

See Inside 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.



Beyond Uncertainties, Sandia Sees Growth in Weapons Program

By Jeff Garberson

The new director at Sandia's Livermore site anticipates growth in its nuclear weapons program, while dealing with substantial uncertainties in other areas, like the intentions of the Trump Administration, the slow speed of clearance investigations and the high cost of living in the Bay Area. The new director is Dori Ellis, a manager who once retired from

Sandia but then returned to work. She spent 33 years at Sandia's main branch in Albuquerque as well as two at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and one at the University of California's Office of the President in Oakland. Ellis's actual title is Associate Laboratory Director, a nod to the existence of an overall Sandia director, Steve Younger, whose office is at laboratory headquar-

ters in Albuquerque. Younger is a physicist who once worked at both Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories. Ellis served part of the senior management team specified by corporate partners Honeywell and Northrop Grumman in a winning bid to manage Sandia, which is the largest of the U.S. Department of Energy's 17 national laboratories. The new contractor is National

Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, or NTESS. On May 1, after a three-month transition period, it took over from Lockheed Martin, which had managed for the preceding 24 years. To Ellis, the dominant characteristics of the lab she now leads are technical strength and a tradition of teamwork. The culture is "very collaborative" (See SANDIA, page 2)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Alameda County Fair launched this year's festivities with a cattle drive down Main Street. Cowboys wearing red, white and blue bandannas, along with cattle dogs, herded the cattle. A large group of onlookers were on hand to view the event. At one point, animal rights protestors blocked the street. However, they moved quickly when it became apparent the cattle would not stop. For more photos, go to page 6. Pleasanton Councilmember Kathy Narum got into the spirit of the occasion.

District Moves to Revoke Charters

The process to revoke charters for the Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS) and Livermore Valley Charter Prep (LVCP) is moving ahead. At its June 13 meeting, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board voted unanimously to complete the process to revoke the charters. Kate Runyon was absent.

The district oversees the schools, which are operated by the Tri-Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC).

The action to continue the revocation process came after the TVLC board voted on June 13 to file for Chapter 7, which would result in closure of the two schools. Previously the organization had filed for bankruptcy under Chapter 11.

The vote by TVLC on June 13 did not surrender the two charters, leaving open the potential for TVLC to operate schools in the future.

In an interview, Livermore Assistant Superintendent Chris Van Schaack said that surrendering the charters would end the schools. However, the district's legal team believes there remains the potential for TVLC to reopen a school with a charter intact. He added that once

(See CHARTERS, page 2)

Pleasanton Welcomes New Superintendent

By Ron McNicoll

David Haglund was chosen as new Pleasanton school superintendent on a unanimous vote of the Pleasanton Unified School District Board. He will begin his job July 1.

Trustees announced the decision at their June 13 meeting after voting in closed session. Haglund currently serves as a deputy superintendent in the Santa Ana School District.

Trustees talked about what they saw in Haglund during his interview visit to Pleasanton, and what educators, parents, students and community members in the Santa Ana district told them when they traveled there to learn more about his performance.

Board president Joan Laursen said that Haglund is visionary, inspiring, and motivates community stakeholders. He is also collaborative.

(See PLEASANTON, page 10)

Steering Committee Comes Up with Development Options

The Livermore Downtown Steering Committee will continue to refine development options for the 8-acres belonging to the city in the heart of downtown at its June 22 meeting.

The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. in the city council chambers on

Pacific Avenue.

In addition, the committee will discuss outreach options to engage the greatest number of members of the public in creating a preferred option. The main charge of the committee has been to devise a public outreach approach that can

be implemented this fall when the public will be presented with four development options to consider.

At its June 15 session, the committee prepared seven options, three with a hotel on the eastside of

(See COMMITTEE, page 10)

Dublin Schools Raise Developer Fees

The Dublin Unified School District Board voted to raise developer fees by 5 percent, updating the charges from last year.

Trustees unanimously approved the recommended changes at their meeting June 13.

Level III fees will rise from \$21.32 per square foot of residential single family space to \$22.41

per square foot. Level II fees rose from \$10.66 to \$11.20.

Level III fees are intended to pay for the entire cost of mitigation of new development. Level II would pay for 50 percent. Subdivision maps that already have city approval have already paid their mitigation, and are not subject to the new fees.

The district had been on Level II status. However, after state bond money nearly ran out, and districts who had applied for waiting for assistance totaling \$2 billion, the State Allocations Board granted clearance to Dublin to switch to Level III fees. The new policy

(See DUBLIN, page 2)

Swalwell to Tackle Aim at Student Loan Debt

Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15) plans a week of action to address student loan debt, a \$1.3 trillion crisis that affects millions of Americans and their families.

Over the course of the week, Swalwell will introduce legislation that helps student loan borrowers by simplifying the loan repayment

process, expanding loan forgiveness programs for public servants, and enhancing tax deduction eligibility for borrowers nationwide.

Swalwell commented, "Every year, students across the nation graduate from college eager to enter the workforce and continue their journey toward the American

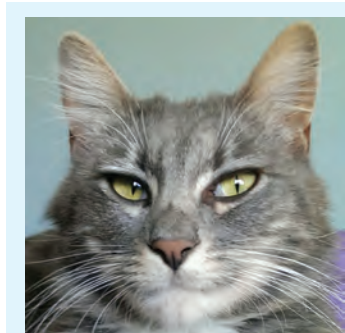
dream, but within months they face sticker shock – a debilitating student loan payment. The cost of student debt is preventing young people from making major life decisions, like buying a home, starting a business, or starting a family, and it is weighing down

(See SWALWELL, page 10)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Fountains at the intersection of First Street and Livermore Avenue are a big draw during hot weather. In the photo, kids play in the fountain at Flagpole Plaza. For cooling locations, go to page 6.



PET OF THE WEEK

Hi-yo! Silver is a gorgeous two-year-old grey cat who loves to be held. No need to rein in your affection for this lonesome lady. Silver is on the lookout for a faithful friend. Find a way to adopt this trusty tabby from Valley Humane Society today! 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, Tuesday through Saturday from 10am – 4pm. For more information, visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656.

Photo - Valley Humane Society/A. Engelhardt

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SANDIA

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“There’s a sense of shared fate here; there’s a sense that multidisciplinary work is just the norm.”

The term “multidisciplinary” is used by many national laboratories, including Lawrence Livermore across the street from Sandia.

Some historians believe that it was the range of research made possible by Ernest Lawrence’s cyclotron at Berkeley in the 1930s that first brought scientists from different disciplines together to work on problems in physics, chemistry, biology and other fields.

Sandia is particularly strong in that kind of interdisciplinary effort, Ellis said. Nearly half of Sandia’s budget supports research for federal agencies other than the Department of Energy or its National Nuclear Security Administration.

Agencies like the National Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, NASA and the Defense Department, which have varying missions and require a wide range of technical skills contract with Sandia.

“The fact that we have \$1 billion in other federal agency work drives a lot of breadth in the system,” she said.

The range of Sandia’s

work is also indicated by the many sites where its technical work is done, often in collaboration with research groups working locally.

For one example, Sandia manages an atmospheric research facility on the North Slope of Alaska. For another, it contributes to wind energy research in Lubbock, Tex., at Texas Tech University’s National Wind Institute Research Center.

Sandia serves as the geotechnical advisor for the strategic petroleum reserve in Louisiana; its modeling efforts help the city of New Orleans predict electrical grid performance. Sandia works as science advisor to the Department of Energy for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in southeastern New Mexico.

Ellis believes that this kind of technical and project diversity buffers Sandia at least somewhat against the budget uncertainties that face federally funded facilities all over the U.S.

“This administration seems very different than the previous one in terms of focus,” she said. “Until we see who the political appointees are and until Congress has a chance to speak up about the budget, it will be pretty murky knowing what to expect.”

She anticipates a Con-



Dori Ellis, Associate Laboratory Director, Sandia California

gressional continuing resolution in the fall to support work at current levels after September 30.

While Sandia faces many of the uncertainties as others do, support for the nuclear weapons program in general and a life extension program for an aging cruise missile warhead in particular will bring budget and staff increases, she said.

The warhead is the W80-4, a modification of the W80-1 that was deployed with the first air-launched cruise missiles in 1982. Just now ramping up, the W80-4 effort will be centered in Livermore as a joint effort of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia.

According to the National Nuclear Security Administration, the W80-4 “will yield no operational capability not already found in the nuclear stockpile.”

It will incorporate modern components and safety features and be engineered for use with a new cruise missile – the long-range standoff (LRSO) -- to be carried by the B-52, B-2 and B-21 aircraft.

Work demands over the next several years will mean staff increases for the Sandia weapons program, but some of those increases may take place in Albuquerque because of office space limitations in Livermore and the very high cost of living in the Bay Area, Ellis said.

“Bringing in people from outside of California in the housing market is really tough.”

Another factor for Sandia’s California site is the vitality of the Bay Area labor market, she said.

“Here, you can change your job without changing your ZIP Code or your children’s school” because there are so many employment opportunities.

As a result, Sandia-Livermore has a higher attrition rate than the main site in New Mexico. “We are constantly hiring, not just technical staff but across

the spectrum... Our security force, our facilities people, the full set of workforce job categories are harder to fill here.”

Sandia’s California site has about 1,500 workers today, including about 200 summer students who just arrived. Asked what kind of commitment the new contractor can make to maintaining benefits for active and retired staff, she said that no changes are planned through the end of this year, but the issue is not entirely in the hands of Sandia.

Past studies have shown that the lab’s benefits are “at about the right level” for its

work environment, but she is not able to say what future benefits studies may show or what decisions might be made in Washington.

On a personal basis, she is enthusiastic about living locally, as she has for the past four years including her time as a senior executive at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and then at the University of California Office of the President.

“I want to reiterate our commitment to the community,” she said. “Sandia California is a citizen of the community. We would like to be engaged in the activities and in the lifestyle and culture.”

DUBLIN

(continued from page one)

started in November.

The district also was successful in passing a local bond for \$283 million in November, a second and final qualifier needed to enable Dublin to charge Level III fees.

A law firm representing unnamed developers sent objections to a report the district’s consultant prepared with data that shows how much future need there will be to provide schools for new students. The letter came to the district at 1:15 p.m. on the meeting day from a Palo Alto attorney.

The letter disputed various points in the consultant’s

2017 report that was used to justify the new charges. The district’s consultant, Doug Floyd, read the letter from his cell phone. The board included Floyd’s comments as part of the record.

One point raised by the law firm concerned land acquisition costs projected for the district. Since the district will lease the Cottonwood Creek Elementary School from the city, a K-8 school land acquisition should not be included in the report. However, the district is working on another K-8 site acquisition, which Floyd said was used to demonstrate the cost of acquiring land.

TVLC Votes to Go Out of Business

The Tri-Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC) has voted to close its two Livermore charter schools, and convert its Chapter 11 bankruptcy to Chapter 7.

The three-member board announced the unanimous vote on the actions at a special meeting June 13 after meeting in a closed session.

Although the board voted to close the schools, it did not vote to surrender its charters for the schools. The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, which oversees the schools, is in

the process of revoking the charters.

By changing the form of bankruptcy proceedings, the shift has been made from a Chapter 11 reorganization bankruptcy, in which an entity can stay in business while resolving debts against it, and moving to a liquidation bankruptcy, in which the entity goes out of business.

TVLC CEO Lynn Lysko was unavailable for comment about the June 13 meeting.

Livermore School District Assistant Superinten-

dent Chris Van Schaack said that the Chapter 7 bankruptcy puts all property of TVLC into the bankruptcy process. Some of the TVLC furniture and lab equipment were provided by the school district, which still owns it, said Van Schaack. The district’s property would not be part of the bankruptcy proceedings.

As for the transfer of students from the Livermore charter schools, Van Schaack stated, “We believe that most of the students who are intending to transfer into Districts schools have

already done so. We think we will need to hire an additional 4 or 5 teachers to handle the influx. So far, the enrollments have been pretty evenly divided among our schools.”

Many of the LVCS students had been transferred to the former Portola School site. It is expected to have a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) focus, and remain an open enrollment school. There are no plans to turn it into a neighborhood school.

CHARTERS

(continued from page one)

Chapter 7 proceedings were completed, TVLC would no longer exist. The challenge to the district is that it must meet a July 1 deadline, or start the process over again.

The School Board held a public hearing on revoking the charters on June 20, 2017, after The Independent’s deadline. The final vote on whether or not to revoke the LVCP and LVCS charters is scheduled for June 27, 2017.

Van Schaack noted that as the oversight agency, the district is charged with holding the petitioners responsible for promises made to the community. “The district has reached this point because it has exhausted all other options available to us.”

He stated that TVLC’s actions led to the ultimate betrayal of a school’s obligations to its students and their families, including LVCP’s loss of Western Association of Schools and Colleges accreditation, improper grade changes, and misuse of student activity funds. In addition, LVCS and LVCS failed to submit their audit reports for the last two years.

Two parents, who had attended the TVLC meeting, spoke at the Livermore School District hearing on June 13. One told the board, “It’s time for this to happen.

We need to make sure the door is shut on this organization.” Another stated, “We were sold on the idea that they were providing a private education in a public setting. The draft resolution approved by TVLC does not mention surrendering the charter. It is in the district’s best interest to revoke the charters and close the loop.”

The oversight fee that the district receives is plus or minus \$100,000 a year. Van Schaack said the value of the time and money spent on the issue is in excess of that.

SAFE HAVEN

“If the world can separate the KKK from Christianity, why is it so hard to separate Isis from Islam,” was the question asked by a young Muslim woman at last week’s school board meeting. “Islam is portrayed as a religion of hate. It’s not. It promotes unity and peace and promotes it everyday.”

The Granada High School graduate spoke of incidences that occurred while she was attending school, including being called a terrorist and having profanities shouted at her. “Hate drives young children to make rash decisions that impact us all.”

Other speakers continued to urge the school district to adopt a resolution declaring the school district a Safe

Haven.

President Craig Bueno said after the comments that he had met with the speakers. “We are working towards a solution on common grounds.” He asked staff to set up another meeting. He said that what had been discussed at the first meeting had not happened.

Van Schaack, who attended the meeting, said that the desire on the part of those supporting a safe haven designation is for the board to make an official proclamation with a vote of some sort, even if it is consistent with what the district already has been doing. A draft proclamation was provided at the first meeting, which we felt was too politically charged. The discussion will continue at a second meeting.

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Dublin Boulevard Widening

The City of Dublin has begun work to widen a stretch of Dublin Boulevard from Dublin Court to Sierra Court from two lanes to three. Work will be done during the nighttime hours, from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., to minimize traffic impacts.

There will be three phases of construction:

Phase 1A - Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) will relocate a sewer lift station situated near Murco Plaza. (July 2017 - September 2017)

Phase 1B - The City will work with PG&E to relocate utilities underground. (mid-June 2017 - November 2017)

Phase 2 - Work on widening of Dublin Boulevard will include expanding the road from two to three lanes of traffic; construction of Class 2 bike lanes and upgrading traffic signals for bicyclist detection; asphalt surfacing; streetscape improvements; and installation of new median islands, curb and gutters, landscaping, and driveway and sidewalk for better accessibility. (November 2017 - January 2019)

There is one short period of work (less than two weeks) where westbound traffic may be detoured onto eastbound lanes; however, no closures of Dublin Boulevard are expected.

Swalwell Statement

Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15) issued a statement after several people were shot Wednesday morning in Alexandria, VA, at a practice session for this week's charity Congressional baseball game:

"I pray for the recovery of my GOP colleagues, staff, and U.S. Capitol Police officers who were shot at their baseball practice this morning. This charity game has always been a refuge from the tense battles inside the Capitol. To see players, staff, and officers who protect us under attack is sickening. Thank God for the brave Capitol Police officers who responded."

Swalwell plays in the annual charity game for the Democratic side. The Democrats practice at a different facility.

Grant for Health Programs

Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) has been awarded a \$6 million grant by the California Board of State and Community Corrections to fund rehabilitative programs over the course of three years.

Alameda County's proposal was ranked second out of 58 applications in a statewide competition for Proposition 47 funding. Passed in 2014, Proposition 47 reclassified certain low-level crimes from felonies to misdemeanors, mandating that the resulting state savings be directed toward mental health, substance use, and other community-based programs to prevent recidivism.

Alameda County's Proposition 47 Project targets the needs of adults who have been arrested, charged with, or convicted of a criminal offense and have a history of severe to moderate mental health issues and/or substance use disorders. The Proposition 47 programs will be a key component of the reentry system of care that the County's Community Corrections Partnership is building to better address the challenges facing residents returning to the County from jail and prison.

Of the Proposition 47 award, 70% will be dedicated to community-based organizations.

Tour DSRSD Treatment Plant

Dublin San Ramon Services District invites the public to see essential community infrastructure in action at a free tour of its regional wastewater treatment facility on Wednesday, July 12, at 9:30 a.m. The tour lasts 60 to 90 minutes and is open to adults, teens, and children ages 10 and up. The facility is located at 7399 Johnson Drive in Pleasanton. Reservations are required: visit www.dsrdsd.com/tour or call 925-846-4565.

Dublin, Pleasanton, and southern San Ramon produce 10 million gallons of wastewater a day that DSRSD processes efficiently and safely to protect public health. Visitors will learn how DSRSD recovers resources from wastewater, including recycled water for irrigation and construction and methane for generating electricity.

The tour also highlights career opportunities in the water industry.

County Announces Hiring

After conducting a nationwide search, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors announced the appointment of Joseph Angelo to the Human Resource Services Director position effective July 3, 2017. He replaces Interim Director

Kathy Mount who last month announced her resignation effective June 30, 2017 to accept a position at the Alameda County Employees Retirement Association (ACERA).

Angelo has served as the Human Resources Director for the City of San Jose since 2014 and formerly for the City of San Antonio, Texas from 2012 to 2014.

While at the City of San Jose, he was responsible for a full suite of HR services, including benefits, wellness, compensation, recruitment, civil service, worker's compensation, safety, employee health services, training, and performance management for a workforce of approximately 7,000 employees.

Correction

The ValleyCare Charitable Foundation ran an ad on June 8th, which neglected to include Beckman Investment Securities among the donors. The Foundation very much appreciates their support.

Read It and Eat Features Author

Author Bianca Marais will be the guest at a Read It & Eat event on July 17 at Towne Center Books in Pleasanton. Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by the program and lunch at noon. The focus will be her debut novel Hum If You Don't Know the Words.

Marais transports readers to 1970s South Africa, when apartheid still ruled. Interwoven chapters follow the story of ten-year-old Robin, coming of age after her parents are found dead, and of Beauty, a Xhosa woman actively searching for her daughter, who goes missing after a Soweto uprising.

Marais is originally from South Africa, and moved to Toronto in 2012. She started work on Hum If You Don't Know the Words while doing her Creative Writing Certificate through the University of Toronto's School of Continuing Studies. She currently lives in Toronto with her husband.

Reservations are required for this event, \$35 for lunch and book, \$15 for lunch only. Towne Center Books is located at 555 Main Street. Reservations can be completed by calling 846-8826 or emailing townecenterbooks@sbcglobal.net.

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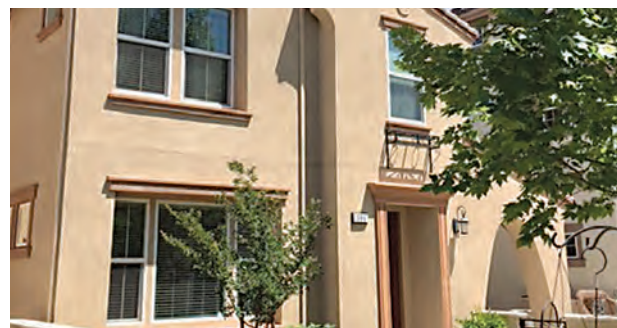
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EDITORIAL

Student Loan Debt

Congressman Eric Swalwell announced that he plans to introduce legislation that helps student loan borrowers by simplifying the loan repayment process, expanding loan forgiveness programs for public servants, and enhancing tax deduction eligibility for borrowers nationwide.

