

Art, Community, & Education

Pleasanton 4th of July Event: 'Celebrating Freedom'



Dublin Heritage Park Ribbon Cutting

Fireworks at the Fair Among Weekend Events

Find Out What's Happening

Check out the second section

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

Dublin Parks Designated for Fireworks

The City of Dublin has designated three parks where the use of Safe and Sane Fireworks will be permitted between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. on July 4, 2011.

They are Alamo Creek Park, Dougherty Valley and Willow Creek Drive; Dublin Sports Grounds, Dublin Blvd. and Civic Plaza; and Emerald Glen Park, Tassajara and Gleason Drive.

VFW Plans Commemorative Wall at Vets Hall In Livermore

A brick wall to commemorate the names of people who have served in the military will be built in front of the Livermore Veterans Hall.

Some \$5000 has been raised, with an ultimate goal set at \$40,000, said Leonard Gregory, a past commander of VFW Post 7265.

Gregory is helping to lead the effort, along with other VFW members, such as Bowman Wong, Denise and Abdoul Sughayar, and Bob Rochin.

VFW is not the only organization participating. The American Legion, the DAR, the Gold Star Mothers and the Blue Star Mothers are also involved.

The idea is for people to buy a brick to commemorate their loved ones, living or not, who have served in the military. They did not necessarily have to see combat or be stationed outside the United States, said Gregory.

Gregory suggested the idea after a visit to his hometown, Nevada City. "They have a beautiful park, with drawings and plaques. My dad and brother and I are on the wall there. Livermore is much bigger than Nevada City. Here there is nothing. I hope this idea catches fire," said Gregory.

Gregory gave some of the credit "for making this thing go" to former Livermore mayor John Shirley, a member of the Livermore VFW post.

(See VETS HALL, page 14)



RABBIT OF THE MONTH

Hello, my name is Simba. I'm a Dwarf Lionhead. I'm mostly fluff, weighing less than 3 pounds! I'm a calm, mature guy who is looking for a quiet home where someone will love me. Meet Simba and other rescues at the Dublin Petco, located at 11976 Dublin Blvd. The bunnies are available for adoption daily during store hours. Visit www.eastbayrabbit.petfinder.com to see more profiles, or call East Bay Rabbit Rescue, 925-449-6368, for more information.

Housing Center Begins Drive to Raise \$1 Million

The Tri-Valley Housing Opportunities Center (TVHOC) is starting a campaign to raise \$1 million in a bid to help people to buy a home.

The funds won't go directly to homeowners, said TVHOC board member James Paxson, the board's chair until recently. The money will hire more counselors to expand the ability of TVHOC to reach more people.

TVHOC helps people in a variety of ways with its counseling. "One of the things we do is to see if they are ready and able (to move to homeownership). If they are not ready, we may talk to them about credit repair — get-

ting their credit back into good shape," said Paxson.

New buyers are advised that keeping up their property is important, too. It protects their assets, said Paxson.

The funding campaign will reach out to corporations not only for donations, but also to answer the firms' interest in helping their own employees to find permanent housing in the Tri-Valley.

There is an advantage to the community in enabling people to buy a home. People put down roots in the community, which helps the overall stability of a city, said Paxson.

The center also helps people who own homes, but are under threat of foreclosure. Lately that has been about 60 percent of its clientele. At a housing opportunity outreach workshop a few weeks ago, "we heard from people that help is desperately needed," said Paxson.

TVHOC can assist those troubled homeowners by working as a liaison between them and their banks concerning such items as loan modifications.

Milly Seibel, TVHOC executive director, said that a workshop on June 4 about dealing with foreclosure recovery drew about

25 people. They heard a panel of experts, such as realtors, bankers, and housing agencies.

Holding workshops with a couple of dozen people helps all of the clients, said Seibel. They are able to exchange information on experiences and goals.

TVHOC is not just for people with low or moderate income. All income levels are welcome, although some of the organization's grants allow it to focus on the needs of people who seek affordable housing.

Whether someone has plenty of money or not, all have the same questions about how to

choose a realtor and what kind of financing to obtain, said Seibel. It's also important to know things about budgeting and guarding one's credit rating or improving it.

TVHOC will present its next workshop July 16 in Danville. There are no geographic restrictions. People from as far away as Brentwood and Antioch have come to workshops, since the organization began being listed on a HUD web page. People can sign up for the workshop at the organization's web site www.tvhoc.org/, or by calling the office at 373-3130.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Playing inside a huge inflated bubble floating in water is one of the many attractions at this year's Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton. The fair runs through July 10. For more photos, see page 10.

Settlement Funds to Pay for Open Space Purchases

The Livermore City Council approved the expenditure of open space funds to help finance the purchase of two properties in North Livermore.

The money comes from the Altamont Landfill Open Space Fund and the Dougherty Valley Settlement Agreement Open Space Fund. All of the money was generated as the result of lawsuits and can only be spent to purchase easements or land.

Two funds were tapped for \$1 million each to finance the purchase of 65 acres known as the Farber Property. It is adjacent to the East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) Brushy Peak Regional Preserve.

The second allocation of money was \$250,000 to open an escrow account towards the purchase of the 1380 acre Pardee property. The land was the subject of a successful referendum to stop the construction of 2450 houses. The referendum was supported by 72 percent of voters. The city is working in partnership with the Trust for Public Land to purchase the property.

The total cost of the Farber site is \$2.685 million. EBRPD will provide the \$685,000. Senior Planner Steve Stewart told the council that Fricke Lake is

(See PARDEE, page 10)

Paragon Outlet Center Work to Get Underway

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena's 10th and final state of the city address provided some nuggets of information.

Kamena noted, that all of the paperwork is completed for the Paragon Outlet Center. Construction on the high end shopping center near El Charro will get underway this year.

Innovation was a big theme,

involving I-GATE and Innovation Tri-Valley. Kamena pointed out that I-GATE is designed to bring in new businesses based on new ideas. He mentioned such innovations as batteries that never wear out and plastic antibodies. A huge partnership is behind the I-GATE. It includes five cities, both national laboratories, and educational institutions.

Kamena introduced two representatives from the University of Oklahoma in the audience. They are visiting for the summer and will report back to their chancellor the possibility of opening a Livermore campus at I-GATE. The University of Michigan has already signed on, stated Kamena.

He added, Innovation Tri-Val-

ley is organizing to produce jobs with, "The aim of unleashing the potential of this area."

Kamena noted that according to Innovation Tri-Valley, 67% of venture capitalists funds go to the East Bay, with 66% of that number going to the Tri-Valley.

The talk was hosted by the Livermore Chamber of Com-

(See STATE OF CITY, page 8)

Golfing Against Drunk Driving: Rotary Golf Tournament to Support Every 15 Minutes

By Patricia Koning

Teens often think that warnings don't apply to them, that bad things will happen to someone else. So how do you drive home lessons on deadly topics, like drunk driving?

For the past 12 years, Liver-

more teens have lived a real-life drunk driving experience without the real-life risks and consequences, thanks to an innovative program called Every 15 Minutes and the Livermore Police Department. "This program works," says Livermore Police Officer

Traci Rebiejo. "It changes the outlook of everyone who experiences it."

The Rotary Club of Livermore Valley has generously supported Every 15 Minutes since its inception in Livermore. The program, which costs about \$70,000, is

funded in part by a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety; Rotary picks up the rest.

On Friday, August 5, The Rotary Club of Livermore Valley will hold its third annual golf tournament fundraiser at The Course at Wente Vineyards,

with all proceeds benefiting Every 15 Minutes. For more information, visit www.rclvgolf.dojiggy.com.

Named for the interval at which someone dies or is permanently disabled as a result of

(See GOLFING, page 8)

Pleasanton Trustees Focus On Bonds' Extra Cost, Budget, Homework Policy

Pleasanton school trustees discussed the budget, and heard about what cash-outs of district bonds will cost taxpayers at the June 21 meeting.

The board also approved a homework policy and extended Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi's contract by one year, to 2014. She is finishing her first year on the job.

The budget for 2011/12, approved by a unanimous vote, hires back teachers, counselors and specialists who were laid off in May, keeps class-size ratios at 25:1, and adds three sections at each of the two comprehensive high schools. Concessions on the part of staff helped to balance the budget.

These are all brought back on a one-year basis at a cost of \$2.5 million, as previously approved

by the board.

Total general fund amount for the new budget is \$111 million, with 88 percent of the cost going to personnel. The other 12 percent covers such items as utilities (\$2.4 million), professional services (\$6.5 million) and supplies and materials (\$2.1 million).

The district is saving money from \$1.7 million from concessions made by teachers. There will be no furlough days in the coming year.

Teachers will receive their step and column increases, as called for by the district's contract. There are no additional raises for them. Other savings come from classified employees' concessions of \$400,000 and management and confidential employees at \$100,000.

(See PLEASANTON, page 2)



Photo Doug Jorgensen

Opening ceremonies at the Livermore Relay for Life last weekend included many groups. For more photos and a story, see page 12.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Are you interested in a spunky kitty that enjoys the warm summer weather and long conversations? If so, we have the perfect cat for you! Kirby is an eye-catching feline with gorgeous markings. Kirby is about one year old and is waiting for her Prince Charming to come take her home. To learn more about our adoptable animals, call 925-426-8656 or visit the website www.valleyhumane.org for more information. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Hours are Tues.- Sat. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Photo courtesy of the Morgan family

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

The budget has reductions totaling \$3.5 million, which helps the district maintain its state-mandated 3 percent reserve. Another contributor to that cause is \$2.7 million from the federal jobs act.

The budget also includes \$900,000 in reductions in categorical funding, which include not continuing class-size reduction in 9th grade math and English or peer assistance review.

Money from the Regional Occupational Program and adult education will be used to help in the restoration of other programs. The diversion has been allowed by the state because of the state budget cutbacks.

Assistant superintendent Luz Cázares said that the two unknowns about the district's budget at this point are the final resolution of the state budget and how the district's enrollment will be distributed across various grades when school starts.

The board also heard a report from consultant Lori Raineri,

president of Government Financial Strategies (GFS), about six cash-out refinancings of Measures A and B bonds between 2003 and 2005.

The refinancings have been called into question by Pleasanton residents who said that tax bills would be smaller now if the district had not gone ahead with the cash-outs, and then spent the money on improvements to Amador Valley and Foothill high schools.

The critics said that the district was asking voters this year and two years ago to increase their taxes through a parcel tax, but had not responsibly handled paying back taxpayers from Measures A and B.

Because voter confidence in the district concerning financial matters was at stake, staff appointed a citizens committee to look into the history of the bond measure refinancing.

The committee has met twice, and declared it wants to make recommendations for best practices that the district can have on the books in the future when other bond issues are decided.

Raineri told the board that taxpayers will be spending an additional \$9.28 million between 2003 and 2022 because of the cash-outs. This was debt separately authorized by the board apart from the payback of Measures A and B.

The cash-outs were completed when the financial markets offered lowered interest rates. The district did save \$9.8 million by refunding Measures A and B in those refinancings. That would have happened, even if the district had not also taken the cash-outs, said Raineri.

Raineri later told The Independent, "If you mortgaged a house for \$100,000, you can only pay off the \$100,000. If a house were worth more, you may be able to borrow \$110,000, pay off the \$100,000 and have \$10,000 to spend on something else. You still have to pay off the \$10,000."

That was what happened with the district. The district refinanced the bonds' debt, and saved \$9.8 million. Then it authorized cashing out the bonds to obtain \$9.28 million separately. Although both amounts are in the \$9 million to \$10 million range, it appears to be just a coincidence — one that has confused some — that the two numbers are so close together, said Raineri.

Of the \$9.28 million cash-out, \$6.79 million went into a fund for school construction, and \$2.49 million is additional interest that is included in the amount taxpayers have to pay.

CASH-OUT METHOD RAISED QUESTIONS

The way the district conducted the transaction has also raised questions from the parcel tax opponents.

Julie Testa, a member of the citizens committee, told how Reduce Overcrowded Campuses Alliance (ROCA), a group advocating a third high school in 2000 to alleviate overcrowding at the two high schools, suggested using money left over from Measures A and B to help build the school. They talked about a science or arts magnet school to relieve crowding pressures.

They were told at a public meeting by the original backers of the measures that ROCA should sponsor its own bond measure if it wanted a new facility. Only projects that were in the district's blue book at the time of passage were supposed to be paid by the bonds, district officials and bond campaign leaders said then.

However, two or three years later, the district took a different stance. Instead of just paying down the bond debt, the board authorized the cash-outs, and incurred the new debt for the district. Trustees added classrooms and other facilities at the comprehensive high schools.

Testa said at a citizens committee meeting June 20 that it was "hypocritical" of the district to tell ROCA one thing, and turn around and do the opposite. It's one of the reasons that voters are uneasy about the district's record around finance, she said.

What also contributed to critics' lack of trust concerning the

district's financial stewardship was how it was authorized. In conducting research, Testa found a January 2009 attorney general's opinion that said cash-outs were illegal, unless a school district went to the board for voter approval.

Testa noted that the law was on the books at the time that Pleasanton cashed-out the bonds.

That information helped lead to the board's current look at the past and what ought to be done in the future to ensure transparency and good practices on bond sales.

Raineri said there is no sign in her research that anyone in the district thought the cash-outs were an improper action.

Trustee Jeff Bowser said that people on the board then — "the Kris Weavers, the Steve Pulidos, the Gloria Fredette's and the Juanita Haugens — were people of high integrity. They wouldn't do something they didn't feel was in the best interests of the community. Juanita started the character coalition. These are pillars of our community."

The committee will meet again before the board's next meeting, which will be Aug. 16. Raineri will give a report to the

board then.

HOMEWORK POLICY HAS A REVISION

The board also passed a homework policy revision on a 4-1 vote, with Jamie Hintzke voting no.

Hintzke said that she wanted to see the policy given more of a "test drive" before she was comfortable with it. She also said that most of the problems raised by parents appeared to affect a relatively small percentage of students. Their concerns could be facilitated through promoting better parent-teacher communication. "That's the breakdown 90 percent of the time," she said, referring to her experience as a PTA leader.

Cindy Galbo, the district's assistant superintendent of educational services, said the changes in the policy are aimed at making the homework experience more efficient for the student, with clearer communication of expectations from teachers about assignments.

The policy discussion began 14 months ago. It involved students, parents and teachers. It was prompted by a community concern about heavy time demands on students, caused

by extracurricular activities, advanced placement classes, and the distractions of social media.

A survey of students showed that many wanted the elimination of what they judged to be busy-work, and a clear statement from teachers about an assignment's focus and expectations.

The district will monitor the policy for one year, and consider modifications afterward, said Galbo.

The board also voted unanimously to extend Ahmadi's contract. She was hired one year ago. The one-year extension will take her contract to 2014, with no change in pay in the coming year.

Trustee Chris Grant told Ahmadi, "I want to compliment you and your whole team. You brought in new thoughts and new energy. I've been impressed by your collective leadership of the cabinet."

Trustee Jeff Bowser added, "It has been fabulous to see you in the community, everywhere. It's what the district needs."

Hintzke said, "This school board is honored that you would like to stick around for three more years."



Andrea Olson of State Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan's office (left) provided a certificate of recognition for the solar project to Zone 7 Board President John Greci (center) and General Manager Jill Duerig (right).

Solar Panels Will Save Water District Money

The Livermore-Amador Valley's Zone 7 Water Agency has taken a step in both reducing energy costs and helping the environment through construction of a solar power project for operation of its Del Valle Water Treatment Plant in Livermore. In partnership with Zone 7, Borrego Solar Systems Inc. designed and built, and now operates and maintains, the 348-kilowatt photovoltaic system at its own expense. Zone 7 will buy all of the electricity the plant produces at a fixed rate.

The solar panels will produce about a third of the energy Zone 7 uses in water-treatment and other operations at the Del Valle plant. Zone 7's estimated reduction in energy costs is expected to exceed \$800,000 for the 20-year term of the agreement. The savings could be substantially higher if conventional power costs escalate more than the conservative projections.

In addition, by reducing reliance on conventional power plants that burn fossil fuels, the project will cut annual greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change.

"This is a win-win for our water ratepayers and for the environment," said John Greci, president of the Zone 7 Board of Directors, during an open house event held Wednesday at the Del Valle site. "Zone 7 is trying to set an example, to set a green footprint and be responsible to our ratepayers at the same time."

He added that the Agency continues to explore additional ways to optimize its energy use in water treatment, groundwater pumping and overall operations.

The project has been financed using a solar financing model called a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). Under this PPA, Borrego designed, built, owns and maintains the solar power installation on Zone 7 property. In return for the right to use Zone 7 land, Borrego agreed to sell the clean energy the solar installation produces to Zone 7 at predetermined rates (currently 28 percent less per kilowatt-hour than the PG&E grid rate) for 20 years. The arrangement allows for Borrego to take advantage of federal tax credits, and does not require any upfront capital costs on Zone 7's part.

Day in the Park

Sunday, August 28, 2011
11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. • Camp Arroyo, Livermore

Silent Auction • Live Auction • Epicurean Ensemble
Wine Tasting • Celebrity Guests • Camp Tour

\$175 for individual tickets • \$2,000 for a table of 10
Sponsorship Opportunities starting at \$3,000

For more information and to register, visit www.ttff.org,
call 925.455.5118 or send an e-mail to TTFF@ttff.org

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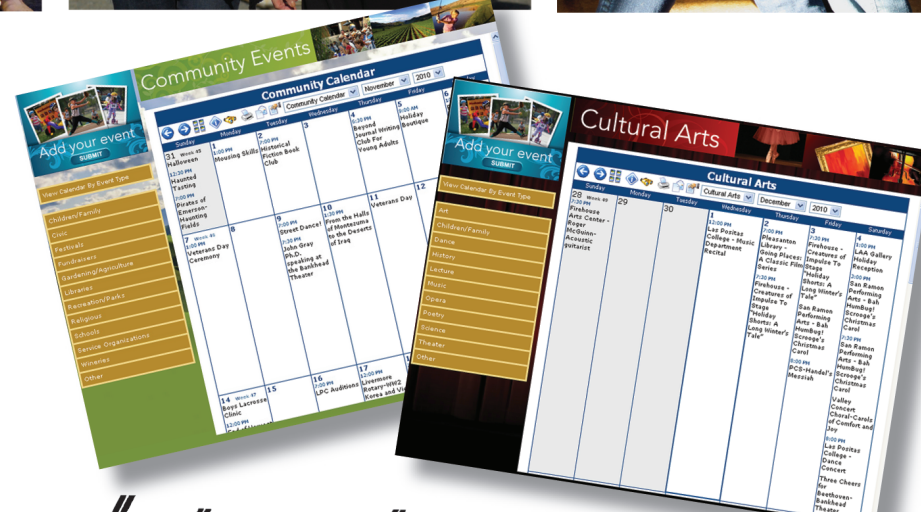
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NOW! ONLINE CALENDARS

The Independent's new **Online Events Calendars** help you know all of the *Community* and *Cultural Arts* events going on this week, this month and this year. You can even submit your events! See what's happening in The Valley.

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THE *Independent*

VALLEY ROUNDUP

Award for Development Code

The City of Livermore Community Development Department received the 2011 Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust Form-Based Codes Award for its Development Code. Livermore was one of only two cities nationwide to receive this award. The award was presented during the Congress for the New Urbanism's 19th Congress in Madison, Wisconsin.

The jury singled out the following aspects when selecting Livermore as the award recipient:

- The Livermore Code is a valuable model of how to code a medium-sized town with both existing walkable and auto-oriented neighborhoods.
 - The Livermore Code is focused on providing a complete form-based regulation for medium and higher density residential areas that are or have the potential to be walkable and will provide a successful model for other areas within the City.
 - The Livermore Code is organized to fully integrate the form-based code regulations within the framework of the more traditional zoning and completely reformatted to be user-friendly and easy to implement.
- Mayor Marshall Kamena stated: "I am thrilled that the Form-Based Codes Institute has recognized the significance of our form-based code. Our Code is now much clearer and easier for the development community to navigate, and really helps our Planning Commission and City Council implement City policy in an effective manner."

Pleasanton OKs Programs

At last week's Pleasanton City Council meeting, the council approved several items related to community programs.

The council okayed a contract with San Francisco Shakespeare Festival for theatrical production services in the amount of \$128,500. The fee pays for a summertime outdoor theater production and a series of three youth and family-oriented productions.

Little Valley Winery was selected to provide concession and catering services at the Firehouse Arts Center. The winery will pay the city \$3159 annually for the concession rights.

Since the Center opened in September 2010, over 18,000 people have visited and/or participated in a total of 155 events.

The final approval was a service agreement with the Amador Livermore Valley Historical Society to provide programming and technical support associated with the Alviso Adobe Community Park and Museum on Main. The contract is for \$138,805. The society will provide expertise in interpretive planning, changing of temporary exhibits, collections management, grant writing and fund raising.

Court Asked to Require Full EIR

Tri-Valley CAREs, a watchdog non-profit organization located in Livermore, filed its "reply" brief with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Friday, June 24, 2011. This is Tri-Valley CAREs'

final submission in the group's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) case against the Department of Energy (DOE) over operation of a Biosafety Level-3 (BSL-3) facility at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Dates for oral arguments are anticipated soon.

Tri-Valley CAREs is requesting the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to order a full Environmental Impact Statement for the BSL-3 with a new public comment period, as well as the suspension of operations at the BSL-3 until the DOE & NNSA are in compliance with NEPA.

The Lab's BSL-3 facility has the ability to perform aerosol spray experiments on small animals with pathogens such as live anthrax, plague, Q fever, botulism, and many other bio-agents and toxins, including ones that have been genetically modified.

Tri-Valley CARE initiated litigation in 2003 targeting the facility. In response to this litigation, in 2006, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ordered the DOE to prepare an analysis of the potential environmental consequences of a terrorist attack at the BSL-3 facility.

DOE claimed a previously completed assessment based on a routine centrifuge accident scenario would be sufficient to meet the Court's order. The analysis of the centrifuge scenario has been heavily criticized by the National Academy of Sciences for its non-transparent methodology, which does not allow for third party verification of the results, and for other reasons.

Additional concerns have arisen since 2003 due to the failed safety and security incidents at the bio-facilities, such as a shipping accident involving live anthrax that exposed 5 laboratory workers, as well as a CDC-restricted, illegal experiment Livermore conducted wherein an antibiotic resistant strain of Plague was developed.

Congress at Your Corner

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) will hold a Congress at Your Corner on Friday, July 1, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the library in Pleasanton, located at 400 Old Bernal Avenue.

At this Congress at Your Corner Rep. McNerney will meet with small groups of people in 30 minute segments based on the order in which they arrive.

"I'm firmly committed to being accessible to the people I represent," said Rep. McNerney. "Over the past four years, I've held dozens of these events and always enjoy the opportunity to hear directly from the people I represent. I encourage people to come share their thoughts and ideas with me."

Since taking office in 2007, Congressman McNerney has become known for holding Congress at Your Corner events at community locations such as libraries and coffee shops. Over the years, hundreds of people have attended these events to share their opinions and ask for assistance resolving issues with a federal agency. The event on Friday will mark the 65th Congress at Your Corner hosted by Congressman McNerney.

TVC Bids Adieu to Sharon Burnham

By Laura Ness

In 1978, I lived for a short time in Livermore. Except for the beautiful sweeping vistas of the blonde hills and mountains against the then clear blue sky, I hated it. It was a cow town compared to Fremont, where I'd been living with my first husband who worked at The Lab after graduating from MIT. After a few months, neither of us could wait to get back to Boston. We both returned to begin careers there in high technology.

Fast Forward 20 years. When I first returned to the Livermore Valley in 2002, I was amazed not only by the improvements on highway 84, and by the vibrant, re-energized downtown, but by the tranquil beauty of the area, now covered in vineyards and dotted with wineries everywhere. It stopped me in my tracks. This place had progressed mightily, yet kept its very agricultural soul intact.

A year later, on my way home from a story interview, I noticed a Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC) sign; it caught my eye and prompted investigation. Phil Wente was the first person to explain the program to me, imparting its critical importance to the agricultural preservation of this beautiful area. Little did I know how truly game-changing this organization had been or would become as the decade progressed.

Sharon Burnham, a native of Southern California, had lived in New Jersey since 1975, where she had a successful career in fund-raising for local and regional not-for-profit organizations, serving as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Monmouth Conservation Foundation, a land trust, for over 10 years.

Needing to care for her aging parents, she and her husband returned to California, where she was hired as Executive Director of what would become the TVC, in September of 2002. Sharon described her elation at calling her mother to say that she was moving back to California and would be with her very soon. The next morning, her mother died of

a heart attack, leaving her very ill father in need of immediate attention. Sharon's professional challenges were equally imposing. She immediately set about revamping every aspect of the organization's operations, all the while caring for her ill father until he passed away.

Laura Mercier, whom Burnham quickly hired as her assistant, explains that the day she arrived at the TVC office, she noticed boxes of files everywhere, including several piled on top of a dysfunctional copy machine. The only working copier could barely spit out one copy at a time. Sharon swept in like a summer storm, clearing the air, de-cluttering the office, and putting the organization into motion with a passion that could only be described as electrifying.

Livermore Vice Mayor, John Marchand, noted in his remarks that during Sharon's tenure, and thanks in no small part to the South Livermore Plan and the resultant Land Trust that became the Tri-Valley Conservancy, the area has once again returned to its viticulture vibrancy. In 1901, there were 5,000 acres of grapes under cultivation, along with 51 wineries. By the mid 1960's, those numbers had dwindled to 1500 acres and 6 wineries. Today, total acreage under grapes is up to 5700 and growing, with 4233 acres of vineyard and open space under TVC stewardship. There were 53 wineries at last count.

Marchand declared, "Through a tremendous, coordinated effort by implementing the SLVAP, the City of Livermore, Alameda County, and the TVC have turned back time."

The impact Sharon has made on the TVC is undeniable. The community should be grateful for her leadership, even while she coped with the illness and death of her late husband. The vineyards and wineries of the area have always been at the top of her mind. It was largely Sharon's efforts that spearheaded the concept of "Livermore Uncorked!" the first competition of its kind to focus on the wines made by Livermore wineries from Liver-

more Valley fruit. Her hope was to educate, enlighten and inspire; it is fair to say she accomplished that, and more.

In a statement of commendation by Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty at Sharon's retirement sendoff party at Crooked Vine last Tuesday, June 21, it was duly noted that under Sharon's leadership, twenty-nine easements were added, bringing the total to 4,233 acres of South Livermore Valley Area Plan (SLVAP) protected. In addition, Land Conservation Strategy for the Tri-Valley was implemented in September, 2007, followed by acquisition of an additional 74 acres for Sycamore Grove Park in August, 2009, and the completion of the North Livermore Resource Conservation Study in 2009.

Sharon was commended for her high standards of professionalism in carrying out her responsibilities. It was pointed out that during her tenure, the National Land Trust Alliance awarded TVC with its prestigious Land Trust Alliance Accreditation in July, 2009. The Land Trust Alliance recognizes organizations for meeting national standards through its program that was started in 2007.

Sharon also served on the Bay Area Open Space Council Board of Directors from 2007-2008. The commendation honored Sharon for her commitment to TVC and its mission to permanently protect the fertile soils, rangelands, open space and biological resources and to support a viable agricultural economy in the Tri-Valley area.

