



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

Zone 7 Agency Welcomes Brown's Backing of 'Twin Tunnels' Plan

By Ron McNicoll

The announcement by California Gov. Jerry Brown that he favors a plan to build two tunnels under the Delta to convey more fresh river water to state and federal water projects was welcomed by Zone 7 Water Agency general manager Jill Duerig.

Brown's announcement on July 25 amounted to an endorsement of a plan that was the result of years of deliberation among stakehold-

ers involved in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). The talks were led by state and federal officials in the fields of water supply and environmental protection.

Brown still would have to obtain approval from the Legislature to make the plan a reality. He did that once before, in 1982, in his first tenure as governor.

The bill to construct a Peripheral Canal around the Delta passed the Legislature in 1982, but it was ended by

a state initiative. Some 90 percent of northern California voters voted against it.

Duerig said in a formal statement, "The Delta's ecosystem is in crisis while the state's water project is comprised of infrastructure that is aging and inadequate. Taking steps now for a Delta solution that employs science to address both needs equally may be the single, best chance to avoid disaster."

"The entire Bay Area

depends on the Delta watershed for two-thirds of its drinking water supply. For people in the Tri-Valley, the plumbing that is proposed in tunnels under the Delta is no less than a lifeline to the Sierra snowmelt needed to maintain our current quality of life," said Duerig.

"The Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) is our best hope of addressing the challenges of a deteriorating Delta ecosystem and building a water conveyance

system that can withstand the effects of a major earthquake and climate change," Duerig stated.

Duerig told The Independent that the reliability of the water supply from the Delta now is "unacceptable." She said, "We won't have enough water to put into the storage basin (under the Valley). We will see the supply declining. It will not be reliable enough, nor will there be enough of it." Close (See WATER, page 10)

Livermore Schools Plan Transitional Kindergarten Program

Beginning with the 2012-13 academic year, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) will offer a Transitional Kindergarten Program (T-K program), SPROUTS, Students Participating in Readiness Opportunities Using Themes in Science.

Schools participating are Altamont Creek, Jackson Avenue, Marilyn Avenue, and Michell K-8.

In the past, children born before Dec. 1 start kindergarten. The new transitional program has established a three year lead in to change the admission date. In the first year, admission will be to children born between Nov. 1 and Dec. 1; the second year between Oct. 1 and (See TRANSITIONAL, page 3)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The City of Pleasanton's Dolores Bengtson Aquatic Center (DBAC) will be the host site for the annual Tri-Valley Swim League Championships on Saturday, August 4, 2012. Swimmers warmed up for the championship meet with dual meets last weekend.

CalTrans Hears Ideas About Lower Impacts For Niles Canyon Road

CalTrans can construct many low-impact modifications to Niles Canyon Road to make it safer, without greatly changing the road.

That was the word from consultants who spoke at a three-hour meeting on July 30 to more than 125 concerned residents from Sunol and Fremont.

A year ago, the agency cut down 99 trees and proposed removing 600 more trees to widen the road and add shoulders.

The consultants suggested working mostly within the frame of what is already there, adding such things as radar signboards to slow motorists, and adding re-

(See NILES, page 2)

Merchant Wants a Flagpole Back On P Street

By Ron McNicoll

Livermore once was a strong flagpole city, with the crowning glory of Old Glory, first flying in 1905, on a pole that was 126 feet tall, at the intersection of North Livermore Avenue and First Street.

There still is a tall flagpole at that location, a 120-foot fiberglass pole, which replaced the wooden one in 2005.

However, missing in the downtown are what one merchant recalls as "six flagpoles that you could see when you looked right down First Street" from his store,

(See FLAGPOLE, page 2)

LARPD Declines to Discuss Merger

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) rejected a request to discuss the potential for LARPD to become an enterprise program governed by the city.

The LARPD board vote was unanimous.

The request came from Mayor John Marchand. The premise behind the idea is that over \$3 million per year from the ERAF (Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund) property tax shift would be realized. The City of Livermore also loses money to ERAF each year, but at a lower percentage. The theory is that the shift of park funds would be reduced to the level of that of the city.

Director Maryalice Faltings was the only board member who commented on the issue. She stated, "To the mayor, what part of 'no' are you not understanding. This is an independent district." She added that (See MERGER, page 5)

California Vaccination Law Saving Lives: Kaiser Expert

By Jeff Garberson

While states from Washington to New York are reporting serious outbreaks of whooping cough, California appears to be protected against epidemics this year at least partly because of a

new law requiring whooping cough vaccinations for nearly all children going to school, according to a Kaiser Permanente expert on vaccinations.

The state law was passed a year ago in response to a

2010 epidemic that killed 10 California children — all infants — and sickened thousands more. That epidemic was a "catastrophe" because whooping cough epidemics are largely preventable, according to David Witt, the

Kaiser expert.

Witt has studied vaccine effectiveness nationally and in California, most recently publishing a paper on vaccine effectiveness in Marin County. In an interview last week, he said the whooping

cough rate in California is "trivial" so far this year.

According to the California Department of Public Health, Alameda and Contra Costa counties have each reported only two cases of (See LIVES, page 10)

Oversight Board Approves List of Recognized Obligations

The Oversight Board of the Livermore Successor Agency approved the Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) for the first six months of 2013.

The vote was 5 to 1, with

Beth Wilson opposed. Bill Dunlop was absent.

The Oversight Board is charged with reviewing actions taken by the Successor Agency in winding down the Redevelopment

Agency in Livermore. The ROPS consists of a list of enforceable obligations that the Livermore Successor Agency (LSA) needs to pay on behalf of the former Livermore Redevelopment

Agency (RDA). The ROPS includes loans, bonds, and agreements. Among the agreements is one with the nonprofit Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) to build a regional

theater.

