in cooperation with Pleasanton Boy Scout Troop 911.

Spaces at \$20 each are available by calling Angela, 510-612-0719 or email her at angela@raochs@comcast.net

Sellers have the option of donating any or all of their proceeds to the church. The seller is responsible for removing all unsold items at the end of the sale.

The Trinity Lutheran Church parking lot is located at 1225 Hopyard Rd. off Del Valle Parkway.

Relay for Life

The Relay For Life of Livermore "Paints the Town Purple" each year to represent those who have stood up to cancer and defeated it. Purple is the color that represents Cancer Survivors. Livermore's First Street has been decorated in their honor.

The Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's signature event where participants walk for 24 hours because cancer never sleeps and neither will we until we can defeat it. This is the 30th Anniversary of Relay For Life. Livermore has held this event for 14 years. This year's walk is set for June 27-28, 2015 at Livermore High School's track. At 9:00am on June 27th the Survivor Lap and team raffles kick off the event. There will be a Kids' Camp and much, much more.

Those who want to get involved, start a team or volunteer, check out the Livermore's Relay

website at www.relayforlife.org/livermore or "Like" the Facebook Page.

Nature Programs

Ponding USA! will be the Sat., May 23 program presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff.

Meet Ranger Darren Segur at 10 a.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 5049 Arroyo Rd.

Forget surfing. The place to be is in the pond - join this program to explore its deepest depths. After a short introduction to some of the local inhabitants, participants will arm themselves with nets and wade in to collect things for inspection before returning them to their home. Good for ages 5 and up. Bring water, a towel and closed-toe water shoes (required to enter pond).

Spend an Evening at Holdener Park on Sun., May 24. Meet Amy Wolitzer at 7:30 p.m. at Holdener Park, 3401 Hansen Rd.

Evenings are especially beautiful this time of year. An extra treat at Holdener Park is soaproot in bloom - the gorgeous white flowers only open in the evening. This program includes a hike of about a mile, though trails are narrow and steep in some places - wear shoes with good traction. Park in the parking lot near the water towers; no parking fee. There are no restrooms or drinking fountain at this site, so come prepared.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$3 donation is requested to help support the programs unless

other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Pokemon Champ

After a full day of head-to-head Pokémon Trading Card Game (TCG) battles, Ryan Chu earned the title of Pokémon State Champion while competing at the 2015 Pokémon TCG State Championships held in Henderson, NV on March 28th. Ryan competed in the Junior Division and triumphed in a tournament that brought together hundreds of players from throughout Nevada and the region.

Along with the title and State Champion trophy, the Livermore-native also earned valuable Championship Points that will count toward a potential invite to the 2015 Pokémon World Championships in Boston, MA this August. Players that achieve a top Championship Points ranking following the U.S. National Championships in Indianapolis, IN this July will earn a spot to compete among elite players from more than 30 countries at the Pokémon World Championships.

Players of all ages and skill levels are encouraged to partici-

pate in Organized Play events that guarantee competitors the opportunity to play in multiple rounds, no matter what their win-loss record is. For more information on future tournaments including dates, locations, prizes, and tournament rules and regulations, visit www.pokemon.com/play.

GHS Students

Five Granada High School Students were honored by the Alameda County office of Education at the Public Service Announcement Contest Awards

Ceremony on May 4.

The following students were recognized for their submissions to the fourth annual Anti-Tobacco Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest: "You'll Regret that E-Cigarette."

Brian Cuy, photo, "Vaping out your children;" Angela Rodriguez, poster, "Fienemy;" Alexis Clappen, poster, "Mind Control;" Sarah Wenzel, poster, "Monopoly Edition e-cigs;" and Raymond Borden, poster, "Nicotine is Nicotine."

AVHS Team National Finalists in Rocketry Challenge

The Amador Valley High School rocketry team was invited to the Team America Rocketry Challenge Final Fly-off at Great Meadow held in The Plains, Virginia on Saturday, May 9, 2015 to compete for cash prizes of more than \$60,000 and the title of National Champion.

At the beginning of the school year Brian Cheng, a sophomore at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton and a member of the Amador Valley Engineering Academy, approached teacher Tony Dennis about reviving the Aviation Club.

Along with Connor Chen, Chris Chi, and Eason Liu formed a team to compete in the Team America Rocketry Challenge. Each team had to build rockets, not from a kit. They had to fly, collect data, and then modify their rockets to meet specific flight criteria for the competition.

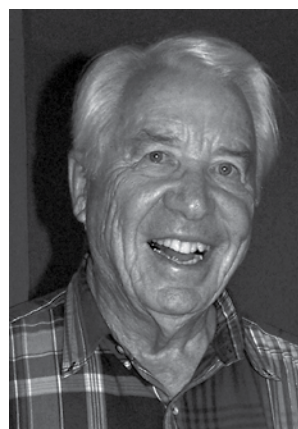
The team has flown repeatedly at Moffett Federal Airfield in Mountain View and at Snow Ranch in Farmington, CA with the support of the local rocket club, LUNAR. The team completed its qualifying flights in

January 2015 and of the nearly 700 teams from across the United States competed in Team America Rocketry Challenge (TARC) 2015. The Amador team emerged as one of the 100 best.

The trip to the national competition included a trip to the US Capitol to share with Congress the importance of supporting STEM Education programs, followed by a one-day fly-off to compete for cash prizes and recognition.

TARC is the world's largest student rocket contest and the aerospace and defense industry's flagship program designed to encourage students to pursue study and careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Sponsored by the Aerospace Industries Association, the National Association of Rocketry (NAR) and more than 20 industry partners, TARC provides middle and high school students the opportunity to design, build and launch model rockets in a competition among more than 5,000 students nationwide.

OBITUARIES



Archer H. Futch

Archer H. Futch, a long-time resident of Livermore, passed away peacefully on Saturday, May 16, 2015, in Columbus, GA, at the age of 90. He was born in Monroe, NC and lived in Monroe and Charlotte until his 18th birthday when he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He served with the 80th Infantry Division in Europe during WWII and was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge and the Purple Heart for wounds he received while fighting in France. He served as a guard during the Nuremberg trials following the war.

Upon being discharged, he returned to North Carolina where he was admitted into the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to study physics. He subsequently attended the University of Maryland where he received his PhD in Physics.

Archer met his first wife, Patricia Ann West at the University of Maryland. They were married in 1953. They relocated to South Carolina for several years and then moved to Livermore in 1959 for work and to raise their three daughters: Lisa, Jacqueline, and Tina.

Archer was an employee of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory from 1959 until his retirement in about 1990. He was also actively involved in local politics in Livermore where he served on the planning commission, the Zone 7 water district board, and the city council, including a period as mayor in the early 1970s. He was also a member of the Sierra Club, the Friends of the Vineyards, and recently served as Commander of the 80th Infantry Veteran's Association. He loved the City of Livermore and was passionate about being of service to give back

and improve his community.

Archer loved outdoor activities including sailing, skiing, and hiking. He celebrated his retirement with a trip to the Himalayas to climb some of the world's highest mountains. He also enjoyed several cross-country skiing trips in the Sierras and in Colorado with several other retired employees from the Lab. He spent many happy days at his mountain home at Lake Tahoe and enjoyed entertaining many visitors there.

Archer was preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia, and his daughter Tina Buch. He is survived by: his second wife, Sybil Futch, of Columbus, GA; his brother, Bill Futch, of Richmond, VA; his sister, Carolyn Naylor, of Jacksonville, FL; his daughter, Lisa Futch Klaeser, of Granite Bay, CA; his daughter, Jacqueline Gardiner, of Punta Gorda, FL; and 3 grandsons: Jason Spake, Micah Klaeser, and Reed Klaeser.

A memorial service will be held in Columbus, GA on May 23, 2015. A second service will be held in Livermore at a later date. The date for the Livermore service will be published once it has been set.

Memorial donations in memory of Archer can be made to the endowment of the Tri-Valley Conservancy, 1457 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

Carol Jean Ottens

Mar. 1934 - May 2015

Resident of Pleasanton

Carol Jean Ottens passed away on Tuesday, May 12th, 2015 with her husband, Harm, by her side.

She had such an impact on so many people with her kind heart and willingness to help.

Carol was born in Salt Lake City, UT and eventually moved to the Bay Area, finally settling down in Pleasanton where she met her husband Harm while working as a Switchboard Operator at Castlewood Country Club. Harm and

Carol married in 1970 and enjoyed 45 wonderful years together.

They later opened up Carol's Guest Home, where they took care of many elderly clients for over 25 years, retiring from the business in 2015.

Carol loved taking trips to Reno with her husband, always staying at the El Dorado. She loved knitting, doing needlepoint and making porcelain dolls. Carol was always helping others in need, this was shown through her volunteer work at Shepherd's Gate and by the number of lives she impacted. She loved entertaining and any excuse to bring out her gold flatware, especially during Christmas when she would have the family over for Prime Rib and the Dutch dish Mouse.

Carol is survived by her best friend and loving husband, Harm; children Charles Perkins, Michael Ottens, Pamela and husband Curtis Boggs; grandchildren Wade Boggs, Kevin and wife Kacie Boggs, Dawn and husband Greg Wellenbrink; 7 great-grandchildren; sister Susan Lay; and several nieces and nephews. Predeceased by her daughter Jill Beal and brother Roger Langton. She will be deeply missed by her family, friends and everyone she touched throughout her long and cheerful life.

Honoring Carol's request, there will be no memorial service. A private celebration of life for the immediate family will be held at a later date. Donations may be made in honor of Carol Jean Ottens to your favorite charity.

In Loving Memory

Alexander G. Glavinovs

Alex Glavinovs passed from this life at his home in Livermore, California on May 11, 2015. He was 81 years old.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, he was raised in Cleveland



and attended Rhodes High School. Prior to getting married to his wife Lois, Alex was in the US Army and served in the Korean War. In the early 1960s, Alex and his family moved to Las Vegas where he was employed by EG&G and worked at the Las Vegas Test Site. Inspired by adventure and new opportunities, he moved his family to Northern California and dedicated the rest of his career to working for the Federal Government as a civilian employee.

He was employed as an Electronics Technician at the Naval Air Station in Alameda for approximately 15 years. During this time he had the opportunity to work at naval bases in the Philippines, Japan and Spain, as well as many naval bases within the United States. He made significant contributions which improved the safety and security of military personnel. In 1984, Alex went to work at the Onizuka Air Force Base in Sunnyvale as a Communications Specialist where he was involved in satellite communications and monitored the space shuttle flights.

Alex was very dedicated and inspired his children with his outstanding work ethic. He worked long hours, was committed to excellence and was highly regarded by his colleagues. Alex was considered a pioneer of America's space program and throughout his career received numerous awards recognizing his achievements, including the United States Navy Achievement Award.

Most importantly, Alex was a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. His hobbies included traveling, electronics and after

retirement, he built and programmed his own computer. Alex was preceded in death earlier this year by his wife, Lois, of 58 years. He is survived by his three children, two grandchildren and four grand-dogs.

His children will miss him tremendously and are grateful to have had a father who helped friends and strangers alike, believed your word and handshake should be as good as any contract and lived his life with the highest integrity.

Funeral services were private.

God Saw You Getting Tired

God saw you getting tired, When a cure was not to be. So He wrapped his arms around you, and whispered, "Come to me."

You didn't deserve what you went through, So He gave you rest. God's garden must be beautiful, He only takes the best.

And when we saw you sleeping, So peaceful and free from pain, We could not wish you back To suffer that again.

-Author Unknown -

Irene Virginia Hersey

Jan. 16, 1944 - May 10, 2015

Irene V. Hersey, a long time Livermore resident, passed away on Sunday May 10, 2015 at the age of 71 from complications of multiple chronic medical conditions.

Born in Denver, CO on January 16, 1944 to Mason and Teckla Wilbur, she was the oldest of three children. The family moved to California in 1948, eventually settling in Livermore.



Irene was a graduate of Livermore High School class of 1961. In 1963 she married her first husband Raymond Fagundes. This marriage produced two children, Timothy Fagundes and Cynthia Micheli both of Livermore. In addition to being a devoted mother, Irene held many positions working as a bookkeeper and accountant for many local businesses. She retired from Anderson Bookkeeping Services in 2013. Her first marriage ended after 34 years. Irene then married Ralph Hersey in 2007 adding two stepdaughters Karen Hamera of Dixon and Jeanne Hersey of Livermore to her family.

Irene enjoyed many hobbies including socializing with friends and family, attending her grandchildren's many sporting events, crocheting, sewing, cooking, cake decorating, playing bingo, and her most favorite -traveling. She was fortunate to visit many lovely parts of the country including her favorite two cruises to Alaska. Still her greatest joy in life was the enormous pride and love she had for each of her 5 grandchildren.

Irene was preceded in death by her parents in 1991, husband Ralph in 2013 and daughter-in-law Kelly Fagundes in 2015.

Irene is survived by her children-Timothy Fagundes, Cynthia (Frank) Micheli, Karen (Stephen) Hamera, and Jeanne Hersey. Grandchildren Justin and Shane Micheli, Ashley Fagundes, and Joseph and Peter Hamera. Siblings- Michael Wilbur of Marysville, UT and Carl Wilbur of Clear Lake, CA. Sister-N-Law-Laura Hersey, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial service will be held at St. Michael's Church June 3, 2015, at 11:00am, with reception to follow at another location.

Donations can be made in her memory to a charity of donor's choice.