Sharon remarked that it had been her privilege to help protect the beautiful wildlands of the area for future generations and that her love of nature inspired her to seek a career in this very important field of environmental stewardship and resource preservation. As you look upon those TVC signs, you can share in that same sense of pride that inspired her to go to work each day - as do all TVC's dedicated staff - with a sense of purpose and responsibility to protect the things we should never take for granted.



#12 WHERE PIGS FLY!

SPECIAL DAYS

99¢ WACKY WEDNESDAYS
99¢ Admission before 3 pm
 (\$3 after 3 pm)

Seniors FREE THURSDAYS SPONSORED BY JACKSON RANCHERIA CASINO & HOTEL

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(With Fair Admission)
Two Shows Nightly - 6 pm and 8 pm

JULY

| | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| JULY 1 | OZOMATLI |
| JULY 2 | EVOLUTION (JOURNEY TRIBUTE) |
| JULY 3 | CON FUNK SHUN |
| JULY 4 | BLUES FESTIVAL (12-8 PM) |
| JULY 6 | WE THE KINGS |
| JULY 7 | SANCTUS REAL |
| JULY 8 | SURVIVOR |
| JULY 9 | WHISPERS |
| JULY 10 | TRACY LAWRENCE |

PUPPY PARTY PALOOZA

AGVENTURE PARK

HYPNOTIST TINA MARIE & NEW WORLD OF MUSIC EXHIBIT

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EDITORIAL

Maintaining Programs

In a seemingly routine newspaper story, it was reported last week that the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board had approved its 2011-2012 budget.

What wasn't routine was that the budget approval had occurred without staff layoffs and/or program reductions.

The operating budget was balanced at \$15,960,076, about \$100,000 less than the previous year's budget due to a reduction in property tax revenue. About 50 percent of the tax revenues that should come to the district, instead are taken by the state.

Though there were no layoffs, two vacancies had to be left unfilled. In addition, the 4th of July celebration — a joint event with the City of Livermore — won't be held. The city couldn't fund its portion, causing LARPD to drop its participation, being unable to cover the cost on its own.

Nevertheless, the major programs remain intact, a real achievement in these times of wholesale cutbacks at park districts throughout the U.S.

VETS HALL

(continued from page one)

Shirley will be one of the best customers for the bricks, with plans to buy four of them. One will commemorate his grandfather, who served in the Civil War. Another will be for his father, who took part in World War I. He will have one for himself, for his World War II service. The fourth will be for his son, who served during the Vietnam War era.

Gregory said that Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty helped the VFW Post obtain clearance to build the wall at the VA Memorial building, which

is owned by the county. Livermore vice mayor John Marchand has lent his support, too, said Gregory.

The wall will be three feet tall and about 40 feet long. Gregory envisions 2000 bricks. If they don't all fit as part of the wall, some can go into a garden that will have a brick display on the ground, similar to the bricks at Lizzie Fountain.

People who are interested in buying bricks or making a donation for the project can call Gregory at 447-3135.

Future of Redevelopment Agencies Not Settled

The proposed California budget includes two possible futures for redevelopment agencies. There is also a provision for sales tax to be collected on items sold on-line.

The vote on the budget had not taken place prior to the Independent's deadline.

Two trailer bills, AB 26X1 and AB 27X1, which are part of the budget are drawing criticism from communities who rely on redevelopment to improve them.

One of the two trailer bills, ABX1 26, would eliminate all California redevelopment agencies on Oct. 1. The second bill, ABX1 27, allows an agency to continue to operate if cities and counties take certain steps, including remitting some revenues to school and special districts.

Together, the two bills effectively eliminate redevelopment agencies unless they turn over certain tax-increment revenues for local government use.

Redevelopment supporters have vowed to launch a lawsuit if the Governor signs the budget that includes the elimination of redevelopment.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena declared, "I am extremely disappointed in the state lawmakers who passed not only a reckless but an illegal budget, ignoring the dire consequences their irresponsibility will have on local communities. This elimination and hostage taking of local redevelopment funds sends our city and the entire state of California on the wrong track."

Marc Roberts, Livermore Director of Community Development, said he couldn't provide a definitive answer as to what the impacts may be. However, city officials are very angry at the state for taking local dollars.

"We would continue to try to preserve the major projects in the redevelopment area, including the regional theater and parking garage."

Redevelopment agencies have come under fire because the incremental tax revenue they collect is lost to the local agencies that would have received the revenue if the RDAs didn't exist.

Chris McKenzie, executive director, League of California Cities, said, "It is deeply regrettable that the Governor is choosing to ignore the State constitution and sign illegal legislation to eliminate redevelopment agencies. This is a smoke and mirrors budget that includes a phantom \$1.7 billion in revenues from redevelopment agencies that will never materialize, ultimately triggering deeper cuts to other state programs down the line."

John Shirey, executive director, California Redevelopment Association, stated, "Make no mistake about it: AB 1x 26/27 would lead to the elimination of redevelopment agencies throughout California. Since the passage of these bills, we've heard from dozens and dozens of agencies that will not be able to make the 'ransom' payment, and thus will be forced to shut down, eliminating hundreds of thousands of jobs in the process. We plan to file a lawsuit to prevent this legislation from going into effect."

"It is particularly troubling

that the Governor and certain legislators chose this unbalanced and unconstitutional path when we provided them with a legal and reliable alternative to generate revenues and reform redevelopment. The CRA and League of California Cities backed alternative would have resulted in approximately \$2 billion in revenues for schools/the State this budget year. Instead, the Governor and legislative leadership are electing to go down this illegal path that will not provide any revenue to the State but will destroy one of our leading job-generating tools."

When Governor Brown first proposed elimination of RDAs, he stated that the state's 425 redevelopment agencies have taken tax revenue away from schools, health services and other state responsibilities by taking the new tax yield from the value of appreciated property in redevelopment areas. That money is used to build new projects within the redevelopment areas, instead of going to the state, or into cities' and counties' general funds, and to the state school fund.

Supporters of Brown's move to eliminate redevelopment dispute the argument that RDA's help the state's overall economic picture. There has been criticism that money set aside to build affordable housing was not used for that purpose.

SALES TAX

Senator Loni Hancock (D-Oakland) applauded the agreement between the Governor and legislative leaders to include legislation requiring out-of-state internet companies — like

Amazon.com and Overstock.com — to comply with state sales tax law.

The measure will become part of the 2011-2012 state budget package that was considered by the legislature late Tuesday.

The internet tax collection legislation, AB 28 X1, is comprised of 3 bills - one authored by Senator Loni Hancock (D-Oakland) and two by Assemblymembers. It originally passed both houses of the Legislature on June 15th as part of the state budget package approved that day. However, when Governor Brown vetoed that state budget, the internet tax measure was held by the Legislature and not sent to the Governor's office. It does not need to be voted on again and will be sent to the Governor along with the new state budget.

Senator Hancock said, "It is gratifying that at a time of great economic hardship, rich, out-of-state corporations that have been taking unfair advantage of a tax loophole will finally be required to collect and remit their fair share of taxes, like everyone else. I expect that roughly \$200 million a year will be generated by this legislation — money we desperately need for schools, public safety and social services."

Hancock pointed out that the legislation received overwhelming support from the California business community. "We will finally be creating a level playing field for California companies. All in-state businesses already collect and remit taxes, so those that do not — like Amazon, Overstock and others — have an unfair advantage."

MAILBOX

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

The Right Pace Scott Haggerty District 1, Alameda County Supervisor

In response to your 6/23 article on the County's solar policy, and the perception that it is moving "too fast," I wanted to address those having such concerns by explaining the thinking that went into the Board of Supervisors' direction to the Planning Department to begin work in this area. We are being approached by more and more potential operators of solar facilities, these firms are trying to address our energy needs in a clean and efficient manner and want to know what the rules are in Alameda County. It is important we have well thought out rules and regulations in place before we approve these new facilities and fully understand and mitigate any impacts they may create. I believe that we are moving at an appropriate pace in the development of our solar policy, given that the County has already approved one small solar project, has another large facility in the review process, and can likely expect an even larger facility to submit an application any day now. As a member of the Board of Supervisors, I am concerned that we are unprepared and that it is only prudent to move forward now to develop a strong policy structure to appropriately address solar projects. Failure to do so would be a disservice given the importance of solar, the environmental and economic benefits it can provide to us and the fact that our geography and climate is ideal to support solar facilities like those being proposed.

There is currently a State-wide effort to develop a model ordinance from which we can all benefit, so we are not alone in grappling with this situation — we have a burgeoning industry yet few regulations on either a local or a State-wide level to respond to actual applications. Many may already know that local energy providers are being tasked with providing 33% of their power through renewable energy, called the Renewable Portfolio Standard. To respond to this, I believe we must be proactive to the greatest degree possible. The potential benefits

of solar, to both the environment and economy, are worth the extra effort we are making to be a leader in formulating policy.

Over the past six months we have hosted community meetings with key stakeholders to discuss critical issues to be resolved, and appropriate mitigations are being discussed to address any significant impacts. These meetings are being widely promoted and attended by a variety of stakeholders (e.g., Audubon Society and the Sierra Club), land owners and our Agricultural Advisory Committee in the most transparent way we know possible. It may be happening with unusual speed for a government agency, but this is an important and time-sensitive matter and we are treating it accordingly.

In summary, I think we are moving forward with total transparency at just the right pace, and that our County will be better off having developed a comprehensive solar policy to attract top-notch, innovative solar companies at a time when the need for the County to contribute to the reduction of green house gas emissions is greater than ever. Promoting solar is consistent with previous actions taken at the County; helps implement our Climate Action Plan, and will ultimately provide Alameda County with cleaner energy and healthier air.

City Council Patricia Grimes Livermore

The Petition to keep BART on 580 (instead of bringing it downtown) was certified by the county registrar, and presented to the Livermore City Council on Monday night. They could choose between 3 actions: one is to approve the measure and change the general plan accordingly; two is to place the measure on the November ballot and three is to delay the decision by thirty days, by ordering a "report" at a cost of \$250,000, at the conclusion of which, they would still have to choose between options one and two.

Bringing BART to Livermore has been talked and written about for many years. All aspects of it have been studied and restudied in endless EIR's, consultant reports, city reports, BART reports and others.

The council, however, decided that it does not have enough information to choose between options one and two, and needs to spend \$250,000 of our money on a report which is due in 30 days.

It makes you wonder what they can learn in 30 days that will help them decide whether to agree to the petition outright or to put it on the ballot for the

voters to decide. It doesn't seem like such a difficult choice.

We need a new city council that will not waste our money like this.

BART Downtown Peggy McLain Livermore

The Livermore City Council focused almost all of the city's redevelopment monies on a small downtown area surrounding The Independent building and the Bankhead Theater. Without a viable business plan, they then committed \$184M from the General Fund to back the proposed new Regional Theater, a venture that banks wouldn't touch and which will surely go bankrupt in this area and this economy. They unanimously approved a downtown BART plan in order to bring theatergoers to their new venture and to provide the 2,000 parking places that the theater will require. This at a cost of \$3.8B (three times the cost of bringing BART to Isabel), and in spite of the fact that 75% of the respondents who provided input on the BART EIR opposed the downtown route.

When presented with over 8,000 signatures from Livermore registered voters (16.4%) on a petition to put the issue of keeping BART on I-580 and out of downtown on the November ballot, they supported a coalition to oppose the initiative - to oppose the very people they were elected to represent! Now, in the 10th hour, after BART spent years and an enormous amount of money to research the BART alternative routes in their EIR, the council has authorized another \$250K from the limited General Fund to put together a report, within a 30 day limit, to force their vision of BART downtown onto the taxpayers.

How can they be so fiscally irresponsible? Are they oblivious to the economic state the world is in right now? Stop writing checks to the downtown developers and put this issue on the ballot! What are you afraid of?

BART Initiative Ron Geren Livermore

On June 13th, Livermore's city council voted to throw away \$250,000, one quarter of a million dollars of taxpayers' money. When faced with an opportunity to submit the Keep BART on 580 initiative to a vote, the city council instead voted to generate yet another report, in 30 days no less. In his own words, the mayor said, "We've studied BART for 6 years now." So why the need for a \$250,000 report?

The mayor said that the report will clarify many issues. What's not clarified after 6 years? The report will be a heavily biased attempt to convince voters to bring BART downtown. In short, it will be a \$250,000 election piece to counter the Keep BART on 580 petition signed so easily by almost twice the number of voters required.

City councilman Jeff Williams wisely said "no" to spending \$250,000. He was clearly concerned about whether staff was prepared to produce that expen-

Common Sense William Zagotta Livermore

This is the first of set of simple reasons why BART should come downtown.

BART should go where the people are. People should not have to travel to get to BART.

More to come. They are just common sense.

Clarifying Issues Arthur H. Barinque Livermore

At the Livermore City Council meeting of Monday, June 13, the Council made the best choice they could make, given their commitment to serve their community. They decided to vote for another study.

For six years the City staff has worked with consultants and transportation experts, and have held numerous public meetings and workshops in order to determine the best possible BART route for Livermore. All relevant agencies, councils, commissions, and boards have studied the results and all have come to the same conclusion: The BART alignment 2B which brings BART to downtown Livermore and then to Vasco is the best possible alignment for the people of Livermore. However, there appear to be a number of people who do not agree with this conclusion.

The Council has been diligent in educating and involving the community about their decisions. The cost of the BART route is estimated to be approximately \$3.8 Billion and BART is going to be with us for a very long time.

On Monday, June 13, the Council was left to make the best decision possible with the community's interest in mind. It is their duty as elected officials to make the tough decisions and to make educated choices that are in the best interests of the entire community. With the Council's decision to spend \$250,000 for another study to clarify issues for the Livermore community, the council has done just that.

BART Facts Sally Dunlop Livermore

I believe many Livermore residents may not be aware of some facts surrounding the two possibilities of BART to Livermore. Since the Dublin Station, and many other stations were built, BART has changed its regulations. The way for BART to stay solvent is to increase ridership. BART calls this Transit Oriented Development, or TOD, which equates to dwellings close to BART so riders can easily use the system. If we want BART on the freeway to Greenville Rd., the City will have to add 6414 dwellings; some near the Livermore Airport and some at Greenville to meet BART's TOD requirements. Building homes

close to an airport is appropriately considered unsafe and the proposed Greenville station has environmental issues as well as being outside the Urban Growth Boundary. I thought we voted an overwhelming NO on Pardee Homes building in the area north of the city. Do we really want triple the number of new homes proposed by Pardee on the outskirts of our city?

For BART to come to Livermore on the Downtown-Vasco route the City would need to add 1516 dwellings. Most could be added near the proposed Vasco station area without impacting the downtown. It has also been stated that "many" homes will have to be condemned in order to bring BART to the downtown. Actually, it's 11 single-family homes and 58 apartments. Some new dwellings could be built downtown to revitalize the area near the proposed Downtown station. Even BART on the freeway would have to condemn 10 single-family homes and 19 mobile homes. Also, the BART platform is not going to be built across the street from Junction Ave. K-8 School, but adjacent to the railroad right-of-way closer to downtown.

It is obvious that the freeway median is not wide enough for BART. Do we want the freeway disrupted for an extended period of time to increase the median and then to build BART? As far as crime is concerned, Orinda and Walnut Creek have stations in their cities and crime has not increased. BART needs to be where the businesses and people are. Downtown-Vasco is a wise choice since it would have easy connections with the two present ACE train stations as well as better support increased ridership to the labs and future businesses off Vasco Rd.

If a cost of \$250,000 for a study will show residents the way to get state and federal funding for BART to Livermore, then it's worth it. If we opt for the freeway route we will be passed over after paying for BART to come to Livermore for over 40 years and we will be left BARTless.

Tone of Story James Gladstone Livermore

I was disturbed by the tone of your article regarding restricting for Alameda County supervisorial districts where you referred to "Miley's district" and "Haggerty's district." These districts do not belong to the politicians who represent them. They belong to the voters, and the voters should be picking their representatives, not vice versa.

BART Discussion Melanie Blaylock Livermore

I for one am happy to see the BART proposals for Livermore getting so much attention from my neighbors! In response to some of last week's letters, I would like to add my own perspective.

I agree with the person who said the initiative qualified and should be on the ballot for this fall's election, that's what ballot initiatives are for.

2) I also agree with the City Council's decision to invest in another review, although I hope they're getting more than one bid on that cost estimate. Furthermore, the study must be objective and for the sole purpose of presenting all known facts about each option, not to make any recommendation. Then the people of Livermore can make an informed decision at this fall's election.

3) Anyone who commutes on 580 knows we need BART badly. For this reason I feel strongly that timeline should also be a significant factor in this dialogue.

Thank you, Independent, for fostering this healthy discussion!

A Difficult Decision Don and Linda Milanese Livermore

The Livermore City Council made a difficult decision at the June 13 meeting. Their decision to ask for a further report before placing the "Keep BART on 580" initiative on the ballot has received much criticism. Many who spoke against the study believe the Council will cherry-pick the data to bolster its original decision to support the downtown/Vasco route, but we worry just as much that with new information the Council could change its position. However, we'll accept the change if it's based on legitimate new information.

We think the issue should be on the ballot—but we need to clarify confusing data that divides us before we vote.

The meeting showed that the Council genuinely has further questions that need to be answered, and too much confusion still exists in the community—one example: eligibility for Federal funding.

Despite the cost, we need the report, so we can decide what's best for Livermore.

BART Study Max Curtis Livermore

What a waste of citizen's money to spend \$250,000 on a consultant report to determine if the Livermore City Council should accept the "Keep BART on 580" initiative or place it on the ballot for a vote. What new conditions or evidence will the study reveal? When Councilmember Williams asked Community Development Director Marc Roberts how it would be possible to generate a meaningful report in the required 31 days, Mr. Roberts answered (and I paraphrase), "We will glean information from previous reports and other areas." Is this a prudent use of taxpayer's money to generate a report that does nothing but regurgitate already existing information with the only benefit being to support the Mayor's desires?

A more beneficial report would be to study the demographics of the BART rider. How many Leshar Center attendees take BART to the theater? How many Orinda BART riders spend time strolling the streets and shops before getting in their cars and heading home? That study would never be commissioned by the City because they

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County Closes \$137.9 Million Budget Gap

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors on Friday adopted a \$2.5 billion final budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-2012 that calls for eliminating more than 100 County jobs while reducing some key services to close a \$137.9 million funding gap.

The final budget was adopted as Alameda County continues to grapple with rising demand for its services and diminishing resources. Unemployment in the County remains high as a slow economic turnaround provides limited financial relief to the County, while rising employee benefit and retirement costs and reductions in State and federal spending continue to drain local resources.

Alameda County Administrator Susan S. Muranishi said the final budget for 2011-12 is balanced and closes a large funding gap – the third consecutive funding gap above \$100 million. The proposed budget supports a workforce of 9,049 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. This figure includes the County's reduction of 111 FTE to balance its budget for the coming fiscal year. These budget-balancing moves come amid deep uncertainty about pending decisions at the State level that could affect Alameda County finances.

Alameda County officials said they continue to be concerned about a plan for "realignment" that would shift almost \$6 billion in criminal justice, health and welfare programs from the State to local government. They say the plans must include guaranteed funding to ensure local government receives the resources necessary to carry out new responsibilities.

Given the state of the economy and the magnitude of the deficits the County has faced the last three years, Muranishi said it is remarkable that the County continues to maintain vital services to its residents. She cited several collaborative efforts that have helped to improve efficiencies and to ward off much more severe cuts in services to the community.

- A collaboration by Social Services Agency and the Health Care Services Agency on Medi-Cal enrollments, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) advocacy and evaluation services, and the provision of Public Health Nursing for In-Home Support Services (IHSS) services.

- The Parolee Reentry Court, an effort involving local judges, prosecutors, public defenders, parole agents and court appointed specialists that employs a collaborative justice model and evidence-based practices to reduce recidivism, revocation and re-incarceration.

County officials also touted many of the innovative and effective programs that will be funded in the 2011-12 as examples of the creative ways Alameda County is seeking to improve the quality of life in the community, despite a economic climate and cuts enacted by the State that have affected many constituents. These include:

- The Title IV-E Waiver demonstration project, an effort now in its fifth year in which the Social Services Agency works with the Probation Department, Public Defender and various community partners to help sexually exploited minors; American Indian youth and their families; transition age youth; and families exiting the child welfare system.

- The award-winning County Library system anticipates more than 5 million library visits in the year ahead, with steadily growing attendance fueled in large part by efforts to provide residents with practical ways to deal with the challenges of the recession. Special programming for children and teens include the Summer Reading Game and the "Booklegger Program," which uses volunteers to give book talks to school age children.

Despite the controversy surrounding the use of redevelopment proceeds to help balance the State Budget, Alameda County is moving forward with several projects that expand and preserve

affordable housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents, and promote infrastructure improvements, property development and job creation in the unincorporated area communities.

Planning continues by Alameda County's health care system officials to expand services to under and uninsured residents in preparation for full implementation of Health Care Reform in 2014. Beginning in July 2011, Alameda County will roll out the Health Plan of Alameda County (HealthPAC) that will expand safety net health services by over \$35 million. When fully implemented, HealthPAC will offer free comprehensive health benefits to approximately 60,000 residents through expansion of Medi-Cal and another 107,000 will get a sliding scale subsidy via the new California Health Care Exchange.

Muranishi praised County Supervisors and department heads for their fiscal discipline, noting that the final budget includes cuts that come on top of reductions the County made throughout the past year to keep spending in line with revenues. She noted that nearly \$57 million in savings applied to FY 2011-12 have been generated through the County's Fiscal Management Reward program, which credits Departments/Agencies for savings they accrue during the year by operating programs efficiently and effectively within budget, to avoid further program and staffing reductions. Most County employee labor groups continue to forego planned salary increases and are paying a share of health benefit premiums to help contain costs, helping to limit employee salaries and benefit costs and the size of the budget gap. In addition, all of Alameda County's public safety unions have agreed to reduce the pension benefits newly-hired employees receive, with similar sacrifices being made by community-based organizations that perform contract services on behalf of the County.

Francisco. That also would cost more than it's worth." That is the substance of the sincere but badly misguided attempts to change an alignment that was established after years of study, citizen input, and regulatory overview, by our ELECTED representatives! Little discussed in all of the rhetoric is the fact that the BART Board of Directors also chose the Downtown Livermore/Vasco Road alignment.

Our City Council serves many constituents and is required to make tough decisions. The decisions are based on the best information available to them. Those that decry the expense of an additional study have only themselves to blame. They did not like a decision that was made, and so they determined to overturn it by petition. It is completely their right to do so. However, statements have been made that may or may not be truthful or defensible. But, it is required by our city government to determine the best way to handle this now contentious issue, and that means yet another study which will have to be paid for.

Out of Touch
Alex Dourov
Livermore

Are you nuts? Or are you out of touch. The City Council voted to waste \$250,000 of our tax dollars to "prepare a report" to determine if the council should adopt a resolution outright or to spend only \$15,000 to have the people of our city vote on whether BART should go through downtown or remain in the freeway. How out of touch are the council members - that \$250,000 could be used to hire/keep police, clean our parks, fight gang problems, etc. How nuts... or out of touch with reality are they?



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The photo, taken along Tesla Road in Livermore, shows two faces of agriculture. One is the vineyards on the hills, while in the foreground, hay is being mowed.

Garamendi Says Water Bill Would Harm Environment, Water Supply

Rep. John Garamendi (D) has taken a stand against HR 1837, a bill introduced by Central Valley Congressman Devin Nunes (R).

Garamendi, whose district includes Livermore, said in a press release, "HR 1837 'decimates the Central Valley Project Improvement Act protections for water supply, quality and the environment.'"

It also "destroys the consensus San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement that took nearly two decades to achieve," said Garamendi.

The bill "annihilates coordination between the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, the arteries of life for nearly 40 million Californians," he continued.

HR 1837 also erodes cooperation among stakeholders who have dedicated time, energy and resources to working together, said the Congressman.

The bill jumps the Westlands Water District in the Central Valley to the head of the line in water priorities, said Garamendi. That affects all water districts in the state that depend on the Central Valley federal water project and the State Water Project, he said. Zone 7 Water Agency, the Valley's water wholesaler, is a State Water Project contractor.

The bill would also override the long tradition of the federal government deferring to state water law in 17 Western states, said Garamendi.

Garamendi said that he is not sure the bill will go anywhere in the House. During a conversation with Republican Rep. Tom McClintock, Garamendi said that McClintock indicated that the bill would not pass out of his committee.

Garamendi explained that currently areas where water originates, example, in the mountain snowpack and with the rivers flowing into the Central Valley,

have priority for that water. If the bill passes, they would lose that priority.

McClintock's 4th District is in northeastern California, and covers much of that territory. After redistricting, McClintock's district may contain 100 percent of water origin, said Garamendi.

Garamendi said that McClintock told him that the bill won't get out of his subcommittee on water and power in the House committee on Natural Resource, because of the way it would sacrifice the priority provision for areas of water origin.

McClintock wrote in a guest editorial in the Sacramento Bee that he intervened to stop the bill, and announced it would not proceed "until and unless it is amended to fully protect Northern California water rights."

McClintock also said that last year "200 billion gallons of water contracted to the Central Valley were instead dumped into the Pacific Ocean. That act destroyed 250,000 acres of farmland and cost tens of thousands of jobs. Our sub-committee is grappling with a solution to prevent such lunacy in the future while fully protecting Northern California water rights and critical habitat. We're not there yet."

McClintock apparently was referring to water diverted to keep fresh water levels in the

Delta for migrating fish.

The salmon industry has come out strongly against the Nunes bill. The industry's representatives point out that California's salmon fishery was shut down in 2008 and 2009, which resulted in the loss of thousands of jobs each year. The number of salmon fishing licenses declined by one-half between 2005 and 2011.

The bill's backers have said that it will help Central Valley farms, which they say have lost thousands of acres followed for lack of water. That cost the Central Valley 10,000 agricultural jobs, they state.

Zone 7 Water Agency general manager Jill Duerig said that she has not read the bill, and would not speculate about it. She said, "Let us complete what we have underway, and then talk about it." She was referring to the long-term efforts to work out a balanced compromise to meet the demands for water supply and the Delta environment.

Duerig said that a water package compromise in 2009 in California was "one of the best pieces of water legislation in a long time. It took information from a blue ribbon task force about system improvements and water reliability, and did it holistically, not just with a focus on flows and endangered species."

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

already know the answers and the answers would not support the hogwash they are trying to sell the citizens.

BART is a regional transportation system that is designed and does a superb job of transporting commuters. Bringing BART downtown will do nothing to enhance the local economy or benefit the existing and proposed theaters. It would only bring congestion to our city streets resulting in more localized pollution. If housing is the issue, why not close the airport and build the required units there—just kidding Leander.

Thanks to those who worked on the initiative. Keep up the good fight and perhaps common sense will prevail.

Education, Not Rhetoric

Sarah Palmer
Educator

I am writing in regard to recent criticism leveled at the Livermore City Council by the opponents to a downtown Livermore BART station. What concerns me here is the objection to Council spending on a report on land use, fiscal impact and future development in response to downtown BART opponents. This is not a waste of money.