Wilson, who represents the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District on the Oversight Board, questioned whether the regional theater (See OVERSIGHT, page 5)

Summit Got People Looking at Taking Action for Hispanics

People attending a White House Hispanic Community Action Summit at Las Positas College talked about their hopes in helping Latinos succeed in the nation's educational system.

The summit was held July 26. It drew 276 community members from four counties along with 20 federal officials.

It was the 21st such gathering in the nation over the past year or so. The series was started when White House policymakers held a national conference, and learned that people at the grassroots wanted to take action on the problems facing Hispanics concerning education.

Marco Davis, deputy director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, chaired the all-day conference.

Davis credited Aaron Ortiz, a Livermore resident who heads the newly formed East Bay Youth and Family Initiative (EBYFI), based in Livermore, for taking the leadership role in organizing the Las Positas event.

After hearing speeches from Davis and colleague Gabriel Sandoval, the attendees moved into discussion groups to assess needs, think of solutions, and form action plans that might implement solutions.

They discussed ensuring adequate provision of health care by getting information out to Hispanic people. Job creation through support of small businesses and the local economy was another topic.

"Fixing our broken immigration system" was another agenda topic in the discussion groups. One participant (See ACTIONS, page 5)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A dedication ceremony was held Tuesday to welcome the University of San Francisco (USF) East Bay campus to Pleasanton. The campus is located in a building at 6120 Stoneridge Mall Road, about one block from the West Dublin/Pleasanton BART station. "The new USF Pleasanton campus builds upon our extensive 30-year history in serving the academic and professional development needs of the East Bay," said Desiree Shaw, director of the campus. The academic programs at the Pleasanton campus are offered through the School of Management, School of Education, and School of Nursing and Health Professions.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Jerry from the Siamese and June is a seal point Siamese. At about 4 months old, they are ready to conquer the world, meet new people, and explore new digs. They are a bonded pair who will melt your heart the minute you set eyes on them. For more information, call 925-426-8656 or go online to www.valleyhumane.org or www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety to see other adoptable dogs and cats. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada St., Pleasanton. Photo by Trina Cort

VALLEY ROUNDUP

Testing Completed

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) successfully conducted the third seismic Source Physics Experiment (SPE-3) at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). The seismic experiment was the third in a series of seven underground, fully-coupled, high-explosive field tests.

The series is a long-term NNSA research and development effort that aims at improving arms control and nonproliferation treaty verification. The experiment's findings are intended to advance the U.S.'s ability to detect and discriminate low-yield nuclear explosions amid the clutter of conventional explosions and small earthquake signals.

NNSA's three national laboratories have already used the data from the first experiment in the series, SPE-1, executed on May 3, 2011, and the second, SPE-2, executed Oct. 25, 2011, to refine and improve geophysical models and to make pre-shot predictions for SPE-3. The results of SPE-3 and all further experiments will continue to advance the national nuclear security strategy across the whole of government.

The Source Physics Experiments represent a U.S.-interagency wide endeavor, with Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories and the Department of Defense's Defense Threat Reduction Agency all serving as partners in SPE-3. Each entity brings its own expertise and resources to the experiment and all will share the resulting data.

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is an integral part of the U.S.'s nuclear nonproliferation and arms control agenda that prohibits all nuclear explosive testing. In the absence of nuclear explosive testing, the U.S. Government employs a number of programs to verify a safe, secure and reliable nuclear stockpile. Elements such as seismic Source Physics Experiments provide the ability to better monitor and characterize foreign weapons programs to verify treaty compliance.

Hiroshima Day

Hundreds of peace advocates to "Foreclose on the Bomb, Not the People" are expected to gather Sun., August 5 to commemorate the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The event will take place from 4 to 6 p.m.

According to the protestors, nuclear weapons spending has increased. They will talk about the economic reality of weapons spending while people's basic needs go unmet. There will be speakers, music, local organizations, and food courtesy of Food not Bombs.

Natalia Mironova, engineer, activist and former legislator from Chelyabinsk, Russia, will speak on US-Russian nuclearism. Other speakers will be Takashi Tanemori, Hiroshima bomb survivor; Michael Eisenscher, US Labor Against the War; Tara Dorabji, Tri-Valley CAREs; Andy Lichterman, Western States Legal Foundation.

Music includes Emma's Revolution, back for a return engagement, local band Tasha Kame, and Daniel Zwickel.

The event will take place across from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory at William Payne Park, corner of Vasco Rd. and Patterson Pass Rd., Livermore.

Stark Best for Working Families

Rep. Pete Stark (D-CA) was recognized by Working Mother Media and Corporate Voices for Working Families with the 2012 Best of Congress award. Stark was honored for his longstanding support for working families through legislation, advocacy, and by setting an example through the family-friendly policies promoted in his Congressional office. Stark and other 2012 winners will be featured in the August/September issue of Working Mother magazine and on WorkingMother.com.

Stark announced nearly \$5 million in grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing (HUD) and Urban Development to Alameda County. The money will help improve housing and economic opportunities for moderate-, low-, and very low-income individuals in Alameda County.

Stark stated, "I am very pleased to see that Alameda County is receiving the funding and support that it deserves. The County continues to work tirelessly on behalf of those in need, and this federal support will help our local government to provide ongoing assistance to low-income people and families, emergency homeless shelters, and affordable housing."