THE NEPTUNE SOCIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Obituaries are published in The Independent at no charge. There is a small charge for photographs in the obituaries.

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

Please send an email to editmail@compuserve.com

OFF-ROAD

(continued from page one)

analyzed.

Mayor John Marchand and Councilmember Stewart Gary were the negative votes on each motion.

Mayor Marchand said that he believes the city can comment on the DEIR. However, he voted to oppose that action. He said that for him it came down to jurisdiction and authority. The city has no regulatory authority over the area in question.

Gary accused the council majority of coming into the meeting with their minds made up. "Politics in Livermore have sunk to a new low. This has been a stacked deck from day one. He said he would be conveying that to the state's Off-Highway Vehicle Commission. As an example of his view, he pointed out that the majority were all listed on the Friends of Tesla website. He suggested that supporters of the expansion use a freedom of information action to gain access to the majority's emails to look more closely at the relationship, and also to look at campaign contributions.

Gary called the action to oppose the expansion, "a non-binding regulatory vote."

Observers noted that Gary had arrived at the meeting with three pages of typed comments, which they say appear to show that he had made up his mind in advance.

They also felt that he was accusing the three of Brown Act violations, which can result from a majority trying to gain collective concurrence for an action.

In an interview after the meeting, City Attorney Jason Alcala said that having their names listed on the Friends of Tesla website would not mean there was a violation of the Brown Act. It is permissible for individuals to join a group separately. He said, that what appeared to be suggested was that supporters of the expansion probe more deeply into the majority's actions.

Of Gary's letter, Alcala noted that individual councilmembers have the right to enter into the public record reasons for dissent or protest against any motion carried by the majority. The council has no regulatory authority. However, it is within its purview to make a policy decision on an issue brought before it.

STANFORD

(continued from page one)

supporting our three-part mission of research, teaching and clinical care."

As part of the acquisition, SHC will back the ValleyCare bonded debt of \$85 million, which ValleyCare has been paying off annually.

Stanford will give \$3 million to the ValleyCare Charitable Foundation to spend on delivery of health care to local residents. Most of the foundation's money is used for facilities and programs at the hospital.

Stanford also would

Comments during the public hearing were almost equally divided between supporters and opponents of the expansion, with a slight edge to opposition speakers.

The 3000-acre expansion area is located in Corral Hollow to the west of the current 1600 acre Carnegie Park. The land was purchased in 1998 by the state for use as an off-highway vehicle facility.

Livermore Senior Planner Steve Stewart noted that the city's general plan calls for support to preserve and maintain Corral Hollow as open space.

He told the council that the DEIR analyzes impacts only at a program level, which lists general locations for a variety of uses. There are no specifics. Once specific uses are known, there could either be a negative declaration issued or an additional environmental review conducted.

Stewart said the city's concerns relate to traffic, transportation, noise and water quality.

Dan Canfield, state project leader, noted that the DEIR is meant to provide long range broad policy guidance for the management of resources, visitor experiences and programs and projects. He said that neither of two previous environmental reviews had been adopted. For the latest version, the decision was to adopt an update of the current EIR for Carnegie.

The plan has been controversial with those in favor talking about the family friendly environment. They point out that the land was purchased with the intent that it be opened for off-highway vehicle use. They said that Carnegie is one of only eight California state parks that allows off-highway vehicle use. As a growing activity, it is important to provide more spaces.

The issue of traffic produced two opinions. Proponents and the DEIR say there would be no traffic impacts. Opponents say if there is no traffic problem, the expansion isn't needed because there are so few users.

One speaker, Anthony Godrich, said that he rides motorcycles, as do his friends. He asked the council to support the state in what it wants to do. He said there is an increase in off-road use creating a need

for more areas to ride. He said he believes it is possible to sustain the area without damaging resources. If there were damage, it can be fixed.

Michelle Wright, a Livermore resident, said, "I love Carnegie. I've been going there for family time for years. People come from all over to ride there. All we want is this one place, purchased for us, to expand. Carnegie is good for Livermore; a bigger Carnegie is good for Livermore," she said.

Dave Pickett, District 36 Motorcycle Committee, said the park will have positive socio-economic impacts on the city. People do come from far away to use it.

Those opposed point to the biological, cultural and historical value of the property, including the Tesla mine and Native American sites. There are many threatened and endangered species. They urged the council to direct staff to send a letter asking for more specifics on possible impacts to the city from traffic and noise, as well as environmental concerns.

Nancy Rodrigue of Friends of Tesla stated that it is time for all Livermore public officials to act for the public good and the public desire. "Take a strong stand against this destructive state Off-Highway Motor Vehicle project that will only impact Livermore. Write a strong letter, express your support to all of the groups here, and comment thoroughly on the DEIR with preservation in mind."

Celeste Garamendi, also of Friends of Tesla, owns a ranch that borders both the existing park and the expansion area. "I know first hand of the devastation at Carnegie and the beauty of Tesla." She stated the council should look to the future and hold to the vision the city has established of preserving open space.

Linnea Cooke stated, "Residents have shown you that preservation of open space and outdoor recreation is valuable to them. They have spoken by showing up tonight, by forming preservation groups like Friends of Livermore, Friends of the Vineyards, Friends of Tesla Park, Friends of the Arroyos, Tesla Road Alliance-to name a few. Take a strong stand against this destructive state Off-Highway Motor Vehicle project."

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including layoffs and leaving vacant jobs open were bringing the books back to black ink. Gregerson stated that it's likely the books can be balanced by the end of this fiscal year, June 30.

However, changes in health care delivery, with an emphasis on prevention, pointed to a different plan for the future of ValleyCare. Adding in the increasing competition from other medical systems in the Valley, the Stanford acquisition was a good solution, said Gregerson.

Concannon Blvd. contains the only offices in South Livermore. It is a charming, unique complex of 100 offices with easy parking, lovely grounds and a park-like setting with many lovely tall trees.

Sunset Development Co. (Bishop Ranch) wants to tear these offices down and build homes on the site. The result will be problems with increased traffic, noise, water use, and overcrowding schools. The most tragic loss will be the loss of local convenient businesses that the community has used for over 40 years.

A mission statement of the City of Livermore is to promote small businesses. We must keep Sunset Office Plaza.

Please attend the Planning Commission meeting to voice your support for saving this unique office complex. The meeting has not been scheduled yet, but will probably be June 2nd, or June 16th. Check the city's website for details.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

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Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 503800

The following person(s) doing business as: Olive Oil Pantry #2, 2053 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
J J B & S Inc, 490 Sharon Ct, Manteca, CA 95337

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504102

This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrants :s/ Arnold Kaufman, President, CFO

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 503633

The following person(s) doing business as: Willow Tree, 6513 Regional Street, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Willow Tree Restaurant, Inc., 1491 Second Street, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

The following person(s) doing business as: Furry-God-Mother, 4300 Black Avenue #1252, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Dawn Atwood, 4300 Black Avenue #1252, Pleasanton, CA 94566

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504336

This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on December 14, 1983.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 503649

The following person(s) doing business as: Marina L. Chin, Secretary This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2015. Expires April 14, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

The following person(s) doing business as: Pacific Bay Pediatric Dentistry, 39572 Stevenson Pl, Fremont, CA 94539, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Noor Bilbeisi, DDS a Prof. Dental Corp, 39572 Stevenson Pl #123, Fremont, CA 94539

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

The following person(s) doing business as: Swag Trans, 5369 Carnegie Loop, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Ranjot Singh, 5369 Carnegie Loop, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

The following person(s) doing business as: The Singing Winemaker, 5143 Tesla Rd, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Steven Powell, 5143 Tesla Rd, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504591

The following person(s) doing business as: Snack Stop, 2776 Livermore Outlets Dr, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Izzet Sarimaden, 330 W.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504591

The following person(s) doing business as: John Morrissey This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2015. Expires April 22, 2020.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504625-28

The following person(s) doing business as: (1)Fire Trucks 4 Hire (2)Fire Stations 4 Hire (3)Wicktonville Township (4) Echoing Quack, 480 Preston Ct, Ste D, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Wicktonville Fire Department Inc, 480 Preston Ct, Ste D, Livermore, CA 94551

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504591

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Izzet Sarimaden, 330 W.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504591

The following person(s) doing business as: Steven Powell This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2015. Expires April 22, 2020.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504591

The following person(s) doing business as: Snack Stop, 2776 Livermore Outlets Dr, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Izzet Sarimaden, 330 W.

This business is conducted by an Individual

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrants :s/ Dawn Atwood

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 14, 2015. Expires April 14, 2020.

The Independent Legal No. 3798. Published April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504102

The following person(s) doing business as: Law Offices of Clay Zhu, 4419 Foxford Way, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Keliang Zhu, 4419 Foxford Way, Dublin, CA 94568

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2015. Expires April 22, 2020.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2015. Expires April 22, 2020.

This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/1/2004.

Signature of Registrants :s/ Dr. Noor Bilbeisi, President

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 29, 2020.

The Independent Legal No. 3801. Published May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

The following person(s) doing business as: MB Construction, 1217 Wagoner Dr, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
John Morrissey, 1217 Wagoner Dr, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2015. Expires April 22, 2020.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504370

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 22, 2015. Expires April 22, 2020.

:s/ Paul M. George, Sr. VP/ Secretary/Treasurer

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 5, 2015. Expires May 5, 2020.

The Independent Legal No. 3803. Published May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504419

The following person(s) doing business as: JNJ, 1359 Chelsea Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Jonathan's Natural Juices, 1359 Chelsea Way, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504419

This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504419

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on April 29, 2020.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504419

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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11th Street, Apt 7, Tracy, CA 95376
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/20/15.
 Signature of Registrants: Izzet Sarimaden
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 4, 2015. Expires May 4, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3807. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2015.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: HENRY BAILEY
 Case No. RP15769037

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **HENRY BAILEY**

2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **STEVEN BAILEY** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ALAMEDA**.

3. The Petition for Probate requests that: **STEVEN BAILEY** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

4. (X) The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

5. (X) The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority

6. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: June 22, 2015
 TIME: 9:30 AM DEPT: 201 at: **SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, County of Alameda 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way Berkeley, CA 94704**

7. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

8. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

9. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

10. (X) Attorney for Petitioner: **RANDALL W. ROSA 115 S. SCHOOL STREET, Suite 6 LODI, CA 95240 (209) 333-8061**

The Independent Legal No. 3808. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 2015.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 504798

The following person(s) doing business as: SMITH DFI, 11501 Dublin Blvd #200, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
 Peter Smith, 11501 Dublin Blvd #200, Dublin, CA 94568
 This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
 Signature of Registrants: Peter Smith
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 7, 2015. Expires May

7, 2020.
 The Independent Legal No. 3809. Published May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2015.

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS
ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at (925)426-8656.

Adopt a new best friend: TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, dogs are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin from 12:00 to 4:00 and the Pet Extreme in Livermore from 12:00 to 4:00. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and Pet Extreme in Livermore from 12:00 to 4:00. For more information, call Terry at (925)487-7279 or visit our website at www.tv-ar.org

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 130 & 282 Prato Way
 59 Raccollo Way

118) FREE SECTION

FREE MAGAZINES
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 Smithsonian
 Livermore
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

155) NOTICES

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numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or (800)321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

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What Your Realtor Needs from You

By Cher Wollard
 Some people are concerned, especially if their Realtor is a friend or family member, that they will have to reveal more personal information than they are comfortable with.

Whether buying or selling a home, you will need to provide certain information to all the professionals handling your transaction. That includes your real estate agent.

But if you are working with a great loan officer, your agent may not require as much personal financial information as you think. In fact, both your loan officer and the escrow officer are likely to have access to much more sensitive data than your agent.

"A Realtor doesn't need all the details. We just want to be able to do a good job for you," says Patti Smylie, a Realtor with ReMax Accord in Livermore.

Your agent, your loan officer and your escrow officer will all need your legal name and contact information.

If you are buying property with a loan, your loan officer will require additional information: evidence of income, evidence of assets, accounting of debts, credit history and the value of the home you are planning to purchase.

"The more we get upfront, the less we'll need to ask for later," says Paula Iacomini of Prospect Mortgage.

The escrow officer will need a variety of documents helping to establish the legal right to buy and sell property.

So what does a loan officer require?

- Evidence of income, likely be in the form of tax returns, tax forms such as W-2s or 1099s, and paycheck stubs. If you have income from other sources, you'll need to document that.

- Evidence of assets. This refers to money and property that you currently own, including cash and real estate. For this, your loan officer will need copies of bank statements, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit and any retirement accounts you have.

If you own real estate or interest in a business, you'll need to supply documents supporting their value.

- An accounting of debts, starting with a statement from you listing any mortgages, car loans, student loans, child support or alimony payments, credit card debt, unpaid tax bills, etc. Most of your debt will be verified when the loan officer pulls your credit report.

- Credit history. Usually you sign authorization for the loan officer to obtain a copy of your credit report and provide your Social Security number, to ensure it is your report and not one belonging to someone with a similar name. You will likely pay a small fee for the report.

The report indicates your credit scores as well as detailed information about your history of borrowing and repaying loans.

- An appraisal of the property and a copy of the signed purchase agreement you have with the sellers. You pay for the appraisal, but your lender will arrange to have it done.

"This might seem like a lot in the beginning," Iacomini admits. "But the underwriter is going to ask for these things. So if we get it all upfront, it's less you have to worry about when you are actually in contract."

Whether you are a buyer or a seller, you will also work with an escrow officer.