I have spoken to many who have signed the petition to keep BART on 580. Quite a number of them signed the petition without understanding the issues. Why? To keep peace in the neighborhood. To not upset their friends.

A full understanding of the issues in such a complicated matter is crucial for all of us. \$250,000 on a report of this nature is a good investment. We need facts, vision, and public education, not rhetoric.

BART to Livermore

Michal Lea
Livermore

As a citizen of Livermore I have been pleased with the extraordinary time and effort that the City Council has put into the BART to Livermore issue. It is an important topic and one that will have great impact on the community. Consequently it is imperative that a good decision is reached and with the recent efforts and votes of the Council, it is apparent that the mayor and councilmembers are working hard toward that end.

BART to Livermore

Clarence Hoenig
Livermore

The BART 580 Initiative is a real threat to our northern City Boundary which protects North Livermore Agriculture, Habitat and Open Space, our Airport and our Scenic Corridor. BART Funding Agency demands for new housing around two 580 stations would destroy North Livermore as we know it today.

Livermore voted overwhelmingly against the Pardee Development of 2450 homes to protect North Livermore. BART 580 housing requirements for 6400 homes is equivalent to three Pardee developments. Livermore voters rejected Pardee and Livermore voters should reject the BART 580 Initiative if they want to save North Livermore.

BART to Livermore

Walter Davies
Livermore


When BART was first being planned, I can just imagine the hoots and shouts of derision if someone had seriously suggested that BART Routes and Stations had to be located in the median strip of the then current Highways. If someone had proposed "Lets place BART trackage in the median of the MacArthur Freeway and a single station between Oakland and Berkeley that way it can serve both cities and will cost less. While we're at it, it's ridiculous to even consider placing the track underground as it passes through Berkeley and Oakland. There is absolutely no justification for tunneling. Tunneling costs too much. Also, there is a perfectly good trestle that crosses the Bay between Hayward and Palo Alto. Therefore we don't need to sink a tube under the Bay waters to reach San



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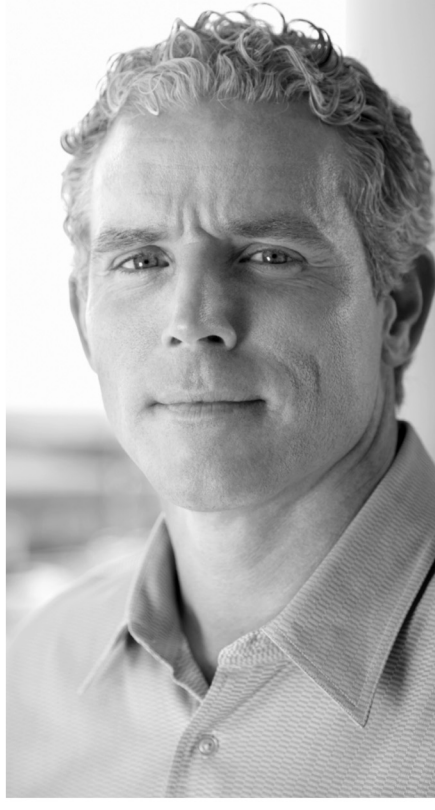
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THYROID NODULES

The Good, Bad and the Ugly

FREE EDUCATION SEMINAR



Presented by: Hoda Ghanem, MD
ValleyCare Medical Foundation Endocrinologist

Date: July 7, 2011


Time: 6:30pm

Location: ValleyCare Medical Plaza
5725 W. Las Positas Blvd.
2nd floor Conference Room
Pleasanton
two blocks west of hospital

Please join us for an evening seminar led by Hoda Ghanem, ValleyCare Medical Foundation endocrinologist. Dr. Ghanem will discuss the latest information regarding Thyroid Nodules including:

- Who gets them?
- Which are concerning?
- When to biopsy?
- Should we really be worried about Thyroid Cancer?

We invite you to register by calling our Health Information Line at 1-800-719-9111 or visit www.valleycare.com/educationseminars.



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SPORTS NOTES

Umpires Win Honors In Pleasanton Foothill Little League

Pleasanton Foothill Little League has named two umpires of the year.

Matt Winsby won the honor at the 16-year-old level. Giovanni Caponigro is the umpire of the year in the 12-year-old division.

The two were selected for the honor by Ken Harter, the league's head of umpires. The league uses a total of 46 umpires for its games. Usually there are two per game. However, during the playoffs three umpires work the games.

Matt said that umpiring was a natural for him, because he is so enthusiastic about baseball. "I thought it would be something to help the league. It's a good way to make money," he said.

Matt said he has accumulated enough money from umpiring over the past couple of years to buy a used truck.

A junior next year at Amador Valley High School, he plans to stick with umpiring in the league at least until graduation. When he enters college, he'll see whether he can work some umpiring into his schedule.

Matt said it would be nice to umpire in college to bring in more money to pay for books and tuition. Right now he has his eye on a business and finance major at one of the state colleges.

The league helped Matt's growth as an umpire by sending him to umpiring school in San

Bernardino. "We went over many different rules and different positions to have the best angle on the play. It helped very much," he said.

His training before that came from a league umpire who had already been to the San Bernardino school. "I learned a lot of the fundamentals. Going to the school made those concrete," said Matt.

Matt plays both catcher and pitcher in the Pleasanton Foothill Little League. He has been in the league for six years.

Giovanni, who is 12, said that he was surprised to win the award. "Mr. Harter said it was based on how fair you were, how strong the calls were, and being consistent on showing up on time for games," he said.

Giovanni umpires the league's younger age groups. "It gives me a chance to see how the younger kids are in their divisions. I meet a lot of coaches. It's fun calling games for kids who are 7 or 8," said Giovanni.

Harter said that respect is a big value that all Little Leaguers are taught. It minimizes any incidents where a player might react in a negative way about a call that he or she didn't like.

A two-year-old league rule states that all games must have an adult umpire/supervisor present. If any adults start reacting out of turn, the supervisor is there to smooth the waters, said Harter.

Bocce Championships Continue in Livermore

The battle for the Bocce National title continues through July 2 at Campo di Bocce of Livermore.

Competitors are vying for the opportunity to take part in the 2012 World Bocce Championships, which will also be held in Livermore at Campo di Bocce.

The event is open to the public with free admission. The host organization will be offering food specials and drink specials.

For information go to www.campodibocce.com. Campo di Bocce is located at 175 East Vineyard Avenue.

Jail Break

On Sunday, July 17, there's going to be a jail break—and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office has invited everyone to join in. The 9th annual Jail Break Run, benefiting Special Olympics Northern California, offers an "escape plan" for everyone: a 5K run (or walk), a 10K run, a Kids' 1/2-mile run, and a Kids' 1-mile run.

Once again, this event will be hosted by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, at their Training Center (which is located right next to the Santa Rita Jail), 6289 Broder Blvd., Dublin. This event is part of the Sheriff's year-round Law Enforcement Torch Run fundraising campaign.

The 5K course is a flat and fast loop. The 10K run is primarily flat and fast, with one hill—the very same hill you must master to join the Alameda County S.W.A.T. team; members of the S.W.A.T. team will be on hand to run the 10K course with the participants. Both USA Track & Field certified courses will run along the walls of the jail (all Santa Rita prisoners will be tucked away, out-of-view, indoors). For those who are little bit more casual with their "get away," participants are welcome to walk the 5K. Both kids' run courses (children under 8-years old) will be held at the Sheriff Training Center's running track.

Each "escapee" will receive the Jail Break Run T-shirt, refreshments, and entry into the Jail Break raffle, which features a lot of great loot. Every child participating in either the 1/2-mile or 1-mile runs will earn a special award medal. Trophies will be awarded to the first overall male and female participant in each event, as well as the top Masters (45-years and older) male and female in each race.

5K Medals will also be given three-deep to the finishers in each male and female age category, in 10-year increments, beginning 9-years and under.

10K Medals will be given three-deep to the finishers in each male and female age category, 10-year increments, beginning 18-years and under.

In addition, all participants will have the opportunity to run, or walk, with a number

of local Special Olympic athletes who will be competing as well.

Entry fees for either the 10K Run or 5K Walk/Run are \$30.00 pre-registered, \$35.00 race-day registration. The Kids' 1/2-Mile and Mile event fees are both \$10.00. Check-in and race-day registration will open at 6:30 a.m., with both 10K and 5K events starting at 8:00 a.m. The Kid's 1/2-Mile and Mile, which takes place on the Sheriff's training center track, will begin around 10:00 a.m. The post-race awards, raffle, and prize give-away ceremony is scheduled to start around 10:00 a.m.

Special Olympics of Northern California and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office have been making a major push to get more high school and college athletic programs to participate. The Alameda County Sheriff's Office has opened its Regional Training Center for this event, which has seen a strong family presence at the Jail Break Run. The Sheriff's Office believes that by utilizing different methods of community outreach to schools, colleges, health clubs, and media we can partnership with our communities to support Special Olympics Programs. Together, we can enhance the quality of life for our athletes by raising funds and public awareness of Special Olympics.

For more Jail Break Run information and/or an application, contact On Your Mark Events at 209-795-7832 or visit their website. To register online, go to Active.com.

Dolphins Winners

Pleasanton Valley Club (PVC) Dolphins led by Coach Brett, swam past the Livermore Valley Tennis Club (LVTC) 1003 to 701 in Valley Swim League action.

New team records were set by PVC swimmers: 15-18 Boys 50 Free 23.27 Bryce McLaggan; 11-12 Boys 50 Breast 34.58 Brian Wiener

Finishing in first for PVC were the following: Jackson Morgenstern 1st 100 MR, 25 free, 25 fly, and 100 IM; Emily Claridge 1st 100 MR, 50 free, 25 breast, and 100 IM; Gavin Wallace 1st 100 MR, 50 free, 25 fly, 100 IM, and 25 back; Danielle Sirotta 1st 200 MR, 50 free, 50 breast, and 100 IM; Sophia Holbrook 1st 200 MR, 50 fly, 50 back, and 100 IM; Brian Wiener 1st 200 MR, 50 free, 50 breast, 100 IM, and 50 back; Erin Walsh 1st 200 MR, 50 free, 50 fly, 100 IM, and 200 FR; Claire McLaggan 1st 200 MR, 50 free, 50 breast, 100 IM, and 50 back; Bryce McLaggan 1st 200 MR, 50 free, 50 fly, 50 breast, and 100 IM

Most improved swimmers: 8 and under: Makenze Mapes, Celeste Murphy, Sophia Falcione, Katelyn Barker, Sydney Seipel, Max Bice, Evan Grell, Sam Montoya, Colin Braga, Jake McMillan, Griffin Shea, Mia Hildebrand, Ava Bice, Leila Lyons, Maya Morgenstern, Zoe Grell, Sarah Braden, Ethan Braga, Charlie Claridge, Colin



The 12U Mavericks Fastpitch softball team captured the USSA "Last Chance" championship title coming from behind in dramatic fashion in the championship game to win the tournament. Their weekend was highlighted by timely hitting, strong pitching, and solid defense, including a few "web gem" defensive plays. The tournament was held in Fremont, on June 25 and 26, 2011. The Mavericks went 4-1, scoring 29 runs over the weekend. The Mavericks are (first row from left) Katie Lucas, Erica Espinoza, Mia Niklewicz and Robyn Dobson; (back row from left) Manager Greg Dobson, Natalie Waters, Brooke Armstrong, Jordan Maddox, Shelby Rocereto, Maggie Kilday, Coach John Niklewicz, and Coach Tim Waters. Not pictured are Mallory Jones, Tori Nicolo, Alexandra Gordon and Coach Sara Journey.

Wallace, Parker Mapes, Matthew Ludwig, Reilly Curry, Logan Bayani, Noah Marek

9-10: Marissa Lawrence, Kieran Wallace, Grace Shader, Katie Risher, Alison Smith, Julia Gonsman, Hannah Jacob, Addison Mapes, Lindy Ludwig, Catherine Murphy, Mackenzie Riddle, Ava Holbrook, Sarah Banholzer, Grace Rovere, Alexis Bayani, David Gjerede, Danial Huang, Brendan Hwang, Evan Thomas, Nathan Williams, Robby Perkins-Arango, Will Bosse, Logan Miller, Brigg Wenstrand

11-12: Sophia Holbrook, Nicole Melo, Aubrey Krieger, Lily Krieger, Kate Haskell, Anna Bosse, Delaney Bammer, Melissa Brillhart, Loren Curry, Claire Helmer, Kendallyn Cox, Danica Zierau, Sophie Welk, Morgan Harris, Nithya Swaminathan, Justin Miller, Alan Thomas, Jonathan Battaglia, Carter

Person, Nick McMurdie

13-18: Sarah Pease, Ashley Person, Olivia Gonsman, Gabi Welk, Lucy Brillhart, Charlotte Armstrong, Miranda Gastineau, Addison McLaggan, Ben Oliver, Andrew Bailey, Copeland Green, Brett Walsh, Jeremy Usedom, Robert Helmer, Matthew Serrano, Ali Gonsman, Emmy Rodriguez, Allie Rodriguez, Emily Helmer, Steven Cox, Matt McMurdie, Kevin Wiener, Jason Oliver, David Scott, Max Gastineau

Barracudas vs. Sharks

The Briarhill Barracudas went head to head with the Pleasanton Meadows Sharks on 6/25 at the Briarhill Club Pool. The Sharks took an early lead based on very strong performances in the medley relays. The Bar-

What Our Readers Are Saying...



My wife Sue and I have been in Pleasanton since 1976 and have been receiving The Independent all those years. It has always done an excellent job of covering subjects and events in the Tri-Valley communities.

I also look forward to The Independent's new online event calendars, which are additional ways The Independent reaches out to this community. In fact, I will try to be sure the meetings and fundraisers of organizations I am involved with are on the Community Events calendar each week.

Tom Fox

Broker Associate with Keller-Williams TriValley Realty, current President of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton, Board of Directors of Rotaplast International, Board of Directors of Children's Emergency Food Bank in Dublin.

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NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE

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SPORTS NOTES



Danny Terry in the wind up.

Local Pitcher Shines in National Tournament

Livermore-based NorCal Grizzlies Pitcher Danny Terry gave his mom and dad a very special present for their 25th wedding anniversary.

Pitching for the second straight year in the USA Baseball 14U Championship Tournament at the Chicago White Sox Training Facility in Glendale Arizona, the Dublin High School Sophomore came on in relief in the second inning with the bases loaded in to pitch out of a tight jam against a tough Washington-based Baseball Northwest Green squad.

After putting out the fire in the second inning, Terry mowed down the opposition with precise control, a very hard fastball, wicked curve, slider, and change up, striking out five opponents and yielding only 1 hit over the next four innings, as the Grizzlies ten-runned their opponents, cruising to a mercy rule shortened, five inning, 15-5 victory.

Terry backed up work on the mound with a double, a single, two RBI, and was hit by a pitch.

He finished the tournament with 6 innings pitched, 6 strikeouts, and going 4 for 5 at the plate with two doubles, two singles, a walk, a hit by pitch, 3 RBI, and 2 runs scored. The Grizzlies finished strong, coming in 25th out of 48 teams from California, Arizona, Washington, Nevada, Oregon, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Hawaii, and Texas.

racudas kept the meet close throughout with strong performances in the individual races and almost pulled out a victory winning 8 of 12 final freestyle relays. The Sharks came away with a 505 to 483 victory.

The Sharks had a number of strong individual performances including triple victories by Amelia Kelly (Free, Fly and Breast) in the 7-8 girls and Meredith Kelly (Freestyle, Butterfly and IM) in the 9-10 girls races. Matthew Whiteland (Freestyle, Butterfly), David Azuma (Freestyle, Backstroke), Blake Tucker (Freestyle, Backstroke), Trent Pozzi (Butterfly, IM) and Justin Lee (IM and Backstroke) also had multiple victories for the Shark's mens team.

The Barracudas had notable performances by their swimmers including a triecta by the Clesen family with Thomas, Matthew and Kayley Clesen each winning a race for the team. The Barracudas had multiple swimmers with 3 victories including Callan Jackman (Butterfly, Freestyle and IM) for the 11-12 girls, Savannah Wieser (Freestyle, IM and Backstroke) in the 13-14 girls races and Crystal Fisher (Freestyle, Butterfly and Breaststroke) in the 15-18 girls category. Multiple winners for the Barracudas included Grace Engstrom, David Groves, Brett Melloch, Ryan Gee and Brittney Achziger.

FAST vs. DBAC

The Dolores Bengston Aquatic Center (DBAC) Piranhas hosted the Foothill Area Swim Team (FAST) Dolphins last Saturday, June 25 at the Pleasanton Dolores Bengston Aquatic Center. The final score for the meet was DBAC 649, FAST 308.

The top female swimmers for the DBAC Piranhas were Taylor Rohovit (8), Nicola Lindell (10), and Megan Goodin (16). The top male swimmers for the DBAC Piranhas were Wilmer Lin (10), Andrew Silva (12), Zachary Corbushley (12), and Jeffrey Liebman (15).

The top female swimmers for the FAST Dolphins were Paige Heacock (12), McKenna Moura (12), and Alexandra Brown (15). The top male swimmers for the FAST Dolphins were Darraigh Kennedy (6) and Scott Drummond (9).

1st place finishers for DBAC girls: 6&U 25Y free, Lilli Chau, 25.01; 7-8 25Y free, Alexis Barrera, 18.96; 13-14 50Y free, Madason Lewis, 28.33; 15-18 50Y free, Megan Goodman, 27.26; 6&U 25Y fly, Aven Lee, 25.04; 7-8 25Y fly, Taylor Rohovit, 18.53; 9-10 25Y fly, Nicola Lindell, 16.73; 15-18 50Y fly, Megan Goodman, 30.27; 6&U 25Y breast, Sophia Kang, 31.23; 7-8 25Y breast, Samantha O'Brien, 26.72; 13-14 50Y breast, Naomi Chan, 37.87; 9-10 100Y IM, Nicola Lindell, 1:25.84; 13-14 100Y IM, Alanna Goodman, 1:16.96; 6&U 25Y back, Christina Tsai, 26.70; 7-8 25Y back, Taylor Rohovit, 20.07; 9-10 25Y back, Allison Earle, 20.42; 13-14 50Y back, Anika Kilkenny, 37.74.

1st place finishers for DBAC Boys: 7-8 25Y free, Kevin Lee, 21.09; 11-12 50Y free, Andrew Silva, 27.96; 15-18 50Y free, Jeffrey Liebman, 23.69; 7-8 25Y fly, Alexandre Miller, 30.52; 11-12 50Y fly, Weitun Wang, 44.97; 13-14 50Y fly, Minus Kim, 34.42; 15-18 50Y fly, Jeffrey Liebman, 26.38; 6&U 25Y breast, William Zhai, 39.86; 9-10 25Y breast, Wilmer Lin, 22.86; 11-12 50Y breast, Zachary Corbushley, 39.23; 13-14 50Y breast, Vincent Chang, 36.08; 15-18 50Y breast, Justin Pasquale, 31.46; 9-10 100Y IM, Wilmer Lin, 1:29.09; 11-12 100Y IM, Andrew Silva, 1:17.57; 15-18 100Y IM, Andrew Zhao, 1:02.25; 6&U 25Y back, Lionel Liu, 32.17; 7-8 25Y back, Kevin Lee, 25.95; 11-12 50Y back, Zachary Corbushley, 38.28; 13-14 50Y back, Harry Yoon, 42.79; 15-18 50Y back, David Becker, 29.81.

1st place finishers for FAST Girls: 9-10 50Y free, Alyssa Wu, 35.48; 11-12 50Y free, Paige Heacock, 29.27; 11-12 50Y fly, Paige Heacock, 34.72; 13-14 50Y fly, Isabella Zhang, 32.94; 9-10 25Y breast, Elisabeth Balicanta, 24.17; 11-12 50Y breast, Elizabeth Brown, 38.87; 15-18 50Y breast, Alexandra Brown, 35.55; 11-12 100Y IM, McKenna Moura, 1:17.68; 15-18 100Y IM, Alexandra Brown, 1:14.16; 11-12 25Y back, McKenna Moura, 36.89; 15-18 25Y back, Brittany Factura, 33.72.

1st place finishers for FAST Boys: 6&U 25Y free, Darraigh Kennedy, 29.43; 9-10 50Y free, Scott Drummond, 34.58; 13-14 50Y free, Jason Hua, 25.35; 6&U 25Y fly, Darraigh Kennedy, 36.40; 9-10 25Y fly, Scott Drummond, 18.66; 7-8 25Y breast, John Mihelcic, 28.12; 13-14 100Y IM, Jason Hua, 1:07.61; 9-10 25Y back, Joshua Yon, 23.40.

Rhonewood vs. Eels

The Rhonewood Sharks came out to

swim in the meet versus the LARPD Electric Eels at May Nissen Pool and swim they did. They swam fast and furious and came away with a win. Hannah Carlson swam to first place wins in the 6U 25 freestyle and butterfly. She was named swimmer of the week. Thomas Schnapp took four first place ribbons home in the 6U boys. He swam in the 25 breast, back, medley relay, and the free relay.

His teammates Joseph Pyle, Caleb Messing, Alex Quach and Jason Webb each took a first place in an event.

Peyton Dinwiddie came to swim and took four first place finishes in 7-8 girls. Peyton swam in the 25 freestyle, 25 back, medley relay and the free relay. Brook Carter swam to first in the 25 breast, medley relay, and the free relay. Their teammates Hiady Arruda, Lauren Webb, Mia Hocking, and Caitlin Sobrenpa also swam for first place finishes. Jacob Burke had an amazing meet; earning five first place ribbons. He swam in the 25 freestyle, breast, back, medley relay, and the free relay. He improved his time in both the free and the breast stroke. His teammates Gregory Quach (who improved his time by 6 seconds in the fly), Charlie Brown, Maxwell Priskey, Aidan Andrews, and Steven Ragatz also swam to first place finishes. Swimmer of the week in the 7-8 age group went to Crewe Palmer.

Five first place finishes were what Melia Miller earned in the 9-10 girls. She swam the 25 fly and back, 100 IM, medley relay, and the free relay. Fellow Shark Bella Hocking took first in the 50 free and shaved almost 8 seconds off her time. Natalie Hawkins took first in 25 breast, medley relay, and the free relay. Teammate Paige Sutter rounded out the medley relay and free relay teams for the win. Luke Van Bauren swam an incredible meet, not only winning four first place finishes, but shaving at least 3 seconds off each event and 16 seconds off his 25 breast time. Fellow sharks William Steinberg, Ethan Clark, Scott Ragatz, David Davison, Neil Senecal, Cobey Sandholtz, Ethan Clark, and Nicholas Quach took first place in their respective events. Amanda Popelar was chosen swimmer of the week for the 9-10 age group.

Emily Hawkins earned four first place finishes in the girls 11-12 age group. Emily also improved her time in her individual events by over 3 seconds in the 50 freestyle and over 6 seconds in the 100 IM. Gianna Paden, Emily Wapman, Mackensie Miller, and Mila Steinberg each won an event. Five first place finishes for Nathan Fish in the 11-12 boys was an amazing feat, add to that dropping 12 seconds off of his 100IM too, took him over the top. Fellow sharks Dante DeMayo, Jason Campbell, Eloy Kunzler, Rory Cartwright, and Jack Jellsworth all finished first in an event. The swimmer of the week for the 11-12 age group was Tyler Fabre.

Michelle Hawkins kicked it in gear and swam to five first place finishes in the 13-14 girls events. She swam in the 50 freestyle, 50 breast stroke, 100 IM, 200 medley relay, and the 200 free relay. Teammates Lauren Cano, Courtney Offill, Marisa Ansari, and Katie Johnson all swam to first place finishes. Isaac Dugger captured four first places and a second in the fifth event. He swam in the 50 fly, winning by over 12 seconds. Michael Eckles swam to four first places. Fellow Sharks, Zachary Marshall, Braden Cartwright, Trevor Davidson, and Elijah Deakin, all swam to a first place finishes. Nicole Boesche was selected as swimmer of the week for the 13-14 age group.

Carrie Melseose and McKenna Stevaluk finished the meet with three first place ribbons each in the 15-18 girls. Carrie swam to wins in the 50 freestyle, 50 backstroke, and the 200 medley relay. McKenna stroked into a win in the 100 IM and improved her time by over 5 seconds. She also swam in the 200 medley relay and 200 freestyle relay. Teammates Tyler Cartwright, Shelby Offill, Nicole Crowder, Megan Simons, and Courtney Christensen all recorded a first place finish. In the 15-18 boys, Scott Crowder came home with four first place finishes. He swam in the 50 butterfly and shaved almost 3 seconds off his time. John Stuart and Johnny Cruz each brought home 3 first place ribbons. John took almost 4 seconds off his 50 freestyle, and Johnny over 4 seconds off his 100 IM. John Stuart is swimmer of the week for the 15-18 age group. Stephen Brown, and Nathan Bahr helped get the win in the medley relay, and Tyler Eckles assisted in the 200 free relay.

Water Polo

The LAZERS U18 water polo team girls competed in four games in West Valley this

past weekend. The girls played very well and had many stand out performances. Faith Badertscher was a stand out in goal. Greta Kohtmoos scored over ten goals. Ally LaFuenesse and Danielle Kennedy contributed to the top effort.

Pleasanton Meadows

The Pleasanton Meadows Sharks got four win performances from the Kelly sisters and had enough depth to push their record to 2-0 with a 509-473 over Briarhill.

Both Amelia and Meredith Kelly won three individual events as well as one relay. Meredith, swimming in the 9-10 age group, won fly, free and IM, and swam on the winning medley relay team. Also swimming on the medley relay were Audrey Simmons, Erika Shinn, and Kristen Greene. Amelia, a 7-8 swimmer, won breaststroke, fly and free and also participated in the winning free relay team along with McKenna Harris, Kaitlyn Rae, and Sydney Simmons. Harris, also had an individual win in the backstroke and also swam on the winning medley relay team.

Pleasanton Meadows had several other "family affairs" during the meet. For example, Blake and Nick Tucker combined for three individual wins and two relays. Blake, 11-12, won in back and free, and the medley relay while Nick, 13-14, won fly and the medley relay. The Perry's, Kaala and Perry, took three events with Perry winning the 13-14 boys free, and both swam on winning relay teams. Similarly, Trent (9-10) and Peyton Pozzi (7-8) were in four winning events with both swimming on winning medley relay teams. Trent also nabbed individual wins in the fly and IM. As noted above the Simmons sisters swam on winning relay teams and Audrey also won the 9-10 breaststroke. The DuBos family had a good day with Lauren winning the U6 breaststroke and free relay, while Jack, 7-8, swam in the first place medley relay team.

David Azuma won a pair of individual events, taking the 9-10 back and free while Justin Lee, a 13-14 boy, won two individuals, IM and back, and the medley relay. Also winning multiple individual events was Matthew Whiteland (6U) who won the fly and the free.

Other swimmers with individual firsts were Noor Gill (11-12 fly), Chris Iniquez (15-18 breaststroke), and Tyler Rhoads (11-12 breaststroke).

Junior Giants

Coaches Needed

The Junior Giants program, a partnership between the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and the San Francisco Giants, is looking for a few good men or women to serve as volunteer coaches for the upcoming season.