The HUD grant money will be awarded through:

- Two Community Development Block Grants totaling more than \$2.5 million, in order to help local government create and expand housing and economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals.
- Two Emergency Shelter Grants totaling \$200,470, which will fund quality improvements and expansion of homeless shelters.
- One grant through the HOME program totaling nearly \$2 million, which will help support housing programs for affordable housing to low- and very low-income families.

TRANSITIONAL

(continued from page one)

Dec. 1. By the third year, the cut-off date for enrollment will be Sept. 1.

The focus for the transitional kindergarten program is Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math or STEAM. The SPROUTS T-K Program is designed to be the first year of a 2-year kindergarten experience for children affected by the State change in kindergarten eligibility. Program hours are 8:45 - 12:05 daily.

The Kindergarten Readiness Act of 2010 amended the California Educational Code to change the required birthday for admission to kindergarten and first grade. The act established a transitional kindergarten program beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. Research shows that children who attend kindergarten readiness programs such as transitional kindergarten are more likely to do well in school and become lifelong learners. A transitional kindergarten is the first year of a two-year program that uses a modified kindergarten curriculum and is age and developmentally appropriate.

Superintendent of Schools Kelly Bowers said, "In the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD), we recognize that by enrolling students in a transitional kindergarten class, we optimize the likelihood that they will continue a successful K-12 educational career in our District. The SPROUTS T-K program will capitalize on young students' natural curiosity and eagerness to learn, and ensure our 'budding young minds of the future' blossom into exceptional students and make the most of their entire academic experience. This is how life-long learners are cultivated."

According to Kim Farand, SPROUTS Coordinator, "The LVJUSD Transi-

tional Kindergarten planning team met over the course of the past year to develop this unique curricular offering. The instructional and curriculum considerations are based on a blend of the California Kindergarten Standards, California Preschool Foundations and the California Common Core Standards. As developmentally appropriate, the program is driven by student interest and the Life Science Experimentation and Investigation standards. The interactive classroom structure is designed to include centers and multiple settings for hands-on activities and whole group circle time, and is organized around big ideas and themes."

Curriculum is centered around the UC Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science themes from their Great Explorations in Math and Science (GEMS) curriculum for young learners. Read aloud materials link to this curriculum, enabling teach-

ers to develop vocabulary, reinforce literacy concepts, and increase content knowledge. Additional materials used to increase literacy include Handwriting Without Tears and Zoo Phonics. These materials work to develop phonemic awareness, phonics skills, letter recognition, letter/sound patterns, appropriate letter formation, and writing skills. Additionally, students will use Math Their Way to explore patterning, number sense concepts, geometry, and measurement.

Currently, children who turn 5 in November are eligible for the SPROUTS program. Older children can request a transfer into SPROUTS and will be admitted on a case-by-case basis.

To find out additional information about the LVJUSD SPROUTS T-K Program contact Student Services at 925-606-3206. A child may be registered at www.livermoreschools.com

LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA

Notice of Availability Draft Livermore Climate Action Plan

The City has prepared a Draft Climate Action Plan (CAP) for public review. The Draft CAP outlines strategies and activities the City and Community can take to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emission levels produced in Livermore.

The CAP implements General Plan policy and statewide efforts, under the Global Warming Solutions Act, to reduce GHG emissions in California to 1990 levels by 2020.

The public review period is from **Wednesday, August 1 through Friday, August 31, 2012**. Planning Commission and City Council review is tentatively scheduled for September and October, 2012.

Copies of the document are available for review online at: www.cityoflivermore.net/citygov/cd/planning/default.asp and at:

City Hall, 1052 South Livermore Avenue
Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue

If you have questions or wish to submit comments by e-mail or in writing contact: Susan Frost, Principal Planner (925) 960-4450, smfrost@cityoflivermore.net or Ingrid Rademaker, Senior Planner (925) 960-4475, irademaker@cityoflivermore.net



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Audience members dance to the Latin jazz with salsa music of El Desayuno during the Friday Nights LIVE concert last week. On Aug. 3, the Gabe Duffin Band will play classic rock. The free concerts are sponsored by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC). They are presented on the Shea Homes Stage outside the Bankhead Theater from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. each Friday night from June through mid-September. The final concert on September 14th launches the fourth annual LVPAC Guitar FEST featuring live music, free clinics and other events for guitar enthusiasts and music fans. The Bankhead Theater and Shea Homes Stage are located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore.

END OF SUMMER SPECIALS

Summer Special
30% OFF
Teeth Whitening
\$350
(Normal Cost \$500)
Present coupon at time of appointment.
Expires 09/14/12

\$50
New patient exams
& x-rays for patients
without insurance.
Can not be used with any other offer.
Present coupon at time of appointment.
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New patient exams,
x-rays & cleaning for
patients without insurance
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Palo Alto Medical Foundation
A Sutter Health Affiliate

Community Health Education Programs

For a complete list of classes and class fees, lectures and health education resources, visit pamf.org/healtheducation.

August 2012

A Mother's Place: Postpartum Support Group

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
925-875-6223

Dublin Center
4050 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin



Meet with an R.N. and certified lactation consultant to ensure your first weeks of motherhood are healthy and happy.

Your Baby's Doctor

First Wednesday of the month,
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
650-853-2960

Dublin Center
4050 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin



This is a free one-hour class to learn about normal newborn appearance and behavior as well as soothing techniques from one of our Dublin Center Pediatricians or Family Medicine doctors. After the presentation, our doctors will be available for a Q&A session about everything newborn as well as how the pediatrics and family medicine departments work, what happens in the hospital and what to look for in the first few weeks with your baby.