Swalwell and others have met with thousands of millennials across the nation on the issues most important to them. Student loan debt consistently ranked high among the concerns.

The level of debt impacts the lives of students, as well as the economy. Debt lessens the ability to make larger purchases, such as a car. It has affected the ability to put savings aside for emergencies or for retirement. Buying a home or starting a family can be delayed.

Recent college graduates who borrow are leaving school with an average of \$34,000 in student loans. That's up from \$20,000 just 10 years ago, according to a new analysis released by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in April 2017.

The ultimate goal is to lower student loan payments to a manageable level. We support Swalwell's efforts to do just that.

Listening Sessions Planned in All Three Cities for Paratransit Study

The City of Pleasanton and Livermore Amador Valley Transportation Authority (LAVTA)/Wheels plan community listening sessions for the Mobility Forward: Tri-Valley Paratransit Study. The study will focus on improving paratransit services for older adults, as well as people with disabilities living in the Tri-Valley area.

Paratransit services are currently operated by the City of Pleasanton and LAVTA/Wheels and participating agencies created this partnership to ensure Tri-Valley residents continue to have access to services and other amenities, especially

as the population of older adults grows.

Residents are invited to attend one of the following Listening Sessions:

- Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m.-noon at the Dublin Public Library, 200 Civic Plaza Dr., Dublin

- Tuesday, June 27, 10 a.m.-noon at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore

- Tuesday June 27, 2-4 p.m. at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton

At the listening sessions, residents will learn about the study, talk with transit planners, share likes and

dislikes about paratransit services, and share ideas for improvements and discuss residents' priorities.

"Listening sessions are an important step in the study to provide an opportunity for residents to learn more about the study and for the City of Pleasanton and LAVTA to listen to what residents have to say about their experiences with Paratransit Services and what they would like to see in the future," said Becky Hopkins, community services manager for the City of Pleasanton.

Christy Wegener, director of planning and operations at LAVTA shared, "In addition to the listening sessions,

closed with State General Fund revenue to be provided in the coming year as well as accelerated payment of 1991 realignment growth funds to counties to offset the initial shock of the IHSS cost shift.

Even with the IHSS cost relief provided for the coming year, Alameda County's funding gap is still significant at a time when an on-going economic recovery continues to boost local revenues. County officials said the challenge of keeping County finances in balance is not likely to ease – with soaring housing costs and other factors forcing many residents to rely on government services, and forecasts suggesting the economy could soon fall back into recession.

Rising real estate values have fueled a 7 percent increase in the County's assessment roll, resulting in much-needed revenues for the County. They also are helping the County to fund increases to many of the Community Based Or-

ganizations (CBOs) that receive County General Fund support. As proposed, annual spending by the County will grow to about \$537 million to 310 CBOs providing health and human services, as well as housing, community development, and public safety programs.

Efforts to repair deteriorating roads and other aging infrastructure will get a boost in the coming year from the recently approved rise in the State gasoline tax, known as SBI, which will bring an estimated \$23.2 million annually to Alameda County over the next decade.

This year's \$108.5 million funding gap under-

scores the fact that, even with bolstered property tax revenue, Alameda County is grappling with a structural deficit in which State and federal funding combined with the County's limited discretionary revenues will continue to fall short of the rising cost of providing services to County residents.

The Proposed Budget will be the focus of Budget Hearings held by the Board of Supervisors June 26-28. The Board is scheduled to adopt the Final Alameda County Budget for 2017-18 on Friday, June 30. All sessions will be in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1221 Oak Street, 5th Floor, Oakland.

LARPD Budget Shows Increase in Revenue

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) board approved the Preliminary Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget at its meeting last week.

The preliminary operating budget of \$21,093,793 is 6.1% of \$1,212,449 above the 2016-2017 budget. An increase in property tax revenue and earned income will allow LARPD to extend a 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment of 1 percent to all employee classification ranges, effective July 2.

The Board also discussed the fiscal year 2017-2020 preliminary Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Budget, which will come back for approval at the June 28 meeting. The plan was updated following the May 31 Budget Review meeting, with consideration of the District's re-

cent asset management plan being taken into account when adding projects. CIP projects are categorized based on whether they have authorized funding sources and how much staff time will be dedicated each year to a particular project.

As part of the meeting, Directors and staff celebrated the District's 70th anniversary with a presentation of photos through the years, a cake and a song of happy birthday to LARPD.

A special election was held on June 10, 1947. Voters approved formation of the District, then called the Livermore Area Park, Recreation and Parkway District. In 1959, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors changed the name to Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and designated it as an independent special district.

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. The Independent will not publish anonymous letters. All letters are required to have the names of the persons submitting them. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be sent by email to editmail@compuserve.com)

Who's Running the Show? Glenn Stewart Livermore

In last week's Independent Mailbox, Elizabeth Judge said... "There is such pressure to locate a boutique hotel next to the Bankhead that it has become a party line. City staff actually had to correct the paid facilitator who implied that location, with no onsite parking just valet, was a done deal. These lobbyists are in such a big hurry to get their way that Councilmember Woerner was all too willing to attempt to separate the hotel from the total plan just to expedite their wishes."

Susan Steinberg wrote... "It would be a serious error for the City council to rush into a separate premature plan for a downtown hotel before consideration of the entire parcel is decided. Commercial interests and Councilman Woerner seem intent on pushing for a quick decision on this one element of the plan, when the sense of public comment through last summer's long meetings was to plan the whole layout, not just one item. Placement of the hotel next to the

Bankhead was faulted as "crowded together" and "unbalanced" with "increased traffic congestion."

Why is Livermore approaching this major downtown development piece meal?

There is no master plan as voiced by Don and Linda Milanese in their Mailbox letter... "We need to plan our downtown development with a clear vision—an organized master plan that takes into account how all its elements relate and coordinate. We need to also include how the 8-acre development interacts with the adjacent parts of downtown. We need to make sure the downtown reflects the community's vision rather than the developer's vision."

In Alan Burnham's Mailbox letter, he stated... "Proceeding with the hotel without an overall plan sounds reasonable until one considers that it may lock in a non-optimal east side location without fair consideration of all options."

Last summer at the two community meetings, the overwhelming concerns were increased traffic, the lack of parking and no residential high-rise condos on the downtown development site. Yet at both the city council and steering committee meetings, there's a push for building a hotel soon.

There have been no discussions on traffic impact with a downtown hotel and no discussions on how many parking spaces are needed. The City Council was presented with six parking garage options in April by Watry-Buehler Collaborative who built Livermore's present parking structure. The City Council asked

for additional study of two conventional parking garage options with 380 and 400 vehicles respectively to be constructed at North I Street... presumably to accommodate Presidio's request for hotel parking spaces.

Building a second 400 vehicle garage is not big enough to accommodate the 630 parking spaces on the development sites and to accommodate Presidio's request. A solution is a robotic parking garage that's cheaper to build per parking space than a conventional parking structure. Yet, no discussion about future parking needs and how Livermore will address the traffic and parking concerns.

Presidio stated it wasn't feasible for the hotel to have its own under-the-hotel-parking. They're telling Livermore that they need 195 parking places in our parking garages with valet parking in order to build an East side of Livermore Ave hotel... What? All downtown hotels today provide their own parking spaces.

Who is the target market for a downtown hotel? We've heard from the local wineries that people visiting Livermore's vineyards would stay at an upscale boutique hotel. Most likely these hotel guests would be coming on a tour bus. We haven't heard Presidio say how an eastside hotel would accommodate buses and how tour buses would navigate Livermore Ave.

Last year, Dr William Dunlop at the Lab wrote a letter saying that a percentage of their conferences, training classes and seminars are offsite and having a conference area downtown would provide a demand for hotel guest rooms.

Presidio again stated that having a hotel conference area was not feasible within the hotel structure. They also said it was not feasible at this time to construct a hotel on the Westside of Livermore Ave, as they haven't been told how the larger site will be developed.

Presidio might be a great hotel developer, but I feel that Livermore has failed to provide them with a master project plan that shows how

the downtown sites will be developed. We can't have Presidio presenting Livermore with plans that don't address traffic congestion and parking spaces.

An eastside hotel is counting on valet parking shuttling between a parking garage and the hotel creating traffic congestion. An eastside location would have delivery trucks backing into the hotel receiving area from Railroad Ave... more traffic congestion. An eastside location will not accommodate wine tour buses. A 4 or 5 story eastside hotel will dominate the intersection of Railroad and Livermore Ave. How does a big monolithic hotel fit into the charm and character of downtown Livermore?

I assume it's our Community Development Department that is the "project manager" for downtown development. Yet, I don't see their involvement. I see a City Council asking for various studies and selecting building developers and consultants way in advance of knowing what the master plan is.

If Livermore were to say to Presidio, "build the hotel on the eastside of Livermore Ave" (SpeeDee Oil Change site)... What exactly will be built on the westside site... high-rise condo buildings and another large parking structure? This is totally not what the community voiced last summer.

Nuclear Weapons Jo Ann Frisch Livermore

Trump's budget for 2018 contains an extra billion dollars over the current year for nuclear weapons activities, even as it cuts climate science and weatherization assistance for poor families.

This increase includes developing a new warhead for an ill-advised "Long-Range Stand Off" weapon - able to launch a sneak nuclear attack from thousands of miles away.

Senator Dianne Feinstein noted, "LRSO is a new weapon that by the Pentagon's own admission would have a role 'beyond deterrence'. Congress shouldn't

fund dangerous new nuclear weapons designed to fight unwinnable nuclear wars."

Feinstein and 9 Senate colleagues introduced S.574, The Nuclear Cruise Missile Reconsideration Act, to limit LRSO warhead funding in the coming year to its present level of \$220 million. Trump's budget would boost funds to \$399 million.

I call on Senator Kamala Harris to co-sponsor S.574.

I further call on the Trump administration and Congress to cancel LRSO and save taxpayers \$30 billion. Overall the warhead will cost \$10 billion, with another \$20 billion for the cruise missile to deliver it.

For more information: trivalleycares.org

Livermore Art Show Kathleen Hill Livermore

I was asked to demonstrate my art at the Spring Show at the Barn last weekend. It was a very nice show with interesting art and very well organized. Everything I observed from receiving, to the nice reception, to close went very well. However, in the process of participating, I also observed that there were a handful of people doing almost everything. Even at close, with all of the panels, tables, chairs, food in the kitchen, left over paintings that others couldn't pick up that had to be transported, it was the same few people doing it all. Including myself in this, many of us that have been in LAA for decades and are not getting any younger.

It leaves me to wonder what will happen to our art community? I remember back to the time of the "A Crew" who put on several shows a year, handled things logistically, everything done was in the spirit of community and they had fun doing it! Now it seems hard to get any enthusiasm built to carry on these endeavors. I understand that people are working and have many responsibilities to take up their time, but except for social media, we had the same 20 years ago and still found time to

support our organizations of choice. If the adults now are uninterested, that is their decision. However, as the grandmother of 5 grandchildren who very much enjoy the arts in different forms, I find it sad that these opportunities may totally disappear for the up and coming artists. I had the opportunity to talk to many people of the public, especially the children, who were interested in the art and enjoyed knowing how it was done and the inspiration of why. This is written in a spirit of thoughtful conversation that will hopefully give some of the newer, younger members of LAA pause to consider our community and our young people and get involved.

I also hope that for those of the general public who might read this and have an interest in the visual arts, look into finding out more about the Livermore Art Association and what it offers. If not art, find out about contributing to organizations that might be of interest to you. Your children will be the beneficiaries of a richer life and you just may find that you are as well!

Incident Mary McMahon Livermore

Your excellent articles about the homeless brought back an incident earlier this year.

The lobby of the Livermore post office was filling up with passport customers. Ducking in to mail our daily letters to the grandchildren I noticed an elderly gentleman wrapped in a blanket and sitting in a wheelchair next to the mail slots.

On second thought, I went back in and put some bills on his lap. He looked at them and then shouted, "I don't want your money. I am not homeless. My son is over there mailing a package." He handed them back and whispered, "Thank you. You are good."

Being nearly six feet tall makes it very difficult to vanish into thin air.

(More MAILBOX, page 9)

THE Independent

(INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.)
PUBLISHER: Joan Kinney Sappala
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER: David T. Lowell (In Memoriam)
EDITOR: Janet Armantrout

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550, (925) 447-9700. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9998. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. Go to www.independentnews.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

Advertising and subscription rates may be obtained by calling (925) 447-8700 during regular business hours or by fax: (925) 447-0212.

Editorial information may be submitted by editmail@compuserve.com.

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JENNIFER TRAVIA
Scientist
23 hours spent with husband
researching birth centers
1 healthy baby



ValleyCare

As scientists, Daniel's parents did extensive research before choosing where to deliver their baby. They talked to friends, scoured the internet, toured hospitals and talked with nurses. They discovered Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare has on-site OB-GYNs, anesthesiologists and pediatric hospitalists 24/7, as well as the highest level Neonatal ICU in the Tri-Valley. And good thing, because Daniel decided to come four weeks early. Today, he's proud to be the center of attention.

See their story and find an OB-GYN: ValleyCare.com/Baby

Or call: 844-229-7871



ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR

Photos - Doug Jorgensen

The Alameda County Fair is in full swing through July 9 (closed June 26 and 27) at the fairgrounds in Pleasanton. In addition to rides, visitors will find a variety of displays, special activities, live horse racing, beer and wine tasting, and livestock on display, including some replicas of cows brightly decorated for the occasion. Local youth show the animals they have raised during the year. For concert information and daily schedule of events, go to alamedacountyfair.com



CATTLE DRIVE



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

The Alameda County Fair launched this year's festivities with a cattle drive down Main Street. Pleasanton Councilmember Kathy Narum (above) got into the spirit of the occasion.



Facilities Open Where People Can Cool Off

DUBLIN

The City of Dublin provides locations where residents can always find relief from the heat by relaxing in any of its air-conditioned community facilities. Residents can beat the heat by finding a new book, magazine, CD or DVD at various locations throughout the City that are open and available to the public for use throughout the day. Hours vary at each location and may be extended during heat waves where temperatures of over 95 degrees are expected for multiple days.

In addition to several parks which feature water play areas, The Wave at Emerald Glen Park, the City's new state-of-the-art aquatics complex, is now open to the public daily. Other facilities include:

The Dublin Senior Center, located at 7600 Amador Valley Boulevard, features a lounge area with a television, reference computers, books, lending library, and puzzle table. The Senior Center will be open weekly Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Residents may drop in, as there is no admission fee. Visitors may stay in the air-conditioned lounge until 7:00 p.m. when evening classes are in session. Call (925) 556-4511 or visit

online at www.dublinse-niorcenter.com for more information.

The Dublin Library is located at 200 Civic Plaza (adjacent to the Dublin Civic Center and Sports Grounds) and is open Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (The Dublin Library is closed Fridays.) For more information, call (925) 803-7252 or visit www.dublin.ca.gov/95/Library.

The Shannon Community Center, located at 11600 Shannon Avenue, will be open 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays; and 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Residents are welcome in the air-conditioned lobby and are encouraged to bring their own reading materials or board games. For more information, call (925) 556-4500.

The Emerald Glen Park and Shannon Park water play areas are operational daily between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., through Labor Day weekend.

The Wave at Emerald Glen Park is the City of Dublin's newest facility and is a great place to cool down. The Wave features two pools

and an indoor pool; the beach-themed Splash Zone, an amazing water play area for the youngsters, featuring two small slides, a drop bucket, spray nozzles, and wading area; and a water-slide tower featuring six waterslides. The Wave is open daily, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For more information, call (925) 556-4590.

LIVERMORE

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District has opened the Robert Livermore Community Center to the public as a cooling center while temperatures are sky-high.

The RLCC, located at 4444 East Ave., is an active cooling center through Thursday, June 22, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Those seeking relief from the heat can stop in to enjoy the air-conditioned facility, a glass of cool water and relax at the Center while staying out of the extreme temperatures.

Adjacent to the Community Center is the Robert Livermore Aquatic Center, which is open 1 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Single day admission is \$6 for residents (\$4 for those under 48 inches) and \$7 for nonresidents (\$5 for those shorter than 48

inches); children 24 months and younger are free with adult admission. LARPD also operates the May Nissen Swim Center at 685 Rincon Ave. All summer, the May Nissen pool offers recreational swim for 25 cents for residents and only \$1 for nonresidents. Pool hours are 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, closed Sunday.

For more information, call the Community Center at 925-373-5700 or email info@larpd.org.

PLEASANTON

The City of Pleasanton activated its public cooling center at the Senior Center. The cooling center will remain active through Thursday, June 22, 2017 for those seeking relief from the heat as temperatures are expected to soar past the century mark.

The Pleasanton Senior Center at 5353 Sunol Boulevard is the primary cooling center location. Operating hours are from noon to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Visitors can enjoy an air-conditioned facility, have a glass of cool water, play games and watch television at the center.

For more information, call the Community Services Department at 925-931-5340.

Granada Grad Recognized for Rattlesnake Research

A Granada High School graduate from Livermore received a first-place award for his rattlesnake research study at the 31st annual California State University Student Research Competition that brought nearly 250 students from 22 universities across the state to Cal Poly on April 28-29.

John Stepanek, 22, an undergraduate student in biological sciences who plans to pursue a doctorate in ecology, was Cal Poly's top prize winner. He earned a first in the undergraduate Biological and Agricultural Sciences category for his work, "Stress-Induced Color Change in Southern Pacific Rattlesnakes." (Faculty ad-

visor: Emily Taylor, Biological Sciences.) He graduated from Granada High in 2013.

This first-of-its-kind study looked at the effects of elevated corticosterone (stress hormone) on color in the rattlesnakes, which are common on the Central Coast.

"We found that snakes that were more chronically or acutely stressed had lighter light bands on their backs and had higher contrast between light and dark bands than snakes that were less stressed," he said. "This indicates that natural environmental stressors such as drought, climate change or predation might trigger increased contrast to help

rattlesnakes camouflage and avoid detection."

Receiving the award "was huge," said Stepanek. "It's a testament to the knowledge that scientists everywhere are working to discover, and a further testament to what undergrads discover about themselves in the process of research."

Stepanek, who chose Cal Poly attracted by the forestry program (his first major) as well as the small town charm of San Luis Obispo, called the honor "just icing on the cake."

The annual competition promoted excellence in scholarly research and creative activity by recognizing outstanding student

accomplishments throughout the CSU — the nation's largest four-year public university system, with nearly 480,000 students. Thirty-nine individuals received either a first- or second-place award in 21 categories. They shared \$15,000 in prizes; \$500 for first-place awards and \$250 for seconds.

Cal Poly and Cal State Fullerton led the competition with five awards per school. All student participants received a commemorative certificate, and the top prize winners took home a unique palm-sized trophy created for the event by Cal Poly students, faculty and staff.

SPORTS NOTES



The Granada Little League Intermediate All Star team came very close to going to the Intermediate World Series, but lost to the Danville team 12-11 in the final game. They had beaten the same team 8-3 the previous day. As the host, California District 57 qualifies a team for the world series, which will feature 5 additional US teams from around the country and 5 international teams. The Danville team, which consists of players from the three Danville Little Leagues, will represent District 57. The World Series will be played at Max Baer Park in Livermore from July 30 to August 6. Shown is Mikey Christian hitting a double to left field in the championship game. Photo - Bill Nale



The 24th Annual Father's Day Spirit Run took place June 18 with the start under the arch in downtown Pleasanton. Proceeds from the run support scholarships for Pleasanton students plus charitable projects of The Rotary Club of Pleasanton Foundation.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen



Granada High School's 200 Medley Relay team took 3rd at North Coast Section (NCS) competition. Pictured are Jared Tovera, Paige Da Costa, Matthew Hayes and Dante De Mayo. Their Livermore Aquacowboy coach Alex Silver attended NCS with them.