In Northern California, the escrow officer is affiliated with the title and escrow company that handles your transaction. She (or he) keeps track of all necessary documentation, orders the title report and title insurance, holds onto deposits, disburses funds, and arranges to the recording of new loans and deeds.

The escrow officer will need:

- A copy of the signed purchase agreement – the buyer's agent typically provides this.
- Proof of identity (such as valid driver's licenses) for all parties.

- The seller's Social Security number, and immigration and marital status.

- Homeowners' Association information, if applicable.
- If the seller has a loan on the property, she'll need the name and contact information for the lender, so she can obtain accurate information about the amount due to pay off that loan.

In the case of a probate or trust sale, the escrow officer will require evidence that the person signing as the seller has legal authority to do so.

She'll also need:

- Contact information for the buyer's lender and insurance agent.

- In the case of more than one buyer, she will need to know how they plan to hold title to the property.

"It is so important to have great communication with your escrow officer, so they can process and close your transaction smoothly," noted Danielle Glock, an escrow officer with Old Republic Title Company in Pleasanton.

If you are a seller, you will have to let her know how you want to receive any funds due to you from the sale. If by wire transfer, the escrow officer will require your bank's transfer information. If by check, she will need an address to mail it to.

In any case, the escrow officer will request forwarding addresses for all parties. After the transaction closes, she'll be sending out final closing packages, tax information for the sellers, plus final HUD statements for both buyer and seller, which they will need come tax time.

And what does your agent need to help you purchase property? "A Realtor has to know the client is pre-approved with a lender (if buying) and has the funds to clear a sale," according to Smylie.

If you work with a great lender, most agents can be confident the lender has all the necessary information.

In addition, your agent will want to know that you are educated about the process of selling and/or buying, and are motivated and willing to work with him or her to complete the transaction.

Your Realtor does not need to know your credit score or how much money you make. He or she does need a pre-approval letter from your loan officer and a statement showing that you have enough money to cover the downpayment and closing costs (sometimes referred to as Proof of Funds).

If the seller requires Proof of Funds, your Realtor can carefully screen out account numbers and other sensitive information.

When you are selling property, your agent needs to know that you are the rightful seller, plus bottom-line information about your mortgage or other liens on the property. This will allow him or her to determine approximately what your net proceeds will be or if you will be in a short-sale situation.

"We are bound by ethics to keep our client's transaction confidential, whether it be a friend, a neighbor, an associate or even a family member," Smylie adds.

If you are thinking about buying or selling property, contact your local Realtor today.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway Home-Services, Drysdale Properties, in Livermore.

	<p>Sally Blaze REALTOR® 925.998.1284 sblaze@apr.com apr.com/sblaze</p>		<p>Karen Crowson REALTOR® 925.784.6208 kcrowson@apr.com KarenCrowsonHomes.com</p>
	<p>Sylvia Desin REALTOR® 925.413.1912 sdesin@apr.com apr.com/sdesin</p>		<p>Cherie Doyle REALTOR® 925.580.2552 cdoyle@apr.com apr.com/cdoyle</p>
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Seppalas Selected As Grand Marshals of Rodeo Parade

The Livermore Rotary Club has chosen scientist and Livermore Rotary Club member Lynn Seppala and Independent Publisher Joan Seppala to lead this year's Rodeo Parade scheduled for June 13 in downtown Livermore. They will be honored as Grand Marshals because of their long standing commitment to the community.

The Seppalas have been involved in every aspect of the Tri-Valley, including science, education, the environment, cultural life, social services, sports and outdoor activities. Thirty-eight years ago, they met on a Sierra Club hike on the Pleasanton Ridge. They continued their love of the outdoors playing together on a coed adult soccer team for 15 years.

LLNL Scientist Lynn Seppala

In addition to a 37-year career at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) designing innovative optical systems, Lynn has actively supported education, arts, health services and open space issues in the Valley.

Lynn was tapped to be a charter member of both the Las Positas College Foundation Board, where currently he is chair, and the University of Rochester's San Francisco Bay Area Regional Cabinet.

He serves on several boards of the Bankhead Theater's resident companies: Del Valle Fine Arts, Livermore-Amador Symphony, Rae Dorough Speaker Series and Pacific Chamber Symphony. As founding chair of the Pacific Chamber Symphony in Livermore, he was instrumental in bringing

the group to the Bankhead Theater. He also has worked with the advisory boards of the Livermore Valley Opera and Shakespeare's Associates.

A long-time active member of the Livermore Cultural Arts Council (LCAC), he managed the 2008 Sommerfest for LCAC, and was named marketing chair in 2013. Realizing the importance of downtown cultural events, last year the Marketing Committee revived Tuesday Tunes, the free concert series in front of the Bankhead Theater. In a cooperative effort with the Bankhead and LCAC, the 2015 free concert series "Evenings on the Green" will open for a 12 week run each Tuesday starting June 9.

Lynn's community service includes work for Axis Community Health's Capital Campaign Committee. He was a long time board member of the Friends of the Vineyards, and has been active supporting a broad spectrum of environmental issues.

He spent years creating optical systems for LLNL's laser projects, ones that culminated in the design of the world's largest laser, the National Ignition Facility (NIF). He also continued a key role in the optical design of the Large-aperture Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST). When completed in 2022 high on a Chilean peak, it will be the largest light-gathering telescope in the world.

In 2011, he was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame and was chosen as a Distinguished Engineering Alumnus of the Univer-



Joan and Lynn Seppala are pictured in front of the Bankhead Theater.

sity of Rochester. He was named both Distinguished Alumnus (2012) and Distinguished Engineering Alumnus (2014) of South Dakota State University.

Independent Publisher Joan Seppala

Almost 53 years ago, Joan Seppala founded The Independent. As its publisher, she focused the newspaper on curtailment of the rapid growth of the Livermore Valley, thereby protecting its ranch lands and vineyards. Helping the arts to flourish emerged as an early theme, as well as social justice.

In the magazine celebrating the 50th anniversary of The Independent, she was quoted as saying, "We have believed in the traditional role of newspapers... We think that newspapers that continue to fight for what is right in the social, environ-

mental and cultural realms will be fulfilling their obligation and satisfying their purpose."

Joan not only promotes quality of life issues for the community through the news, but also participates personally in a variety of causes. To help create and sustain the establishment of the Alameda County and Livermore Urban Growth boundaries, she co-founded Citizens for Open Space in 1999 and Friends of Livermore a few years later.

Her interest in the cultural life of the community led her to work with others to launch the Livermore Cultural Arts Council in 1966, and the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) in 1998. LVPAC built the Bankhead Theater, and manages it and the Bothwell Arts Center. As president, she worked with the County, the City and other benefactors last year to rid the Bankhead of its debt so that the theater could grow again. LVPAC is now becoming a cultural and educational force for the entire region.

Joan's concern for social issues caused her to join with others to lead ValleyCare

Alternatives, which fought successfully a change in director of ValleyCare as a community hospital.

Through a variety of approaches to education, she is collaborating with others to deal with the disparity between high and low income groups.

She regularly participates in the Livermore Chamber of Commerce Economic Development & Education Committee, and as a board member of the Valley Study Group, whose speakers typically focus on current science breakthroughs at the labs and elsewhere.

Her involvement in the broader community has been recognized with the Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 1 Champion for the Arts Award, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Award from Tri-Valley YMCA and the Las Positas College Friend of the College Award.

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Maddie's Pet Adoption Days Set

Maddie's Pet Adoption Days, May 30-31, 2015, is unlike any other adoption event in that it brings area animal shelters together, to adopt out all of their pets at no-cost to the public.

Thanks to Maddie, the Miniature Schnauzer who brought her family tremendous joy, the non-profit organization Maddie's Fund brings the 2015 Maddie's Pet Adoption Days to selected geographic counties in California, Nevada and Wisconsin on Saturday and Sunday, May 30-31, 2015.

Since its creation in 2010, Maddie's Pet Adoption Days has donated \$24.7 million dollars to participating adoption groups and

successfully rehomed a total of 31,267 dogs and cats across the country.

Maddie's Pet Adoption Days include fee-waived collaborative efforts of countless people trying to save the lives of shelter animals, a testament to what can be done when people come together and rally for a common cause.

This year, participating groups within selected counties of the San Francisco Bay Area. For each pet adopted, Maddie's Fund gives participating shelters from \$200 to \$2,500. This funding enables the shelters and rescue groups to save and treat more animals throughout the year, all thanks to the love of

one little dog, Maddie.

"Thanks to Maddie and her inspiration, we have supported the adoptions of more than 31,000 homeless dogs and cats since this program's inception in 2010," said Dave Duffield, Maddie's Fund founder. "With your help, we are excited to empty the shelters!"

For a complete list and to see the available pets, go to Adopt.MaddiesFund.org

Local organizations include East County Animal Shelter in Dublin, www.alamedacountysheriff.org; Tri-Valley Animal Rescue www.tvlar.org; and the Valley Humane Society in Pleasanton www.valleyhumane.org

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Teaching Others to Conquer Hurdles

By Carol Graham

Hurdle: noun, 1. a barrier over which contestants must leap in races, or 2. a difficult problem to overcome, an obstacle.

Les Besser has mastered both.

From his youth in war-ravaged Europe, Besser rose to become a successful design engineer, husband to Susan, father of four, and inspiration to countless young athletes - including those on Granada High School's track team.

"Coach Besser's coaching style is phenomenal. He has so much experience and insight to help us perfect our hurdling technique," said junior Gustav Sjogreen. "He's taught me to be a competent runner, and mentally fearless with grace and power especially when attacking hurdles. He's been through dangerous times in his life, and shared stories with us. His experiences have influenced me to appreciate the freedom we have and the small things in life I enjoy."

It is with this blending of physical and mental coaching that Besser is making an impact on Livermore youth. From February through May, he is a fixture on Granada's track.

"Les's vitality and enthusiasm for our sport is a gift to the kids who work with him. He brings many years of experience and a great deal of knowledge regarding various techniques," said teacher and coach Valerie Nebo-Hutchison. "As a teacher first, I hope our athletes take away a better understanding of how important it is for them to engage actively, thoughtfully and compassionately in their world. Les's experiences as a competitive athlete during a time of great social upheaval demonstrate this importance in a unique way."

His story began eight decades and 6,000 miles away. On August 27, 1936, Besser was born in Budapest, the capital of Hungary and a spectacularly beautiful city nicknamed "Pearl of the Danube." However, in the economically-depressed years leading up to WWII, Hungary was caught up in the growing tensions that largely focused on eastern Europe.

"My most vivid memories are of frequent air raids and bombing during the war, and the shortage of food and basic necessities after the war," said Besser, adding that his greatest childhood influences were, "My mother, who selflessly worked long hours to support us; my 7th-grade math, chemistry and physics teacher who encouraged me to pursue a scientific career; and my track coaches who taught me to run properly."

Track became an outlet for Les, a way to focus his mind and strengthen his body. He soon set the national record in the under-16 age group for hurdles, won two Hungarian Junior Championships, and became a member of the national track team. The 1960 Olympics were in his sights.

But history intervened.

Two months after his 20th birthday, Besser took part



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Les Besser coaches Granada hurdler Katy Johnson.

in the "Hungarian Revolution of 1956," which began as a student demonstration against the government of the Hungarian People's Republic and its Soviet-imposed policies. Despite its failure as an uprising, the effort was highly influential and foreshadowed the downfall of the Soviet Union.

"I illegally escaped from Hungary in 1956, but the quota system did not allow me to come to the U.S.," said Besser. "Only after living in Canada for three years did it become possible."

Once stateside, Besser lived in Dubuque, Chicago and Boulder before landing in Los Altos, Calif. His work as a design engineer specializing in microwave circuits and systems led to his writing a computer-aided circuit optimization program in 1973.

"For that, I am sometimes referred to as a 'Father of Computer-Aided Circuit Design,'" said Besser. In 1985 he launched Besser Associates, an international company

still operating today that offers training in analog, radio frequency, wireless, digital, and networking technologies.

Besser began volunteer coaching at Mountain View High School where for 12 years he taught athletes to run, not jump, the hurdles. His efforts led the team from lower-level competition to upper-level victories.

Besser retired in 2001, and moved to Pleasanton a year ago where he is a resident of the Stoneridge Creek Retirement Community. He reached out to local high schools, offering his experience as a volunteer track coach. Granada took him up on it.

"There were times when getting over the hurdle seemed impossible, but Coach Besser taught me to keep going, never give up, and attack hurdles with full speed, good form and a lot of determination," said junior Sarah Kim. "He videotaped practices to visually show us what we need to improve. Every week, he'd email our team

(continued on page 7)



Super Diamond

Group Performs Songs of Neil Diamond

Super Diamond – tribute to the much loved, international pop icon Neil Diamond – perform the timeless classics in a high-octane show on Friday, May 29, and Saturday, May 30, at 8:00 p.m. (no opener).

With a nod from Neil (yes, the man himself), Super Diamond has been embraced by the long time Neil Diamond fan-base and also found huge popularity in the hip rock clubs of America. The set list includes, of course: Sweet Caroline, September Morn, Cracklin' Rosie, (Coming to) America, Hello Again, Song Sung Blue, Forever in Blue Jeans, I Am...I Said, and so many other iconic hits. The concerts are appropriate for fans of all ages.

Neil Diamond, American singer-songwriter whose career began around 1960, has to date sold over 125 million records worldwide, making him one of the world's best-selling music artists of all time. He is the third most successful adult contemporary artist on the Billboard charts behind Elton John and one-time duet partner Barbra Streisand, and his songs have been covered internationally by many top performers in a wide variety of musical genres.