Childbirth and Parent Education Classes

650-853-2960
- Breastfeeding - Secrets for Success
- Preparing for Birth

Nutrition and Diabetes Classes

510-498-2184
- Living Well with Diabetes

Weight Management Programs

510-498-2184
- New Weigh of Life (adult weight management)

Community Health Resource Center

The Health Resource Center offers information and support for those who wish to make informed decisions regarding their health and wellness. The center is open to all members of the community.

- Nurse health educators
- Health reference books
- Health lectures
- Health newsletters
- Informational brochures
- Educational DVDs and videotapes
- Access to health information websites
- Information on community resources

Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.,
Dublin, 925-875-6150 and Fremont,
510-623-2231

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OVERSIGHT

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should be an ongoing obligation. She suggested that a discussion should take place regarding the city's future involvement with the theater funding. "We keep voting to roll everything over."

Wilson declared, "Using public funds for a private enterprise may or may not be legal, but in my mind, it isn't right. It's not moral and it's not just. It towers above any other reasoning, pro or con."

After the meeting, City Manager Marc Roberts pointed out that there is a long history of public-private partnerships involving both for-profit and nonprofit groups. "The premise behind such agreements is that the city is providing funds to accomplish a particular goal that can't be met in the private market." One example he provided is the need for affordable housing. The city backed several developments in order to provide affordable housing at Heritage Estates and with Eden Housing (Stoney Creek) and Bridge Housing (Heritage Park). Heritage Estates provides senior housing. It was built by a for-profit group. Both Eden and Bridge are nonprofits.

In other cases, property has been assembled, then sold at a loss, continued Roberts. The building in which Uncle Yu's is located is one such project. Another is Station Square on Railroad Avenue. The latter case involved brownfield clean-up. The movie theater paid for its property. The city's contribution to the project was parking in the nearby garage. The three projects are examples of partnerships with for-profit businesses.

Valerie Raymond addressed the meeting with concerns about the continued support for the regional theater. She noted that the board has a fiduciary responsibility to look out for local taxing districts who would receive money that formerly went to the RDA. She asked if the board could terminate, renegotiate or buy-out contracts.

Roberts said at the meeting that the board also has a fiduciary responsibility to all of those entities who hold contracts with the former Redevelopment Agency. "The larger question is whether it is possible to contractually undo an enforceable obligation. There could be a devastating impact on the nonprofit LVPAC. The two theaters have been linked from the beginning. If the project did not move forward, there could be a negative impact on the Bankhead Theater and possibly on the city."

At a later time, Roberts said, "The Oversight Board can choose to break a contract. However, according

to contract law, there are consequences for doing so." In one case, a contract may not be fulfilled, damaging the other party, which has spent money depending on the fulfillment of the contract. Another potential issue could result if the party were depending on the contract to make money or as part of a business plan. Both of these have very serious consequences, said Roberts.

Len Alexander, CEO of LVPAC, noted, "LVPAC, a community-based non-profit, has depended on the Disposition and Development Agreement (DDA) that our organization made with the City of Livermore and the Redevelopment Agency on February 14, 2011. To date, we have spent over \$9.2 million dollars performing our obligations as required by that DDA. We continue to expect that the City and the Successor Agency, which has taken over the legal obligations of the Redevelopment Agency, will honor the agreement that we entered into in good faith."

Other concerns raised by Wilson were related to parking, the potential success of such a large theater, and the impact on the character of the downtown. "We're a quirky town of scientists, cowboys, and beautiful wine country, and we're not trying to be something we're not. In the unlikely event that it (the regional theater) is successful, Livermore would look quite different than it is now."

Observers point out that Livermore looks quite different from how it looked just a few short years ago. First Street is now a two lane city street rather than a four lane highway. There are theaters, restaurants and a parking garage with a high level of pedestrian activity almost every night of the week.

Supervisor Scott Haggerty, a member of the Successor Board, suggested that it is not up to the board to undo a contract approved by a past Livermore City Council. "Our role is to determine if the theater is an enforceable obligation." The board has voted twice in support of leaving the theater on the ROPS.

Stewart Gary, who represents Livermore on the board, asked staff to provide specific information with regard to what the Agency can or cannot do. He then asked staff about the state's reaction to listing the regional theater on the ROPS.

Roberts said the state Department of Finance first asked questions about the various agreements with LVPAC. Then, the Department of Finance left the regional theater on the list. There were no comments provided.

ACTIONS

(continued from page one)

said that he was on a Spanish-speaking voter drive, and signed up three or four people at the first house. The grandmother there wasn't registered. Asked why not,

she said, "No one ever asked me."

Representatives of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) said in one group that they

MERGER

(continued from page one)

LARPD is able to provide park and recreation services more effectively than could the city.

Mayor Marchand said he felt that a discussion should take place concerning a potential merger. He said that the city had conducted two studies that identified how to bring an additional \$4 million in resources to the district. He explained that the city had conducted two studies. Setting up the district as an enterprise fund would ensure that all of the revenue due parks and recreation would be used for that purpose. There would be no net revenue going to the city.

Marchand pointed out that the district recently lost funding for its ESS program, voted to close the Rock Gym, and were unable to provide financial support in the effort to bring back the fireworks.

Marchand added, "If the district and its constituency aren't interested in holding any discussions, the city won't pursue any additional action."

General Manager Tim Barry reported that unless the state makes a change in its current policy, it appears that no reduction in ERAF would occur. That opinion came from several different sources. One was the Alameda County Tax Manager and Auditor/Controller, who theorized that unless the state directs otherwise, the ERAF calculation would remain the same in the event of a consolidation. No reduction in the ERAF shift would occur.

