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National Effort Looks at Turbine Bird Deaths

By Ron McNicoll

Bird and bat deaths caused by wind turbines will be the subject of a national study involving 30 scientists from universities, industry, government and non-governmental organizations.

The scientists gathered at a conference in Racine, Wisc., recently. Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology, the American Bird Conservancy, and the Johnson Foundation played host to the conference.

The Valley has an interest in the national effort. Bird deaths in the Altamont have been an ongoing subject for years. They are currently under study. Permits for old technology turbines, installed in the 1980s, have expired.

A move by industry and Altamont landowners to renew the permits was met by Alameda County's concern to reduce the number of turbines, see new technology installed, and map out better locations for the towers. A committee of five scientists was appointed. For four years, they have been reviewing the data brought forward by the monitoring team that surveys bird deaths at Altamont turbines.

The national scientific group that met in Wisconsin will be establishing scientific methods to look at bird and bat kill data. Their aim is to help any future wind-power investors to design their plans so that they have the least impact on avian life.

The new group hopes to use cutting edge technology to conduct their studies. That will include weather surveillance radar, thermal imaging, and sound tracking of migration patterns.

The national group is aware of the work at the Altamont. Andrew Farnsworth, who is conducting postdoctoral work in the ornithology department at Cornell, mentioned the Altamont study's data in his speech to the conference.

"We know that in some locations, a small percentage of wind turbines may cause the majority of bird and bat deaths," said Farnsworth, in a news release from the conference. Calling the Altamont situation "an extreme case," Farnsworth said, "only a fraction of the 5000 turbines are responsible for most of the raptor deaths annually."

"As wind power develops further, we need to know more about how placement, design, and operation impact birds and bats, as well as how habitat and weather conditions affect potential hazards," said Farnsworth.

Reached by phone in Europe on Tuesday, Farnsworth expanded his remarks for The Independent.

A couple of California scientists were at the conference, and were familiar with work done on the Altamont studies, said Farnsworth. He said he has read work by Shawn Smallwood, a member of the county's Scientific Review Committee (SRC), which is studying Altamont bird deaths. Farnsworth called Smallwood's

(See SMALLWOOD, page 4)

Don't Miss

The Independent's second section.

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

EBRPD to Purchase Land Near Vasco

At their July 21 meeting, the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors agreed to purchase 190 acres adjacent to Vasco Caves Regional Preserve known as the Souza II property. The property is being acquired through a partnership with the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy. This acquisition is the Park District's second joint project with the Conservancy, which was created to identify, preserve and restore high priority land areas with significant habitat for protected species.

The Park District is acquiring the property from owners Anthony and Gloria Souza for a total of $1.692 million, the appraised fair market value, plus acquisition costs. According to the Park District's Assistant General Manager Bob Doyle, this acquisition is particularly important as it is the first acquisition for a future new parkland facility, Byron Vernal Pools Regional

(See PURCHASE, page 8)

Pleasanton Decides Not to Pass Resolution

Pleasanton residents, who have ties with Iran, asked the city council last week to adopt a resolution "expressing solidarity with the people of Iran."

Under matters initiated by council, Mayor Jennifer Hosterman asked if there were council support to take the action. Matt Sullivan supported the idea. However, the other three did not want to single out one group for a council resolution.

Cindy McGovern asked, "How many other resolutions would we be asked to approve?"

Hosterman stated that she felt it was an important action to take.

Jerry Thorne stated, "I personally intend to support the Iranian people. However, I have concerns about what we do as a council." He didn't think it was appropriate to use staff and council time, "to take up issues not on our plate."

Sullivan offered a different view. "I support the idea. Part of our job is to support our residents. I wouldn't mind taking up the issue of Iraq again."

Previously, residents had asked the council to oppose the war in Iraq. There was not a majority to do so.

Cheryl Cook-Kallio said her issue was in institutionalizing a resolution. "I will personally support the people of Iran. I don't know where you draw the line in what the council supports. I would also like to see the end of war in Afghanistan and Iraq." In her opinion, it was more powerful to have people come down each meeting to remind the council of what democracy is about, to read the names of those who have died.

Cook-Kallio referred to Kathy Dowding and Fred Norman who attend council meetings. Dowding reads the names of those who were killed in Afghanistan and Iraq since the previous council meeting. Norman asks support

(See RESOLUTION, page 3)

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Summertime is the time for fun in the water. The zero-depth pool at the Robert Livermore Community Center offers an interactive play structure and a water slide. Kids enjoyed splashing around the play structure during one of the recent hot days.

Pleasanton OKs New General Plan

Stoneridge Drive Issue Approved with Separate Vote

After almost seven years, Pleasanton has a new general plan.

The city council unanimously approved the new plan at last week's meeting, with one exception. The issue of the Stoneridge Drive extension was voted on separately, with Matt Sullivan and Cindy McGovern opposed to changing the wording in the general plan regarding the road. In particular, Sullivan wanted to put back in wording that would allow a year for residents to referend the decision on extending Stoneridge Drive.

The extension of Stoneridge Drive had been approved as part of the Staples Ranch plan. That decision is reflected in the new general plan. In response to a lawsuit filed challenging the adequacy of the Staples Ranch EIR, the city moved forward with a supplemental study of the impacts of the extension of the road. Sullivan and McGovern both mentioned that the litigation had not been resolved. That could impact the plan to extend the road.

Sullivan objected to removal of language that would have allowed residents up to a year to referend the extension. He pointed out that the only reason he agreed to keep the Stoneridge Drive extension in the general plan was a compromise worked out between the city and those who oppose the road. The agreement included provisions that the extension would take place in conjunction with regional improvements and citizens would have a year to referend a council approval. "I need to have the ref-

(See PLEASANTON, page 4)

Thinner Budget for LARPD; Pleasanton Weathers ERAF Storm

By Ron McNicoll

Pleasanton will give up $3.5 million to the state for the mandatory ERAF loan.

Despite the hit, Pleasanton is in good fiscal shape because it has ample reserves from which to draw, said city finance director Dave Culver.

Anticipating the ERAF take last December, the city increased its temporary recession fund for operating expenses from $7.9 million to $10.9 million.

However, the city doesn't want to keep on taking from the recession fund, because it dries up the funding for which it normally must put aside money. Payments need to be made regularly to support workers' compensation, retirement costs, and capital improvement projects.

The city reduced its operating budget by 5 percent, and reduced contributions to reserves. There won't be any layoffs. Ten staff positions will be eliminated, saving $1.4 million.

(See BUDGET, page 2)

Agreement Reached on Land Acquisition Funding

The potential of litigation over a land purchase by Livermore is gone.

On Monday, the city council approved a new financing method to purchase the 107 acres in Doolan Canyon.

Funds from the Altamont Landfill Settlement will be used to buy the parcel. The price is $1,040,465. The full amount will be provided from the settlement fund. However, the city will have to pay back half of the money within the next five years.

The expenditure of landfill funds has to be approved by the Landfill Open Space Committee. Voting representatives are from Livermore, Alameda County and the Sierra Club. Livermore voted

(See FUNDING, page 4)

Livermore Adopts Strict Regulations For Adult Entertainment Businesses

The Livermore City Council approved an ordinance that will regulate where, when and how live adult entertainment can be offered in the city.

Without the new regulations, adult entertainment could have located anywhere within the city. Many in the audience had thought that the city was approving an application for a live adult entertainment business, that could include nude dancing. As a result, councilmembers had received numerous e-mails demanding a "no" vote.

Mayor Marshall Kamena pointed out that legally cities cannot deny adult entertainment businesses. However, they can regulate time, place and hours of operation. "The right to conduct the adult live entertainment business is protected by the First Amendment. Without

(See REGULATIONS, page 4)

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The 4th annual Relay For Life of Pleasanton was held over the weekend at Pleasanton Middle School. At last count, the walk had raised just over $70,000 towards the fight against cancer. The 24 hour event is designed to celebrate cancer survivors and to raise money for the American Cancer Society. During the event, teams of people took turns walking or running laps. Pictured is one of the teams. In addition, there was a luminaria ceremony dedicated in honor of cancer victims.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Morris the cat is a big tough guy on the outside, but he is a softy on the inside. When his owner died, Morris was placed up for adoption. He plays the role of a bully, but all he really wants is a home where he can be himself again. To visit with Morris, come to Valley Humane Society's Kitty City, open Tues-Sat from 11AM to 5PM. Visit the web site www.valleyhumane.org or call 925-426-8656 for more info. Bring your pooch down to VHS on August 8 for the Wiggle Waggle Dog Wash!

Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Downtown Livermore merchants hosted Christmas in July over the weekend. Festivities included ice skating, holiday treats, holiday music, pre-holiday shopping, appearances by Santa and other special guests, holiday crafts, ornaments, prizes and giveaways. In the upper left photo, youngsters enjoy the ice skating; at right, Allie Higes, age 2, plays with hoola-hoops.

BUDGET

(continued from page one)

Pleasanton will be monitoring the state budget monthly to keep an eye out for any possible changes in revenue. Staff has reduced travel and training, and the number of temporary positions.

As an example of reductions, Culver said that in parks and recreation, a program that might occur six times a year, may be scaled back to four times.

LARPD TAKES 5 PERCENT HIT

LARPD will take a budget hit of more than 5 percent in the new fiscal year, causing even more belt-tightening than in the past.

General manager Tim Barry said that there will be a dip of more than $968,000 in the budget, which began July 1, bringing it to a total of approximately $16,296,000.

Some $600,000 of the drop comes from property tax money that the state will take from LARPD for ERAF, the Education Revenue Augmentation Fund. The fund compensates for the state's shortfall in the education budget.

Another negative fiscal impact has been the need to pay more money into the employee retirement fund. Poor performance in 2008 of stocks on which the fund is based has made the increase necessary.

Barry said that full-time employees who participate in the pension plan "probably will be asked to contribute 5 percent more into the plan." That's not definite yet, because the budget is not scheduled for final approval by the board of directors until Aug. 12.

One impact the public will see will be some unwatered grass. Part of the belt-tightening will include a 20 percent cutback in the watering of parks. The reduction also aligns with water use reduction being asked by Zone 7 Water Agency and California Water Service, said Barry.

In addition, the administration is looking at changing facility operation hours and programs, but the specifics are not decided yet.

GAS TAX PROVIDES SILVER LINING

Livermore is also losing property tax money to ERAF, and also from the city's redevelopment agency funding. The figures have been updated since last week. The property tax take will be $2.9 million, approximately the same as an earlier estimate. However, the redevelopment funding loss is revised to $1.5 million, which is up from $1.2 million last week. Assistant city manager Troy Brown said that until he sees the legislation's specifics, he won't be able to do a firm estimate.

The silver lining for Livermore and other cities is that the state won't be taking away their gas tax revenue. Livermore was going to lose $1.2 million in that fund. It will be retained, and joined with another $1.4 million in federal stimulus money. That means the city can continue fixing its streets. The program will be bigger, because of the federal money.

LAWSUIT TO PROTECT REDEVELOPMENT DOLLARS

The city hopes to keep or recover what the state plans to take in redevelopment funds. The California Redevelopment Association (CRA), the umbrella group for redevelopment agencies, plans to file suit against the sate for the take.

The CRA won a court battle over a similar take last year. John Shirey, executive director of the CRA, said that he is confident the CRA will prevail, on constitutional grounds, as it did last time.

Shirey said that the state tried incorporating the language of the judge's decision last year into its new legislation, in order to "legalize" the take. However, the state can't use a statute to correct the constitution, said Shirey.

Card Room Owners Agree to Financial Contribution Schedule

The Livermore City Council approved a financial contribution schedule that card rooms will pay for being allowed to provide enhanced services.

The services changes had been approved at the council's July 13 meeting. However, there was disagreement over the amount of the financial contribution.

The city had proposed a payment of $500 per table per month for the first year, with increases each year until the fee reaches $2500 per month per table. The council was told by one card room owner that that would amount to $60,000 for the first year.

The contribution agreed upon by the city, card room owners and the police department will eventually provide the city with the same amount of income, that is $350,000 each year.

Economic Development Director Rob White explained the new schedule. For the first 6 months, there would be no fee. After that, card room owners would pay $300 per table per month. That payment would escalate over a 5 year period to $1500 per table per month.

The new ordinance would allow an increase in the number of tables in the city from 13 to 19. The bet limit per game would go from $20 to $200. Hours of operation would be extended. Card rooms would be required to obtain a conditional use permit and sign a development agreement if they choose to offer the expanded services.

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Sandia Work Could Increase Cyber Security

Computer scientists at Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore, have for the first time successfully demonstrated the ability to run more than a million Linux kernels as virtual machines.

The achievement will allow cyber security researchers to more effectively observe behavior found in malicious botnets, or networks of infected machines that can operate on the scale of a million nodes. Botnets, said Sandia's Ron Minnich, are often difficult to analyze since they are geographically spread all over the world.

Sandia scientists used virtual machine (VM) technology and the power of its Thunderbird supercomputing cluster for the demonstration.

Running a high volume of VMs on one supercomputer — at a similar scale as a botnet — would allow cyber researchers to watch how botnets work and explore ways to stop them in their tracks. "We can get control at a level we never had before," said Minnich.

Previously, Minnich said, researchers had only been able to run up to 20,000 kernels concurrently (a "kernel" is the central component of most computer operating systems). The more kernels that can be run at once, he said, the more effective cyber security professionals can be in combating the global botnet problem. "Eventually, we would like to be able to emulate the computer network of a small nation, or even one as large as the United States, in order to 'virtualize' and monitor a cyber attack," he said.

A related use for millions to tens of millions of operating systems, Sandia's researchers suggest, is to construct high-fidelity models of parts of the Internet.

"The sheer size of the Internet makes it very difficult to understand in even a limited way," said Minnich. "Many phenomena occurring on the Internet are poorly understood, because we lack the ability to model it adequately. By running actual operating system instances to represent nodes on the Internet, we will be able not just to simulate the functioning of the Internet at the network level, but to emulate Internet functionality."

A virtual machine, originally defined by researchers Gerald J. Popek and Robert P. Goldberg as "an efficient, isolated duplicate of a real machine," is essentially a set of software programs running on one computer that, collectively, acts like a separate, complete unit. "You fire it up and it looks like a full computer," said Sandia's Don Rudish. Within the virtual machine, one can then start up an operating system kernel, so "at some point you have this little world inside the virtual machine that looks just like a full machine, running a full operating system, browsers and other software, but it's all contained within the real machine."

The Sandia research, two years in the making, was funded by the Department of Energy's Office of Science, the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Advanced Simulation and Computing (ASC) program and by internal Sandia funding.

To complete the project, Sandia utilized its Albuquerque-based 4,480-node Dell high-performance computer cluster, known as Thunderbird. To arrive at the one million Linux kernel figure, Sandia's researchers ran one kernel in each of 250 VMs and coupled those with the 4,480 physical machines on Thunderbird. Dell and IBM both made key technical contributions to the experiments, as did a team at Sandia's Albuquerque site that maintains Thunderbird and prepared it for the project.

The capability to run a high number of operating system instances inside of virtual machines on a high performance computing (HPC) cluster can also be used to model even larger HPC machines with millions to tens of millions of nodes that will be developed in the future, said Minnich. The successful Sandia demonstration, he asserts, means that development of operating systems, configuration and management tools, and even software for scientific computation can begin now before the hardware technology to build such machines is mature.

"Development of this software will take years, and the scientific community cannot afford to wait to begin the process until the hardware is ready," said Minnich. "Urgent problems such as modeling climate change, developing new medicines, and research into more efficient production of energy demand ever-increasing computational resources. Furthermore, virtualization will play an increasingly important role in the deployment of large-scale systems, enabling multiple operating systems on a single platform and application-specific operating systems."

Sandia's researchers plan to take their newfound capability to the next level.

"It has been estimated that we will need 100 million CPUs (central processing units) by 2018 in order to build a computer that will run at the speeds we want," said Minnich. "This approach we've demonstrated is a good way to get us started on finding ways to program a machine with that many CPUs." Continued research, he said, will help computer scientists to come up with ways to manage and control such vast quantities, "so that when we have a computer with 100 million CPUs we can actually use it."

Expo LPC 2009 Planned By College

Las Positas College (LPC) in Livermore will host Expo LPC 2009 on Wednesday, August 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

Expo LPC is a one-half unit college orientation that includes a tour of the 147-acre campus, a preview to college life, college success strategies, important academic information, an opportunity to meet faculty, staff and fellow students, food, and fun activities.

All new and re-entry students enrolled in 6 or more units are encouraged to register for the August 12 Expo orientation (PSCN 24 section - course code CRN# (20789).

For more information, please call Linda Pflaster at (925) 424-1421 or the Counseling office at (925) 424-1400.

RESOLUTION

(continued from page one)

to end the wars.

Sullivan stated, "They don't share your view that it's great that they come down here week after week."

Cook-Kallio replied, "While it's a painful scene, I appreciate their efforts."

RIDGELAND PURCHASE

The council authorized the use of funds from the Altamont Landfill Open Space Fund to assist in the purchase of the Tyler Ranch property by the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD).

The $1 million would provide partial funding of the purchase of 1,156 acres, which is located adjacent to Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park.

Purchase of the property would bring the total acreage owned by EBRPD to almost 100,000.

Also during the evening, Pleasanton issued a commendation in honor of the 75th anniversary of EBRPD. It was the first regional park agency in the nation. Today, the district oversees 65 parks and 1100 miles of trails, making it the largest park district in the United States.

Board member Ayn Wieskamp thanked the residents of Pleasanton. She stated, "There would not be a Pleasanton Ridge Park without a lot of support from activists over the years that have made it a reality.

Wieskamp noted that the district is in the process of creating a plan for both the Pleasanton Ridge Park and Shadow Cliffs Regional Park. She urged residents to fill out questionnaires about potential uses. The questionnaires can be found at city hall.

VALLEY ROUNDUP

Chili Cook-Off and Barbecue

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty will host his 13 annual Barbecue and Chili Cook-0ff on July 31 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. Among the confirmed cook-off participants are local police and firefighters.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and run until 9 p.m. There will be a social hour followed by dinner of steak, chicken, garlic bread, corn, salad and dessert. Soft drinks, beer and wine are included with the price. Tickets are $25 per person, $10 for seniors and children under 12.

Entertainment will be provided by Rodeo House.

All tickets will be held at the event. For more information regarding the chili cook-off and barbecue, call Chris Gray at 510-714-6967.

Innovation Symposium

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) announced NNSA Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) Symposium will be held Aug. 19 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Washington, D.C. The theme of this year's conference is "Innovation for Our Nation: Strengthening America's Infrastructure Security."

The symposium will include presentations from Sandia National Laboratories, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the Nevada Test Site, and the NNSA production sites.

The LDRD program promotes highly innovative and exploratory research to respond to present national security mission needs and anticipate future ones. The program funds projects that pursue technological solutions to the most urgent challenges facing our nation or that promote science and engineering foundations that will lead to new research and development.

The all-day symposium on Aug. 19 will look at current and future LDRD investments that the NNSA national laboratories, site and plants are making to protect the nation's critical infrastructure from terrorism, sabotage, global climate change and natural disasters. Symposium topics include cyber systems, power grid, energy resources, borders and seaports, bioterrorism, and transportation systems.

Additionally, scientists, engineers, and managers in the NNSA LDRD program will describe ongoing research in areas that affect infrastructure security issues. A panel of officials from industry, academia and government will discuss the current and future research and development challenges facing our nation's critical infrastructure from a technical perspective.

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Fabulous 70A gated estate on the Westside. 3 Bed 3 Bath, 4,482+/- SQFT
DIANA PARKER (925) 216-9117
GOLDEN EAGLE WAY $3,187,000
Beautiful custom home in gated Golden Eagle Estates. 5 Bed 4.5 Bath.
PEGGY CORTEZ (925) 648-5454
GRAY FOX COURT $2,795,000
Gated Hilltop Estate with panoramic views on 1.91 acres of privacy.
PHYLLIS WEINER (925) 251-2585

PLEASANTON REAL ESTATE FOR SALE
CANOSA COURT $2,649,000
Mediterranean style home in Ruby Hill located in a premium cul-de-sac.
ANJU BHATIA (925) 251-2568
CASTLEWOOD PLACE $1,995,000
Custom built home in 1996 by Sterling Builders. Above the 18th Green.
BRYAN CRAFT (925) 855-4141
INDEPENDENCE COURT $1,181,250
Approx 2430 sqft of living area, 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths with outstanding views!
SUSETTE CLARK-WALKER (925) 251-2547
ARBOR DR $984,850
Vintage Hills park. 4 Bed 2.5 Bath, 2,447+/-SQFT. Updated throughout.
TONNI CHANDLER (925) 251-2556
CONCORD STREET $799,000
Entertain Pool-Side at this Gorgeous Vintage Hills, situated on almost 1/4 acre.
EMILY HUNTER (925) 785-3795
PARK PLACE $779,950
Wonderfully updated and beautifully maintained home. 3 Bed 2 Bath.
PHYLLIS WEINER (925) 251-2585
NEVIS STREET $689,950
This home has 2050+/- square feet of living area, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, a huge lot.
SUSETTE CLARK-WALKER (925) 251-2547
TONOPAH COURT $337,000
Nice 3bdrm, 1.5 bath townhome, approx. 1132sqft, super location.
BETSY TAN (925) 855-4109
Information was supplied by reliable sources. J. Rockcliff Realtors believes this information to be correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyer should investigate these issues to their own satisfaction. CA. DRE#01793729

EAST BAY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE
OLD DUBLIN ROAD Castro Valley $2,557,000
Great 38+ acres, appraised opinion above this price. 4 Bed 3.5 Bath.
KRISTY PEIXOTO (925) 251-2536
EDEN CANYON RD Castro Valley $1,999,999
8 Bed, 7.5 Bath, 3 Kitchens in 2 buildings. Lot Size: 6.50+/- acres.
SHEILA CUNHA (925) 251-2561
KINGSMILL TERRACE Dublin $1,700,000
Spectacular home with hundreds of thousands in upgrades.
DAVE BAUER (925) 855-4040
CROW CANYON ROAD Castro Valley $1,595,000
Beautiful seculded 4bd /4ba home with apx 4500 sq ft, 6.5 acres.
KRISTY PEIXOTO (925) 251-2536
SORRELWOOD COURT San Ramon $1,120,000
Gorgeous home in the Bridges located on a quiet court w/premium lot.
LISA DOYLE (925) 648-5300
INSPIRATION CIRCLE Dublin $1,049,900
Absolutely Stunning Executive Home located in the Ridge @ Hansen Hill!
JOE FRAZZANO (925) 735-7653
SWEETGALE DRIVE San Ramon $999,000
This spectacular Tuscan-influenced residence awaits within The Bridges.
RON & SUSAN ROTHENBERG (925) 286-5530
DERBY DRIVE San Ramon $995,000
The best views of Mt.Diablo, Bishop Ranch & surrounding hills.
DAN NISSIM (925) 855-4164

EAST BAY REAL ESTATE FOR SALE
OVERLOOK COURT San Ramon $989,000
Fabulous home in desirable Vista San Ramon neighborhood.
KAREN WORSWICK (925) 648-5433
INSPIRATION CIRCLE Dublin $980,000
Amazing Views! Spectacular former model - 4 beds + oversized LOFT.
JOE FRAZZANO (925) 735-7653
FIELDVIEW TER San Ramon $959,000
Beautiful View home in San Ramon on a .44 acre lot.
BOB COMBS (925) 323-6735
WOODBOUROUGH WAY San Ramon $899,900
Completely and exquisitely renovated. 4 Bed 3 Bath.
SARA SCHMITZ (925) 648-5409
CANYON CREST DRIVE San Ramon $825,000
Set in one of San Ramon's premier neighborhoods. 4 Bed 3 Bath.
ROB RITTENHOUSE (925) 648-5377
EAGLEBROOK TER Dublin $799,000
Gorgeous golf course view. 4 Bed 4.5 Bath, 3,883+/-SQFT.
BONNIE KING (925) 736-8411
SATURN PARK DRIVE San Ramon $789,500
Stunning Coronado home 4bd/3ba. 2,775+/-SQFT.
DAVID AZIMI (925) 251-2580
REDWOOD ROAD Oakland $3,300,000
Equestrian Facility, Great location, Backs up to Regional Park Trails.
KRISTY PEIXOTO (925) 251-2536

Blackhawk: 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir., Danville, CA 94506, 925.648.5300
Blackhawk West: 3880 Blackhawk Rd., Danville, CA 94506, 925.736.6000
Danville: 15 Railroad Ave., Danville, CA 94526, 925.855.4000
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Walnut Creek: 100 N. Main St., Walnut Creek, CA 94596, 925.280.8500

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EDITORIAL

Power Line Issue Isn't Over

The TANC issue has been tanked.

The TANC (Transmission Agency of Northern California) board held a special meeting July 15 in Sacramento and voted unanimously to shelve plans for a 600-mile power line from Lassen County to the Bay Area.

The transmission lines would have passed through the Livermore Valley Wine Country, arousing the wrath of local vintners and the general community. TANC was sailing along. The public outcry, coupled with several major players dropping out, stopped them in their tracks.

In the wake of the victory, the activists are being cautioned to not let down their guard. As a gateway to the Bay Area, our Valley can expect similar proposals to emerge in the future. This issue is just beginning.

"We need to be vigilant as a community," said Chris Chandler, executive director of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association.

We would add that vigilance is needed not only to oppose ill-conceived individual projects as they arise, but also to support the development of a statewide plan. The plan would designate sites for future power lines and promote alternatives to the present practice of planting rows of transmission towers through the countryside, often in the most scenic corridors..

Bob Baltzer said it well. Agencies like TANC should be pressured to rethink how they plan future upgrades of the power grid, observed the Livermore activist.

"They are still proposing to put another patch on a patchwork system of 19th century technology, when this should be an opportunity to really upgrade the whole system to modern technology with much lower transmission losses and environmental damage."

Election Could Cost Livermore $250,000

So far there are no official candidates for the office of mayor and two city council seats in Livermore.

The incumbents and two potential challengers have taken out papers. No one has returned them. The deadline is August 7.

The incumbents are Mayor Marshall Kamena and councilmembers Doug Horner and John Marchand. The potential challengers are Jacob German and Louis Russ, who took out papers for council.

If only the incumbents file, the city could save up to $250,000, the estimated cost of the election. Livermore City Clerk Susan Gibbs said that is the amount budgeted. The Registrar of Voters estimated the cost would be $5 to $7 per registered voter. There are over 46,000 residents registered to vote in Livermore.

The pricetag could be reduced, if there were a run-off in the 10th Congressional District race. Gibbs said the city and Alameda County would then share the cost.

10th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CANDIDATES

Secretary of State Debra Bowen announced the certified list of candidates who will appear on the primary election ballot to fill the vacancy in the 10th Congressional District. The candidates and their official ballot designations are:

- Joan Buchanan (Democratic) – Assemblywoman
- Mark DeSaulnier (Democratic) – Senator
- John Garamendi (Democratic) – Lieutenant Governor/ Rancher
- Adriel Hampton (Democratic) – Investigator
- Anthony Woods (Democratic) – Economic Policy Analyst
- Chris Bunch (Republican) – Small Business Owner
- Gary W. Clift (Republican) – Retired Peace Officer
- David Harmer (Republican) – Independent Businessman
- Mark Loos (Republican) – Small Business Owner
- David Peterson (Republican) – Accountability System Owner
- John Toth (Republican) – Physician
- Jerome "Jerry" Denham (American Independent) – Insurance Agent
- Jeremy Cloward (Green) – College Instructor
- Mary C. McIlroy (Peace and Freedom) – No Ballot Designation

The Special Primary Election will be held September 1 to fill the vacancy left by Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher, who was appointed as the United States Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. In a Special Primary Election, the candidates from all qualified parties appear on one ballot.

If one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast (50% plus one), no further election will be necessary. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a Special General Election will be held on November 3, with a ballot featuring the person from each qualified political party who received the most votes in the primary.

The official certified list of candidates, with contact information for each of them, is available at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/Special/cd10/certified-list-of-candidates-cd10-primary.pdf.

CANDIDATES' NEWS

Anthony Woods will host a town hall meeting in Livermore tonight. The session will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thurs., July 30 at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave.