Pictured is the Smoke Fastpitch 12U team (top row) Hailee Hartman, Sierra Black, Kayla Urrutia, Sophia Palomo, Kaitlyn Aguilar, Alex Mello and Emma Hatcher; (bottom row) Mckenna Kibbe, Elizabeth Ruiz, Audrey Sweet and Skylar Jester. Coaches: Elvis Aguilar, Keith Sanck, Dan Ruiz, John Kibbe, Rigo Zapien and Eric Sweet.

cost \$150, July 10-14 from 9-12 each day. For more info to sign up, contact David Perotti at (925) 586-2811 or dperotti@yahoo.com or check website www.eteamz.com/lvb

from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Olympic Hopefuls

24 Hour Fitness will host the first phase of live tryouts to find The Next Olympic Hopeful, a first-of-its-kind program led by the United States Olympic Committee to enhance the pipeline of world-class athletes pursuing Olympic sport. In partnership with the USOC.

Diablo Challenge

The Mount Diablo Challenge will be held this year on October 8, 2017. After 11 years hosting the popular event, which draws hundreds of participants annually, Save Mount Diablo has announced that Valley Spokesmen Bicycling Club will take over organization of the Mount Diablo Challenge starting in 2017. This transition will ensure the Mount Diablo Challenge and its legacy to support the protection of the Mount Diablo area will live on, while also allowing Save Mount Diablo to put more of its limited time and energy into strategic land conservation efforts.

24 Hour Fitness Livermore, 2650 Kittyhawk Rd., Livermore, is one of the trout sites on Saturday, June 24th, 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Advance registration for the in-person tryouts can be made by visiting: 24hourfitness.com/NextOlympicHopeful

The quest to find The Next Olympic Hopeful will ultimately find one male and one female athlete per sport (eight total) who will be invited to join the national team camps of four sports: bobsled, skeleton, track cycling and rugby. The journey will be highlighted on Team USA social and digital channels and the entire program, including announcement of the winners, will be featured on a two-hour broadcast airing on NBCSN in August, entitled Scouting Camp: The Next Olympic Hopeful.

Thanks to the support of CA Technologies and the Nathan M. Ohrbach Foundation, Save Mount Diablo will continue to be a beneficiary of the event, allowing it to further land conservation in the Mount Diablo area for the benefit of all. Valley Spokesmen are seeking to increase participation in the Mount Diablo Challenge by appealing to the broader cycling community, with an emphasis on family participation. Valley Spokesmen intend to keep up the tradition of giving back to the community, both by donating proceeds from this event to the preservation of Mount Diablo through their partnership with Save Mount Diablo, and the continued encouragement of local cycling events.

On June 24, each athlete will complete a battery of tests for strength, mobility and endurance to qualify for selection into the next phase. The tests are conducted by fitness professionals of 24 Hour Fitness with state-of-the-art equipment and the energetic, vocal support of family and friends who can observe the action close up. The testing will cover a 30- and 10-meter sprint, medicine ball toss, vertical jump and a watt bike test to measure peak power.

"We hope to maintain the ride's competitive, challenging spirit, while making it welcoming to riders of all ages, families, and first-timers," said Jane Moorhead from Valley Spokesmen. "We're excited to take over this great event, and are planning a big venue with beer, wine and food. Turn-around time at the top will be quicker, so that riders can enjoy the party! If you are a competitive rider, or just a weekender who wants to challenge yourself, this is the ride for you!"

Athletes who are unable to attend the in-person tryouts are encouraged to apply through the online portal: TeamUSA.org/NextOlympicHopeful

Mount Diablo State Park will be closed for the event to provide riders with a safe course for ascending and descending the mountain. Riders start at the Athenian School and ride 11 miles and 3,300 feet to the summit of Mount Diablo. Each rider will be timed using a computerized chip, providing an accurate measure of their performance. New this year will be a festival at Oak Hill Park with music, beer garden, vendor expo and food. All riders are encouraged to participate, from competitive, categorized riders to families and kids.

Following the first phase of tryouts, both in-club and online, the applicant pool will be narrowed to 100 athletes—50 men and 50 women—to be invited to spend five days at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

Wrestling Clinic

Bryan Vashus will teach a wrestling clinic on July 15 at Livermore High School, 600 Maple St., Livermore.

Vashus graded from Livermore High in 1989 where he was a four time EBAL champion, CIF North Coast Section Champion, and three time state qualifier. Check in at 8:15 a.m. Clinic begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. Clinic topics include set ups, mat strategy, positioning, scrambled eggs and attitude.

Register by July 8 and pay \$35; after that date the cost is \$45.

Wear a t-shirt, shorts with no pockets, wrestling shoes and gear. Bring a water bottle and packed lunch.

For registration information send an email with contact information to bvwrestlingclinic@gmail.com



Pictured are Pleasanton Seahawk swimmers Daniella Hawkins and Miranda Heckman.

Seahawks News

Pleasanton Seahawk swimmers, Daniella Hawkins and Miranda Heckman were selected as two of 24 up-and-coming distance athletes for USA Swimming's National Open Water Select Camp, which was held June 6-10 at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers, Florida.

The camp identifies the best distance swimmers in the U.S., offering them a unique motivational and educational experience. The National Open Water Camp is viewed as an integral step for athletes to move from the pool to Open Water, then to the international scene.

"National Open Water Select Camp plays a key role in strengthening Team USA's open water team at the international level," said USA Swimming Club Development Managing Director, Pat Hogan. "Elite distance swimmers already have the swimming ability, but this camp encourages athletes to explore open water swimming as an additional option to their current pool

training to potentially represent the U.S. in international competition."

Athletes will experience workouts in the pool, lake and ocean, in addition to educational sessions throughout the four-day camp. Athletes will learn open water strategies, technique, nutrition, recovery and more from elite open water coaches.

The swimmers were selected based on times from the 2016 season; eight men and eight women were chosen using the top 1500 times of the year, while four men and four women were selected based on the results of the 2016.5-kilometer National Open Water Championships.

Smoke Fastpitch

Smoke Fastpitch 12U takes 2nd place in the USSSA Gumball 12B Tournament the weekend of June 10th at the "Pepsi Fields" in Hayward, CA. The girls from Livermore backed up a 3-0 Pool play on Saturday by giving up a single run in 3 games on Sunday

losing in a 7 inning Championship Game by a score of 1-0 to Martinez Heat. Incredible defense and pitching highlighted this thriller of a Championship Game. A single run in the top of the 7th inning decided the game.

Over the weekend Smoke was led on offense by Alizabeth Ruiz (.533), Kayla Urrutia (.500), Kaitlyn Aguilar (.467) and Sophia Palomo (.444). Homeruns by Emma Hatcher, Sierra Black, Elizabeth Ruiz and Kaitlyn Aguilar also punctuated the action. The defense was stout the entire weekend. Critical plays were made all over the diamond by Alizabeth Ruiz, Kayla Urrutia, Skylar Jester, Audrey Sweet, Mckenna Kibbe and Emma Hatcher. Smoke was led by strong pitching performances by a trio of pitchers. Sierra Black, Alex Mello and Kaitlyn Aguilar combined to strike out 38 batters in 28 innings and surrendered just 10 runs over 6 games. Smoke Fastpitch 12U has compiled a record of 10-2 bringing home a Championship and a 2nd Place finish in its first two tournaments of the season.

Del Prado vs. Briarhill

Del Prado defeated a defiant Briarhill Barracuda swim team by a score of 521 to 438 at the Del Prado Cabana Club.

The Briarhill team was led by strong performances from a number of swimmers including:

Ella Jenkins, 6, freestyle, butterfly and backstroke; Ainsley Lyon, 9, freestyle and individual medley; Ellie Hamilton, 9, butterfly and breaststroke; Zoe Esquivel, 11, freestyle, and breaststroke; Jacob Mock 11, freestyle, butterfly and individual medley; Colin Davis, 24 freestyle, breaststroke and individual medley; Dylan Tran, 14 butterfly and backstroke; and Bella Townsend, 17, butterfly, breaststroke and individual medley.

Del Prado had outstanding performances from the following swimmers:

Marcus Torvik, 6, freestyle and breaststroke; Jenna Fenstrom, 8, freestyle and breaststroke; Addi Drain, 8, butterfly and backstroke; Oryan Liu, 8, freestyle and breaststroke; Bryce Onesky, 9, freestyle, individual medley

and backstroke; Amy Rae Health, 13, freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke; Tommy Juarez, 17, butterfly, breaststroke and individual medley.

PVC vs. LVTC

As the temperature rose past 100 degrees on Saturday the Pleasanton Valley Club (PVC) doused the Livermore Valley Tennis Club, 1038 to 765.

Several PVC swimmers made improvements in multiple personal races. Alex Merrill dropped nearly 5 seconds in both the girls 6 and under 25 freestyle and the 25 butterfly. Annmarie Cruce dropped 5 seconds in the 9-10 girls 50 freestyle and in the 25 butterfly. Walker Everett cut nearly 10 seconds from his 6 and under 25 yard butterfly and 6 seconds in his 25 yard backstroke.

Other swimmers made remarkably drastic cuts to their times at this meet. Tyce Harper dropped a whopping 16 seconds from his 6 and under 25 yard backstroke. Zoe Alfrejd cut 10 seconds in the girls 7-8 backstroke. Emma Kelly sliced 11 seconds off her time in the 11-12 girls 50 yard butterfly and Nate Kelly cut 7 seconds from his time in the boys 7-8 25 yard butterfly.

And, despite the scorching heat, Franny Hawkins won all four of her individual races that day.

LGSA Registration:

Livermore Girls Softball Association welcomes girls who are 5 years of age and older for the 2017 Fall Recreational season. No prior experience necessary. Online registration is open at www.lgsa.org. Visit the website or email info@lgsa.org for more information.

Baseball Camp

Livermore High Varsity Baseball Coach David Perotti is hosting two summer camps. Each camper will receive individual instruction from coaches and Livermore High players, a snack each day and a camp shirt. There is a 5-12 year old camp that



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Transfer Work



Livermore Mayor John Marchand was recently presented the National Distinguished Public Service Award at the American Water Works Association Annual Conference and Exposition. This award recognizes "exceptional service and commitment to the public" outside of the water industry. The Award was presented to Mayor Marchand for his years of commitment to community service, initiatives to support veterans and encourage volunteerism. Pictured (left to right) are AWWA Executive Director David LaFrance, Mayor Marchand, and former California-Nevada Section Chairman Steve Dennis.

Lab Unveils 'Heart on a Chip' to Improve Drug Development

Prescription drugs have enabled millions of Americans with chronic medical conditions to live longer and more fulfilling lives. However, many promising new drugs never make it to the human trials stage due to the potential for cardiac toxicity.

Through "heart-on-a-chip" technology, modeling a human heart on an engineered chip and measuring the effects of compound exposure on functions of heart tissue using micro-electrodes, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory researchers hope to decrease the time needed for new drug trials and ensure potentially lifesaving drugs are safe and effective while reducing the need for human and animal testing. The research was part of the Lab's iCHIP (in-vitro Chip-Based Human Investigational Platform) project, which replicated human systems on engineered platforms to test the effects of toxic chemical and biological compounds.

The research, published online on April 18 in Lab on a Chip and featured on the inside cover of the journal's upcoming print version,

describes the successful recording of both electrical signals and cellular beating from normal human heart cells grown on a multi-electrode array developed at the Lab. It is the first design, according to the researchers, capable of simultaneously mapping both the electrophysiology and contraction frequency of the cells.

"This platform allows you to do high-throughput screening of pharmaceutical drugs and predict their effects on the heart," said iCHIP principal investigator Elizabeth Wheeler. "This research allows us to measure two functions of the heart, contraction and electrophysiology, for the first time. There's still validation and data we need, but eventually it would allow us to reduce the need for animal testing."

Researchers said the ability to record those two functions would be useful to pharmaceutical companies because it could alert drug manufacturers to cardiac problems caused by a drug early in the process before reaching the clinical trial stage. Cardiotoxicity is a frequent side effect of many

new drugs and often contributes to their ultimate failure. Other frequently prescribed drugs, such as chemotherapy agents, are also known to be cardiotoxic. Research using the heart chip could provide experimental information about how the drugs work so that new compounds can be designed to avoid these pitfalls.

"Heart problems can be caused by a lot of different reasons," said LLNL researcher Fang Qian, the paper's lead author. "It could be due to abnormal electrical signal conduction throughout the heart (such as arrhythmia), or weakened contraction force of heart muscles (like cardiomyopathy), or both. A platform that only reads out a single function cannot tell us exactly what is wrong."

The "heart-on-a-chip," which builds off previous successful iCHIP research on the peripheral and central nervous systems, involves the use of human cardiac cells cultured for up to nine days on the engineered chip. Amazingly, these cells naturally and spontaneously grow into a two-dimensional

Hacienda Helping Hands Awards Two Impact Grants

Hacienda Helping Hands has awarded two impact grants to organizations providing local services: the Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative (TVAPC) and Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley. The Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative was given a \$5,000.00 grant in support of a regional convening to present information on local poverty issues and their solutions. Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley received a \$5,000.00 grant in support of the organization's Stepping Out and Reconnecting (SOAR) initiative. Grants were made through a Donor Advised Fund held by the East Bay Community Foundation.

"Hacienda Helping Hands is excited to be able to help provide a catalyst to make these unique projects happen," said James Paxson, Hacienda's general manager. "We believe that providing these grants will allow these efforts to succeed in ways that might not have happened without support. This

is particularly relevant given the importance of the work of both of these community organizations."

Kristi Miller, Tri-Valley Anti-Poverty Collaborative Program Manager, stated, "The grant award will help to fund a community education event to help link the Tri-Valley community, and in particular businesses, to the work of the collaborative. The TVAPC has spent the last two years developing as an organization in response to the very real issues confronting those experiencing poverty in the Tri-Valley. Using a collective impact approach, what has emerged are a set of focused, collaborative efforts to address issues of poverty. Such collaboration is key given that poverty is frequently hidden from sight in areas like the Tri-Valley and creating opportunities to integrate programs and resources is one of the best means of finding and elevating those in need. The program that this grant will support is an opportunity to provide an update on community poverty information that the group developed several years ago, and to hear about what has and can be done to further local poverty reduction."

Learn more at www.TVAPC.org, and on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

SSPTV Executive Director Robert Taylor said "Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley (SSPTV) deeply appreciates the \$5,000 grant from Hacienda Helping Hands to support our SOAR (Stepping Out And Reconnecting) program for socially isolated seniors living in the Tri-Valley" notes SSPTV Executive Director. The grant will provide criti-

cal support for SSPTV's expanded outreach to seniors at risk for developing health and functionality problems due to social isolation that can occur after the loss of friends and family, or because of changes in health and mobility. The SOAR program addresses these challenges to health and independence by offering seniors professional evaluation, individual counseling, and group activities designed to encourage social interaction, foster new friendships, and support independence. Seniors who live alone are especially vulnerable to social isolation and its negative impacts. Fortunately, early intervention with appropriate services has proven effective both in preventing declines in physical and/or mental health and in preserving seniors' ability to live independently. This type of support is the impetus we need to grow the SOAR program and enhance the awareness of programs directly improving the lives of seniors in the Tri-Valley area. It is evident Hacienda Helping Hands is committed to building strong community partnerships to better the lives of all Tri-Valley seniors."

Learn more at www.ssptv.org.

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30th anniversary photo.

LPC Ultimate Frisbee Team Members Gather for Reunion

Flying disks flew through the air over the Las Positas College (LPC) athletic fields recently as the LPC Ultimate Frisbee team held a reunion to celebrate the 30th anniversary of their National Collegiate Ultimate Championship.

The 1987 (Chabot College-Valley Campus) team completed an undefeated 17-0 season with a national championship during the three-day National Collegiate Ultimate Championships at Penn State in State College, Pennsylvania.

In honor of the 30th anniversary of the national championship, the Ultimate

Reunion was organized. Players from all 40 years of the program were contacted and invited to join the celebration. Well over 100 former players attended with their spouses and families, including Captain Glenn Sheppard and his son Ryan.

Sheppard, a member of the 1987 national championship team, enlisted in the Navy after his time at the college. Upon learning about his unique expertise, the Navy made Ultimate Frisbee one of his primary assignments. This included teaching and coaching the sport of Ultimate Frisbee

around the world during his naval officer career.

Reuniting and reminiscing was the main event along with a recreational game of Ultimate played with six-year-old children of alumni to 71-year-old Coach Pohl.

Since Ultimate Frisbee has become a professional sport, over one-third of all Bay Area professional league players have played in the LPC program.

For more information about the LPC Ultimate Frisbee Team visit www.laspositascollege.edu or contact Kerry Karter at kkarter@laspositascollege.edu.

heart tissue that contracts or starts to "beat" after two days in culture. The tissue was exposed to norepinephrine, a stimulant drug used to treat low blood pressure and heart failure, and both the electrical signal and the beating increased in the cells, similar to what would happen in the body.

The change in "heart rate" was measured using the highly sensitive electrodes in the microelectrode array. The researchers concluded the platform could accurately and non-invasively measure heart tissue growth, electrophysiology and heartbeat simultaneously and in real-time.

"The real strength of the platform is being able to measure both the electrical and mechanical aspects of the heart at the same time," said LLNL researcher Kris Kulp.

The most challenging part of growing the cells, according to LLNL postdoctoral researcher Chao Huang, was looking at different cell seeding densities to find one that would stay alive long enough, and could measurably contract and respond similarly to what would be expected in humans. LLNL researcher Anna Ivanovskaya, who worked on the circuit modeling and engineering, said choosing the right geometry for the chip was also difficult because the layout influences the electrical signal. Ivanovskaya said she and the team tested four different modifications of the electrode array before settling on the right one.

LLNL scientists believe with validation, a reliable heart-on-a-chip platform could be used to overcome some of the limitations of new drug testing, and provide a comprehensive assessment of heart functioning in medical countermeasure and drug development. They caution however, that more testing is needed.

The Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) program funded the project.

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SHORT NOTES

Parent and Child Yoga

Parent and Child Yoga Time continues all summer at the Livermore Public Library. The class will take place at 10:15 am at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. They meet every second and fourth Friday of the month through August 25, 2017. Explore yoga with your children through movement, songs, partner poses, games, and quiet moments.

In addition, Big Kids Yoga Time will be offered on select Fridays during the summer for those going into grades 1 through 5. The class will be elementary age students only and will take place at 11:15 am on June 23, July 14, July 28, and August 11.

A waiver is required for all who participate, legal guardians and children. This waiver will cover the full set of summer 2017 classes. Registration for each class will open one week before the next class begins, with a maximum of 36 spaces. Adults must be accompanied by a child in the Parent and Child Yoga class. Yoga mats will be provided.

For additional information and to register for a yoga session, contact the library's youth room desk at (925) 373-5504. Dates and times will be listed on the library's

website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

Free Bike Repair

The Livermore Public Library will host the BikeMobile for a free bike repair day on Friday, June 23, 2017 from 11am to 3pm at the Rincon Branch Library, located at 725 Rincon Avenue.

Youth and adults are invited to bring bikes to this event. The BikeMobile staff provides free bike repairs, teaches mechanics and safety and provides free bike accessories and decorations. In addition, the BikeMobile can also fix flat tires, adjust brakes and gears and even replace broken or worn out parts such as chains, seats, and tires. The BikeMobile cannot replace missing wheels or gears. At 12 pm, there is a workshop on "How to Repair a Flat Tire." The BikeMobile will serve as many people as possible, however the first 20 people are guaranteed assistance.

For further information, call 925-373-5504, or visit the library's website www.livermorelibrary.net.

Nature Programs

A Creek Walk (70 Miles for 70 Years Challenge) will be led by Livermore Area Recreation and Park District

ranger staff on June 24. Meet Ranger Darre Segur at 10 a.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road.

Following this year's wet winter, come out to the park and take a walk along the creek and look at what all that water has brought us. Observe the effect that water flows (both natural and artificial) have had on the park. This will be a 2.5-mile walk on flat trails and counts toward the 70 Miles for 70 Years Challenge. Bring water and a camera if you like.

Turtles will be topic on June 25. Meet Ranger Dawn Soles at 2 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 5049 Arroyo Road.