Barry said the same viewpoint was voiced by the executive director of California Association of Recreation and Park Districts.

Barry provided an example of a consolidation that did occur. Brentwood and its park district consolidated. "There was no change in the ERAF shift after the merger," he stated.

There are other ramifications involved in a potential merger. Barry explained that because LAFCO requires there to be a 70 percent territorial overlap between the consolidating agencies, LARPD would have to detach territory including, perhaps, Sycamore Grove and Brushy Peak.

Barry said that as a single purpose district, LARPD is able to use all of its funds for parks and recreation. As a subsidiary to the city, it would have to compete for funds with police, fire and public works. "Citizens aren't asking for someone else to operate the parks and recreation district," concluded Barry.

In other board action, a new contract for General Manager Tim Barry was approved, extending it through June 17, 2015. Changes to the contract include an increase in the monthly mileage allowance, which was last set in 2005, and a one-time retention bonus that will be administered to all District employees, with the maximum level set at \$1,500.

Wendy Weathers, chairwoman of the Livermore Fireworks Committee, was presented with certificates of appreciation for outstanding efforts to reinstate Fourth of July fireworks in Livermore for 2012. Weathers reported that enough funds were raised to kick start next year's event, and they are already looking for sponsors.

Several announcements were made by staff and Directors:

- The Board will hold two upcoming on-site park meetings, one at Ralph T. Wattenburger Park on Aug. 15 and one at Sunset Park on Sept. 19. Both meetings will start at 6:30 p.m. and will provide the neighborhood a chance to meet with Directors and staff.

- Registration for fall classes and programs will open Wednesday, Aug. 8. The brochure is available on-line now at www.larpd.dst.ca.us.

- In the face of its inability to meet its mandated duty of reimbursement due to lack of funds, the State has suspended the sections of the Brown Act that require local agencies to issue and post meeting agendas; however, the District will not be changing its procedures because of its belief in the importance of the principal of transparency of government. LARPD will continue to post and give 72-hour advance notice of meetings. The district will continue to comply with all Brown Act requirements.

like to encourage immigrants to attend swearing-in ceremonies of new citizens as a role model for what immigrant parents and children can do.

The USCIS can arrange such a ceremony at a school, for example, if a teacher is becoming a new citizen. At one school in Point Reyes, the entire school attended a ceremony.

At swearing-in ceremonies in larger public halls, county voter registrars are there to register the new Americans. Partisan political and community groups can do that too, but they must be outside the premises of the ceremonies, said one USCIS representative.

The USCIS can't involve itself in partisan politics. That was also stated by Davis, who said the conference is on the policy side of the White House, not the political campaign side.

In the last event of the conference, the discussion groups met together and reported their ideas for action. Staff from Chabot College and a community college in Stockton said they will be networking with USCIS to discuss attendance at monthly swearing-in ceremonies.

After the conference, Ortiz said he was pleased by the turnout. "It was quite amazing. We were all in awe. I think it started a dialogue here in the Tri-Valley, and with organizations in Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara and San Joaquin counties," said Ortiz.

Among Valley attendees were Livermore school trustee Belia Martinez and Pleasanton school staffer Patty Blair.

SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS

Martinez works part-

time for EBYFI, said Ortiz. The organization creates programs to serve young people and their families in the East Bay, primarily in the Valley.

EBYFI was created formally on July 1, after having been sponsored for two years by the now defunct Tri-Valley Community Foundation.

Ortiz is writing grants to secure funding for EBYFI programs. EBYFI employs six full-time staff and six part-timers.

One program currently operating is a year-round job internship with 30 foster and probation youths enrolled. Martinez created the program, and administers it.

The youths work for 150 hours during the summer, and another 150 hours during the school year at the California minimum wage of \$8 per hour. They gain work experience. Some have been offered their intern jobs as permanent positions, said Ortiz.

Another program, begun when EBYFI was under the wing of the Community Foundation, is Boys to Men at Livermore High School. The program supports at risk youths, some of them potential gang members, in making good choices about their lives.

EBYFI also has conducted psychology education workshops at Livermore, Del Valle, and Vineyard High Schools.

Ortiz said that as far as reaching out to youths and families with programs that will help them, "we are just scratching the surface. There is still a lot of work to do."

"We will establish a baseline of where things are. Once we figure it out, it will tell us where we need to go," said Ortiz.

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SPORTS NOTES



Livermore Fusion 98 Boys team (U14) played in the 2012 Azuri Summer Classic Tournament this past weekend. It was their first tournament of the season and a step in competition from their Bronze level State Cup Championship last year. The boys started the weekend with a solid 1-0 victory over Dublin United, narrowly missing a handful of opportunities to blow the game open. The team was missing two players and suffered two injuries in the first game, which resulted in a challenging 6-2 one sub loss to Gold Level Capital Athletic Soccer Association. The game got away late as the boys finally wore down in the summer heat. The next day, the boys put it together against eventual champion Gold Level Mustang United in an evenly matched 1-0 loss. While the team went 1-2, the boys performed very well while stepping up in competition. Pictured are: Coach: Craig Scheer, Players: William Chacon, Lucas Coppock, Benjamin Dupuis, Dillon Eng, Max Ibanez (pictured), Brendan McCafferty, Daniel McGreer, Charles Mitchell, Cameron O'Shaughnessy (GK), Luis Angel Ortiz, Nico Robles, Ben Schasker, Ethan Shang, Brian Zarate. Not present, but missed Ethan Aboumrad and Austin McMillan

Fusion Soccer

The Livermore Fusion Soccer Club entered teams in their first tournament of the summer this last weekend. Some of these tournaments include the Azuri Summer Classic in San Ramon and The Diablo Summer Classic. The U16 Boys also entered a 6 vs 6 competition in Sonoma. Two of the teams entered in the Azuri tournament won their division.