For additional information, call 707-419-4553.

The International Association of Firefighters Local 1974 has endorsed Senator Mark DeSaulnier, a Democrat, for Congress. Local 1974 joins a long list of other labor organizations in support of DeSaulnier for Congress, including the Contra Costa Central Labor Council, Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council, the Alameda Central Labor Council, and United Professional Firefighters of Contra Costa County Local 1230.

Democrat Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi has received the sole endorsement of the California Labor Federation for District 10. In addition, Garamendi has received the sole endorsement of the Sacramento Central Labor Council and Napa-Solano Central Labor Council. Previously, Garamendi was endorsed by the Alameda Central Labor Council.

Republican Gary Clift has been endorsed by RetakeCongress.com and RonPaulRepublican.com in his bid for the District 10 Congressional seat.

RetakeCongress.com is an organization, endorsed by Rand Paul, that is described as dedicated to restoring Congressional integrity in the representatives the American people send to Washington.

RonPaulRepublican.com (not affiliated with Congressman Ron Paul) endorses candidates who have platforms similar to Congressman Ron Paul.

Clift will hold a money bomb (fund raising event) on July 31st to celebrate his birthday and provide additional revenue to the campaign.

STUDY

(continued from page one)

study "one of the most thorough studies to date there."

Farnsworth, whose specialty is bird migration patterns, said that "the extent of studies, including that in the Altamont, is not strong enough to draw conclusions in a robust way (about bird safety)."

Farnsworth added that some may not feel comfortable (about drawing conclusions now), except to say, "It's good information, and we need a lot more," before generalizing information for other places.

Farnsworth emphasized the importance of basing wind-power siting on good science. One of the conference's long-term goals is to have more peer-reviewed articles on the problems. It's important, because the knowledge can spread better through the scientific community.

Many reports currently are only technical reports. Sometimes they are held by the wind power firms, or other groups, and the knowledge doesn't reach the scientific community at large.

Another problem is that funding of some studies is provided by the wind industry. "It's time to take a different approach here. Don't invalidate the work done, but take it in a different direction."

Federal funding could provide a more comprehensive approach to looking at the impact of turbines on migrating wildlife. "There is always criticism of people funding a study on their own turf, that relates to their own goals. So this would be beyond any potential biases of that," said Farnsworth, who is chairman of the group's steering committee. There is no formal name for the group.

"One thing that was most clear to me was the need to cooperate as we move ahead. One of the tendencies is for both sides to lay a lot of blame, or be extreme. There is still a huge distance to travel for what we know. We need ornithology, bat researchers and industry to cooperate, find out true science, in order to find out the true impacts of this technology," said Farnsworth.

INDUSTRY'S INFANCY BEST TIME TO STUDY IMPACTS

One speaker at the conference, Kraig Butrum, president and CEO of American Wind Wildlife Institute, said that it's important to study environmental impact now, as the wind industry begins to grow. "Imagine if a similar effort had taken place at the turn of the 20th century with the auto industry and air quality. We'd probably be in a completely different place when it comes to global climate change and energy dependence, because we (would have) considered environmental impact from the start," said Butrum.

The Racine conference scientists will study migratory routes and timing of migrations. They will also look at ways to mitigate wind turbine impacts.

It is also important to create better statistical analysis for estimating mortality at existing turbines, said the Racine scientists.

The county's SRC (Altamont Scientific Review Committee) is well aware of the need for good statistical analysis. The SRC faulted the Altamont bird fatality monitoring team in a report in August 2008. The scientists said that "multiple SRC recommendations were not implemented." Also, "Conclusions of mortality changes were presented with more certainty than the SRC felt was justified."

The SRC reached those conclusions, based on their look at the monitoring group's statistical methodology. For example, the monitoring team excluded 36 percent of the fatality records (gathered in the first survey to establish a baseline), but excluded only 17 percent of the records from the more recent effort, thus possibly biasing mortality higher in the more recent effort," said the SRC.

Mike Lynes, a member of the Altamont steering committee, said that panel is waiting to hear from the SRC.

The steering committee, which is coordinating the entire effort, is still waiting for an analysis of the current policy of shutting down one-half of the turbines

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

erendum provision put back in."

Hosterman stated, "I can't support that. We have development plans moving forward. We can't build 124 acres of development without a road that goes to it."

She added, "We have already supported the road and development as a package. If developers have to wait a year, they may just go away."

Sullivan said the city did not know what the outcome of litigation would be. The development may still go away. "I made a personal commitment and I plan to honor it. The council has not honored its commitment."

Councilmember Cheryl Cook-Kallio noted that the council has no intention of creating a raceway through neighborhoods. There are mitigations that can be put in place to lessen the impacts of extending the road. "A referendum is not the answer," she added later.

McGovern said she didn't think the extension should go forward until the supplemental environmental impact was completed. In addition, McGovern noted the city has not settled the lawsuit challenging the approval. No new traffic models have been prepared. "It is premature to move forward," she declared.

Wording was added in the traffic area to ensure that any new change in traffic circulation would address quality of life issues when being designed. These include such things as pedestrian safety, noise attenuation, and speed controls.

Aside from the Stoneridge Drive issue, all of the councilmembers were pleased with the new general plan. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman stated, "When we first started, we thought we would tweak our current plan over a year. Instead, we spent time to change the nature of the general plan to make it a better fit with our community and what is happening globally."

Sullivan stated, "In general, it's a very good document. There are new themes and policies that we haven't had before in Pleasanton. I would very much like to vote for it tonight." He said there are changed he felt would make it a better document.

The council agreed to make the changes he suggested. One new policy includes a method to review how the plan is working. The staff would look at such things as water availability, infrastructure, growth control, fiscal soundness, and transportation at least every two years to see if the growth pattern is sustainable.

Wording was also added to the land use portion of the plan with regard to creation of an Eastside Specific Plan. It notes that there are no entitlements in the general plan with regard to potential development. Also added were potential uses of the land, such as wildlife corridors and a greenbelt buffer between Livermore and Pleasanton.

McGovern asked that there be wording added that the city supports agriculture within the city limits. Currently, the general plan encourages agriculture outside the urban growth boundary as a greenbelt. McGovern noted that there is prime agricultural land within the city. In addition, changing the wording would support viticulture.

The plan contains new themes and elements.

Brian Doyle, Community Development Director, said, "This is a document about conservation as well as shaping how the city will grow."

New themes include sustainability, related to both fiscal and growth goals and policies; reduction of energy use, creation of a healthy community, and production of fewer pollutants and the lowering of greenhouse gases.

The plan incorporates planning concepts that facilitate sustainable development such as a new mixed use land use designation for Hacienda Business Park and an emphasis on providing additional housing near transit and in the downtown.

There was controversy over granting the entire Hacienda a mixed use land designation. McGovern was concerned that could open the "flood gates" for housing in the park if the housing cap were to go away. She did not want to add any additional square footage to what the park is already entitled to build. Sullivan, too, expressed concern. He felt it would be better to designate the area near the BART station as appropriate for mixed use.

Sullivan wanted to rezone land within a half-mile of the BART station as mixed use.

City Attorney Michael Roush suggested that that could impact how the state views the city's efforts to rezone land for affordable housing. If there were not enough mixed use designation to allow rezoning, it would be difficult to show the state the city has the inventory of property zoned for high density residential. The state could implement a new state law designating land where development could occur by right.

McGovern wondered why staff thought Hacienda was the only area where high density housing could be built. "We are always chasing housing numbers. They are not stopping."

The council ended with a compromise. There would be a new business park/mixed use land use designation applied to the park. Wording was added to note that only a sufficient amount of land to meet ABAG housing numbers would be rezoned as mixed use. That decision would take place after the city updates its housing element.

The new general plan includes the ridgelands protection provisions in Measures PP and QQ. These include no development on slopes of 25 degrees or greater nor within 100 vertical feet of the tops of hills. The West Las Positas interchange was removed from the traffic network. The concept of "gateway" intersections was adopted. The new gateway policy would allow levels of service to drop, if improvements to the intersection would have a negative impact on the visual character or pedestrian amenities at an intersection.

The city received a letter from State Attorney General Jerry Brown suggesting that the EIR should have analyzed the impacts of removing the housing cap. Brown has joined a lawsuit aimed at overturning the 29,000 unit housing cap. The Bay Area Air Quality Control District sent a similar request.

Senior Planner Janice Stearn noted that such an analysis is not feasible, since the cap was mandated by voters.

The new elements are water, energy, and climate change.

The water element contains policies that address conservation, protection of watersheds, and protection from floods. Energy looks at reduction in use. There is an emphasis on the use of solar energy and the creation of an efficient transportation system.

One significant impact was identified in the EIR. It relates to the housing cap and the argument that people would have to drive to jobs in Pleasanton. The increase in vehicle miles traveled would lead to increases in air pollutants in the planning area that could conflict with the implementation of the current air quality plan.

REGULATIONS

(continued from page one)

regulations, the city won't have the ability to avoid the negative secondary impacts of such businesses," explained Kamena.

Some of those negative impacts are prostitution, drugs, crime and decrease in property values.

The city has not received an application for such a business. The goal is to have protective regulations in place in the event a business were to apply to locate in Livermore.

Frank Guido, senior planner, noted that the regulations are among the most comprehensive in the Tri-Valley. Dublin and Pleasanton both regulate live adult entertainment businesses.

Guido pointed out, "The city has to provide adequate places for the businesses to operate." Livermore has chosen to allow them to operate within heavy industrial areas. "The area is well away from residences and places where minors congregate. There is potentially 150 acres available," he added.

The businesses cannot concentrate in one area, nor can they locate within 1000 feet of schools or other places where children congregate, such as parks.

Other provisions included in the regulations are background checks for owners, operators and applicants, inside and outside security guards, outside security cameras, no enclosed private booths, minimum interior and exterior lighting levels, no minors, no physical contact, 6 foot separation between performers and the audience, no alcohol, all windows and doors covered at all times, no sexual messages on signs, and midnight closing time.

Police Chief Steve Sweeney said the department wholeheartedly supports the ordinances. "I feel it protects the city and its quality of life."

After hearing the reasoning behind the ordinance, those who addressed the council said they were relieved. Robin Young said, "The wide open door is being closed to a narrow opening. It has created peace of mind for me."

One of the speakers asked whether the ordinance could be even stronger.

City attorney John Pomidor explained, "It is about as comprehensive as we can get. Each requirement contains extensive reasons as to why the regulation is being applied to the business." He added that regulation of such businesses is an evolving area. If there were opportunities to add additional regulation, we can amend the ordinance. "Right now, this is the best we can do."

FUNDING

(continued from page one)

for full funding. The county and Sierra Club authorized half of the acquisition price.

Councilmember Marj Leider represents Livermore. She said the process of gaining approval included convincing the Sierra Club it is a worthwhile purchase. The discussion included a tour of the site. Leider said the tour convinced them that there was habitat.

David Tam, of SPRAWL-DEF (Sustainability, Parks, Recycling And Wildlife Legal Defense Fund), had told the council at a previous meeting that he objected to the purchase. He called the 107-acre site a "pretty marginal acquisition based on the purpose of the fund."

Tam said in an interview that he felt the committee had not adhered to the original agreement. It required a priority list be established by March 1 of each year. It would be based on the top priority - biodiversity.

Tam said that a strong enough case hadn't been made when it came to wildlife habitat on the site. However, the field trip "showed that it makes sense. It is a pretty good acquisition. The canyon could be a wildlife corridor. I was pleased with the discussion at the open space meeting. We can lend money. It will be paid back. That adds flexibility to decisions."

Bob Baltzer, speaking to the council, made the point that half was "better than nothing. The deal will be able to close. The city will acquire a key piece of habitat and start locking the door on Doolan Canyon urban development."

Baltzer added that County counsel stated that borrowing against the future income stream is "perfectly permissible." It could bring in a lot of money in the short-term to purchase a property that there may not be enough money to purchase. Baltzer, declared, "The policy could really save the day when it comes to future acquisitions."

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Decision Reversed

Rajinder Ghatoaura
Pleasanton

Thank you and congratulations to Kay Ayala and the residents of Pleasantons for getting a reversal on the verdict for the development of mega mansions by the Lins on the Pleasanton southern hills. Now it will go to vote and we will make sure that our hills, also in the south do not have eyesores like many parts of California.

The biggest winners were the residents of Pleasanton and the losers were the City of Pleasanton Mayor and 2 councilmen who decided NOT to appeal the verdict even though the City was also sued. They just wanted to hold hands with the Lins and start the buildup of the mega mansions at the expense of the city of Pleasanton. They looked really bad together with the city attorney in the outcome. So, let's go out and raise cash and make donations and also better inform the residents of Pleasanton of the victory and the upcoming vote.

Latin Revisited

Sheila Cooper
Livermore

Ms. Ness' reflections on Gloria Taylor's life captured the whim, intelligence, and creativity of a great lady. Wherever she is in the universe, I'm certain that Gloria is having a gentle guffaw over the error in the headline of the article. Memoria is a first declension Latin noun (nominative memoria, genitive memoriae, dative memoriae, accusative memoriam, and ablative memoria). Ms. Ness incorrectly used the second declension accusative ending, -um, instead of the first declension accusative ending, -am). Gloria and I never had the occasion to talk about Latin, but I'm sure she studied it in high school. Didn't each of us dutifully memorize the roots and endings of all those declensions and conjugations so that we could revel in Caesar's Gallic Wars, Cicero, and Vergil???

Climate Change

Howard Long, MD
MPH (epidemiology)
Pleasanton

Exposed - the carbon scare tax: method is in The Climate Has Changed For Livermore Scientist (Independent editorial 7/16/09), motive is in State of Fear, (Crichton novel) and refutation is in www.petitionproject.org (35,000 of us scientists).

Politically-funded-academics now select data to scare up $1T/yr tax on energy, as they scare women out of $1B/yr hormone replacement, when total mortality is less than placebo, despite unethical inclusion of smokers (who must have had most of the deaths).

The Government-Education-Complex cannot be trusted for objective science.

Keep Camp Open

Carolyn Siegfried
Livermore

I encourage the LARPD Board to explore creative financial solutions to continue operating Camp Shelly during these challenging economic conditions.

For 14 years, my family has camped at Camp Shelly, the district's campground in the South Lake Tahoe area, and we appreciate the unique opportunities it offers. The Camp Shelly experience cannot be duplicated within the district's other facilities and it does "stimulate, educate and enrich the lives of people within the District" (LARPD's Mission). The community building that occurs at Camp Shelly carries back to town after vacation and the opportunity to explore the surrounding area forms lasting memories.

It is shortsighted to give up the lease during this economic downturn, as the district would not be able to acquire another lease from the forest service. Cost cutting should be done in such a manner that programs can be fully restored when the financial situation improves.

To "provide the people of this area with an outstanding system of parks, recreation areas and facilities" (LARPD Mission), the district operates a wide range of facilities to meet the varying interests of the people within the district. Since I do not own horses, do not utilize the rock gym, senior center or swimming facilities, and my teenage children no longer play softball, baseball or soccer, besides the neighborhood and dog parks near my home, Camp Shelly is the district facility that my family utilizes the most. My tax dollars are well spent subsidizing Camp Shelly, especially when the subsidy is only 0.18% of the total budget – and could be less with creative financial solutions.

Increasing fees for and promotion of Camp Shelly within and outside the district are two simple ways to increase revenues. During this cost tightening period, utilizing camp hosts and exploring cost sharing opportunities with nearby Camp Concord should also be explored. Many community members would gladly donate to a fund to support Camp Shelly.

Contact the LARPD Board Members as soon as possible via email and attend the next LARPD board meeting on Wednesday, August 12 at 7:00 PM at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave, to express your support for Camp Shelly.

Save Camp Shelly

Lisa Stanford
Livermore

I am writing in response to issues surrounding the potential closure of the LARPD run Camp Shelly campground in Tahoe. Our family is part of a group of Livermore locals who make a yearly trek up to the campground in July. Families with children age from preschool to high school are part of our congregation of campers. Each year, we organize activities, hikes, outings and even community meals for a week's time while we enjoy the beautiful surroundings of a campground of days gone by.

It is a place that allows kids to be adults and to get in touch with the simple pleasures of life. Hiking, enjoying the nearby beach, taking a bike ride for an ice cream, or roasting marshmallows by the fire are just a few of the things that we look forward to while spending time at Camp Shelly.

The kids are never disappointed with the great things Ranger Pat has in store for them. The egg toss, bucket brigade, ice cream making and watermelon seed spitting are just a few of the things that he and his fellow ranger take the time to do. It is a place to go to catch up with friends and inevitably make new ones that you would not normally get a chance to meet because of the busy lives we all lead here in the valley.

It is a very unusual campground as it is small with generous sites. The scenery at the camp is so unbelievable it has to be experienced. Not many places have I been where you can look up to something as majestic as Mt. Tallac, and have just a short bike/car ride to one of the most breathtaking lakes in the U.S.

I hope that the LARPD board will reconsider any thoughts of not keeping Camp Shelly open to the residents of Livermore. In this day and age where we have to struggle to keep things affordable and easily accessible for family recreation, it would be a shame to lose a treasure such as this.

Fee Increase

Cecil "Cy" Beebe
Livermore

Are there idiots sitting on the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association board?

The board recently voted to increase membership fees to $500. The fee increase comes without reason or justification and is a betrayal to its many loyal members.

At a time when the economy is in a down-spin and many local wineries are suffering, this callous action only adds more pain to the small and medium-sized wineries and grape growers in the Valley.

As a small grape grower myself, with 11 acres to harvest, this fee increase will cause me and several other grape growers severe hardship.

At 94 years old and unable to walk or do things for myself, I am already dependent on outside labor for the harvest. This new fee will force me to stop harvesting altogether.

Thank You Kay Ayala

Thomas Jefferson
Livermore

The latest in Pleasanton's hillside protection saga is the unanimous Court of Appeal decision favoring Kay Ayala and her group in their referendum opposing the Oak Grove development. To have the Court rule otherwise would have had a chilling effect on the citizens' referendum process throughout California. Thank you Kay Ayala.

This brings to mind Pleasanton's Measure QQ that was put on last November's ballot by the City Council. That measure, purportedly a hillside protection measure, said it would "Achieve that preservation/protection through a collaborative and public process" that would arrive at guidelines, and that "Such ordinance/design guidelines must be drafted as expeditiously as possible and by no later than the end of November 2009."

How is this collaborative and public process coming along? There has been no publicity about this process. I suspect that even though QQ was put on the ballot by the Council and approved by the voters, once the election was over the Council felt they could simply forgo this collaborative and public process they had promised.

Power Lines

Peter Jacobson
Livermore

More power lines crossing the southern Livermore valley? Not right now: The Independent reports that the recent proposal has been terminated, and to meet future power demands it might be possible to improve technology and not cause any additional impact on the land. A walk through the upper stretch of Sycamore Grove and Veterans Park suggests that this is true.

Seven power lines cross the park, each consisting of a string of steel pylons. From a distance, each looks about the same, but a closer look shows some differences. Compare the two towers in the photograph at left. Each carries three wires, but the center wire on the tower on the right is broken and dangling to the ground, with the insulator askew. The wire has been that way since sometime before Memorial Day, and it was still that way on July 4th. Obviously this line is not in use, and there is no pressing need to return it to service.

Compare the two power lines at left with the one below, which runs parallel to them a few hundred feet east. The tower below carries twelve power wires, rather than three. Each wire on this tower looks much thicker than the ones on the towers at left, and the insulators look about twice as long.

Doubling the thickness of a wire should allow it to carry four times as much current with the same efficiency, and doubling the length of an insulator should allow it to carry twice as much voltage. Because power is the product of current and voltage, one wire on the tower at right should carry at least eight times the power of a wire on the towers above, and there are twelve wires on the tower at right rather than three. So at first glance, the power line on the right could replace thirty-two power lines like the ones above.From a half-mile away, the power line on the right doesn't impact the view very differently than either one above, and the one on the right surely would impact the view far less than dozens of lines like the ones above, marching side-by-side across the valley to carry the same power.

Perhaps the discussion above is an over-simplification, but it appears that technology is already in use to reduce the need for building more power lines: hang thicker wires on longer insulators, and hang more of them per tower. Next time an agency proposes new lines, it would help if they would explain why that won't work instead.

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PLEASE JOIN VALLEYCARE HEALTH SYSTEM IN WELCOMING:

SAMATA KANAGALA, M.D.
BOARD CERTIFIED IN INTERNAL MEDICINE

Dr. Samata Kanagala has joined ValleyCare Health System specializing in Internal Medicine.

Dr. Kanagala was born in India and migrated to the United States in 1995. She is a graduate of Guntur Medical College, University of Health Sciences. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Amarillo in 1998. She was a staff physician at Palo Alto Veterans Affairs Health Care system for 10 years and has various experience in outpatient clinics, urgent care and nursing home settings.

A mother of two kids, Dr. Kanagala is actively involved in their education and extracurricular activities. She has been a resident of Pleasanton since 1998 and her interests include hiking and biking.

Dr. Samata Kanagala joins Dr. Betty Tam and Dr. Stanley Ng in the ValleyCare Medical Foundation Internal Medicine Clinic at 1133 E. Stanley Blvd. Suite 101 in Livermore. **For an appointment, please call (925) 454-4280.**

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NEW LISTINGS NEEDED!

There are very few homes available to sell, especially in the lower price range. If you've thought about selling, this is a great time! See my recent sales activity...

NEW LISTING

1773 Calle Del Rey
Livermore
3 Bedroom, 3 baths. Townhome
Updated and Move-in ready
$449,900

PENDING

36041 Caxton Pl.
Fremont
4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths approx. 1714 sq. ft.
home in Brookvale. Side yard access
$599,000

PENDING

1864 Montecito Cir.
Livermore
3/2 Newer Mobile home, built in 2004.
Vaulted ceilings - Dual pane windows.
$79,000

SOLD

Willowren Way
Pleasanton
Great home, Great Neighborhood.
27 Days on the market!
Sold $700,000

SOLD

El Caminito
Livermore
3 Bedroom with updated kitchen and baths.
Beautiful Landscaped yards.
Listed $339,000 - Sold $365,000

SOLD

El Caminito
Livermore
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Sold in 6 days with 11 offers
Listed $349,000 - Sold $380,000

The market has been steadily improving for the last few weeks, mostly due to the lack of inventory. Prices are now beginning to climb. With very few bank owned properties (REO's) & short sales, almost every home, which is PRICED RIGHT is receiving multiple offers. Interest rates have risen slightly but still making home ownership VERY AFFORDABLE.

Inventory of single family homes by city, MLS 07/23/09

CITY	BELOW $500,000	OVER $500,000
Livermore	53	103
Pleasanton	2	192
Dublin	8	45

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SPORTS NOTES

Babe Ruth State Champs

Tri-Valley Babe Ruth's 13 year old All Stars captured the Northern California State Championship by beating Alameda 7-5 Thursday night. Tri-Valley will now leave for Eureka to compete in the Pacific Southwest Regionals, with the winner advancing to the Babe Ruth World Series in Utah.

Tri-Valley entered the championship game without a loss and had to be beaten twice. Alameda scored a run in the first to take the early lead and held Tri-Valley scoreless until the 4th inning. Vince Fernandez led off the 4th for TVBR with a double followed by a walk to Ryan Anderson, both would score on wild pitches to give TVBR a 2-1 lead. TVBR would score 3 more runs in the 5th as Casey Soltis singled and stole 2nd. Kyle Franco moved him to 3rd with a sacrifice bunt. Josh Sprugasci would single to bring home Soltis. Jake Dronkers followed with a single and Vince Fernandez grounded out to score Sprugasci. Anderson then singled to score Dronkers to give TVBR a 5-1 lead. Alameda came right back and scored 2 runs in the bottom of the 5th to make it 5-3 heading into the 7th inning. TVBR plated 2 more runs with singles by Sprugasci and Austin Piscotty followed by a walk to Fernandez. Logan Hobson reached on an error and scored Sprugasci and Jacob Payne drove in Piscotty with a shot to right field to give TVBR a 7-3 lead heading to the bottom of the 7th. Alameda quickly scored 2 runs and had the tying run at the plate with 2 outs, but Sprugasci was able to get a pop-up to end the game and TVBR claimed the Championship.

TVBR received great pitching from Jake Dronkers, (5 inn, 8H, 3R) and Josh Sprugasci, (2 inn, 4 H, 2 R)as well as great defense from Sam Nathan, Noah Robbins, Logan Hobson, Bradley Pluschkell and Jacob Payne

Tri-Valley defeatedEureka 12-1, Oakland 15-3 and Novato 11-1 to advance to the championship game.

To advance to the State Tournament, Tri Valley topped Hayward 7-2 to win the District 5 Championship.

Tri-Valley Babe Ruth team includes Nick Allman, Ryan Anderson, Jake Dronkers, Logan Hobson, Noah Robbins, Casey Soltis, Bradley Pluschkell, Austin Piscotty, Jack Moroney, Daniel Jackson, Kyle Franko, Jacob Payne, Sam Nathan, Vince Fernandez and Josh Sprugasci; Manager: Paul Pluschkell; and Coaches: Ron Anderson ,Mike Piscotty.

Pleasanton Seahawks with medals are (from left) Allison Brown, Rachel Knowles, and Nick Silverthorn.

The LifeStyleRx Tiger Sharks were fierce competitors at the Valley Swim League Championships. The 7-8 girls swam into team history with the first ever Tiger Sharks Valley Swim League Record. Courtney Lau, Sydney Magann, Emma Quan and Miranda Heckman took over the league record in the 7-8 Girls 100 Yard Medley Relay with the winning time of 1:16.40. Miranda Heckman also took a league record for the 7-8 girls 25 Yard Backstroke with a winning time of 19.38. The 7-8 girls proudly took first place in all individual events. The Tiger Sharks have quickly become a team swimming their way to the top under the coaching expertise of David Tambuwun.

Sunset swim team pictured are (left to right) the record setting girls 9-10 Relay Team comprised of Christine Danforth, Elizabeth Allendorf, Sophia Krafcik, and Riley Heffron, Coaches Mary and Michelle are at the far right.

Pleasanton Seahawks

The recent heat wave brought out the best as the Pleasanton Seahawks (PLS) swam to second place at the Pacific Swimming Long Course Jr. Olympics (JO) July 16 – 19 in Concord. Competing against over 1300 swimmers, the Seahawks finished in 2nd place by 1.5 points. Team records, new cuts, life time bests (LTB,) and PLS All Time Top Ten swims were part of their fiery performance.

Individual high point winners include Rachel Knowles 11-12 girls, Nick Silverthorn 13-14 boys, and Allison Brown 15-16 girls. Team records 11-12 girls: Eva Chung – 200 breast, Rachel Knowles – 100/200 free and 200 fly, 200 free relay – Katie Woods, Rachel Knowles, Lillian Sun, Cate MacGregor and 400 free relay – Katie Woods, Rachel Knowles, Lillian Sun, Cate MacGregor.

New JO cuts: - Roshni Nair -200 free, 400 IM, Theresa Martin – 200 free, 200 back, Tim McLaughlin – 200 back, 100 fly.

New Far Western (FW) cuts include the following: Chris Dourov – 50 free, 200 IM; Marissa Brown - 200 back; Bridget Moran – 400/1500 free; Danielle Stickler – 800 free; Frank Horpel – 200 back; Kyle Lindsay – 200 fly; Hannah Folmar – 50 back; Maggie Kauffeld – 400 free; Lillian Sun – 400 free, 200 back; Katie Woods – 200/400 free; Maxime Rooney – 200 back, 200 fly, 200 IM, 400 IM; Nick Johnston – 200/400 free; Kevin McLaughlin 400 IM; Tony Shen – 50 free; Alex Gilchrist - 50 fly.

New Pacific Recognition Times (PRT): Maggie Woods – 50/100/200/400/1500 free, Bridget Moran – 800 free, Brandon Chandler – 400/1500 free, Frank Horpel – 400/1500 free, Eva Chung – 200 fly, Katie Woods – 50 fly, Maxime Rooney – 50 fly, Nick Johnston – 50 free, 100 back.