Turtles come in different shapes and sizes, and they live in different environments from the ocean to the desert and everywhere in between. Some are small, and some are the size of a small car. Join this program to learn about this charming group of reptiles. There will be live specimens to view.

There is a \$7 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. There is an annual parking pass available that provides significant savings over the daily fee for regular park visitors. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

Livermore's hotel choice?

Elizabeth Judge Livermore

Hotel company, Presidio, who somehow managed to get a temporary exclusive right to build from City Council, appeared last week at the steering committee meeting with two versions of their hotel. One was for the eastside of Livermore Avenue up against the Bankhead Theater and the other was on the westside between Blacksmith Square and Uncle U's. Among other limitations, both versions use valet parking exclusively! The company rep appeared embarrassed to show the slide indicating the route valets would have to use from

each of the hotels to the city parking garage on Railroad Avenue and then back again after an event.

Many vineyard owners and downtown retail representatives continue lobbying hard for the city to do the east side hotel in a hurry and leave the rest of the eight acre development between First Street and Railroad to chance later. They have clearly influenced some councilmembers and the makeup of the steering committee reflects that influence.

Bias in the process became more obvious last week as the committee allowed a competitive architect only ten minutes for a twenty-two slide presentation of ideas for the entire eight acres including a hotel. In addition, they allowed the

Presidio rep to challenge the competitive plan twice when there was no opportunity to challenge Presidio.

The committee meets tonight, June 22, in council chambers at 6:30 to review four possibilities for a hotel, parking, housing and retail on the eight acre property. Better see for yourself before we wind up with no other hotel choice.

If you are reading this after Thursday, checkout yourlivermore.org to track the history. The last meeting will be next Thursday, June 29. Then it goes to Council on July 31.

Homeless in Livermore Thomas Jefferson Livermore

The June 8 Independent had an interesting article on

the homeless in our Valley. An organization, EveryOne Home (everyonehome.org), has been conducting counts of the homeless in Alameda County every two years. The latest count taken in January showed 21 unsheltered people in Dublin, 18 in Pleasanton, and 141 in Livermore. Additionally, Livermore had 102 sheltered; Dublin and Pleasanton have no shelters for the homeless.

Using the above figures, compared to Livermore, Dublin's unsheltered population is 15% that of Livermore and Pleasanton's is 13% that of Livermore. Using the total unsheltered+sheltered counts, Dublin's unsheltered+sheltered homeless population is 9% that of Livermore and Pleasanton's is 7% that of Livermore.

Perhaps, Livermore's

count of the homeless is so much larger than those of Dublin or Pleasanton because Livermore is a larger city, both in population and area. Let's see.

Taking in account the cities' populations (i.e. weighting the homeless counts by city population) we get similar results. Dublin's unsheltered population (#homeless/city population) is 24% that of Livermore and Pleasanton's is 14% that of Livermore. Using the total unsheltered+sheltered counts (#homeless/city population) Dublin's unsheltered+sheltered population is 14% that of Livermore and Pleasanton's is 8% that of Livermore.

Perhaps a better way to look at the the data is by

using the homeless per sq. mile for each city. Dublin's unsheltered population (per sq. mile) is 25% that of Livermore and Pleasanton's is 13% that of Livermore. Using the total unsheltered+sheltered counts (per sq. mile) Dublin's unsheltered+sheltered population is 15% that of Livermore and Pleasanton's is 8% that of Livermore.

Clearly the count (unweighted or weighted by either city population or city area) of homeless in Livermore is significantly more than in either Dublin or Pleasanton. Why? Should Livermore be commended for having more homeless? Or, should Dublin and Pleasanton be commended for having fewer homeless?

OBITUARIES

Margaret Beatrice Odell

Margaret Odell, age 85 of Livermore, passed away on Thursday, May 4, 2017. She was born to the late Horatio Coykendall and Margaret Fitch on June 6, 1931.

Margy attended Sequoia High School, before attending Stanford University, graduating in 1955. She was an active member in the community and served on many committees over the years. Travel and gardening were Margy's passion and delight. Margy traveled the world with friends and family.

Margy was a member of the Livermore Garden Club. She was very active and loved being outdoors.

Her husband, Earl Odell, precedes Margy in death.

Margy is survived by her four children, Brian Odell and his wife Gail; Greg Odell; Janice Odell and her husband John Goodrich; Judy Odell Friedl and her husband John; her 6 grandchildren, Lukas Odell and his wife Mandy; Logan Odell and his wife Lorinda; Kyle and Erin Oliveri; Derek and Olivia Friedl; and two great grand children, Jade and Roman Odell.

The family wishes to thank all of those who cared for her during her last few years.

Arrangements were provided by Wilson & Kratzer Chapel of San Ramon Valley.

Edna Fernandez (Ferreira, August, Weyrauch)

Edna Fernandez (Ferreira, August, Weyrauch) of Livermore (formerly of Pleasanton and San Leandro)

passed peacefully June 15, 2017, at age 73, surrounded by her loving family.

Edna is survived by her loving husband, Patrick Weyrauch, of Livermore who never left her side during her long illness; sons

Garry, Jason, and Jeffrey (Bernadette); grandchildren Brianna and Alex; sisters Lynda (Don) and Donna (Gary); adult step-children Larry (Linda) and Steven (Lisa) and step-grandchildren Kevin, Randle and Kyle; nieces/nephews Kimberly, David, Dan (Lynn), Lona, Lori, Michael (Angela), and several great and great-great nieces and nephews, as well as many cousins. Edna is predeceased by her dear sister Sandra and parents Frances and Edward.

Edna graduated from San Leandro High School, and quickly made her mark as a top-notch, detail-oriented bookkeeper/payroll specialist. She started her accounting career at her father's meat packing plant and retired from a local engineering firm several years ago.

Edna's kind and fun-loving personality yielded a wide circle of friends, some life-long, from various walks of her life. She always made time for a friend. Edna was also a devoted grandmother. One of Edna's joys in life was spending time with her family and their camping trips. She especially enjoyed mountain pine tree camping destinations like Fallen Leaf Lake, and travelling through Canada during former years. Edna also enjoyed tending to her orchids and rose trees, and of course, expanding her Madame Alexander doll collection. Decorating her doll house was a favorite pastime. Edna was fond of horses, especially Tennessee Walkers. Edna enjoyed a challenging game of Scrabble... and boy oh boy did she like winning on the Wheel of Fortune slot machine. Edna was quite the cook and baker in her day - always enjoyed preparing her family's favorites and trying out new recipes. During the holidays Edna enjoyed turning her home into a festive wonderland with the many Christmas decorations she collected over the years. In her younger days, Edna enjoyed her stick-shift Camaro, with the loud sound of the engine, one would know that Edna was quickly approaching.

A Celebration of Life ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, June 24 2017, from 3-5pm, at Sunset Com-

munity Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd, Livermore, CA 94550, Tel (925) 447-6282. All those wishing to pay tribute are welcome to come and share their experiences in celebrating Edna's life.

John Charles Dudley

Resident of Livermore August 8, 1955-June 5, 2017

John passed away unexpectedly while on vacation with his family in the Bahamas.

John was born to Lloyd Urell and Nellie Mae Dudley in Jonesboro, Arkansas. He

grew up in Monette Arkansas where his early life was spent working on the family's cotton farm. John graduated from Monette High School in 1973 and attended Lubbock Christian College where he met his wife Dana and they were married in 1977. He continued his education at Texas Tech University where he graduated in 1979 with an Engineering degree.

John worked for Texas Instruments for a few years before going to work for Motorola in Phoenix in 1982. John gained 30 years of knowledge in the semiconductor industry before changing career paths to work for Wente Vineyards.

John enjoyed his family, woodworking, reading, playing and listening to music and learning about wine. His gift for fixing things was used to help others, especially for those in his church family, where he served as a deacon.

John is survived by his wife of 40 years, Dana; his children Sarah Dudley and her husband, Michael Nudelman of Lubbock, Texas; daughter Laura Dudley and her husband, David Eras of Phoenix, Arizona; and 2 grandchildren, Mikayla and Kaleb Nudelman.

His generous loving spirit and his wry sense of humor will be missed by all who knew him.

Services were held Sat-

urday, June 17th at the Tri-Valley Church of Christ in Livermore.

Donations in his honor can be sent to Agape Villages Foster Care, 3160 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 120, San Ramon, CA 94583.

Alice Josephine Lopez

Alice Josephine Lopez (also known as "Joella" in the great state of Texas), 70, of Livermore, entered the arms of Jesus on Wednesday, June 14, 2017.

Alice was born on December 23, 1946, in California and proudly raised in San Antonio, Texas. There she graduated from Bracken-

ridge High School in 1966, where she met many of her lifelong "heart sisters," whom she loved dearly. On May 18, 1968, she married the love of her life, Juan Lopez. They settled in Livermore, California, to raise their family. Alice spent her life caring for her children, also becoming a beloved caretaker, known as Nana, to her many adopted "children" and "grandchildren" over the years. Along the way, she gained another set of cherished California "heart sisters" whom she truly considered family. As her children grew up and went off to college, Alice worked in retail. She was an ardent supporter of her Texas sports teams, especially her Spurs, and was an extremely vocal supporter of any and all progressive politics. Alice was unwavering in her Catholic faith and prayed every day for the health and happiness of her loved ones.

Alice loved traveling to visit her family and friends far and wide. She was a loyal, fierce friend to many, and always brought happiness, laughter, and light into any room she entered. Her vibrant energy was infectious, and her willingness to lend a hand to anyone who needed it was endless. Her favorite activities, however, always involved her family. Alice loved huge family gatherings full of laughter,

great Mexican food, music, and love. Her parties were legendary as was her wit. Everyone was always welcomed into her home and treated like part of the family.

Alice is survived by her loving husband of 49 years, Juan, and the children who were her pride and joy: Yvette L. Lopez (Sean McCue) of Rancho Mirage, CA; Julie C. Lopez, of Rancho Santa Margarita, CA; Juan D. Lopez (Jennifer) of Livermore, CA; and Andrew C. Lopez (Jessica) of Los Angeles, CA. Most importantly, she is survived by the four grandchildren she adored more than anything else on this Earth: Emma and Lauren Laskey, and Joaquin and Nadia Lopez. They were her life and breath; she loved nothing more than being a devoted, loving Grandma/Meema to her babies. She also leaves behind many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Alice is preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Corina Rocha; her sister, Yolanda Rocha; and her infant son, Daniel Christopher. She will be missed dearly every single day by all who loved her.

A memorial mass will be held at St. Michael Church, 458 Maple Street, Livermore, CA, 94550, on Saturday, June 24, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. A Celebration of Alice's life will follow. In the spirit of Alice's vibrant personality and love of life (and per her wish), the family requests that those attending please wear bright colors.

The family asks that anyone wishing to make a contribution in Alice's name do so, to any progressive, anti-Trump organization, or

her favorite charity, St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Pearl "Dollie" Abrew

August 20, 1933-June 13, 2017 Pearl "Dollie" Abrew, born in Ashland, Calif. on August 20, 1933 and a longtime resident of Tracy, Calif., passed away Tuesday, June 13, 2017.

She had a deep love for Jesus, and she praised a n d w o r s h i p e d h e r Lord & Savior. Pearl loved spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She enjoyed traveling to Hawaii and Europe.

Pearl was a past president of the St. Raymond's Women's Guild and a member of the Red Hat Ladies.

She is survived by her children: Debbie George (Bruce), Jeff Abrew (Becky), Greg Abrew (Brenda), and Kevin Abrew (Shannon); her sister Carmen Davenport; 13 grandchildren, and 15 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Ron Abrew; parents Jose and Maria Garcia; two sisters, and a brother.

Family and friends are invited to attend a viewing at Holy Angels Sorensen Chapel, 1140 B Street, Hayward, Calif., on Thursday, June 22, at 10 a.m. Funeral services follow at noon.

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Laughter Still the Best Medicine

By Carol Graham

If it were available in pill form, it would reach billions in sales. Yet laughter, often called the best medicine, is free, readily available and instantly effective.

"It is so important to laugh - to shift perspective when needed to get through a difficult time, not take ourselves so seriously, bring us back into this present moment, connect with others in joy, and release the endorphins and other biochemicals that promote optimal bodily functions," said Kathryn Darlington, RN. "We do not laugh only because we are already happy and all is good; we laugh to create happiness in our lives."

"Let's Laugh and Celebrate!" was the theme of the 25th Annual Tri-Valley Celebration of Life which took place on June 6 at the Holiday Inn Dublin. The event was free and open to all adult cancer survivors and caregivers.

"The silver anniversary of this community event speaks to the unique and powerful collaboration of supporting organizations, which includes hospitals and non-profit organizations," said Juliane Lee, American Cancer Society Health Systems Manager and event chair. "Each June, cancer survivors celebrate National Cancer Survivors Day. The Tri-Valley Celebration of Life is one of hundreds of life-affirming gatherings that take place in June across the U.S. The events are a time to celebrate life and honor cancer survivors."

With cancer survivorship increasing due to progressive testing, early diagnoses and advancing treatments, attention more and more is being focused on the challenges - mental, emotional and physical - that survivors live with. This year's celebration included a talk, *The Journey to Wellness*, by Dr. Darcy Baird of Kaiser Permanente in Livermore, and a demonstration of Laughter Yoga.

"I enjoyed both segments of the program - the motivational and humorous talk by Dr. Baird, and the more unusual Laughter Yoga demonstration," said event volunteer and

survivor Sandra Ryan. "Laughing together is so much fun. It brings people together and breaks down communication walls."

Laughter Yoga was presented by instructors Liz Nichols and Nancy denBroeder.

"Laughter is healing in so many ways," said denBroeder, Program Supervisor at Heritage Estates Retirement Community. "It's an aerobic exercise - it stimulates heart and blood circulation. It decreases stress, eases pain naturally, helps relieve depression and anxiety, boosts the immune system, and builds community. I'm so passionate about Laughter Yoga because I have seen it at work with my residents and others."

About 75 people attended the event, most of whom participated in the laughter exercises which included light movements, clapping and yes, laughing out loud.

"People can laugh anywhere, anytime - alone or with others," said denBroeder. "They need only to open their jaws up and give a fake laugh to get those endorphins flowing! We're trying to start a Laughter Yoga group in the Tri-Valley area, so those interested can contact me directly to get on the list. If someone knows of a place that would let us come in weekly or twice a month in the evening, either in Livermore or Pleasanton, they can email me that, too."

The Tri-Valley Celebration of Life is sponsored by the American Cancer Society, Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation, HERS Breast Cancer Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, San Ramon Regional Medical Center, and Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare. Holiday Inn donated the use of the Tralee Ballroom and provided light refreshments.

"I attend this event every year to honor and celebrate those who have survived and thrived after the trauma of cancer and cancer therapies," said Darlington, who is also a Certified Holistic and Integrative Care Nurse. "I hope each of us can find a way to overcome our fears and continue the unpredictable path of life with cautious optimism and joy. Then we can celebrate the moments of life with a

peaceful heart."

Ryan added, "I left feeling relaxed and motivated to face any future challenges." "I hope participants enjoyed the program and learned how to celebrate their survivorship - not only for cancer but for all life's challenges."

To learn more, contact Juliane Lee at juliane.lee@ cancer.org, and Nancy denBroeder at dbzone@comcast.net.

Use of Fireworks in Livermore Could Result in Fine, Jail Time

The Livermore Police Department is reminding community members that all fireworks are illegal in the City of Livermore. This includes "Safe and Sane" type fireworks that may be legal to purchase in other cities. The Livermore Police Department will have extra officers working on the Fourth of July. These officers will be looking for and responding to fireworks violations.

Any member of the Police Department or the Fire Department can seize any fireworks located in Livermore and the owner may be charged for the cost of destroying the fireworks. Police Officers finding persons in possession of fireworks may issue that person

a citation for a misdemeanor offense with a fine of up to \$500 and jail time of up to 30 days in county jail.

Anyone found to be possessing fireworks that aren't of the "Safe and Sane" variety, such as firecrackers, bottle rockets, mortars, roman candles or anything that flies/shoots through the air can be cited for Health and Safety Code violation. This citation can lead to a \$1000 fine and up to one year in county jail.

Anyone seeing or hearing fireworks being used in Livermore, can contact the LPD Dispatch Center at (925)371-4987. Dispatchers will alert officers to the area where the fireworks are occurring.

COMMITTEE

(continued from page one)

Livermore Avenue and four with a hotel on the westside. The plans will be refined at the June 22 meeting.

Among the elements in the seven options were a hotel, both surface and structured parking, retail, a park plaza, housing, and a museum. Residential development ranged from a preference for micro units to more traditional townhouses and co-living/co-working units. Several westside plans left areas blank where decisions on development could be made at a future date.

In preparation for creating development options at the June 15 meeting, the committee heard a summary of information to date, a development plan for the entire 8 acres as proposed by the Community Group,

and a hotel plan presented by Presidio Companies.

The Livermore City Council voted recently to extend the Exclusive Negotiating Rights Agreement with Presidio Companies until the end of November 2017. Presidio had requested the extension. It allows Presidio Companies to continue until that time as the sole hotel developer identified for the downtown.

Architect Stephen MacCracken presented the Community Group's plan. He stated, "We have a conceptual scheme that celebrates and enhances existing community qualities, as well as functional excellence and economic viability." He noted that Livermore is well known for its science labs,

wineries and the arts. It has been a leader in urban redevelopment on First Street.

The proposal consists of nine elements including a one acre, iconic elevated park and a 125 room resort style hotel with a 4000 sq. ft. conference center on the westside of Livermore Avenue. Placing the hotel on the westside will provide every room with a view of the heavily landscaped Town Commons and/or the surrounding countryside.

The elevated park features gentle sloped paths for easy access from both sides of Livermore Avenue with stairs and elevators throughout. A surface level park was also presented as an option.

Parking includes surface level spaces and a 211 stall

garage as well as the I Street Garage.

The Creative Community housing consists of small co-living housing units in clusters of 36. The plan shows them set toward the L Street edge of the old Lucky site and almost all on top floors. As a result, the Town Commons, hotel, restaurants, retail, science and art museum define the city center, not the housing.

The eastside would feature an artisan and farmers' market, science museum and a signature restaurant, stated MacCracken.

He concluded, "The plan answers public interest in community open space, parking and traffic. We believe it is both visionary and practicable."

Rikesh Patel discussed Presidio's plans for a 125 room hotel that would include a 1000 to 1500 sq. ft. conference facility. A restaurant and retail would be included with the hotel. He said that the eastside provides unique advantages including high north/south

visibility and a connection to the Bankhead Theater. As a single use site, it presents advantages in operations and financing. He said that a westside hotel is feasible. However, potential issues, including conflict with Blacksmith Square and inferior views, that could result in the possibility of a lower brand hotel because of potentially lower room rates.

Committee member Jean King provided The Independent with a perspective on the city's Mid-block Intersection traffic study of Livermore Avenue between First Street and Railroad Avenue presented at last week's steering committee meeting. She stated, "Mid-block traffic is not relevant to the traffic problem caused by an eastside hotel with 100% valet parking. According to the city's consultant, Watry Design, congestion at the intersection of Railroad and Livermore Avenues and backup on the street at the entrance to the I Street Garage would be so great that the size of the garage must

be limited. Traffic parking consultant Dan Smith notes that an eastside hotel with 100% valet parking is a major contributor to this queuing problem."

PUBLIC COMMENT OFFERED

Comments during the meeting open to the public continued to focus on the hotel. One group urged the city council to move forward with the hotel as quickly as possible. They urged the council to separate it from the planning process and build it on the eastside of Livermore Avenue. That would allow it to move more quickly, they stated.

The other group of speakers said that it is important to complete a plan for both the eastside and westside properties. The hotel on the westside would be built in conjunction with open space, parking, public amenities, housing and retail. It would activate the downtown core. Leaving the planning for the westside for the future could result in housing over the entire property.

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

He supported Santa Ana teachers who wanted to try some "out of the box" options. Because buy-in from the community is so important, Haglund makes sure problems are addressed, added Laursen.