The Livermore Fusion SC U9 Girls Maroon is coached by Laura King and Matthew Fitchett. They started the weekend out with a strong win against Mustang Fire, and concluded Saturday with a shutout win 3-0 against the hosts, San Ramon Soccer Azuri 04G. Sunday morning began with another solid performance against Lamorinda United 03W, which put the team in top position moving into the championship game, against UC Premier. Both teams came out fighting. Fusion's offense, led by Emily Johnson, Laney Lawrence, Jordan Knight, Peyton McGrail, Gracie Contreras, and Maci McCormick continually attacked UC and came up with a goal before the half. Defensive players Jayden Thomas, Cassidy Castro, Emma Shingler, Bryanna Leary and Bella Lopez made sure to keep Union City away from their end of the field, and continued this pattern until the end. Fusion battled hard and scored another

goal in the second half, finishing the game with a 2-0 shutout win.

The Livermore Fusion SC U10 Maroon Girls also entered and won the Azuri Summer Classic. They went undefeated in the tournament. In the qualifying round they faced the FCA Sparks team and defeated them 11-1, next they faced Benicia Arsenal FC and defeated them 10-0. On the second day of the tournament they defeated San Ramon Azuri, 5-2 in the semifinals. That win qualified them for the final match where they defeated the Tahuci FC 5-0 to become the 2012 San Ramon Azuri Summer Classic Champions. After the carnage was assessed, Livermore Fusion SC U10 Maroon Girls, led by Coach Matt Caution, scored 31 goals and allowed only 3.

The Livermore Fusion Boys U14 competed in the Azuri Summer Classic Tournament. This was their first tournament of the season and a step up in competition from their Bronze level State Cup Championship last year. The boys started the weekend with a solid 1-0 victory over Dublin United, narrowly missing a handful of opportunities to blow the game open. Unfortunately, the team was missing two players and suffered two injuries in the first game, which resulted in a challenging 6-2 loss to Gold Level Capital Athletic Soccer Association. The game got away late as the boys finally wore down in the summer heat.



The West Coast Soccer U-12 Wrath picked up where they left off in February at the La Coba Classic where they made the finals playing a year up. This time the team marched south to Ocean Beach San Diego to match will against the toughest teams the Wrath has played to date. West Coast Soccer U12 Wrath win the Championship Trophy at the Albion National Soccer Showcase Cup in San Diego. Pictured are Tyler Rene Enderlein, Ast. Coach Todd Lawsen Kaylie Lawsen, Kylie Karter, Kate Wallace, Anneliese Widmann, Kalea Bartolotto, Profesional Coach Paul Giamona, Leila Anzo, Hayley Thompson, Lindsey Philips, Abby Andrews, Abby Hoobing, Kelsi Green, Brianne Radliff, and Fran Hyde

The next day, the boys put it together against eventual champion Gold Level Mustang United in an evenly matched 1-0 loss. While the team went 1-2, the boys performed very well. All signs indicate that the team is ready to build on last year's success.

Fusion SC also entered a few of its teams in the Diablo Summer Classic. The U13 and U14 girls teams both put on great performances. Not to be outdone, the U12 Girls Gold reached the top of their bracket before succumbing in the semi finals.

For more news about the Fusion Soccer Club, check out the website <http://www.fusionsc.org>

Pleasanton Ballistic

The 2012 version of the Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club (BUSC) U19 Select ventured to Elk Grove to begin the season, and came away with a third place finish.

Game one was against Fruitridge RSR. The Select started like it was their first game. RSR put early pressure on GK Bailey Roberts, forcing him to make two acrobatic saves in the 13th and 17th minutes. The Select regrouped and had a golden opportunity in the 41st, when two point blank tries were stopped by the RSR keeper. In the 51st, Drake Foote sent a lofting cross back post to Jack Simmons, but his header try was saved. Roberts had to come up big on another breakaway in the 53rd. The game ended 0-0.

Game two was against the Elk Grove Heat. The Select were playing toe to toe, and were again helped by a Roberts save on a breakaway, and the half ended at zero. Early in the second half, the Heat applied heavy pressure

and Roberts was forced to punch out a shot that still was dangerously close to the goal until Grant Petrie made a terrific clearing header off his line. However, the Heat converted shortly thereafter on a corner, and the Select trailed 1-0. A missed PK by the Heat in the 45th gave the Select life, and they almost knotted the game on another strong shot by Simmons in the 48th, but they eventually fell 1-0.

Game 3 was the semifinal against the Elk Grove Milan. It turned into a classic "the better team didn't win" game. Another early defensive rotation error gave the Milan a shot and a 1-0 lead early. For the next 55 minutes, it was all Select, except the goal. Dustin Lacy had a header just high off a lofting cross by Kevin Faggiano in the 11th. Simmons forced a diving save in the 15th, and made a steal to lead Alex Codik down the sideline. Codix went high far post and just missed tucking it under the crossbar. Foote launched one from 35 yards that went just high. But the Select still trailed 1-0 at half. In the 36th to 37th minutes, they forced 4 corner kicks. Simmons had a free kick go high from 22 yards, and blistered one near post in the 60th minute that was punched out on a diving save. The Select suffered the 1-0 loss.