100% Life Time Bests (LTB): Alex Wang, Nick Johnston, and Kevin McLaughlin. Additional outstanding Swims were achieved by Chloe Bantock (4 LTB), Eva Chung (6 LTB), Hannah Folmar (6 LTB), Maggie Kauffeld, Rachel Knowles (7 LTB), Cate MacGregor (5 LTB), Moriah Simonds, Lillian Sun (5 LTB), Katie Woods (4 LTB), Regis Lachance, Jon Ong, Maxime Rooney, Elise Cox, Bernadine Martin, Emily Saccullo, Brian Lee (6 LTB), Tony Shen (8 LTB), Caleb Wang (4 LTB)

PLS All Time Top Ten had over 20 additions including Eva Chung, Rachel Knowles, Hannah Folmar, Lillian Sun, Katie Woods, Nick Johnston, and Maxime Rooney.

Trampoline and Tumbling

Students from Springtime Tumbling and Trampoline Synchronized Trampoline in Livermore competed in the 2009 Trampoline & Tumbling Nationals held recently in San Jose.

Qualifying for the world trials in Las Vegas Sept. 25 and 26 were Bryce Wilson in synchronized trampoline, double mini and tumbling and Josh Browne in double mini.

Results from Nationals: Bryce Wilson, 20th trampoline 43.50, 1st double mini 135.80, 6th tumbling 135.80, 2nd synchronized trampoline 79.30; Hailey Schnorr, 9th trampoline 53.30, 5th double mini 124.80, 19th tumbling 43.20; Josh Browne, 6th trampoline 81,80, 2nd double mini 125.00, 12th tumbling 50.10; Hannah Schnorr 27th double mini 55.80; Marina Fountaine 29th double mini 55.80; Josh Davission 19th trampoline 22.20, 14th double mini 47.60; Anna O'Brien 39th trampoline 20.70, 28th double mini 55.70; Robert Sutter 23rd double mini 47,70, 15th tumbling 50.60.

Youth Soccer

The Livermore Crew 95 swept the U14 Girls bracket at this year's Diablo FC Summer Classic, held July 25-26, 2009, allowing only one goal, dominating every team they played. In game 1, against Mustang Revolution, Callie Chayrez opened play by scoring a goal in the first minute of the game. Mireya Magana completed a perfect forward pass to Jessica Hopkins, who completed the play by punching the ball into the net for the second goal of the half. In the second half of play, Adaurie Dayak stepped up the game, scoring two goals for the Crew. For her first goal, on a pass from the midfield, Adaurie dribbled the ball up the right side of the field, powering past the Mustang defense to score. For the final goal of the game, Adaurie kicked a rolling shot at the goal, with the ball hitting the right goal post and slowly rolling into the box. The Crew won 4-0.

Game 2 was played against Heritage Force. Jessica Hopkins completed the first goal of the game, capitalizing on a powerful forward pass by Kellie Crawford, with a beautiful shot over the opposing goalie's head. Jessica also scored the second goal, fighting off the Heritage Force defense to punch the ball into the net. Crew defender Rachel Leonard, with an impressive run up the left side of the field, earned the third point for the Crew with a strong shot into the box. Sabrina Singh scored goal 4, sliding the ball past a surprised Heritage Force defense. Danica Egelston executed a strong cross to #19, Adaurie Dayak, who completed the play with another goal for the Crew. As play continued, Danica Egelston dribbled up the left side of the field, and, using her left foot, sent the ball arching over the goalie's head into the net. Before the second half was over, #19 Adaurie Dayak added another point for the Crew, as did Egelston, who finished the game by trapping a pass from Dayak in front of the Heritage goal, then sailing the ball past the defenders into the net. By the time the game was over, the Crew had won 8-0.

Game 3, Crew beat Diablo Force 95 Blue 5-0. Egelston scored the first goal, taking advantage of a header by Marissa Sheld. The Crew's defenders showed their versatility in this game, with Rachael Leonard scoring her second goal of the tournament. Defender Reagan Smithers, scored two goals in this game. As play ended, the Crew had racked up 5 goals, allowing the team to advance to the championship game.

Game 4 Crew played Diablo FC 95 for the championship. This was the only game in the tournament the Crew allowed a goal to be scored against them. The first half of the game was scoreless. During the second half, the Crew came alive, with goals by Adaurie Dayak, Jessica Hopkins, and Many Crabb. The Crew won the championship game with a final score of 3-1.

The Livermore Elite Fury girls U14 opened its tournament season with a fourth place finish in the Diablo FC 2009 Summer Classic. The Fury played a strong opening game resulting in a 2-1 win against the CV Explosion. With only 1 substitute and a 0-1 deficit at the half, Amber Lennier took a hard shot on goal which deflected off the opposing goalie before being put in the back of the Explosion's net by Kylie Diaz. Rebekah Johnson scored the winning goal for the Fury on a nice pass from Beth McCall. Also playing well for the Fury were Kaitlyn Bulhoes, Amanda Fairclough and Sarah Wilkinson.

The Fury's second game against the Walnut Creek Stampede resulted in a 0-0 tie with goalie Tayler Lennier posting a well-earned shutout after making several big saves late in the game. The Fury did have several quality scoring opportunities but were unable to place the ball in their opponent's net. Playing well for the Fury were Morgan Brandt , Elyse Codiroli, Hannah Gooby, Jenna Hatch and Madyson Souza.

The Fury were bested 4-0 by Diablo FC 95 in their third game of the weekend. Early defensive play by Fury players Elise Falgout and Ryley Landreth kept the score 0-1 at the half. Despite several scoring chances in the second half, continued pressure and good ball movement by Diablo resulted in the Fury's only loss of the tournament.

First Tee Qualifiers

Three junior golfers from The First Tee of Tri-Valley have been selected to play in the Walmart First Tee Open at Pebble Beach presented by Nature Valley, an official Champions Tour event that will be held September 4-6 during Labor Day weekend and televised nationally on the Golf Channel

Natalie Bodnar, Rachelle Reali , and Travis Rowney will make up a field of seventy junior golfers from 49 Chapters of The First Tee worldwide. The junior golfers qualified during The First Tee Participant Selection Process, which is held annually for junior golfers ages 14-18 that are enrolled in The First Tee program. The selection process evaluates participants' playing ability and comprehension of the life skills and core lessons learned through involvement with The First Tee.

Natalie Bodnar (15), of Pleasanton, attends Amador Valley High School and has been playing golf for nine years with a handicap of 3.6. She has been a member of The First Tee since 2006 and is a mentor teacher to the younger members of her Chapter.

Rachelle Reali (17), of Livermore, attends Granada High School and has been playing golf for eight years with a 5.4 handicap. She has been a member of the Chapter since 2006 and is one of the original members of the Chapter. She volunteers and mentors to the younger members of the Chapter.

Travis Rowney (15), of Pleasanton, is participating in his second Walmart First Tee Open at Pebble Beach. He attends Foothill High School and has been playing golf for eleven years with a 1.9 handicap. He has been a member of the Chapter since 2006 and he volunteers and mentors to the younger members of the Chapter.

The boy's selection event took place July 14-18 in Rodgers, Ark. at Shadow Valley Country Club where 84 boys competed for 48 invitations. The girl's selection event took place a week prior, July 7-11 in Rye, NH where 39 girls competed for 22 playing spots.

To round out the final field of 78 juniors that will compete in the tournament, the host organization, The Monterey Peninsula Foundation, will award eight exemptions.

To learn more about the sixth annual Walmart First Tee Open at Pebble Beach, visit www.thefirsttee.org or www.thefirsteeopen.com.

Foothill All Stars

The Pleasanton Foothill Little League 10 year old all stars defeated the Canyon Creek Little League 10 year old all stars 6 to 2 on Saturday in the first round of San Ramon 10 year old tournament.

The Foothill offensive attack was led by Jadon Gonzaga and Timmy Wu who singled and scored a run, Conor Isozaki and Brett Derham had singles, and Raymond Abels, William Hammer, Matt Villena and Tommy Serrano scored runs. Defensively for Foothill, Joshua Ott, William Hammer, Giovanni Caponigro, Jadon Gonzaga and Joey Richardson made great plays. Brett Derham, Raymond Abels and Joshua Ott pitched excellent for Foothill only giving up two hits, no earned runs, while striking out 10 Canyon Creek batters.

Top Offensive Players: Jadon Gonzaga, Timmy Wu and Conor Isozaki; Top Defensive Players: Joshua Ott, William Hammer, Raymond Abels.

Sunset Swim Team

All eight Valley Swim League Teams converged at Robert Livermore Community Center on Saturday, July 25, 2009, for a heated battle in the water. Pleasanton Valley Swim Club walked away with the League Championship Title scoring 1934.5 points followed by Rhonewood Sharks 1541, Sunset Swim Team 1530, San Ramon Aquabears 1371, Castlewood Barracudas 1286, LVTC Fireballs 1110.5, Ruby Hill Rip Tide 959.5 and LifeStyleRx Tiger Sharks 860.5.

SUNSET: Sunset Swim Team competed in the Valley Swim League Meet Of Champions on Wednesday, July 22, 2009 and came away with third place. Team Scores were PVC 1943.5, San Ramon 1826, Sunset 1742, Lifestyle RX 803, Rhonewood 500.5. The following Sunset Swimmers recorded their best performances of the season: Haley Wright, Kieran Campbell, Gavin Powers,Kylie Girardelli, Grace Leary, Claire Wiedenfeld, Alyson Machi, Corrine Davies, Olivia Powers, Ben Knuth, Aidan Ackerman, Connor Campbell, Samuel Ridosko,Caelan Roberts, Luke Moylan, Stevie Sobers, Julia Leary, Marley Lake,Tori Diehl, Brooke Powell, Lindy Girardelli, Sophia Schrodi, Brianna Shultis, Julia Leary, Marley Lake, Chris Machi, Sam Knuth, Jenna Thompson, Annaliese Lemler, Sarah Franklin, Kelly Re, Melanie Bierwirth,Chelsea Bantley, Megan Cinquini,Nickolas Winter, Roxanna Utpadel, Krista Bronson, Mikki Glover.

Sunset Top Medlay Relay Finishers: 6& U Mixed: Haley Wright, Kieran Campbell, Gavin Powers, Alyssa Shultis 2:44.75; 7-8 Girls: Alisa Inokuchi, Grace Leary, Olivia Powers, Claire Wiedenfield 1:50.19, 7-8 Mixed: Caelan Roberts, Aidan Ackerman, Luke Moylan, Ben Knuth; 7-8 Girls Audrey Roberts, Tori Diehl, Stevie Sobers, Brianna Shultis 1:26.51; 9-10 Mixed: Lindy Girardelli, Chris Machi, Sam Knuth, Audrey Roberts 1:39.23; 11-12 Girls: Annaliese Lemler, Victoria Winter, Jenna Thompson, Melanie Bierwirth 2:55.48; 13-14 Girls: Amanda Anderson, Megan Cinquini, Sarah Franklin, Kelsey Girardelli 2:33.50; 13-14 Mixed: Ryan McCallum, Nickolas Winter, Brian Garcia, Chandler Atchley 2:26.57;

Sunset Top Freestyle Finishers: Gavin Powers, Kieran Campbell, Nathanael Ridosko, Kylie Girardelli, Grace Leary, Charlotte Schrodi, Ben Knuth, Aidan Ackerman, Connor Campbell, Stevie Sobers, Julia Leary, Marley Lake, Victoria Winter, Melanie Bierwirth, Sarah Franklin, Amanda Anderson, Kelly Re, Chandler Atchley, Krista Bronson, Mikki Glover, Roxanna Utpadel.

Sunset Top Butterfly Finishers: Haley Wright, Kylie Girardelli, Grace Leary, Corrine Davies, Rebecca Anderson, Luke Moylan, Aidan Anderson, Caelan Roberts, Tori Diehl, Brianna Shultis, Marley Lake, Brooke Powell, Chris Machi, Sam Knuth, Jenna Thompson, Annaliese Lemler, Melanie Bierwirth, Sarah Franklin, Megan Cinquini, Kelsey Girardelli, Krista Bronson, Mikki Glover, Roxanna Utpadel.

Sunset Top Breaststroke Finishers: Gavin Powers, Kieran Campbell, Olivia Powers, Grace Leary, Alyson Machi, Aidan Ackerman, Connor Campbell, Samuel Ridosko, Tori Diehl, Brianna Shultis, Julia Leary, Jenna Thompson, Amanda Anderson, Kelsey Girardelli, Kelly Re, Nickolas Winter, Chandler Atchley, Ryan

Springtime Tumbling and Trampoline Synchronized Trampoline students who competed were (front row, left to right) Marina Fountaine, Anna O'Brien, Robert Sutter, Josh Davission, (back row) Hailey Schnorr, Bryce Wilson, Hannah Schnorr. Josh Browne was not present for the photo.

SPORTS NOTES

McCallum, Krista Bronson, Mikki Glover, Roxanna Utpadel.

Sunset Top IM Finishers: Tori Diehl, Brianna Shultis, Julia Leary, Chris Machi, Jenna Thompson, Annaliese Lemler, Sarah Franklin, Megan Cinquini, Chelsea Bantley, Brian Garcia, Nickolas Winter Chandler Atchley, Krista Bronson, Mikki Glover, Roxanna Utpadel.

Sunset Top Back Stroke Finishers: Alyssa Shultis, Kieran Campbell, Gavin Powers, Rebecca Anderson, Alyson Machi, Kylie Girardelli, Charlotte Schrodi, Corinne Davies, Alissa Inokuchi, Connor Campbell, Caelan Roberts, Luke Moylan, Stevie Sobers, Lindy Girardelli, Audrey Roberts, Chris Machi, Sam Knuth, Jenna Thompson, Annaliese Lemler, Victoria Winter, Sarah Franklin, Amanda Anderson, Kelsey Girardelli, Ryan McCallum, Nickolas Winter, Krista Bronson, Mikki Glover, Roxanna Utpadel.

Sunset Top Free Relays: 6&U Mixed: Gavin Powers, Alyssa Shultis, Kieran Campbell, Haley Wright 2:41.36; 7-8 Girls: Kylie Girardelli, Alyson Machi, Rebecca Anderson, Claire Mackanic 1:39.54; 7-8 Mixed: Luke Moylan, Samuel Ridosko, Ben Knuth, Connor Campbell 1:41.83; 9-10 Girls: Tori Diehl, Brooke Powell, Julia Leary, Brianna Shultis 3:09.76; 9-10 Mixed: Sam Knuth, Audrey Roberts, Lindy Girardelli,, Chris Machi 3:17.40; 11-12 Girls: Jenna Thompson, Melanie Bierwirth, Victoria Winter, Annaliese Lemler 2:28.46; 13-14 Girls: Megan Cinquini, Sarah Franklin, Kelsey Girardelli, Amanda Anderson 2:19.20; 13-14 Mixed: Ryan McCallum, Chandler Atchley, Nickolas Winter, Brian Garcia 2:07.68.

RHONEWOOD: Rhonewood Sharks Hayden Christensen, Briant Jacobs, Matthew Hawkins, and Scott Crowder smashed the 1987 Valley Swim League Record in the 15-18 Mixed 200 Free Relay by over 5 seconds with the time of 1:131.75 during the Valley League Championship Meet, Saturday, July 25, 1997. This time also breaks the Rhonewood team record this team set last year. Briant Jacobs won the individual Back and Freestyle and Hayden Christensen took first in both the Breast and Butterfly. Rhonewood's 15-18 Boys also swam into first in the 200 Yard Medley Relay. Members of this team are Briant Jacobs, Hayden Christensen, Johnny Cruz, and Matthew Hawkins. Michael Hawkins-13-14 boys smashed the 2000 league and 2004 team record in the 100 yard IM with a time of 1:00.71. Michael Hawkins also swam for first in the 50 Breast. Megan Hill swam for first in 6&U girls Butterfly and the 6&U Girls swam like sharks to take first in the 100 yard Medley Relay. On this team are Madison Hales, Haiden Arruda, Brooke Carter, and Megan Hill. Jacob Burk took first in 6&U Boys Freestyle.

The eight teams in the Valley Swim League swam in their annual league championship. When the swimming was done the Rhonewood Sharks swam to second place to the Pleasantan Valley Dolphins. The Rhonewood Championship team did an outstanding job of improving their individual times! These are the names of the Rhonewood Championship Swim Team:

6&Under Girls: Arruda, Haiden; Belmessieri, Ashley; Carter, Brooke; Hales, Madison; Harrison, Abby; Hill, Megan; and Alternate: Paige Dawson

6&Under Boys: Brown, Charlie; Burk, Jacob; Quach, Gregory; Ragatz, Steve; and Alternate: Luke Ellsworth

7-8 Girls: Hawkins, Natalie; Hocking, Bella; Neufeld, Christy; Sutter, Paige; Wapman, Anna; and Alternate: Melissa Dooley

7-8 Boys: Kerstetter, Reece; Neufeld, Matthew; Paulo, Mason; Ragatz, Scott; Steinberg, William; Trump, Collin; and Alternate: Neil Senecal

9-10 Girls: Hawkins, Emily; Paden, Gianna; Steinberg, Mila; Sunnergren, Jenna; Wapman, Emily; and Alternate: Larissa Trump

9-10 Boys: Campbell, Jason; Cartwright, Rory; DeMayo, Dante; Ellsworth, Jack; Fish, Nathan; and Alternate: Trevor Campbell

11-12 Girls: Campbell, Alyssa; Cano, Lauren; Hawkins, Michelle; Johnston, Katie; Offill, Courtney; Paulo, Mackenzie; Santin, Kelsey; and Alternate: Kirstynn Gonzales

11-12 Boys: Cartwright, Braden; Dugger, Isaac; Eckles, Michael; Eckles, Ryan; Jones, Conner; Neufeld, Thomas; and Alternate: Kyle Tucker

13-14 Girls: Dimits, Natalie; Douglas, Kellie; Flannery, Leah; Kunzler, Christine; Melrose, Shannon; Offill, Shelby; Stevulak, McKenna; and Alternate: Amber Mills

13-14 Boys: Byers, Zack; Eckles, Tyler; Hawkins, Michael; Johnston, Kevin; Stuart, John; and Alternate: Nathan Bahr

15-18 Girls: Accornero, Alexandra; Cartwright, Tyler; Christensen, Courtney; Johnston, Amanda; Melrose, Carrie; Simons, Megan; Smith, Shannon; and Alternate: Jamie Douglas

15-18 Boys: Christensen, Hayden; Crowder, Scott; Cruz, Johnny; Hawkins, Matthew; Jacobs, Briant; and Alternate: Brennan Mills

Stingrays vs. Sharks

The undefeated Del Prado Stingrays closed out their dual meet season, with a win over the Pleasanton Meadows Sharks, 647 to 344. The Sharks girls had some great performances from Talia Florio, (10), Amelia Kelly, (6), Meredith Kelly, (8), Sidney Vaeth, (9), and Peyton Pozzi, (6). The boys for Pleasanton Meadows, were led by Gill Noor, (10), Luke Scanlon, (6), Perry Cheney, (12), Cody Vaeth, (7), and Tyler Rhoads, (10). Stingray top performers for the girls were Sara Cohen, (14), Alyssa Goard, (16), Meghan Hogue, (9), Lindsey DeWilde, (14), and Molly Griston, (8). Tops for the Stingray boys were Cameron Kurotori, (13), Eric Crispell, (14), Eric Gates, (16), Jack Payan, (17), and Steven Reimer, (8).

1st Place Girls Results: 6 & Under: 25 yard free Kelly, Amelia, PMST-US, 22.80. 25 yard back Griston, Isla, DP Stingrays-CC, 26.15. 25 yard breast Kruschke, Stella, DP Stingrays-CC, 34.70. 25 yard fly Graham, Lauren, DP Stingrays-CC, 25.50.

Girls 7-8 25 yard free Griston, Molly, DP Stingrays-CC, 18.03. 25 yard back Jeffrey, Sara, DP Stingrays-CC, 22.64. 25 yard breast Griston, Molly, DP Stingrays-CC, 23.25. 25 yard fly Kelly, Meredith, PMST-US, 20.85.

Girls 9-10 50 yard free Hogue, Meghan, DP Stingrays-CC, 36.38. 25 yard back White, Nicole, DP Stingrays-CC, 21.85. 25 yard breast Florio, Talia, PMST-US, 20.74. 25 yard fly Vaeth, Sidney, PMST-US, 17.54. 100 Yard IM Florio, Talia, PMST-US, 1:29.71.

Girls 11-12 50 yard free Isaacs, Alyson, PMST-US, 29.17. 50 yard back Kitayama, Kathryn, DP Stingrays-CC, 37.81. 50 yard breast Sullivant, Danielle, DP Stingrays-CC, 39.53. 50 yard fly Doi, Megan, DP Stingrays-CC, 35.89. 100 Yard IM Doi, Megan, DP Stingrays-CC, 1:19.22.

Girls 13-14 50 yard free Doi, Stephanie, DP Stingrays-CC, 26.82. 50 yard back DeWilde, Lindsey, DP Stingrays-CC, 32.84. 50 yard breast Cohen, Sara, DP Stingrays-CC, 38.59. 50 yard fly Doi, Stephanie, DP Stingrays-CC, 29.90. 100 Yard IM Doi, Stephanie, DP Stingrays-CC, 1:09.48.

Girls 15-18 50 yard free Boughton, Kari, DP Stingrays-CC, 26.97. 50 yard back Goard, Alyssa, DP Stingrays-CC, 34.17. 50 yard breast Doi, Niki, DP Stingrays-CC, 34.08. 50 yard fly Doi, Niki, DP Stingrays-CC, 30.56. 100 Yard IM Doi, Niki, DP Stingrays-CC, 1:07.78.

Girls 6 & Under 100 yard free Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Graham, Lauren 6, Kruschke, Stella 6, Griston, Isla 6, Heath, Amy 5), 1:36.69. 100 Yard Medley Relay Pleasanton Meadows-US 'A' (Hasty, Ainsley 6, Rae, Kaitlyn 6, Kelly, Amelia 6, Pozzi, Peyton 6), 1:47.57. Girls 7-8 100 yard free Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Jeffrey, Sara 8, Foster, Madeline 8, Griston, Molly 8, Hicks, Lacey 8), 1:16.04. 100 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Foster, Madeline 8, Juarez, Reagan 8, Sullivan, Mary 8, Lester, Elise 8), 1:33.97. 200 yard free Relay Pleasanton Meadows-US 'A' (Florio, Talia 10, Landrey, Alex 10, Milligan, Lauren 9, Vaeth, Sidney 9), 2:28.90. 100 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Huber, Cameron 10, Hogue, Meghan 9, Bardakos, Alyssa 9, White, Nicole 10), 1:14.79.

Girls 11-12 200 yard free Relay

(continued on page 8)

Cassi McDiarmid from Sunset Swim Team won the 50 yard backstroke in the 15-18 girls age group. Pleasanton Valley Club won the championship, with Rhonewood placing 2nd and Sunset Swim Team placing 3rd. There were 8 teams in the league.

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SPORTS NOTES

(continued from page 7)

Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Kitayama, Kathryn 12, Waldear, Nikki 12, DeWilde, Courtney 12, Jeffrey, Stephanie 12), 2:08.56. 200 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (DeWilde, Courtney 12, Sullivant, Danielle 12, Doi, Megan 1 Jeffrey, Stephanie 12), 2:24.55. Girls 13-14 200 yard free Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Waldear, Kristine 14, Gates, Elaina 14, Cohen, Sara 14, Klein, Laura 14), 1:56.44. 200 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (DeWilde, Lindsey 14, Gates, Elaina 14, Doi, Stephanie 14, Klein, Laura 14), 2:08.61. Girls 15-18 200 yard free Relay Pleasanton Meadows-US 'A' (Bush, Madeline 15, Milligan, Kelsey 15, Schwaninger, Elsa 15, Lee, Taylor 15), 2:06.10. 200 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Mayes, Colleen 17, Doi, Niki 17, Strom, Jaclyn 15, Fowler-Kimsey, Zoe 17), 2:03.29.

1st Place Boys Results: 6 & Under 25 yard free Scanlon, Luke, PMST-US, 26.63. 25 yard back Neely, Luke, PMST-US, 38.33. 25 yard breast Lester, John, DP Stingrays-CC, 31.18. 25 yard fly Lester, John, DP Stingrays-CC, 30.13.

Boys 7-8 25 yard free Vaeth, Cody, PMST-US, 17.56. 25 yard back Bessiere, Jack, DP Stingrays-CC, 24.44. 25 yard breast Reimer, Steven, DP Stingrays-CC, 27.21. 25 yard fly Vaeth, Cody, PMST-US, 21.92.

Boys 9-10 50 yard free DeWilde, Luke, DP Stingrays-CC, 35.94. 25 yard back Gill, Noor, PMST-US, 20.59. 25 yard breast Juarez, Tommy, DP Stingrays-CC, 21.04. 25 yard fly Gill, Noor, PMST-US, 18.19. 100 Yard IM Gill, Noor, PMST-US, 1:32.75.

Boys 11-12 50 yard free Hogue, Ryan, DP Stingrays-CC, 30.33. 50 yard back Newman, Jake, DP Stingrays-CC, 38.03. 50 yard breast Geasa, Jack, PMST-US, 40.46. 50 yard fly Cheney, Perry, PMST-US, 34.13. 100 Yard IM Cheney, Perry, PMST-US, 1:18.90.

Boys 13-14 50 yard free Kurotori, Cameron, DP Stingrays-CC, 26.46. 50 yard back Crispell, Eric, DP Stingrays-CC, 31.29. 50 yard breast Bush, Christopher, PMST-US, 41.24. 50 yard fly Kurotori, Cameron, DP Stingrays-CC, 30.65. 100 Yard IM Crispell, Eric, DP Stingrays-CC, 1:10.21.

Boys 15-18 50 yard free Payan, Jack, DP Stingrays-CC, 23.27. 50 yard back Payan, Jack, DP Stingrays-CC, 29.37. 50 yard breast Landas, Trevor, DP Stingrays-CC, 32.87. 50 yard fly Gates, Eric, DP Stingrays-CC, 27.42. 100 Yard IM Gates, Eric, DP Stingrays-CC, 1:05.11.

Mixed 6 & Under 100 yard free Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Lester, Mark 6, Suto, Patrick 6, Reimer, David 6, Lester, John 6), 2:04.79. Mixed 6 & Under 100 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Suto, Patrick 6, Lester, John 6, Banke, Caden 5, Reimer, David 6), 2:13.24. Mixed 7-8 100 yard free Relay Pleasanton Meadows-US 'A' (Florio, David 8, Azuma, David 8, Pozzi, Trent 7, Vaeth, Cody 7), 1:26.86.Mixed 7-8 100 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Bell, Jack 7, Jorgenson, Max 7, Bessiere, Jack 8, Loeffler, Matt 8), 1:33.99. Mixed 9-10 200 yard free Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (DeWilde, Luke 10, Sullivan, Sean 10, Juarez, Tommy 9, Smith, Taylor 10), 2:29.09. Mixed 9-10 100 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Banke, Jacob 10, Juarez, Tommy 9, Smith, Taylor 10, DeWilde, Luke 10), 1:15.44.

Mixed 11-12 200 yard free Relay Pleasanton Meadows-US 'A' (Patil, Piyush 12, Geasa, Jack 1 Lemmon, Nicholas 12, Cheney, Perry 12), 2:12.50. Mixed 11-12 200 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Newman, Jake 1 Sabatini, Tommy 1 Hogue, Ryan 12, Burke, Gabriel 12), 2:24.16. Mixed 13-14 200 yard free Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Lindley, Joey 14, Borchers, Nate 13, Sabatini, Anthony 13, Goard, Andrew 13), 2:06.06. Mixed 13-14 200 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Goard, Andrew 13, Crispell, Eric 14, Kurotori, Cameron 13, Lindley, Joey 14), 2:13.44. Mixed 15-18 200 yard free Relay Pleasanton Meadows-US 'A' (Asadourian, Miro 16, Mukherjee, Sneharth 16, Silva, Joey 16, Wong, Phoebe 15), 1:53.89. Mixed 15-18 200 Yard Medley Relay Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Blandino, Geremy 16, Hall, Stefan 16, Gates, Eric 16, Payan, Jack 17), 1:57.59.

Briar Hill vs. FAST

The Foothill Area Swim Team (FAST) Dolphins hosted the Briar Hill Barracudas on Saturday July 25. Both teams performed well with the Barracudas coming out on top 439-269.