The Junior Giants is a noncompetitive league that encompasses more than just baseball. This innovative program gives youth an opportunity to play for free while developing confidence, integrity, leadership and teamwork. The integrated league for boys and girls includes lessons in literacy, health and wellness.

Volunteers are needed to coach the teams, which are broken down into ages 5 to 7 and ages 8 to 10. One-hour practices are held one evening a week, with one-hour games on Saturdays. The season runs from July 9 to Aug. 13, with a few additional pre-season meetings. Practices and games are held at Randy Johnson Field at May Nissen Park, 685 Rincon Ave.

Coaching involves teaching children the basic concepts of playing baseball, working with parents, the community, LARPD and the Junior Giants Foundation; and teaching children to have good sportsmanship and high self-esteem. First-time coaches are welcome; LARPD staff will be on site for games and practices.

Volunteer coaches, who must be 18 or older, are an essential part of this outreach program and help provide an important service to the community. The deadline for volunteer sign ups is Tuesday, June 28, the "First Pitch" meeting at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave. For

more information or to become a volunteer, contact Vicki Wiedenfeld at 925-373-5709 or vwiedenfeld@larpd.dst.ca.us.

Football and Cheer

Livermore Youth Football and Cheer, the longest established Football/Cheerleading program in Livermore, is celebrating its 37th year.

Signups are currently underway for the 2011 season.

The league is supported by Valley Christian High School, Granada High School, Livermore High School and the Diablo Valley Youth Football Conference. The program emphasizes education, family, and the football knowledge and techniques that prepare athletes for the exact structure of high school and collegiate football and cheer programs.

Teams compete with teams from nearby cities structured around the East Bay Athletic League.

The football program is offered for athletes from 7 to 14 years old. Each football team is mentored by an ex-NFL player. Among them is John Parrella, a former defensive lineman. His 12-year career including playing for the Oakland Raiders, San Diego Chargers and Buffalo Bills. Also mentoring are Mario Celotto, a member of the 1981 Superbowl Las Angeles Rams; and Jos Raves, who played for the Raiders, Carolina Panthers, New England Patriots, and Detroit Lions.

The Cheer program is offered for athletes from 5 to 14 years old. The team finished fourth in the nation at the recent competition at Disneyland.

Practice starts August 1, 2011. There are discounts on fees for families with multiple athletes.

According to the league, children play football and become cheerleaders because it is fun, challenging and exciting. Being a member of a team helps to cooperation and team work as well as develop social skills.

For more information about the program or to register, please visit <http://www.lyfcviking.com/> or e-mail us at delthecoach@gmail.com

Bocce Kits for Rent

Following the debut of two new bocce courts at the freshly renovated Bothwell Park, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is now making bocce ball kits available for rent to the public.

Bocce ball kits can be checked out for a week at a time from the Robert Livermore Community Center. The kits are available at the front counter from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rental for one week is \$20, plus a \$40 refundable deposit by credit card or cash—a total of \$60. The \$40 deposit is refundable if equipment is returned in good condition. Kits are rented on a first-come, first-served basis; reservations are not available in advance. Rental of a bocce ball kit does not guarantee a bocce ball court will be available.

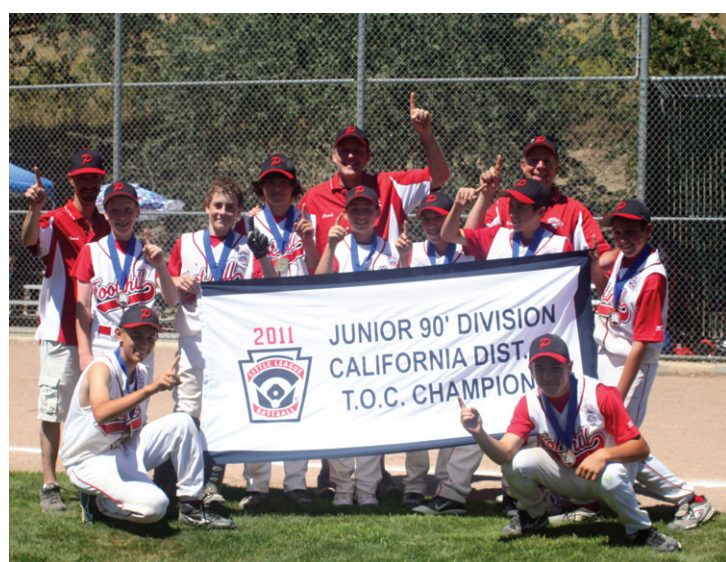
The Robert Livermore Community Center is located at 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Bothwell Park is located at 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. For more information, call 925-373-5700.

Pleasanton Jr. Football

Registration is now open for the 2011 Pleasanton Junior Football League season. PJFL offers contact football and cheerleading for boys and girls in the 2nd through 8th grades as well as flag football for boys and girls in the 2nd through 12th grades. Everyone plays in PJFL. There are no tryouts and there are no cuts.

Contact football registration is \$285 and includes a uniform and all necessary equipment. Contact players practice 3 times per week beginning in early August and play games on Saturday's at the Pleasanton Sports Park beginning in early September.

Flag Football registration is \$165 for players in the 2nd through 8th grade and includes a uniform and all necessary equipment. Flag players practice 1 time a week beginning the third week of August and play games on Saturday's at Hart middle School



Pictured is the Pleasanton Foothill Little League Junior 90's, winners of the District 57 Tournament of Champions. They are Lutter Little, Tyler Wineger, Cole Goetz, Jake Jackson, Kane Millerstrom, Christian Cisneros, Dylan Frades, Nate Gipson and Nate Jetter; Manager Gary Wineger and Coaches Mike Gipson and Daniel Millerstrom. Not in picture, Jake Bauer and Shaun Kienhofer.

beginning in mid-September. PJFL is also pleased to announce the all-new High School Flag Football Division (grades 9 through 12). Registration is just \$100 and includes all the necessary equipment.

PJFL also offers Cheerleading for boys and girls in the 2nd through 8th grade. No experience is required and it's great fun for all ages and skill levels. Registration is \$250-\$300 and includes a uniform and training. Cheerleaders practice two times per week beginning in late June and cheer on Saturday's at the Pleasanton Sports Park beginning in early September.

For more details hit PJFL.com.

Summer Baseball Camps

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 are two 5-12 year old camps that cost \$125. July 11-15 from 9-12 each day. For more info to sign up please contact David Perotti at (925) 586-2811 or dpperotti@yahoo.com or check website www.eteamz.com/lvb

CYO Basketball

St. Michael/St. Charles CYO Basketball is now accepting registration for the 2011/2012 season. Register on-line at www.smcyyo.org for player's 1st-8th grade, coaches and referees. Visit the website for more information or email cyoregistration@yahoo.com. Open to Livermore residents.

Run San Ramon

The City of San Ramon Parks & Community Services Department will host the annual Run San Ramon 10k/5k/3k Run/Walk on July 4. This is a certified, flat, paved route beginning at the San Ramon Community Center at Central Park, 12501 Alcolta Blvd, right off the 680 freeway at Bollinger Canyon Road.

Race is open to all ages with medals given to the top 3 finishers in 18 different age groups for those 5 and over. As well as complimentary commemorative race t-shirts for all those who pre-register for the event.

Race day registration begins at 6:30am and the first race starts at 8:15am. Registration

forms and online registration can be accessed from our website: www.SanRamon.ca.gov or by calling 925.973.3200.

Golf Tournament

The public is invited to support the Livermore Police Department's "Every 15 Minutes" alcohol awareness program for teenagers by participating in a fund-raising golf tournament hosted by the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley on Friday, August 5th, 2011.

"Every 15 Minutes" is designed to impress upon teens the potentially dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol. The program focuses on students in Livermore, Granada and Del Valle High Schools, challenging them to think about drinking and driving, as well as the responsibility of making mature decisions that can impact on family, friends and others. Members of the Livermore police and fire departments, high school officials, ValleyCare Health System staff and community leaders work together to present the program.

"Unique in its design and powerful in its impact, the 'Every 15 Minutes' program is an experience that brings a heightened sense of reality to the issue of alcohol use," said Rotarian and retired Livermore Police Department Captain Scott Trudeau.

Entry fee for the golf tournament is \$195 per person and includes lunch & BBQ dinner, golf cart and green fees. Check-in at "The Course at Wente Vineyard" begins at 11:30 a.m., with the shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Prizes and awards in men's and women's divisions and other categories will be presented at dinner festivities. This is a TEXAS Scramble format, with entry forms & fees are due by July 12th.

Corporate sponsors are being sought for this event as well. For more information and to register, go to www.RCLVGolf.dojiggy.com, or contact Graham Scott at (925) 784-9800 or Scott Trudeau (925) 580-8144.

"This is an exciting opportunity to support an important cause, enjoy a challenging golf course and spend a day with friends, neighbors and colleagues," said Scott Trudeau.

For more information on the "Every 15 Minutes" program go to: http://www.ci.livermore.ca.us/LPD/programs/every_15_minutes.html.

SHORT NOTES

Summer Stars

Summer Stars is the topic of a Sat., July 2 program presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff. Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 8:30 p.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park.

After watching the sunset, head into the park to enjoy the skies away from city lights. The walk will be two to three miles on mostly flat terrain. Please wear comfortable walking shoes.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at Sycamore Grove and Veterans parks. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs.

Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Grief Workshops

Hope Hospice is offering a series of summer grief workshops for children. They include:

- Garden Crafts Workshop, July 13 1 - 3 pm: Participants will make objects to place in their gardens / yards to honor their loved one. The projects will include decorating birdhouses, wooden butterflies and creating garden flags. The life cycle of nature will be used to reinforce the grief cycle as well as encouraging them to find a special place in their garden for their memories.
- Garden Crafts Workshop, July 20 1 - 3 pm: In this workshop the participants will create a personalized plaque, paint wind chimes and decorate a pot, in which they will plant seeds. The life cycle and coping with changes will be reinforced and explored.
- Treasure Maps and Treasure Boxes, July 27 1 - 3 pm: Participants will design their own treasure map representing some of the obstacles to their grief and finish by creating their own treasure box to fill with

mementoes of their loved one. This is the third year this workshop has been presented. The participants use a variety of mediums to represent their obstacles.

- Art for Life - Art Felt Memories, August 3 1 - 3 pm: The Art Felt Memories program will provide an opportunity to create a ceramic memory piece in honor of a loved one. Ceramic memory boxes, banks or special plaques are available.

Enrollment is limited, please call Linda Henry for early registration at (925) 829-8770

Camps & Programs

Summer has officially begun, and with it comes a variety of children's camps and programs from the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District. Some summer offerings are full, but plenty are still available for registration.

Kids can get out and stay active this summer with LARPD's assortment of athletic-themed camps for boys and girls of varying ages. Sports camps still open are:

- Summer Youth Sports Camp for ages 5 to 11 can spend time this summer playing traditional and non-traditional sports and games that improve coordination and cardio fitness. Sign up for a week or for all summer. Half-day camps (8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1 to 5:30 p.m.) are \$129; full-day camps (8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) are \$195. Purchase three weeks and get the fourth week FREE!

- LARPD Youth Baseball Camp for ages 4 to 12 will teach youth the basic skills of the sport through drills and games that are appropriate for the beginner as well as the more advanced player. Kids are divided into groups by age. Camps are held the weeks of July 11, July 25 and Aug. 8. Prices are \$45 for ages 4 to 5 (8:30 to 9:30 a.m.), \$69 for ages 6 to 7 (8:30 to 10 a.m.), and \$129 for ages 8 to 12 (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Football Training Camp for ages

Friday Night Dinners & Concerts

July 1st John McGue

Vocals, Acoustics

July 8th Roosters Teeth

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July 15th

René Escovedo & THE FUSE

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The Rotary Club of Livermore Valley
Presents our 3rd Annual
Charity Golf Tournament
www.RCLVGolf.DoJiggy.com

Friday, Aug. 5, 2011 • 12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start
The Course at Wente Vineyards
Entry \$195
Includes Box Lunch & BBQ Dinner Buffet
Benefits "Every 15 Minutes" program and other Livermore Youth programs. To participate or for sponsorship opportunities, call Scott (925) 580-8144 / Graham (925) 784-9800.

Bruce Fiedler Retiring After 26 Years Managing Pleasanton Gardens



BRUCE FIEDLER

Long-time Pleasanton Gardens administrator Bruce Fiedler has announced his retirement this summer after 26 years of service.

The Pleasanton Gardens Board of Directors has entered into a one-year management contract with American Baptist Homes of the West, which is based in Pleasanton. ABHOW, in consultation with the directors, has hired Ron Dirks as the new site administrator.

After Fiedler informed the board of his plan to retire earlier this year, directors sought proposals from management companies to operate the 40-unit elder housing complex on Kottinger Avenue. It was the first very affordable housing for senior citizens and grew out of a partnership of four churches—St. Augustine's Catholic Church, Lynnewood Methodist, First Baptist and Centerpointe Church.

The ABHOW team was introduced to the residents earlier this month and Dirks was welcomed on board on June 20.

"We are so grateful to Bruce for his 26 years of service to the residents of Pleasanton Gardens. He maintained an extraordinary community—one that is a model for small complexes across the country," said Pleasanton Gar-

dens board president Tim Hunt.

Fiedler said that he had been approached by larger organizations during his tenure, but that he preferred to stay at Pleasanton Gardens where he knew all the residents and could see the results of his work.

In addition to the day-to-day administration, Fiedler also handled most maintenance and provided his cell phone to all residents in case he was needed to respond. Pleasanton Gardens was one of the last small complexes operated as a stand-alone facility and routinely has received the highest ratings from HUD.

"The board agreed, once Bruce announced his retirement, that the era of a single administrator managing the complex had passed. We sought the best management company as our partner—both to handle day-to-day operations and to help guide the directors through a process to determine how to position Pleasanton Gardens to continue its mission of providing very affordable elder housing for decades to come," said Hunt.

"We are excited to work with ABHOW and develop both a vision and the practical plan to achieve it," Hunt said.

Ancel Romero, ABHOW senior vice-president, stated,

"ABHOW is honored to have been selected as the management agent of Pleasanton Gardens. As one other non-profit, faith-based organization headquartered in Pleasanton, ABHOW has a singularly unique understanding of Pleasanton Gardens' goals- and a profound appreciation of our shared mission."

Dirks has spent the past seven years managing property for non-profit companies. He spent almost 20 years as a pastor before moving into the private sector as an informational technology manager. He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology, a masters of divinity and is currently finishing a masters of history at Cal State East Bay.

"We believe Ron will serve our residents well and together with the ABHOW management team, we look forward to working with him to develop the long-term plan for Pleasanton Gardens," Hunt said.

Dirks said, "It is my sincere belief that my previous experiences have brought me to this very place. I already feel welcomed and at home at Pleasanton Gardens. While I never will be able to fill Bruce's shoes, I hope to provide the same warm care and support to both the residents and the greater community of Pleasanton."

Before coming to Pleasanton Gardens, Fiedler worked as a youth and disabled services coordinator, a classroom teacher and school administrator.

During his tenure, he served on both the city Human Services Commission and the Housing Commission as well as the task force that worked for eight years to plan and develop the city's Senior Citizens Center.

Fiedler also served on a variety of committees related to the needs of senior citizens.

He has been a leading advocate of creating smoke-free housing complexes and speaks



The Department of Water Resources (DWR) co-sponsored a C.A.S.T (Catch a Special Thrill) event for kids last Saturday at Lake Del Valle. C.A.S.T. for Kids' events give disabled and disadvantaged young people a day of outdoor adventure. The children from local agencies received their own fishing rods, reels and tackle boxes before heading out to enjoy fishing with top anglers. They also received boating safety tips while learning about ethics of fishing and natural resources. In addition to DWR, the Lake Del Valle C.A.S.T event is sponsored by the East Bay Regional Park District and the California Departments of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Boating and Waterways, and Fish and Game. Additional sponsors include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Livermore Lions Club, Tri-Valley Special Education Local Planning Area (SELPA), California Water Service Co., Steiner Prints, Big 5 Sporting Goods, Wal-Mart, Culligan Water Systems, Raley's Foods, the Oakland Raiders, Peet's Coffee, Vine Cinema, Kelly-Moore Paint Company, Carls Jr, Let 'em Eat Cake, Castro Valley Bass Classics, California Striped Bass Association, Sunrise Mountain Sports, and Bass Pro Shops. During the day, the young fishermen were treated to lunch, hosted by the Livermore Lions Club at Lake Del Valle. There was awards ceremony. The C.A.S.T. program is intended to expand opportunities for disabled and disadvantaged youth to use and enjoy public land and water throughout State Water Project recreation facilities.



GOLFING

(continued from page one)

drunk driving. Every 15 Minutes challenges students to think about drinking, texting while driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved.

Every other year in the spring, juniors and seniors from Livermore, Granada, Del Valle, and Vineyard High Schools experience in Every 15 Minutes. On the first day, the Grim Reaper removes a student from class every 15 minutes. A police officer then reads to the class an obituary, written by the student's parents. The student then rejoins the class as one of "living dead" with white face makeup, a coroner's tag, and an Every 15 Minutes t-shirt.

The approximately 40 living dead students are pre-selected by principals and staff at all participating schools to represent a cross-section of the entire student body. The living dead do not speak or interact with other students until the completion of the program.

In Livermore, a teacher is also chosen as one of the living dead. "The school arranges for a substitute, so when that teacher returns to class they just sit in the back without interacting," says Rebiejo. "Seeing that is very emotional for the kids."

Later that day, the students gather at Livermore High School to witness a drunk driving accident involving their peers. Every last detail, down to the timing of the emergency response, is as realistic as possible.

Rescue workers and medical personnel perform all procedures as they would in any emergency, short of actually putting tubes down the victim's throats or inserting needles into their skin. Police notify parents of the victims, and some have the gruesome task of identifying their children at

the morgue. The drunk driver is arraigned in a courtroom with a real lawyer, and spends time in a holding cell in jail.

That evening, the living dead spend the night away from their families on a retreat. They reflect on the events of the day and write letters to their parents, who at the same time write letters to them. These students are not allowed contact with anyone other than the police officers and each other.

Cutting off communication has become more complicated in recent years. Students' cell phones are confiscated. They leave an outgoing message explaining that they are away as one of the living dead for an anti-drunk driving campaign. If they have a Facebook account, the students post a similar message there.

The next morning, all of the high school juniors and seniors attend Every 15 Minute assemblies at Livermore and Granada High Schools. They are shown a video of the entire crash scenario, including the event at which things began to go bad—a party, the prom, drinking at the lake—and the aftermath, including the hospital, jail, and morgue.

Living dead students and their parents read the letters they wrote during the retreat. The program ends with speakers who have been personally affected by drunk driving—parents who have lost children, young adults or teens who have lost siblings, or people who have been the drunk driver.

The Livermore Police Department added a third day to their Every 15 Minutes program. The weekend after the mock-accident, the living dead students go to lunch together and participate in team building activities, fol-

lowing by a Sheriff's Department driving course. The parents of the living dead have their own retreat at which they listen to speakers and share their feelings about the program.

Toni LaRosa was the Every 15 Minutes student coordinator at Granada High School in 2002; she returns to Granada for the program each time it's held. "It's hard to really get high schoolers' attention but when you see everyone crying—boys and girls—you know they are definitely being reached," she says. "You just hope they remember what they saw and how they felt and carry that with them forever. I know I have."

Next spring will mark Rebiejo's seventh Every 15 Minutes Program. "I'm involved in many programs with the Livermore Police, but this is by far the most impactful thing I've ever done," she says.

Many of the living dead students from past years still keep in contact with her. "I know this program is effective because of what they tell me," she says. "It's crazy—there are kids who've decided to go into law enforcement or who became a force against drunk driving at college. I know of family relationships that have been repaired after going through Every 15 Minutes—it puts things into perspective."

Putting on Every 15 Minutes, she says, is kind of like being a wedding planner for 15 different brides, all getting married at the exact same time. "We are so thankful for Rotary's support. Without their help we could not keep bringing this important program to our youth," Rebiejo adds.

For more information, visit www.every15minutes.com.

STATE OF CITY

(continued from page one)

merce as part of its Wine Country Summer Lecture series. The overall theme was partnerships. In addition to innovation and retail, other partnerships included those in the arts, transportation, and the downtown. Partnerships over the years have resulted in the amazing communities in the area, he commented.

Kamena declared that Livermore has been working on generating jobs, regional and local transportation, infrastructure rehabilitation and open space preservation, among other things.

Open space preservations includes the purchase of two properties in Doolan Canyon and a third adjacent to the Brushy Peak Preserve.

Regional transportation projects include the Isabel interchange funded by \$68 million from the state and \$12 million from the federal government. HOV lanes have been constructed on I-580, and high speed rail is under discussion.

BART is another transportation project in the spotlight. There is a "little glitch" in bringing BART to Livermore with the BART initiative, said Kamena. The council will next discuss the options at its July 11 meeting.

The East Bay Regional Communication System has resulted in local agencies being able to communicate. The entire system will be up and running by 2018.

Some examples of progress made in the City of Livermore include the downtown First Street streetscape, downtown housing at Station Square and the Bankhead Theater.

The Amgen Tour of California

2011 selected Livermore as a start city. Kamena declared that over 300 volunteers helped make it "the best race in the six year history of the event" according to organizers. Kamena said that \$150,000 had been budgeted for the event; the eventual cost was \$23,000.

The Livermore Valley Film Commission, established three years ago, has brought business to the area. Credits include the following: Discovery Channel Special, Mythbusters, Nissan, Dodge and Honda commercials, and most recently a Fruit of the Loom commercial. A major film, Hemingway and Gellhorn starring Nicole Kidman, filmed a portion of the story in North Livermore.

Kamena said there are economic benefits to the area. Production companies shop and dine locally and stay in local hotels. There were 76 people who worked on the Fruit of the Loom commercial, filming from morning to evening for a one minute commercial. It is expected to start airing in August.

Kamena said there was a moment when it appeared the Paragon outlet center would not move forward because of concerns raised by the FAA about a lagoon at the Las Positas Golf Course. Through the efforts of City Engineer Cheri Sheets, the final papers are signed. "We are ready to break ground." Over 150 tenants will occupy 550,000 square feet of retail space at the Paragon Outlets. The opening is targeted for the spring of 2013.

Among tenants signed up are Lancome, Guess Factory Store, J. Crew, Barneys New York and Tommy Hilfinger.

The arts have provided another partnership. The Bankhead Theater presented 29 world class attractions last year, among the 190 performances. It generated \$1 million in ticket revenue to eight local groups. It has also generated \$1 million in economic impact to the area.

Kamena pointed out that when the Regional Theater is operating it is estimated that it will generate \$20 million in revenue each year across the Tri-Valley. Among the 100 events presented annually will be Broadway Shows. "Approvals are all in. It's a matter of selling the bonds," said the mayor.

Kamena concluded, "We're in good shape. We're a little hungry, but we're doing fine. We've been able to come up with innovative ideas to make this valley a special place to live."

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Next Classics Nights:
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THE TREE OF LIFE
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Judy Moody NOT Bummer Summer
DAILY: 11:45AM

MIDNIGHT IN PARIS
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Purchase!
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|--|-------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| LARRY CROWNE (PG13) DLP | 12:00 | 2:15 | 4:30 6:45 9:10 |
| MONTE CARLO (PG) DLP | 11:45 | 2:10 | 4:40 7:05 9:25 |
| TRANSFORMERS: DARK OF THE MOON 3D (PG13) DLP THX | | 11:20 | 2:40 6:10 9:35 |
| TRANSFORMERS: DARK OF THE MOON (PG13) DLP THX | | 1:40 | 5:00 8:30 |
| TRANSFORMERS: DARK OF THE MOON (PG13) DLP | | 12:45 | 4:25 7:45 |
| CARS 2 3D(G) DLP | | 11:30 | 2:20 5:10 8:00 |
| CARS 2(G) DLP | 12:25 | 1:10 | 3:10 4:00 6:05 6:50 8:45 |
| BAD TEACHER(R) DLP | | 1:20 | 4:15 7:15 9:50 |
| GREEN LANTERN (PG13) DLP | | 12:40 | 3:30 6:40 9:45 |
| MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS (PG) DLP | 12:05 | 2:40 | 5:05 7:30 9:40 |
| SUPER 8 (PG13) DLP D-BOX | | 1:30 | 4:10 6:55 9:35 |
| BRIDESMAIDS (R) DLP | | 12:30 | 3:50 6:50 9:30 |
| PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 4 (PG13) DLP | | | 9:25 |

Beryllium Controls at Lab Inadequate

The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the Inspector General (IG) published the results of a major federal investigation. The audit, titled, "Implementation of Beryllium Controls at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory" (DOE/IG-0851) was released June 22, 2011. In it, the IG found that "actions necessary to resolve previously observed weaknesses had not been completed."

Specifically, top oversight and management officials at Livermore Lab had closed out "corrective actions," required to protect employees from beryllium contamination without actually implementing the actions.

The IG conducted the investigation because Lab management had previously been fined \$200,000 for multiple failures to comply with the law governing its Chronic Beryllium Disease Prevention Program (CBDPP). Subsequently, Lab management reported that it had completed the required corrective actions. The objective of the IG audit was to "determine whether Livermore had implemented effective beryllium controls to resolve previously identified weaknesses."

In one example cited by the IG, "Livermore officials told us that they had completed corrective actions to communicate beryllium hazards, in part, through the use of facility maps.

However, we determined that although it had developed the maps, Livermore had not posted the maps in any of the seven known beryllium facilities that we toured."

Further, the IG notes that the maps that Livermore did develop "did not always identify the true extent of beryllium contamination." This failure resulted in workers unknowingly entering beryllium-contaminated areas without proper protective equipment.

Beryllium is a potentially deadly toxic metal used at the Lab in the research and development of nuclear weapons. The machining process releases fine particle beryllium dust into the air that, upon inhalation, can lead to serious lung conditions ranging from initial beryllium sensitivity to incurable and fatal Chronic Beryllium Disease and/or lung cancer.

Among the IG's major findings are Livermore Lab management's failure to:

- Test equipment before letting workers use it when that equipment is in a facility where beryllium contamination has been found.
- Establish training requirements for all employees and ensure that managers and others attend.
- Provide updates to the website intended to communicate the

current status of onsite beryllium contamination to workers.

Due to the history of beryllium use at Livermore Lab and the risks it poses to workers, Lab management is required to implement a legally compliant Chronic Beryllium Disease Prevention Program (CBDPP).

Variety of Contests at The Fair

The Alameda County Fair will be sponsoring some unusual contests this coming week.

On July 3 at 2:30 p.m. there will be the 99 Seconds Kissing Contest.

The BBQ Pork Rib and Chicken cook-off will begin on June 30 with the finals on July 4. The preliminary cook-off days are June 30, July 1 and July 3. Three winners from each day will advance to the finals on July 4. Entries still accepted.

The 3rd Annual Hot Dog Eating Chili Relay Contest is set for July 4. Bring a big appetite for Hot Dogs, a big sense of fun and a willingness to get messy.

Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners

Battle of the Local Bands Contest: Teens Rock! is July 8.