The consolation game pitted the Select vs the Advance. Continued improvement in the offensive buildup led to many quality chances. The best of which was Foote finding himself 5 yards out but unable to convert after a goal mouth pileup. The Select looked absolutely snake bitten, and when the Advance converted in the 29th for the 1-0 lead, there was a big hole to dig out of. But the Select got their shovels



The Livermore National Little League 10 year old All Stars took 1st place the Livermore American All Star Tournament. Pictured are (top) Coach Dave Lord, Manager Tony Farner, Coach Rick deLisser; (middle) Drew Dillon, Eric Ruloma, Ryan Hanley, Mason Smith, Nathan Findley, Jack Wilson; (bottom) Jacob Lord, Mateo Moncada, Colby Smith, Zachary Harris, Bobby Farner, and Mason deLisser. The National All Stars went on a 6 game winning streak to capture the championship.

out and got it done. Center back Wes Rager, who had a stellar weekend defensively, did the offensive dirty work in the 31st, winning a ball in the air and touching a soft header to Garrett Leone in front of the Advance net. If you had Leone in the pool for first goal, you are eligible to collect. Leone powered it home for the 1-1 tie at half.

Energized with the goal, the Select came out with more of the same. Simmons drove the middle in the 55th minute, patiently waited out the defender to commit, and led Leone 1v1 to goal. He slotted it home for the 2-1 lead. The Advance pressed for the equalizer, but the defense of Rager, Petrie, Faggiano, Andrew Natsch, and Arthur Kuo buckled down and did not allow any dangerous attempts. Codik made a steal deep in the Advance end in the 69th minute and blistered a left footer far post for the 3-1 final. The Select (1-2-1) next head to Soccer by the Bay.

Pleasanton Rage

The Pleasanton Rage U12 Orange team started the season started in fine fashion by going undefeated in the Pleasanton Showcase tournament the weekend of July 28-29.

Rage started the tournament by drawing with Lamorinda 3-3 in a wild back and forth game. Rage goals were scored by Maggie McPeck, Abby Fried and Holly Judson. In the 2nd game of the day Rage, defeated De Anza Force 2-1. Judson and Yasmine Springer scored for Rage as Rage earned its 1st victory of the season.

On Sunday, Rage defeated San Juan Sprits 3-1 with Springer scoring twice and McPeck scoring once. Finally, in the last game of the day Rage earned a win in the consolation game by defeating a tough Mustang Blast team 1-0. Fried scored the games

lone goal and goalie Haley Roundtree recorded her 1st shutout of the season. The Coach is Trisha Gonzales. Team members are: Abby Fried, Addy Mapes, Delaney Soble, Eknoor Kaur, Haley Roundtree, Holly Judson, Isabella Adams, Isabella Huyler, Karin McCarty, Casey Cring, Kiera Hegarty, Leila Shafi, Lilly Fehrmann, Maggie McPeck, Natalia Margaris, Sarah Mirr and Yasmine Springer.

West Coast Soccer

The West Coast Soccer U-12 Wrath picked up where they left off in February at the La Coba Classic where they made the finals playing a year up. This time the team marched south to Ocean Beach San Diego to match will against the toughest teams the Wrath has played to date. The Albion cup tournament featuring teams from the most competitive clubs in the state began for the Wrath with a closely fought match pitting two determined teams battling to set the tone for their own destiny. Both clubs traveling a great distance for the chance to compete against the best competition fought to a 3-2 Wrath win against LHSC Eclipse West. After going down to an early goal, the Wrath players showed spirit, heart and fire. With Hayley Thompson's equalizing goal off a through pass from Kelsi Green. After well executed chances for both squads Eclipse broke the deadlock late in the first half on a beautiful follow up shot following a great penalty kick save by Brianne Radliff. The girls battled back after the restart and were awarded a free kick from 22 yards out on the top right which Francisca Hyde deposited in the back of the net to draw the match to a tie. Francisca then scored another pressure packed penalty kick from roughly the same location on the pitch and secured the 3-2 Wrath victory.

The Wrath then were matched

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Class Teaches Participants the Buzz Behind Beekeeping

By Carol Graham

It's a summer morning in the country.

The earth is still damp and cool from the night, wild grasses scent the air, and with each minute the sun works up its dazzling, terrifying heat. The grapevines are thriving, taller than most men. From high above comes the nearly imperceptible drone of bees - a fitting soundtrack for the day's activities.

At Retzlaff Vineyards, Ed of Gerard'Z Honeybees breaks into a huge grin. "Wine is just to cleanse your palate for honey," he tells the 20 people attending his Introduction to Beekeeping Workshop. It is a class he began teaching in March at local wineries, nurseries, and festivals.

"Eighty percent of everything we eat has something to do with bees," says Ed, noting that bees play a critical role in pollinating all flowering plants and are particularly important for increasing orchards' productivity. "Each year 40% of beehives die off due to pesticides, starvation, disease, predators and Colony Collapse Disorder (a recent phenomenon in which worker bees abruptly disappear from a hive or colony)."

Ed's interest in bees began at age nine when he started helping his grandfather Gerard. "Baseball?" Ed's father said to him. "Get over there and help your grandfather."

Starting out with just three hives, Ed's second-career enterprise took off as colonies outgrew their space and broke off to create new hives. "We provide pollination services. I'm also active in swarm removal throughout the Bay Area,"



Ed discusses bees and beekeeping during a seminar at Retzlaff Vineyards in Livermore.

says Ed. "Free bees, are you kidding me?"