Over the last ten years, Super Diamond has consistently sold out shows at most of America's coolest rock venues such as The Fillmore and Bimbo's 365 Club in San Francisco, The House of Blues, Showbox Theatre in Seattle, Ogden Theatre in Denver, 930 Club in Washington DC, Irving Plaza in New York, to name just a few. Super Diamond has also appeared on The Late Show with David Letterman, CNN, Fox News, VH1 and has been featured in Rolling Stone Magazine, Spin, The New York Times. And to top it off, they now perform regularly with symphony orchestras in their pop concert series.

Reserved seating tickets for Super Diamond are \$30.00-\$40.00, and can be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wednesday - Friday 12:00 noon-6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and two hours prior to the performance. NOTE: Both shows are close to sold out at this time.

Summer Series at the Bankhead Theater Offers Variety of Shows

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) announced their expanded LVPAC Presents Summer Series. It opens on July 9th with the musical comedy "Girl's Night: The Musical" and will run through August, leading up to the opening of the 2015-2016 regular season.

This year's seven show series spans a range of genres and includes both returning favorites and new groups. The first event in the series, "Girl's Night: The Musical," delivers a hilarious and touching tribute to long-lasting female friendships.

The summer series often serves as an opportunity for LVPAC to bring back artists or groups whose shows previously sold out, allowing audiences another chance to see them. This year the Bankhead welcomes three returning artists including innovative jazz musician Keiko Matsui, who sold out both her prior appearances, The New Christy Minstrels, whose folk harmonies entertained audiences a year ago, and the smooth vocals of Rockapella, who were

honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for contemporary a cappella since their last Livermore appearance in 2013.

July and August will also feature music from across both genres and cultures, including "Celtic Roots of American Music," which explores the Irish and Scottish influences on American folk, country and bluegrass. Nashville-based band, The Celts, are known for their ability to blend traditional Celtic sounds with a joyful 21st century style. The music and culture of Columbia will be shared in Puerto Candalaria, a unique and lively stage show filled with the exhilarating rhythms of Latin American Cumbia. The afternoon of August 9th will offer an opportunity to hear three American jazz legends when pianist Dick Hyman is joined on stage by Harry Allen on tenor saxophone and Ken Peplowsky on clarinet.

In addition to the LVPAC Presents series, other groups will help keep the Bankhead filled with music during the summer months. Tri-Valley Reper-

tory Theatre, a Bankhead resident company, will present eight performances of their new production of the Tony Award-winning classic musical, *The King and I* by Rodgers and Hammerstein, beginning in July.

Bay Area musical institution The Lamplighters will offer three performances of their rollicking production of Gilbert and Sullivan's beloved *H.M.S. Pinafore* over the weekend of August 22 and 23.

In addition to music inside the Bankhead, LVPAC has worked with the Livermore Cultural Arts Council (LCAC) to present the On The Green free concerts outside the theater during the warm summer months with a dozen performances of music and dance from around the world, as well as jazz, rock, and country bands. For the summer lineup visit <https://www.facebook.com/CanaryArts>.

The seven shows in the LVPAC Presents 2015 summer series at the Bankhead are:

Girl's Night: The Musical: Five friends share a touching, hilarious look at life – past, present, and future – in a show bursting with energy and filled with classics like "Man, I Feel Like a Woman," and "Girls Just Want to Have Fun." Four performances, Thursday, July 9 at 7:30 p.m., Friday, July 10 at 8:00p.m., and Saturday, July 11 at 2:00 and 8:00 p.m.

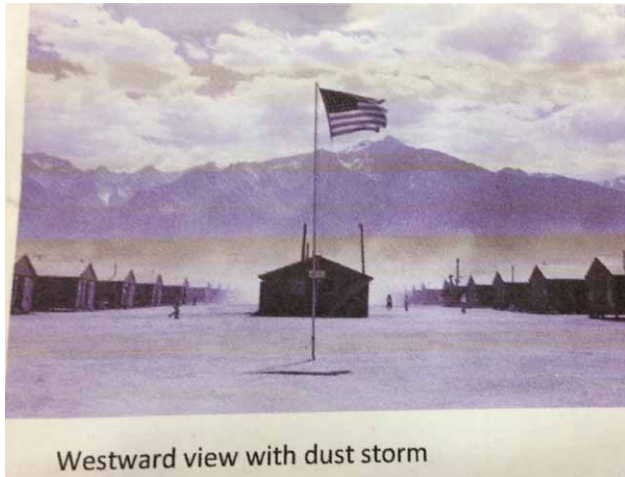
Puerto Candalaria: Show explores the joy found in every day as



The New Christy Minstrels

(See SUMMER, page 5)

Tadashi Kishi Will Share His Memories of World War II



Westward view with dust storm

In honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Tadashi Kishi, Manzanar survivor, US Army soldier during WWII, and Congressional Gold Medal recipient, will speak at the Livermore Library.

This program is free for everyone and it will be held on Saturday, May 23, 2015 at 2pm, at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

Tad Kishi was four days shy of his 20th birthday when his world suddenly fell apart. He was a citizen but the government surreptitiously reclassified his 1A status to 4C, enemy alien. Without due process, he was forcibly uprooted from his home and placed in a barb wire fenced camp that was guarded by U.S. soldiers on watchtowers equipped with searchlights to monitor the internees throughout the day. For approximately one and a half years, he was a prisoner at Manzanar.

Kishi, a Nisei (second generation Japanese American), was born in Culver City, California, on December 11, 1921. He spent most of his childhood in Santa Monica, California and graduated from Samohi, Santa Monica High School in 1939. He was attending UCLA majoring



Watch Tower/ Search light & armed guard

in physics when WWII broke out and he was forced into an internment camp.

During his internment, he took 24 units of educational courses at night under the University of California's Extension School in order to qualify to teach high school physics at the Manzanar High School. After teaching one year of physics, he applied to teach conversational Japanese at the University of Minnesota as an opportunity to seek freedom from internment. He was released from Manzanar in order to teach conversational Japanese to U.S. reservists at the University of Minnesota during WWII.

Cultural Awareness Camp Offered in Pleasanton

Cheza Nami will present its 2nd annual Diversity and Cultural Awareness Camp to Pleasanton. The camp will be at Amador Valley High School in the multi-purpose room from July 27th – July 31st, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm.

The camp will introduce students to cultural diversity through performing and visual arts which includes African dance, African drumming, and crafts. Exposure to different cultures fosters a greater understanding and appreciation of other members in the community and helps enable diversity awareness, which allows our youth to become more responsible and respectful citizens. Cheza Nami will provide an artistic platform through global education of African art and culture for all campers.

“We are seeing the community rally around this idea of global citizenship and cultural diversity. Students are eager to engage in cultural activities beyond their own and are excited to share their individual cultural backgrounds as they contribute to their global village” states Catherine Ndungu-Case, Founder and CEO of Cheza Nami.

This innovative camp will be hosted in partnership with the Pleasanton Unified School District with funding made available through the City of Pleasanton and The Clorox Company.

To register for Cheza Nami's Diversity Camp visit www.chezanami.org or call 925-398-3827. Scholarships for need based students available to qualified students.

Later, he was drafted in the U.S. Army and trained in military Japanese at the Presidio of Monterey, California. He served as a soldier and interpreter in occupied Japan under the leadership of General Douglas MacArthur.

After his discharge from the army, Kishi continued his college education at UC Berkeley, earning a BS in physics and an MA in math in 1951. He worked at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory from 1951 to 1953 and at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory from 1953 to 1989. He worked as a programmer, supervisor, researcher and scientific application division leader.

In 2012, Tadashi Kishi received the Congressional Gold Medal, one of the highest civilian awards in the U.S., for his service during WWII. Do not miss this opportunity to meet one of America's true heroes.

For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.



BANKHEAD THEATER 14/15

Hula Lives On ...

THROUGH MUSIC, DANCE & ALOHA SPIRIT
Sun **MAY 24** 2:30pm

Spring Rep

VALLEY DANCE THEATRE
Sat **MAY 30** 7pm & Sun **MAY 31** 2pm

Livermore School of Dance

LIVE TO DANCE, DANCE TO LIVE
Fri **JUN 5**, Sat **JUN 6** 7pm
JUNIOR JAZZ Sat **JUN 6** 2pm

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND
Sat **JUN 13** 7pm, Sun **JUN 14** 2pm

NURSERY RHYMES AND FAIRYTALES
Sat **JUN 13** 11am

Hot Club of Cowtown

HOT JAZZ AND WESTERN SWING
Fri **JUN 12** 8pm

Dance Into the Future

XTREME FORCE DANCE COMPANY
Sun **JUN 28** 4pm

BUY TICKETS

call 925.373.6800

click bankheadtheater.org
come by 2400 First Street, Livermore

Annual Auction Helps to Support Heritage Guild Projects and Programs

Memorial Day weekend is approaching. The Livermore Heritage Guild is preparing for the Annual Auction & Dinner, May 23 at 5:00 at the Duarte Garage, Portola & L Streets.

The Auction features antiques, collectibles, Livermore Valley wines, and olive oils.

Dinner will be a BBQ, burgers topped with Flaca's Guacamole. Tickets are \$25 available at the Carnegie Museum 2155 Third Street open Wednesday through Sunday 11:30 to 4:00 and Thursdays until 8:00 PM. Livermore Valley wines and Altamont Beer Works beer available for \$5 a glass.

Admission to the auction is free.

The Duarte Garage, located on the original Lincoln Highway, is home to the Guild's collection of antique fire trucks. The Carnegie Library Museum contains exhibits of Livermore history and houses original source historical materials documenting Livermore's storied past. The archives include newspapers dating back to 1870, the Mendenhall family bible and over seven thousand historic photos.

The Guild provides a Livermore history program for the third grade elementary school classes including the HistoryMobile's on-campus displays of Livermore history; historic downtown walking tours, and Museum visits.

It has been and will continue to be a busy year for the Guild. In addition



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore Heritage Guild President Jeff Kaskey talks about plans for the Hagemann Ranch.

to maintaining the Carnegie, Duarte Garage, and HistoryMobile Museums, the Guild has been involved in the research of original source material and artifacts for the new Third Grade History Curriculum for the Livermore Elementary Schools Third Grade classes. Local Livermore history taught in our schools is based on researched, authenticated material, documents and artifacts instead of myths and old stories.

The Guild has recently taken on management, restoration, and repair of the Hagemann Ranch in accordance with Registered Historical Landmark Property guidelines. In addition the Guild will coordinate operators licensed by the City to provide therapeutic horse programs for autistic children and farm programs working with autistic and other special needs folks learning to garden

and grow fresh produce for the Open Heart Project.

The 2015 "Fund-a-Need" Project features the Hagemann Ranch. Architectural and engineering studies are necessary to determine the extent of repairs to the 140-year-old buildings. The ranch house and two of the three barns lack concrete foundations. All the buildings may require other structural renovations, roofs, and window repairs. The ranch is undergoing general cleaning. Guild volunteers have filled a 20 cubic yard waste bin and are hard at work filling a second with detritus left by decades of deferred maintenance. The ranch house has undergone cleaning, windows and dry rot repairs but much work remains. Volunteers are encouraged to contact Guild President Jeff Kaskey help in restoring the Hagemann Ranch.



Art and Wind Festival Features Something for Everyone

The San Ramon Art & Wind Festival will blow into San Ramon Central Park on Sunday and Monday, May 24 & 25 from 10am to 5pm. The festival features 150 fine arts and crafts vendors, 4 entertainment stages, 2 gourmet food courts, 2 kid's amusement zones, professional kite flying demonstrations, a free kite making workshop and more. Admission to the festival is free.

Visitors will find a wide variety of beautifully hand-crafted items including paintings, photography, jewelry, clothing, pottery, toys, kites and more on display.

Each year, the San Ramon Art and Wind Festival commissions an art piece to be featured on the event poster. The 2015 art piece is by artist Rekha Joshi. Rekha is an active member of many art clubs and has worked as a graphic artist and Illustrator for several years. More of Rekha's will be display work at the Lindsay Dirxx Brown Gallery inside the Community Center during the festival and throughout the month of May.

Kites are one of the main attractions of the festival. Featuring professional aerobatic kite flying demonstrations choreographed to music and a free kite-making workshop.

A delegation of professional kite flyers and folk artists from Weifang,

China will participate in this year's San Ramon Art & Wind Festival. Weifang, China is home to the Weifang International Kite Museum and Kite Festival. The delegation will present special artisan kite making and woodblock printing demonstrations each day inside the Community Center in the Lindsay Dirxx Brown Art Gallery at 11:00am and 3:00pm. The kite artists will also be displaying and flying their handmade kites each day on the Lucky A's Ball Field at 12pm, 2pm and 4pm daily.

A wide variety of dance groups will be featured on the FOX KTVU Amphitheater Stage, including musical theater, belly dance, ballet, jazz, and cheer dance groups, as well as Zumba demonstrations and various styles of Indian dance. Nupoor Dances will perform Bollywood dance on Sunday, May 24 at 2pm and Kalaikoil will kick-off the Monday lineup at 10am with their dances of South India.