For contest rules and entry forms go to www.alamedacountyfair.com.

Work Underway on Pleasanton Retirement Community

Continuing Life Communities, LLC, has released artists' renderings for its new continuing care retirement community in Pleasanton.

According to Troy Bourne, vice president of planning and development for Continuing Life Communities, site grading is under way at Stoneridge Creek, located on 46 acres at the east terminus of Stoneridge Drive. An official groundbreaking event to celebrate the start of building construction is scheduled for later this year.

Stoneridge Creek, the first new continuing care retirement community of this scale to be built in the East Bay in decades, is also the first in the area to feature single-story homes as a component of a campus-oriented design. The community will offer a comprehensive package of housing options, services and amenities geared toward healthy living for people 62 and older. Approximately two-thirds of the homes in Stoneridge Creek's first phase have already been reserved.

When completed, the community will include up to 635 homes with nearly 20 floor plans ranging from 700-square-foot apartment-style homes to 2,500-square-foot, single-story "villas" with attached garages. Homes



Aerial view

will be offered with one-, two- and three-bedroom options, all with full kitchens.

A key component of the new community is its state-of-the-art health center located immediately adjacent to the main Stoneridge Creek campus. The health center, with 68 assisted living apartments (including a dedicated memory support area) and 73 skilled nursing beds, will be licensed by the state's Department of Health Services and Department of Social Services and will be open to the general public as well as Stoneridge Creek residents.

In addition, the new commu-

nity will offer residents several restaurant venues ranging from casual to fine dining, a library, billiards and card rooms, as well as a computer lab and business center. Residents will have access to a host of social, recreational and educational activities, as well as numerous outings to sports and cultural events in the Bay Area.

An information center for Stoneridge Creek, open Monday through Saturday, is located at 5698 Stoneridge Dr. For more information, please call 800/849-0023 or visit the website at www.stoneridgecreek.com.

OBITUARIES

Milton "Milt" Eugene Codioli

Milt Codioli, 79, passed away peacefully with his family at his side on May 27, 2011.

Milt was born in Salinas, California on September 12, 1931. He was the son of Swiss-Italian immigrants, Eugene and Martha Codioli.



After growing up in Salinas, he joined the U.S. Navy where he spent 4 years and served in Korea. He would later attend and graduate from San Jose State University in 1956.

Soon after that, Milt met the love of his life, Patricia Settrini, and they married in March of 1956, a union that would last 55 years.

Milt worked for Ford Motor Company for 10 years as a field manager and later as a leasing instructor at the Ford Marketing Institute. In 1965 he moved to Livermore and became a partner in Bud Gestri Ford, which soon became Codioli Ford, a business that would last 40 years. As owner of Codioli Ford, (and later, Codioli Auto Group) he was recognized as a dynamic business leader and generous community supporter. He truly believed in giving back to the community that supported his business, so he gave regularly to the Livermore Schools, little league, Livermore Rotary, St. Charles Borromeo, and countless other charities and community groups.

When asked for the secret to his success, Milt would respond with 2 words... "Hard work."

Milt is survived by his wife, Patricia, four children and nine grandchildren; Denise Montalvo (daughter), her husband Oscar, and daughters Lindsey and Trisha, Mark Codioli (son), his wife Denise, and daughters Alyxandra and Elyse, Jill Boehrer (daughter), her husband John and children Austin, Haley, and Adam, and Janis Campbell (daughter), her husband Steve, and children Jacob and Cora. He would become known as "Papa" to his grandkids.

After selling the business in 2005, Milt could focus on his true passion, his family. Ever the patriarch, he would counsel his children and grandchildren in all aspects of life. He had started an annual family trip to Maui when his children were small. Later, this annual trip grew to include all the grandchildren. This won-

derful tradition has lasted over 40 years.

Other interests included reading, visiting with friends, watching the surf at his home on the California Coast, or enjoying the sun rising over the rugged mountains of his vacation home in Loreto, Mexico.

The Codioli family would like to give special thanks to the entire staff at Stanford Medical Center, and in particular Dr. Edward Damrose and his team. Your extraordinary compassion and professionalism is appreciated beyond words. We feel privileged to have met you all.

A celebration of Milt's life will be held on Wednesday, July 6 at Wente Event Center (Croya Blanca Room), 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Since education was so important to Milt, the family will be starting an annual scholarship in his name. In lieu of flowers, checks can be made out to: Granada High School (please note "Milt Codioli Scholarship" on checks), and mailed c/o Mark Codioli, 3291 Saratoga Ct., Livermore, CA 94550.

We'll miss you, Papa. From your loving family.

Funeral Arrangements by Struve and Laporte Funeral Home.

Online condolences to www.struveandlaporte.com.

Byron Arthur Fenn

Byron Arthur Fenn, 87, of Livermore, California, passed away on June 21, 2011.

Byron was born on March 21, 1924 in Townsend, Oconto, Wisconsin to the late Leonard Byron Fenn and Augusta Christine (Adams) Fenn. He was born and grew up on the

dairy farm that was pioneered by his father Leonard. Byron worked most of his life in heavy duty construction and road work. He served his country honorably in the US Navy during WWII. After his discharge Byron went to Alaska with a couple of friends, and many stories were told about how they had lived in the wilderness, built a cabin and worked a trap line. Byron married Mae Jane Dolsen March 13, 1948 and they made their home in Townsend, Wisconsin. The couple moved to California in 1957 and settled in Livermore 1963.



He was an avid outdoorsman and spent many wonderful days camping and fishing with his wife and girls and all of the girls learned to hunt and fish. Hunting was one of his favorite pastimes and for several years he took up taxidermy. Byron was a man of many talents and took on the task of car repair, plumbing, wood work and general repair of anything that might be needed.

He was preceded by his parents Leonard and Augusta Fenn; sisters, Evelyn Evrard, Eleanor Zimdars, and brother Lawrence Fenn. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mae Jane Fenn and his 6 daughters, Ginger Santillanes of Groveton, NH, Charlotte Richard and husband Paul of Dayton, NV, Linda Ruys and husband John of Rancho Cordova, CA, Cheryl Fenn and husband Jack Young of Colorado Springs, CO, Susan Scott and husband Gary of Oceanside, CA, and Debbie Fenn of Lakeport, CA., 11 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and 2 great-great grandchildren.

Donations may be made to the Diabetic Foundation.

There are currently no services planned.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Reba Phillips

Livermore resident, Reba Phillips was born October 21, 1929 in Salinas, CA. She passed away June 15, 2011 in Bend Oregon from complications due to an automobile accident.

Reba is survived by her son Lester (Linda) Anderson of Colbert, WA; daughters Joyce (Michael) Moss of Livermore, and Barbara (Donald) Cagle of Spokane, WA. 5 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

A celebration of Reba's life will be held July 16 at 1:00 p.m. at her home in Livermore.

Joann Rasmussen

Joann Rasmussen entered into eternal rest on Saturday, June 25, 2011 after a short hospital stay. She was 79. She was a Pleasanton resident.



Joann was born in Livermore, California on Dec. 13, 1931, and lived most of her life in the Tri-Valley which she commonly referred to as "God's Country." She was the oldest of four children from her parents, Ed and Selma (Sally)

Rasmussen. She was a cattleman's daughter and remembered the ranch life and the single room school she attended, (walking up hill both ways.... So I was told). Many of her family were pioneers of Pleasanton or of this Valley and she enjoyed the home town atmosphere.

After high school, Joann received her R.N. degree and worked at some local hospitals ending up at General Motors for many years. She was Santa Clara Counties Nurse Consultant and after retiring from nursing, did some emergency fill in at the local hospitals when needed. She was always prepared to patch up whoever needed help, including yours truly.

Joann was a people person and was able to combine the two things she loved, this valley and the people who live here into a business.... Real Estate and was successful for many years.

In 1955, Joann had the first of 3 kids and enjoyed the new title as "Mom."

Money was tight back then but Mom always found how to stretch a dollar and show us this beautiful country we live in. She loved to travel and did so as often as possible. In the later years, her version of camping was to rough it in a motor home. Traveling the World and meeting many friends along the way.

She enjoyed reading, especially newspapers, visiting with friends and relaxing watching TV. We could always count on watching a good Hallmark movie, Wheel of Fortune, or Jeopardy when we would visit.

Mom was not so lucky in love and after finding her true love, lost him 3 years later to cancer. She requested to be cremated and we decided she would rest well in the Sierras where her former spouse, Richard J. McSwiggin was placed.

Joann is survived by, Bruce Corcoran of Pleasanton, Ca., Diane Corcoran of Vacaville, Ca., Wayne Corcoran of Pleasanton, Ca. and 3 grand kids.

Affectionately known as "Mom" to many people, she will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

No funeral will take place but instead, a celebration of life at Joann's home will be held in her honor on July 5 at 2 p.m.

Ruth E. Schaefer

Ruth E. Schaefer, beloved mother of Wolf, Art and Brigitte, mother-in-law of Ellen, grandmother of Erica, Dustin and Elisa, great-grandmother of Liron

and Omri, passed away gently in her sleep on June 24, 2011 at the age of 87. She was a resident of Pleasanton.



She was born in Berlin, Germany, on Nov. 5, 1923, moved with her family to Sacramento and then settled in Livermore.

She loved animals and enjoyed taking her dog for walks in the park. She regularly supported The Nature Conservancy and the Tri-Valley Haven women's shelter.

She loved her weekly German newspaper and especially doing German crossword puzzles.

Family and friends gathered for a Shiva memorial service at the home of Wolf and Ellen Schaefer on the evening of Sunday, September 26.

Memorial gifts may be sent to either The Nature Conservancy or the Tri-Valley Haven.

Kimberly Kellene Martinez

August 30, 1988 – June 25, 2011

Livermore resident Kimberly

was given the gift of life on August 30, 1988; and again three months later when she was the



first infant to receive a heart transplant at Stanford Hospital.

Kimberly spent the next 22 years living her

life to its fullest. She touched everyone she met with her sense of humor, her feisty attitude, and her love of children and animals. Kimberly also loved the water and her favorite times were spent with family and friends on her family's ski boat; where she continually impressed everyone with her "drink in hand" wake surfing skills!

After graduating from Granada High School, Kimberly attended junior college while working as a nanny. She achieved her goals and was recently working as an

ambulance dispatcher. She made the decision to return to college in the fall to earn a degree that would support her desire to begin a career working with troubled youth.

Kimberly was a loving daughter, sister, granddaughter, niece, cousin and friend. With her passing Kimberly completed the circle of organ donation by becoming an organ donor, after once having been a recipient.

Kimberly is survived by her father, Jim Martinez, of Livermore, CA; mother, Michelle Martinez, of Livermore, CA; her loving, devoted sister and best friend, Jaclyn Batchelor and brother-in-law, Sean Batchelor, of Livermore, CA.; grandparents, Sue and Ralph Martinez of Lincoln, CA; and Patty and Dick Stevens, of Groveland, CA, as well as the late Pete Seymour. She is also survived by numerous loving aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and close family friends she knew all her life and considered family. She was also proud to be part of the Alameda County Fire Department family where she visited often with her dad and firefighters during their shifts.

Services will be held at Cedar Grove Community Church located at 2021 College Ave, Livermore, CA, on Friday, July 1, 2011 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the Martinez family respectfully requests donations be made, in Kimberly's honor, to the Lucille Packard Children's Hospital. Visit www.supportlpch.org. Click Donate, then tribute gift. Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.



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Photos - Doug Jorgensen
There's something for everyone at the 99th edition of the Alameda County Fair. Top photos (from left) include Fenestra Winery's award winning entries, fun on the merry-go-round and playing in an inflated bubble; (center photos) a hobby horse race and floral display; (bottom photos) riding on the midway and looking at antique farm equipment. The fair runs through July 10 at the fairgrounds in Pleasanton. It is closed on Tuesday.

FUN AT THE ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR



New Monument at Fairgrounds Recognizes County's History

Families and descendants of the more than 140 men and women who have served on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors since 1855 were invited to the unveiling of a new granite monument recognizing Alameda County's rich history — and every County Supervisor who has served over the past 156 years — at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton last Saturday.

The monument and its nearly 54 tons of granite grew from Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty's idea to restore a flagpole that for many years adorned a gazebo area near the horse track at the historic Pleasanton fairgrounds.

Haggerty's initial idea evolved into the monument's current circular configuration. At the center of the monument is a flagpole erected on a pentagon shaped granite base, while five granite monoliths and five granite benches will adorn the circle's periphery.

The monument pays tribute to Alameda County - from its beginning in 1853 when portions of Santa Clara and Contra Costa counties were annexed to create the county, to the bustling urban, suburban and rural 738

square miles of expanse that today is home to some 1.5 million people.

Haggerty said. "The monument is a great addition to our Fairgrounds and is being placed in a shaded area that will be a perfect place for folks to go to for some respite on a hot day at the Fair — and to perhaps learn a little about Alameda County history as well."

Each of the five sides of the flagpole's granite base represents a county district and will be engraved with names of the supervisors who served in Alameda County from 1855 to 1885.

The five monolith slabs surrounding the pentagon will have the names of all the supervisors serving from 1885 to the present, engraved on one side. The two newest supervisors, Nadia Lockyer in District 2 and Wilma Chan in District 3, will be included on the monument and future supervisors will also be added.

On the other side of each 5-foot granite slab, each district will have a known feature engraved into the stone — a Ferris wheel in District 1, a cap and gown for District 2, the USS Hornet in District 3, Rowell Ranch in District 4 and Golden Gate Fields in District 5.

A separate piece of granite near the entrance of the monument will recognize past fair board directors.

Visitors to the monument will see many familiar and prominent names from Alameda County's past that today adorn local landmarks — such as Caldecott, Shattuck, Meek and Lewelling.

"Unveiling this impressive new monument is a perfect way to move toward our centennial year," said Rick Pickering, CEO of the Alameda County Fair. "The root of the Fair is our ability to honor the past, while inspiring future generations."

The monument is being financed entirely through private donations. The public can support the project and be a part of history by purchasing bricks or benches, upon which their names will be engraved. The cost of each brick is \$180 to individuals and families; and \$330 for businesses. Those who buy four bricks can have a fifth brick engraved for free.

A portion of a purchase may be tax deductible. To learn more about purchasing a brick or a bench, email the Alameda County Fair at marketing@alameda-countyfair.com or call (925) 426-7565.

PARDEE

located on the land. There have been nine special status species identified. In the future, the property will allow for a staging area to access the Brushy Peak Preserve and allow for regional trail expansion.

The land is owned by the Farber Foundation, established to provide funding for brain cancer research. All of the funds used to purchase the property will go toward the research.

The property is located within the urban growth boundary (UGB) and the Livermore city limits. Stewart said that the purchase will strengthen the UGB along Laughlin Road.

Councilmember Doug Horner noted that this is the third purchase in partnership with the EBRPD for a total of \$4.2 million. He wondered what Livermore is gaining through the partnership.

Director of Community Development Marc Roberts said that the park district brings

resources. Open space management and passive recreation are a core mission of the district. "It takes money. The district uses its tax funds to manage and operate the park, money the city would have to pay if it took on the task."

Larry Tong, EBRPD inter-agency managing partner, said that for the immediate future, the property would be placed in a land bank until it is made safe for future use. The district would prepare a land use plan in cooperation with the city. The park district would fund the improvements, such as the staging area and trail connections.

One property owner objected to the city purchasing both properties. Richard Stanley owns land in North Livermore, near the Pardee site. He said he is concerned about the impact on land values and how the property would be used. He also questioned whether there were adequate funds available to purchase the properties.

Stewart said that the funding specifics for the Pardee site are yet to come. There is between \$11 and \$12 million remaining in the open space funds, which would be adequate to secure bond financing. Money is available now to purchase the Farber site.

Roberts said a land use plan for the Pardee property would be created once the land is purchased. There are a range of options. In the area where there are seasonal wetlands and other habitat sensitive areas would likely remain in open space. Land further to the north could be placed in ag easements and used for grazing or farming. It could be disposed of in the private market. The city council will make the final determination.

Bob Baltzer stated, "These are a couple of gems. The money does not come from the general fund. It can be used for no other purpose."

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES
CONTACT Richard @ 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 452086-452089

The following person(s) doing business as: 1) Betties, 2) Betties Boots, 3) Betties Shoes, 4) Betties Fashions 204 Kottinger Dr. Unit A, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sarah Lynn Melissa Freels, 204 Kottinger Dr. Unit A, Pleasanton Ca 94566. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/19/11. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Sarah Lynn Melissa Freels. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 24, 2011. Expires May 24, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3012. Published June 9, 16, 23, 30, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 452804

The following person(s) doing business as: MTRANT.COM, 2930 Basil Common, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mark S Trant, 2930 Basil Common, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Mark S. Trant. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 13, 2011. Expires June 13, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3022. Published June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 452523

The following person(s) doing business as: Richard's Detailing and Repair, 1426 Jayhawk Ln., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Richard Joseph Mendez Jr., 1426 Jayhawk Ln., Livermore Ca 94551. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Richard Joseph Mendez Jr. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 06, 2011. Expires June 06, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3015. Published June 16, 23, 30, July 7, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 452843

The following person(s) doing business as: Affordable Cab Company, 440 Boulder Ct., Ste 100D, Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Husaini Sayed Ahmad Alishah. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Husaini Sayed Ahmad Alishah. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 14, 2011. Expires June 14, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3018. Published June 23, 30, July 7, 14, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 452215

The following person(s) doing business as: Time Management, 1745 Linden St., Livermore, Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Renee Yvonne Needens, 1745 Linden St., Livermore Ca 94550. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Renee Needens. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on May 27, 2011. Expires May 27, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3019. Published June 23, 30, July 7, 14, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 452656

The following person(s) doing business as: Amplified Web, 4047 First Street #204, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sean Richard Lange, 1470 Darwin Avenue, Livermore Ca 94550. This business is conducted by: Co-partners.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Sean Lange. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 09, 2011. Expires June 09, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3020. Published June 23, 30, July 7, 14, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 452593

The following person(s) doing business as: Thatcher Bay Vineyards, 3663 Jerrold Rd, Livermore CA, 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mark Steven Elster, 2775 Willowen Way, Pleasanton, Ca 94566. This business is conducted by: Co-partners.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Sean Lange. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 09, 2011. Expires June 09, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3020. Published June 23, 30, July 7, 14, 2011.

following owner(s): Scott C Burkhardt, 3663 Jerrold Rd, Livermore CA, 94550. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/19/11. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Scott C Burkhardt, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 8, 2011. Expires June 8, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3021. Published June 23, 30, July 7, 14, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 452804

The following person(s) doing business as: MTRANT.COM, 2930 Basil Common, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Mark S Trant, 2930 Basil Common, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Mark S. Trant. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 13, 2011. Expires June 13, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3022. Published June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. 453080

The following person(s) doing business as: Zen Strength-Healing Journey, 3950B Valley Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Kathryn Lorenz, 4100 Suffolk Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 5/19/11. Signature of Registrant: /s/: Kathryn Lorenz. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 20, 2011. Expires June 20, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3023. Published June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 2011.

ANIMALS
2) CATS/ DOGS

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

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

EMPLOYMENT
56) ADULT CARE

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REAL ESTATE NEWS AND NOTICES

Which Comes First, Buying or Selling a Home?

By Cher Wollard

When you are buying a new home and selling your current one, the dilemma is always: Which step comes first?

"You need to know what your plan is before you start moving around in this market," advises Sherri Souza, a broker-associate with Alain Pinel Realty in Livermore.

Ideally, most people would prefer to buy and sell simultaneously, but that is not always possible. By looking at the pros and cons of several scenarios, you can decide what works best for your family.

Logistics

The most straightforward way to transition from one home to another is to sell the current property and use those funds to purchase the next home.

You may be able to negotiate a rent back from the buyers, meaning you could stay in the home for a specific length of time after the sale closes.

Or the home may be sold contingent on concurrent closing on your new home. This means if you don't find a home that suits you, or if you cannot close on it, you do not have to sell.

"If the property they are selling is clean, shows well and is in a desirable area, buyers may be willing to work with them," says Gloria Landavazo, a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.

If these options don't work, you may have to sell and move into interim housing, perhaps with family or in a rental.

"If they don't find the right home for their family right away, they may be better off biting the bullet and moving twice," Landavazo says.

To buy first and then sell, you'll need funding. Those with plenty of cash can purchase new homes outright. Most people do not have that luxury.

Some sellers may be able to obtain "bridge financing" based on the equity in their current homes, which would allow them to purchase a new home before selling. Such arrangements work well in fast markets, where properties go quickly, since the sellers would not have to carry dual mortgages for very long. But in sluggish or even normally paced markets, they can be risky.

"In the past, bridge loans were readily available," Souza notes. "But these days most people don't have the equity to carry them over."

Sell First, Then Buy

Eric Tyson and Ray Brown, authors of "House Selling for Dummies" (Hungry Minds Inc., 1999), recommend that most people sell first, then buy because selling first reduces financial risk — no double mortgages and double payments for property taxes and insurance.

"Homeowners tend to overestimate their house's resale value and underestimate the length of the selling process — a fiscally deadly one-two punch," according to the authors.

Landavazo agrees. "They can look ahead of time, but they may not be able to buy something without selling their current home first."

Advantages to selling first:

- You know exactly how much money you have for downpayment, closing costs and moving expenses. Your current property may sell for more or less than you anticipate. There may be expensive repairs or the buyer may need help with closing costs in order to close the transaction.
- You will be in a stronger negotiating position as a seller, since you will not be under pressure to sell quickly.
- You will be in a stronger negotiating position as a buyer on your new home, since you will not have to make an offer contingent on the sale of your current property.

"The good properties go fast, usually with multiple offers, and most of the time sellers won't accept contingent offers," Landavazo says, adding this is especially true with short sales and bank-owned properties.

But selling first isn't without challenges. The "cons" include:

- Having to move twice. Moving into temporary housing and then into your new home is a hassle. It can also be expensive. You may have to store some of your belongings.
- You may have trouble finding temporary housing. "Rentals are a little scarce right now," Souza says. "A lot of the people dealing with short sales and foreclosures are moving into those rental houses." And there is no guarantee you can stay in the neighborhood during the interim.
- What if you sell your house and can't find a new home you like? For most people, this is not a real problem. Many lovely homes come on the market every week. But for those with very specific requirements, it can be a dilemma.
- When home prices — or interest rates — are rising, your risk getting priced out of the market. Of course, when home prices are falling, you stand to benefit by selling early and buying a little later.

Buy First, Then Sell

In some situations, a homeowner may be better off finding a new home before selling the current property. Elizabeth Weintraub, a Sacramento broker writing for ask.com, offers several examples:

- It's a Seller's Market
- When inventory is low and there are lots of motivated buyers, the risk of getting stuck with two homes is minimal. The bigger problem may be getting an offer accepted on a new home of your choice.
- You Find a Great Deal
- "Sometimes, regardless of the marketplace, a home will come on the market at a price that is too good to pass up," Weintraub says.
- In these situations, it may make sense to buy before you sell, because the money you save on this purchase will compensate for making double payments until your home sells.
- You Find Your Dream House
- This is a little trickier. It's easy to fall in love with a beautiful house that meets all your criteria. If your criteria are tough to meet, you may have to pull out all the stops. On the other hand, you won't be happy in even the most spectacular home if you are stressed about finances.

Consider your options carefully and get professional advice. Consult with a mortgage specialist as soon as you decide to move. If you don't have one, ask your Realtor to refer you.

"You used to be able to have a good credit score and get a loan, but that's not the only thing they look at these days," Souza says. "Before you sell your house, make sure you can qualify for a mortgage and what that would look like. Unless you talk it through with somebody, you really don't know."

"To take advantage of this market, you have to have all your ducks in a row. Prepare yourself with knowledge and information. And work with a Realtor. Realtors are working harder than they have ever worked before to make good things happen for buyers and sellers. It is to the client's benefit to work with a professional."

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

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Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Many people participated in what Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena called, "The most successful Relay for Life ever held in the city."

One Participant Walked the Entire 24 Hours

By Carol Graham

One tall lean figure could be spotted walking continuously among the groups of people who took turns taking laps around Livermore High School's track during the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life held June 25-26. Livermore-Pleasanton Reserve Firefighter Ryan Capes committed to walking 24 hours nonstop because, he said, "Cancer never sleeps."

While attending last year's event, Capes was moved by the camaraderie of all the teams. "To see all these people celebrating life," he said, "and to see it all happen in one environment for a consistent 24 hours is touching. I can't describe the bone chilling feeling I got from it."

Having lost his grandmother to cancer five years ago, Capes walked in her memory as well as to honor two Livermore-Pleasanton firefighters, Captain Paul Chenkovich and Jared Jamison, who were diagnosed with the disease. "Besides my grandma," said Capes, "I walk for those two men, big time."

The 26-year-old Capes is no stranger to overcoming adversity himself. Weighing 260 pounds in high school, he missed out on playing sports and going to dances. Now physically fit and energetic, he hoped to reach out to others with the message, "Never, ever quit. When everything feels hopeless and you feel like you're going to give up, never quit, no matter how bad it is."

As the sun set on Saturday, hundreds of small white brightly-decorated bags surrounding the track were lit from within in memory of lives touched by cancer. "It's been a really moving day," said Capes, beginning his twelfth hour on the track. "I've met so many people with different backgrounds and stories. I've never really been in a pain like this before, but the pain that some of these people have gone through? Mine is nothing compared to that; mine is temporary."

Each year, 3.5 million people in 5,000 communities nationwide come together to take part in Relay For Life, a community-owned, volunteer-driven event in which teams camp-out at a local high school and commit to have at least one representative on the track at all times during a 24-hour period. Funds are raised through pledges, donations, raffles, auctions, games and sales at team booths.

"Livermore's Relay For Life



is among the largest in the Bay Area, one of the top three," said Scott Townley, the American Cancer Society's Staff Partner for the event. "One hundred percent of the money raised will go to the local chapter of the ACS for special support programs and research, which is the largest source of funding next to the federal government."

Event Chair Vicki Tan said more than 1,000 people comprised the 104 teams that participated in this year's event, up from about 75 teams last year. Team names included The Flying Pigs, Camp Run A Muck and A Kiss For The Cure. The jubilant event was alive with music playing from central speakers, booths featuring games and unique items for sale, children running and laughing, older couples walking arm in arm, and teenagers dancing through the crowd.

Sixteen year old Taylor Jonas, on one of Cornerstone Fellowship's teams, stood on the track selling glow sticks. A heart shaped sticker on her survivor t-shirt read "15 years." At birth, Taylor was diagnosed with stage 4 neuroblastoma, but two surgeries saved her life. Seeing her now, it's hard to imagine what her parents went through all those years ago, yet talking with Taylor leaves no doubt the experience has left her somehow refined - more aware and compassionate. "I didn't know how much being at Relay For Life would impact me," said Taylor. "I saw all the love and hope that people have."

While most teams of about 12

people rotate one or two members on the track in shifts, Capes committed to uphold a tradition begun by firefighter and friend Matt Thau: walking the entire time. "The message I'm trying to get out to the community by walking nonstop for 24 hours is that positive mental attitude over physical pain will help conquer the challenges one faces," he said. "The things that touch people are right up my alley."