1st place finishers:

Girls 6 & Under: 25 yard Free: Grace Martin (FAST), 26.27. 25 yard Fly: Sydney Walsh (FAST), 34.47. 25 yard Breast: Katie Maloney (FAST), 33.41. 25 yard Back: Zoey Dunbar (BH), 35.48.

Girls 7 & 8: 25 yard Free: Audrey Emmet (FAST), 20.09. 25 yard Fly: Whitney Dishman (BH), 25.11. 25 yard Breast: Colleen Eichhorn (FAST), 28.10. 25 yard Back: Alyssa Wu (FAST), 25.19.

Girls 9 & 10: 50 yard Free: Paige Heacox (FAST), 31.07. 25 yard Fly: Paige Heacox (FAST), 16.86. 25 yard Breast: Easton Plummer (BH), 20.38. 100 yard IM: Paige Heacox (FAST), 1:25.29. 25 yard Back: Callan Jackman (BH), 22.02.

Girls 11 & 12: 50 yard Free: Savannah Wieser (BH), 30.08. 50 yard Fly: Brittney Achziger (BH), 34.46. 50 yard Breast: Savannah Wieser (BH), 37.66. 100 yard IM: Brittney Achziger (BH), 1:17.18. 50 yard Back: Savannah Wieser (BH), 36.79.

Girls 13 & 14: 50 yard Free: Kristin Horrillo (BH), 29.18. 50 yard Fly: Kristin Horrillo (BH), 32.98. 50 yard Breast: Alexandra Brown (FAST), 39.14. 100 yard IM: Ladan Khandel (BH), 1:19.39. 50 yard Back: Kristin Horrillo (BH), 33.98.

Women 15-18: 50 yard Free: Lauren Leahy (BH), 27.47. 50 yard Fly: Lauren Leahy (BH), 31.00. 50 yard Breast: Crystal Fisher (BH), 37.50. 100 yard IM: Lauren Leahy (BH), 1:10.65. 50 yard Back: Ann Kenney (BH), 34.96.

Boys 6 & Under: 25 yard Free: David Groves (BH), 22.22. 25 yard Fly: Max McGee (FAST), 34.17. 25 yard Breast: David Groves (BH), 33.16. 25 yard Back: David Groves (BH), 29.71.

Boys 7 & 8: 25 yard Free: Joey Grywczynski (BH), 15.21. 25 yard Fly: Joey Grywczynski (BH), 17.58. 25 yard Breast: Michael Groves (BH), 26.76. 25 yard Back: Joey Grywczynski (BH), 21.79.

Boys 9 & 10: 50 yard Free: Andrew Voit (BH), 34.01. 25 yard Fly: Matthew Grywczynski (BH), 18.69. 25 yard Breast: Alexei Pacholuk (BH), 24.39. 100 yard IM: Matthew Grywczynski (BH), 1:39.13. 25 yard Back: Andrew Voit (BH), 20.91.

Boys 11 & 12: 50 yard Free: Christopher Malek (BH), 30.88. 50 yard Fly: Max Huang (FAST), 42.51. 50 yard Breast: Karl Johansson (BH), 44.05. 100 yard IM: Christopher Malek (BH), 1:24.28. 50 yard Back: Christopher Malek (BH), 38.47.

Boys 13 & 14: 50 yard Free: Brett Melloch (BH), 26.39. 50 yard Fly: Brian Standart (BH), 28.83. 50 yard Breast: Sherman Vuong (BH), 38.98. 100 yard IM: Brett Melloch (BH), 1:09.87. 50 yard Back: Christopher Leahy (BH), 38.13.

Men 15-18: 50 yard Free: Brent Reed (BH), 23.18. 50 yard Fly: Brandon Lind (BH), 24.95. 50 yard Breast: Trevor Ross (FAST), 29.60. 100 yard IM: Brandon Lind (BH), 1:00.41. 50 yard Back: Brent Reed (BH), 27.92.

Sharks vs. Stingrays

The Pleasanton Meadows Sharks were stung by the Del Prado Stingrays, but managed to break 2 club records at Saturday's meet. Alyson Isaacs set a new team record of 0:29:17 in girls 11-12 50 Yard Freestyle The Girls U6 Medley Relay team of Ainsley Hasty, Kaitlyn Rae, Amelia Kelly and Peyton Pozzi also swam to a new team record of 1:47.57.

The Sharks turned in 31 league individual top 20 finishes.

The Reef Sharks (6 & Under) have a strong girls team with 9 league top 20 finishes and a new club relay record. Amelia Kelly 22.8 (free), Peyton Pozzi 24.48 (free), 28.76 (back) & 35.65 (fly), Emily Milligan 24.79 (free), 35.53 (breast) & 27.09 (fly), Ainsley Hasty 29.26 (back). The boys side had Luke Scanlon turn in a top 20 league time of 34.95 in breast. The Reef's started the meet off with a bang, the girls medley relay team swam a time of 1:47.57 to beat the club record.

The Mako Sharks (7-8) were able to place 3 league top 20 finishes. Meredith Kelly 20.85(fly), David Florio 25.14 (back) and Cody Vaeth 21.92 (fly).

The Thresher Sharks (9-10) placed 9 league top 20 finishes. Talia Florio 20.74 (breast) & 1:29.71 (IM), Sidney Vaeth 1:32.95 (IM), Blake Tucker 35.97 (free) & 20.67 (back), Noor Gill 20.59 (back), 1:32.75 (IM), Daniel Newman 22.90 (breast) and Tyler Rhoads 18.64 (fly).

The Tiger Sharks (11-12) placed 8 top 20 league times with one being a new club record. Alyson Isaacs 29.17 (free) the new club record, Adriana Harris 40.14 (back), Monique Davidson 41.28 (breast), Haley Isaacs 42.78 (breast), Jack Geasa 40.46 (breast) & 1:19.61 (IM) and Perry Cheney 34.13 (fly) & 1:18.90 (IM)

The Hammerhead Sharks (13-14) had one league top 20 finish for Amador Cheney 30.34 in fly.

The Great White Sharks (15-18) also had one league top 20 finish for Snail Mukherjee 31.10 in back.

LALL Junior All-Stars

Livermore American paced second in the Livermore American Little League Junior 90 Invitational Tournament

Livermore 16, Lafayette 1: The Livermore bats came out swinging, leading the team to victory. Eight out of ten batters hit safely and several batters had a multiple RBI game. Offensive highlights included a first inning three-run home run by Matt Puls and a pair of doubles by Nick Merrill in the fourth and fifth inning. Shortstop Alex Kohn helped to keep Lafayette off of the bases by making a charging stop on a hard hit grounder in the first inning and making a back peddling catch in shallow left in the second inning.

Dublin 13, Livermore 3: Dublin pitching shut down the Livermore offense in the later innings while timely Dublin hitting lead to a five-inning defeat for Livermore. Livermore had a promising start against Dublin in the first few innings. In the first inning, left fielder Dhru Merrill threw out a runner at home and catcher Matt Stoebe threw out a runner attempting to steal second. In the third inning, Stoebe also threw out a runner attempting to steal third. Kyle Walbridge pitched the first two innings, hurling two strikeouts and containing the Dublin offense. Offensive highlights included a pair of RBIs for Dhru Merrill and an RBI single by Joe Halliwell.

Livermore 10, Pleasanton 7 (guarantees third seed for Livermore in the 7/21/09 playoffs): Livermore had an all-around victory against Pleasanton. Nick Merrill made a great running catch in left field in the third inning and Nick Gaul made two nice stops of sharp grounders hit to third base in the fifth inning. Matt Puls pitched a solid four and one-third innings, striking out the side in the first and fourth innings for a total of eight strikeouts. Matt Stoebe hit the Livermore All-Stars first triple, scoring on a Will Stewart sacrifice in the second inning. Joe Halliwell continued to hit well in the cleanup slot with a 2 RBI single in the fifth.

Every 15 Minutes Benefit

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 and sponsored by Waste Management at the Ruby Hill Golf Club on August 3.

"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.

Entry fee for the golf tournament is $175 per person and includes a continental breakfast, buffet lunch, golf cart and green fees. Check-in at Ruby Hill Golf Club begins at 6:00 a.m., with the shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. Prizes and awards in men's and women's divisions and other categories will be presented during lunch at 1:00 p.m. Entry forms and fees are due by July 15th.

For more information and to register, go to www.clubrunner.ca/livermorevalley, or contact Captain Trudeau at (925) 371-4717 or David Bedford at (925) 980-8143.

"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 Captain Trudeau.

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

Open Water Swim Group

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

Football/Cheer Signup

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

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

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

Football and cheer squads have been very successful in the highly competitive Diablo Valley Youth Football Conference (DVYFC). Registration will be held July 9, from 6-8 pm at Round Table Pizza, 1024 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore.

Information go to website www.eteamz.com/lyfc or email lyfc@onebox.com/lyfc

Coaches Sought

Lady Hustle Fastpitch is looking for coaches for all age levels for the Fall Season. Please go to www.ladyhustlefastpitch.com for more information. You may also contact Teresa Borchard at ronbo4@pacbell.net / 925-785-0846.

Bay Bombers

Jim Fitzpatrick's World Champion San Francisco Bay Bombers of the American Roller Skating Derby return to Pleasanton on Saturday night, August 1st to skate against Mizzz Georgia Hase's wild Brooklyn Red Devils. Competition will take place at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Start is 8 p.m. Information at www.arsdbombers.com.

CYO Basketball

St. Michael's/St. Charles CYO Basketball in Livermore is accepting registration for the 09/10 season. Register on-line at www.smsccyo.org for player's 1st - 8th grade, coaches and referees. Sign-ups on-line conclude August 23rd. Visit the website for more information or email cyoregistration@yahoo.com. Open to residents of Livermore.

New Revolution Baseball

Seeking experienced coaches to help run our Fall Baseball Season.

Fall Season – Now accepting players for all age groups – 11U thru 16U.

For more information on coaching or playing, go to the website www.newrevolutionbaseball.com or call 925-548-2732

Livermore Smoke Tryouts

Livermore Smoke fastpitch softball will be holding tryouts at Joe Michell Elementary School in Livermore in August. Registratoin begins at 6 p.m. with tryouts at 5:30 p.m. The schedule is as follows:

Livermore Smoke 12 A Softball Team try outs will be held on Wednesday, August 5.

Livermore Smoke 10B & 14B Softball Team try outs will be on Thursday, August 6.

Livermore Smoke 12B & 16B Softball Team try outs will be on Friday, August 7.

Livermore Smoke 12B & 16B Softball Team try outs will be on Friday, August 7.

For more information and to download the registration form, visit www.livermoregirlssoftball.org or email Denise Meyer at travelball@livermoregirlssoftball.org or call 925)556-5259.

Volleyball Tryouts

The Renegades Volleyball Club is holding tryouts for boys aged 14-18 Saturday and Sunday, August 15 and 16 at LARPD in Livermore. The season runs September through early February, with practices twice a week in Livermore and Pleasanton. Last season Renegades 16's team remained in the gold division all season. New players are invited to attend open gyms at Trinity church in Livermore on Tuesday evenings through the summer. For more information go to www.renegadesvolleyball.com or contact kris@renegadesvolleyball.com.

Beginner Lacrosse Clinic

Livermore Phantom Lacrosse will be hosting a lacrosse clinic for new players on Saturday, Aug. 15, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Robertson Park. The clinic will introduce the fundamentals of the game of lacrosse to boys and girls ages 8 to 14. The program includes instruction on passing, catching, cradling, shooting and dodging and is an excellent introduction into the fast moving and ever growing game of lacrosse. Demonstrations will be given by local coaches, high school and college players, and maybe a surprise guest. Cost for the clinic is $50 which includes quality lacrosse stick, ball, club t-shirt, and instruction. For updated information and registration info on this event and our 2010 season, please visit www.phantomlacrosse.org or contact Bob Mezeul at 925-425-9901.

Baseball Tryouts

New Revolution Baseball is hosting tryouts for their 11U - 16U fall tournament teams August 16th, 23rd and 30th at Max Baer Park in Livermore.

Schedule: 11U and 12U, 9 a.m. registration, 9:30 to noon tryout; 13U and 14U, noon registration, 12:30 to 3 p.m. tryout; 14U and 16U, 3 p.m. registration, 3:30 to 6 p.m. tryout.

Pre-register at http://www.newrevolutionbaseball.com/tryout_request.html. For more information email olmo.baseball@comcast.net, call at 925-548-2732 or visit www.newrevolutionbaseball.com.

Youth Sports Camp

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District still has space available for its Summer Youth Sports Camp. Registration is open now. To sign up, visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us, call 925-373-5700 or visit the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore.

Summer Youth Sports Camp (SYSC): Youth ages 5 to 11 can participate in this fun camp held at the Robert Livermore Community Center, which provides access to outdoor fields, the aquatic center and gymnasium. Campers of all ability levels are invited to join this camp that mixes traditional sports and nontraditional games to help improve coordination and cardio fitness. All-day and half-day camps are available. Campers will be divided by age group.

Prices range from $109 to $179 for a week of camp. Parents who purchase three weeks of camp can receive a fourth week free. Weeklong camps run through Aug. 14. Check out the LARPD Summer Brochure online for specific times.

Football Summit

The NFL and USA Football are holding the ninth-annual NFL-USA Football Youth Football Summit from July 28-31 in Canton, Ohio. Jim Burke of Livermore was selected earlier this year by USA Football, the sport's national governing body on youth and amateur levels, to attend and participate in this national event.

At the Summit, youth coaches from across the country hear from top football minds, like Super Bowl-winning coach Dick Vermeil. Jim will represent the Livermore area.

Leaders in the fields of sports medicine and sports psychology will present on various topics facing youth sports. Topics include steroid and supplement education, Anti-Steroid Education, heat and hydration, concussion awareness in youth sports, character development issues. Coaches also will participate in a session on performance training. Other topics at the Summit include first aid and injury prevention, recognizing talent, helping youth players to achieve their potential, handling coach-player-parent relationships and an overview of the NFL's High School Player Development Program.

Bowling News

James Murphy rolled a perfect 300 game at the Granada Bowl in Gene's Pro Shop Championship Trios. Mike Stephenson had a great set twith games of 257-289-258 for a 804 Series.

Steve Lackey rolled 61 over average with a 234 game in the Getaway Fours league and Lee Pettus was 100 pins over for a 652 series. High Scores in Gene's Pro Shop Championship Trios league included Ken DiBattista 278, Dave Erwin a 258 and Ben Sahba a 256. In the Donna's Mixers morning league, Rich Bauio rolled a 247 game and John Foscalina a 223 game.

In the Monday Primetime Seniors league, Mike Miller bowled a 198-237-192 to finish 129 over series. Jim McQuaid rolled a 256 game and Tony Giannotti a 220 game. Linda Helbacka went77 over her average with a 213 game in the Sirs & Sirettes League.

Youth Bowler Austin Stuber, in the Sunday Family Affair league, rolled a 267 game. In the Friday Family Affair league, Eric Smyth turned in a 738 series with games of 257-279-202. Matt Stephenson rolled 64 over average with a 211 game.

Free Softball Presentation

Pleasanton Phantom 14 U "A" & "B:" All players welcome for "A," PGSL players welcome for "B." Experienced high school & college level coaching at TPC Softball, 7070 Commerce Circle, Suite D, Pleasanton. Tues., Aug. 11, 7 to 8 p.m. For information please call Kim Eppard at 510-919-5459 or 925-485-9191; E-mail: kim@thepitchingcenter.com

Softball Tryouts

Tryouts for Pleasanton Phantom 14 U "A" & "B" Softball traveling teams will be held Thurs., Aug. 13, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at TPC Softball, 7070 Commerce Circle, Suite D, Pleasanton and Mon., Aug. 17, 7 to 8 p.m.

All players welcome for "A" tryouts, PGSL players welcome for "B." Experienced high school & college level coaching.

For information please call Kim Eppard at 510-919-5459 or 925-485-9191; E-mail: kim@thepitchingcenter.com.

Championship Meet

On Saturday, August 1st, at the Robert Livermore Pool, the Tri-Valley Swim League, will hold the 2009 Championship swim meet. The Robert Livemore Pool is located at 4444 East Avenue, in Livermore. Directions can be found on the League website @ http://www.trivalleyswim.us/.

The meet will feature competitors from eight teams in the League. The teams are the Briar Hill Barracudas, Club Sport Pleasanton Tidal Waves, Del Prado Stingrays, Dolores Bengston Aquatic Center Piranhas, Dublin Green Gators, FAST Dolphins, Pleasanton Meadows Sharks, and the Ruby Hill Killer Whales.

The Tri-Valley Swim League welcomes spectators supporting their neighborhood teams. Admission is free.

PURCHASE

(continued from page one)

Preserve. Protected areas on nearby Byron Airport are home to some of the last remaining rare vernal pool fairy shrimp. At this time, the Souza II property will be considered an expansion of Vasco Caves Regional Preserve and will be held in landbank until a habitat restoration project is completed.

"While it may be some time before restoration is complete and access is developed, this preserve, will eventually be a great opportunity for East Contra Costa County schools to have environmental education programs there," says Bob Doyle.

The parcel contains excellent habitat for the San Joaquin kit fox, coyote, badger, and other grassland-dependent species. Wildlife observed on the property includes Western burrowing owl, California red-legged frog, golden eagle, loggerhead shrike and other avian species. Staff has concluded that the site also contains areas suitable for wetland and grassland restoration. The District and HCP are planning to construct a 30-acre restoration project on the property in the summer/fall of 2009 which will result in ten acres of enhanced or restored seasonal wetlands.

The Souza property will also offer opportunities for public access for interpretation of its biological resources.

The partnership agreement with the HCP provides for a future District staging area and trail, the specific location to be determined during the restoration planning process.

Research May Make Coal Plants Cleaner

Separating carbon dioxide from its polluting source, such as the flue gas from a coal-fired power plant, may soon become cleaner and more efficient.

A Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory researcher has developed a screening method that would use ionic liquids - a special type of molten salt that becomes liquid under the boiling point of water (100 degrees Celsius) - to separate carbon dioxide from its source, making it a cleaner, more viable and stable method than what is currently available.

There are major efforts to reduce CO2 emissions from burning fossil fuel, but before it can be sequestered, it must first be separated from its source, a step known as "capture." This new technique could significantly enhance the efficiency of the CO2 capture process.

Currently, the few coal plants with commercial CO2 capture capability all use processes based on chemical absorption with monoethanolamine (MEA), a general-purpose solvent developed by chemists some 75 years ago. Unfortunately, it is non-selective, corrosive, requires the use of large equipment, and is effective only under low to moderate partial pressures of CO2.

The new system overcomes many of these shortcomings.

Using ionic liquids as a separation solvent has unique advantages over traditional solvents, according to LLNL scientist Amitesh Maiti, whose research appears as the cover article in a recent issue of ChemSusChem, a new journal focused on chemistry and sustainability. Advantages include high chemical stability; low corrosion; almost zero vapor pressure; supportable on membranes; and a huge library of ion choices, which can be potentially optimized for CO2 solubility.

Maiti's work involved devising a computational strategy that can reliably screen any solvent, including an ionic liquid, for high CO2 capture efficiency.

His hope is that the accuracy of the computational method will allow scientists to see useful trends, which could potentially lead to the discovery of practical solvents with significantly higher CO2 capture efficiency.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS 2490 FIRST STREET 443-SHOW

FUNNY PEOPLE (R) DLP			12:20	2:00	3:30	5:05
				6:35	8:20	9:40
ALIENS IN THE ATTIC (PG) DLP		12:10	2:20	4:35	7:00	9:10
THE COLLECTOR (R) DLP		12:30	2:40	4:50	7:15	9:50
G-FORCE 3D (PG) 3D	12:00	1:00	2:05	3:15	4:15	5:20
			6:20	7:30	8:30	9:35
THE UGLY TRUTH (R) DLP		12:05	2:25	4:55	7:20	9:55
HARRY POTTER & THE HALF BLOOD PRINCE (PG) DLP					1:10	2:10
			4:30	5:30	7:45	8:45
ICE AGE: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS 3D (PG) 3D				12:15	2:30	4:45
					6:55	9:15
TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN (PG13) DLP					12:20	
THE HANGOVER (R) DLP				4:10	6:30	9:00
THE PROPOSAL (PG13) DLP			12:40	3:55	6:45	9:20
ORPHAN (R) DLP			1:15	4:00	6:50	9:45

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THE VINE CINEMA IS NOW THE VALLEY'S ONLY MOVIE THEATRE EXCLUSIVELY SHOWING INDEPENDENT FILMS

MOON (R)
2:30 4:45 7:00 9:05
CHERI (R)
12:30 5:00
AWAY WE GO (R)
2:45 7:10 9:10
VINE CINEMA 447-2545 VineCinema.com

Sat. Night Aug. 1 @ Midnight
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
Free Movie at 12:00 NOON
KUNG FU PANDA

Livermore Downtown Inc. Presents
EVERY THURSDAY
Through October 15
4 PM - 8 PM
Carnegie Park
(Third Street between J & K St.)
Livermore Farmers' Market
Join Us Tonight At the Farmers' Market!
And don't miss out on these upcoming events:
Family Night at the Market: 8/6
Taste of Downtown: 8/8-8/9
Thirsty Thursday at Livermore Valley Plaza: 8/13
This week's Farmers' Market is brought to you by:
Livermore Downtown Inc., Pacific Coast Farmers' Market, The City of Livermore, The Independent Newspaper, Marcel Orthodontics, ValleyCare Health System/LifestyleRx, Comcast, Contreras Chiropractic, Livermore Youth Football & Cheer, and The Art of Living Foundation
For more info on this & other events, please contact
Livermore Downtown Inc. 925-373-1795
www.livermoredowntown.com

OBITUARIES

Bessie Hatton Alexander

Bessie Hatton Alexander, age 101, passed away quietly July 19, 2009 at the home of her daughter Patsy Harwood. She has been living in Livermore with Patsy for the past 6 years and has been a frequent visitor over the last 45 years. Prior to her moving to Livermore she lived in Gunnison, Utah.

Bessie was born April 26, 1908 in Provo, Utah. She attended Provo High School and Brigham Young University majoring in Physical Education and Dance. It was while attending BYU that she met and married Payton Holt Alexander. They are the parents of three daughters—Jewel Bartholomew, Patsy Harwood, and JoAnne Petersen. Their family now consists of 12 grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren and 25 great-great grandchildren.

Bessie and Payton were always dedicated to promoting educational opportunities and in lieu of flowers; Bessie would appreciate donations to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Perpetual Education Fund. Donations may be made on line at www.ldsphilanthropies.org/perpetual-education-fund.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m., August 1, 2009, at Berg Mortuary, 185 East Center Provo, Utah. Friends may visit the family at the Mortuary prior to the services beginning at 9:30 am. Burial will be at the Spanish Fork City Cemetery, Utah.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Lawrence A. Chandler

Lawrence (Larry) Chandler passed away on July 4, 2009 in Eureka, CA after a short illness. Born on October 1, 1945, Larry was 63 years old.

Larry attended Castro Valley High School and, after graduating in 1963, he joined the U.S. Air Force. When Larry was honorably discharged from the Air Force, he worked for World Airways as a mechanic. In 1974, he graduated from Chabot College and then earned his degree in Business Administration from St. Mary's College. He was hired by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory as a firefighter. During his 36 years with LLNL, he worked for 18 years in the Fire Department, eventually becoming Assistant Fire Chief, and then transferred to the LLNL Security Department as Protective Force Division Leader and then Deputy Department Head/Deputy Chief of Police. During this time, he graduated from the FBI Academy in Virginia. In his last years at the Lab, he worked as an Assurance Manager, although the true love of his career was being a firefighter.

Larry was honest, straightforward, and dependable. You always knew where you stood with Larry and he told it like it was. Yet he had a sensitive heart and a great love for his wife, Karen, and his family and enjoyed being with his friends. He was well respected at the Laboratory because of his fairness and his ever striding to advance others within the organizations in which he worked. He especially tried to promote women, being sensitive to their battle for fair pay and responsibilities. Sometimes people didn't know how to take Larry's dry sense of humor, but as they got to know him they would realize what a caring, giving person he was. After living more than 40 years in Livermore, where he raised his family and coached Little League he retired to Brookings, Oregon to enjoy his hobbies of fishing and woodworking.

Larry is survived by his wife, Karen, and children, Bret Chandler (wife Laurie), Lisa Neely (husband Dan), Devon Myers (husband Aaron) and Jody Hauger. His aunt, Anne McCullough who raised him like a son, his sister, Judy Herman (husband Ray), and his cousins Bill Barry (wife Karen) and Richard Barry (wife Connie) who he was raised with and were like brothers to him. Grandchildren Sean and Kyle Neely, Jonas, Hunter and Tatum Smith, and Kayla and Blake Chandler, also numerous nieces and nephews.

Larry was preceded in death by his mother, Doris; father, Luke; uncle, Dick Barry; and nephew, Kevin Barry.

The Memorial Service to celebrate Larry's life will be held on August 14, 2009 at 1:00 PM at Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore, with a reception to follow at 3:00 PM at Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill in Livermore.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in memory of Larry to the American Cancer Society, 7000 Village Parkway, Dublin CA 94568 or a charity of your choice.

Katrina Lupeikiene

The invasion of the Russian army during WWII forced many residents of Lithuania to leave their homes and flee to other countries. This story is about the journey Katrina Lupeikiene took out of love for her dear children.

Born Katrina Bimberaite, one of three daughters and one son born to the Bimberas family. Katrina was raised on a farm located outside of Kaunas, Lithuania. In Kaunas the Bimberas family was able to live peacefully among the other residents. Katrina spent the rest of her childhood in Kaunas. Katrina married an orchestra leader named Stasys Lupeika. They had two sons named Stasys and Alvydas. Their home was located within the heart of Kaunas.

WWII began sending shockwaves through all of Europe. As the war progressed towards Kaunas, Katrina and Veronika (younger sister) packed up food and anything that was of any value and fled Lithuania along with many others. These events began a hard and painful journey that would never be forgotten. It would also be the last time Katrina saw her parents and homeland.

The journey was done on foot with two small boys in hand. The days were spent dodging bullets and daily bombings. Nights were spent in abandoned barns or bushes. Everyone shared what food they had but still hunger loomed. A cow that was found at an abandoned farm was used to feed the children milk. Every day the group of refugees suffered losses as the bombing and artillery continued. Katrina saw, while protecting her sons, friends killed by the rampant attacks. Katrina's sister, Veronika, nearly lost her life when a bomb hit the barn they were sleeping in one night. Thankfully they survived. Eventually Katrina and her family arrived at a displaced person camp in Rosenheim, Germany. At the camp, Katrina worked as a dental assistant while caring for her sons. Ultimately they were approved to migrate to the U.S. Katrina, her sons, and her sister arrived in the United States during Christmas 1949 Aboard the General R.M. Blatchford.

Katrina and her sons were relocated to Gary, Indiana where they lived with their sponsor until they could afford to live on their own. Katrina found a job working as a manager of medical supplies at St. Mary's Mercy Hospital.

Katrina's sons became naturalized citizens, got married and raised children. Katrina's oldest son, Stanley, followed in his father's footsteps and became an orchestra leader by night and worked for Mountain Bell by day. Katrina's youngest son, Walt, went off to college and became a C.P.A. In 1977 Walt opened his own accounting practice in Pleasanton. Meanwhile Katrina continued to live in Gary.

After Katrina retired she moved to California and had the joy of babysitting her grandchildren while being active in the Livermore Senior Center and helping Walt in his business. Katrina remained spunky until her passing on July 23, 2009. She was surrounded by her family.

She loved to cook, gab and entertain friends and family. She will be deeply missed.

Katrina is survived by two sons, Stanley and hsi wife June and Walter and his fiancee Annette. She is also survived by eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held July 30, 3:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore.

Contributions in her memory can be made to Hope Hospice.

JoAnn Murphy

JoAnn Murphy passed away peacefully, after a courageous battle with cancer, on July 24, 2009. Her loving family was close by.