The Chevron Stage will be located on the grassy field adjacent to the tennis courts. Straight from their festival debut at Bottle Rock Napa Valley, Kingsborough will play original rock and pop songs on Sunday, May 24, from 12:30 - 2:30pm. Next up will be Evolution, the ultimate Journey tribute band, who will close the festival day on Sunday from 3:00 -

5:00pm. A highlight of the festival will be on Monday, as Santana tribute Caravan-serai will crank out those soulful Latin tunes and get you dancing from 3:00 - 5:00pm.

On both Sunday and Monday, May 24 & 25, the Puppet Art Theater Company will present Little Red Riding Hood at 1:30pm, Tommy's Pirate Adventure at 2:30pm and The Boy Who Cried Wolf at 3:30pm. The Puppet Shows will be presented in the Rose Garden area adjacent to the community center. Under the artistic direction of Art Grueneberger, Puppet Art Theater Company performs hundreds of live performances for family audiences every year.

Two Kid's Zones will provide free crafts and face painting in addition to ticketed amusement rides and games. Visit www.artandwind.com for a discount amusement coupon.

Food favorites including gyros, peach cobbler, kettle corn, barbecued pork, sausage sandwiches, Filipino food, hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream, cotton candy and more will be available for purchase. All food sales support local non-profit organizations who raise over \$75,000 each year at the festival.

For more information, visit www.ArtandWind.com or call the City of San Ramon Parks and Community Services Department at (925) 973-3200



Photos - Doug Jorgensen
 "Bras for the Cause," the annual Breast Cancer Walk held Mother's Day Weekend, was a time for fun-raising and fund-raising. Costumed walkers, who took part in Tri-Valley SOCK's event, raised money to help in the fight against cancer. The walk took place in downtown Pleasanton.



SUMMER

(continued from page 2)

expressed by the vibrant rhythms and dance of the rich, exuberant Columbian culture. Thursday, July 30 at 7:30p.m.

The New Christy Minstrels: Led by founder Randy Sparks, the New Christy Minstrels forged a fresh folk sound in the 1960s with their lighthearted style, rich harmonies, and original, chart-topping hits such as "Green, Green" and "Today." Wednesday, August 5 at 7:30p.m.

Keiko Matsui: Renowned Japanese-born pianist and composer Keiko Matsui transcends boundaries worldwide, blending a rich melting pot of musical influences to create unforgettable, contemporary smooth jazz melodies. Friday, August 7 at 8:00p.m.

Jazz All Star Quintet: An afternoon of phenomenal jazz brings together legendary pianist and band leader Dick Hyman, award-winning tenor saxophonist Harry Allen, and arguably the greatest living jazz clarinetist, Ken Pelpowski. Sunday, August 9 at 3:00p.m.

Celtic Roots of Great American Music: Known for their superb musicianship and spontaneous wit, The Celts radiate an infectious warmth and zest for life in a musical journey celebrating American music's rich Irish and Scottish heritage. Friday, August 14 at 8:00 p.m.

Rockapella: Masters of a cappella, Rockapella rocks the house with just one instrument – their voices – but an astonishing

full-band sound that takes them from vintage Mills Brothers, to jazz, rock and hip hop. Friday, August 28 at 8:00 p.m.

Tickets for all summer performances are available now although the Bankhead Theater ticket office, 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800.

On May 27th LVPAC will announce the entire 2015-2016 LVPAC Presents season, which opens in September and includes more than four dozen shows across the spectrum of art forms, including virtually every musical genre from classical to rock, as well as theatrical productions, dance, comedy, and some unique visual/performing arts hybrids.

FIREHOUSE

ARTS CENTER

Catch these Upcoming Shows!



SWINGIN' BLUE STARS OF THE USS HORNET
 Sat & Sun, May 23 & 24
 Sat 7:30 PM • Sun 2 PM



SUPER DIAMOND
First-Class Tribute to Neil Diamond
 Fri & Sat, May 29 & 30
 8 PM



DANCING HARP STRINGS
Concert of Winners of the 2015 Yvonne La Mothe Schwager Harp Competition
 Sun, June 7 • 2 PM



BABY LOVE
The Songs of Diana Ross & the Supremes
 Sat, June 20 • 8 PM

TICKETS:

Phone 925.931.4848 Online www.firehousearts.org/events
 Box Office 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton



NEW Firehouse Arts Membership Program

For more information about the program, or to become a member, visit www.firehousearts.org/memberships

Livermore Valley Opera New Artistic Advisor, Next Season Announced

Soprano, Metropolitan Opera performer and Pleasanton resident Erie Mills has been named Artistic Advisor of the Livermore Valley Opera (LVO).

Mills has been actively involved with LVO since 2009. As Artistic Advisor she will work closely with Artistic/Music Director Alex Katsman as well as with members of the Board of Directors.

"I am delighted to be involved with the Livermore Valley Opera," says Mills. "It is a jewel in the Tri-Valley crown. In the beautiful Bankhead Theater LVO produces professional productions with excellent singers, orchestra, sets and costumes. The company is run by volunteers who are passionate about opera and who want to produce it at the highest level. There is something for everyone at the Livermore Valley Opera! I hope all will join us."

Erie Mills has received critical and popular acclaim throughout the world, dazzling audiences with her sparkling coloratura voice, captivating personality, and vivid portrayals of operatic roles. She has performed in the world's major opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, Vienna Staatsoper, English National Opera, San Francisco Opera, Santa Fe Opera, New York City Opera and many others.

"The LVO Board thanks Erie for the generous time and effort she devotes to LVO," says Jim Schmidt, LVO President.

"Her expertise in the world of opera has brought a higher level of talent to our performances, helping LVO become the professional regional opera company that it is today."

The LVO 2015-2016 season will feature two tales of brave women who encounter clashing cultures.

Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* will be performed Sept. 26 and 27 and Oct. 3 and 4.

An American naval officer marries a young Japanese girl for convenience. He leaves her while she faithfully awaits his return.

Set in early 20th century Japan, Giacomo Puccini combines beautiful music with the devastating saga of devotion, tradition and sacrifice.

The opera is sung in Italian with English supertitles. Rossini's *The Italian Girl in Algiers* will be performed March 12, 13, 19 and 20, 2016.

An Italian girl shipwrecked in a foreign land, searching for her lover becomes the focus of a rich and powerful sultan's unwanted advances.

Rossini's fast-paced comedic opera weaves a zany tale full of twists and turns in this adventure to a land of magnificent palaces, swashbuckling pirates and lavish characters.

The "Dream Team" who sang LVO's enchanting *Cinderella* will return in this opera, which will be sung in Italian with English supertitles.

All performances will take place at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore.



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

The Livermore High School Cowboy Marching Band hosted a Uniform Reveal Party last Tuesday where they showed off the new uniforms and thanked those who had donated money to purchase the uniforms. The band set in goal in 2013 to raise \$25,000 to purchase the uniforms they were worn, the shoes were falling apart and could no longer be repaired. Due to budget cuts, district funding was no longer available for band activities, new uniforms, new instruments or instrument repair. The band performs at athletic events, competitions and for local charities, as well as the annual holiday and rodeo parades in Livermore. At the party, the band entertained those in attendance.

Yesterday into Today

by Sarah Bobson

THE BERLIN WALL

May 2015 column From the time the Berlin Wall was erected in 1961 until it was brought down in 1989, it symbolized to Westerners the ideological, political, and economic divide between the Western democracies and Soviet communism and its satellites. It gave birth to terms such as the Iron Curtain, the Cold War, and Checkpoint Charlie. In 1970, I traveled to the divided city to experience this great divide for myself.

West Berlin was more opulent and vibrant than I had expected. I found modern high-rise buildings, shops stocked with the latest fashions and goods, and glitzy lights and the clamor of cars and energy that promised an exciting night life. I couldn't believe I was in a city that only 25 years before had been bombed to bits during World War II, and then afterward divided up by the Allied powers, with America, Great Britain, and France occupying West Berlin and the Soviet Union occupying East Berlin. What I didn't realize until I visited the place was that Berlin was actually an island surrounded by Soviet-controlled East Germany. Since the end of the War, West Berlin had flourished under capitalism while East Berlin had stagnated under communism. This resulted in a mass exodus of East Berlin and East German professionals pouring out of the Soviet-controlled sector seeking greater opportunity and freedom in West Berlin and Western Europe. To stem this tide, the East Germans erected the Wall to stop the huge brain drain that was devastating an already crippled economy.

I spent one day sightseeing West Berlin and then joined a tour bus going to East Berlin. As the bus neared the Wall, it slowed and then joined a long line of cars waiting to pass through Checkpoint Charlie. At the time, there were nine border crossings between West and East Berlin. However, Checkpoint Charlie, the vehicle and pedestrian checkpoint at the corner of Friedrichstraße and Zimmerstraße, was the most famous. (Remember the Hitchcock film "Torn Curtain," where scientist Paul Newman and his girlfriend and assistant Julie Andrews have to meet their contact person at a post office, I believe, on Friedrichstraße in order to get out of East Germany.) As the bus pulled up to the gate, passengers quieted. I could see several hundred feet of the Wall to the left and the right, but not the full extent or impact of it. According to my guide book, it extended for 26.8 miles (43.1 kilometers) between the three Western sectors and the Eastern Soviet sector, as well as for 96 miles (155 kilometers) around the perimeter of both West and East Berlin that divided Berlin from Eastern Germany. The Wall consisted of more than just the concrete segment, which measured 11.8 feet (3.6 meters) high. There was also wire mesh fencing that covered 41.3 miles (66.5 km), trenches that stretched for 65.6 miles (105.5 km), 302 watch towers, and 20 bunkers.

As a Westerner, I expected the Checkpoint Charlie guards to board, stamp our passports, and then wave us through in a matter of minutes. The guards did board, but they collected our passports and took them with them while we had to remain on the bus. This made me nervous. Would the guards return our passports? Would they keep them? I felt we were at their mercy.

One hour went by but the border guards did not return. Two hours went by and still no guards. Three hours passed. By this time, not only was I wondering whether our tour bus would be allowed to enter East Berlin, but I was beginning to worry that something was wrong. Had the bus not gotten permission to cross? Was one of the passengers causing the holdup? Perhaps their transit visa was not in order? Transit visas were good for only a few hours. Finally, after four hours, the guards reboarded the bus, returned our passports, and the gates lifted. Just as simple as that. It was only when the bus rolled well past Checkpoint Charlie that I heard whispers among the passengers that the holdup was completely unnecessary, that the guards were just harassing us.

As soon as we entered East Berlin, I felt the stark contrast between West and East. The air and the landscape took on a sickly pallor. We passed block after block of bombed buildings. In some cases, only parts of a building or a wall, riddled with bullet holes, remained, and the surrounding ground was buried under mounds of rubble. As hard as I found it to believe that West Berlin could be so modern only 25 years after the end of the war, ironically I found it equally as bewildering that nothing had been done at least to tear down these structural casualties of war.

I don't remember a lot of details from that visit to East Berlin. I think my mind went numb with the depressing drabness of the place. The people wore mostly grays and blacks and walked the streets with hangdog postures and lethargic gaits. This was not the cultured land of Goethe and Schiller but of Marx and Engels. There were no strains of Bach or Beethoven or Brahms but of Soviet proletarian marches. While at Checkpoint Charlie, I had worried that our long detention would not allow us enough time to tour East Berlin, but after driving around for an hour or so, I couldn't wait to get out of there. We finally did, and, as cliché as it sounds, I literally breathed a sigh of relief.

While I only visited the Wall for a few brief hours, Christa Schneider and her husband Dieter, a physicist at Lawrence Livermore Labs, both Livermarians since 1987, had to live with the hideous barrier for the 28 years it remained in place, from 1961 to 1989. In my June column, read about their experiences dealing with the constraints of the Wall, the lack of freedom, the deprivation, and much more.

HURDLES

(continued from front page)



pictures, providing us with a constructive critique so we would become better hurdlers."

Along with a sharp eye, Besser employs a keen sense of humor.

"One time, the team watched our videos in slow motion on a projector," said Kim. "It was very humorous because our faces were so determined that we appeared to look hysterical."

When Besser found teen athletes unmotivated during

spring break some years ago, he devised an ingenious plan to inspire them.

"I bet that even the young female who lives in our house could easily outrun you," he said.

The teens perked up. They wanted to know how old she was ("younger than you"), where she went to school ("she takes private courses"), and how long she's been competing ("this would be her first race").

It was all true. Yet with complete faith in his mysterious contender, Besser offered to treat the entire team to frozen yogurt should a student win. The athletes practiced with renewed commitment. On the day of the race, it was Besser's Labradoodle, Missy, who showed up for the race. The teens groused, but gamely went along.

"Although Missy beat them badly, she was disqualified for lane violation," said Besser. "That infraction cost me 30 frozen yogurts at the local ice cream parlor."

These days, when not coaching track, Besser and Susan take Missy on long walks in the valley's wild places where, Besser said, "She quickly learned humility - she is no match for the speed of jack rabbits."

Three times a week, Besser works out rigorously at the gym, and plays reasonably high-level ping pong daily. "Life," he said, "is more fun without significant physical limitations."

Besser's memoir, "Hurdling to Freedom," is available online to download without charge (link below). In his candid, engaging style, Besser shares the story of his youth in a Socialist country, emigration, family life, career - and how, through it all, he faced and cleared the hurdles.

Now, as the 2015 track season winds down, Besser's influence will live on in a group of high school athletes whose teenaged years are so very different from his own - yet who, like young adults throughout time, still struggle to find confidence and a sense of self.

"Coach Besser has influenced me by making me believe in myself more," said sophomore Megan McAlinden, who on May 16th won the 100-meter hurdle East Bay Athletic League (EBAL) Championships. "I've learned to concentrate; it doesn't matter what everyone around you is doing - you are racing for yourself."