Applications Being Accepted for Lab's Community Gift Program

Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC (LLNS) is conducting its annual Community Gift Program to benefit local and area nonprofit organizations for 2011.

All organizations interested in applying to the LLNS Community Gift Program must submit a gift application to LLNS by July 8, 2011. To be eligible, organizations must be sustainable, financially viable and accountable for spending and program results. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their proposal by September 15, 2011.

The LLNS' Gift Program provides up to \$100,000 in funding to support organizations addressing science, technology,

Livermore Approves Temporary Reduction in Development Fees

In an effort to encourage development, the Livermore City Council voted Monday to implement a temporary reduction in fees paid by targeted businesses.

The council rejected a proposed change in the approval process.

The goal of decreasing fees and changing the approval process is to create jobs and increase the city's tax base by retaining and recruiting businesses. The program targets high wage, high tech businesses.

Staff had recommended allowing staff to approve additions to buildings, rather than have the project go to the planning commission. Councilmember Doug Horner said the approval times had already been reduced by combining the planning commission and design review committee. He hated to take away another step and risk impacting the environment in Livermore.

The following changes in fees were approved:

For high wage and innovative technology businesses: reduction in the traffic impact fees of 30 percent for constructing new buildings in Livermore; a 50 percent reduction for those locating in existing buildings in Livermore. There would be a two-thirds fee reduction for a conditional use permit (CUP).

Residential development would see a reduction of one-third in the low income housing fee and would pay half the current transfer of development credit (TDC) fee.

The fees would apply for two years. Eric Uranga, Housing & Human Services Manager & Assistant Community Development Director, told the council that the goal is to encourage construction now rather than have developers wait until the economy improves.

Uranga estimated that there would be a drop of \$700,000 in traffic impact fees collected. However, the city has been able to attract outside funding for projects. He did not anticipate any negative impact on the city's ability to move forward with traffic improvements.

The in lieu low income housing fee would see a reduction of \$7000 to \$16310 collected. However, Uranga said that would be offset by taking advantage of

current market conditions for low income housing projects.

The TDC would require the purchase of one credit per unit, rather than the current two credits. Uranga said that the fee had become a barrier to the construction of small residential projects within the city.

Mayor Marshall Kamena called the changes an important step for the city to take.

Marc Roberts, Director of Community Development, said, "With just a little bit of help, an idea to build here or in Dublin could be an idea to build here. The reduction in fees for residential development is an acknowledgment of market conditions. We heard that the changes will make a noticeable difference in

whether a developer decides to go forward now. We are making it as easy and smooth as possible to invest in Livermore."

A representative of Lafferty Communities, a developer, told the council that with the changes he anticipates moving forward with projects.

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Art, Community, & Education

Pleasanton 4th of July Event: 'Celebrating Freedom'



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Last year's Pleasanton 4th of July celebration featured a red, white and blue theme.

The thirteenth annual all-volunteer Fourth of July celebration will be held in Lions Wayside Park on Monday, July 4. The free event will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m. Audience members are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs or blankets, and to wear red, white and blue.

Music will be provided by the Pleasanton Community Concert Band, under the direction of Bob Williams. Vocalist Ward Belding, as "Uncle Sam," will be featured, as will Pleasanton Poet Laureate Deborah Grossman, who has composed an original poem for the occasion, entitled "The Sounds of Freedom."

Entitled "Celebrating Freedom and its Evolution since the Revolution," the program this year will commemorate the sesquicentennial of the beginning of the Civil War. Special guests will be historian Ernie Manzo and reader Ann Collins, providing perspectives of the impact of the war on soldiers and civilians. Master of ceremonies is Ken McDonald.

Traditional for this event is paying tribute to military personnel, past and present. The color guard will be comprised of members of the American Legion Post #238 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #6298. Members of Boy Scout (continued on page 2)

Fireworks at the Fair Among Weekend Events

The upcoming 4th of July weekend offers a variety of events.

The weekend starts off with a bang on July 1 with a fireworks display at the Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton. The Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton will have a fireworks display on Friday, July 1. Fireworks show will start at approximately 9:30 p.m.

In addition to the fireworks, visitors can spend the day and the

weekend at the fair. There will be entertainment, live horse racing, animals, rides, food, and fun for all ages. The fair will hold its Red, White & Blues Festival on Monday, July 4.

Other activities will also take place in Pleasanton.

On Fri., July 1, Rooster's Teeth will perform rockin' blues during Downtown Pleasanton's summer Concert in the Park series. The music is at Lions Wayside Park from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

On July 3, an ice cream social will be held at the Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Rd. starting at 11:30 a.m. Using time tested recipes and human energy, participants will make ice cream the old fashioned way. The fee is \$5 residents, \$7 nonresidents. Sign up at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/cop_sum_actguide_2011_web.pdf

Fireworks will be hosted by the City of San Ramon and the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce. The annual Star-Spangled Spectacular will take place from 1 to 10 p.m. July 4 at Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd. Included in the event will be fireworks, games, food and beverage booths and entertainment.

The Town of Danville will hold its Fourth of July Parade at 9 a.m. July 4 along Hartz Avenue in downtown Danville. For more information, visit www.kiwanis-srv.org.

Dublin Heritage Park Ribbon Cutting

The official ribbon cutting ceremony for the Dublin Heritage Park and Museums will take place on Sat., July 2 at noon, beginning with presentations by the City Historian, the Poet Laureate, the Poet Laureate Emerita, and the Kolb family.

In recognition of the Bavarian heritage of the Kolb family, German music by the Karl Leberz Band will be featured at the outdoor stage, and free refreshments, including root beer, hot dogs, brats, German potato salad, soft pretzels and German chocolate cupcakes will be served.

During the event the public is invited to tour the facilities and enjoy various activities throughout the park, including:

Kolb House: tours, "Back Porch Gift Shop"

Outdoor Stage: music concert

featuring German music by Karl Leberz Band

Picnic Area: free refreshments at the Bavarian "Root" Biergarten—root beer, soft pretzels, hot dogs, brats, German potato salad, German chocolate cupcakes

Grounds: wagon rides around the park on the restored wagon and Kolb tractor Sunday School Barn: Dublin's local Bluegrass and Irish Jam performances Kolb Hay Barn: outdoor arts and crafts project for youth

St. Raymond Church: film about the Kolb Family and the relocation of the farm buildings

Murray Schoolhouse: "Journey Museum" exhibit on display

Murray Classroom: four Oral Histories videos produced by the Oral History Committee

Pioneer Cemetery: tours of the Cemetery

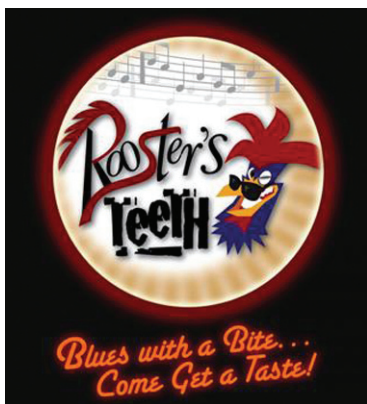


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Historic barn is part of the park.

Pump House: commemorative mugs and promotional information

The Dublin Heritage Park & Museums is located at 6600 Donlon Way in Dublin.



Pop Icon, Melissa Manchester to Perform at Firehouse

Pop music icon Melissa Manchester will bring her show to the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton on July 16.

The Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter performance begins at 8:00 p.m. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

Soon after taking Paul Simon's songwriting class at New York University (NYU), Manchester joined the Greenwich Village club scene where she was discovered by Bette Midler and Barry Manilow. She became a back-up singer for Midler and launched a career that has included Grammy Awards, Academy Awards, Top Ten Hits and countless fans worldwide.

Manchester is a native New Yorker who was introduced to all the classics as a child and was a published poet by age 15. As a back-up singer for Midler, she fulfilled her childhood fantasy of performing at Carnegie Hall and six months after her appearance there, landed a recording contract. She went on to headline at Carnegie Hall, Radio City Music Hall, and performed for sold-out audiences across the country and internationally.

Manchester's music has served to establish her as a prominent singer/songwriter. Her debut releases "Home to Myself" and "Bright Eyes" positioned her as a dynamic new talent, and were followed by hit singles "Midnight Blue," "Don't Cry Out Loud,"



Melissa Manchester is known for such songs as "Midnight Blues" and "Don't Cry Out Loud." She will be performing in Pleasanton on July 16.

4th of JULY

(continued from front page)

Troop #908 will be assisting with set-up and clean-up.

Recipients of the 2011 Ed Kinney Community Patriots Award will be introduced. They are: Chuck Deckert, Joanie Fields, and Pat & Bob Lane. This is the seventh year that the awards have been presented in memory of the former emcee (and former mayor) Ed Kinney.

Pleasanton's Fourth of July event was founded in 1991 by W. Ron Sutton. "Fourth of July should be more than barbecues and fireworks," explained Sutton. "I would like for everyone to leave Lions Wayside Park understanding and appreciating our freedom just a little more."

Free stars-and-stripes fans will be distributed to help audience members stay cool. Families may bring their own picnic lunches or purchase "A Dog & a Drink for a Dollar," prepared by the Lions Club. Lions also provide hand-held flags on a first-come, first-served basis. Last year, more than 800 people attended.

Event sponsor is Heritage Bank of Commerce. Music sponsor is ACCUSPLIT, makers of pedometers and stopwatches. Food sponsors are Pleasanton Lions clubs and Raley's Market.

Lions Wayside Park is located at the corner of First and Neal streets, one block east of Main Street.

It's 'Red, White and Blues' for 1st Wednesday Party

The July 6 1st Wednesday Street Party in downtown Pleasanton will have the theme "Red, White and Blues." The fun will take place between 6 and 9 p.m. on Main Street.

Featured band, in the beer and wine garden, will be Houserockers.

The side band performance by the Dave Crimmen Band will be on Main Street in front of the Pleasanton Hotel.

A wide variety of businesses and community organizations will have booths set up to market products and services as well as provide information.

The beer and wine garden will feature local Livermore Valley wines.

There is no admission charge.

For information, contact the Pleasanton Downtown Association at (925) 484-2199 or Events@pleasantondowntown.net

"Through the Eyes of Love" and many more.

Manchester's work has extended beyond the recording studio and concert stage to include the writing of the musical *I Sent A Letter To My Love*, based on the Bernice Rubens novel of the same name. She co-starred with Kelsey Grammer ("Frasier"), in Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* and starred in the Chicago premiere of *HATS!*, a musical that contains several songs she co-wrote with Sharon Vaughn. Manchester also composed for Disney's *The Great*

Mouse Detective and co-wrote the score for *Lady And The Tramp II*. Most recently, she co-created and starred in the ballroom dance spectacular *Fascinating Rhythms* at the Rubicon Theatre. Her song "I Know Who I Am," co-written with Joanna Cotten and Greg Barnhill, was recorded by multi-platinum artist Leona Lewis for the Tyler Perry feature film *For Colored Girls*.

Melissa Manchester has received the Governor's Award from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for

her contributions to the music and recording arts.

Tickets are \$35, \$40, \$45. Group discounts are available. Tickets may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. The entrance to free parking is on Spring Street near First Street.

Free Classical Matinee at the Pleasanton Firehouse Arts Center

Clarinetist Joe Bonfiglio joins Micah and Danielle Naler for a free concert of classical music on Sunday, July 10, at 2:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. The program will begin with the "Trio" K.498 for clarinet, viola, and piano by W. A. Mozart and continue with works by Max Bruch, Amilcare Ponchielli, Igor Stravinsky, Andre Messager, George Gershwin and Charles Hoag.

Joe Bonfiglio earned a Bachelor's of Music at the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University and a Master's degree in music at the Juilliard School. He has performed as principal clarinet with various orchestras including the Juilliard Symphony and the Santa Barbara Symphony. He performs frequently in the Bay Area. Mr. Bonfiglio has taught at the Peabody Preparatory School in Baltimore, the Walden School in Vermont, and at the University of California at Santa Barbara as Associate Professor of Music.

Micah Naler, violinist/violist, studied music at the Seattle Conservatory. Mr. Naler has served as a member of the Santa Barbara Symphony and the Solano Symphony, and is currently the principle violist for the Livermore

Valley Opera, Verismo Opera, and Berkeley Community Chorus and Orchestra, as well as an active member of the Pleasanton Chamber Players. Mr. Naler lives in Pleasanton, with his wife and pianist, Danielle Naler.

Danielle Naler received her Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. She was involved in coaching singers and accompanying rehearsals of operas including Carmen, Don Giovanni, and Arabella, with acclaimed conductors such as David Efron and Klauspeter Seibel. Currently, Danielle Naler is a staff accompanist for Livermore Valley Opera and Pacific Masterworks Chorus, as well as a freelance pianist throughout the Bay Area. She teaches piano and music theory at Inspire Music Academy in Pleasanton.

This matinee is sponsored by the Pleasanton Public Library. No reservations or tickets necessary. Seating is open. The Firehouse Arts Theater is located at 4444 Railroad Ave. in Pleasanton. Free parking is located off Spring Street.

For more information please call Penny Johnson at 925/931-3405.



Pictured are Micah and Danielle Naler (left) and Joe Bonfiglio.

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Pleasanton Artist Visits Washington, D.C.



Shao-Ning Lu is pictured with Congressman Jerry McNerney on the steps of the capitol. Her artwork is pictured at right.



Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) hosted the winner of the 11th Congressional District Art Competition to Washington, D.C. Shao-Ning Lu, a student at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, won the competition last month for her pencil and color pencil piece titled "Together We Support." She was in Washington, D.C. for the opening of an exhibition in the U.S. Capitol that will include her artwork.

"I'm always impressed by the talent and creativity of our community's students and this year was no

exception," said Rep. McNerney. "I'm proud of Shao-Ning Lu for winning this year's 11th District competition from among many talented artists and am glad to welcome her to Washington, D.C. I'm looking forward to seeing her artwork every time I walk to the Capitol."

The 11th District Art Competition is part of the nationwide annual Congressional Art Competition. The competition is intended to showcase the artistic talents and abilities of students from across the

country. Each Member of Congress hosts a competition among high school students in his or her district. The winning art entry from each Congressional district is then displayed in the Capitol for one year.

As the winner of this year's 11th Congressional District competition, Shao-Ning Lu's piece will hang in a busy corridor that leads to the U.S. Capitol, used daily by Members of Congress and visitors to Washington, D.C. Her artwork will be unveiled at an exhibition today.

The second, third and fourth place winners' artwork will also be displayed, one at each of Congressman McNerney's three offices in Washington, D.C., Stockton and Pleasanton. The second place winner is Yandi Wu, a freshman at Foothill High School in Pleasanton for her oil painting entitled "Time is Ticking." Winnie Chang, a junior at California High School in San Ramon, took third place for her oil painting titled "Shh! Here Come the California Quails." Adaurie Dayak, a sophomore at Kimball High School in Tracy, took fourth place for a collage titled "Literary Cat."

A panel of judges selected the winning entries from the 11th Congressional District.

Young Musicians Receive Livermore-Amador Symphony Association Awards

The Livermore-Amador Symphony Association (LAS) presented four awards to 2011 graduates who attended high school in the Tri-Valley. Each Student Award recognized significant contributions to school and community musical activities.

Laura Schildbach, violin, is the recipient of the John H. Green Memorial Award. She has been concertmaster of the Livermore High School orchestra and played in LAS plus the pit orchestras for Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre and Valley Dance Theater. She has also performed with chamber music groups and honors ensembles. President of Tri-M Music Honor Society at LHS, she started chapters at Granada High and Livermore's middle schools and presented assemblies at elementary schools. She will attend Chapman University and major in music education and performance.

This year's Bill King Memorial Award goes to cellist Bronwyn Hagerty. Bronwyn has been a command-performance soloist at the

Livermore School District's annual Solo and Ensemble Festival for each of the past seven years. She played in LAS for two years and was a winner of the Competition for Young Musicians. For the past two years, she has played in the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. She is active with the Tri-M Music Honor Society at LHS. The several chamber music ensembles in which she plays have performed at benefit concerts and other community events. Bronwyn will attend the University of Puget Sound to major in cello performance.

Curtis Kim, another cellist, received the LAS Association Award. As a student at Foothill High School, he was principal cellist in the orchestra all four years. He was a winner of the Competition for Young Musicians in 2009-10 and has organized and performed in many ensembles to benefit fund-raising efforts of community organizations as well as being a sectional coach for the Young Peoples Chamber Orchestra. He

has received many academic and musical awards including being a soloist at Carnegie Hall. He aspires to become a pediatrician who uses music therapy in his medical practice to alleviate patients' stress.

Michelle Lee, violin, was selected to receive the other LAS Award. While a student at Dublin High School, she won the Competition for Young Musicians and continued to solo with other orchestras including an appearance with the Boston Pops. Fund-raising performances for community organizations included a quartet from the San Francisco Youth Orchestra, Korean-American Music Supporters Association, and a benefit concert for special needs children. She has chosen to attend Harvard and pursue a degree in instrumental performance.

The award funds are administered by the Symphony Association and supported financially by the Association, Symphony Guild, friends of the Symphony and interested individuals.

What Are You Doing This Week?



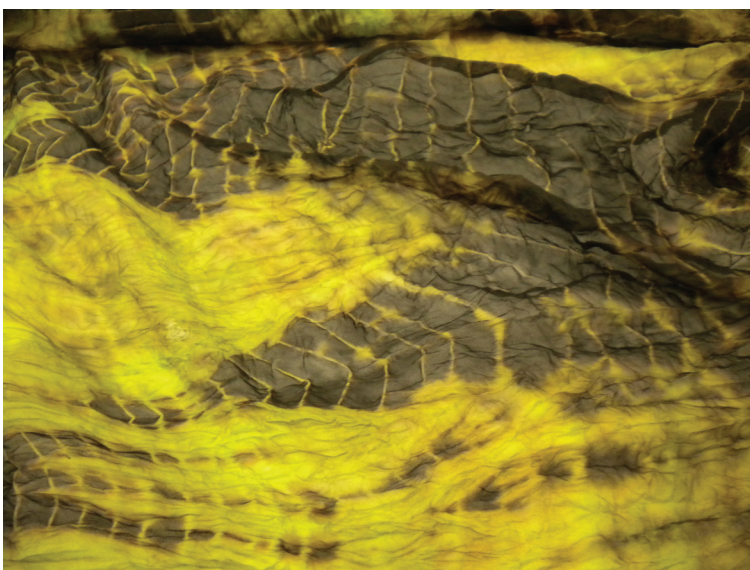
The Independent's online Cultural Arts and Community Events Calendars have events this week, this month and this year.

PLUS

Websites for 32 cultural organizations and 183 other community, government, recreation, service and business organizations, churches and wineries....

See what's happening in The Valley. Go online to the calendars at

www.independentnews.com



Award-winning textile artist and artwear designer, Caryne Mount, is the Livermore Art Association Gallery featured artist for the month for July. Caryne's work is greatly inspired by color, themes in nature, and Japanese textiles and garments. Caryne began specializing in reversible coats thoughtfully designed from recycled kimono from Japan, and began hand dyeing her own textiles after being awarded the second of two individual artist grants in 2000. Her collections of scarves, coats, and line of tote bags, "Zesty Scraps" (made from re-purposed upholstery fabric showroom samples) can be seen at the gallery. Caryne designs and builds classical tutu for Valley Dance Theatre of Livermore, as well as private clients. She is also the new director at the LAA Gallery, which is open 11:30-4:00 Wed.-Sun. in the historic Carnegie Building at 2155 3rd St. Livermore. For more info call the Gallery 925-449-9927. Shown in the photo is hand-dyed Shibori silk.

Art on Display at Wente

The artwork of Tricia Poulos Leonard will be shown during the month of July at Wente Vineyards Estate Winery's Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road in Livermore.

Tricia has won many local awards for her work including a Silver Award at last year's Alameda County Fair. The theme of the exhibit is: "Jazz Inspirations." Seventeen mixed media abstract paintings based on jazz music and jazz musicians will be displayed and for sale.

Tricia says, "When I am painting I listen to jazz music. The rhythms and beat of the music seems to me to be closely related to abstract painting. Both are based on the unconscious connection between the art and the viewer. Some of my paintings are of recognizable people or objects and some are completely abstract or nonobjective but all have a very personal interpretation of the subject.

"My hope is that viewers will make an emotional connection with my paintings in the same way that they respond to music. Music is the most abstract of the arts, yet most people understand the feelings that are relayed through the sounds. Abstract painting also expresses feelings that can be understood by a person viewing the work."

The exhibit opens on July 1st



and will continue until July 31st. There will be an artist's reception on July 10th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. The public is invited to attend. There is no admission charge.

Jazz Cafe by
Tricia Poulos Leonard.

Lab Hosting Teachers in Two Programs

Several local teachers will be spending their summer as students in one of two programs -- Teacher Research Academy or Science Teacher and Researchers (STAR) -- presented by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Science Education

Program (SEP).

The teacher programs, which have been offered for some 20 years at the Lab, enable science teachers to develop and maintain mastery in their scientific fields.

Eighteen middle- and high-school teachers, as well as those

seeking to obtain teaching credentials, met this week at the Edward Teller Education Center (ETEC) for the program's orientation that featured keynote speaker Superintendent Kelly Bowers of the Livermore Valley Unified School District.

"It is wonderful to come out here to meet future teachers," Bowers said. "You are the folks who will have the most impact on our students."

Bowers discussed, from a school superintendent's point of view, the value of the Lab's science teacher programs, saying that those who have completed them are well equipped and come to the classroom with the "full package" -- a step ahead of everyone, bringing rigor in subject matter as well as a sense of the real world to their students.

In speaking about science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education, Bowers said she would like to insert the letter "A" for the "art" of teaching, and modify the acronym to STEAM.

In discussing teaching in general, Bowers added, "The rewards are great." All it takes is one child to come to you and tell you that you changed their life.

Teachers will be at the Lab from eight to nine weeks taking part in hands-on workshops, lectures and mentored research alongside Lab scientists.



Superintendent Kelly Bowers of the Livermore Valley Unified School District spoke to science teachers who are starting their summer internships at the Lab this week. Photo by Bob Hirschfeld/LLNL

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Celebrating Our Independence: Taste Freedom of Expression

By Laura Ness

It's hard not to be infused with a healthy dose of patriotism when you see that gorgeous American flag flying high from the huge flagpole out in front of the old Concannon homestead. It's got to be the most visible weathervane in the Valley: when it's not moving, you know it's hotter than car seats in the California sun. That means it's full on summer, and that means the Alameda County Fair is happening thru July 10, daily, except Tuesdays. You know it's County Fair time when the weather heats up to the point where you say, "Where is the dang windshield shade? And, who stole the towel I need for the front seat?" You can tell I have experience skin-grafting my thighs onto hot vinyl.

A great wine to beat the heat is La Rochelle's 2010 Pinot Rosé, as beautiful as a pale pink summer sunset sky. Twist it off and let the pure guava and watermelon liquid refresh your mouth in a way nothing else quite can. It's ethereally light and bright, almost like drinking the sunlight reflecting off a calm pool at dawn.

Some wines come with extra benefits. Such is the new La Rochelle 2008 Bradley Vineyard Pinot from the Umpqua Valley of Oregon that La Rochelle recently released. A portion of each bottle sold (\$7 of the \$28 retail tag) will go to The Taylor Family Foundation, so do a good deed twice: once for you, once for the kids. It's a spunky wine with aromas of a Japanese tea garden, and flavors of bright plums and cranberries with a slightly smoky edge. This is a perfect pair for duck confit salad or maybe smoked tea duck.

Mark your calendars for Day in the Park, the annual Taylor Family Foundation benefit, August 28, and meanwhile, get on over to La Rochelle to buy this wine.

While you're at Steven Kent/La Rochelle, don't miss the chance to taste two other awesome Pinots, one from Sonoma Coast, the other from the Santa Lucia Highlands. The 2008 Sonoma Coast (\$42), combines fruit from two vineyards, La Cruz (which also appears in a vineyard designate from the same vintage), and Spring Hill.

This wine appears on the Reserve tasting room list. It is big, rich and earthy, with really delicious flavors of roasted root vegetables, bringing to mind my favorite mash of rutabaga, parsnip and turnips. You might be shaking your head at that, but it defines Sonoma Coast terroir, with its mix of dark fruit, racy acidity and massive earthiness, accented by heavy barrel spice. This wine is like a Nabakov novel: relentless and deep.

My favorite is the 2008 Sarmiento Vineyard Pinot (\$48), being tasted in the Barrel Room. It packs a bit of a punch at 15.5%, but the overall largesse and intensity carries it off neatly. The aromatics are as seductive as they come, like opening up a stash box of tea or a spice cupboard: all those tantalizing aromas intermingle and make your mouth water. La Rochelle's Tracey Hoff says the 2005 Sarmiento Pinot was the wine that made her fall in love with Pinot Noir. "It's immediately recognizable as Pinot. It smells so rich and creamy, you just know it's going to be big and lush in the mouth." She's so right. From the hints of sandalwood to the rush of Asian spices intermingled with a relentless flood of spicy raspberry cocoa on the palate make this a thrilling wine to drink. This is truly the barnburner of the group: in automotive parlance, this is a V8, or perhaps a V12, for those who can afford the tuneups.

Cuda Ridge Lets New Releases Out of the Cellar

Speaking of cars, Larry Dino can't keep this crop of freshly polished and tuned Barracuda's a secret any longer: he's got some mighty tasty treats in store for those who've been waiting for the latest chapters in this delicious summer-perfect novel. Enjoy the Cuda Ridge new wine releases at Swirls on Thursday, June 30 from 6:00 - 8:00, where there's a nominal tasting fee and tapas are sold separately.

New releases include 2010 Sauvignon Blanc, 2009 Merlot, 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon, 2009 Black Label Cab and 2009 Petit Verdot. Get ready to rev your engines!

July 16 and 17 marks the 4th annual Vintage Tasting at Cuda Ridge, featuring new wines and vintage cars. Groove to live music



Livermore Valley wineries have special events planned.

by the Catfish Boys (Full Band) on Saturday, followed by legendary Livermore performer, Roger Kardinal, on Sunday.

Scotty's will provide the BBQ with many wine-friendly items available for purchase. There is a minimal \$10.00 fee for wine tasting which includes the logo glass. Tasting is complimentary for Wine Club members and one guest (no glasses included with complementary tastings).

If you own a Vintage Car that you would like to put on display one of the two days, please contact Larry at 510-304-0914. Or just crank up the old beastie and take her out for a spin.

Nottingham: The Education Continues

Increase your Wine IQ at Nottingham Cellars. Their Wine 101 series continues with a dive into

Malbec, that punchy Bordeaux varietal that moves like a middleweight boxer but lands a pretty hefty punch. On Saturday, July 9, you're invited to learn how Collin Cranor approaches this grape, and what makes the finished product another great expression of Livermore terroir. You'll experience the 2008 Malbec from the Bodegas Aguirre vineyard, an agile and supple example of this alluringly simple wine that packs a darkly fruity punch. Malbec has become the signature grape of Argentina, where it produces concentrated dark fruity wines wrapped in chalky tannins, like licking chocolate frosting made with cocoa powder off the beaters. Does anyone make frosting from scratch anymore?