Mark Miller drove Haglund around Pleasanton during his community visit. "He's a genuine man, a very self-aware man. He connects with individuals on a deep level. That's someone we need in Pleasanton," said Miller.

Steve Maher, a retired, long-time school principal, said he reached out to 15 principals in Santa Ana, a district with 62 schools and enrollment of 56,000. They described Haglund's important attributes as listening, mentoring and providing stability. "We want our principals to stay (in the district), and to grow. He's the type of leader we need."

Jamie Hintzke said that the students in Santa Ana talked about Haglund personally touching their lives. "There were incredible stories. He really does walk the talk," said Hintzke.

Valerie Arkin stated, "I think we have found the leadership qualities we were looking for."

Haglund said, "I am touched and thrilled about the comments, and will work to live up to them."

"I'm the chief servant of the district. I'm not the guy who tells everyone what to do. You have an amazing community. You have award-winning programs as good as any in the state, and the teachers support it," declared Haglund.

Haglund signed a three-year contract paying him \$265,000 annually, with yearly raises subject to negotiation. He also will have a \$5000 annual district contribution to a tax-differed compensation plan, can earn up to 18 days of sick leave, and receive all fringe benefits that are provided to certificated employees.

BOND MONEY OK FOR PLANNING NEW SCHOOL

The board also agreed informally to add \$1 million to a list of priorities that will now include drawing up plans for a new school. All five trustees supported the idea. They vote on the budget item will take place at the June 27 board meeting.

By moving right away on planning a new school, the district has a chance to beat an annual October deadline for state approval of construction money. Otherwise, there would be a one-year wait to start the process. Once the paperwork is approved, the district can get in line with other districts in the state for the money coming from sale of state bonds that voters approved in 2016.

Maher said it's important to start moving on a new school. "I don't want to see a new school on the back burner. All our (current and future) enrollment suggests something else."

In about six weeks, a consultant will have material to the board about the degree of eligibility for state funds for a new district school. The board earlier received the eligibility report for modernization of district school buildings and infrastructure. That report helped trustees in their discussion of the priority list.

The \$1 million to draw up new school plans joins \$69 million on the list to be spent for modernization of district buildings and infrastructure. Pleasanton voters passed a \$270 million bond issue last year.

The \$69 million in planned expenditures that were already on the list include \$30 million for the reconstruction and modernization of Lydiksen School, \$14.2 million to pay off a loan, \$11.5 million for qualifying classrooms' modernization, \$9.5 million for safety and security infrastructure, and \$3.7 million for technology upgrades, including purchase of at least

6000 laptop computers for grades 6 through 12, which have a total of 8500 students.

PENSION COSTS KEEP RISING

Trustees won't approve the final budget for Fiscal year 2017-18 until the June 27 meeting, but they were given a look at projections for expenses that will loom in future years.

The FY 2017 budget has been examined a few times at board meetings. The district will spend \$147 million from its general fund.

However, trustees heard from Interim Superintendent Micaela Ochoa about the rising expenses the district will face in the subsequent two years and beyond.

The standout in Ochoa's report was the rising cost of the school districts' obligation to contribute to employee retirement pensions. The district will have to pay out \$14.9 million in the coming fiscal year. By FY 19, the contribution will rise to \$19.3 million.

In combination with other factors, it's possible the district could have to reduce its budget then by \$3 million, assuming that nothing changes, said Ochoa. However, three years is too far away to be certain about the revenue picture. The three-year projection is necessary as part of the budget report to the Alameda County Office of Education.

School districts might be able to cut those projected expenditures by lobbying the governor and state representatives to have the state pay a bigger share of the pensions, suggested audience member Kathleen Ruegsegger, a former school board candidate.

Responding to a question from Hintzke, Ochoa said that at \$90,000 cost per teacher on average, \$3 million would fund the retirement benefits of approximately 30 teachers. However, there could be reductions in other areas, since the district is committed to avoiding cuts in the classroom.

SWALWELL

(continued from page one)

their parents and families likewise. We must do what we can to help student loan borrowers better manage and repay their loans."

To kick off the week, Swalwell is re-introducing the Know Your Repayment Options Act. It would help borrowers better understand student loan repayment options by directing the Department of Education to inform all federal student loan borrowers of all their repayment options on a

yearly basis, with information particularized for each individual so that borrowers can pick the plan that works best for them.

Specifically, the yearly update required by this legislation would tell borrowers their average anticipated monthly payment amount, yearly payment amount, lifetime payment amount, number of months remaining to pay off loans, and amount that would be forgiven under all possible repayment plans.

It would also supply the borrower with instructions on how to switch plans if he or she determines that another option might be better.

Swalwell is the founder and chairman of Future Forum, a group of 26 young House Democrats who have engaged with thousands of millennials across the nation on the issues most important to them. Student loan debt consistently ranks high among the concerns of millennials.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 531527

The following person(s) doing business as: Ideal Clean, The Rug Colorist, Pro Carpet Repair, 3546 Quail Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94546, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ideal Clean and Restoration LLC, 20885 Redwood Rd, #314, Castro Valley, CA 94546

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 531518-522

The following person(s) doing business as: 1)Toyota

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This business is conducted by a Corporation The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: April 1, 2017

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 531660-531661

The following person(s) doing business as: 1)GEO-NETZ.CITY 2)GEO-NETZ-ITY, 841 Montevino Dr, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Richard G. Pascual, 841 Montevino Dr, Pleasanton, CA 94566

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 531656-531658

The following person(s) doing business as: 1)THIRY TENTH CO 2)THIRY TENTH CO 3)THIRY TENTH, 841 Montevino Dr, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following

by a Limited Liability Company The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: June 1, 2017

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June 1, 2022. The Independent Legal No. 4144. Published June 8, 15, 22, 29, 2017.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 531662-531663

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owner(s): Richard G. Pascual, 841 Montevino Dr, Pleasanton, CA 94566
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 The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: May 18, 2017
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Richard G. Pascual, Owner
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 1, 2017. Expires June 1, 2022.
 The Independent Legal No. 4146. Published June 8, 15, 22, 29, 2017.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 531800
 The following person(s) doing business as: First Class Shipping Service, 3061 Independence Drive, Ste A, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Eric D. Hill, President
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 5, 2017. Expires June 5, 2022.
 The Independent Legal No. 4147. Published June 8, 15, 22, 29, 2017.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 531400
 The following person(s) doing business as: JAM Services, 958 East Airway Blvd, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Jeffrey Momaney, President
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 23, 2017. Expires May 23, 2022.

The Independent Legal No. 4148. Published June 15, 22, 29, July 6, 2017.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 532207
 The following person(s) doing business as: Core Chiropractic, 618 N L St, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Michael Brian Sue, 923 Via Seville, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: August 21, 2007
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Michael Brian Sue, Owner
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 15, 2017. Expires June 15, 2022.
 The Independent Legal No. 4149. Published June 22, 29, July 6, 13, 2017.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 532141
 The following person(s) doing business as: Ramos RE Group Inc, 2387 High Castle Ct, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Ramos RE Group Inc, 2387 High Castle Ct, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by a Corporation
 The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: April 7, 2017
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Ted Ramos, President
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 13, 2017. Expires June 13, 2022.
 The Independent Legal No. 4150. Published June 22, 29, July 6, 13, 2017.

NOTICE OF 30-DAY PERIOD FOR FINAL EA COMMENTS
 The Department of the Army has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the impacts that could result from modernizing and operating five training ranges at the Parks Reserve Forces Training Area, Alameda County, Dublin, California.

The Final EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) are available at the Dublin Public Library (200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA); Contra Costa County Library (Dougherty Station) (17017 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA), and Pleasanton Public Library (400 Old Bern Avenue, Pleasanton, CA), and on the Internet at www.ch2m.com/EA1.

Written comments submitted by July 22, 2017, will be considered prior to the Army concluding this National Environmental Policy Act process. Written comments should be directed to: Mr. Dan Gannod, U.S. Army Garrison, 620 6th Street, Dublin, CA 94568, or by email at usarmy.parks.imcom-central.list.cpar-pao@mail.mil.

The Independent Legal No. 4151 Published June 22, 2017

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 531359-531361
 The following person(s) doing business as: 1)Comp-IT 2)Comp IT 3)CompIT, 836 Arbor Ct, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Joseph Troy Saitta, 836 Arbor Ct, Livermore, CA 94550
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The date on which the registrant first commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above: N/A
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Joseph Troy Saitta
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 22, 2017. Expires May 22, 2022.
 The Independent Legal No. 4152. Published June 22, 29, July 6, 13, 2017.

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Visit our website, WWW.TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.

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Birthday Party Focuses on Giving

By Carol Graham

When deciding how to celebrate her son's 3rd birthday, Tamera Nickelsberg chose not to do the easy thing. "Two years ago, a post on my Facebook page asked for prayers for a little boy named Trucker who had had brain surgery to remove a tumor," she said. "It would have been easy to just say how sad and skip by, but there was something about this little boy that pulled me in. He reminded me of my own son."

For more than a year, Nickelsberg followed Trucker's updates as he fought stage-four neuroblastoma. Though he was a year older than her own son, Brayden, and lived more than 2,300 miles away on Maui, Trucker's death in March hit Nickelsberg hard.

"Trucker passed away in his mother's arms," said Nickelsberg. "This little boy fought a horrible disease, almost always with a smile on his face. With all he was going through, he still lived his life the best he could and seemed to enjoy every moment of it. Although he is no longer here, he won his battle - he chose to live his life the way he wanted and did not let cancer define who he was."

As her own son's birthday approached, Nickelsberg faced a choice.

"I could either spread awareness about children fighting cancer or go on with my life and forget that this is a reality for a lot of kids," she said. "I chose to continue spreading awareness, telling the story of Trucker Dukes, and helping fight in his memory. As Brayden's birthday approached and I saw all the toys he already had, I decided it would be a good idea to teach my son that giving is more rewarding than receiving. I told people that gifts were not needed but if they wanted to, they could donate to a pediatric cancer charity of their choice in memory of Trucker."

More than 30 people attended the June 3 party at the Nickelsberg's Livermore



Brayden at the fire station. Photo - Kathy Till

home, with donations being made to organizations like St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Childhood Cancer Society, National Pediatric Cancer Foundation, and Unravel Pediatric Cancer. "Trucker loved fire trucks (his dad is a firefighter) and my son also loves anything with wheels, so it was obvious that Brayden's party needed to be all about fire trucks," said Nickelsberg. "We had a fire truck piñata and birthday cake, and took the kids to play on an old fire truck around the corner from our house."

Grandmother Kathy Till said, "Seeing the looks on the children's and adults' faces when they saw the white fire truck on Old First Street was my favorite moment. They were all acting like kids. We also took Brayden to Fire Station 6 on his actual birthday, June 1. That was his real birthday gift, which he really enjoyed."

Although Brayden and Trucker, and their families, have never met, the two

boys' stories are now intertwined.

"Having people donate was far more rewarding than receiving more gifts we did not need," Nickelsberg said. "I want my son to realize that while it is nice to receive gifts every once in a while, it can be even better to give to others. I hope that others will want to do something like this in the future and bring awareness to something that means a lot to them."

To learn more, visit www.facebook.com/TeamTrucker.

Elementary School Is Named for E.O. Lawrence

Lawrence Elementary School will open its doors in 2017-18, welcoming students in transitional kindergarten through fifth grade. The Board of Education of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) voted unanimously at the June 13, meeting to name the satellite campus in recognition of the scientific legacy of the Livermore community.

The vote was 4-0, with Trustee Kate Runyon absent.

The school, formerly Portola Elementary, was designated as a satellite campus earlier this year to house students leaving the Livermore Valley Charter School and enrolling in the school district.

The naming process for Lawrence Elementary began in April 2017 when the Board of Education determined that there was a permanent need for the satellite campus. Following the District's Procedures for Naming New Schools, a committee of staff, students, and community members met to suggest school names. The committee invited all school community members to share ideas, generating over 150 suggestions. The committee considered the suggestions along with the criteria for naming a school, invited students and the community to vote for their top choices, and ultimately recommended three names to the Board at the June meeting. They were Rail-

road Elementary, Lawrence Elementary and Sycamore Grove Elementary.

Students Claire Gresham and Megan Rivera joined the school's Principal Kristie Starkovich at the Board meeting to ask that the Board make a final selection. When asked by board president Craig Bueno which name they preferred, both students replied, "Lawrence Elementary!"

Starkovich, principal of Lawrence Elementary, said, "We are honored to be named after Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, a facility that is highly regarded for its cutting-edge science, technology and engineering." Starkovich added that the school is already pursuing a focus in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). "The name of Lawrence Elementary is perfect for our school, as we provide our students with the foundation for a lifelong love of science and technology," she added.

Lynda Seaver, Director of Public Affairs for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), shared the Lab's enthusiasm about the new name, she said, "What a great honor to be recognized by the Livermore School District."

She added, "Back in 2012, our Laboratory named element 116 on the periodic table, which our researchers discovered, Livermorium. In

recognition of the city. We never expected this kind of reciprocation. We're very proud to be a part of this community and we're fortunate to have its continued support."

Kelly Bowers, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, declared, "Our community partnerships continue to enrich our District. This school's name reflects our ongoing commitment to educating students who will make the world a better place."

Starkovich shared that Lawrence Elementary will have a Labrador as its mascot. "I'm looking forward to welcoming the Lawrence 'Labs' to their new school in August," she said.

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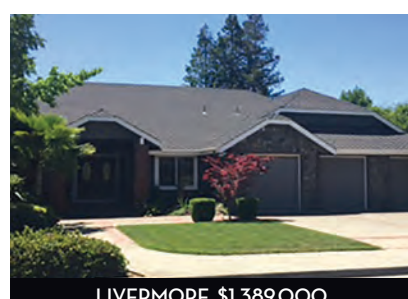
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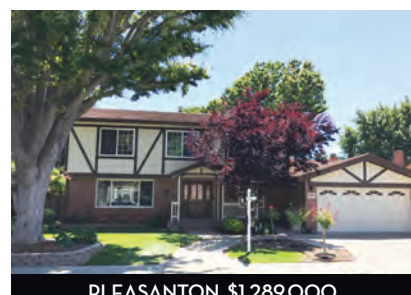
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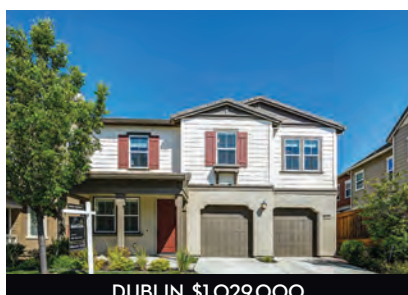
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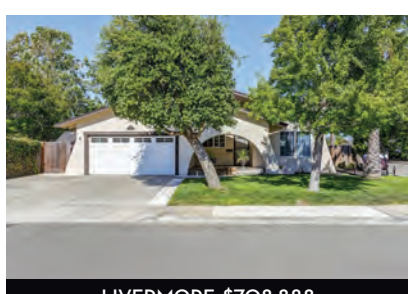
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A Midsummer Night's Dream at Wente Vineyards

“Lord, what fools these mortals be!” exclaims the mischievous fairy, Puck. The foolishness of humans is taken to comic heights in Shakespeare’s most popular play, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, playing at Wente Vineyards Estate Winery and Tasting Room this July.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival chose this play to follow two years of teaching their So Wise So Young 10-week literacy program in all the second grade classrooms in the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. “We’ve always been about connecting the diverse strands of our community,” said LSF board member Patricia Munro, “producing great theater is the way we’ve chosen to do it.” “The community of LSF now includes second graders on up to seasoned professionals with masters degrees,” added Lisa Tromovitch, the artistic director. With so many Livermore kids knowledgeable about the play, and *Midsummer* being a family favorite, because it includes fairies, magic, and young people running around the forest, it seemed a natural choice for summer of 2017.

Director Gary Armagnac added, “Our production is placed in a very magical environment at Wente Vineyards. Shakespeare outdoors, at night, surrounded by the hills and the vines is pretty hard to beat! The venue lends itself to a play taking place in a fairy kingdom. “Shakespeare also reminds us that we are more fully human when we are in nature, as opposed to the city. All of the characters end up in the forest. In the forest, at night, magic is possible.”

Producing in-the-round allows the costume designer to create the visual world of the play, which starts out in court, but quickly moves into nature. “We really want to show the two different worlds our characters experience. The first world a clean cut country club feel, where everything is very ‘black and white,’ versus the explosion of color in the forest and fairy kingdom.”

Designer Jonathan Singer returns after costuming last year’s *The Tempest*. With over 25 costumes to build, the college apprentices are hard at work. A new relationship with Las Positas College builds on the school’s successful costume class, taking students to the next step in their training by interning with the theater company. Veteran costumer Kathryn Quinnell is offering her services as a guest teacher. “The craft of costuming is one that is taught one-on-one. This relationship builds on LPC’s certification program for technical theater. It’s a very exciting partnership for LPC and LSF,” agreed Titian Lish, director of the Department of Theater and Performing Arts.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival will produce Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, directed by Gary Armagnac from June 29th to July 16th, 2017 and Edmond Rostand’s *Cyrano de Bergerac* adapted and directed by Lisa A. Tromovitch from July 13th to July 30th at Wente Vineyards Estate Winery and Tasting Room on Tesla Road in Livermore. For more information visit LivermoreShakes.org or call (925) 443-BARD.



Appearing in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* will be Russ Marcel and Mary Ann Rodgers. Costumes by Jonathan Singer. Photo by Gregg Le Blanc, CumulusLight.com.



Free Shakespeare in the Park Presents Hamlet

San Francisco Shakespeare Festival will present "Hamlet," as its 35th Anniversary Free Shakespeare in the Park program.

Performances will take place at Pleasanton's Amador Valley Community Park on July 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16 at 7:30 p.m. The park is located at the corner of Santa Rita Road and Black Avenue.

Free Shakespeare in the Park has now been a tradition in the Bay Area for 35 years, and the company is celebrating that anniversary by producing Shakespeare's timeless tragedy in the park for the first time.

Directed by SF Shakes Resident Artist Stephen Muterspaugh, Hamlet will feature Davern Wright* in the title role. The rest of the cast includes Rolf Saxon* as Claudius, Leontyne Mbele-Mbong as Gertrude, Sharon Huff* as Polonius, Julian Lopez-Morillas* as The Ghost/Player King/1st Gravedigger, Kieran Beccia as Ophelia, Sydney Schwindt as Laertes, Nathaniel Andalis as Horatio, Melissa Quine* as Rosencrantz/Marcellus/Osric, and Radhika Rao as Guildenstern/Barnardo/2nd Gravedigger.

The modern-dress production will highlight contemporary political parallels within Hamlet. The play, about the questionable succession of King Claudius to the throne of Denmark over his nephew Prince Hamlet, speaks strongly about disenfranchisement, frustration, and the need for action during troubled times. Muterspaugh will direct this production after co-directing *The Taming of the Shrew* with Artistic Director Rebecca Ennals in 2014 and directing four seasons of the company's Shakespeare On Tour. Also returning to the Festival's mainstage production is Scenic Designer Jay Lasnik, who designed *The Winter's Tale* in 2016.

*denotes a member of Actor's Equity Association

Admission is free. For more information, call the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival at (415) 558-0888 or visit www.sfshakes.org

Gala Opens 2017-2018 Season at the Bankhead

The annual "Brilliance at the Bankhead" gala will officially open the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center's 2017-2018 Season on Saturday, September 9, 2017. Headlining the evening will be Grammy Award-winning folk rock duo, the Indigo Girls, known for their signature harmonies and lyrics on such hits as "Galileo," "Closer to Fine," and "Watershed." The largest fundraising event of the year for the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, the gala supports both the Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center.

"Brilliance at the Bankhead" will begin with a reception on the plaza in front of the theater featuring chef-attended food stations catered by Wente Vineyards, a full bar and the big band music of the East Bay Jazz High School All Stars Band. The Indigo Girls will take the stage with the Livermore-Amador Symphony at 8:00 p.m. Live and silent auction items, including travel, tickets, tours, wine, jewelry, art



Indigo Girls to launch LVPAC Presents season.

pieces and more, will be on display in the lobby through intermission. Dessert will be served both during intermission and after the show.