"I would like to thank Coach Besser for helping us become better hurdlers while encouraging us and telling us how well we competed. He knows how to motivate us to do our best," she added, "and to excel in every race."

"Hurdling to Freedom" is available at hpmemoryproject.org/timeline/les_besser/hurdling_to_freedom_00.htm; or email Lbesser@ieee.org.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

Members of the Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit are currently exhibiting art at six businesses in the Pleasanton - Dublin Area. Viewing locations are: Bank of America at 337 Main Street, Pleasanton; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 4900 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton; US Bank at 749 Main Street, Pleasanton; Edward Jones at 6601 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin; and The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Avenue Pleasanton. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimmingham at (510) 877-8154.

Fresh Works #5: Firehouse Arts Center Harrington Gallery. On view through Saturday, June 6. This annual juried installation features 73 artists using a wide variety of media, including oil, watercolor, photography, drawing, sculpture, mixed media. Adjudicated by Philip Linhares, retired Chief Curator of Art at the Oakland Museum. For more info: 925-931-4849, or jfinegan@cityofpleasantonca.gov. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Donations always appreciated. May 9 Special Event: "Artful Bouquets" Response Event: floral arrangements created in response to selected works in the exhibit will be on display at the gallery during Pleasanton's Big Draw festival. Hours May 9: 11:00-3:00 p.m.

Geolango: Geography & Art Gone Wild, a new art exhibit opening at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street Livermore. **Emerging Artists**, an exhibit of visual art featuring works by students from the four District High Schools; Granada High School, Livermore High School, Del Valle Continuation School and Vineyard High School. The exhibit will be open from May 6 - June 13 and will be on view for patrons who attend any performance or event at the Bankhead Theater. Receptions are free. Proceeds from art sales benefit the Bothwell Arts Center. www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Freeze Frame Exhibit, top 25 finalists from the Tri-Valley Conservancy's 2014 Freeze Frame photo competition will be on display at Cuda Ridge Winery. This is a collection of striking images of nature, highlighting the

diversity of life in the Tri-Valley. The exhibit runs from May 1 through July 31, 2015. Cuda Ridge Winery, 2400 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

Art in the Vineyard, annual Livermore Art Association show at Wente Vineyards Estate Winery, 5565 Tesla Rd. Livermore. Sunday May 24, 2015, from 11:00am. to 5:00pm. Wine tasting (fee), art demonstrations, entertainment. www.livermoreartassociation.org

Art Under the Oaks Applications Now Being Accepted, sponsored by the Livermore Art Association and Alden Lane Nursery; held under the shade trees at Alden Lane Nursery on July 18 and 19, 2015

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Show and Tell, Artists are invited to a monthly function at the Bothwell Arts Center, called "Show & Tell. 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Artists bring finished or unfinished work to show and if desired, receive a critique from the group. Refreshments are brought by some of the artists, and a donation of \$5.00 is desired although not mandatory. Contact for this event is D'Anne Miller at danne_miller@att.net, or Linda Ryan at LRyan@Livermoreperformingarts.org

ACC/Art Critique & Coffee, Discuss and share work with Professional Artists in sketching, painting, exhibiting and marketing your work. ACC members currently working on exhibiting theme works, under the Inspiration of "The Artist's Edge /The Edge of Art & Chosen Pathways." Meets and Critiques Friday mornings in Pleasanton. PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

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

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

Art Classes, For children, teens and adults. Beginner to advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Home school

classes, Special classes during school breaks offered. (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

Piano and keyboard lessons, For children to adult. Beginner to early intermediate level. Half-hour private classes or small group classes offered. Twice-yearly recitals. (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

PPL/Pleasanton Poetry League, now meeting the 1st Thursday and 3rd Wednesday of each month 7:00 at The Corner Bakery Cafe in Pleasanton. Join us as we challenge ourselves to poetically relay our thoughts, emotions and experiences through poetry. Become a member & share your work - Contact PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com for more info on Theme Challenges, Membership & Opportunities.

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the 2nd and last Saturday from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First St., Livermore. Confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$5 fee to cover meeting costs.

Young Artists' Studio 2015 Summer Art, An open studio experience for students ages 7 through high school with projects in drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. Adults are welcome to join the class as space permits. Peggy Frank is a painter and has been teaching art to young people in Livermore for over thirty years. Sessions: June 22-26; July 27-31; Aug. 3-7. After Aug. 7 individual lessons available. Contact Peggy Frank for more information about the summer sessions for 2015 and school year classes, including times and fees, at (925) 443- 8755 or frank.a@comcast.net

WINE & SPIRITS

The Chef & The Winemaker - A Celebration of the Bay Area's Most Acclaimed Women Chefs, Wente Vineyards Restaurant. Four dinners, 6 to 9 p.m. : Gayle Pirie, Chef/Co-owner of Foreign Cinema, Laszlo, and Show Dogs, Cookbook author, James Beard Nominee, June 4; Tanya Holland, Executive Chef/Owner of Brown Sugar Kitchen, TV personality, cookbook author, 2013 California Chef of the Year, Sept. 10; Joanne Weir, James Beard Award Winner, TV Personality, cookbook author, Chef/Partner of Copita, Nov. 12. 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore; event information 925.456.2424; dinner reservations at 925.456.2450 or wentevineyards.com/restaurant

Charles R Vineyards events: "Uncorked!" Fourth Friday Is Back at Charles R Vineyards! - kick off on Friday, May 22nd from 5:30pm - 8:00pm. Gather your friends and

unwind with music on the patio from "KNR." \$5 (free for club members). Wine by the glass or bottle available for purchase. Spring Fling Club Pick Up Party & Live Music On The Patio -Saturday, May 16th from 11:30am - 4:30pm. Live music by "Souled Out" starts at 1pm. 8195 Crane Ridge Road/ at the end of Greenville Road.

Las Positas Vineyards, Sat., May 23-Mon., May 25, celebrating Memorial Day all weekend long and honoring veterans and active military servicemen. Wine & cheese and herb-marinated olive pairing flight. \$10 for club members and \$15 for non-members. Bring the family and enjoy a picnic. Open Friday through Monday 11:30am-4:30pm. For more details, call 925-449-9463 or email curt@laspositasvineyards.com. June 5 "Evening in the Vineyards" concert from 6-9pm featuring Evan Thomas & Pappas Garage. Wine, non-alcoholic beverages along with Artisan pizza's handcrafted by On the Vine Catering available for purchase (sorry no outside food or beverages permitted) To purchase tickets, visit www.laspositasvineyards.co , go under the section " happenings" and click on a concert, the on line service will assist in purchasing tickets.

Rodrigue Molyneux Estate Winery and Vineyard, the garden art work of local sculptor Robin Modlin will be displayed and available for purchase in the gardens at the winery on Saturday, May 23 and Sunday, May 24 from 12:30 to 5 p.m. Come taste our first Merlot and view Modlin's unique pieces. Art sales available with cash or check only. 3053 Marina Ave., Livermore

Thomas Coyne Winery Spring Open House, May 23, 24, 25, noon to 5 p.m. Release of four new wines: 2012 Sweet Emilie, Chardonnay Port, 2009 California Port, 2002 Livermore Merlot, 2010 Eldorado Petite Sirah. All wines will be available for tasting. Food Vendors will be available. 2405 Research Drive, Livermore, (925) 373-6541 or http://thomascynewinery.com

6th Annual Cuda Ridge Open Mic Saturday and Sunday, May 23rd - 24th from 12:00 - 5:00 PM at Cuda Ridge Wines, 2400 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Over 40 accomplished local musicians and aspiring amateurs will take part. Solei Wood fired pizza available for purchase on Saturday, and Ken's Wood Fired pizza on Sunday. There is no cost to enter, wine is available for purchase. No outside alcohol is permitted. Bring a folding chair to ensure a seat. More information on the Open Mic, along with the list of performers schedule, can be found at www.CudaRidgeWines.com. Questions? email info@CudaRidgeWines.com or call 510-304-0914.

Las Positas Vineyards, Friday, June 5th " Evening in the Vineyards " concert

from 6-9pm featuring Evan Thomas & Pappas Garage. Wine, non-alcoholic beverages and Artisan pizza's hand crafted by On the Vine Catering available for purchase (sorry no outside food or beverages permitted) To purchase tickets, visit www.laspositasvineyards.com go under the section " happenings" and click on a concert, online ticketing service will assist in the purchase. Space is limited.

Retzlaff Vineyards, Fleeces Food and Fun - Spinning with the Treadles to Threads Guild, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 6 at 1356 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. Bring your spinning wheel and a pot-luck dish to share for lunch. "Try it Out Circle" for those who would like to learn to spin. Raffle prize drawing at 2:00. \$5.00 per person. 925-447-8941

Retzlaff Vineyards, Annual Father's Day Picnic, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 21 at 1356 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. Table decorating contest and win prizes for the most sumptuous, the most colorful and the most creative table. There will also be prizes for oldest Dad, Dad with most kids and maybe for the Dad who can carry the most kids. \$10.00 per adult. Due to popular demand, this event is by reservation only, 925-447-89341.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Blacksmith Square, music every Saturday 3 to 6 p.m. in the courtyard, 21 South Livermore Ave., Livermore.

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band appears regularly at: The Castle Rock Restaurant in Livermore/on Portola Avenue-- the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30--Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

Steve Fread performances: 5/23, 1-4 Retzlaff; 5-25, 1-4 Retzlaff Memorial Day on the lawn; 5/28 4-8, Livermore Farmers Market; 5/30, 1-4 Retzlaff; 5-31 12-5, Wente. 6-25 5:30-7:30 Cuda Ridge Neil Young set.

Swingin' Blue Stars of the USS Hornet: "Thanks for the Memories" - A Memorial Weekend USO Revue. 5th annual appearance at the Firehouse Arts Center. Four vocalists plus a 5-piece swing band present special musical tributes to the Armed Forces in the style of The Andrews Sisters, with songs from the 40's, 50's, and 60's. Fun skits, dancers, new numbers, and the stand-up comedy of Bill "Bob Hope" Johnson. Saturday, May 23, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 24, 2:00pm. Tickets are \$15-\$25, with child, senior, and group discounts available. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org. 925-931-4848, or at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are also available at the Firehouse 2 hours prior to the performance if not sold out.

The Pacific Musicians, Benefit Concert for Oakland Children's Hospital , May 24, 2:30PM, at Trinity Baptist Church,

557 Olivina Avenue, Livermore, CA 94551. Selections featuring Modest Mussorgsky's Night on Bald Mountain, Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera, Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Concerto #5-The Emperor, and several patriotic songs to remember our war veterans. The admission is free. www.pacificmusicians.org

Super Diamond - The Neil Diamond Tribute. Surreal Neil and Super Diamond perform regularly in San Francisco and across the U.S., with a national fan-base that proves their popularity. Featuring all those wonderful road-trip favorites, including Sweet Caroline, September Morn, Cracklin' Rosie, Coming to America, Hello Again, I Am...I Said, and so many other iconic hits. Two big shows at the Firehouse Arts Center, Friday and Saturday, May 29, 30, 8:00 p.m. Reserved seating tickets are \$30.00 - \$40.00; available at www.firehousearts.org. 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. NOTE: Both shows are close to sold out at this time.

Dancing Harp Strings, June 7, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Concert of winners of the 2015 Yvonne La Mothe Schwager Harp Competition. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Hot Clubs of Cowtown, hot jazz and western swing. 8 p.m. Fri., June 12. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Fleetwood Mask, Tribute to Fleetwood Mac, Danville's Village Theatre on Friday June 12, 2015 at 8 pm. The Band will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the 1975 breakout "white" Fleetwood Mac album. Tickets can be purchased at village theatreshows.com or (925) 314-3400

JOEL: the songs of Billy Joel, featuring Kyle Martin, June 20, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Jinx Jones and the Jazz-A-Billy-Allstars, presented by Red-Legged Frog Productions, June 21, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

ON THE STAGE

Las Positas College, one act plays, May 22, 1 p.m. Black Box Theater, Performing Arts Center, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. http://laspositas-college.edu/performingarts

The Skin of Our Teeth, May 22-June 14. Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third St., Hayward. Program and facility of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District. www.dmtonline.org or 510-881-6777.

Romeo and Juliet, Free Shakespeare in the Park presented by San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, 7:30 p.m., June

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

27, 28, July 5, 11 and 12. Special performance July 2. Amador Valley Community Park, Santa Rita Road and Black Ave., Free admission.

MOVIES

Classic Film Series, First Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. through June 2015 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. June 4, *My Left Foot*. Theme *Almost True*, presented by Las Positas College coordinator of the Humanities Candace Klaschus, a film historian. Pleasanton Library meeting room. The programs are free and all are welcome to attend. Note that some films are mature in content and may not be suitable for children. 931-3400, ext. 4.

DANCE

Square dancing for all ages 8 years and up, Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm at Del Valle High, 2253 5th Street, Livermore. Families and friends welcome. September classes are free to new dancers. Questions? Margaret 925-447-6980.

Valley Dance Theatre Spring Rep.