In Livermore Valley, other Malbec producers who are really

pinning the tail on the donkey (another pastime probably long past) include Bodegas Aguirre, Cuda Ridge, Steven Kent and Fenestra. Isn't it great to live in a place that has such a wonderful diversity of wines, and you are free to taste and drink what you like, any day of the week? Another benefit to California, where you don't have to deal with Blue Laws.

Occasio Stages Storming of the Bastille at Nonni's, July 14th

Join John Kinney and his Francophile comrades in celebration of a most delightful Bastille Day Dinner: a five course winemaker's dinner featuring new wine releases, including the delightful 2009 Sotto Voce, on July 14, 2011, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., at Nonni's Bistro in Pleasanton. Tickets are \$75 (members and guests) \$85 (nonmembers).

Dinner and wine will be served in five "acts," accompanied by scenes from *Les Miserable*, performed by the Las Positas College Choir. You'll become part of the historical re-enactment, beginning with "Gathering of the Third Estate," featuring Passed Canapés of Ice-Smoked Salmon with 2010 Occasio Sauvignon Blanc, followed by "The Oath," featuring Alsatian Onion Tart with Organic Greens Salad, paired with that delicious 2010 Occasio Rose' of Pinot Noir (sold out), and then you'll march, well-fortified, on to "The Storming of the Bastille," where you'll feast upon *Coq au Vin* (Chicken Breast Braised in Red Wine, Apple Wood Bacon, Pearl Onions and Mushrooms), nicely paired with the very well-dressed, polite, yet slightly insouciant, 2009 Occasio Cabernet Sauvignon.

Then, you must "man up" to *Beef Bourguignon* with Grass Fed Beef, accompanied by the newly released velvet-hammered 2009 Occasio Sotto Voce, which will nearly sate you.

Save room for the last act, "Release of the Prisoners," where you'll surrender to the decadence of Seven Prisoner Apple Strudel with Vanilla Bean Ice-Cream, paired with the wine that some consider John's mistress, so fond is he of going on about her: the 2010 Occasio Angelica.

C'est Magnifique! Go Forth and Have a Happy Fourth!

Shades of grey

Pinot Grigio and Pinot Gris



Steven Kent Earns 90-Plus Scores for Recent Wines

By Harry Stoll

Si, Si, Pinot Grigio—Oui, Oui, Pinot Gris—Yes, Yes, to both.

These men in the grey flannel suits are the same grape, but may also be different styles.

As with kindergarten, everything I need to know is on the Internet. Here's Winepros.org: "Pinot Gris (or *Pinot Grigio*, as it is known in Italy) probably is the best-known 'white' variant-clone of Pinot Noir. Ripe Pinot Gris grapes may be described as having colors from bluish grey to light pinkish brown."

Fenestra founding winemaker Lanny Replogle says Pinot Grigio/Gris often has a brownish tint, a generally unfavorable coloration. He says the way to combat that is the usual due care when making the wine. That trait could account for the coppery look of some pg/g. When it's found in Pinot Noir we, like, freak.

A coffee-table-bending tome by English enoguru Jancis Robinson says that color is the least important component of wine. Would I dare contradict her, even though she thinks Seattle is the capital of Washington State? But then, do I know what the capital of Essex is? Would I name it without looking it up? Should I stop asking myself questions?

Foodandwine.com says Gris and Grigio are the same grape but the wines produced are different, with Pinot Grigio being light, simple, and crisp, while Pinot Gris are richer, with strong notes of almonds. Livermore Valley wineries produce both styles, with an array of golden hues.

2009 Fenestra Pinot Gris Livermore Valley (\$18). This Gris is from Buttner Family Vineyard in Sunol, where live Fenestra owners Fran and Lanny Replogle. Winemaker Brent Amos made this in the rich and full-bodied Alsatian style; he barrel fermented it in French oak and aged it sur lie for 10 months. From the label: "It has spicy aromas of apricot, ripe peach, orange blossom, and white pepper. This wine is full-bodied, with rich, lingering flavors of melon, pear, orange peel, and spice." Lotts words, all true. It was good luck paired with a geoduck clam stew.

2009 Occasio Pinot Gris Livermore Valley Del Arroyo Vineyard (\$16). This 152 Al-

satian Clone of Pinot Gris. (Oh yeah, Clone 152) grew on the coolest reaches of the Del Arroyo vineyard. Grapes from this vineyard are noted for producing wines with fresh acidity and minerality typical of Alsace, but with the fruit forwardness of the valley. Because it's unoaked, I paired it with fresh and wild King Salmon (costly yet worthy) barbecued on an oak plank.

2006 Charles R Pinot Grigio Livermore Valley (\$18). Laced with shoestrings of pear, pineapple and peach, the grapes went straight from the vine to the press. They were aged in stainless steel with zero skin time and 100% malolactic fermentation. Oakland A's centerfielder Coco Crisp related to this bright refresher with lingering acids on the palate, and something else. It muscled up comfortably with cockles and mussels from the wheelbarrow of Molly Malone.

2006 el Sol Pinot Grigio San Francisco Bay (\$26). It's smooth and a bit hefty. The deep color is an interesting specimen. Winemaker Hal Liske says Pinot Grigio is a red grape and sent a photo as evidence. Eno aficionado Trevor Yan had me try it with warm potato salad and told me to hold the bowl to warm the wine a bit. Oooooo. This ain't no disco. This ain't no party. This ain't no fooolin' around.

2009 Mitchell Katz Pinot Gris Livermore Valley Buttner Family Vineyard (\$10). Fixe your oeil on that Gris prix deal. Toni Price got the aroma of honeydew, Gardena, and grapefruit, and sang, "This could be the start of something good." On the palate she celebrated lime, golden plum and crushed almond shells. For a thrill bill it with grilled catfish.

Enonotes:

Robust positive Phil Long, co-owner and winemaker at Longevity, is beating his bad barrel accident. He moves well and talks about opening soon at Longevity's new venue on Vasco Road, alongside Occasio and Nottingham Cellars, as an *Industrialista* winery ... Charles R re-opened for Memorial Day after a short closure following the death of their son, winemaker Randy Bartlett, a very cool guy of warmth and vitality. ... The closed sign at Livermore Valley Cellars still sadly hangs. The word

is that the family of deceased owner Chris Lagiss doesn't want to continue as a winery ...

Tenuta is open on Kalthoff Common but its sign on Vallecitos Road is gone. Manager Rich Rollins said they aren't allowed to have the sign. Odd, I see many off-site signs posted. Could be different jurisdictions. ... Las Positas' Momspokesman Brian Moms is loathe to say when it will open in the former Deer Ridge classy site on Wetmore Road. My guess: soon after Summer Solstice ... The Underdog Wine Bar (at Concannon) is so edgy you could get cut. I caught a smooth cab from Big House. Original label owner Bonny Doon Vineyard hinted they had cheap labor from nearby Soledad State Prison. The current label goes over the wall with the prison connection. The Wine Group, owners of the tasting bar and the label, is definitely hep to the jive.

The summer of 2011 is turning out to be the "Summer of Gold" for Fenestra Winery in Livermore. The winery has been receiving consistent notifications pertaining to wines that have won gold medals at wine competitions all over the state.

"This has been the best year ever in terms of awards," says Lanny Replogle, owner of Fenestra, which will be celebrating its 35th year this August.

Three of their seven white wines have received gold medals this year, the two most noteworthy are the 2010 Verdelho (Lodi), winning "Best White Wine" in this year's Best of the Bay Wine Competition at the Alameda County Fair, and the 2010 Torrontes (Lodi), which snagged the "4-Star Gold," as well as "Best of Class" (for medium priced wines) at the Orange County Fair.

Twelve of Fenestra's reds have claimed gold medals as well. Some

The Steven Kent Winery continues to cement its reputation as one of California's most accomplished Cabernet producers with yet another run of impressive scores for its wines. Over just the past two vintages alone, SKW has garnered eight different scores of "Ninety Points" or more from reviewers Wine Enthusiast, Wine Spectator, and Connoisseurs' Guide. The first release from the 2008 vintage to be reviewed, the Steven Kent 'Clone 337' Cabernet Sauvignon, received an "Excellent" rating of "92 Points" from Enthusiast. This continues the record of praise accorded the 2007 vintage wines, with seven different releases all garnering ninety points or more.

Steven Kent Mirassou comments, "We started with one mission; to grow Cabernets here that rival in quality those made anywhere in the world. We have worked hard to learn our sites; to learn how our fruit best expresses itself from those sites. These recent accolades are gratifying, as they show our peers are taking notice of our efforts."

The current 2007 Steven Kent

portfolio has proven to be a top wine. In the winery's "Premier Cabernet Collection," the 2007 'Clone 4' release scored "95 Points" in Wine Enthusiast Magazine; the 'Clone 337' bottling received "92 Points," and the 'Clone 30' checked-in at "90 Points."

Steven Kent's "Single Vineyard Series" received the same level of approval: the 2007 'Ghielmetti Vineyard' Cabernet Sauvignon garnered "93 Points" and a "Cellar Selection" designation from Wine Enthusiast; the 'Home Ranch' Cabernet received "92 Points" in W.E. and the limited 'Smith Ranch' bottling "91 Points" from Connoisseurs' Guide.

The winery's first-ever 'Lineage' release, Steven Kent's ultimate Bordeaux-style blend, received "94 points" from Wine Enthusiast and was called "one of the best wines ever from Livermore Valley" by James Laube at Wine Spectator.

The winery's visitor center is open daily; its on-line home is www.stevenkent.com

The Steven Kent Winery is located at 5443 Tesla Road, Livermore.

Fenestra Winery Enjoying 'Summer of Gold'

varietals boast two golds, others even three, like the 2008 Zinfandel and the 2008 Malbec (both Livermore) which were also noted as being the "Best Zinfandel" and the "Best Other Bordeaux" at this year's Tri-Valley Conservatory's "Livermore Uncorked" event.

"I like to create flavorful, well-balanced wines" says Fenestra Winemaker Brent Amos, "the recognition is really great for us to receive."

Perhaps the over-achiever of the bunch is the 2007 Petite Sirah (Livermore), which holds a double gold from this year's prestigious San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, receiving a "Unanimous Gold" from the entire judging panel. It also won the "Red Wine Sweepstakes Award" at the Riverside International Wine Competition, which denotes the "Best Red of Show." Fenestra also took home a gold from the Best of the Bay for their 2008 Ghielmetti

Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon (Livermore), which was bestowed "The Best Red Wine of Show."

"Judges agree that this is a spot-on perfect Petite Sirah," said wine judge Wes Hagen. "It's balanced, structured, food-friendly and able to lay down five years, easy."

The current list of available varietals in their tasting room stands at twenty, with 3 additional club member wines. For a complete list of 2011 medal winners, email Fenestra at info@fenestrawinery.com.

Fenestra Winery is located at 83 Vallecitos Road in Livermore. It is open for sales and tasting every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from noon - 5 p.m. Fenestra is also one of the only winery in the valley to operate off of solar energy. For more information, visit the website at www.fenestrawinery.com or call 925-447-5246.

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.

Art Crawl call to artists: Applications for the ArtCrawl on July 9 now being accepted, first come first served, with discounts for signups for 3 crawls. Hours are 1-4 p.m., minimal fees. Crawls occur inside and in front of downtown businesses on the Second Saturday of each month. A mini arts & crafts festival is being planned for the day at Art Glass Studios, corner of 2nd & L, crafters welcome to submit an ArtCrawl application. See www.lindaryanfineart.com for signup applications.

Hot Summer Art Juried Exhibition opens during Art Crawl on July 9, 1-4pm, with over 20 artists participating at two locations: Wild Vine Wine Bar & Lounge, at 2187 First Street, and at Ryan Fine Art, 171 So. J Street. Reception for the artists is set for July 21st beginning at the Wild Vine at 6 p.m. and ending with an awards presentation at Ryan Fine Art at 7:30 p.m. The Invitational portion of this exhibit ends July 7th at the Wild Vine.

ArtWalk is set for October 8 from 11-5 in downtown Livermore, with new exciting changes to streamline the event. Artists and interested businesses, please check out the info at www.bothwellartscenter.org.

Artwork of Katherine McKay is on display at Prudential California Realty, 1790 First Street, Livermore, June 1 through July 31. The event is free to the public. Donations will be accepted to Open Heart Kitchen. The show is open for viewing during business hours, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by appointment. For information, contact Cher Wollard at 925 824-4824 or cherw@cherw.com

Eugenia Zobel will show her porcelain at the Firehouse Arts Center June 13 to July 3. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Information 925-931-4850 or www.FireHouseArts.org.

Harrington Art Gallery exhibit, A Difference of Perception. The strange, precise, and imaginative artwork of noted surrealists Bill Weber, Bill Sala, and other artists, along with a new collection of hyper-realistic renderings by Ron Norman. Thursday, June 9 – Thursday, July 7, 2011.

Plain Air, The Outsiders, exhibit at the Harrington Gallery, July 20 to Aug. 27. Opening reception July 20, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Art under the Oaks, July 23 and 24, Alden Lane Nursery, Livermore. Presented in conjunction with the Livermore Art Association. www.livermoreartassociation.org

MEETINGS/CLASSES

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. At the Bothwell Arts Center,

2466 8th St., Livermore. Coffee, tea and refreshments are available. Call or email Barbara Stanton for more info about the workshop, 925-373-9638 - micoangelo@earthlink.net.

Beginning / Advanced Art Lessons for children / teens of all ages and adults. Private, semi-private and small group lessons taught by Livermore artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Lessons are structured according to the level and interests of the student. Drawing, painting, sculpting and print-making techniques will be covered. Subject matter will include still-life, portraits, pet portraits, landscape, illustration and more. \$15 / hour for group lessons. \$20 / hour semi-private lessons. \$22 / hour for private lessons. Thomasin Dewhurst holds a Masters degree in Fine Art and exhibits her work throughout the USA and worldwide. For further information please contact the instructor at (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com. Website: www.thomasindewhurst.com

Summer Camp offered by Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, class production: "Seussical Jr." Three separate sessions of camp during July/Aug 2011. First two sessions span 2 weeks each and are open to children in grades 2-8. Third session is accelerated at 5 days and is open to children in grades 4-9. All children will participate as cast members in a musical production learning singing, dancing, and acting skills, as well as creating their own costumes, sets, and props. Culminates in two performances of "Seussical Jr." at end of session. Session I: July 11-22 (shows on the 23), Session II: July 25-Aug. 5 (shows Aug. 6) and Session III: Aug 8-12 (shows on Aug. 13). Sessions I & 2: \$400, Session 3: \$300 www.trivalleyrep.org.

Art classes, Avant-Garde Art Studio offers up to 12 art classes weekly for adults and youth. Instructor Nalyne Lunati holds a M.F.A. from San José State University in painting and specializes in a studio art approach. Enroll before June 11th to receive a bonus class. www.AvantGardeArtStudio.com or 925-484-1378.

Art in Public Places, join a local group of artists and paint on selected Friday mornings around town. ACC/Art Critique & Coffee invites artists to express themselves in watercolor, acrylic, oil For more details check out the website for Poetry On Canvas Pleasanton or contact Claudette at PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com ~ ACC Meets each Friday at various locations.

WINERY EVENTS

Thomas Coyne Winery, Viticulture & Winemaking Seminar July 9 & 10, 2011, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information call 925 373-6541.

Taste of Terroir, Thurs., July 21, 6 to 9 p.m. Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. Food and wine pairing hosted by Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association. www.lvwine.org. 447-9463.

East Tesla Old World Wine Tour. Fri., August 5 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at four wineries: Les Chênes Estate Vineyards, Eagle Ridge Vineyard, Bodegas Aguirre Winery, and el Sol Winery. Each winery will serve wine and food pairings from around the world. Bodegas Aguirre will serve Spanish pairings. Eagle Ridge will feature Greek pairings. Les Chênes will feature French and Cajun pairings, and el Sol pairing will be all American. Tickets are \$35 per person; \$30 for club members.

The fee includes a souvenir logo wine glass. For tickets, call or visit any of the four participating wineries: Les Chênes, 5562 Victoria Lane, 373-1662; Eagle Ridge, 10017 Tesla Rd., 447-4328; Bodegas Aguirre, 8580 Tesla Rd., 606-0554; and el Sol, 8626 Lupin Way, 606-1827. Tickets are limited and will not be sold on the day of the event.

Celebration of Petite Sirah, August 13-14, 2011 will include cooking demonstrations, unique Petite Sirah products such as chocolates and ice cream, live music and one of a kind vertical tastings from Concannon's library. Concannon Vineyard, Livermore. For additional information please visit: www.concannonvineyard.com.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Music every Saturday in the tasting room from 12 to 4; open every day if the gate is open and for sure on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 11 to 5. Red Feather Winery, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Information at 449-1871 or www.redfeatherwinery.com

Friday Nights LIVE!, series of free outdoor concerts in downtown Livermore featuring a variety of music and dance, will open on Fridays through August 26, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on the Shea Homes Stage in front of the Bankhead Theater and are free to the public. Sponsored by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center.

First Thursday Concert Series, Dublin Farmers' Market, the City of Dublin, Emerald Glen Park. The concerts will be held in the plaza area on the Gleason Drive side of Emerald Glen, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. July 7, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, Oct. 6. Also winetasting and food sampling.

Tri-Valley Medieval & Renaissance Collegium playing session for amateur musicians, Peter Maund, director. Mondays 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7600 Dublin Blvd, suite 370, Dublin. \$25. Information collegium2011@gmail.com or 925-424-1209 or 925-984-4395

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band, plays at The Sunol Jazz Cafe (In the Center of Sunol) the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month 7:30-9:30 p.m. The band features real Jazz from the 1920's, 30's, 40's.

Blacksmith Square live music, Saturdays 3-6 May – September, sponsored by Artistic Edge, Greenleaf BBQ Products, John Christopher Cellars, Swirl, and Victorine Olive Oil. Corner of South Livermore Ave. and Railroad Ave. downtown Livermore.

Concerts in the Park, Lions Wayside Park, corner of First and Neal Streets, downtown Pleasanton. 7 p.m. No admission charge. Fridays, June 3 to September 2. Hosted by Pleasanton Downtown Association. 484-2199.

Dublin Heritage Center Music Jam, Every Tuesday night there is an open music jam for either Bluegrass or Irish Fiddle. All are welcome to come and listen or join in and play. 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. Information: 925-452-2100.

Concerts at Wente Vineyards, July 7, Colbie Caillat; July 10: Jazz in the Vineyards - Souls of Summer: Jonathan Butler, Eric Darius & Maysa; with Jazz Attack: Rick Braun, Peter White & Gerald Albright; July 21, Chris Isaak; August 3, Doobie Brothers; August 9, Peter Frampton - "Frampton Comes Alive 35th;" August 30, Kenny G and Michael Bolton; Sept. 8: Tears for Fears; Sept. 13: Kenny Loggins; Sept. 14: Diana Ross.

Ticket options include different dining and seating choices. Wente Vineyards Restaurant and Event Center is located at 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore. For more information or tickets, go to www.wentevineyards.com/concerts/

Jonathan Edwards, Acoustic Guitar, July 9, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$12-\$28.

Ottmar Liebert, Wednesday, July 13, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. LVPAC Presents Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra. Livermore. www.livermoreperformingarts.org or 925-373-6800.

Eric Johnson, Grammy Award-winning guitar master, Bankhead Theater on July 15. 8:00 p.m. Tickets range from \$29 to \$51 for adults and \$12 for students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org

Melissa Manchester, July 16, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$35-\$45.

Keiko Matsui, concert Wednesday, August 10, 2011, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Wallin & Barretta A Tribute to Italian Singers, Aug. 13, 8 p.m., Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$12-\$25.

ON THE STAGE

Macbeth, June 30, July 1, 2, 10, 15, 17, 23, 30. Concannon Vineyard, Livermore. Presented by Shakespeare Festival. Performances 7:30 p.m. Thurs.-Sat., 7 p.m. Sundays. Tickets at 1-800-838-3006. Information www.LivermoreShakes.org.

The Sound of Music, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre. Performances weekends July 22-August 7, 2011. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.livermoreperformingarts.org or 925-373-6800.

Lend Me a Tenor, comedy of comedies, presented by Shakespeare Festival at Concannon Vineyard, Livermore. July 7, 8, 9, 16, 22, 23, 29, 31. 7:30 p.m. Thurs.-Sat., 7 p.m. Sundays. Tickets at 1-800-838-3006. Information www.LivermoreShakes.org.

Tri-Valley High: The Series, a live, improvised and episodic teen soap opera presented by Pleasanton's Creatures of Impulse. Wednesdays, July 13-Aug. 3, 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Women's Will production. Sun., July 14, 4:30 p.m. Centennial Park (next to the Senior Center), 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Free admission. 931-4848.

Best of Both Worlds, July 14 and 15, 7:30 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. The best-and worst-of both worlds meet when fantasy meets the harsh reality of school in this toe-tapping, pop musical adventure. When Cinderella's stepsisters find a portal to another world, they get zapped into a very real high school and decide never to return. \$5-\$10.

Cymbaline, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival production. Saturdays and Sundays, July 23, 24, 30, 31 and Aug. 6, 7. Amador Community Park, 4455 Black Ave., Pleasanton. 7:30 p.m. Free admission. 931-4848.

Chicago, Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, Aug. 20-Sept. 4, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

\$14.45-\$33.

HMS Pinafore, Lamplighters Musical Theatre production, Gilbert & Sullivan. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Sat., Aug. 20, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sun., Aug. 21, 2 p.m. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

COMEDY

Comedy Uncorked, Friday, July 29, Retzlaff Vineyards doors open at 6 p.m. Proceeds benefit Open Heart Kitchen. 1356 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore.

DANCE

Friday Night Dance Parties, themed parties each Friday night from Salsa to Swing, includes a group dance lesson at 8:15. \$15 cover charge, 8:15 dance lesson, 9:00-10:30 for dance parties. It's All About Dancing, 171 So. J Street, Livermore. 925-449-9292, or studio@itsallaboutdancing.com.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

39th annual Competition for Young Musicians, Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside or attend school in Livermore, Sunol, Pleasanton, 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 on Feb. 11, 2012. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$300. The application deadline is Sun., Oct. 2. Completed applications must be accompanied by an \$8 application fee and a CD or cassette tape for preliminary screening. Additional information may be obtained from www.livamsymph.org or by contacting the competition chairperson at 447-1947.

MOVIES

Movies in the Park, Amador Valley Community Park, 4455 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Movies are free and begin at dusk. Schedule: July 14 - Despicable Me; July 21 - How to Train Your Dragon; July 28 - Cats and Dogs: Revenge of Kitty Galore; Aug. 4 - Toy Story 3; Aug. 11 - Tangled; Aug. 18 - Tron Legacy. Information at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us or 931-3423.

Fixation, a documentary film about single speed cycling, was selected by the selected by the San Francisco Frozen Film Festival as the Best Short Documentary of 2011 and by the Transatlantyk Film festival in Poland. The film will be shown at the Vine Cinema in Livermore on July 21 at 7:30 p.m.

CHORAL

Oakland Jazz Choir, 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 31, 2011 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center as part of *Jazz in July*, a month-long series of free jazz events. 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. There is no charge for this event. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

OPERA

Operas, Reruns of most popular operas performed at the Met: Daughter of the Regiment, July 13, 6:30 p.m.; Tosca, July 20, 6:30 p.m.; Don Carlo, July 27, 6:30 p.m. Hacienda Regal Cinema in Dublin.

Opera in the Vineyard, July 31, Retzlaff Vineyards, Livermore, offers a preview of Romeo et Juliette and a joint promotional

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

event with Livermore's Shakespeare Festival. www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

Alameda County Fair, 99th anniversary. June 22 - July 10 (closed Tuesdays). Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. www.alamedacountyfair.com.

Pleasanton History Walk, 4th Saturday of the month. Tours depart from the Museum on Main at 2 p.m. and are approximately 1 1/2 hours long. The tour is appropriate for all ages, covers a distance of approximately one mile and is handicapped accessible. Tours are limited to the first 25 people in attendance. Upcoming summer tours on: Saturday, June 25; Saturday, July 23; Saturday, August 27; Saturday, September 24. For more information on tours or programs at Museum on Main contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

1st Wednesday Street Party - July 6, 6 to 9 p.m. Red, White and Blues theme. Main Street, Downtown Pleasanton. Presented by Pleasanton Downtown Association, pleasantondowntown.net

Horsing Around, Saturday, July 9, noon to 6:00 p.m. at the Trackside Terrace, race track grandstand, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Avenue, Pleasanton. Fund-raiser hosted by the Foundation for Axis Community Health. Includes full schedule of horse races, a catered buffet lunch, a "Best Hat" contest, raffle prizes and silent auction, and a no-host bar. Fair staff will conduct a wagering orientation for those unfamiliar with placing bets. Tickets to the event are \$50 per person and include admission to the Alameda County Fair and lunch. They may be purchased online at www.axishealth.org or by phone at (925) 201-6017. All proceeds benefit Axis Community Health, provider of medical care and behavioral health services to the community. Open to the public.

Wine Stroll, Shop away the evening in downtown Pleasanton with a great glass

of wine, Pleasanton, July 14, 2011, 6 to 9 p.m. Pleasanton Downtown Association pleasantondowntown.net

Museum on Main, 2011 Ed Kinney Lecture Series. Wednesday, July 20, 7 p.m., *Uncle Sam: American Icon*. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. No reservations are required. Tickets are available at the door on a first come first served basis. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, \$3 students/teachers with ID. Information, contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

Mogulaire Concours d'Elegance at Wente Vineyards, Arroyo Road, Livermore, July 23, 2011. Featuring vehicles manufactured (in most cases) from 1949 until now. More information is available at www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.

Pooch Parade, Wed., Aug. 3 during First Wednesday Party in downtown Pleasanton. Entries are being accepted in seven categories. Proceeds benefit the Tri-Valley Guide Dog Puppy Raisers. Entry fee \$10 per category. For details and online registration go to www.trivalleyguidedogs.org.

1st Wednesday Street Party, Aug. 3, 6 to 9 p.m. Dog Days of Summer. Main Street, downtown Pleasanton. Includes annual Pooch Parade 5 to 7 p.m. Pleasanton Downtown Association pleasantondowntown.net

Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Association hosts its Annual Summer Barbeque on Saturday, August 13 at 5:30 PM at the Ivy Glen Area, Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. There will be a full Tri-Tip dinner, with no-host bar serving up margaritas, beer, wine, and more. KGO's Gary Hanson will MC with great music and dancing. There will also be live and silent auctions featuring an array of fantastic items and opportunities. Price is \$30.00/person, and reservations can be made by visiting ptsca.org. (credit cards



Tri-Valley Performing Arts Academy performed their stage production of "You're Good Man Charlie Brown" at Quail Garden on April 30. They participated in some community service at Quail Garden Assisted Living in Livermore. Fun was had by all. According to a spokesperson, Quail Garden has benefited over the years from many, many generous, kind groups and individuals who take the time to perform or lend a helping hand.

accepted). Contact phone is Mike Terkelsen, 925-846-6463, after 3:00 PM.