Presenting sponsors for the 2017 event are the Fletcher family, Jean King and the Priem Family Foundation. Additional sponsors

include Beets Hospitality Group, Diablo Magazine, The Independent, Lance Cavaliere Jewelers, Livermore-Amador Symphony, Shea Homes, the Watkins family, Wente Catering, the Carlings, Colliers International, Kathy and Pat Coyle, Fremont Bank, Souza

Balazs, Visit Tri-Valley, Mark and Joyce Eaton, and Faye and Lee Younker.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets may be purchased at the box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800.

Jazz in July at the Livermore Library Begins July 2

Jazz in July, an annual Livermore tradition, once again takes over the Civic Center Library for five programs by top jazz artists. All programs are on Sundays at 2 p.m. at the Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue. They are all free of charge, thanks to the Friends of the Livermore Library. No reservations required. Parking and seats are limited.

This year's lineup:

July 2: Dave Rocha Jazz Group kicks off Jazz in July: Based in the San Francisco, Bay Area, Dave Rocha has been performing with his jazz group for more than 20 years. He has played in a number of major cities, including New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle. His band plays an eclectic mix of jazz standards (by Miles Davis, Wayne Shorter, John Coltrane, etc.) "pop" tunes (Cole Porter, Gershwin and Jobim) and original compositions. In addition to his trumpet expertise, Rocha is also an accomplished flugelhorn player. This instrument is similar to the trumpet, but has a larger bell, which gives it a darker, mellower sound.



Dave Rocha

This year, Rocha will be coming to the Library with some new personnel in the band as well as some brand new compositions. In general, the group will play

(continued on page 4)

Learn Rock Guitar Plus Taste Wine at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton



David Victor

The Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton announces a brand new concept in the “learn & sip” events world. Strum & Spirits with David Victor, former guitarist and lead vocalist of the multi-platinum band Boston, will hold two sessions in the Firehouse Theater this summer: June 29, and again August 24 (different songs at 2nd session), both starting at 7:30 p.m.

“Strum & Spirits” is an interactive, social way for beginners to learn to play the guitar, discover some rock ‘n roll history, experience new wines and of course have fun and laughs

along the way. “It’s like a paint-and-sip class, only more rockin’.” says Victor.

Led by guitarist/vocalist David Victor, each session is a complete lesson, where David “takes each group by the hand and gently introduces the fundamental concepts of the guitar” while spiking the experience with humorous behind-the-scenes and on-the-road stories from his wide ranging rock ‘n roll adventures, including the recent tours and recordings with Boston.

“No experience required.” In fact, notes David, people will probably

get more out of it if they don’t know anything about guitar playing. Participants don’t even need to own a guitar, as a wide variety of guitars will be available at the venue (must select the “plus guitar” ticket when registering). Personal guitars may be brought along to use for the evening if desired.

Victor also emphasizes that folks are more than welcome if they prefer to “lurk and observe.” A huge plus for the Firehouse evenings will be a casual acoustic mini-performance by Victor to wrap up the night, including some of the biggest Boston hits, and even a few of his originals.

Tickets: \$39 regular (bring your own guitar);

\$49 including guitar rental; \$25 spectator. Tickets can be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 931-4848, and in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wednesday - Friday noon-6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and two hours prior to the event if not sold out.

The wine pairing for June 29 features “The Fiend” from Tooth & Nail Vineyards of Paso Robles. Please note: beverages not included in event ticket; may be purchased separately.

First 40 participants will join David up on the beautiful Firehouse stage for the evening’s fun.

Whistlestop Writers to Host Open Mic for Writers

Whistlestop Writers will host an open mic for writers of all genres and abilities on Wednesday, June 28, 2017, from 6:45 to 9:00 p.m. at Swirl on the Square, 21 South Livermore Avenue, in downtown Livermore.

Planned is an evening of food, wine, and writing. Cynthia Patton, the event’s host, says, “Even if you don’t have something to read, come listen to talented 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.

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Kalil Wilson & the Dan Marschak Trio

JAZZ IN JULY

(continued from page 2)

“straight-ahead,” modern jazz, with an eclectic mix of rhythms, tempos and styles.

July 9: Tod Dickow and Charged Particles play the music of Michael Brecker: Michael Brecker was an innovator on the tenor saxophone whose unique voice and approach to the instrument influenced every performing saxophonist. Winner of 15 Grammy Awards, he was a prolific composer and leader of The Brecker Brothers, Steps Ahead, the Pat Metheny-Michael Brecker Special Quartet, and other bands. At this show, Brecker’s music will be played by tenor saxophonist Tod Dickow with renowned Bay Area jazz trio Charged Particles (Murray Low, Aaron Germain, and Jon Krosnick). The performance will include complex arrangements, fun funky and Latin rhythms, plenty of swinging, and touching romantic ballads.

July 16: Kurt Ribak Quartet: Kurt Ribak (pronounced REE-bok, like the shoes) is a bassist, bandleader, and songwriter, whose music has been described as “soulful, accessible, and eclectic original jazz.” Ribak learned early



Mimi Fox



Kurt Ribak

on that he loved composition and songwriting. Early tunes reflect a strong Thelonious Monk influence, while others reflect

his love of the great Charles Mingus. Later tunes bring to mind Horace Silver, Lee Morgan, and the South African composer, Abdullah Ibrahim.

July 23: Mimi Fox performs Lennon/McCartney: World-renowned guitarist/recording artist/composer Mimi Fox presents a special concert eloquently rendering the music of Lennon/McCartney in an intimate solo guitar setting. Fox has been named a winner in six consecutive DownBeat magazine international critics’ polls, and has headlined the most prestigious venues from the Newport Folk Festival to the Montreal Jazz Festival.

July 30: Kalil Wilson & the Dan Marschak Trio: Long-time collaborators Kalil Wilson, Dan Marschak, Cindy Browne-Rosefield, and Genius Wesley share an intimate afternoon of re-imagined standards and vibrant originals. Wilson will be joined by his regular trio: Dan Marschak, Cindy Browne-Rosefield, and Genius Wesley.

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

Toree McGee Featured in First Music in the Orchard Concert at the Purple Orchid

Music in the Orchard concert series, in its fifth year at the Purple Orchid Wine Country Resort and Spa, will take place the last Thursdays of June, July, August and September. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and relax under the olive trees of Livermore’s finest resort at 4549 Cross Road to listen to music while supporting local students.

The Pedrozzi Foundation is once again a beneficiary of the enjoyable outdoor concert series presented by the Purple Orchid, Nottingham Cellars, and Posada Restaurant. The Foundation was established by Livermore businessman Mario Pedrozzi, so it is appropri-

ate for local businesses to join together to support local students.

This year’s line-up includes: Toree McGee on June 29, Meredith and The Mercenaries on July 27, Crawdad Republic on August 31, and Saint Ashbury on September 28. All concerts are from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Awarding winning wines by Nottingham Cellars, beer from local breweries and food by area favorite Posada Restaurant will be available for purchase. No outside food or beverage allowed.

A portion of proceeds from ticket, beverage and food sales supports the work of the Pedrozzi Foun-

ation, helping expand the Foundation’s impact. In addition to awarding scholarships to Livermore students, the Foundation works to help create a career and college bound culture among all Livermore students and families – especially those in underrepresented and underserved communities. The Foundation recently awarded \$408,500 in scholarships to 112 local students. Learn more at Pedrozzi.org.

Tickets are \$14 in advance or \$20 at the door. Purchase tickets online at PurpleOrchid.com. Advanced tickets also available at Nottingham Cellars, 2245 C So Vasco, Livermore.

'Some Have Greatness' Program Created in Collaboration with Livermore Shakespeare

This summer Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center has put a greater emphasis on bringing all aspects of the arts to young people, offering a series of interactive, hands-on camps and workshops that tie exploration of the arts to regular school curriculum.

The “Some Have Greatness” program, created in collaboration with the Livermore Shakespeare Festival, offers an opportunity for young people to discover or expand their theatrical arts experience under the guidance of professional actors. The two-week afternoon program runs Monday through Friday, from July 17 through July 28, 2017 at the Bothwell Arts Center located at 2466 Eighth Avenue in Livermore.

The “Some Have Greatness” summer theater camp, presented by Teaching Artists from Livermore Shakespeare Festival, offers a special blend of skill building and performance for students in two grade levels. Building on

the success of Livermore Shakespeare Festival’s “So Wise So Young” second grade program, “Some Have Greatness” branches out from literacy to performance, building confidence and collaborative skills, as well as expressivity and creativity along the way.

Students entering grades 3–5 will spend some time crafting costumes and props, as well as in age-appropriate theater games. Students entering grades 6–8 will focus on delving deeper into script analysis and character development with activities designed to help the students relate the character’s stories to their own lives and experiences. Theater games and improv exercises will also be a part of the curriculum. The program ends with a performance for family and friends led by the Teaching Artists from Livermore Shakespeare Festival.

“Some Have Greatness” will run Monday through Friday, 1:00 pm. to 4:00 p.m., for the full two weeks and costs just \$350 per

student. Prior to the first week of the program, from July 17–21, a bring-your-own-lunch extended care option can be added for an additional fee. A discount is offered to Livermore residents and a limited number of scholarships are available through the LVPAC Education Fund. Contact Kiran Guleria for more information 925-583-2312.

In addition, the Bothwell Arts Center is offering three different one-week art camps where students can have fun experimenting with a variety of mediums and materials, as well as a one week creative writing camp with a focus on storytelling. Derik Nelson and Family will bring their signature sibling harmonies to the Bankhead Theater in a multimedia concert on August 4th then lead a week-long workshop on singing, songwriting and performance skills for students in grades 6–12. For more information and registration, visit www.lvpac.org/bothwell.

Essay/Art Contest Winners Announced

Each year the Livermore Area Youth Advisory Commission hosts an essay/art contest for Livermore middle and high schoolers. This year the contest centered around three subtopics: stress, well being and solitude.

Middle school first place went to 7th grader Daphne Yan, for her entry "Eyes."

EYES

When my eyes deceived me, And I had no mentality
I dreamed of dreams, And realized the reality.

The hugs I had imagined,
And kisses to which I would wake, Were all just a facade,
A wall that I would make.

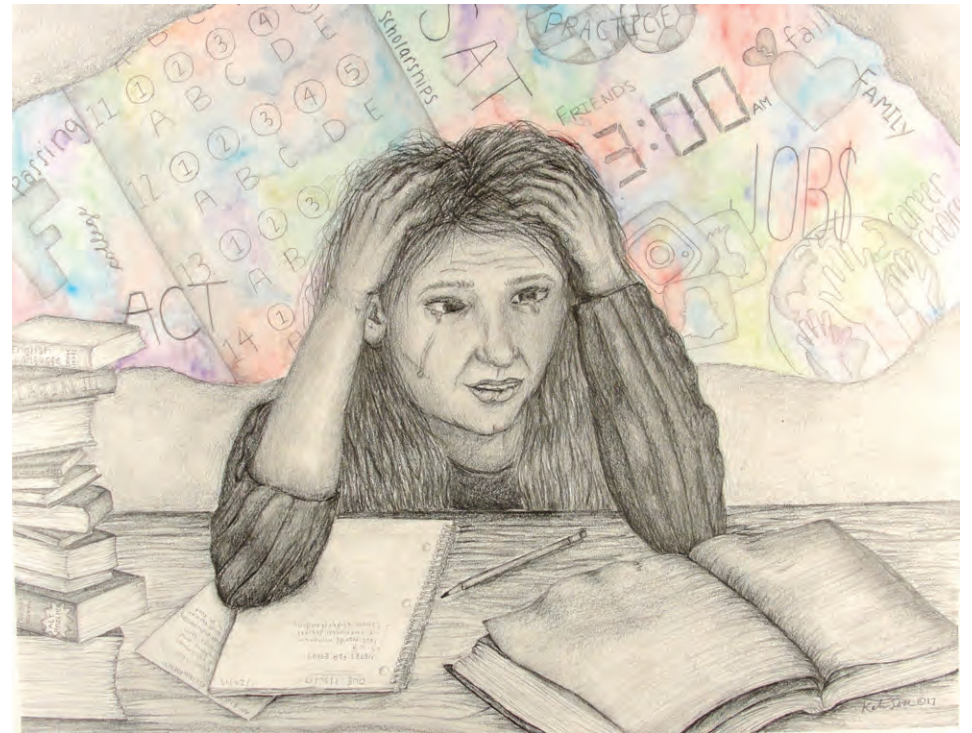
I can close my lids, And see loves abound, Then open my eyes, And not a ghost around.

The people who I thought,
'Were around with me always, Had all fled away from me, And never came back to stay.

I pleaded myself,
Too shake me from this, To dream again of past,
But this they refused to miss.

The melody of the dark, The lyrics of harsh words,
The beat of my frightened heart,
Were now on repeat and slurred.

The coldness that closed in, The fear of my own glee,
The darkness in which I was trapped, Were all my eyes could see.



Art submitted by Kate Sire was the 1st place winner in the high school division.



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Yesterday into Today

By Sarah Bobson

ARETHA AND ANDY

Aretha Franklin and Andy Warhol - on the surface, these two people seem to have nothing in common, except for the fact that they were both famous 60s artists. They also shared a significant date. On June 3, 1968, one of Franklin's greatest hits, "Respect," hit number one on the Billboard charts, and on that same day pop cultural artist Warhol was shot. One happy event, one tragic event, joined together, perhaps unwittingly, perhaps ironically, in the murky waters of the past. I decided to dredge my memory to see whether there really are no more than six degrees of separation between the lives of any two people. This month I will take a look at Aretha Franklin, and next month at Andy Warhol.

The first thing that comes to mind when I think of Aretha, the Queen of Soul, who would be known mostly throughout her career by one name, just like Elvis, Prince, and Beyonce, is her voice and her personal style of phrasing and presentation. I admit, I didn't take right away to her screamed notes. When I first heard her sing, I was studying opera, where the emphasis was on producing beautiful tones, at least in the bel canto repertoire I was learning. It took awhile before I became mesmerized by the raw passion behind her voice, and de-

veloped an appreciation for her blending of rhythm and blues, jazz, and her African-American gospel roots.

Aretha began singing gospel in the Detroit church of her minister/singer father, the Rev. C. L. Franklin, but in 1960 at the age of 18 she switched to secular songs. In the late 60s, she recorded two of her greatest hits, Otis Redding's "Respect" and Carole King's "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman."

I still remember the first time I heard her singing "Respect." The love song, of sorts, which she paradoxically recorded on Valentine's Day in 1967, opens with the suggestive rock strains of horns and guitar, followed by Aretha singing in her almost shrill, piercing soprano words that are equally as suggestive:

(oo) What you want
(oo) Baby, I got
(oo) What you need
(oo) Do you know I got it?

This is followed by the refrain and the accompanying message that is probably best remembered:

(oo) All I'm askin'
(oo) Is for a little respect when you get home (just a

little bit)

The lyrics play with the notions of respect and other matters:

Ooo, your kisses (oo)
Sweeter than honey (oo)
And guess what? (oo)
So is my money (oo)

The main message of the song is further hammered home:

R-E-S-P-E-C-T
Find out what it means
to me
R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Aretha modified Redding's original song, which he composed from a male point of view, where the man expects respect from his woman when he gets home. Aretha changed the lyrics to focus on the woman waiting at home and added a chorus to give the song a feminist slant. The song's transformation transformed her career. However, it did more than that. In calling for "respect" between men and women, it empowered both the women's rights movement (it is considered by many as the feminist anthem of the 60s) and the civil rights movement as well. "Respect" hit the top of the charts four months later and turned

Aretha into a feminist champion. Rolling Stone has since named "Respect" one of the top five greatest songs of all time.

Aretha has recorded so many great songs. She has sold over 75 million records worldwide and was the first female performer to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Her songs range from gospel tunes like "Amazing Grace" to R&B tunes like "Midnight Train to Georgia" to jazzy "At Last" to pop show/movie tunes/love songs like "People" (one of Barbra Streisand's signature pieces) and "Try a Little Tenderness" to folk tunes like "Natural Woman." Aretha has topped the Billboard charts more than any other female artist.

She had the honor of singing (her own gospel rendition of) "America, My Country 'Tis of Thee" at President Obama's Inauguration in January 2008. She again paid tribute to Obama, reportedly an Aretha fan, and to Carole King as well, when she sang King's "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" at the Kennedy Center awards ceremony honoring Ms. King and

four other artists: filmmaker George Lucas, actress and singer Rita Moreno, conductor Seiji Ozawa, and actress Cicely Tyson). As Aretha, accompanying herself on the piano, sang the first few words, King, who sat in the audience in a place of honor next to President and Michelle Obama, began to gesture wildly, clutching her head and her heart, seemingly unable to contain her surprise and joy at the tribute. Aretha's performance also brought President Obama to tears.

For an artist who seems to have done it all (oh yes, she has also acted in films like *The Blues Brothers* with John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd), Aretha has even tried her hand ... uh, her voice ... at opera, surprisingly enough. Who would have thought? Certainly not me way back in the 60s. At the 1998 Grammy Awards, she filled in for ailing Luciano Pavarotti, one of the greatest opera singers of the 20th century, or any century in my humble opinion. Aretha, introduced by Sting, sang Pavarotti's signature piece, the "Nessun Dorma" aria from Puccini's *Turandot*. I don't always

catch the Grammys, but I happened to be watching it on television that night, and I held my breath to see how the Queen of Soul would, or even could, handle this most moving of tenor arias. With traditional orchestration, she began singing in Italian and then segued to English, adding her characteristic soul ornamentations and jazz improvisations. I wondered what she would do with the ending of the aria, which concludes with but one word, "Vincero," "I will triumph." In the opera's final act, Calaf, a beggar who is really a prince in disguise, melts the cold, cold heart of the Principessa Turandot with this final word to win her hand in marriage. Would Aretha sing it in English or Italian? I felt she had to sing the word in Italian because I didn't think it would have the same ring or power or effect in English. For the ending of the aria, Aretha, indeed, segued back to Italian and belted out those strong notes of hers. This night, though, they truly captured Calaf's fortitude in winning over Turandot. Aretha's passionate interpretation and unique way of singing "Nessun dorma" melted the audience's heart, mine as well, and brought the house down.

In the next column: Andy Warhol.

Red, White & Brew Fest and Sip, Savor & Wager Wine Fast planned at the Alameda County Fair

The Red, White & Brew Fest and Sip, Savor & Wager Wine Fest are back for live horse racing at Alameda County Fair

Both events will be held at Pleasanton's historic infield track on race days. Besides unlimited sampling, attendees can enjoy lawn games, wagering and the live horse racing up close. Special event pricing applies.

• Red, White & Brew Fest – Saturday, June 24,

2-5PM; general admission \$45, designated drive \$20. More than 25 top breweries will be pouring a variety of craft beers. <http://annual.alamedacountyfair.com/entertainment/live-music-special-events/red-white-brew-fest>

• Sip, Savor & Wager Wine Fest – Saturday, July 1, 2-5PM; 2-5PM; general admission \$45, designated drive \$20. More than 50 top wineries will be pouring their best red, white & sparkling wines. <http://annual.alamedacountyfair.com/entertainment/live-music-special-events/sip-savor-wager>

[annualcountyfair.com/entertainment/live-music-special-events/sip-savor-wager](http://annual.alamedacountyfair.com/entertainment/live-music-special-events/sip-savor-wager)

Ticket price for both events includes Fair admission, exclusive infield access, unlimited sampling, tasting glass, racing program & tip sheet. Must be 21 or older to attend.

For participating breweries & wineries or to purchase tickets, visit the Fair's website at alamedacountyfair.com.



Claudia Arreola, manager.

Vitality Bowls Now Open in Downtown Livermore

By Carol Graham

There's a new place to hang out while enjoying Livermore's picturesque downtown. Vitality Bowls opened on May 25, at 2175 First Street.