Spring celebration of dance with repertory pieces both classic and contemporary featuring highlights from *Sleeping Beauty* and a swinging salute to the 1940's. Music accompaniment is provided by The Valley Dance Theatre Pit Orchestra. May 30, 7 p.m., May 31, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

CHORAL

Cantabella Children's Chorus, annual spring concert, *These Things Can Never Die*, at 1pm and 4pm on Saturday, June 6 at Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church, 9015 South Gale Ridge Road, San Ramon. The award-winning young singers (K-12th) will perform folk, sacred, classical and contemporary selections in various languages. Tickets are available at cantabella.org/tickets (\$18) or \$20 at the door. Admission is free for children under 18 (up to three per adult). Call 925-292-2663 for more information.

OPERA

Livermore Valley Opera, May 31, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

A Grand Afternoon at the tropical paradise known as Mia Nipote Winery, 4 p.m. Sun., June 7. Livermore Valley Opera fund-raiser. \$90 before May 20, limited to 110 people. (925) 200-7425, www.livermorevalleyopera.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include

politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions

We're Talkin' Books! Club is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Susan at 337-1282 regarding the *We're Talkin' Books! Club*.

Storied Nights: An Evening of Spoken Word. 2nd Thursday of each month. Features local authors reading their work 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea, 152 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Sponsored by LVPAC and Peet's. Information go to <http://facebook.com/StoriedNights>

Hula Lives On, 2:30 p.m. May 24, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Kumu Gloria Ruiz Presents Halau Makana Lani in a Musical journey to the Islands of Hawaii. Accompanied by the talented voices of Faith Ako and Weldon Kekauoha. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Wings of Freedom Tour of the WWII Vintage Planes: Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress, Consolidated B-24 Liberator, B-25 Mitchell and North American P-51 Mustang on display in Livermore at Livermore Municipal Airport from May 24 to May 26. Visitors are invited to explore the aircraft inside and out - \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 12 is requested for access to up-close viewing and tours through the inside of the aircraft. WWII Veterans can tour through the aircraft at no cost. Discounted rates for school groups. Visitors may also experience the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to actually take a 30-minute flight aboard these rare aircraft. Flights on either the B-17 or B-24 are \$450 per person. P-51 flights are \$2,200 for a half hour and \$3,200 for a full hour. B-25 flights are \$400 per person. For reservations and information on flight experiences call 800-568-8924. Tour arrives at noon on May 24 and will be on display at Main terminal ramp until May 26 after 5:00 p.m. Hours of ground tours and display are: 12:00 PM through 5:00 PM on Sunday, May 24; 9:00 AM through 5:00 PM on Monday, May 25; 9:00 AM through 5:00 PM on Tuesday, May 26

"Let's go fly a kite!" The San Ramon Art & Wind Festival, is scheduled for Sunday and Monday, May 24-25, 2015 in San Ramon's Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd. from 10am to 5pm both days. www.ArtandWind.com

The Museum on Main 2015 Ed Kinney Speaker Series An Evening With... Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Tuesday, June 9th 7pm: Franklin Delano Roosevelt, commonly known as F.D. R., takes a look back at his accomplishments as an American statesman and political leader who served as the

32nd President of the United States. Peter M. Small, a former educator, has portrayed historical characters, including F.D.R., for audiences nationwide. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets

may be purchased online at www.museumonmain.org, at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766.

Livermore Rodeo Parade, June 13, 10

Whistlestop Writers Session Set

Whistlestop Writers will host an open mic for writers of all genres on Wednesday, May 27, 2015, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Swirl on the Square, 21 South Livermore Avenue, in downtown Livermore.

Stop by for an evening of food, wine, and writing. Cynthia Patton, the event's host, says, "Even if you don't have anything to read, show up and support amazing local writers. Prepare to be inspired!"

The Whistlestop Writers Open Mic will continue on the fourth Wednesday of each month. For more information go to <http://facebook.com/WhistlestopWriters> or call 925-890-6045.

Local Student Captures National Community College Speech Championship

Las Positas College (LPC) student Katie Lai won the Phi Rho Pi National Community College Speech Championships in Informative Speaking, held in Cleveland, OH earlier this month.

Lai, 19, competed with an informative speech on QMilk, a German company turning milk proteins into fabric, and dazzled the judges in the final round to take the top spot in the competition.

"She was the very top speaker out of 70 national-level competitors," said LPC Director of Forensics Janet Brehe Johnson. "She's a really sweet, humble person, and she just worked so hard. She competed in four events, but had six 10-min-

ute speeches prepared."

What makes the feat even more special is that Lai has been diagnosed with a moderate form of Tourette syndrome. She said the hyper-focused nature of the events actually helps her suppress her outbursts.

"When I'm in an environment where I have to be very focused, like forensics, it's easier for me to suppress the ticks and it kind of goes on the backburner. Once I'm up there, in front of an audience, I go into speaking-mode. I feel like I try not to use Tourette's Syndrome as an excuse. So yeah, my ticks are something that I do all the time and it's natural to me, but it's not going to

(See TITLE, page 10)

Brewzza Palooza Set May 23

Eight Bridges Brewing will present a Brewzza Palooza at its tasting room on May 23 from noon to 7 p.m.

The event will include the release of a new beer, Kolsch; Ken's Wood Fired Pizza; and music by Crowding Out. Music will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Eight Bridges Brewing is located at 332 Earhart Way in Livermore. For information, call 961-9160.

a.m. downtown Livermore. Livermore-parade@yahoo.com

Livermore Rodeo, June 13 and 14.

Robertson Park Stadium. Livermore.

<http://www.livermore rodeo.org/>

Alameda County Fair, June 17 through

Sunday, July 5, Tuesday through

Sunday each week. A complete

schedule is available on the Fair's

website at www.alameda county fair.com.

Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

offer additional information, previews,

updates, contests and giveaways.

For more information, visit www.alameda county fair.com, or call (925)

426-7600.

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Milestones



Pictured, at left, is Palak Guleria with the letter she received from President Obama; at right, Kiran and Palak Guleria with the letter and photographs Palak received from President Obama.

Smith Elementary School Fifth Grader Receives Letter from President Obama

Palak Guleria, a fifth grader at Smith Elementary in Livermore, wrote a letter to President Obama in 2014 following the school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown Connecticut. Palak was upset by violence in schools.

She wrote to the President to encourage intervention in order to prevent that kind of tragedy from ever happening again.

"Your dedication to helping others, along with your commitment to your studies, will lead our Nation to a brighter tomorrow," President Obama wrote in a reply letter that Palak received last month.

Palak also sent the President a \$1 donation to support intervention programs designed to prevent violence before it happens; to intervene in the lives of young people who are struggling. "Bullying is a base problem" Palak says, "or your family is all apart, or you're not doing well in school."

Palak was saddened and frustrated when learning of the tragic shooting.

"You should know how to raise your voice," says Kiran Guleria, Palak's mother, who suggested she write the letter as a way to express herself, and to draw attention to the issue. "As a parent, I don't hesitate to share difficult or troubling news with my children."

Palak shared this story with her class, Ms. Coffeen's fifth grade class at Smith Elementary. As a result, other students have taken to writing letters to the President as a way to raise their voices.

When not pursuing political letter writing, Palak likes to play with her brother and their dog Nike. Next year she will attend Mendenhall Middle School where she is looking forward to running track.



The students, from left to right, are Trevor March, Katie Lai, and Jessica Samorano.

Las Positas Students Bring Home Awards

The Las Positas Speech Team traveled to Los Angeles to compete at the American Readers Theater Association's (ARTa) National Championships May 1-2.

Performing *The Splendid Stones*, a theatrical piece about how gemstones impact our lives and compiled and directed by advisor

Janet Brehe Johnson, three students, Trevor March, Katie Lai and Jessica Samorano won the Semi-Finalist Award and a special award for Best Achievement in Script, garnering the team two ceramic masks designed by New York Artist, Chris Miller.

The organization always

gives out unique pieces of art for their awards. The LPC team won two ceramic masks (Nightmare Before Christmas style) by New York artist, Chris Miller. The show was also nominated for Best Achievement in Blocking, and Trevor March was nominated for Best Actor.

TITLE

(continued from page 9)

ruin my life. It's how I look at things, and it's probably helped in a positive way."

After receiving low preliminary scores and barely making it into the semi-finals round, the Pleasanton native was even more shocked to hear her name called as the top finisher, as scores from all rounds were tallied and the person with the lowest overall point

total wins.

"She's so deserving," said Brehe Johnson. "I think it makes it so much more powerful that she has to deal with something most people don't have to deal with, and she's found a way to shine through it all."

In addition to winning the Informative Speaking competition, Lai took Bronze

Awards for her speech in the Communication Analysis category and Duo Interpretation of Literature along with Trevor March. March also won a Silver Award in Speech-to-Entertain and Programmed Oral Interpretation of Literature. Lai and March's team member Jacob Montez won a Bronze Award in Prose Interpretation of Literature.

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to editmail@compuserve.com. Include name of organization, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday.)

Dress a Girl Around the World, an invitation to make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. Next Sew-Fest is Saturday, May 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Augustine Hall, Pleasanton. Help is needed sewing, ironing, cutting. Bring sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with helping hands. (Those planning to stay all day should bring a bag lunch.) Always accepting cheerful cotton fabric donations. Those who can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, arrange for kits that can be sews at home. Questions? Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com

Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated dinner and speaking presentation by Stephen Frank, publisher of California News and Views. Stephen is a frequent guest on the KSFO Brian Sussman morning radio show, is a Vietnam Veteran, and developer of the POW/MIA bracelet with Bob Dornan. He worked seven years in negotiations for releases on behalf of POW and MIA families with North Vietnamese, Viet Cong, and Khmer Rouge Pathet Lao in Europe and Asia. Stephen writes about water issues, educational concerns, property taxes, government subsidies, and tax schemes against Prop 13, to name a few. He will discuss the 2014 elections and what they mean for the 2016. All are invited to the event on Thursday, June 11, 2015 at Cattlemen's Restaurant, 2882 Kitty Hawk Road, Livermore. 6:30 social time, dinner at 7 pm. \$30 members/\$34 guests. Contact Linda at Krikorianpublishing@yahoo.com or phone 925-426-1474 for reservations by Monday, June 8.

Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society will present Ron Filion to speak on SFGenealogy.com on June 8, at 7:30 at its meeting at Congregation Beth Emek in Pleasanton. He has been involved in genealogy since he first started working on his Boy Scout merit badge. He recently complete a book 'Eaten by Cannibals' a true story of a Victorian native San Franciscan and her adventures in the Pacific Ocean. He is found of SFGenealogy.com Presentation will give an overview of the website, explore its major databases and discuss the joys and challenges of operating such a website. No charge, all are welcome to visit this presentation.

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club will meet on Thursday, June 11, 6:30pm at Alisal School's multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Rd. Pleasanton. At 6:30 will be a potluck of finger foods, followed by the business meeting. The speakers will be Janie and Roger Chapin, members of LAVGC, who spent six weeks touring English gardens. They will show photographs of the beautiful gardens that they visited. Visitors are welcome. For more information call Bev at 485 7812 or visit www.lavgc.org.

Celebrating 125 years of Livermore High School: Livermore High School & the Livermore High School Alumni Association are beginning to organize interested, committed volunteers to work/head the various committees to organize & plan celebratory events. The goal is for events to follow through the 2016 school year in honor of

BULLETIN BOARD

125 years and not be limited to one day. Interested? Call: Susan C. 925-447-6071 or Email: Susan_sdcnfield@comcast.net or Cheryl: cpeary415@aol.com.

Volunteer drivers are needed for Pleasanton and Dublin routes. Donate a couple of hours weekly or every other week to help end senior hunger. Call 925-931-5385 for details.

GNON (Girls Night Out Networking) and White Crane Winery in Livermore invite Bay Area women and their spouses/guests for a night of networking, fun and great food at the 7th Annual GNON Birthday Hawaiian Bash. Open to everyone. June 3, 5 to 8 p.m. White Crane Winery, 5405 Greenville Rd., Livermore. RSVP and prepayment required: \$10, /www.gnon.org/rsvp.html or 925-487-4748

Earth friendly demonstration garden, 3575 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Alameda County Master Gardeners present talks on a variety of topics, 10 to 11 a.m. June 13: getting your garden through the summer heat; July 11: dealing with pests and diseases that bloom with the summer heat (1 p.m.); Aug. 8: ABC's of garden design; Sept. 12: bulbs: the best drought resistant garden color; Oct. 10: multiply and divide perennials; Nov. 14: roses - selecting, planting and pruning. Gardening advice and guided tours 2nd Saturday of each month. Garden open to public every day during daylight hours. No admission charge.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., May 23, noon, brunch in San Ramon, RSVP by May 21 to Marsha, 830-8483. May 28, noon, lunch in Livermore, RSVP by May 26 to Gloria, 846-8320. May 31, 12:30 p.m. lunch in Dublin, RSVP by May 28 to Bette, 510-357-7873.

Golf Tournament. Livermore High School Alumni Assoc. (LHSA) is sponsoring its 5th Annual Golf Tournament on Fri., May 29 at Las Positas Golf Course. "Shotgun Start-Scramble Format" starts with a 11:30 registration & 12:30 Tee Off and includes green fee, cart, range balls, prizes, and dinner for \$125.00/player. Can't make the golf, dinner & socializing \$30.00 LHSA raises funds to support Livermore High School's Students, Faculty & Administrative needs. Contact: Kristen/Simon - 925-784-1367 or 925-784-9987, Rich - 925-989-4372, Jim 925-548-8108 or go to www.livermore-highalumni.com or www.mkt.com/lhsaa

Fortie International Exchange Association (FIEA) seeking volunteer host families for high school boys and girls from various countries for the upcoming school year. Host families provide room, board, and guidance for a foreign teenager. Couples, single parents, and families with or without children living at home are all encouraged to apply. The exchange students arrive from their home countries before the current school year begins. Each FIEA student is fully insured, brings his/her own spending money and expects to bear his/her share of the household responsibilities as well as be included in normal activities and lifestyles. For information contact your Local Representatives Carol or Susan Berger at 209-502-7443 or by e-mail arielpdog@ccharter.net. Information: www.fortieexchange.org.