JoAnn was born in Alameda, on September 3, 1933 to Gardner and Bernice Wilcox. She lived her entire life in California. JoAnn was such a gracious lady. Family and friends will always remember her remarkable beauty, elegance, character and strength, which served her well throughout her life and in her final days. JoAnn enjoyed many activities in her community whether it was a bridge marathon or a Red Hat excursion. She had such a talent for floral arranging and cherished her beautiful garden.

She is survived by her daughters, Christine West (Alan), Linda Marshall (Phil), Theresa Clephan (Simon), sisters Nanette Pigeon, Marlene Northam, grandchildren Brandon, Patrick and Mindy West, Phillip and Cory Marshall, Christian Clephan and great grandson Colton West.

The family wishes to thank the nurses at Hope Hospice who cared for her with such kindness and love.

A celebration of her life will be held Saturday, August 1, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel at Cornerstone Fellowship, 348 North Canyon Parkway, Livermore. In lieu of flowers the family requests contributions to Hope Hospice or the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Donald Uliana

Donald passed away on July 27, 2009 after a valiant 10-year battle with Leukemia, at Valley Memorial Hospital. He was 77; a Korean veteran who died on National Korean Veteran's Armistice Day and was a member of the Society of 3rd Infantry Division.

He was born in Pleasanton on Dec. 25, 1931 to Angelo Uliana of Osigo, Italy and Amelia Uliana. He was a lifelong resident of Livermore and attended St. Michael's School and Livermore High School. According to a close friend, he was always the instigator.

Don was employed as a construction worker in his father's business and donated services for a foundation at what is now the Bothwell Center on 8th St.

Don ultimately became Captain of the Alameda County Fire Department in Livermore and later retired from the Livermore School District.

Don is survived by his fiancé, the love of his life for 17 years; Arlene Casareto, sisters Sara Laughlin and Bernice Mingoia, both of Livermore. Don is also survived by many nieces, nephews, step-nieces, step-nephews and cousins, all of whom were very dear to him.

Don was a man who, along with Arlene and friends enjoyed the pleasures of both domestic and international travel, via air, sea or land. He loved watching old movies, playing cards, board games and was a history buff. He was a member of the NSGW, NRA and the Livermore Rodeo Association.

Family and friends are invited to attend a Rosary for Don on Thursday July 30 at 7 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary 3833 East Ave. Livermore. Mass of the resurrection will be held on Friday July 31 at 10 a.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore with burial to follow at St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery, 3885 East Ave., Livermore.

In lieu of flowers the family respectfully requests memorial donations in Don's name be made to the American Cancer Society, 7000 Village Pkwy, Ste. E, Dublin CA 94568

Jacqueline Arlene Weil Rose

A bright star in our universe has gone out. On July 25, 2009 at 8:36 p.m., Jackie Rose died suddenly of a brain aneurysm in Modesto, CA.

Jackie was born on Nov. 28, 1948 in Grand Rapids, MI to Jack and Jean Weil, their second daughter. In July 1951 Jackie, her sister Marita and their parents moved to San Francisco, where in early 1952 their third daughter, Kathy, was born.

In June of 1962 her family moved to Livermore. Her parents opened "Jack's Do-nut Wheel" located at 2017- 1st Street. All three girls and Jean's sister, Bev, worked in the Donut shop. Jackie worked after school but sometimes she was late for work because she had to cruise up and down 1st street. You could see her most afternoons driving her '56 Ford from Foster Freeze to the A&W drive-in.

Jackie graduated from Granada High School in 1966. She was in the first graduating class from Granada, a new high school in Livermore. She was the first person to receive her diploma because she was only 4'10" and everyone went in order of their height.

Jackie and Bill Rose were married for 30 years. They met in Livermore. It was love at first sight. They were both completely devoted to each other. Bill was at her side when she passed and will miss her more deeply then words can say.

They raised three wonderful children together, son David and two daughters Tracy and Chrissy.

Jackie and Bill had lived in Portland and Kaizer, Oregon for 17 years and just last year moved back to California, settling in Modesto. Jackie was so happy to be back here as was her family.

Jackie loved listening to country music, mostly Patsy Cline and Elvis Presley. She also loved to read, cook and get together with her family but most of all spending time with her grandchildren.

Jackie is survived by her grandmother, F. Marie Fuller of Golden, MO who will be 98 in Dec., her parents Jack and Jean Weil of Sacramento, her sisters Marita (Don) Lovegren of Elk Grove, CA and Kathy (C. Gordon) Austin of Manteca, CA and sister-in-law Gloria (Larry) Simon of Portland, OR. Her children: David (Tami) Rose of Keizer, OR, Tracy (Kristin) Thomsen of Tracy, CA and Chrissy (Bill) Alley of Vancouver WA and her 9 grandchildren: Summer and Chelsea Rose, Taylor, Krista, T.J. and Kendyl Thomsen and Billy, Kyla and Bailey Alley.

Both her grandfathers, her grandmother, Rita Weil, her nephew, (Buster) Tommy Thomsen and a great-niece, Amanda Nicole Austin, preceded Jackie in death.

Friends and family are invited to attend a graveside committal service at 10 a.m. at the Tracy Public Cemetery, 600 E Schulte Rd Tracy, CA 95376. A memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 101 Berverdor, Tracy, CA.

Ask Kathleen

Kathleen Minser
Waste Reduction Specialist offers advice about the 4R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot (Compost)

Q I always thought that plastic grocery bags can go in our recycling cart.
Someone just informed me this is not true?

A Plastic bags cannot go into the recycling cart as they get tangled up in the machines during the sorting process.
You can help to reduce the amount of plastic that ends up in landfills with these simple ideas: **1**) Reuse plastic bags and carefully-opened plastic packaging to secure pet waste and other messy garbage or reuse as cushioning for shipping.
2) Recycle clean, dry plastic bags and other accepted plastic packaging at local retailers.
3) Dispose of soiled/unwanted plastic wrapping in Garbage carts.

Send your questions today!
Askkathleen@wm.com

U.S. Mail: Ask Kathleen
Waste Management
6175 Southfront Road
Livermore, CA 94551

WM WASTE MANAGEMENT
(925) 447-1300
www.wm.com

From everyday collection to environmental protection, Think Green.® Think Waste Management®

SHORT NOTES

Senior Trips

Senior Services of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District has day trips still available in late summer. These Venture Trips offer transportation to and from the destination in LARPD vans or charter buses if a large number of participants sign up.

Day trips with space still available in August will travel to the History Park of San Jose and Fallon House and to the Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology. The History Park of San Jose and Fallon House trip will run from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 11. The trip will include visiting 27 original and reproduction homes that highlight Santa Clara Valley's past on a docent-lead tour. Participants can bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at Kelley Park and then tour the Peralta Adobe and Fallon House to glimpse what life was like in the early 1900s. Cost of this trip is $46. The trip to the Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15. Spend a day in Berkeley at the museum that houses the oldest and largest anthropological collection in the western United States. Founded in 1901, the museum promotes the understanding of the history and diversity of human cultures. Cost of this trip is $34.

A newly added trip for August will feature a trip to the Raymond Burr Winery and Orchid Ranch. This day trip to Healdsburg is $50 for residents and $53 for nonresidents. The trip runs from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26.

September day trips still taking sign-ups are "Wicked" in San Francisco and Santa Cruz Follies. Join LARPD to see "Wicked" in San Francisco from 10:15 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9. The trip to see this popular musical production costs $120. Enjoy a day of entertainment with Santa Cruz Follies. The Santa Cruz Follies have been entertaining people for more than 50 years with a blend of music, comedy and dance. This year's theme is "That's Entertainment." This trip runs from 9:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16. Cost is $59.

For more information or to sign up for these trips, call the Senior Services office at 925-373-5760. Non-seniors (under age 50) are welcome if space is available. Registration for fall Venture Trips will start on Aug. 29, available that day from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Registration for fall trips will continue on Aug. 31 during regular business hours.

Events for Schools

The following events are planned to help funds for the I Love Pleasanton Schools campaign:

Saturday, August 1: Stoneridge Mall is hosting a Gear up for School event on Saturday, August 1, 1 p.m. in the Grand Court. Enjoy a fashion show, makeovers by Sephora, crafts, airbrush tattoo and caricature artists, education expo, and a Cheesecake Walk benefitting PPIE. Buy a $5 ticket for a "walk" to win one of 50 prizes from the The Cheesecake Factory. Tickets for the The Cheesecake Walk will go on sale at 12 noon near the stage, and the walk will follow the fashion show at 1:45 p.m.

Saturday, August 1: Eat at The Hopyard on Saturday, August 1, and 20% of all sales from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. will go to ILPS! You must present the flyer in order for schools to receive the donation. There will also be a silent auction throughout the day.

Thursday, August 6: Evening at Ruby Hill Winery to benefit I Love Pleasanton Schools 7 - 9 p.m., in the Ruby Hill Winery Tasting Room, 400 Vineyard Blvd, Pleasanton. Tickets are $20 per person. Your evening will include wine tasting; hors d'oeuvres, live music, 10% off purchases, a drawing, and fun! For tickets, contact Heather Pereira at hshedd@yahoo.com. Please write Ruby Hill in the subject line of your email.

Saturday, August 8: Business in downtown Pleasanton will host an

(continued on page 10)

My granddaughter visits me regularly at Rosewood Gardens, now that I live closer to my family. I am happier now that I have the freedom to live on my own and have my family visit.

Life is good ....
for residents at Rosewood Gardens.

The Alzheimer's Association
and
Rosewood Gardens
Presents:

Maximizing Your Memory

Concerned about your memory? Join us and learn how to tell the difference between normal age related memory loss and dementia. You will also learn tips and strategies for improving memory.

Tuesday • August 4, 2009
6pm

Rosewood GARDENS
Assisted Living

(925) 443-7200
35 Fenton Street
Livermore, CA 94550
www.rosewoodgardenseniorliving.com
Lic# 015601306

SHORT NOTES

(continued from page 9)

old-fashioned street carnival on Saturday, August 8, 5 - 9 p.m. Lots of fun things are planned including games, competitions, and crafts. Watch for details about ticket presales and planned activities. If you would like to help, email mail@ppie.org.

Sunday, August 9: A $125 donation entitles you to one outdoor mini photo session (of your little ones or family) and one 8x10 photo. $120 of your donation will go directly to the ILPS campaign. Contact Lori & Shawnee at (925) 699-4849 or mailto:poshpreschoolportraits@gmail.com poshpreschoolportraits@gmail.com.

Tuesday, August 11, and Wednesday, August 12: Papa Murphy's Pizza in Pleasanton has generously offered two more nights of fundraising to help raise money for the I Love Pleasanton Schools effort! Order a pizza on August 11 or 12, and 35% of total proceeds will go to PPIE for the ILPS drive.

Visit the website at www.ilovepleasantonschools.com for lots more information.

For more information on how you can host a party or any fundraising effort, please contact the PPIE office at mail@ppie.org.

Make a Comic Book

Learn how to make a comic book or start a graphic novel on Saturday, August 1, at 3:00 p.m. in the Dublin Library Program Room. Oliver Chin, professional comic artist, accomplished author and columnist for Comics Buyer's Guide, will teach teens how to create their own stories, draw fantastic characters and put them together a comic book. This workshop is free. For more information, call the Information Desk at (925) 803-7275.

The Dublin Library, a branch of the Alameda County Library system, is located at 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. For questions or information, call the library at (925) 803-7275. The library is wheelchair accessible.

Creepy Critters

Creepy Critters is the theme of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger on Sat., Aug. 1.

Meet Ranger Darren Segur at 2 p.m. at Veterans Park.

Many people come out to the park to enjoy the wildlife, but there are those who avoid coming for the same reason. If you fall into the latter category, then the LARPD ranger staff urges you to embrace your fears and come meet some of the more "infamous" park residents. This program will explore the roles these critters play in the ecosystem and what to do when you encounter them. Once you understand these misunderstood critters, you will find there is no reason to fear them at all. This program is recommended for ages 5 and older.

There is a $4 per vehicle parking fee. A $2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Staycation Packages

The Concerts at Wente Vineyards has announced "Staycation Packages" for select 2009 concert dates. This special includes 4 Mezzanine Dining Tickets to any one of the concerts listed below, a bottle of Wente Vineyards Estate Grown Wine, and reserved VIP parking, for the inclusive price of $399 (with no additional fees). For more information please visit: http://www.wentevineyards.com/concerts/lineup/

Qualifying concerts include: Gretchen Wilson, Monday, August 3; Diana Krall, Thursday, August 13; Elvis Costello, Wednesday, August 19; and Chris Isaak, Thursday, August 27.

The Concerts raise money for Livermore Valley Education Foundation's (LVEF) "Save Our Music Through Song" program with live auctions of collectible three liter bottles of Wente Vineyards Charles Wetmore Cabernet Sauvignon signed by performing artists. LVEF uses these much needed funds to purchase instruments and equipment for local school music programs. At the end of the 2008 concert season, cumulative donations from The Concerts at Wente Vineyards reached $150,000.

Tickets can be purchased along with club memberships from the Wente Vineyards Box Office at (925) 456-2424 or online at www.ticketmaster.com. Wente Vineyards is located at 5050 Arroyo Road, four miles south of the town of Livermore. Concert gates open at 6:00 pm, and all shows start at 8:15 pm.

Business Classes, Etc.

Las Positas College Business Department's has a new website, new classes, and new options to fit any schedule.

"In the current economy, we are seeing an unprecedented demand for resources from the community," says faculty member Lisa Weaver, Las Positas College Business Department Coordinator and Economic Development Contact. She notes that Business has the highest enrollment of all Las Positas College degree and transfer programs. Business classes are available on campus, online, and on weekends. New courses, resources, and options include:

• Small Business Management, online. Providing Tri-Valley businesses tools for achieving optimum benefits from limited resources is the goal of this course. Management, financing, e-commerce, and marketing, along with the regulatory issues encountered by start-up businesses are examined.

• Introduction to QuickBooks, online, with faculty member Robert D'Elena.

• Fast-track hybrid classes such as Business Correspondence and Business Communications.

• One-day Saturday classes in the Supervisory Program: Dealing with Difficult People, Team Building, and Successful Performance Appraisals.

• A new website, which is a one-stop guide helping entrepreneurs successfully start, run, and grow their businesses: www.entrepreneurialhelp.com

For registration information, call (925) 424-1554 or go online at www.laspositascollege.edu Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

Puppet Adventures

The Livermore Public Library will be presenting Puppet Art Theater's zany family shows "Tale of the Dragon's Tail" and "Tommy's Pirate Adventure" on August 5, as part of the library's Summer Reading Game, "Be Creative @ Your Library."

The award-winning Puppet Art Theater performs hundreds of live performances each year throughout California. In "Tale of the Dragon's Tail," Princess Penny's reaction to the dragon scare could save the king—and his gold. In "Tommy's Pirate Adventure," a normal boy's dream comes true when he—and his dog Fifi—meet real pirates.

Both performances will take place Wednesday, August 5th at the Livermore Public Library. "Tale of the Dragon's Tail" will be presented at 10:30am at the Springtown branch, located at 998 Bluebell Drive; "Tommy's Pirate Adventure" will be performed at 2:30pm at the Rincon branch, at 725 Rincon Avenue. The free programs will take place outside, with the audience to be seated on tarps. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early for best parking and viewing opportunities, and to bring appropriate sun gear.

The Livermore Public Library's "Be Creative @ Your Library" Summer Reading Game is a free program for all young people and their families. The Summer Reading Game ends August 15, 2009. Click on the Summer Reading Game link from the Livermore Public Library's web site www.livermore.lib.ca.us or call 373-5504 for more information.

Immunization Clinics

Axis Community Health will hold free summer immunization clinics for children on Saturday mornings, August 1 and September 12 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. The clinics will take place at Axis' Pleasanton Clinic only, located at 4361 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

Saturday Immunization clinics are open to all Tri-Valley families who are low income or uninsured, including those enrolled in Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal Managed Care. Parents should bring child's immunization records and information about family income and medical insurance. There is a fee for some immunizations.

Immunization appointments are also available at (925) 462-1755.

Goldrush Dance

The country dance team Goldrush whirls into town to perform at the Pleasanton library on Wednesday, August 5.

Fresh from an exhibition performance at this year's National Square Dance Festival, this group of young dancers in their teen's and twenties will demonstrate the new face of square, round and line dancing with their own unique routines and styles. Goldrush performs at 2:00 pm for about 45 minutes. The program is free and is suggested for those age 5 and older.

This event is part of the library's ongoing 2009 summer reading game, Tales of the Old West, which runs through August 7. Children of all ages sign up at the library to record time spent reading (or being read to), and claim fun prizes for their efforts.

For more information about the reading game or upcoming summer programs, check the library's website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library/programs-events-child.html, or call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 ext. 8.

Kelsey's Story

(Printed with permission of Jim Ott; submitted by Ron Hyde, We B Carin' Chairman – Pleasanton North Rotary Club)

This is the story of a young girl named Kelsey Ott, age 13, a girl with a great heart whose compassion, caring and selflessness could be a model for us all. As you read this, Kelsey is recovering at the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford after receiving a life-saving kidney transplant. So far her surgeons are ecstatic that the replacement organ, donated by her maternal aunt Theresa, seems to be a perfect match. You should know that Kelsey is a young child for whom hospitals have become common in her life as she endured a heart transplant at the age of 3 and a spinal fusion at the age of 10. She is small for her age but has a spirit that is indomitable and she is cute as a button.

Kelsey's dad, Jim, is a Charter member of the Pleasanton North Rotary Club, (hereinafter referred to as PNR). In PNR there is a "We B Carin'" program to send cards, letters, gifts and whatnot to those members or their families who need help and/or support for whatever reason. PNR members wanted to do something special for Kelsey and give her something that she really really wanted. Her stepmom Pam was contacted and as we had surmised, Kelsey had already received enough stuffed animals to compete with FAO Schwartz and enough pencils, pens, pads and drawing materials to last her through college. Pam was asked to have a thoughtful conversation with Kelsey to see what she would really like in way of support from the Club. After much discussion, Kelsey announced that what would make her feel really good, and what she really wanted was for the members of PNR to make a donation in her name toward the "I Love Pleasanton Schools" campaign. Kelsey was concerned that some of her teachers may not have their jobs back and she wanted to help them.

At the PNR meeting this past Friday, Club members were given an update on Kelsey's condition and made aware of her wish. Within five minutes the members and the Club Foundation, donated $2500 to fulfill to her wishes.

You can keep the spirit of this young lady moving through our Community by making a tax-deductible donation to PPIE. Any checks received with the name of Kelsey or Kelsey Ott will go into that column to make her wishes come true.

Donation may be made online at www.ppie.org. Click on "DONATE NOW" on the home page. Or, you can mail your check to PPIE, 333 Division Street, Pleasanton, CA, 94566. For more information, visit the website www.ilovepleasantonschools.com or email PPIE at

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com

LEGAL NOTICES

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

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426215
The following person(s) doing business as:Dog Gone Digital, 995 Kottinger Dr., Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Rachael Lauricella Shaffer, 995 Kottinger Dr., Pleasanton Ca 94566
Reginald D. Shaffer, 995 Kottinger Dr., Pleasanton Ca 94566
This business is conducted by:Husband and wife
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Rachael Lauricella Shaffer
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 23, 2009. Expires June 23, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2525. Publish July 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426521
The following person(s) doing business as:Elegant Solutions Nutrition, 3385 Dublin Blvd. #106, Dublin CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
John Michael Zukoski, 3385 Dublin Blvd #106, Dublin CA 94568
This business is conducted by:an Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:John M. Zukoski
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 30, 2009. Expires June 30, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2526. Publish July 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426528
The following person(s) doing business as:AB Trading, 826 Los Alamos Ave., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Yenifer Yang, 826 Los Alamos Ave., 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 November 12, 2008.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Yenifer Yang
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 30, 2009. Expires June 30, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2527. Publish July 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426109
The following person(s) doing business as:Box T Productions, 1880 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Teri Tith, 1880 S. Livermore Ave., 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 June 1, 2009.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Teri Tith
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 19, 2009. Expires June 19, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2528. Publish July 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 425945
The following person(s) doing business as:1 West Publications, 260 South Sea Way, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Kenneth B. Murphy, 260 South Sea Way, Livermore Ca 94550
Susan D. Murphy, 260 South Sea Way, Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by:Husband and wife
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on May 25, 2009.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Kenneth B. Murphy
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 16, 2009. Expires June 16, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2529. Publish July 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426320
The following person(s) doing business as:GoToMarket Consulting, 3004 Lusitana Drive, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Jeffrey P. Wolf, 3004 Lusitana Drive, 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 May 18, 2009.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Jeffrey P. Wolf
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 25, 2009. Expires June 25, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2530. Publish July 16, 23, 30, August 6, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426547
The following person(s) doing business as:Buckeye Springs Ranch, 12450 Del Valle Rd., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Robert J. Frerking, 12450 Del Valle Rd., Livermore Ca 94550
Laura Ann Frerking, 12450 Del Valle Rd., Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by:Husband and wife
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Robert J. Frerking and Laura A. Frerking
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 1, 2009. Expires July 1, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2531. Publish July 16, 23, 30, August 6, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426293
The following person(s) doing business as:U-Otta Travel, 1380 El Dorado Dr., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Stacy Taylor, 1380 El Dorado Dr., 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 May 30, 2009.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Stacy Taylor
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 24, 2009. Expires June 24, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2532. Publish July 16, 23, 30, August 6, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426697
The following person(s) doing business as:Honkytonk Productions, 1488 Arlington Rd., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Edward J. Hall, 1488 Arlington Rd., Livermore Ca 94551
This business is conducted by:an Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Edward J. Hall
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 7, 2009. Expires July 7, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2534. Publish July 16, 23, 30, August 6, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426943
The following person(s) doing business as:Cab United (CU), 617 East Angela St., Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Bahman Ganjei, 617 East Angela, 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 July 14, 2009.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Gahman Ganjei
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 14, 2009. Expires July 14, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2535. Publish July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426604
The following person(s) doing business as:Mix Construction, 1041 Florence Rd., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Jack Mix, 1041 Florence Rd., Livermore Ca 94550
This business is conducted by:an Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Jack Mix
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 2, 2009. Expires July 2, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2538. Publish July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 427056
The following person(s) doing business as:Little MadFish, 4480 Tassajara Rd., Ste B, Dublin Ca 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Keyway Pacific, Inc., 30 Hurst Ct., San Ramon Ca 94583
This business is conducted by:a Corporation
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Key Bahk
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 17, 2009. Expires July 17, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2539. Publish July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426971
The following person(s) doing business as:New Heights Training Stables, LLC., 7149 Dublin Meadows St., #B, Dublin Ca 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
New Heights Training Stables, LLC., 7149 Dublin Meadows St., #B, Dublin Ca 94568
This business is conducted by:a Limited liability company
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on January 1st, 2007.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Jennifer L. Acord
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 15, 2009. Expires July 15, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2540. Publish July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426782
The following person(s) doing business as:Dream Weaver, 3693 Virgin Islands Ct., Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Ben Breazeale, 3693 Virgin Islands Ct., Pleasanton Ca 94588
This business is conducted by:an Individual
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Benjamin F. Breazeale
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 8, 2009. Expires July 8, 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2541. Publish July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 426906
The following person(s) doing business as:Little Caesars, 7387 Village Parkway, Dublin Ca 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
SMS Business Enterprises, Inc., 1888 Paprika Dr., Brentwood Ca 94513
This business is conducted by:a Corporation
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.
Signature of Registrant:
/s/:Kiran Nagpal
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 13, 2009. Expires July 813 2014.
The Independent Legal No. 2542. Publish July 30, August 6, 13, 20, 2009.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ANTENNA CELL SITE AT LIVERMORE VA

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) INTENDS TO ESTABLISH A SHARING AGREEMENT WITH METROPCS ALLOWING USE OF PART OF A ROOFTOP FOR INSTALLATION OF CELL ANTENNAS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

The Department of Veterans Affairs has unused space on its Livermore rooftop facility. MetroPCS is proposing to pay the VA for the use of space on the roof for a MetroPCS equipment shelter and 2 to 4 cell antennas. An Agreement is being considered to allow MetroPCS to use the space for possibly 5 years, maybe more, but for no more that a total of 10 years.

Comments from the public must be received by 5:00 PM PST August 7, 2009 and can be sent via U.S. mail or email to:

Contracting Officer: Terrence Nelson
Address: 5342 Dudley Blvd, McClellan Park, Sacramento 95652
Phone: (916) 923-4513
Email: terrence.nelson@va.gov

Please note: This notice is for comments and is not a solicitation for offers, nor is it a request for proposals.
The Independent Legal No. 2520. Publish July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NO. (Numero dell Caso): VG08425425

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (Aviso Al Demandado):
RANDOLPH A. HINTZEN, and Does 1 to 25

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (Lo Esta Demandando El Demandante):
ALEX YIANNAKOPOLOUS

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.
Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org),en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.
The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es):
ALAMEDA COUNT SUPERIOR COURT 1225 FALLON STREET ALAMEDA, CA 94612
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
AARON R. FELDMAN (SBN 105692) FELDMAN LAW GROUP 3236 STONE VALLEY ROAD, Suite 220 ALAMO, CA 94507 925 314-0630

DATE:(Fecha) December 15, 2008
By: PAT SWEETEN Clerk:(Secretario) A. MENDOLA Deputy:(Adjunto)

NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED:
You are served as an individual defendant.
The Independent Legal No. 2536. Publish July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2009

SUMMONS Case No. 34867 Dept. No. 1

R. LINDSAY WATERMAN, Plaintiff JUAN MANUEL SALGADO MONTIEL, Defendant.

THE STATE OF NEVADA SENDS GREETINGS TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:
You are hereby **SUMMONED** and required to serve upon the plaintiff, R. LINDSAY WATERMAN, whose address is 9375 Stoney Creek Way, Reno, NV 89506, an **ANSWER** to the Complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after service of this Summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. In addition, you must file with the Clerk of this Court, whose address is shown below, a formal written answer to the complaint, along with the appropriate filing fees, in accordance with the rules of the Court. If you fail to do so, judgement by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. This action is brought to recover a judgement dissolving the contract of marriage existing between you and the Plaintiff.
The filer certifies that this document does not contain the social security number of any person.
The name and address of the court is:
STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CHURCHILL PO BOX 1031 TONOPAH, NV 89049

DATE: May 19, 2009 KELLY HELTON Clerk of the Court LENA MCQUEEN Deputy Clerk

The Independent Legal No. 2537 Publish July 23, 30, August 6, 13, 2009.

ANIMALS

1) CATS/DOGS

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

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

FOUND AN ANIMAL? FREE SECTION. Call Barbara 925 243-8000!

6)LOST

LOST DOG
Have You Seen Him
Male Pomeranian/Chihuahua 8lbs. Fawn color/fluffy. Family pet lost since Wednesday Livermore.
Please Call 925 321-0334

AUTOS/BOATS/RV'S/TRUCKS

10)AUTOS WANTED

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

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

SELL YOUR USED CAR HERE. Call Barbara at 925-243-8000
0R **www.independentnews.com Pay by Credit Card for any Classified or Display ads.**

EMPLOYMENT

56) ADULT CARE

CAREGIVERS
NEEDED for elder care. Light housekeeping errands transportation meal prep personal care.

Automotive Sales People Wanted
We need 10 people who want to make 100K in the next 12 months. Experienced preferred but will train the right people. $6,000 guarantee for the 1st 90 days for training.
Call or apply online. 925-294-7700, www.livermoreautogroup.com

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com

Please fax resume
925 371-8118

60) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

ALL CASH VENDING! Be Your Own Boss! Your Own Local Vending Route. Includes 25 Machines and Candy for $9,995. Multi-Vend LLC, 1-888-625-2405. (CAL*SCAN)

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

71) HELP WANTED

Opportunity Knocking
Auto Sales
Self-Motivated
Easy Schedule
No Experience Needed
Will Train!
Benefits
Apply Within
Or Online @
LivermoreAutoGroup.com
Call Parm or Ravi @
(925) 294-7700
Ford / Lincoln / Mercury

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS WANTED
for Senior Home Health Care Must Have Experience
Senior Solutions, Inc.
925 443-3101

CABLE LINE INSTALLER Job in growth industry. Paid training, great benefits, vacation. No experience needed. HS grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (CAL*SCAN)

ELECTRONICS PAID TRAINING. Gain skills. Medical/dental, 30 days vacation/ year $ for school. No experience OK. H.S. grads ages 17-34. Call Mon-Fri 1-800-345-6289. (CAL*SCAN)

JOBS FOR FELONS. There really are jobs available for felons. Download your Free ex-con employment guide now at www.felon-jobs.org (CAL*SCAN)

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS! California Army National Guard. No Experience. Paid training. High School Jr/ Sr & Grads/ GED. May qualify for $15,000 BONUS. www.NationalGuard.com/Careers or 1-800-Go-Guard. (CAL*SCAN)

ATTENTION: International Wellness Company Expanding ONLINE COMPUTER WORK! Work from anywhere 24/7. Great pay. Will train. Request info online: www.KTPGlobal.com or 1-800-330-8446. (CAL*SCAN)

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD
call Barbara 925 243-8000
or go on-line at
www.independentnews.com Also available pay by Credit Card for Classified and Display Ads.