"Vitality Bowls is a superfood café specializing in acai bowls, smoothies, fresh juices, panini and salads," said co-owner Vik Seth. "Everything is fresh and nutritious. The atmosphere is fun, with seating both inside and outside."

Vitality Bowls is revolutionizing Acai Bowls, a thick blend of the Amazon's antioxidant-packed acai (ah-sigh-ee) berry along with other fruits and vegetables, and topped with a variety of superfood ingredients. All Acai Bowls and smoothies contain potassium, fiber, calcium, phosphorus, protein, vitamins, and omega-9 and omega-6 fatty acids. They do not contain fillers like ice, frozen yogurt, added

sugar or artificial preservatives.

"Our most popular," said co-owner Ameet Seth, "are the Warrior Bowl - a blend of acai, almond milk, bananas, blueberries, raspberries, flax seeds, broccoli and a multi-vitamin boost, topped with organic granola, strawberries, almonds, and goji berries, and the Tropical Bowl - acai, coconut milk, apple juice, bananas, mangos, pineapple and flax seeds topped with granola, strawberries, coconut shavings and honey."

Vitality Bowls began in San Ramon in 2011 when the parents of a daughter with food allergies noticed the need for healthy, safe dining alternatives, and opened the first Vitality Bowls on Market Place Drive. Since franchising began in 2014, the brand has seen significant growth with more than 40 cafés open and in development. This year, Vitality Bowls was named one of Entre-

preneur magazine's Top 100 Franchises as it continues to redefine fast, casual, healthy-food dining.

"We were inspired to open Vitality Bowls to help the local community strive for a healthier lifestyle. The fresh, healthy approach aligns with who we are and how we grew up - not to mention the incredible taste of our offerings," said Vik. "Also, owning a family business has always been a dream for us."

The Seths are Dublin residents who also operate a Vitality Bowls café in Brentwood.

"Our business philosophy is all about taking good care of the local community, and owning a business that gives back in many ways," said Ameet. "We believe in what we do, so we make sure everyone we hire represents that and can carry our mission forward."

To learn more, visit www.vitalitybowls.com/locations/Livermore.

Sunflower Hill Selected as Nonprofit of the Year for the 16th Assembly District

Sunflower Hill will be honored as Nonprofit of the Year for the 16th Assembly District at a special celebration at the State Capitol in Sacramento on Wednesday June 28. The selection was made by Assemblywoman Catharine Baker (R-16). The organization will join nearly one hundred other nonprofits from across the state as part of the second annual California Nonprofits Day, an event formally recognized by Assembly Concurrent Resolution 54, and authored by the chair of the new Assembly Select Committee on the Nonprofit Sector Assemblywoman Monique Limon (D-Santa Barbara).

Assemblywoman Catharine Baker stated, "I am pleased to recognize Sunflower Hill as our Non-Profit of the Year. This local organization not only creates an environment of hope and purpose for special needs adults, but it also enhances their life ahead. Our community is better and enriched by Sunflower Hill, their garden and their planned residential communities."

As part of the honor, Assemblywoman Baker plans to hold an in-district reception for Sunflower Hill, families and local residents on Thursday June 29th from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. The event will be held at Sunflower Hill Gardens at Hagemann Ranch, 455 Olivina Drive, Livermore. To attend please RSVP to Assemblywoman Baker's office at (925) 328-1515.

In addition, all state award recipients will be honored at a luncheon at Sacramento's Convention Center, with welcomes from Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, Assemblymember Limon, and Jan Masaoka, CEO of the California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits). California Attorney General Xavier Becerra has also been invited to speak to the gathered honorees and their legislators.

Sunflower Hill, a Tri-Valley based nonprofit, is working to create sustainable residential living for individuals with special needs. Two communities are now in development, one in Livermore and one

in Pleasanton. In addition, Sunflower Hill operates Sunflower Hill Gardens, a one-acre garden at Hagemann Ranch in Livermore that produced more than 9600 pounds of food in 2016. More than 70 percent of the Garden produce is donated to local food shelters like Open Heart Kitchen and Tri Valley Haven. Sunflower Hill is also creating vocational opportunities in horticulture for individuals with special needs and is currently working with Las Positas College on a non-credit certificate program.

"We are honored and so very grateful for this award," said Susan Houghton, President, Board of Directors for Sunflower Hill. "Creating long-term, sustainable communities and ways for individuals with developmental delays to create meaningful lives is paramount. Our sincere thanks to Assemblywoman Baker for her tremendous support."

For more information, visit www.sunflowerhill.org or send an email to info@sunflowerhill.org.

Janet Gates New Principal at Donlon

The Pleasanton Unified School District has selected Janet Gates as the new Principal of Donlon Elementary School. She will begin her new role at Donlon on July 1, 2017 after serving the last three years as Vice Principal of Lydiksen Elementary School.

At Lydiksen, she was instrumental in bringing a number of enrichment programs for parents and students including the Project Lead the Way Launch Program, School Smarts parent engagement program, and an exchange program that provided a window into another culture by bringing students and school administrators from the Liuxia Sister School in China.

In addition to her experience as a school site leader, Mrs. Gates spent 16 years in the classroom, including 11 years in Pleasanton teaching AVID, Life and Earth Science, and Health at Harvest Park Middle School. She holds a Masters of Arts in Teacher Leadership from St. Mary's College.

She attends and leads training for both District staff and community members to build capacity for more equitable curriculum, classrooms and community as part of the Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) Project.

She lives in Pleasanton with her husband and their dog, Snickers. She has three grown daughters, Lizzy, Elaina, and Caroline.

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.

California's Wild Edge: The Coast in Prints, Poetry, and History, capturing the beauty of the California coast through woodcut prints and prose, a new traveling exhibition appearing at Pleasanton's Museum on Main through June 25. The exhibition features artist Tom Killion's Japanese-style woodcut prints, which vividly portray the coast's ever-changing moods and diverse formations. For more information, visit www.exhibitenvoy.org. The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street in downtown Pleasanton. www.museumonmain.org

Visual Rhythm, Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, May 3 to June 27 at the Bankhead Theater Gallery, 2400 First St., Livermore.

Alamo Danville Artists' Society Blackhawk Gallery's new Exhibit Syncopation on view seven days a week through July 9th, 2017. Blackhawk Gallery is located at 3416 Blackhawk Plaza Circle in Danville, California, in the Blackhawk Plaza. Telephone: (925) 648-8023.

Along the Lines. New installation at Harrington Gallery in Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center. On display

June 16 through July 15, 2017. Bringing together 5 very different artists whose works somehow feature "lines:" curvilinear or stick-straight, broad or fine, integrated or thematic. The artists: Jenny Balisle (Richmond), David Fought (San Francisco), Howard Hersh (San Francisco), Jeff Snell (Vallejo), Mel Prest (San Francisco). Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Donations always appreciated. "Along the Lines" class for young people ages 5-11. Guided exhibit exploration, plus hands-on art work activities. Thursday, June 22, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Register at www.pleasantonfun.com, Code 2050.

Special Art Exhibit — Angela Johal & Holly Savas. In conjunction with "Along The Lines" installation. On display June 15 — July 15, Firehouse Arts Center's Harrington Gallery in Pleasanton. Award-winning artists Angela Johal (Livermore) and Holly Savas (San Francisco). Thematically related works will be shown, with focus on abstract structure and geometric expressions. Reception on Thursday, June 15, 7-9 p.m. All are welcome to meet the artists and explore the exhibits. Light refreshments will be served. Free, no tickets required. The Firehouse installations will be located in the triple-storey Grand Atrium Lobby, Hallway, and Mezzanine exhibition spaces, and open to the public during regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Donations appreciated

Pleasanton Art League, fall members' exhibit at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. July 27-Sept. 2. Reception and awards, July 26, 6 to 8 p.m.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Strum & Spirits with David Victor, guitarist/vocalist formerly of the multi-platinum band Boston. Firehouse Arts Center stage in Pleasanton. First session: Thursday, June 29, 7:30 p.m. Innovative, interactive beginner guitar lesson, plus rock 'n roll storytelling, wrapping up with a casual acoustic mini-concert. "The social way to play!" No experience necessary. NOTE: First 40 participants get to sit on stage with David for the session. Admission: participant \$39; participant plus

guitar rental \$49; spectator \$25. More info: www.strumandspirits.com June 29 wine pairing: "The Fiend" from Tooth & Nail Vineyards of Paso Robles. Please note: beverages not included in event ticket; may be purchased separately. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Free parking.

Bothwell Arts Center, ongoing art classes: figure drawing, drawing and painting, colored pencil, oils, collage, portraiture; beginners through intermediate and beyond. Contact Anne Giancola, www.bothwell.lvpac.org or email agiancola@lvpac.org

"Colored Pencil Class for Beginners"

Students will learn the properties of the colored pencil, color theory, and how to create realistic drawings. Students will create their own projects during the six week session. Instructor Maryann Kot. Starts Thurs., June 22nd, 9:30-noon at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. Adult Fee \$145 for six classes. Contact maryannkot@gmail.com for more info or to sign up.

The Young Artists' Studio has openings in its 2017 Summer Session. Artist Peggy Frank welcomes interested students ages 7 and older to sign up for a week or more of small group instruction in art. Projects include all kinds of drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture and are held in Peggy's studio. High school students working on advanced portfolios are welcome, as are adults and families, if space allows. For information about the summer art program or weekly school year lessons contact her at (925) 443-8755 or email frank.a@comcast.net.

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

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, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information, contact Thomasin Dewhurst at (925) 216-7231 or thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit <http://childrensart-classesprojects.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.

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the 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 \$10 fee to cover meeting costs.

WINE & SPIRITS

Wente Vineyards: Garden Tour & Workshop Series: Discover The Garden at Wente Vineyards with Master Gardener, Diane Dovholuk. Aug. 5, 10 a.m. to noon, Fall Vegetables; Sept. 23, 10 a.m. to noon, Sensory Herb Class; Oct. 14, 10 a.m. to noon, The Art of Composting. Price per guest, per session: \$20 Entertainment Club, \$25 Non-Club. Space is limited. Reservations are required. Call 925.456.2424 or visit wentevineyards.com

Cedar Mountain Winery, summer grill and chill series featuring BBQ and music, 6 to 9 p.m.: June 24: Chris Ahlman; July 8: Jack Quigley Souled Out; July 29: MusicLore. Winery supplies the hot coals; bring grilling food; wine by the glass/bottle, nonalcoholic beverages, salami, cheese and crackers available for purchase. For information, call

373-6636. Fee is \$5 per person cash collected at the winery; all fees go to the band. www.cedarmountain-winery.com

Taste Our Terroir, Thursday, July 20, 2017 — Sunday, July 23, 2017, food and wine affair spans four days. On Thursday July 20, 2017 is the annual quest for food and wine pairing excellence which has 20 winemakers partnering with Bay Area chefs to compete for honors at Casa Real. Friday through Sunday wineries across the region host ten food and wine events including cooking classes, wine seminars, vineyard tours and more. www.lvwine.org

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Retzlaff Estate Winery, Live Music every Sunday. 12:00 — 4:30. 1356 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. <http://retzlaffvineyards.com>

Bluegrass open mic and pickup band: The Bandstand in Carnegie Park, 4th and K Streets, Livermore. 2 to 4 p.m. first Sunday of each month until Oct. 1, 2017.

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 Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30--Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

The Kinsey Sicks - America's Favorite Dragapella Beautyshop Quartet presents "Dragapella!" Saturday, June 24, 8:00 p.m. Since June has been designated as Pride month, the Firehouse Arts Center is pleased to present The Kinsey Sicks! Performance record includes an Off-Broadway show, an extended run in Vegas, two feature films and two concert DVDs, nine albums, and appearances throughout the US (in over 40 states), Canada, Mexico, Europe, and Australia. Dragapella has served up a feast of award-winning a Capella singing, sharp satire and over-the-top drag, earning The Kinsey Sicks a diverse and devoted following. Reserved seating tickets \$17- \$27. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848 [Call: 925-931-4848], or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton if not sold out. Recommended for audiences 18+ (language)

Strum & Spirits with David Victor, guitarist/vocalist formerly of the multi-platinum band Boston. Firehouse Arts Center stage in Pleasanton. First session: Thursday, June 29, 7:30 p.m. Innovative,



Art instructor Avianne exhibited her students' work at a special year-end exhibit. Students received awards for specific accomplishments during art classes throughout the year. Works included sculpture, oil and acrylic paintings, and pencil and colored pencil drawings. Avianne teaches all year round at the Bothwell Arts Center for all ages including adults. More information is at www.TakeArtClasses.com and www.bothwell.lvpac.org.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

interactive beginner guitar lesson, plus rock 'n roll storytelling, wrapping up with a casual acoustic mini-concert. "The social way to play!" No experience necessary. NOTE: First 40 participants get to sit on stage with David for the session. Admission: participant \$39; participant plus guitar rental \$49; spectator \$25. More info: www.strumandspirits.com June 29 wine pairing: "The Fiend" from Tooth & Nail Vineyards of Paso Robles. Please note: beverages not included in event ticket; may be purchased separately. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Free parking.

Pleasanton Community Concert Band, July 4, noon to 2:30 p.m. All-Time Favorite Patriotic Music. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

The Lettermen, July 21, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Hadleigh Adams: "Classical Broadway" 2 p.m. July 23. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848, www.firehousearts.org.

5,6,7,8...The Golden Follies 2017! July 29 and 30, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848, www.firehousearts.org.

ON THE STAGE

CIRQUE DES BÊTES, Fri., June 23, 7 p.m. Circus Performing Arts and Burlesque Show. Open to age 21 +. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Honky By Greg Kalleres, Role Players Ensemble, script-in hand performance, June 24 at 8 p.m., June 25 at 2 p.m. Peace Lutheran Church, 3201 Camino Tassajara, Danville. Honky is a provocative and hilarious take on the language of race and racism. Political correctness goes out the window as five people, both black and white, muddle through one of the most difficult discussions of our time. Each performance will be followed by an open discussion of the play's themes featuring the artists and experts working on this presentation. Directed by: Eric Fraisher Hayes. Featuring: Michael L. Grayson II, Danielle Levin, Dorian Lockett, Aaron Murphy, Edward Nattenberg, Kimberly Ridgeway, Aaron Wilton. Tickets: \$25.00; online at www.RolePlayersEnsemble.com. Full Season Information: www.

RolePlayersEnsemble.com Summer Show Series @ Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton: The Kinsey Sicks: "Dragapella!" Saturday, June 24, 8pm — \$17-\$27; Hadleigh Adams: "Classical Broadway." Sunday, July 23, 2:00 p.m. — \$15-\$25; "5, 6, 7, 8..." The Golden Follies 2017. Saturday, July 29 & Sunday, July 30, 2:00 p.m. — \$15 — \$25; "The Music of Simon & Garfunkel" by AJ Swearingen and Jayne Kelli. Saturday, August 12, 8:00 p.m. & Sunday, August 13, 2:00 p.m. — \$15 — \$25. Visit www.firehousearts.org for show and ticketing details, or call or visit the venue Box Office: 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. 925-931-4848.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival: Summer 2017 productions William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, June 29 — July 16, 2017; Edmond Rostand's Cyrano de Bergerac; July 13 — 30, 2017. Wentle Vineyards Estate Winery. 10 performances of each show in July of 2017. livermoreshakes.org

Elvis Has Left the Building, a farce/comedy written by Duke Ernsberger and Virginia Cate. Chanticleers Theatre production. 3683 Quail Ave., Castro Valley. June 30-July 23, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 6 p.m. Sundays. (510) SEE-LIVE (733-5483) or online at www.chanticleers.org

Hamlet, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival 35th Anniversary Free Shakespeare in the Park program at Pleasanton's Amador Valley Community Park on July 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16 at 7:30 p.m. corner of Santa Rita Road and Black Avenue. Admission is free. For more information, call the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival at (415) 558-0888 or visit www.sfshakes.org

Tri-Valley High: The Series 2017. Firehouse Arts Center Theater in Pleasanton, Wednesdays in July. The Bay Area's one-and-only live improvised teen soap opera, presented by Creatures of Impulse, the award-winning Teen Improv Troupe. Four unique shows full of angst, heartbreak, teen drama, and total improvised hilarity. Audience suggestions inspire characters, location, and plot for this interactive and unscripted adventure. Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.: July 5, 12, 19, and 26. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. General admission tickets: students \$5; adults \$10. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Box Office at the center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton. NOTE: Best suited for ages 12 and up

The Wizard of Oz, Tri-Valley Repertory

Theater production, weekends July 15-30, 2017. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 373-6800 or www.bankheadtheater.org.

COMEDY

Free Comedy Show every Thursday at Sanctuary from 7:30-9 pm in the Skylight Room at Sanctuary, 2369 First St. in Livermore.

Paula Poundstone, 8 p.m. July 7. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

MOVIES

Dublin 2017 Picnic Flix outdoor movie series; free, Emerald Glen Park at dusk (around 8:30 p.m.). Guests may begin to arrive at 7:00 p.m. Food trucks will be provided for purchase of food, beverages, and snacks. Bring blankets and low beach chairs, and no pets. Friday, July 21, "E.T. The Extra Terrestrial" (PG); and, Friday, August 18, "Finding Dory" (PG)

DANCE

Dancing Through the Decades, Livermore School of Dance, Bankhead Theater the weekend of June 23 and 24. 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets can be purchased at the box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

Vita Voci, an 8 voice a cappella group, is currently auditioning experienced Tenors. Please contact Susan Anderson at vita vocimadrignals@gmail.com for more information or to schedule an audition. www.vitavoci.org

OPERA

Opera In The Vineyard at Retzlaff Vineyards, July 16, 5 p.m. 1356 So. Livermore Ave., <http://livermorevalleyopera.com>

MISCELLANEOUS

Hagemann Ranch Open House. Tours of the 140+ year old ranch and free, family friendly seasonal activities. The last Sunday of each month, 1-4 PM. Go to www.livermorehistory.com for the monthly program. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.

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 Nancy Tingstrom Turner at natingstr@yahoo.com.

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>

Alameda County Fair, June 19 - July 9, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. Live horse racing, exhibits, concerts, 4th of July fireworks, contests. (closed June 19 and 20 and June 26 and 27). Tickets and schedule at www.alamedacountyfair.com

4th of July Celebration, Downtown Livermore, fireworks and fun. 4pm Street Closure - 9:30pm Fireworks. www.livermoredowntown.com

1st Wednesday Street Party, 6 to p.m. downtown Pleasanton. Theme for July 5, "Salute to Public Safety." www.pleasantondowntown.net

An Evening with George Washington:

Tuesday, July 11th, 7 pm. Ed Kinney Speakers Series. All events are general seating at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Tickets are \$15 General Admission, \$10 Seniors (65+) / Students (with valid ID), \$7 Members. 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.

Summer Wine Stroll, 5 to 8 p.m. downtown Pleasanton, July 15. Listen to live music, taste a variety of local wines and small bites. Information, Pleasanton Downtown Association, www.downtownpleasanton.net

Competition for Young Musicians in 45th Year

The schedule for the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association's 45th Competition for Young Musicians has been announced.

The application deadline is Sunday, September 10, 2017. (Applications will be accepted starting on September 1.) The competition will be held on October 1.

The competition is open to instrumentalists

and vocalists who reside or attend school in Livermore, Pleasanton, Sunol, Dublin, or San Ramon. Students are eligible through grade 12. If not enrolled in high school, the maximum age is 17. All instruments will be considered.

The purpose is to select two young musicians who will perform as soloists with the symphony at its

February 24, 2018 concert. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$500.

Applications must be accompanied by an \$8.00 application fee and a recording for preliminary screening. Additional information may be obtained from www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org or by contacting the competition chairperson at 925.447.1947.

Summer Reading Game in Full Swing at the Pleasanton Library

More than 2,300 children have already signed up to participate in the Pleasanton Library's summer reading program.

Children of all ages can sign up for the program by visiting the Children's Department. Those who complete 10, 20, 30 and 40 hours of reading (or being read to) can claim prizes up until July 30. The most enthusiastic participants can even extend the fun by completing a bonus game to become eligible for a raffle prize at the end of the program.