Ice Cream Social, Ravenswood Historic Site, Livermore. Aug. 14, noon to 4 p.m. No admission charge. Docent led tours, entertainment. www.larpd.dst.ca.us

Museum on Main, 2011 Ed Kinney Lecture Series. Wednesday, August 17, 7 p.m., *Valley Winemakers Speakeasy*. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. No reservations are required. Tickets are available at the door

on a first come first served basis. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, \$3 students/teachers with ID. Information, contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

Day in the Park auction fund-raiser on Sunday, August 28 at Camp Arroyo in Livermore. Proceeds from the auction help fund The Taylor Family Foundation's

summer and weekend camp adventures for children living with life-threatening and chronic illnesses, developmental disabilities and youth at-risk - at no cost to them or their families. Gourmet food and wine, more than 150 silent and live auction packages, raffle to win a 2011 Mini Cooper. For tickets/tables and event sponsorship opportunities for Day in the Park, please visit our website at www.tfff.org or call us at 925-455-5118.



The Livermore-Pleasanton Youth Outreach Symphony (LPYOS) has had a busy schedule lately. It visited the Martinez VA hospital on May 14 and the Palo Alto VA hospital on May 21. The members of the symphony wanted to squeeze in as many concerts for veterans as possible. Numerous songs of different genres and backgrounds were played. They included "The Procession of the Nobles," "Rhapsody in Blue," "La Virgen de La Macarena," "The Phantom of the Opera," and "American Salute." John Ingram is the conductor. Mark Aubel lends his music room for rehearsals. LPYOS will start its next season on August 17, 2011. For more information about LPYOS, go to www.lpyos.org.

Text by Tristen Thalhuber; Photos by Michael Shi



Community

Livermore Graduate Serves as Missionary

Elder John Christopher Wiedemeier, a 2010 graduate at the Livermore High School, has accepted an assignment from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) as a Missionary to the Russia Rostov Na Donu Mission. He reports to this assignment on June 29, 2011. Elder Wiedemeier is the son of John and Paula Wiedemeier of Livermore. They are members of the Springtown Livermore Ward of the LDS Church.

The Rostov mission is located in Russia in the region between the Black and Caspian Seas.

The LDS church has only recently been granted permission by the Russian government to send its missionaries to this country. The first official recognition of the LDS Church in Russia was granted to the branch in Leningrad on 13 September 1990. The Russian Soviet Socialist Republic granted the Church republic-wide recognition on 28 May 1991. After the official recognition was granted, the number of missions in Russia increased dramatically: Russia Samara Mission (July 1993), Russia Novosibirsk and Russia Rostov missions (July 1994), Russia Yekaterinburg Mission (July 1995), Russia Moscow South Mission (1997), and Russia Vladivostok Mission (1999).

During his Missionary service Elder Wiedemeier will be expected to learn to speak Russian fluently to carry out his duties. Elder Wiedemeier is no stranger to foreign languages. He took two years of Mandarin at the Fremont American High School before he moved to Livermore a few years ago. Missionaries of the LDS church do not choose where they will serve but instead receive an assignment from their church leadership to go almost anywhere in the world based on need and inspiration.



LDS Missionaries typically start their missions at age 19 and serve for two years receiving no compensation during their missionary service. Elder Wiedemeier is the second generation in his family to serve a mission. His father served as a Missionary in Japan many years before.

Elder Wiedemeier was excited to hear that he had been given this opportunity. "This is something that I think that I have been prepared to do my whole life," said Elder Wiedemeier. Elder Wiedemeier graduated from the LDS Church's Seminary, a 4 year religious program, devoted to scripture study for high school students. He is a recipient of Scouting's On My Honor religious award and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' Duty to God Award. He was awarded the Eagle Scout Award and President's Volunteer Service Award for outstanding community service in Livermore. He was also the winner of the 2010 Applied Fusion/Musgrove Eagle Scout Scholarship. He recently finished his freshman year at Brigham Young University where he plans to continue to major in computer science when he returns from his mission in two years.

Education

Granada Graduates Move On

Recent days were exciting at the Maroney household in Livermore. Amanda Maroney, Granada High School Class of 2007 received the news she had been accepted to the John F. Kennedy University School of Law. Shortly thereafter, Kenny, Granada High School Class of 2011, received a phone call from the Head Golf Coach at Western New Mexico University informing him that he needed to sign and return his NCAA National Letter of Intent and Athletic Scholarship.

For Amanda, her journey started at Livermore's Valley Memorial Hospital where she was born in 1989. Her education started as a member of the first graduating class of the newly built Croce Elementary School, continued through Christensen Middle School and culminated with her graduation in 2007 from Granada High School. Along the way, she played high competition softball, soccer and won many awards in the show ring as she showed her championship Appaloosa, Tippy throughout California. As an 11 year member of the Valley Vista 4-H Club, Amanda won top swine showmanship awards and became an integral leader at 4-H Camp in Anguin, CA. She encountered and assisted hundreds of young 4-H'ers attending the more than 10 summer camps she participated in during her career.

After graduating from Granada, Amanda was accepted to California State University, Chico. Amanda was able to graduate in three years with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and a Paralegal Certificate. In addition, she held the Directorship of the Chico CLIC (Community Legal Information Center) Family Law Program, where she assisted dozens of low income and underprivileged Chico



Amanda (top) and Kenny Maroney.

residents with such emotional issues as child custody disputes and divorce proceedings. What makes her three year graduation process even more impressive is the fact she maintained

two part time jobs at Starbucks and a local law firm.

Kenny Maroney also attended Croce Elementary School, Christensen Middle School and graduated with Granada High School Class of 2011. During his first 18 years, Kenny has been one of the top Livermore athletes in his age group in multiple sports. He won multiple All-Star awards in Livermore National Little League, won a National Super Series Baseball Championship in 2004 with the Livermore Heat Baseball Club, played multiple years on the St. Michael's CYO basketball team and was the goalie for the Livermore Bulldog soccer team. Although football was his passion and he played a few years in the Livermore Youth Football and his freshman year at Granada, it was rapidly being eclipsed by his strong desire to play golf.

Although Kenny started his career on the Christensen Middle School golf team, it wasn't until the summer before his freshman year in high school where he started competing on the youth golf tours in Northern California. Over the next four years, Kenny would letter four times for the Granada Matadors Golf Team, win 6 tournaments on the Junior Golf of Northern California tour, achieve multiple top 10 successes on the Northern California Golf Association Junior & Future Collegians World Tours, win two high school tournaments and compete for the North against the South in the California State Junior Amateur Championship. One of the highlights of his junior career was qualifying and playing in the Big I Classic National Championship in New Jersey, which is the largest junior golf tournament in the country. In order to develop his game, Kenny also attended the Arizona State Junior Golf Camp twice.

Pleasanton-Dublin Soroptimist Present Scholarship Award

The members of the Soroptimist International of Pleasanton-Dublin honored Selina Woodruff with the first annual Dale Vaughn-Bowen Scholarship award on June 22, 2011. Presenting the \$1,000 scholarship to Selina Woodruff was Morgan Bowen, daughter of the late Dale Vaughn-Bowen. Presiding over the presentation and chairperson of the selection committee was Kelly Knabe.

The Dale Vaughn-Bowen Scholarship fund was founded in memory of Pleasanton resident Dale Vaughn-Bowen who lost her battle with cancer in March of 2010. Her service and dedication to her community and Soroptimist International will be memorialized by an annual gift to a deserving student who has lost a parent to cancer. Dale was always ready to

lend a hand around town to various charities and organizations, her tireless work to fund raise for cancer causes continued until the end of her life and are now continued by her 16 year old daughter, Morgan. The members of the Soroptimist club felt it necessary to honor Dale's more than 25 years of Soroptimist service by creating this annual scholarship opportunity, honoring her spirit and keeping her memory alive.

Selina Woodruff graduated from Dublin High School this June and will be attending California State University Chico in August. In addition to her studies towards her goal of a degree in kinesiology, she will be a member of the cheer squad. Selina lost her mother to cancer when she was 11 years old. Her family moved to Dublin just

over a year ago to accommodate her father's career in the military. Lenni Velez, Dublin High Math Teacher, wrote about Selina "she is respected by the adults on campus for having outstanding leadership and being a positive role model". Selina was chosen as the winner for this first presentation of the scholarship award because of her high academic achievements and the moving essay she wrote about her hopes and dreams for her future. Her final sentence in her essay reads, "I am going places in my future, I'm living my dreams and my mom is right here with me".

For more information about Soroptimist International of Pleasanton Dublin, or how to donate to the scholarship fund, please call Kelly Knabe at 925-803-8758.



Pictured are Selina Woodruff, Kelly Knabe and Morgan Bowen.

Milestones

Education

Military



Donald Feeley (pictured) graduated on May 25, 2011 from the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. Don earned a bachelor of science degree in management. He will be stationed at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Oklahoma and begin pilot training in January 2012. Don graduated from Granada High School in Livermore in 2007.

Army Sgt. Wayne A. E. Yeaw has returned to Fort Richardson, Alaska after a year-long deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The soldier is one of 100 members of the 23rd Engineer Company, 6th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade. The unit, known as "the Guardians," served in Kandahar Province in southern Afghanistan, and specialized in clearing roads of mines and improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

Operation Enduring Freedom is the official name given to anti-terrorism military operations involving U. S. troops and allied coalition partners.

The sergeant is a chaplain assistant and has served in the military for more than four years. He is the son of Wayne A. E. and Pam J. Yeaw of Pleasanton. Yeaw graduated in 1988 from Amador Valley High School, Pleasanton.

Amador Teacher Selected as Outstanding Biology Teacher

The National Association of Biology Teachers, in conjunction with BIOZONE and Leica Microsystems, Inc, presented Amador Valley High School teacher Beth Cutter with the 2011 Outstanding Biology Teacher Award. This honor, given annually since 1961, identifies a teacher from each of the United States, its possessions, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, and Canada who has made valuable contributions to the profession and to his/her students. Criteria for the award include teaching ability, experience, inventiveness, initiative, inherent teaching strengths, and cooperativeness in the school and community.

Heidi Haugen, California OBTA Director, declared, "I am especially excited to be able to present this award to a teacher from my own alma mater. I grew up in Pleasanton and my mother, Juanita Haugen, was a well-known school board member and proponent of a quality education for all children. I graduated from Amador Valley High School in 1982 and attribute

my passion for teaching to my excellent teachers from Amador and also Pleasanton Middle School (Mr. Bill Bowen). It's excellent teachers like these and Beth Cutter who help mold our future scientist, engineers, biologists, etc. and future generations."

Cutter is a biology/life science teacher (currently teaching Chemistry and Biological Science) at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Molecular and Cell Biology from the University of California, Berkeley in 2002 and her Masters in Education in 2006. Cutter was a Life Sciences Scholar at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory from 1999-2002, a Research Associate at Medarex, Inc. from 2002-2004, and has been teaching at Amador Valley High School since 2006.

Cutter is a member of educational organizations including the National Science Teachers Association and Association of Pleasanton Teachers. At Amador she is a member of the teacher committee that organizes the Sci-

ence Extravaganza for K-4 grade students, developing a providing over 30 hands-on science stations where high school students lead lessons for youngsters. She has also been the advisor for the school's Science Team since its inception in 2008 and support student participation in the Science Bowl, and Chemistry, Biology, Physics, and Science Olympiads. For the past three years, Cutter has advised an individual student and a team of students with independent research projects, which received the Sweepstakes award at the local Tri-Valley Intel Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), earning them a place at the International ISEF.

Heather Pereira Colleague and teacher of Biology and Chemistry said, "Beth is an active collaborator. She regularly meets with me and other Biology teachers to develop new curriculum and come up with new ways to keep kids interested and engaged in Biology."

A former student Ellora Staker stated, "Mrs. Cutter treats her students with respect and has a natural talent for encouraging curiosity in

her students. She encourages questions and often a discussion arose out of a lecture, students asking how some topic relates to today's world and her ready and relevant responses always stuck with me. Mrs. Cutter awakened in me a lifelong passion for science, biology in particular. After one year and two classes with Mrs. Cutter, I have decided to pursue this interest instilled by her; I am majoring in biochemistry at Brigham Young University, and a large part of that decision was her influence as an educator and mentor."

A special presentation will be given by the National Association of Biology Teachers at its National Professional Development Conference, October 12-15, in Anaheim, California. In addition to the certificates awarded, Beth Cutter will be presented with a microscope from Leica Microsystems, Inc.

Nominations for the 2012 California Outstanding Biology Teacher are now being accepted. Please visit the National Association of Biology Teachers Website: <http://www.nabt.org>

Community

Dance Studio Opens in Livermore

Step of the Cat Dance School opened its doors in September with a group of ballet students. The name *Step of the Cat* comes from the English translation of the ballet step *pas de chat*. The school was formed to provide classes to students and families who are focused on the artistic and technical aspects of dance.

Connie Zaug, who holds a B.A. in dance from the University of Washington, is the owner/director. The dance school is offering several new classes, including dance seminars, this summer. Registra-

tion is now open to the general public.

Step of the Cat Dance School emphasizes the importance of strong fundamental technique and progressive skill development.

"A couple of things are imperative to me as a dance teacher," said Connie Zaug. "First, I believe dance is an art that comes from a heartfelt connection between mind and body. Second, I am aware that dance (or any sport) can create potential strain on the body. My goal is to reduce that strain through the development of proper

technique."

In addition to ballet, *Step of the Cat* Dance School also offers creative movement classes. These classes, for 3-5 year old students, are a combination of movement, rhythm, music, creativity, and imagination. The class content is appropriate for both girls and boys.

The school will offer adult classes this fall, including a mind-body dance class called "Connect and Flow," which combines aspects of yoga, Pilates, and Laban Movement Analysis. This class

helps the student connect all limbs to the core with musicality, and explores how the body moves in space using fun and enlivening techniques.

Step of the Cat Dance School is currently sharing space within Cosmic Dog Yoga, 1923 Second St. Livermore.

"It is wonderful to be collaborating with Karen and Theresa at Cosmic Dog Yoga," said Connie, "they have a beautiful space, and it is a pleasure working with them." For more information, go to www.stepofthecat.com.

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.)

Horsing Around, Saturday, July 9, noon to 6:00 p.m. at the Trackside Terrace, race track grandstand, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Avenue, Pleasanton. Fund-raiser hosted by the Foundation for Axis Community Health. Includes full schedule of horse races, a catered buffet lunch, a "Best Hat" contest, raffle prizes and silent auction, and a no-host bar. Fair staff will conduct a wagering orientation for those unfamiliar with placing bets. Tickets to the event are \$50 per person and include admission to the Alameda County Fair and lunch. They may be purchased online at www.axishealth.org or by phone at (925) 201-6017. All proceeds benefit Axis Community Health, provider of medical care and behavioral health services to the community. Open to the public.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., July 2, 45 miles starting at Livermore and heading west, meet 9 a.m., Bill Goodwin, 487-0521. Sun., July 3, 34 miles San Ramon to Walnut Creek, meet 9 a.m. at Central Park, Peter Rathmann, 336-0973. Wed., July 6, 35 Niles Cheese Factory ride, meet 10 a.m. at Paradise Foods in Novato, Barbara Wood, 707-745-6353. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., general meeting, July 13, 1 p.m. Dublin Library. Lunch in San Ramon, July 6, 11:30 a.m. RSVP by July 4 to Marsha, 830-8483. Luncheon in Pleasanton, July 14, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by July 11 to Jane, 931-0426. Friendly bridge in Hayward, July 16, 1 p.m. RSVP by July 12 to Elma, 510-582-1208. Breakfast champagne brunch in Livermore, July 17, 11 a.m., RSVP by July 15 to Hilda, 398-8808. Happy hour in Pleasanton, July 21, 5 p.m. RSVP by July 19 to Kathy, 398-8005. Wine and cheese new member reception, July 24, 2 p.m., RSVP by July 20 to Ruby, 462-9636. Luncheon in Fremont, July 28, 1 p.m. RSVP by July 24 to Vicki, 510-656-1166. Birthday dinner in Pleasanton, July 30, 5 p.m. RSVP by July 27 to Ruby, 462-9636. Matinee in Livermore, "Sound of Music," July 31, 2 p.m. RSVP to Irene ASAP, 846-0111.

New Event, In addition to our Victorian tea, Ice Cream social and Children's Yuletide, Ravenswood has created a new Fall event, an old fashioned Peddlers Faire. On Sunday October 9, vendors' booths will fill the beautiful grounds between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Chairman Sandy Silva is requesting early vendor registration of quality crafts, antiques, jewelry, books, bric-a-brac, quilts, linens, photographs, paintings, ceramics, furniture and glassware. A \$25 donation will include a table with 2 chairs. Early registration is recommended. Contact Ms. Silva at silva4398@comcast.net or 925-462-7324. Light refreshments will be provided by Victorian dressed volunteers and docents will give cottage tours.

Castlemont High School reunion picnic, all classes, Bernal Green picnic area of the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton on Sat., Sept. 10, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. BBQ pits and tables available. Bring own food and charcoal. Details, call Greg Hickey, class of '56, 461-1381 or email whizman@prodigy.net. No reservations required. Admission \$5 per person.

Dress a Girl Around the World Sewing Circle, Sat., Aug. 27, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. St. Michael's Church in the Parish Hall, 300 Maple St., Livermore. Help transform 100 pillow cases into dresses for little girls in developing countries. For more information email Suzanne at suzanneslu@yahoo.com or visit <http://stm-scw.blogspot.com/p/dress-girl-around-world-sewing-project.html>.

Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, meets 7:30 p.m. Tues., July 12. This will be a special program on genealogical research focused the Surprising Wilkes Family of Tassajara presented by David Stephenson. Learn about one of the most interesting local early pioneering families, their son Joseph who was the only one from the Tri-Valley to join the Union Army, and the great contributions the family made to the area. Public is invited. Meeting at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada

Court, Pleasanton. For additional information contact: Richard Finn, program chairperson, email: program@L-AGS.org

MoveOn is launching a "Rebuild the American Dream" campaign. Sun., July 17, 3 p.m. Dublin Library. Join with thousands across the country in helping re-define the American Dream. Local input will be considered along with others to develop a new America narrative that will better focus on what is important. RSVP Required: Karen Beck Herbiebeck@aol.com

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, sponsoring a candlelight Vigil in front of the Museum on Main, 603 Main Street, downtown Pleasanton, 7 p.m. Wed., July 13. Participants will reflect on the human and monetary costs of the war, honor veterans who have sacrificed, and visualize ways of moving beyond this conflict to a more peaceful world. Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, July 27, between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Please join us if you can. Questions? Call Cathe Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowding@pacbell.net. www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club invites new or long time residents to its monthly luncheon on July 21 at Forbes Mill Steak House, 200 Sycamore Valley Rd. West, Danville. 11:30 to 2 p.m. Cost is \$16. The speaker is the owner of Jero'l Beauty Salon in Danville. Call Susan 925-718-5214 for information & reservations.

Hope Hospice Grief Journeys through Parent Loss, 8 session support and activity group. Wednesdays 7 to 8:30 p.m. August 10-Sept. 28. Free to family members of former Hope Hospice patients Community member subsidized fee: \$40 for all 8 weeks. (hardship scholarships available) Enrollment is limited, call early, (925) 829-8770. 6377 Clark Avenue, Suite 100 I Dublin.

Grief Journeys through Spousal-Partner Loss, 8 session support and activity group. Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 11-Sept. 29. Free to family members of former Hope Hospice patients Community member subsidized fee: \$40 for all 8 weeks. (hardship scholarships available) Enrollment is limited, call early, (925) 829-8770. 6377 Clark Avenue, Suite 100 I Dublin.

Lawyers in the Library offers free legal information and referral. The program is co-sponsored by the Alameda County Bar Association. The lawyers visit Pleasanton Library on the third Tuesday of each month. This program is free and open to all. Each person will have a 15 to 20 minute free consultation with a member of the Alameda County Bar Association. Appointments are by lottery. Register from 5:30 to 5:45 p.m. Names will be selected at 5:50 p.m. You must be present when names are drawn. Appointments begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. For more information, call Merry Luskin, 931-3400, extension 7.

Aloha Golf Classic, Dinner and Auction, Danville Area Chamber of Commerce invites the public to participate in the event on Monday, July 25, 2011 at the historic Diablo Country Club. Check-in and Putting Contest begin at 9:30 a.m. Scramble Shot-Gun start at 11 a.m. Hole in One, Longest Drive contests and box lunches are included. Silent and live auction, cocktail hour and dinner included in golf package and most sponsorships. Those who do not golf are invited to cocktails, appetizers and networking at 4:30 p.m. and dinner at 5:15. Register on-line at www.danvilleareachamber.com or call The Chamber at 925-837-4400.

Operation: S.A.M. "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004 and is dedicated to the continued support of our deployed troops. Preparation of comfort packages takes place every other week - all year long. If you or anyone you might know has loved ones deployed we would be honored to assist by providing morale support. All information provided is confidential and is not shared for security purposes. To submit a name and address, inquire about donations or helping, please visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net or call 925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

Free counseling on job search skills and resume writing is now available at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Sign up at the Reference Desk for a 20 minute

consultation. Receive help with resume writing, find employment web sites, learn how to search for a job on the web, and get help with on-line applications. The Pleasanton Library has extensive support material available to assist job seekers. For appointments call the Reference Desk at 925/931-3400. Library programs are free and open to everyone.

Diabetes Class, free 6 week series will teach participants how to manage Type 2 diabetes or Pre Diabetes, eat the foods you love, how and why to check blood sugar, medications, exercise and more. New series in Hayward, Dublin and Pleasanton, evening classes available. Please call the Alameda County Public Health Diabetes Program at 510-383-5185 for more information and to register.

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 please call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com.

VFW Post 7265, Livermore, meets 1st and 3rd Mondays at 2000 hours, 522 South L St., Livermore. All those eligible to join are invited to attend. Information, contact Vice Commander Virgil Stanger at 455-5039 or go to www.vfwwebcom.org/ca/post7265.

Pleasanton VIP Travel, Visit Empire Mine & Nevada City trip, Fri., July 15, includes guided tour of Empire Mine State Historic Park, an authentic miner's lunch, and a visit to Nevada City. Depart for Nevada City at 7:15 a.m., return to Pleasanton at 6:30 p.m. Fee \$65 members, \$69 nonmembers, includes tour, lunch and motorcoach transportation. Sign up at travel desk, Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Information, 931-5370.

Kiwanis Club of Pleasanton, meets Fridays at noon at Vic's All Star Kitchen, 201 Main St., Pleasanton. This is a Tri-Valley Club with members from Dublin and Livermore, as well as Pleasanton. The motto is "To serve the children of the world." All are welcome.

Vendors sought, Livermore Lions annual Christmas Boutique will be held on Nov. 5, 2011 at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore. We are looking for quality hand craft vendors to participate. Items must be hand crafted or hand embellished. Table rentals this year are \$55 for single and \$80 for double. jbeason@comcast.net

Pacific Locomotive Association, non-profit group operates the Niles Canyon Railroad between Fremont Niles District and Sunol. Volunteers are sought for the following glazier, painter, electrician, mechanic or welder to restore historic trains. Other volunteers can be a brakeman or brakewoman, shopkeeper, tree trimmer, docent, caterer or engineer. For more opportunities, call Rich Alexander at 510-996-8420 or email pla_ncry@ncry.org.

The Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave. in Livermore and is open Mondays, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays. Buenas Vidas Youth Ranch has been running Bingo for 16 years and is now working with Livermore Charter, Christensen, Arroyo Seco, East Avenue, Livermore High and Granada High schools, Pleasanton Seahawks and All American Sports Academy Teams. Come play Bingo and support the kids in the Valley. Call 925-606-7777 for more information.

RELIGION

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

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 485-1049 or East-BaySecularJews.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, has services at 10 a.m. every Sunday. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at Third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. For information, call (925) 447-2946.

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Ar-

royo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.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.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church, 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

United Christian Church, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; workshops on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820 for more information.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concanon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

Seventh-day Adventist Church, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.livermoresda.org/ All are welcome.

The deaf community is invited to worship at First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, where ASL translation will be provided every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The church is located on the corner of 4th and L streets.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Bible studies for all ages, including 21 classes for adults every Sunday morning at 9:45. Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. as well as 6 p.m. There is also a Hot Topics Bible Study on Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. while children are in Children's choir and youth are in worship and other activities. 447-1848, www.trinity-livermore.org.

New Youth Programs now available during Sunday service, 10 a.m., at Tri-Valley Unity Church, 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon. Children's program up to grade 5, plus the dynamic new once monthly teen program for

grades 6 through 12th. All are welcome. Rev. Harriet Hawkins, minister. www.trivalleyunity.com (925) 829-2733.

Big Apple Adventure: Where Faith and Life Connect, Bible school at Trinity Baptist Church in Livermore, open to children who will complete grades 1st through 6th grade by June 2011. Monday, July 11 to Friday, July 15, 9 am to 1:30 p.m. each day. The week will culminate with our annual VBS Family Program on Friday night at 7 p.m., where the kids will share, through drama and music, the lessons they learned during their week long adventure in the Big Apple. Go to www.trinitylivermore.org/index.cfm/PageID/229/index.html to register children on-line or download a registration form. Please complete a separate registration for each child. Pre-registering helps avoid delays on the first day of VBS. While there is no fee for VBS, we ask that each child bring a sack lunch each day. Please no lunch boxes or backpack.

Stepping Stones on Your Grief Journey, workshop held bi-monthly at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. June 23 through August 25. No preregistration is necessary. Sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Please call Mary Hagerty at 846-5377 for more information.

The Moral Implications of Climate Change, Thurs., July 14, 7 to 9 p.m. St. Michael Church large hall, 350 Maple St., Livermore. Guest speakers are Anthony Strawa, NASA and chair of the Diocese of San Jose Climate Change Initiative, and Curt Covey, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. They will speak on global climate change and its impact on the poor and God's creation. Admission is free. Goodwill donation of \$5 is suggested. Information <http://stm.scm.blogspot.com>.

Life Line Screening, Faith Chapel Assembly of God to host Life Line Screening on Tuesday, July 26, 2011, 6656 Alisal Street, Pleasanton. Must pre-register call 1-888-553-6441 or at www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners. Cost: five package screenings \$149.00 or per screening \$60.00.

Vacation Bible School-Shake It Up Café, Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. July 18-22, 9 a.m. to noon, K-5th grade (of past year). \$15 per child, \$30 per family (financial aid available). Tina Morris 925-858-2271 or asburylive.org. Registration material available on website.

Car Show on Calendar

The 22nd Annual "Nostalgia Day Car Show," sponsored by the Altamont Cruisers in Downtown Livermore, is set for Sun., Sept. 25.

To date, the Altamont Cruisers have gifted over \$200,000 to local charitable organizations with a special focus on the Tri-Valley youth programs. This has been made possible from the "Nostalgia Day" registration fees, generous sponsor donations and proceeds from the event's numerous prize drawings.

The event is free to the public.

Included is a car Show featuring over 700 cars, continuous deejay music, prize drawings, vendors of car products, and arts and crafts. A parade of all award winning vehicles will take place down First Street.

The activities take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in downtown Livermore in an area bounded by First and Fourth Streets between L Street and Livermore Avenue.

For information, call 925-461-2020, or visit website at www.altamontcruisers.org



Jacque Pedraza Hearing Aid Specialist
Kenneth Billheimer, Au.D Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist

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