72) HELP WANTED/DRIVERS

CLASSIFIEDS

****

Reaches over 45,893 Homes and over 3,225 Local Businesses mailed Home Delivery in Livermore Pleasanton & Sunol Call Barbara 925 243-8000

85)SERVICES

CARE PROVIDER-for adult residential care facility. Residents are between the ages of 18 & 58 with specail needs. A willingness to be flexible with hours as needed--includes mornings, evening and weekend as needed. Includes problem solving, charting analysis, communication skills, grooming of residents, household cooking and cleaning. Contact 925-461-7477 between the hours of 9-5.

MERCHANDISE

118) FREE/GIVEAWAY

GOT OLD JUNK FREE/GIVEAWAY SECTION
Call 925 243-8000 Barbara

FREE ITEMS 14ft Skylark Sailboat. All Running Gear but No Sails or Trailer. Call 925 447-3857

121)ESTATE/GARAGE/YARD SALES

August 1st(SAT) 9AM~2PM
418 Mission Dr. Pleasanton
Lots of Toys, Furniture, Household
GameCube & PlayStation, Video Games

RAIN OR SHINE! Call Barbara 925-243-8000 or go to **www.independentnews.com** before 8am Tuesdays to get your ad in for the next edition.

125)HOUSEHOLD GOODS

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

127) LOST/FOUND

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

130)MISC FOR SALE

Used Chain Link Gate 13'4" Wide x 4' Tall with Hinged Mounting Post and Hardware to Attach to Swing Gate Operator Elite CSW-200-UL

Call 925-872-1321
$250 or BO

Heavy Duty Electric Automatic Gate Opener, Swing Type
Model Elite CSU-200-UL
Good Working Order
Call Lynn 925-872-1321
$400 or BO

NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

151)ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

155)NOTICES

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

REAL ESTATE

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

157)APT/CONDOS/HOUSE/TOWNHOUSE/RENTAL

GOT A HOUSE FOR RENT? Let the 49,119+ households that read the Independent find out about it. . To place an ad go to **www.independentnews.com** or call Barbara at 925 243-8000

160)BOAT/RV and RETAIL

LOOKING FOR RETAIL OR STORAGE SPACE?
Great Location Off Hwy 580
On Kitty Hawk Road
For Details Email:
Pmatharu@lagmail.net

165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENTALS TO SHARE

RENT YOUR EMPTY LIVING SPACE By Advertising with The Independent reaching over 49,119 homes and businesses with your ad placement. Call Barbara 925 243-8000

170)LAND FOR SALE/OUT OF STATE

20 ACRE RANCH FORECLOSURES Near Booming El Paso, Texas. Up to 40% Discount $0 Down. Take over payments $159/month! Beautiful Views. Owner Financing. Free Maps/Pictures. 800-343-9444. (CAL*SCAN)

SERVICES

176)BUSINESS SERVICES

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING in 240 Cal-SCAN newspapers for the best reach, coverage, and price. 25-words $450. Reach 6 million Californians! FREE email brochure.Call (916) 288-6019 www.Cal-SCAN.com

DISPLAY ADVERTISING in 140 Cal-SCAN newspapers statewide for $1,550! Reach over 3 million Californians! FREE email brochure. Call (916) 288-6019. www.Cal-SCAN.com (CAL*SCAN)

NEWS RELEASE? Cost-efficient service. The California Press Release Service has 500 current daily, weekly and college newspaper contacts in California. FREE email brochure. Call (916) 288-6010. www.CaliforniaPressReleaseService.com (CAL*SCAN)

180)FINANCIAL SERVICES

AMERICAN TAX RELIEF. Settle IRS Back Taxes * Do You Owe Over $15,000? If So...Call us Now! * Free Consultation *. For Less Than What You Owe! Stop Wage Garnishments! Remove Bank Levies Tax Levies & Property Seizures! Stop Payment Plans That Get you Nowhere! Settle State and Business Payroll Tax Problems Eliminate Penalties, Interest Charges & Tax Liens! * Settle IRS Back Taxes * No Obligation! Confidential! Call American Tax Relief 1-800-496-9891 * Free Consultation * (CAL*SCAN)

CREDIT CARD RELIEF. *Free Consultation * Save Thousands of Dollars. Out of Debt in Months! Avoid Bankruptcy! Credit Card Relief. NOT A High Priced Consolidation Company or A Consumer Credit Counseling Program. Call Credit Card Relief 1-866-479-5353. * Free Consultation * (CAL*SCAN)

182)HAULING/YARD SERVICES

DARRELL'S - YARD CLEAN UP AND HAULING SERVICE
Pick Up and Delivery and Moving - **FREE ESTIMATES**
925 339-0090

187)HOME SERVICES

Housekeeping Services, provided by Maria, In the area of Livermore and surrounding areas. For more info: Please call (925) 371-1318

190)POOL SERVICES

POOL SERVICE

SPARKLE POOL
Weekly Pool & Spa Maint .
Equipment
Install & Repair
Pool Inspections
925-577-7111
License #537418

195)SCHOOLS/EDUCATION

HEAVY EQUIPMENT TRAINING. Learn to operate bulldozer, backhoe, loader, motor grader, excavator. Job placement assistance.
Call 888-210-4534. Northern California College of Construction. www.HEAVY4.com promcode: NCPA1. (CAL*SCAN)

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED ADS ONLINE / CALL-IN
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Distressed Property Experts

By Cher Wollard

The amount of "distressed" property for sale in the Tri-Valley has fallen markedly over the past few months, but such properties still represent a significant portion of the real estate market.

Many Realtors are obtaining specialized training in short sales and foreclosures, so they can better serve both their clients.

Natalie Swanson and Mony Nop of Windermere Welcome Home in Livermore recently attended a two-day seminar to earn their Certified Distressed Property Expert (CDPE) designations.

"I learned how incredibly important it is to learn how to do a short sale properly," Swanson said. "We're now in a lull in the subprime mess, but if you can't handle a short sale, you can't help half of your clients."

Approximately 8,000 real estate professionals, including agents, assistants, escrow officers and mortgage specialists, have completed training offered by the Distressed Property Institute.

Thousands more hold similar designations from other institutes. Certified Short-Sale Professional (CSP) and Certified Foreclosure Specialist (CFS) designations are offered through online and home-study courses.

All these designations are relatively new.

Michael Swift of J. Rockcliff Realtors in Pleasanton, who is both CSP and CSF certified, started handling short sales when he first became a Realtor in 1991, during another low point in the real estate market.

"I took a lot of classes, read every book I could. Then it was trial and error. I ended up doing a lot of short sales. I was eventually recruited by another brokerage to be their short sale specialist and train other agents."

Once the market rebounded, short sales became far less common.

"Now, here we are back in it again," he said. "It's a little different this time, though. More lenders are doing short sales than before. They don't want all these foreclosures on their books."

All three Realtors agreed that specialized training is valuable. Dealing with banks in getting approval for a short sale, for example, requires extra diligence.

Short sale packets required by banks before they will even consider approving a short sale can be 60 pages long.

"You have to be organized. You have to do it right the first time," Swanson said.

Nop outlined the steps of an initial meeting between a Realtor and a client who needs to sell but owes more than the property is worth, and may be behind in their payments.

1. Make sure the homeowner qualifies for a short sale.

Lenders will generally only allow a short sale in hardship situations, such as illness, divorce, loss of job or if people must sell because they are being transferred out of the area by their employer.

Simply being "upside down" on the mortgage – meaning the house is worth less than you owe on it – is not sufficient justification for the bank to take a loss on the property.

"We ask the homeowners, 'have you tried for a loan modification?' If you can do that, it might be better," Nop said. He advises clients to check out information on www.makinghomeaffordable.com to see if requesting a modification of terms from their lender would work for them.

Short sales are not as damaging to one's credit as foreclosure, but they still can make a significant negative mark, especially if combined with one or more late payments.

2. Set up a consultation with a tax accountant or attorney.

Short sales can have legal, financial and tax ramifications for sellers.

In some cases, the lender may agree to a short sale only if the homeowners sign a promissory note obligating them to repay the debt at some future time. If the debt is forgiven, the seller may owe taxes on this "gift" from the lender.

3. Gather necessary documentation.

Lenders generally require two years of tax returns plus three current paycheck stubs for each homeowner; a signed listing agreement with their agent; a signed estimated HUD-1 form, plus any other forms required by the lender.

The homeowner will also have to write a letter describing the hardship that has put them in this situation.

"Lenders are very specific in the guidelines," Swanson said. "If you stick with the guidelines, you won't have any problems getting the short sale approved."

The Realtor will also need to provide a estimate of how much the property is likely to sell for, including examples of comparable sales to back that up. The lender may solicit opinions from other agents as well.

In many cases, homeowners have more than one loan on the property – often with different lenders. Each lender has its own requirements and all must be satisfied. Complete packets should be submitted to all lenders at the same time, if possible.

Lenders will not actually approve a short sale until there is a purchase offer, but it is advisable to get the process started before the house goes on the market.

Once the lender has received the initial packet, it will be looked at by a processor, who may be handling hundreds of files. If a packet is not complete, it will go to in a separate pile with the processor's notes.

The Realtor must call diligently to ensure the processor has everything.

"Of course, you don't know who the processor is. And they don't call us," Swanson said. "You need to keep calling back. Find out who the processor is and try to get their e-mail address, if you can, so you can e-mail instead of call and e-fax instead of faxing all those documents to them."

Swift recommends sending packets via a service such as Fed Ex and requiring a signature indicating it has been received.

Either way, once the documentation is complete, the processor hands the case off to a negotiator, who will look at any offers and determine whether or not the lender will accept them.

The entire process can take many weeks – in some cases months – in addition to the usual 30-60 day escrow period on a sale.

Swanson and Nop recommend pricing short-sale properties slightly below market to assure a quick offer.

Swift takes a different approach. He advises clients to price initially a bit high, then slowly adjust the price down.

"This shows the lender you tried to sell it at a higher price and that you are working for their best interest," he said.

Many short-sale and foreclosure properties are generating multiple offers from buyers hunting for bargains.

"Some agents get multiple offers and then they send them all in to the lender." Swift said. "The lender's response is that the property must be priced too low, so they counter back at a higher price. If you don't do it right, you'll turn a two-month process into six months."

Swift recently had a short sale in Mountain House on which they received 14 offers. He sent the lender only the highest and best offer. The sale is due to close in two weeks.

The trick is to put together complete packages that are clear and easy to read. Agents listing the short sale properties who do not stay on top of the process create problems for buyers and sellers alike.

Nop recommends buyers' agents "interview" the listing agent on a short sale to ensure the transaction is being handled properly.

"Buyers who haven't purchased a short-sale property before are very excited about them, but the reality is frustrating," Swift noted. "A lot don't go through because of the lack of knowledge and experience of the agent."

Agents without certifications complete successful short sales everyday. But Swanson said the training she received has helped her be more effective.

"The course is a blueprint for agents who want to do it the right way."

Do you have questions about local real estate matters you would like to see covered in this space? E-mail your questions to cherw@windermere.com

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

MTC Transportation Adopts 2035 Plan

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) adopted the Transportation 2035 Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area. It specifies how some $218 billion in anticipated federal, state and local transportation funds will be spent in the nine-county Bay Area during the next 25 years.

By means of its investment choices and adopted policies, the Transportation 2035 Plan aims to stimulate the use of public transit, increase the safety, utility and appeal of bicycling and walking, and reduce miles traveled and emissions by cars and trucks in the Bay Area while increasing the efficiency of the roadway and transit systems for all users.

"Transportation 2035 has been a collaborative effort," explained MTC Chair and Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty. "MTC worked very closely over many months with thousands of Bay Area residents as well as with business, community and environmental groups, and our partners at Caltrans, the county congestion management agencies, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission. We've set some very ambitious goals that won't be met overnight. But the Transportation 2035 Plan sets the Bay Area solidly on course to meet them."

The vision for Transportation 2035 is to support a prosperous and globally competitive Bay Area economy, provide for a healthy and safe environment, and promote equitable mobility opportunities for all residents.

Among the cornerstones of the new plan are a joint regional planning initiative known as FOCUS, which provides incentives for cities and counties to promote future growth near transit in already urbanized portions of the Bay Area. The plan also launches a Transportation Climate Action Campaign to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, a new market-based pricing system would — with legislative authorization — convert and expand current carpool lanes into a Regional Express Lane Network that continues to grant carpoolers and buses free access to the lanes, but permits solo drivers to pay to use available space in the carpool lanes for a price. Revenue generated by the tolls would pay for the completion of the planned express lane network sooner and fund other mobility improvements, such as additional express bus and rail services in the region's most heavily traveled corridors.

Another Transportation 2035 effort involves a $1.6 billion Freeway Performance Initiative to improve the efficiency, reliability and safety of major Bay Area freeway corridors through high-tech, low-cost technologies. Projects include traffic meters at freeway on-ramps to improve traffic flow, as well as cameras and traffic monitoring stations to detect and clear traffic incidents, reduce traffic back-ups and avoid secondary incidents.

Major transit projects involved in the Transportation 2035 Plan include a BART extension from Fremont to San Jose/Santa Clara; electrification of the Caltrain system; implementation of the SMART rail system in Marin and Sonoma counties; expanded ferry service around the region; enhanced service along the Amtrak Capitol Corridor; a rail extension from the Pittsburg/Bay Point BART station to eastern Contra Costa County; and improvement to local and express bus services (including Bus Rapid Transit services on Oakland's Grand-MacArthur Corridor, San Francisco's Van Ness Avenue, and San Jose's Santa Clara Street/Alum Rock Corridor).

There is $123.5 million to acquire right-of-way along I-580 from Hacienda Drive to Greenville Road to accommodate rail transit. There is also $114.6 million to wide Route 84 from 2 to 4 lanes from north of Pigeon Pass to Stanley Blvd. and from 2 to 6 lanes from Stanley Blvd. to Jack London Blvd.

The plan notes that infrastructure investment and policies aren't sufficient to meet many of the region's long term goals. To reach all the objectives, additional strategies will be necessary. These could include technology advances to improve fuel economy, incentives or regulations to increase telecommuting, and other steps to reduce driving. The Bay Area will have to create new patterns of growth, embrace new ways of traveling and discard many old assumptions.

Of the total $218 billion in transportation revenues that MTC anticipates coming to the Bay Area during the next quarter century, some 80 percent (or $177 billion) will be used to maintain and operate the transportation network we already have. Another way of looking at the distribution of the revenues — which include fuel taxes, transit fares, bridge tolls, property taxes and dedicated sales taxes — focuses on mode of transportation. Divied up this way, public transit operations, maintenance and expansion will receive almost two-thirds ($142 billion) of the revenues. The remainder includes 30 percent ($66 billion) for street, road and highway maintenance, and 5 percent ($11 billion) for roadway expansion.

Costco Scores a First As a Green Business

By Ron McNicoll

The North Livermore Costco Warehouse has become the first big-box store in the county to be certified green.

The store was notified recently of its success in meeting the standards by the Alameda County Green Business Program.

The store's change in stepping up to meet the program's standards has been dramatic. Before April, when the store started the certification process, approximately 65 tons of materials went off to a landfill every month, said manager Melissa McCurdy. That figure has been reduced to 12 tons.

There was plenty of opportunity to make reductions, because of the warehouse store's large scale. Costco has 280 employees. Another 20 are involved demonstrating products in the store.

The services and products are diverse, so there are many categories to inspect for recycling. The store serves food, sells gasoline, and uses chemicals in on-site photo processing. Since it is a warehouse store, many boxes and containers need to be disposed.

Costco already was recycling its bottles and cans. The certification program helped show the managers how much more they could do. Costco responded to the challenge with composting of food waste and many other materials that will decay and can enrich soil. They range from toothpicks to scraps of wood to soiled paper.

The store already had good plans for disposal of hazardous materials and storage of waste. These were inspected by the fire department for the certification, said McCurdy. Lighting schedules already helped save electricity. PG&E added to that by surveying all areas to make sure that lighting wattage was not higher than needed.

The store scheduled a solar-panels project, which went into service last week. There is a drip system on the landscape irrigation. Costco is a veteran when it comes to recycling water.. For years, it has been using treated recycled water from the Livermore waste water treatment plant for its fire suppression system.

No detail is too small for ensuring green efficiency. Air pollution control inspectors measured exhaust emissions from the store's coffee roaster. It passed the test.

The certification is a thorough process. McCurdy filled out 15 pages on the application. She gives credit to all of the store's employees and to administrative manager Becky Koch for getting the job done.

Both women will be attending a recognition dinner for new green businesses in September in Berkeley. The Alameda County effort, led by Pamela Evans, is part of a San Francisco Bay Area Green Business Program. The county joined it in 1996, and started by certifying auto repair shops. The county list of green businesses and agencies has grown to 230.

Valley agencies that are green-certified include the street, parks & trees, fleet services and facilities maintenance departments of Livermore city government, Pleasanton's public works support division, and Dublin San Ramon Services District.

Alameda County and its environmental health services department are on the list. So are the offices of Sen. Ellen Corbett and Assemblymember Mary Hayashi, whose districts include areas in the Valley.

The county has information about enrolling in the program at http://www.greenbiz.ca.gov/AboutUsAC.html

County Sees Drop in Property Taxes

Alameda County Assessor Ron Thomsen has delivered the 2009-10 gross local assessment roll of $202.6 billion, reflecting a $4.6 billion decrease, 2.24 percent below last year's assessment roll. The net local roll, after all legal exemptions have been applied, totals $195.3 billion.

Livermore showed a 3.65 increase over last year's totals, from $13.8 billion to $14.3 billion; Pleasanton increased value 5.16 percent, from $16.8 billion to $17.7 billion.

"The continuing decline in value of single-family residential properties is the largest contributor to the decrease," according to Assessor Thomsen. He added, "The 2009-10 assessment roll accurately reflects assessments of more than 490,000 taxable properties including the 98,668 properties that were provided reduced assessments due to market value declines." While there were annual assessment activities leading to positive roll growth this year, they were more than offset by the effect of the declining residential real estate market.

The City of Oakland remained the highest assessment jurisdiction in Alameda County with a total assessed value of $42.5 billion before exemptions are applied. The City of Fremont continues to have the second highest assessed value of $34.7 billion. This year, the City of Piedmont received the highest overall percentage increase of 2.9 percent over last year's totals.

The property taxes derived from the assessment roll produce revenue to support the services provided by Alameda County, its public schools, cities, redevelopment areas and special districts. The largest percentage of each property tax dollar supports public schools.

Notifications of this year's individual assessments were mailed to all Alameda County property owners starting on July 24, 2009. If property owners have questions regarding their property assessment, they are encouraged to call the Assessor's Office at (510) 272-3787 (real estate assessments) or (510) 272-3836 (business personal property assessments). Formal appeals of the 2009-10 assessed values must be made between July 2 and September 15, 2009 with the Clerk, Board of Supervisors, Assessment Appeals Unit, on their Application for Changed Assessment.

Art, Community, & Education

Photo by Denis Roland

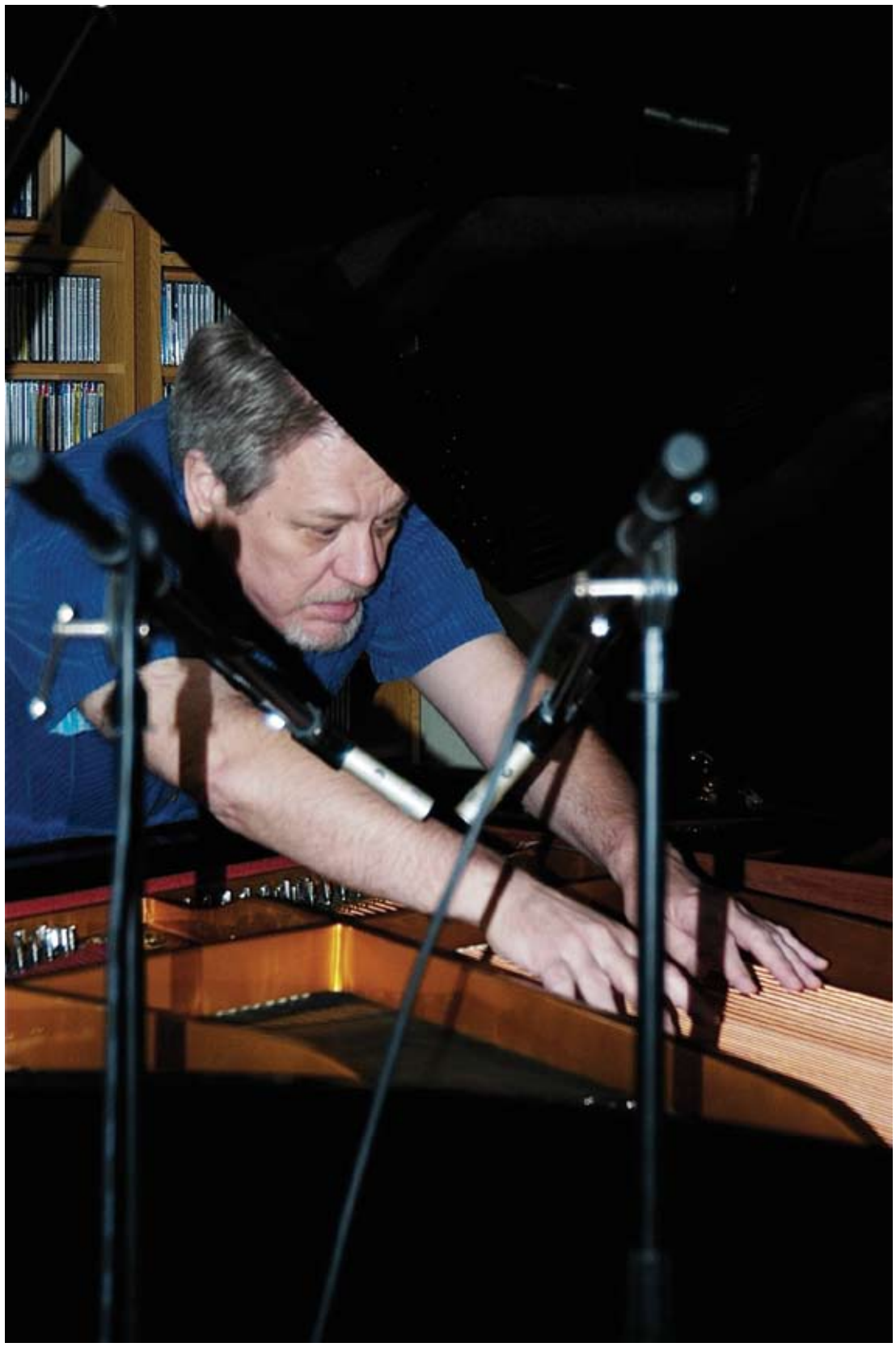
Children's Chorus Earns Top Honors

Cantabella Children's Chorus received top honors at the prestigious Eighth Golden Gate International Children's and Youth Choral Festival held July 14 – 18, 2009, in the San Francisco Bay Area. The singers were awarded First Place in the Historical Category for their performance of Purcell's "Sound the Trumpet," and three other art songs by Morley and Brahms. They received the Second Place award in the Folk Song Category. And in the Youth Vocal Solo Category, Cantabella member Joanna Xu was awarded Third Place.

Choirs from China, Taiwan, Denmark, Finland, Colorado, Mississippi, Mill Valley, San Mateo, Piedmont and Livermore gathered to sing together, perform for one another, encourage one another, and to build and engage in international friendships. The week's schedule was a busy one with daily morning rehearsals for the combined choirs of nearly 350 singers with world renowned composers/conductors, including Bob Chilcott of England and Pekka Kostiainen of Finland; afternoon individual rehearsals and competitions; and evening performances at some of the lovely churches in the area. The choristers enjoyed lunch at Jack London Square and a bay cruise one afternoon. The festival closed with an inspiring concert at Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall.

Cantabella Children's Chorus will be accepting new singers in grades K-10 through the month of August. Classes will begin on September 1 in Livermore and on September 2 in Pleasanton. Please check the website at Cantabella.org for information and registration forms and call (925) 292-2663 to schedule an audition.

Original Piano Compositions Transport *Metamorphoses* Audience to a Mythic World



Tom Darter records Underworld moaning sounds for *Metamorphoses*

Composer/pianist Tom Darter's original music is transporting audiences to mythic realms in the Las Positas production of Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses.*

Darter, who was last heard with the Livermore-Amador Symphony in a performance of his *One Step (at a Time) Rag* for piano and orchestra during the gala opening concerts at the Bankhead Theater, has written a very different kind of piano music for the play. "My view of the piano has long been influenced by the music of American composers like Henry Cowell and John Cage," Darter says. "They looked beyond the keyboard mechanism, and found other ways to make music with the piano."

In pieces like *The Banshee* and *Aoelian Harp*, Cowell, according to Darter, instructed the performer to play directly on the strings, using plucking, strumming, and rubbing techniques; Cage used his prepared piano approach to create an entire percussion orchestra. After reading *Metamorphoses* as part of preparation to audition as an actor for the play, Darter felt that these extended techniques would mesh well with the content and feel of the play. "I approached director Wendy Wisely, explained my ideas, and gave her a short demo on the piano. She gave me the green light, and we were off."

Wisely and Darter, working with choreographer Kristi Grand, determined where the music would go, and agreed on certain types of sounds for particular scenes. "The goal was to create a score, using nothing but piano and a few basic recording effects such as reverb, that never sounded like piano," Darter continued. "For the sounds of the dead in the Underworld, I rubbed my fingers along the low strings of the piano to create a moaning sound; for a thunder effect, I struck the low strings with the flat of my hand." Darter even created a heartbeat effect, by holding down the sustain pedal and hitting the metal frame of the piano with a rubber mallet. "There is no reverb added to that sound: the piano's natural resonance was all I needed."

In addition to the recorded score, Darter also worked with a group of the actors, who provide all of the sound effects for the play using a variety of small percussion instruments. "Wendy wanted all of the sound effects to be non-traditional as well, so the actors are providing them as part of the overall performance," this adding another layer to the ritualistic aspects of the play.

Although the score itself uses no traditional playing-on-the-keyboard technique, Darter did use piano as a kind of bookend to the play. "There is an opening Greenshow, which uses some of my earlier compositions for voice and piano, and for these I played piano in the usual way. For the curtain call, one of those pieces returns, in its original form for solo piano. In the real world, before and after the play, you hear piano as you are used to hearing it. In the mythical world of the play, the piano speaks the language of myths."

Darter is a Livermore native who has achieved a national career as a musician. He has arranged two albums of music for the Kronos Quartet, won several composition awards, and played on keyboards on numerous Jerry Goldsmith film scores, and taught music at Roosevelt University (in Chicago). He was also the founding Editor of *Keyboard* magazine. He holds a Doctorate in music composition from Cornell University.

Metamorphoses, based on Ovid's retelling of ancient Greek myths, opened last weekend at Los Positas College. Performances continues for two more weekends, August 1, 2, 8, and 9 at 7:00 P.M. Tickets are available at the campus bookstore and Fine Fretted Friends in downtown Livermore, or at the door. $10.00 regular, $7.00 senior and student.