Throughout the summer

children can attend a variety of weekly activities:

Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.: Movies perfect for ages 5 years old and up.

Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.: A series of special events - including juggling, puppetry, wild animals and more - generally for ages 5 and older, but some for all ages.

Thursdays from 2:30-4:30 p.m.: Drop-in crafts,

Space is limited. All programs require a free ticket that can be claimed at the Children's Desk 30 minutes before the start of each show.

The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue. www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/library.html

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Livermore Teacher of the Year Cultivates Student Engagement in Science

Sometimes the best classroom is a garden. "The garden is a magical place where students are bursting with excitement as they discover hidden worlds. Students can barely contain themselves as an earthworm makes its way under the leaves, or a blossom opens on a flowering plant. They watch in wonder as ants march with loads twice their size, and bees of all different shapes and colors swarm their preferred plants," said Fenna Gatty, science teacher at Altamont Creek Elementary School and 2017 Teacher of the Year for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD).

Students at Altamont Creek are invited to learn about the wonders of science by studying nature. The school's garden classroom is a Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation, as well as by the Bay Friendly Landscaping and Gardening Coalition. The garden includes a live camera feed to the Audubon Society, a compost area, and space for students to write, read, sketch, and measure. As they observe nature, students write down questions in their scientific notebooks for future investigations, sketch observations of the "moment," and capture the colors and shapes that fascinate them looking through the microscopes or hand lenses.

Gatty's enthusiasm for science inspires her students to learn from Mother Nature as well as from NASA astronauts. Gatty is recognized as a pioneer in the teaching of engineering, working with Project Lead the Way (PLTW), a national organization that develops curriculum for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. Altamont Creek students were among the first in the nation to learn about STEM through the now-nationwide "Launch" program. In 2017, Gatty partnered with Granada High



Photos show children in the garden and Ms. Gatty with Principal P.J. Daley.

Teacher, Miguel Baez, to use teleconferencing to enrich learning opportunities. The elementary students, in their own classrooms, interacted with high school students at Granada, to learn how to code by following instructions and guidance by the older computer science students. Both groups of students also used teleconferencing to interact directly with engineers and scientists from NASA to learn real-world applications of STEM.

Gatty embraces the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) that emphasize design and invention, exposing students to engineering challenges. "Students love using engineering to explore

innovative solutions. However, not all problems require new solutions. Often, by studying nature, we can find and apply successful solutions to human problems. We can learn a lot from nature about how to meet our need for energy, how to deal with waste, and even how to work cooperatively," said Gatty.

Gatty was honored by the LVJUSD's Livermore Management Association as the 2017 Teacher of the Year at their annual ceremony in May. "Livermore students are fortunate to have such a dedicated and inspiring teacher to introduce them to the possibilities in the world of science," said Kelly Bowers, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools.

BULLETIN BOARD

(Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of Bulletin Board or email information to 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.)

Pooch Parade, Wednesday, August 2, 2017, Tri-Valley Guide Dog Puppy Raisers will be holding its 20th Annual Pooch Parade in downtown Pleasanton. Proceeds generated from this event are used to purchase equipment, supplies, dog food and transportation to San Francisco and other Bay Area locations where puppy raisers socialize and expose their pups in training to new situations, sounds and smells. The Pooch Parade is held in downtown Pleasanton during the 1st Wednesday Street Fair. More information can be found at <http://trivalleyguidedogs.com/pooch-parade>. \$10 tax deductible entry fee to enter in the parade.

LHS Class of 1992 25th Reunion, July 15, 2017, The Barn - 3131 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. Dinner/Dancing/No host wine & beer. \$45/ticket now through 6/30. \$55/ticket starting 7/1. \$60 at the door. Buy a ticket using PayPal. LHScowboys1992reunion@gmail.com. Questions? Email LHScowboys1992reunion@gmail.com

Dublin Community Blood Drive - The American Red Cross is in need of blood and platelet donations. 1 Blood Drive on Friday, June 23, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in the Community Room at the Dublin Library (200 Civic Plaza). Drop-ins are welcome during the six-hour window, or schedule an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org, entering the sponsor code, DublinCommunity. Appointments can also be made by calling 1-800-REDCROSS.

Pacific Center for Human Growth (Pacific Center), Alameda County Behavioral Health Services is continuing to fund an expansion of services for older adults. A program to provide topical therapeutic peer support groups for isolated LGBTQ older adults in the north, east and central regions of the county. "Older & Out" groups have started at two Alameda County Senior Centers: Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Senior Services - Tuesday afternoons, starting July 11th 2017, 1:15 - 2:45 pm. The groups are free, run for 90 minutes on a rotating 8 week cycle of topics for up to a year, with an ideal of 10 members per group. Groups are facilitated by a team of Pacific Center clinician interns assisted by trained Peer Specialists. Group members decide what topics to cover. Suggested topics include: loss of friends, wisdom that comes with aging, going back in the closet to survive, dating, invisibility in the LGBTQ community, family acceptance challenges, loneliness, resilience, and how to find other services in Alameda County.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA, June 25, 1 p.m. lunch in Sunol, RSVP by June 22 to Ruby, 462-9636. June 29, 1 p.m. lunch in San Ramon, RSVP by June 26 to Marsha, 830-8483.

Tri-Valley Geeks, group of adults who get together for events like board games, movies and fan conventions. Meetings every Tuesday at 5:30 for dinner and board games at Livermore Shari's Cafe, 1116 E Stanley Blvd., Livermore. A schedule of upcoming events can be found on Facebook at: [Facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks](https://www.facebook.com/groups/TriValleyGeeks). Text Melody Evenson at 925-209-1214 for more information.

Pleasanton Lions Club, dinner meetings every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. 530 Inklings Coffee Shop in the Wardrobe Room, Pleasanton. Check website for meeting updates pleasantonlionsclub.org. Pleasanton Lions Club is a non-profit organization that seeks to identify needs within the community and work together to fulfill those needs. For more information or to get involved visit pleasantonlionsclub.org. All are welcome.

Dress a Girl Around the World, an invitation to make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. Next Sew-Fest is Saturday, July 15, from 9 am to 3 pm at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mochio St. Livermore. 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

Have you been affected by someone's drinking? Al-Anon and Alateen offer hope and strength for families and friends of problem drinkers. www.AlanonTriValley.org. 925-277-7661, help@AlanonTriValley.org.

Grief Workshop - Stepping Stones on Your Grief Journey. Second and fourth Thursday at 7:30 pm now through August 24, 2017 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton. No pre-registration is necessary. Sessions open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. For additional information please call Eleanor Flatley at 925-846-8708.

Recovery International Support Group was developed by Abraham Low, MD. This group uses the cognitive-behavioral, peer to peer, self help training system to help individuals gain skills to lead more peaceful and productive lives. Meetings every Sunday at 4 pm. Leader: Barbara Sterrett. www.recoveryinternational.org/ Meetings take place at Arbor Vista: 1300 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. **Meals on Wheels Volunteers** are needed to deliver fresh meals to home-bound seniors in Livermore or Pleasanton one day per week, Monday-Friday between 10 am-12 pm. For more information, please call (925)483-1989.

Rotary Club of Livermore Valley invites interested individuals to attend its morning meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 7 am in Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill at the Las Positas Golf Course, 915 Club House Drive, Livermore. For more information, go to www.livermorevalleyrotary.org/ or contact Fred Quarter-

man at 925-337-5342 or Deb Tacker at 925-447-1135.

Del Valle Folk Dancers: beginning and experienced dancers are welcome. Balkan, Israeli and other world dances, easy line and circle dances, no partners required, casual dress. \$3 per session (first time free). Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center (West end), 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Information: George Pavel (925) 447-8020 or george.pavel@gmail.com

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 free to new dancers. Questions? Margaret 925-447-6980 or mmiller1435@gmail.com

Shepherd's Gate Thrift Store, open at 4014 East Ave. Hours will be 9-6 Monday through Saturday. Donations can be left at 4014 East Ave in the rear of the building. 9:30 AM to 5 PM M-F, 8-2:30 PM Sat, closed Sundays & holidays.

Italian Catholic Federation, meets 3rd Friday of the month, 6 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Anyone who loves all things Italian is invited to meet to celebrate the Italian heritage with monthly dinner meetings and holding charitable events. The group supports Children's Hospital research, college scholarships and other charities. For information, contact Judy Wellbeloved, president, 462-2487.

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 p.m. Come or call a volunteer at (925)289-5356 or 925-922-1467. More information at: www.clutterlesseastbay.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.trivalleystargazers.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

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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 www.trivalleyeir.org and the Statewide SIR at www.sirinc.org/. For information or to attend a meeting, call Carl Churilo, 925-967-8177.

American Legion Post 47 in Livermore is looking for veterans in the Livermore area who are interested in performing community service for young people and promoting veterans affairs. Interested veterans will meet with other like-minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans' causes. The American Legion is the largest federally chartered veterans organization that is the veterans lobby and voice to congress. The Livermore American Legion Post 47 meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street, Livermore. Enter the building from the ramp on the 5th Street side. For more information go to <http://www.calegion.org/> or contact Bill Bergmann at calegion.post47@gmail.com or (925) 443-2330 or Roy Warner at 925-449-6048.

Eric's Corner is a free support group for people who are dealing with a diagnosis of Epilepsy. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. Meetings are held at 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., second floor, Pleasanton. We meet from 6:30 -8:00 on the third Thursday of each month. For more information please visit us at ericscorner.org

Assistance League® of Amador Valley invites all visitors to join this dedicated group of volunteers, reaching out to those in need in the Tri-Valley and having fun doing it. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Parkview, 100 Valley Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, see our website, www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org, e-mail assistanceleagueamadorvalley@yahoo.com, or call (925) 461-6401.

Navy, Marine Corp & Coast Guard Veterans. Meet with other like minded veterans for camaraderie and support of veterans causes. The Fleet Reserve Association is a chartered organization that provides a voice in Congress. Young veterans are highly encouraged to get involved in promoting the concerns of your generation. The local branch of the FRA meets the first Friday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L St., Livermore. For more information go to www.fra.org or contact Roy Warner at 925-449-6048 or Loraine Maese at 454-1582.

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.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) Pleasanton, meets Wednesdays 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd.,

Pleasanton (not affiliated with the church. Information at www.dbsalliance.org/ pleasanton or contact chapter leader, Al Pereira, 462-6415.

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. Contact is Lee Parlett 292-9280.

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-621-8946 for additional information.

Tri-Valley Triathlon Club (TVTC), Information on programs and memberships, training philosophies and schedules, and all things TVTC, an all inclusive triathlon/marathon/endurance training program. www.trivalleytriclub.com.

Pleasanton Military Families is a Pleasanton based support group for those who have a loved one serving in the Military. The group gathers at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share concerns, fears, and to celebrate the joys that are experienced. There is no better support than being surrounded by others who know what you are going through. Three times per year, the group collect supplies and sends care packages to the troops. Contact PMFSG.ca@gmail.com for the location of the next meeting.

Livermore Military Families, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their

experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. All family members are welcome to attend meetings. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com.

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program For more information www.fpcl.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 Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. Rabbi Dr. Laurence 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. A Reconciling Church, where all are welcomed. Sunday Worship time has changed to 10:00 a.m. Children and youth welcome. Signup now for Vacation Bible School "Superheroes of the Bible" July 24-28 from 9am to noon. Register by July 9 to attend. Registration forms available online at our website. For more information visit www.asburylive.org or call 925-447-1950.

Calvary Tri-Valley, Sunday Services

at 243 Scott Street, Livermore, 10:00am. www.calvalrylivermore.org or 925-447-4357.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concannon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school — 9:45 a.m.; worship service — 11 a.m. All are welcome. 447-3428.

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, Adult Sunday school 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church (Pre-K-5th grade) 11:15 a.m., Nursery to age 3, Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Senior Adult Ministries meet every other month. For ministry information call (925) 846-8650

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. New Sunday Worship Services & Children's Ministry times now at 9AM & 10:30AM. Small Groups also meet on Sundays, and during the week at various times/locations. Trinity Student Ministries (7-12th Grade) meet on Sundays at 9AM and on Weds. eve. from 7-9PM. Awana meets Sundays from 3:30-5:30PM trinity-livermore.org or 925-447-1848.

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, 1047 Serpentine Lane #300, Pleasanton. 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. www.saintbartsLivermore.com. Service Schedule: 8:00 a.m. Contemplative Eucharist; 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study (check web-site); 10:20 Sunday School (Godly Play); 10:30: Sung Eucharist with choir, child care provided.

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, 1055 Serpentine Lane, Pleasanton. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday, 10:30 am. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcome. www.pathway-communitychurch.org (925) 322-1222.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9:00 am, followed by Bible Study/ Sunday School at 10:20 am. For more information, visit www.goodshepherd-livermore.org or call (950) 371-6200.

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.

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, meets at 10:00 am Sunday at 6751 South-front Road, Suite 6749, Livermore. Phone 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org.

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.

Lynnwood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton, offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome. Summer schedule is one service at 9:30 a.m. May 28-Sept. 3. Childcare provided. Contact the church office at (925) 846-0221, send an email to office@lynnwood.org or visit our website at www.lynnwood.org.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints--Livermore Stake: Sunday services--1501 Hillcrest Ave. Sycamore Grove Ward 9:00 am; Windmill Springs Ward 11:00 am. 950 Mocho St. Valley View Ward 9:00 am; Vineyard Hills Ward 11:00 am; Mocho Branch (Spanish) 12:20 pm. 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin: Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 1:30 pm.

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.jkpcdublin.org (925)828-1846.

Livermore Quakers: Unprogrammed worship, Sundays at 6 pm, 1886 College Ave. (United Christian Church). www.LivermoreQuakers.com

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 1886 College Ave., Livermore. For more information contact revharriet1@yahoo.com or visit us at <http://cslvlighthouse.org>.

St. Matthews Baptist Church, 851 Rincon Ave., Livermore. www.smbclive.com or 443.3686. Dr. Allen S. Turner. Worship services 8 and 11 a.m., Sunday family Bible school, 9:30 p.m., Bible study and youth ministry, Wednesday 7 p.m. Feed the homeless, Saturday 11 a.m. Prayer, 6 p.m. weekdays.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, gives away clothing and other items every Monday 10-12. Donations are also accepted on Mondays between 10-12. 4418 E. Avenue, Livermore.

Christ Church (a nondenominational evangelical church formerly meeting in Pleasanton), Now meeting at Arroyo Mocho Elementary School, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Worship service at 9:00 a.m.; Educational Classes for all ages at 11:00 a.m. visit: www.christchurch-trivalley.org or call 925.846.0665.

Unity of Tri-Valley is a welcoming spiritual community for people of all faiths and backgrounds. Children's program available. Ongoing groups and activities. Rev. Micah Murdock, minister. 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. 10:00 am Sunday service. www.unityoftrivalley.org. 925.829.2733.

GraceWay Church worships at 10 a.m. Sundays at Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Road while its new facility is being prepared. Services include band-led worship music, Sunday School for preschoolers and elementary through high school students. Infant care is provided. www.gracewaylife.org (925) 846-4436.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church, meets at 1759 Locust St., Livermore. (925) 667-1610. www.gracembc.com. Sunday School, 9:45 am; Sunday Worship, 11 am. Relevant and refreshing Bible teaching. Pastor: Jeff Barger.

Discovery Church of the Nazarene, 5862 Las Positas Road, Livermore. Pastor Curtis Lillie, 925 449-5256. Community Breakfast (free) served every Sunday at 9:30 AM. Worship Service, Sundays at 10:45 AM

Gateway Church, 811 Marilyn Avenue, Livermore. 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship. For more information visit gatewaylivermore.org or call Larry Trummel at 449.1444.

Milestones

EDUCATION

The University of Alabama awarded approximately 5,000 degrees during spring commencement May 5-7.

Degree recipients included Pleasanton residents: Rachel Adkins, Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts; Pratik Mehta of Pleasanton, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering; and, Nicole Ponzini, Bachelor of Science in Commerce & Business Administration.

Justin Edward Gibson of Pleasanton, a senior majoring in civil engineering, was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2017 semester at Clarkson University. Dean's List students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average and also carry at least 14 credit hours.

Hayley Do of Pleasanton, excelled during the Spring 2017 semester, achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 to earn a spot on the Dean's List.

Kavita Shah of Pleasanton, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Studies at Emerson College's 137th commencement ceremony, held on May 14, 2017.

The Georgia Institute of Technology presented degrees to approximately 3,800 undergraduate and graduate students during the Institute's 253rd Commencement exercises on May 5-6, 2017, at the McCamish Pavilion.

They included Pleasanton residents: Andrew Hong of Pleasanton, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering; and Sruti Bheri, Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering.

Ziyao Yan of Pleasanton has been named to the University of Delaware's Dean's List for the Spring 2017 semester.

To meet eligibility requirements for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled full-time and earn a GPA of 3.33 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester.

Pleasanton Lions Club Awards Scholarships

The Pleasanton Lions Club, on behalf of the Matthew Yount Memorial Scholarship Foundation, gave out another round of scholarships this year. That brings the total to \$23,000 since his passing in November of 2013. The scholarships are meant for two groups. One is the Cal Poly Study Abroad program, the program that Matthew was in when he tragically drowned in Spain. The other group are from Pleasanton high schools. Matthew had attended Foothill, but a student from any high school can apply through Mary Hart Reding and the Amador Valley Scholarships Inc. This year the Matthew Yount Foundation gave away scholarships to Sam Christensen and Patrick Mackle from Foothill and Caroline Clark, Cameron Huber, Jocelyn Santamaria and Katie Sullivan from Amador Valley High School.

This year the Pleasanton Lions Club and the Matthew Yount Foundation are planning a golf outing on Friday, July 21st at the Pleasanton Golf Center located in the Pleasanton Fairgrounds. Start time is 3:00pm with dinner served by Eddie Papa's restaurant at 5:30. Price is \$85 for adults, \$50 for students and dinner only \$40. RSVP to Greg Yount @ yountbz@yahoo.com or by calling 925-730-3874.

"Oh, the places you'll go!" The Dr. Seuss classic that enthralled the Class of 2017 when they were second graders took on new meaning last week as 994 students graduated from Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) high schools. Kelly Bowers, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, said, "Our students are absolutely ready to fulfill our District mission to contribute and thrive.

"Seeing our students graduate, knowing the excellent education they have received thanks to our outstanding educators, gives me every confidence that our world will be better because of the contributions of the Class of 2017," she added.

The graduates were from the four District schools: Livermore High, Granada High, Del Valle Continuation High, and Vineyard Alterna-

tive High. In addition, 15 students graduated from the first Middle College High School cohort, a joint academic program offered by Las Positas College and the Tri-Valley school districts.

The Golden State Seal of Merit was awarded to 375 of the LVJUSD graduates. The Seal recognizes superior academic accomplishment in six core subject areas. It is awarded jointly by the California Department of Education and the LVJUSD Board of Education. Another 120 graduating seniors earned the California State Seal of Biliteracy, graduating with fluency in both English and a second language. Spanish, French, and Chinese were mastered by LVJUSD students in the Class of 2017.

LVJUSD students will embark on their future journeys, heading to college, the military, and the work force.



Girls Scouts of Northern California Troop 30521 raised \$150 to donate to ValleyCare Charitable Foundation. The funds will be used to purchase children's books for pediatric patients visiting the Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare Urgent Care, as the Scouts wanted to provide some comfort and distraction to kids who may be feeling anxious or worried. Pictured are (bottom, from left) Sarah, Sarina, Carolyn, Elizabeth, Taya, Bella; (middle) Tallulah, Zena, Finley, Didde, Allie, Febe, Kaitlyn, Ashlynn; (back) leaders Myra and Kirsten.

Livermore Graduates Awarded Diplomas; Honors

Pauline Huben, Coordinator of the Migrant Education Program for LVJUSD, said,

"We are very proud to share that all of the seniors in our Migrant Ed Program are

college-bound this fall." Congratulations, Class of 2017!



Livermore High Grads