Tri-Valley Stargazers Astronomy Club. Feed your wonder about the Night Sky and the Cosmos by joining us on the 3rd Friday of the Month for our club meeting. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. talk starts at 7:30 pm. For more info visit us @ http://www.trivalleystargaz-

ers.org/

Ravenswood Historical Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore, Docents in 1890s costumes give free guided tours beginning at noon, on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Each tour includes the 1885 Cottage and the 1891 Main House, and the beautifully landscaped grounds. For information on the Ravenswood Progress League (RPL) or the volunteer Docent Program, please call the Docent Coordinator at (925) 443-0238.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a social group of retired men who join together to better enjoy their leisure time. Activities include golf, bridge, photography, travel, fishing, biking, wine tasting, and technology. The Tri-Valley Branch serves men living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon. The group meets for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at the San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Please read more about the Tri-Valley SIR at <http://sirs34.org/> and the Statewide SIR at www.sirinc.org/. For information or to attend a meeting, call Rich Osborne 925-785-3549.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a group for retired men who seek activities to enhance their retirement. Monthly meetings feature lunch and an interesting speaker. Men have the opportunity to learn about and join activities such as hiking, bridge, investment, bowling, bocce ball and wood carving. There is also a neat group of guys to get to know. SIR Branch #121 meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the DoubleTree Hotel, Las Flores Road (near Bluebell Drive), Livermore, at 11:30. Any retired man is welcome to drop by to learn about your opportunities. For more information check our website: branch121.sirinc2.org or email Neal Cavanaugh at nealcavanaugh@att.net (put "SIR" in the subject line).

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group, nonprofit, peer-based, self-help, support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Cluttering is a psychological issue, not an organizing issue. New meeting location: Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, Pleasanton. Mondays except some holidays 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Come or call a volunteer at 925)289-5356 or 925-922-1467. More information at: www.clutterlesseastbay.org

Fertile Groundworks offers opportunities to volunteer in a community educational garden each Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00-noon and Fridays from 3:00-6:00. Additional volunteer opportunities are available the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 9:00-noon. The organization provides organically grown produce to local food programs for those in need, as well as serving as a teaching garden. Those interested to visit www.fertilegroundworks.org and like us on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/FertileGroundWorks) to sign-up for volunteer opportunities. 4743 East Ave., Livermore (directly behind Asbury United Methodist Church).

Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)(3) non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit www.operationssam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net or call 925-443-7620.

Bereaved Mother's Network of the Tri-Valley meets the first Tuesday of each

month, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Livermore Civic Center Library, Small Conference Room. The aim of the network is to allow bereaved mothers to make connections with, share resources, and support other mothers who have been through the worst experience of their lives, losing a child. For more information, contact katiestrube@comcast.net.

Pleasanton Newcomers Club, open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include a coffee the first Wednesday of the month, a luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, Bunco, Mah Jongg, walking/hiking groups, family activities, and monthly adult socials. Information, call 925-215-8405 or visit www.PleasantonNewcomers.com

Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community for as long as they are willing and able to do so. CRIL maintains offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore to provide information and referrals and provide community education at senior centers and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550 and can be reached by phone at (925) 371-1531, by FAX at (925) 373-5034 or by e-mail at abril.tamayo@cril-online.org. All services are free.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the third floor movie room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community. The address is 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore All are welcome. Contacts are: Sandra Grafrath 443-6655 or Lee Parlett 292-9280.

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program For more information www.fpcil.us or 925-447-2078.

Tri-Valley Bible Church, 2346 Walnut St., Livermore, holds Sunday worship at 10 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. Children's classes during adult worship service. AWANA children's program Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 449-4403 or www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com.

Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747 or www.uucil.org

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Reform, Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. Rabbi Dr. Lawrence Milder, www.bethemek.org.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information. Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 485-1049 or EastBaySecularJews.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, services 10 a.m. every Sunday. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at Third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. For information, call (925) 447-2946.

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Hispanic service starts at 2 p.m. Nursery and children's church

provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 447-6282.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. worship (semiformal); 10:30 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school. For information, call 925-447-1246.

Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. Sunday worship. Information 447-1950.

Calvary Chapel Livermore, meetings Sundays at 10 a.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - www.calvarylivermore.org.

United Christian Church, www.ucciv.org, a gay-welcoming congregation offering community and spiritual encouragement for questioners, seekers and risk-takers. Worship on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; call 449-6820 for more information.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concannon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

Seventh-day Adventist Church, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.livermoresda.org/ All are welcome.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Senior adult ministries meet every other month. Call the office at 846-8650 for more information.

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave. Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., and Sunday School and Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday night there is adult Bible study, youth activities and children's choir at 6:30 p.m. Child care during all events. 447-1848, www.trinitylivermore.org

St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scola at 447-9800.

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 5860 Las Positas Rd., Livermore. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details, go to www.stinnocent.net or call Fr. John Karcher at (831) 278-1916.

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School & Chapel at 10:15 a.m. All are most welcome to come and worship with us and to enjoy our hospitality. For more information call the church office 925-462-4802.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. Church Service Schedule: 8:00 a.m. Contemplative Eucharist; 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study (check web-site); 10:25 Sunday School (Godly Play); 10:30: Sung Eucharist with choir, child care provided. 1:00 p.m. Youth Group. www.saintbart-slivermore.com

Little Brown Church, United Church of Christ 141 Kilkare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org 925-862-

2580

Pathway Community Church, 6533 Sierra Lane, Dublin. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday 10:30 am. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcomed. www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org (925) 829-4793.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. worship service. Bible Study/Sunday School 10:20. Bible Basics Class, which explores the main teachings of the Bible, meets at 7:00 Sunday night. Call 371-6200 or email pnjmueller@gmail.com for more info.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, 4481 East Avenue, Livermore; worship service 10:15 a.m. Sundays. www.trivalleychurch.org

Bethel Family Christian Center, 501 North P Street, Livermore, Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall; 925-449-4848.

Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services 9 a.m. blended with choir and band. Childcare for infants through age 6 and children start in the worship service with their parents. 10:30 contemporary worship led by a band. Sunday school for children and middle-schoolers. www.centerpointechurch.org (925) 846-4436.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. Interpretation for the deaf at 9:00. 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org

Valley Bible Church, Livermore, Meeting at Altamont Creek Elementary School, 6500 Garaventa Ranch Road, Livermore. Services at 10:00 a.m.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedargrove.org or call 447-2351.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

Well Community Outreach Center ministry provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies (only available prior to the start of the school year). Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable food items, call the office at (925) 479-1414 to begin the process. Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts. This will be on a first come first serve basis between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nissen Drive, Livermore.

Lynwood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave. offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Worship at 9 or 10:30 a.m. on Sundays with Sunday school for youth and adults at 10:30 a.m. and childcare at both services. Children are welcome in all services. Contact Rev. Heather Hammer at 846-0221, send an email to office@lynwood.org or visit website at www.lynwood.org.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: 9050 Mocho St., Livermore. 3rd ward 9 a.m., 2nd ward 11 a.m., Mocho branch (Spanish) 2:10 p.m. 1501 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore: 1st ward, 9

a.m.; 4th ward 11 a.m., Springtown ward, 1 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints: Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 3rd Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 8203 Village Parkway.

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages 3-18 during worship. Adult education Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Jr. High youth group Sundays 4:00-6:10 p.m. High school youth group Sundays 5:50-8:00 p.m. www.jpkcubdublin.org (925)828-1846.

Livermore Quakers: Unprogrammed worship, Mondays at 7pm, 1886 College Ave. (United Christian Church). More information: LivermoreQuakers@gmail.com or (925) 315-7170.

Unity of Tri-Valley, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. 10:00 Sunday service; children's program available. All are welcome. Ongoing classes, groups, and activities. Rev. Karen Epps, minister. <http://www.unityoftrivalley.org/> 925.829-2733.

St. Francis of Assisi, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) - 8:30 AM. Communion - 9:30 AM. 925-906-9561 stfrancisanglican.church.

Center for Spiritual Living
Livermore Valley - People from all faith traditions, cultures, races and sexual orientations welcome. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Youth and teen programs offered as well. All are welcome. Meeting place 1617 2nd St., 2nd Floor, Livermore. For more information contact revharriet1@yahoo.com or visit us at <http://csslighthouse.org>.

Blintzes and Books, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews' traditional Shavuot celebration. The spring holiday is a time for dairy foods and for celebrating Jewish - and world - literature. TVCJ will celebrate the holiday with a potluck brunch and program from 10:30 am to noon on Sunday, May 24 at a member's home in Pleasanton. The address will be provided with an RSVP to Judy at 925-485-1049. Participants are asked to bring a dairy brunch dish to share and have in mind a book they enjoyed reading in the past year. Adults and children are welcome, as are contributions of favorite toppings for blintzes. Suggested donation for non-member adults is \$5.

Speaker - Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton: 7:30 p.m. Sat., May 30, Eyal Naor, Israel Deputy Consul General for the Pacific Northwest Region, will be speaking at Congregation Beth Emek. Mr. Naor is a graduate of Hebrew University in Jerusalem, with a degree in International Relations and Political Science, and is a former member of the Israel Defense Forces. He will address the situation in the Middle East and challenges faced by Israel. Doors open at 7:00p; the program begins at 7:30p. The event is free of charge. Refreshments will be served.

Dealing with death workshop, Join us bi-monthly for assistance in the healing journey. St. Elizabeth Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Pleasanton. Second and fourth Thursday evenings at 7:30pm. June 12th. and 26th. July 10th. and 24th. Aug. 14th. and 28th. No preregistration is necessary. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Please call: Mary Hagerty at 925-846-5377 for more information.

Milestones

Community

Alameda County Recognized with Statewide Awards

Alameda County received four top awards from an annual statewide awards competition for innovations the County has adopted to better serve the community.

The four awards, presented by the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), represented the largest haul of any of California's 58 counties, which together provided more than 200 entries in CSAC's Challenge Awards program for 2014.

Matt Cate, Executive Director of CSAC, presented the awards at the weekly meeting of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in Oakland.

Awards received by Alameda County included the top award given in CSAC's 2014 Challenge Awards competition, the California Counties Innovation Award. That award went to "Dig Deep Farms & Produce," a community driven venture launched by the Alameda County Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League (DSAL) that employs local residents to grow fresh, organic produce to meet the needs of the community. The program, which cultivates organic produce on an 8-acre plot of County-owned land in unincorporated San Leandro, aims to prevent violence and crime through the creation of jobs, access to healthy food and community revitalization.

Other awards received by Alameda County were:

- A CSAC Challenge Award to the Alameda County General Service Agency's Sustainability Team for leading efforts to implement the County's Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and otherwise lessen the environmental impacts of County operations. These efforts include creation of executive teams across the organization to spearhead engagement of the County's 9,500 employees about programs to reduce waste, promote clean commuting and adopt other earth-friendly practices on the job.

- A CSAC Merit Award to the Alameda County Assessor's Office and Information Technology Department for developing a "Canvassing App," a new mobile technology tool for County staff that reduced by 50 percent the total effort involved in the annual canvassing of business properties.

- A CSAC Merit Award to The Alameda County District Attorney's office for Human Exploitation & Trafficking Watch Community Initiatives, which engage and educate the community about the problem of human trafficking, support the recovery of victims and hold offenders accountable.

Scott Haggerty, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, said the awards show that Alameda County is meeting the difficult demands being placed on local governments in the 21st century. "Our department heads and employees are being challenged every day to think outside the box and to find creative new ways to deliver core services," Haggerty said.

Livermore Toyota Achieves LEED Certification

The Livermore Toyota has achieved Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) certification. This marks the 35th dealership to achieve this honor within the TMS network.



Pictured are Mayor John Marchand (left) and John Sullivan, dealership owner.

To qualify for LEED® certification, Livermore Toyota integrated over 20 percent of regionally sourced construction materials into its building and recycled over 80 percent of its construction waste, keeping 502 tons of material out of the landfill. The dealership also installed water efficient plumbing fixtures that reduce water usage by almost 40 percent and incorporated underwater detention systems for water drainage control. For the first two years, over 75 percent of the dealership's yearly energy needs will come from green energy sources.

"With the most environmentally responsible and fuel-efficient lineup of vehicles in the market, it's important to show that our commitment extends beyond our products by encouraging and empowering our dealers to become ambassadors to our mission of sustainability," said Ernest Bastien, Vice President Retail Market Development, TMS. "Today Livermore Toyota joins a robust group of LEED® certified dealerships and facilities within the TMS family."

Livermore Toyota's efforts go beyond energy efficiency. The dealership recently installed a two-foot high wall around its perimeters to keep the California red-legged frog — California's "State Amphibian" who is now on the threatened species list — off the property and safe in its nearby migratory and breeding habitat.

The project took Livermore Toyota 16 months to complete and was spearheaded by the Borges Architectural Group. LEED®-certified buildings can reduce energy use and associated emissions by 25-60 percent, water use by 30-95 percent and solid waste by 50-95 percent, as well as positively impacting employee health and productivity.

For more information visit www.livermoretoyota.com

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