For more information call Las Positas at 925 (424-1000) extension 2480

Tickets Go on Sale for 'Brothels, Bar Rooms and Bandits'

Return to the Pleasanton of old at "Brothels, Bar Rooms and Bandits, when it was one of the most "desperate" towns in the West. It is 1890 and you are invited to a party hosted by George Hearst, prominent senator and founder of the Homestake Gold Mine in Lead, South Dakota; and the Anaconda mine in Montana.

Hang out with his friends, Calamity Jane, Wyatt Earp, Wild Bill Hickock and the many gamblers, women, and bandits who made up the Pleasanton of yesteryear.

Be prepared to be entertained with song and dance, to gamble the night away, and to eat, drink, and make merry.

The Pinkerton's will be on the job watching out for the bandits about town.

"Brothels, Bar Rooms and Bandits," a fundraiser for the Museum On Main Street in Pleasanton, will be held from 7-11 p.m., Saturday, October 10 at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Boulevard, Pleasanton. Reservations required.

Tickets at $40 person go on sale August 1 at the Museum, 603 Main Street, and include food and gaming chips.

Dressing up in period attire is encouraged. The Pleasanton Lion's Club is sponsoring the gaming tables.

For tickets call 925-462-2766 or visit the museum. Cash, credit cards, and gold nuggets are accepted.

New Sculpture Studio Plans 'Face Jug' Workshop

The Sculpture Studio will hold its inaugural workshop, "Face Jugs," conducted by Tom Decker, on Sunday, August 2 from 10am -2 pm at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore.

Decker has exhibited his Face Jugs locally and internationally for fifteen years, and teaches at California State University, Sacramento. A Fulbright Scholar at the University of the Philippines in 2008, Tom presented his thesis as a featured speaker during NCECA 2009. To see more of his artwork, visit www.claysite.com

The Sculpture Studio, Inc. is a new nonprofit entity coalescing around the vision of local Sculptor and Fine Art Photographer, Tricia Ialeggio. Looking to carve out a permanent home in downtown Livermore, the Studio's Mission is to provide the Tri-Valley adult population, and, ultimately, its homebound seniors, with the opportunity to improve their quality of life and connection to the local Arts Community through the exploration of sculptural and ceramic forms within a dedicated Studio setting. A curriculum of courses will be designed to address every skill level - from beginning hobbyist to seasoned professional – by gathering input from those interested via a short survey found at www.surveymonkey.com.

The Sculpture Studio will offer affordable private spaces, with common area to be made available to newcomers and part-time participants. For more information on the upcoming Face Jug Workshop, or renting studio space, contact Tricia Ialeggio at (925)640-8118 or thesculpturestudio@gmail.com.

Saddlecats Perform at Pleasanton Library

The Saddlecats, a Western Swing pocket orchestra, performs at the Pleasanton Library on Sun., Aug. 2 from 2 to 3 p.m.

The group is dedicated to taking the Western Swing tradition of Bob Wills, Milton Brown and Spade Cooley and bringing it into the new century in a mix of finesse, abandon and exuberant spirits.

The Saddle Cats are founded on the suave, peerless steel guitar artistry of Bobby Black, whose membership in such bands as Asleep at the Wheel and Commander Cody. His Lost Planet Airmen was decisive in bringing the sound of Western Swing to a new generation of listeners. Bobby is joined by fiddler and vocalist Richard Chon, a member of Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks and the Sons of the San Joaquin.

The driving rhythm of guitarist Gordon Clegg and acoustic bassist Bing Nathan round out group, whose repertoire runs from rustic Texas breakdowns to the sophisticated swing concoctions of Benny Goodman and Count Basie, from the high-driving California swing of Bob Wills' Tiffany Transcriptions and Tex Williams to the Cats' own stylish originals.

The program is free and open to all. No registration required. The performance is in the Pleasanton Public Library Meeting Room, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

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www.bankheadtheater.org

Commission for the Arts Has Opening

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors invites applications for a position as LARPD's representative on the City of Livermore Commission for the Arts. The deadline has been extended through 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14. The spot is open due to the passing of Gloria Retzlaff Taylor, who served as LARPD's liaison from the Commission's inception. Commissioners are appointed by the City Council to a four-year volunteer term.

The role of the nine-member Commission is to encourage programs for the cultural enrichment of the City; make recommendations to the City Council regarding local cultural arts needs, activities, facilities and programs. Tasks include assessing needs for visual and performing arts facilities; receiving input from the community on issues relevant to arts policies; developing and recommending to the City Council a five- to10-year cultural arts plan for the City that includes goals, implementation strategies and financing methods; and reviewing and approving public art. The Commission meets at 4:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest and a completed application by 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14, to LARPD General Manager Timothy J. Barry, LARPD, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, 94550. Interviews with the LARPD Personnel Committee will be arranged.

Applications can be downloaded from the LARPD Web site's "Find it Fast" section at www.larpd.dst.ca.us. To learn more about the Commission, visit the City of Livermore's Web site at www.ci.livermore.ca.us/boards/cac_info.html. For additional information, contact Gretchen Sommers at 925-373-5725 or gsommers@larpd.dst.ca.us.

New Look to Annual Harvest Wine Celebration

The Livermore Valley Wine Country's Harvest Wine Celebration will take place Sunday, September 6 and Monday, September 7 between noon and 5 p.m.

Produced by the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association (LVWA), the 2009 event marks the 28th year that people have gathered to celebrate the region's wine, food, arts and music.

New for 2009 is the Harvest Village at Robertson Park in Livermore, where 21 wineries will be pouring their wines both days. With live music, arts and crafts vendors and food vendors, the Village will be the perfect spot to relax on the lawn and enjoy the fun. Live bands will perform on two stages at the Harvest Village, including Finding Stella (Sunday 12-2 p.m.), salsa band El Desayuno (Sunday 2:30-5:30 p.m.), Georgi and the Rough Week (Monday 12-4 p.m.) and Lane Coker and Big Delta (Sunday 12-5 p.m. and Monday 12-4 p.m.)

For those who enjoy the winery experience, there will be another 20 wineries pouring at their winery locations across Livermore Valley on both days. Each winery offers a unique experience—samples of their latest releases, music, arts and crafts vendors and food for sale prepared by a local caterer or restaurant. Complimentary shuttle buses will transport guests between each of these wineries on Sunday only. As in past years, the shuttle bus "hub" will be Robertson Park, where there is ample free parking.

More than 20 shuttles will serve three different routes, stopping at specified wineries along each route. Celebration guests will receive a map outlining the three different shuttle routes, so they can choose which one to take. In addition, two routes will cross so celebrants can transfer and visit another group of wineries, if they choose. All shuttles return to the hub at the end of their route.

New ticket structure and pricing for 2009 includes a two-day (Sunday/Monday) ticket for $50 in advance, $75 at the event, a Sunday-only ticket for $45 and a Monday-only ticket for $40. Non-drinking tickets (required for children over 12) are $10 and are valid for both days. Tickets are available online at www.LVwine.org and at all participating Livermore Valley wineries, the Wine Steward in Pleasanton, First Street Wine Company in Livermore and all PW Markets stores. Funds raised from this event benefit the LVWA.

During the Harvest Wine Celebration, the more than 40 participating wineries are open only to ticket holders with event wristbands. No outside food is allowed into the wineries or at the Harvest Village. For more information, please visit www.LVwine.org or call 925-447-WINE.

Fenestra Winery Building Marks 120th Birthday

Fran and Lanny Replogle of Fenestra Winery invite the public to celebrate the winery building's 120th Birthday Celebration on August 1 and 2 from noon to 5 p.m.

Tasting fee is $5/person and no charge for club members.

Built in 1889 by Winemaker George True (for whom their infamous Fenestra True Red is named after), the winery building is one of the oldest, historic structures in the Livermore Valley. Owner Lanny Replogle will conduct complimentary tours of the winery grounds on 12:30, 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. both days.

In honor of the surrounding vineyards, they will also be featuring a vertical tasting of the estate-grown library wines: 2002, 2003 and 2004 Mourvedre; a 1999 Syrah magnum; 2000 Syrah (both regular and Reserve); 2001 Syrah Reserve and 2002 Syrah – all of which will be available for purchase that weekend only. Library tasting is an additional $10/person and $5 for club members.

Fenestra will also be releasing the 2006 Alvarelhao, Lodi for a special event price of $17/bottle for that weekend only. It will be $19 afterwards. There will also be assorted tasty munchies paired with the wines during the event as well.

The winery is open for sales and tasting every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from noon – 5pm. For more information, visit the website at www.fenestrawinery.com or email info@fenestrawinery.com. The winery is located at 83 Vallecitos Road, Livermore.

Wild Southern Rock'n Rockabilly Blues will be the focus of performances on Fri., Aug. 7 at Downtown Ollie's Saloon in Livermore. Music begins at 9 p.m. for those age 21 and over. There is no cover charge. Ollie's is located at 2128 Railroad Avenue. Performing will be Paul Tolle & The Deadman Band and Kurt Crasper & The Wolftickets with Tony Trevino of The Pendletons. Kurt Crasper has created a unique sound through the years combining hard driving Classic Southern Rock with a little Hillbilly and mixing in some Soul, Latin and R&B flavor. Some of Kurt's influences through the years have been the sounds and excitement of the 60's & 70's San Francisco music scene. His songwriting inspirations come from the thrill of hot women, long legs, bikes that shine, rat bikes, cars that shine, junkers, anything with wheels and anything with strings on it! Kurt's new album "Honky Tonk Amnesia" will be released in November.

'My Mind Has a Mind' Topic of Talk

Will Joel Friedman, licensed psychologist, will discuss "My Mind Has a Mind of Its Own" at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue on Thursday, August 6 at 7pm. There is no charge for this event.

Key ideas, stories, questions and behavioral experiments provide an opening to experience mindfulness for oneself in this experiential, interactive presentation.

Will Joel Friedman Ph.D., a seasoned licensed psychologist, has been practicing for 32 years. Friedman specializes in Presence-centered psychotherapy, addressing relationship issues, anxiety, depression and traumas through cognitive, systems, and mind-body approaches.

The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us.

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Review

Metamorphoses: Ancient Myths for Modern Times

By Susan Steinberg

Luckily it was a warm night, because the cast spent half of it in the water.

Curious? Actually the water was a large part of the stage, as the new Las Positas summer show took place on, around, and in the multi-tiered fountain in front of the library.

A brilliant directorial concept utilized the water as a reflecting pool, healing spring, the ocean, Poseidon's underwater kingdom, and the River Styx, boundary of the Underworld.

Yes, you guessed it: this is a play about Greek mythology, featuring such familiar characters as Zeus, Orpheus, and Aphrodite. Collected over two thousand years ago by the Greek poet Ovid, their stories appear in his famous work "Metamorphoses"' literally supernatural "changes in form."

Some were cast as cautionary tales: "Don't grow too big for your britches, little Phaeton", or "Don't be so greedy, King Midas".

Others exemplified the ideal of devoted love, like Orpheus and Eurydice, Baucis and Philemon. All shared the unifying theme of respecting and honoring the gods, who could change your life suddenly and completely with a terrible curse or beneficent blessing.

In 2001, Mary Zimmerman presented some of Ovid's myths on the New York stage, in an updated but still faithful "transformation" of the originals. By a quirk of fate (or fatality) it opened one week after the September 11 attack on the World Trade Center, underlining the fragility of human existence and the impact of sudden tragedy on our lives.

No such ominous portents threatened the peaceful calm of a summer's evening under the stars at Las Positas Theater Department's annual outdoor play, directed by Wendy Wisely. As her pre-curtain speech was unexpectedly interrupted by a regal thundercap, she confided to the audience, "Zeus is very impatient." The effect was charming.

A lyrical Green Show introduced the play's dreamlike and classical elements, with a graceful Vocalise by singers and dancers in flowing Greek gowns and poses, to music by Tom Darter, choreography by Kristi Grand.

Tom Darter, right, discusses one of the myths.

Two beautiful poems echoed the bittersweet knowledge of our earthly mortality, one by an ancient Chinese poet and the other by contemporary Livermore author and company dramaturg Karen L. Hogan. Fortunately for the audience, both are printed in the program.

A narrator or chorus sets the scene for each story, some being less familiar, like the tale of Erisycton, who scorns the gods by mindlessly utilizing the world's natural resources for his own benefit.

Warned that a certain tree is sacred to Ceres (the Greeks' "Mother Earth"), he boldly cuts it down, and is horribly cursed with unappeasable insatiable hunger. Sounds like the modern morality tale in Dr. Seuss's The Lorax, or the latest headlines about world famines induced by global warming, a result of our own excessive use of earth's resources.

Pay close attention, the play reminds us, for those ancient myths resonate amazingly in today's world.

Take the myth of King Midas, an enormously rich man who always wanted more, ignoring important human and family values. Granted his wish that everything he touched would turn to gold, he destroyed his own happiness by transforming his daughter into a beautiful but lifeless gold statue. Current economic disasters and greedy villains are all-too-clear parallels.

Some myths are shown only in pantomime, like that of Narcissus. A beautiful young man, he ignored the adoring nymph Echo, who pined away for love, leaving only the mournful sound of her voice in the air.

Nemesis, Goddess of Retribution (don't you love that concept?) caused the youth to fall hopelessly in love with his own reflection, pining away like Echo for an unattainable love. In memory of his rare beauty, the gods transformed him into the lovely white flower we know today.

And you'll have to watch the stage very closely to catch sight of the mythical Atalanta, another spurner of love. An athletic Greek beauty, she challenged eager suitors to a foot-race. The prize was her hand; the penalty for defeat was death. An offended Aphrodite, Goddess of Love, slyly gave Hippomenes three golden apples to drop during the race. Entranced, Atalanta stopped to pick up each one, allowing her suitor to win.

Since the two run across the back of the stage, with no introduction or explanation, it's helpful to know their story in advance.

To Ovid, it was obviously imperative to avoid offending the gods, and especially Aphrodite, who easily took umbrage at humans for many reasons. Myrrha, who also ignored her many suitors, was cursed with incestuous lust and came to a bad end.

Apparently being very beautiful also angered the jealous goddess, who sent her winged son Eros (Cupid) to kill the lovely Psyche. Of course meddling Momma didn't count on the god to actually fall in love with Psyche and marry her, making Aphrodite one maddened mother-in –law. The result was not pretty until a compassionate Zeus over-ruled her curse and restored the lovers.

My favorite tale is the cleverly hip presentation of Phaeton, portrayed as a whining young man on a couch. He's complaining to a shrink how his distant father (Apollo, the sun-god) has been absent from his life, messing him up emotionally. A hysterically petulant Adam Vergino relates how he "walked and hitched" all across the world to confront his father (or "imago of parental authority" as defined by a crisply professional Alandra Hileman.)

After "spilling his guts", he demands as proof of his ancestry and his father's love that he be allowed to drive the chariot of the sun over the earth for just one day, or, as he puts it, "Give me the keys to your car".

Of course, like any mortal dad, the god demurs, citing the dangers of driving, and his son's inexperience on the road, controlling such a powerful vehicle. Like a stereotypical adolescent male, the boy ignores all such warnings, and nags until daddy gives in.

And, of course, just as predictably, there is a disastrous accident, involving injuries to many others, and death to Phaeton: the end of one more reckless teenage driver. Whoever said the old myths were obsolete and irrelevant?

The final myth embodies t he same timeless message as Voltaire's "Candide": Find love and treasure it above all else for as long as you live. Granted any wish by a grateful Zeus, the devoted old couple Baucis and Philemon ask only to be allowed to die simultaneously and not endure the pain of surviving their beloved.

Zeus turns them into intertwining trees, whose rustling leaves echo their final words, "Let me never outlive my capacity to love; let me die still loving." It is an inspiring motto from the ancient world to our own, a suitable ending to this entertaining and thoughtful theater piece brought to life by a multi-talented cast.

Performances will run for two more weekends: Saturdays and Sundays August 1, 2, 8,and 9 at 7 PM. Chairs and blankets are provided for outdoor comfort, but jackets are advised for nights that become chilly. Hot coffee and snacks are available at intermission.

Tickets at $10 general, $7 students and seniors, can be purchased at Fine Fretted Friends on First Street in downtown Livermore, at the LPC bookstore, or at the ticket kiosk in front of the theater building at show time.

Taste of Terroir: Where Wine and Food Shine

By Laura Ness

Orchestrating a perfect pairing between a wine and a dish is a tricky proposition best left to professionals. With 14 winery and restaurant combinations vying for honors at the July 23rd Taste of Terroir event held at the Palm Event Center, I would say that over half of them were serious contenders. The rest, not so much. Some ran out of food: others featured wines that were clearly not the winemakers forté. At this kind of event, it's good to put your best foot forward.

The winners, according to the official Judging panel, which included Evan Goldstein (master sommelier), Sara Schneider (Sunset wine editor) and Jessica Yadegaran (Bay Areas News Group wine writer), were:

Most Innovative

McGrail Vineyards & Campo Di Bocce: 2005 McGrail Cabernet with cherry and olive tapenade with lavender on gorgonzola puff pastry

Winemaker: Jim McGrail

Chef: Michael Wogen

Judges' Best

Ruby Hill Winery & Casa Real at Ruby Hill: 2007 Estate Zinfandel with pulled pork, blueberry-chipotle BBQ sauce and ginger carrot slaw

Winemaker: Chris Graves

Chef: Adam R. Brown

Best Expression of Local Ingredients

Wente Vineyards & The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards: 2007 Nth Degree Arroyo Seco Pinot Noir, with house-cured duck prosciutto, fregola pasta salad, Brentwood corn, garden basil, sweet onion, tomato and goat cheese

Winemaker: Karl Wente

Chef: Arthur Wall

People's Choice

Murrieta's Well & Hap's Original Steakhouse: 2007 Muscat Canelli with sweet chili prawn tostones, whipped cream cheese, pineapple habanero jelly and cilantro

Winemaker: Phillip Wente

Chef: Wilson Miller

Most Creamaginative (Creative + Imaginative) – New Category

Mitchell Katz Winery & Palm Event Center: 2007 Sangiovese Reserva with muffuleta-style empanada with artisan mortadella, toscano salami and piquant olive relish

Winemaker: Mitchell Katz

Chef: Alex Olsen

My vote for most excellent mano a mano matching of flavors went to the Wente Vineyards pairing for two reasons. First, the 2007 Nth Degree Pinot is as complex as a Quentin Tarantino movie: so many sub-plots going on. Second, I have to take my hat off to genius chef Arthur Wall for pairing it with a summer salad dish. That took hutzpah, and he's got plenty of it. All the flavors in the salad parried everything the Pinot dished at it, punch for punch. The pairing embodied summer as much as the wine captured the last rays of September before the sun starts waving its slow goodbye.

My second fave was the Garré matchup, a deftly done 2008 Livermore Valley Sauvignon Blanc that married beautifully with the coconut milk and wine-based seafood stew of scallops, Mahi Mahi, prawns and Dungeness crab, brilliantly spiced with ginger, jalapeno and garlic over basmati rice. Another perfect pairing. A dish I could eat again and again was the Casa Real braised blueberry-chipotle braised pork, intelligently served in a lettuce wrap. Kudos to Chef Adam Brown for coaxing the lurking flavors out of that 2007 Estate Ruby Hill Zinfandel.

Most Innovative was awarded to McGrail Vineyards & Campo Di Bocce. Pictured is Chef Michael Wogen and Heather McGrail. At far left is Sara Schneider from Sunset Magazine.

The standout wines at the event were the 2007 Murietta's Well dry Muscat Canelli, and the 2006 La Rochelle Pinot Noir. The first was a pleasant and solid surprise that delightfully tangoed with the spicy Hap's dish. The La Rochelle Pinot was a symphony of Santa Lucia Highlands fruit, revealing new musical interpretations with every sip. I never did get to try the slow braised pork belly tacos with which it was paired, but everyone was curious about this new Saratoga restaurant, Casa de Cobre, as the long lines bore witness.

Another pleasant wine discovery was the 2006 Charles R Cabernet Sauvignon: this is what Livermore Valley Cab can taste like when picked right before it goes flabby. This leads me to my "Pairings Gone Wrong" story. This excellent wine was paired with an outstandingly tender and flavorful filet mignon with Cabernet balsamic sauce: all good so far, but then it went totally south with the shitake mushrooms and ginger.

Probably the most discussed dish was the Gnocchi Romana Amarone from Amarone Cucina. These enormous pillows of what tasted like cornmeal with gorgonzola and rosemary, were topped with porcini mushrooms and a richer than Donald Trump meat sauce. These things were the size of a bus. Absolutely delicious, but the wine and pairing just didn't make it.

Fascinating that only one Petite Sirah was represented at Taste: it wasn't from Concannon, and it wasn't the best example. This varietal could well be the signature wine of Livermore. It can say more about Livermore terroir than anything. Let's give its voice a proper audition.

Most Creamaginative award went to Mitchell Katz Winery and Palm Event Center. Mitchell Katz is at left; the chefs center and right are Alex Olson and Martin Espinoza.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART EXHIBITS

Livermore Art Association Gallery, offers art classes, unusual gifts, painting rentals, art exhibits and information pertaining to the art field, 1255 Third St., Livermore. The gallery has been open since 1974 and maintains a video library of art tapes, art and craft books and art magazines and newsletters; hosts art events and workshops. Hours are Wed.-Sun. 11:30-4 p.m. For information call 449-9927.

Works by photographic artists on display at Windermere Welcome Home through August. Participating in the show are Natalia Matthews Aasen, Bill Hackett, Dennis Vied, Julie Wright and Walter Davies The public is invited. There is no admission charge. 1790 First St., downtown Livermore. Viewing will be during regular business hours. For more information, call 447-9159.

The Wild Vine, Derek Hobbs, also known as "the coffee ground artist," is the featured artist for July. His paintings are created through a series of transparent coffee and acrylic layers that act as a woven veil to view the images through. Wild Vine Art Gallery and Wine Lounge, at 2187 First St., Livermore.

The Arts Forum of the Commonwealth Club of California will present works by photographer Bill Owens. They will be displayed through September 10. Admission is free to Club member; $15 to the public and $7 students. The Club is located at 595 Market Street (next to Montgomery BART Station).

Pleasanton Art League Museum on Main Exhibit, July 30-September 13, 2009, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. Reception will be Sunday, August 22, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., plus evenings on First Wednesdays. Information is being sent to members via e-mail. For more information, contact Carole Hilton at 925-443-3849.

Livermore Art Association Art in Carnegie Park, August 1, 2155 3rd St., Livermore. Art displays, demonstrations and sales. Free admission.

WINERY EVENTS

Red Feather Winery, 2007 Estate Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon includes food and wine pairing by Q2 BBQ, music by Chris Lebel. Fri., July 31, 6 to 8 p.m. 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore. $15, keep the glass. info@redfeatherwinery.com, 449-1871

Sunset Wine Concert at McGrail Vineyards with Next Level Band. Sat., Aug. 1, 4 to 8 p.m. 5600 Greenville Road, Livermore. $25.00 includes BBQ dinner, wine tasting, and entry. If you prefer to skip the dinner and wine tasting, entry is $10/person. No outside beverages please.

120th Birthday Party for Fenestra Winery Building. Sat., Aug. 1 and Sun., Aug. 2, noon to 5 p.m. 83 Vallecitos Road, Livermore. Built in 1889 by George True (whom our infamous True Red is named after), the building has always been operating as a winery. New releases.

Cedar Mountain Winery Bluegrass Music and bring your own meet BBQ! Sat., Aug. 8, 5 to 10 p.m. 7000 Tesla Road, Livermore $10.00. Bluegrass music by the "Forget Me Nots." Bring utensils, Hot coals and a grill provided to cook the meat. There will be baked beans, and green salad. Wine by the glass/ bottle, & beverages available for purchase. Admission is $10 per person, $5 per club member. Kids under 10 free. (925) 373-6636

Charles R Vineyards full moon winemaker's dinner, Sat., Aug. 8, 7:15 p.m. 8195 crane ridge road, Livermore. The evening includes choice of Chicken Versailles finished with a sun dried tomato bechamel sauce or Premium Flat Iron Steak finished with bleu cheese crumbles and demi glass. plus warm chocolate torte, creamy vanilla ice cream, garnished with chocolate, fresh berries, and cream. events@charlesrvineyards.com.; 454-3040. $105 or $95/wine club.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Tuesday Tunes, Livermore Downtown Inc. free, live music to the Flagpole Plaza each and every Tuesday through October 13th. Concerts begin at 5 p.m. Bands to perform on the following schedule: Aug. 4, Aerodynes; Aug. 11, Luna Fish; Aug. 18, Sound Check; Aug. 25, Moreality; Sept. 1, Hummingbirdz; Sept. 8, Bryan Harrison Band; Sept. 15, Fender Cronin; Sept. 22, Damn Neighbors Blues Band; Sept. 29, Groovy Judy; Oct. 6, U Get What U Pay 4. For more information, go to www.livermoredowntown.com or call 925.373.1795.

Concerts in the Park, Pleasanton Downtown Association, The concerts are at Lions Wayside Park, corner of First and Neal Streets. Concerts are 7 to 8:30 p.m. The Houserockers, July 31. The Cocktail Monkeys, August 7. Finding Stella, August 14. Magic Moments, August 21. D-Lucca, August 28. Public Eye, Sept. 4. For more information, visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

Wente Vineyards 2009 concert series: August 3, Gretchen Wilson; August 13, Diana Krall; August 19, Elvis Costello; and August 31, Sheryl Crow. Wente Vineyards Box Office at (925) 456-2424, or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets range in price from $79 to $309 per person, depending on the show and the dining option selected. Wente Vineyards is located at 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Concert gates open at 6:00 p.m., and all shows start at 8:15 p.m.

Dublin Concert Series, July 31, Fred McCarty, bluegrass and country music. Free. Dublin Civic Center in the Fountain Plaza. 7 to 9 p.m. 556-4500 or www.ci.dublin.ca.us.

Celtic World Music duo Chris Waltz and Lee White, perform concert at Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore on Sunday, August 2 at 3 p.m.. They perform vocals in a variety of languages, including Irish/ Scottish Gaelic, Spanish, Latin, Ladino, and English, are accompanied by guitar, fiddle, Irish flute and whistle. Parking is free. Admission is by donation at the door. Refreshments will be served.

The Saddle Cats, concert Aug. 2, 2 p.m. Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Free. www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library

Opera in the Vineyard, Aug. 2, fundraiser for Livermore Valley Opera, 5 to 8 p.m. at Retzlaff Vineyards, 1356 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. Features principal singers from its most recent production. Bring a picnic. $30 in advance, $35 at the door. 925-960-9210

Dublin Concert Series, August 7, LAVA, Latin Jazz, cha-cha-cha, Latin Rock, Latin Funk and Salsa. Free. Dublin Civic Center in the Fountain Plaza. 7 to 9 p.m. 556-4500 or www.ci.dublin.ca.us.

The Crooked Jades, Aug. 16, 3 p.m. Livermore Library concert, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Free admission. www.ci.livermore.ca.us. Part of Arts and Authors series.

John Palowitch, jazz performer, Pleasanton Library, Aug. 16, 2 p.m. 400 Old Bernal Ave. Free. www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library.

Vintage Brass Quintet, concert Aug. 30, 2 p.m. Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Free. www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library

ON THE STAGE

Livermore Shakespeare Festival, July 9 through August 9 at Concannon Vineyard, Livermore, featuring "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and Chekhov's "The Seagull" in repertory. For tickets and information visitwww.ShakespearesAssociates.org or call (925) 443-BARD.

The Comedy of Errors, City of Pleasanton Civic Arts will host San Francisco Shakespeare Festival's Free Shakespeare in the Park production weekends at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday evenings through August 2, at Amador Valley Community Park, 4301 Black Avenue, corner of Black Avenue and Santa Rita Road, in Pleasanton. The production will be a colorful carnival, a circus-inspired mixture of juggling, slapstick, and visual and verbal puns for maximum madness and romance. Admission is free. For more information, call the Department of Parks & Community Services at (925) 931-5340.

Peter Pan, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse), Mainstage Musical, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. July 31; Aug. 1, 2. Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. Buy 1 adult ticket, and receive 1 children's ticket (age 12 and under) for free. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

Metamorphoses, by Mary Zimmerma. A new adaptation of the Greek Mythology of Ovid. These magical tales of love and lust, couragen and the creation of the world order. Las Positas College summer production, building 800. Aug. 1, 2, 8 and 9 at 6:30 p.m. Information, 424-1166. 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore.

Pirates of Penzance, SmARTSunlimited's ActSmARTS Children's Theater presents - Theater By Children - For Children! August 15, 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 3 p.m., 8 p.m., August 16, 8 p.m., 3 p.m., 6 p.m. Each child with a ticket receives "Pirate Booty" - the one with the pirate necklace receives a prize! Set Designs by Andrea Bechert - ScorpionDesigns.net. For tickets go to www.LivermorePerformingArts.org

The Taming of the Shrew, Performed by Woman's Will. August 1 at 6 p.m., Centennial Park, Pleasanton. www.womanswill.org/shrew. Free admission. 931-3456 for information.

My Fair Lady, Lerner & Loewe musical presented by Lamplighters Music Theater. Sat., Aug. 29, 2 and 8 p.m. and Sun., Aug. 30 at 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets $33, $37, $43. 925-373-6800, www.bankheadtheater.org.

DANCE

Ballet in the Park, Livermore School of Dance's Ballet Company on July 31 and August 1. Le Tableau Magnifique, free, Robertson Park Friday, July 31 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, August 1 at 11 a.m. The performance will feature classical ballet, "Giselle," excepts from "Carmen," and an encore performance of the Dark Waltz from Livermore School of Dance's May performance of "Beauty and the Beast." Tickets will be sold for an opportunity to win raffle prizes donated by local Livermore businesses and parents of dancers. Livermore School of Dance is located at 1635 Chestnut St., Livermore. For information, call 245-9322.

Saturday Night Dance, all summer, open to the public, free half-hour salsa lesson before the dance party. Lessons begin at 7 p.m.; open dance, 7:30 to 10 p.m. $12 cover. It's All About Dancing, 171 So. J St. Foresters Hall, Downtown Livermore, 925-449-9292.

MOVIES

Movie nights in Pleasanton, free admission, All films will be shown at twilight (approximately 8:30 p.m.) at Delucchi Park on First Street in downtown Pleasanton. The park will open to the public at 4:00 p.m. Free popcorn. Aug. 6: School of Rock; and Aug. 20: Raiders of the Lost Ark. For more information, please contact the City of Pleasanton Parks and Community Services Department at (925) 931-5340.

Wente Vineyards Summer Cinema Series: concludes Monday, August 10: Mama Mia! (Sing-along). Movies complimentary. Three dining options prior available (fee). Venue seating opens at 6:30 p.m.. Each feature will commence at twilight on The Terrace Lawn. Reservations for The Restaurant can be made on-line at http://www.wentevineyards.com/restaurant/ or by calling (925) 456-2450.

Gong Show Night, The California Independent Film Festival will hold its first ever Gong Show Night on Aug 19, at 7 PM at the Vine Cinema. Come and join the fun and festivities of the evening as audience will decide the fate of several movies. The mantra will be "if you don't like the movie, gong it." Admission Price is $8. Tickets can be purchased at the Vine Cinema in downtown Livermore.

AUDITIONS/VOLUNTEERS

Auditions: Livermore Valley Opera will be holding chorus auditions for the up coming operas Pagliacci/Rusticana. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 4, at the Bothwell Arts Center in Livermore. All voice parts are needed. For information www.livermorevalleyopera.com or Pat Goard goardp@att.net.

Auditions, Charlotte's Web, City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company, in partnership with the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, will hold auditions for Charlotte's Web on Saturday, August 1. Auditions are open to ages six and older, but teen and adult actors are particularly needed. Auditions will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Those auditioning will be asked to read from the script and participate in improvisation activities. They are asked to dress comfortably and come prepared to have fun. The role of Charlotte will be played by professional actor Felicity Hesed. The production will make special use of Felicity's expertise in aerial arts, particularly trapeze and silks.Charlotte's Web, E.B. White's children's classic story dramatized by Joseph Robinette, will be directed by Paula Wujek. Rehearsals will take place Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. beginning August 18, 2009, with performances at the Amador Theater on October 2-4, 6-8 and 9-11, 2009. Persons Interested in auditioning must reserve an audition time slot by contacting Michelle Russo at (925) 931-5350 or mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. Audition packets are available online at www.pleasantoncivicarts.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Scene on the Strait 2009, fine art and environmental festival Aug. 8 and 9, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Aug. 8 and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 9. Jazz trio, fine food and refreshments, native plant sale. Parking and admission free. Martinez Regional Shoreline in Martinez. 510-787-9772 or www.SceneOnTheStrait.org.

Taste of Downtown, food and wine stroll, Aug. 8 and 9, downtown Livermore, 1 to 5 p.m. Purchase passport at www.LivermoreDowntown.com. 373-1795.

Emerald Cities: Arts of Siam and Burma 1775-1950, San Francisco Asian Art Museum docent led slide show and talk. Aug. 9, 2 p.m. Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Free. www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library

Ravenswood Ice Cream Social, August 9, noon – 4:00 p.m. Tours, music, etc. No admission charge. Ravenswood Historical Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

History talk, Wed., Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Presented by Livermore Heritage Guild. "Making a Star," historical film produced by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory describes the machines built to produce fusion energy. Light refreshments.

Tao House lecture, presented by Greg Bacigalupi of the National Park Service will present a lecture on Eugene O'Neill's home located in Danville from 7 - 8:30 p.m. p.m. on Thursday, August 20 at Lynnewood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue, Pleasanton. The lecture is part of the Ed Kinney Lecture Series of the Museum On Main Street, Pleasanton. No reservations are necessary. Admission is $5 for museum members, $10 for non-members, $5 for teachers with valid ID and $3 for students with valid ID. Memberships will be available for purchase that night. Contact (925) 462-2766 or visit www.museumonmain.org.

Jennifer Robin, author of "Growing More Beautiful An Artful Approach to Personal Style," Aug. 23, 2 p.m. Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Free. www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library

Entertainment by Nature by Bob Coomber

Sycamore Valley Regional Open Space Preserve

A Hike For The "After Work" Crowd

Daylight Savings Time is my favorite time of year. As the clocks roll forward, spring days become longer, meaning more daylight for me to be out rolling on new trails. The warmer weather adds to the allure – watching the sunset in shirtsleeves in a cool ridgeline breeze makes for some of my best times. I have a list of short trails I can visit after a long work day, so I can get some exercise, wind down from the day and watch the moon rise.

I'm adding Sycamore Valley Open Space to that list. This preserve is in a suburban setting, just off Camino Tassajara in Danville. In fact, I put off my first visit for a long time because I felt it might be too crowded or too close to traffic noise when I wanted quiet time. In fact, it has quickly become one of my favorites – a place where the noise quickly dissipates once you're on the trail. Only hawks, woodpeckers and mockingbirds provide the music.

The trail begins innocuously enough. A large parking area between an elementary school and a city park allows for generous parking space, even with two or three Little League games being played simultaneously. I inspected my gloves for holes; finding none, and with the trail tires on, I was out exploring.

I enjoy a first visit to most any park. I've managed to find quite a few this summer. That kid inside is still bent on exploring no matter how steep or tough a trail appears. I just want to see what's at the top! Although this park provides only a short trail network, it's just enough to take in after a day at work when you need a small bit of the outdoors to stay motivated. From the parking lot, there is just one way in, which makes route finding not much of a challenge. A short 200 yards will bring you to a gate; the signpost on the inside tells you you're on the Sand Hill Trail. Although the hills are composed of typical Valley grassland, there are a few nicely placed shade spots along the way. I started while the sun was still warming the earth quite efficiently, so these little shady rest points were perfect. Just off the trail, it was apparent a number of seasonal creeks tumble off these hills when it's raining. As I read today, we're heading into an "El Nino" weather pattern, so perhaps these dry creek beds will be full next winter. Cross your fingers, anyway.

An easy stroll brings takes you to the one steep hill. It's not as brutal as many I frequent. However, if you're not out often it might be a test. It's short, though, so make the effort and wander upwards. As you reach the point where the incline begins to level a bit, look to the right. There, you'll see one of the most impressive Valley Oaks in the area. Its massive trunk and 3 huge limbs provide a broad perch for all kinds of birds. The limbs are each as large in diameter as any two of the trees around this granddaddy. This tree is spectacular, well worth the short jaunt up the hill to see.

I looked out just beyond the tree to find the trees had disappeared. The light wind blowing across the golden wild oats cooled me down. I followed the trail to an intersection with the Short Ridge Trail, made a left and followed the modest incline. The elevation is just around 1,000 feet at this junction. Having scouted the map on the EBRPD website (www.ebparks.org), I knew I had about 8/10's of a mile to reach the end of Short Ridge. The round trip would be roughly 3.2 miles, an out – and – back route so we could get acquainted. The map shows a couple of different ways to return. I was so pleased to be out here I took my time and caught the views around me several times instead of worrying about a new trail back. That'll give me a reason to return.

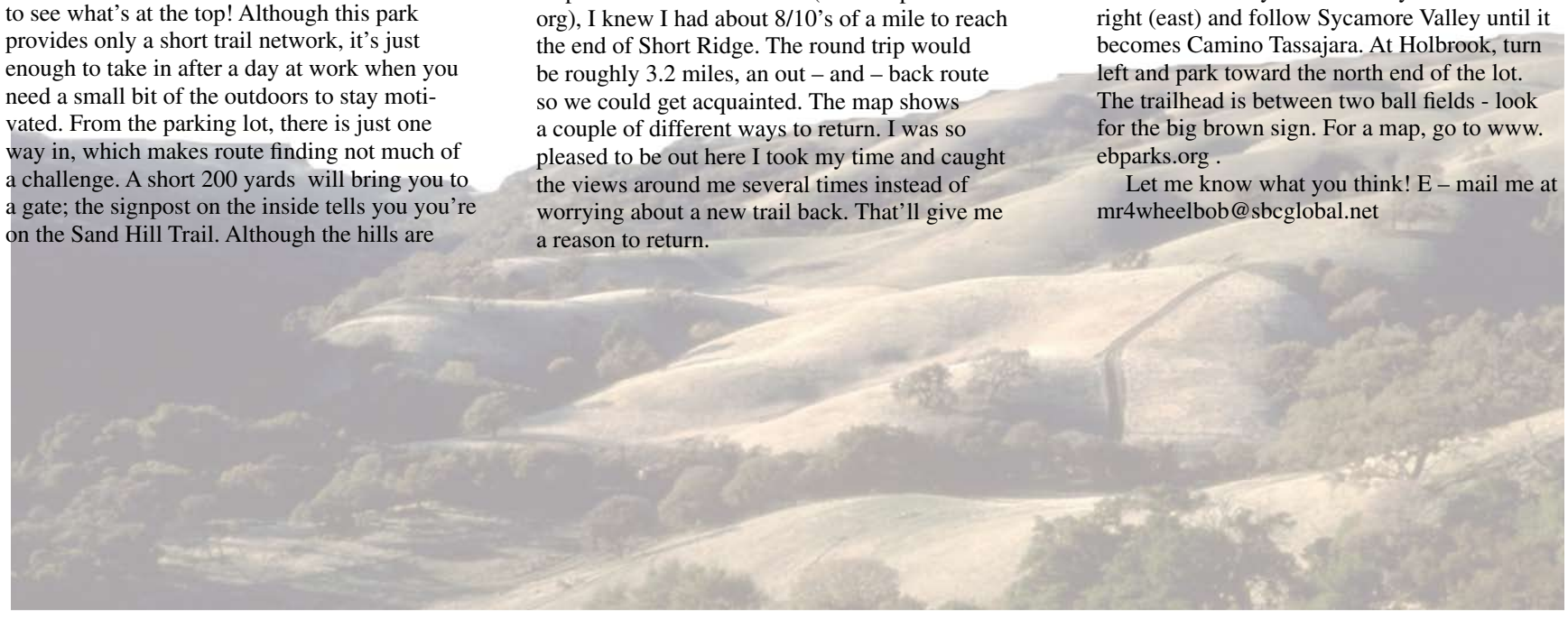
Whenever I go out on a hilly trail, I tend to stop and rest quite often. That sets up a funny dynamic most hikers never experience. I may sit just a little too long in a place, then look up to find a half dozen turkey vultures circling overhead. You'd think they know me by now. It happens everywhere. It sure can make a guy feel uneasy. I started moving once more, the vultures took off in search of something less alive than me. We were once more at peace. I enjoy having them around, though, like almost everything I run across.

At the end of Short Ridge is a nice little turnaround with a horse watering trough nearby. I could take on the breeze with a look to the west, following the ridgeline as it descended toward downtown Danville. It hadn't taken me long to get here. My headlight was in my pack, so why not watch the sun go to rest for the day?

As daylight faded, I started back to the car, following the trail I'd taken to come up. This time I surprised a deer on the way down. I don't think a lot of people use this trail at twilight. It's really a magnificent way to finish a tough day at the office. Pack a sandwich, something to drink and a flashlight or headlamp. Please pack trash out with you, of course. Enjoy an evening at this little wonderland! Oh, yeah – it's just as awesome at daybreak!

Directions to the Preserve: Take 680 north from Dublin to Sycamore Valley Rd. exit. Turn right (east) and follow Sycamore Valley until it becomes Camino Tassajara. At Holbrook, turn left and park toward the north end of the lot. The trailhead is between two ball fields - look for the big brown sign. For a map, go to www.ebparks.org .

Let me know what you think! E – mail me at mr4wheelbob@sbcglobal.net



Drive for the Cure Hits $1 Million Mark

Diabetic kids are (left to right), Sam Madden, Kendall Horalek, Tyler Bealmear, and Louise Marshall.

Pictured are Sam Madden and Grandpa John Madden

Despite a severe recession, a relatively new, local, annual fundraiser has already crossed the million dollar milestone! On Friday July 24, "Active Charity" held its 4th annual "Drive for the Cure" golf tournament, dinner and evening celebration at Wente Vineyards in Livermore. Proceeds fund the local chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, (JDRF).

This year the sold-out event raised over $250,000.00 dollars, pushing the organization's total over one-million dollars in just four years. "The generosity in tough economic times is amazing," said Jason Skeoch, one of the four co-founders of Active Charity, www.ActiveCharity.com.

one of the highlights of the event was the testimony of four young people who live and deal with juvenile diabetes, every hour of every day. "It's like a monster living in your closet every day," said Sam Madden, of Pleasanton, the eight year old grandson of NFL Hall of Fame Coach John Madden.

The Madden family and its Tri-Valley based charitable foundation are very involved in JDRF. Sam Madden was joined on stage by three other children with type 1 diabetes: Tyler Bealmear, age 18 of Alamo; Kendall Horalek, age 15 of Alamo; and Louise Marshal, age 10 of Danville.

Money raised from "Drive for the Cure" helps fuel JDRF's mission: to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research. Chevron and Tri Valley Bank were major sponsors.

"Active Charity" was founded by Jason Skeoch, of San Ramon, an executive with TriNet Communications, in Livermore; Dan Michie, of San Ramon, who works at Peterson Tractor in San Leandro; Ryan Ashburn, of Danville, who works at ADP in Pleasanton; and Rob Nowacek, of Danville, who works at Front Line Heavy Equipment, of Danville; four local men who became close friends while attending Cal State University at Chico. Now, as successful Bay Area businessmen, their close bond led them to form a charitable foundation to give back to the communities that so enrich their lives.

Milestones

Education

DePaul University student Rachael E. Caselli of Livermore (94550) has been named to the Dean's List for the 2009 Spring quarter. To receive Dean's List commendation, full-time students must earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or above on a four-point scale.

Berklee College of Music announces the Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2009 academic year. To be eligible for this honor, a full-time student must achieve a grade point average of 3.4 or above; a part-time student must achieve a grade point average of 3.6 or above. The following local students have earned placement on the Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2009 academic year: Don Allen from Pleasanton, Kristina Iftikar from Pleasanton, Galen Willett from Sunol, Sang Yun Yi from Pleasanton.

Library Offers SAT Workshop

The Livermore Public Library invites all high school students to attend a practice workshop for the essay portion of the SAT exam on August 6, 2009 from 12-1:30 pm. This free event will take place in Community Room B of the Civic Center Library. Please register for the SAT Essay Workshop at www.kaptest.com.

The SAT Essay Workshop, presented by Kaplan, publishers of testing resources, is a 75-minute event designed to give students the experience of writing a 25-minute essay under timed conditions, teach them exactly what the essay readers will be looking for, and introduce them to some effective strategies for writing the SAT essay.

For more information please, visit Teen Space on the library's website: www.livermore.lib.ca.us or call Sandy Fouts at 925-373-5500 extension 5583.

BUSINESS NOTES

Offices Relocated

Hoge Fenton Jones & Appel has relocated its Tri-Valley office on July 22, 2009. The new office will be located approximately one mile from its current location in Pleasanton.

For Hoge Fenton, a business law firm, the new office space means improved client service and new amenities for employees. "We are excited about our move to the heart of Hacienda Business Park," said Managing Shareholder, Steven D. Siner. "The quality and image of the new space is truly reflective of the quality of our law firm and we're looking forward to calling it home. The central location also will allow us to better serve many of our clients and business colleagues."

Hoge Fenton's new address will be 4309 Hacienda Drive, Suite 350, Pleasanton, CA 94588-2746. All phone and fax numbers will remain the same.

New Faces

Birth announcement: Mr. and Mrs. Jerin Kingston of Livermore announced the birth of their son, Brandon George on July 12, 2009 at San Ramon Regional Medical Center. This is their first child. Mrs. Kingston is the former Kimberly Marie Barton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barton of Livermore. Mr. Kingston is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Kingston of Diamond Bar.

Las Positas College Has Summer Work Program

When can changing a light bulb help change lives? When communities join hands to save energy and empower at-risk students.

Students are replacing old light bulbs, conducting household energy audits, and rebuilding computers through Las Positas College's 2009 Summer Work Program. In collaboration with the Tri-Valley Community Foundation, Las Positas College has been chosen to receive federal Recovery Act stimulus funding for innovative programs combining training and education in paid internships for 90 at-risk students.

"We are very excited about the Summer Work Program," said Leslie Gravino, Las Positas College Work-Based Learning Coordinator. "Not only are interns increasing their skills and gaining valuable work experience, but they also are contributing to the community. Their work is making a difference."

Gravino explained that Las Positas College received stimulus funding because of its successful track record managing similar programs that prepare disadvantaged students to enter the workforce. Work-Based Learning Program mentors are serving as academic and training coaches.

Other Las Positas College departments, such welding, are providing learning and working opportunities. Community program partners include: California Youth Energy Services (a branch of the Rising Sun Energy Center), PG&E, the City of Livermore, Digital Connectors/One Economy, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, AT&T, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, the Alameda County Fair, and Kidango.

For registration information, call (925) 424-1554 or go online at www.laspositascollege.edu Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

Community

Cancer Patient Grants

The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation has granted its first round of funds to Tri-Valley cancer patients to use toward complementary therapies, including acupuncture, acupressure, therapeutic massage, guided/visual imagery, and/or deep breathing meditation. The Foundation is now accepting applications and can fund up to $1,000 per patient.

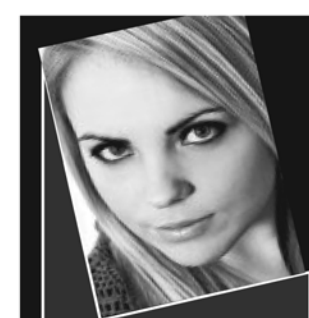
The Pleasanton-based Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation provides financial aid to cancer patients for complementary healing therapies which are not covered by insurance. These therapies, which complement traditional cancer treatment, can make a huge difference in the quality of life and recovery of cancer patients. The Foundation grew out of local resident Sandra Wing's own experiences battling cancer.

To be eligible for a grant, the applicant must be diagnosed with cancer; be under the care of a physician; be receiving chemotherapy or radiation treatment; reside in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon, or Danville; and may not have medical insurance which covers the complementary service(s) they desire.

Interested applicants can apply online at www.healingtherapies-foundation.org or can call 866-862-7270 for an application.

Military

Air Force Airman Cortney A. Kennerson graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. She is the daughter of Linda Kennerson Pleasanton, and David Kennerson of Auburn. Kennerson is a 2006 graduate of Village High School, Pleasanton.



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BULLETIN BOARD

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

Livermore-Amador Genealogy Society will meet Tuesday, August 11, 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton. The speaker is Richard Rands, Professional Genealogist, demonstrating a tool for genealogy research. His topic is "A Census Analysis Form". Free. Visitors are welcome. Marie Ross, 447-1806.

Save Mount Diablo will host its eighth annual "Moonlight on the Mountain" on Saturday, September 5. This special, one-of-a-kind event for 500 guests includes drinks and hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auction, elegant sit-down dinner, and live music. RSVP, call Nora, 947-3535

Damaged Care, will be shown at 7 PM at the IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin on Sat., Aug. 1. This film is a dramatization of the true story of Dr. Linda Peeno, who after working for a large HMO discovered that these companies were boosting profits by depriving patients of necessary care; and, she eventually testified before congress on this matter. Meet & greet starts at 6:30, while a short discussion follows the film. This event is open to the public, free/$3.00 donations welcome, refreshments are served. Hall is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 925-462-3459.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., general meeting 1:30 p.m. Tues., Aug. 4, Dublin Library. Lunch in Fremont, Aug. 6, 1 p.m., RSVP by Aug. 4 to Vickie 510-656-1166. Lunch in Hayward, Aug. 9, 1 p.m., RSVP by Aug. 7 to Gino 243-1282. Bocce Ball and lunch in Livermore, Aug. 10, 1 p.m., RSVP by Aug. 7 to Claudia, 510-538-9848. Fish fry in Dublin, Aug. 14, 5 p.m. RSVP to Hilda by Aug. 12, 398-8808.

Full Moon Walk, evening walk with National Park Service ranger Wed., Aug. 5 at John Muir National Historic Site's Mt. Wanda. Two hour walk. Reservations are required. Time will be given when reservation is made. Meet at the CalTrans Park and Ride lot, corner of Alhambra Ave. and Franklin Canyon Rd., Martinez. Bring water, binoculars (if available), a light jacket and flashlight. Wear good walking shoes, trail is steep. Reservations at 228-8860.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Aug. 1, 70/35 miles Hekaton route, meet 9 a.m. at Dublin High School, Brian Boerman, 510-381-4442. Sun., Aug. 2, 35 miles Embarcadero to Tiburon and Larkspur, meet 10 a.m., Bill Goodwin, 487-0521. Wed., Aug. 5, 38 miles Berkeley Aquatic Park to Emeryville Marina and along Bay Trail to Pt. Richmond, meet 10 a.m., Bill Goodwin, 487-0521. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, candlelight vigil 7 p.m. Wed., Aug. 12 in front of the Museum 603 Main Street Pleasanton followed immediately by a peaceful march to City Hall. 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. Contact: Cathe Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowding@pacbell.net.

Tri-Valley United Democratic Campaign's Annual Summer BBQ, Sun., Aug. 16, noon to 3 p.m. Pleasanton Sports Park, group picnic area, 5800 Parkside Dr., Pleasanton. Meet the Democratic candidates for Congressional District 10 before the Sept. 1 primary. Catered by Armadillo Willy's. Info & reservations @ www.tvudc.org/events.php

Profitable Exporting for Small Businesses, Las Positas College class Wed., Aug. 12, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. $39 fee. 925-424-1467, http://www.laspositascollege.edu

Tri-Valley Democratic Club, meeting and potluck dinner, 6:30 p.m., Mon., Aug. 17, IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. The purpose of the meeting is to plan club direction and activities for 2010. Other club activities will be discussed including voter registration, program committee (arranging for speakers and parties), hospitality committee (serving refreshments at meetings), promotion committee (announces club events in the press) and the TVUDC. No speaker is scheduled.

East Bay LBD & Other Dementias Caregivers Support Group, Caregivers and family of loved ones suffering from Lewy Body Dementia as well as Alzheimer's and Vascular Dementias are invited to join the group, newly formed and meeting in Livermore. The group meets twice monthly at the Livermore Public Library and at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Both monthly meetings are held from 7:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more information and to receive a schedule of meeting dates please contact the group facilitator: Karen Jenkins 925-325-0544 kjenkins@rsac.com

Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Organization BBQ, Sat., Aug. 8, 5:30 to 11 p.m. Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton, Ivy Glen BBQ area. 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Tri-tip with all the trimmings. KGO's Gary Hansen, MC; music and dancing, live and silent auctions, no-host bar. $30 per person. Tickets available at Chamber of Commerce, Peters Ave. or Downtown Association on Main in Pleasanton.

Bingo, every Sunday, Games 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. 18 $250 pay-outs, 1 $350 payout, & more! Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. 606-7777. Must be 18 years old to attend.

Semiannual Glass, China and Pottery Show and Sale, Aug. 1 and 2, Sacramento Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H St., Sacramento. Hosted by the International Depression Glass Club. Portions of the paid entry proceeds go to the Sacramento Alzheimer's Association and Sacramento public libraries. glbglass@comcast.net.

Adult and Teen Volunteers Needed this summer for the Tri-Valley Youth Court (TVYC). Teen volunteers can serve as Advocates (youth attorneys), Court Clerks and Jurors. Advocates prepare and present the case for the Defendant. Jurors and Court Clerks are needed one evening per month – the first Tuesday from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm at the Gale/Schenone courthouse in Pleasanton. TVYC is a diversion program for first time teen offenders. For more information, visit our website at www.trivalleyyouthcourt.com or call Tonya at (925) 337-7175.

The 12th Annual Pooch Parade will take place on Wednesday, August 5, 2009 in downtown Pleasanton. Registration begins at 5 p.m. and the parade starts at 6 p.m. at Wayside Park, corner of First Street and Neal. Enter your pooch in one of eight categories. The entry fee is $10.00 per category. All proceeds benefit the Tri-Valley Guide Dog Puppy Raisers. For complete details and registration go to http://www.trivalleyguidedogs.org.

Job Discovery Group, meets Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore. Bring resume (and maybe a few extra copies to pass around), ideas, roadblocks & any resources to share in a supportive & proactive atmosphere of networking at UUCiL. Contact Brent Parry or Maureen Hamm (BrentParry@aol.com) /(mhamm33@earthlink.net) for more info.

Saturday Night Dance, all summer, open to the public, free half-hour salsa lesson before the dance party. Lessons begin at 7 p.m.; open dance,

RELIGION

Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. Sunday worship. Information 447-1950.

Calvary Chapel Livermore, Sunday Services 10:30 am and 6:00 p.m. 545 N. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - www.calvarylivermore.org.

Grief support, meetings 2nd and 4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m. August 13 and 27 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Open to all, regardless of religious orientation. Call Mary at 846-5377 with questions.

The Ministerial Roles of Women, series Out of the Shadows, Into the Light presented by Betty Levin, sessions are a part of her thesis work, focusing on women's roles in the church. July 30: The Early Church; Aug. 6: Phoebe the Deaconess; Aug. 13: Women's Ministry Today. Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m. St. Charles Church, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Information, contact Julie Gallagher, Lifelong Learning Coordinator, upcatholic@aol.com or 447-4549 ext. 114.

Summer Prayer/Meditation Circle - 60 minutes of prayer, meditation, song, and sharing. Tues. evenings, 7-9 pm, Tri-Valley Unity Church, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Rm. 120, Dublin. (925) 829-2733.

Seventh-day Adventist Church, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, Pastor: John L. Bechtel. Saturday: Bible Study: 9:30 am / Worship Service: 10:50 am; Wednesday: Bible Study: 7:00 pm; Pot Luck 4th and 5th Sabbaths. http://www.livermoresda.org/

Vacation Bible school, Pleasanton Evangelical Free Church 6900 N Valley Trails. Aug 3 and runs through Aug 7. Soccer camp from 9 am until noon each day . All skill levels welcome. Snacks will be provided. The fee is $10. Information: RunDiego1@aol.com cell phone number 925 200-0385. Thank you

Tri-Valley Unity Church, Sermon Talk and After-Service Workshop on "Finding Your True Purpose: Opening a Connection with Your Own Soul," on Sun., Aug. 9, starting at 10 a.m., meeting at 2260 Camino Ramon, San Ramon. The workshop (11:30-12:45) will be led by Nancy Montier, CPCC, Coach. For more information, please contact Nancy Montier at 510-886-7374.

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