His enthusiasm paved the way for hosting his beekeeping seminars at Retzlaff. "He called us one day regarding selling his honey in our tasting room," recalls manager Salome Garau-Taylor. "He was so animated and

excited about his bees and his honey business that we really couldn't resist.

"We produce our wines from our own organically-certified grapes and take pride in our wines just as Ed takes great pride in his honey. The bees are sort of his buddies. They're thought

to be true indicators of a healthy environment; those bees are quite happy when they visit the winery."

Ed notes, "There's a lot of spirituality in beekeeping. Bees live like man should live. They're solely concerned with raising their babies; they are not going

to leave them. If there are uncare for babies, they're on it."

The reason these non-aggressive insects may sting is to scare people or large predators and to kill insects and small predators such as moths and mice, Ed explains. Since stingers are attached to the bee's internal organs, a stinger embedded in fleshy tissue will result in the bee's death.

Along with focusing on the importance of bees and their behavior, the two-hour introductory class teaches how to build and expand hives. "Hives must be near a water source, even if it's just sprinklers," says Ed. "They should face east, get afternoon shade, and must have at least some sun during the day."

To enlarge crowded hives or to introduce new hives, Ed recommends a gradual evolution. "Once bees get to know each other, they're okay," he says. "They're like us: if you show up on my doorstep, I'll think you want my honey. And I love my honey."

For Livermore resident Linda Nidever-Galles, the biggest surprise was the use of pre-made frames to house the hives. "If you think about it, it makes sense to have your bees working on making honey instead of honeycombs," she says, adding that she's gathering information to see if it makes sense to start a hive in her vineyard. "This is a great class for all ages."

Both wine tasting and honey tasting are included

in the workshop. Participants choose from several flights of wine available in Retzlaff's country-style tasting room. Some of the honeys available to taste include star thistle, pomegranate, orange blossom and avocado honey.

"Two tablespoons of honey a day are known to reduce allergies, arthritis, sore throats and digestive disorders," says Ed of raw honey's antioxidants, proteases, enzymes, minerals and the antimicrobial properties that make it a natural antibiotic.

Upcoming classes, including Colony Splitting and Relocation, Bee Maintenance, and Bee-Bee-Q, are listed on Gerard'Z Honeybees website. Attending makes a great kick-off for a day of wine tasting or for simply enjoying the beauty of the Livermore Valley.

Participant Rich Pixley sums it up perfectly. "Bees are in trouble and they are a key part of our food cycle. Beekeepers help," he says. "Ed is quite knowledgeable, puts on a fine show, and the winery (with wine tasting!) is a lovely venue for it."

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Wheels to Increase Bus Service Starting in Late August; Changes in Some Routes

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, operator of the Wheels bus system, will increase service for the third consecutive year with its Fall 2012 service change. Effective Saturday, August 25, 2012, changes to the Wheels fixed routes will be implemented as follows:

Route 1: The route alignment has been extended east to Fallon Rd on Sundays.

Route 2: The route alignment has been extended north on Tassajara Rd past Dublin Ranch Rd and east to Fallon Rd. The service will run every 45 minutes.

Route 3: The route direction has been reversed to clockwise in the morning and counter-clockwise in the afternoon. The hours of operation have been increased to provide continual service between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm on Saturdays. Beginning January 2013, service frequency will be increased to every 30 minutes.

Route 3V: The route has been renamed Route 203. Route 203 will run only on school days.

Route 8: New Sunday service, from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm, has been added. Select

trips have been modified to serve the new Pleasanton Gateway Center on Bernal Ave.

Route 9: On trips that continue to and from Route 70X, the route alignment has been modified to exclude the Chabot Dr loop. This area will continue to be served by Route 9 and will run every 30 minutes.

Route 12: On Saturdays, the route alignment will shift to the newly constructed Jack London Blvd extension and will include stops at the Paragon Outlets. This service change is anticipated to start in November 2012.

Route R (Rapid): The hours of operation have been shifted by one hour, starting at 5:30 am and ending at 7:30 pm.

Route 201: The route alignment has been extended further north on Tassajara Rd and east to Fallon Rd.

Route 202: Service coverage has been expanded in the central Dublin Ranch area to include Brannigan St and Gleason Dr. Extensions to Positano Pkwy and Croak Rd are planned in the near future.

Route 612: This route has

been discontinued. Transfer opportunities between Routes 8 and 10 have been optimized at Neal/First to provide service coverage to this area.

The fall Wheels Bus Book will be available online August 10, 2012. The

new Bus Book will be available aboard the bus, at all public libraries and at the Transit Center on August 17, 2012.

For more information, call the Wheels Customer Service line at (925) 455-7500.

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THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A



Sally Struthers

Sally Struthers Brings Her Show to the Firehouse

The Firehouse Arts Center Cabaret Series will present Simply Sally Struthers, a rare intimate evening of songs, stories, and laughter with the television, film and Broadway personality.

The performance will be Saturday, August 11, 2012 at 8:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

Struthers is best known as Gloria Stivic on television's *All in the Family*, for which she won two Emmy awards in 1972 and 1979, and as Babette Dell on *Gilmore Girls*. She also starred in Broadway productions of

Annie, *Grease* and *The Odd Couple*.

After a brief Archie Bunker's Place spin-off, *Gloria*, in 1982–1983, Struthers became a semi-regular panelist on the 1990 revival of *Match Game*. She also appeared occasionally as a celebrity guest on *Win, Lose or Draw*, had a recurring role as Bill Miller's manipulative mother, Louise, on the CBS sitcom, *Still Standing*. She was a regular cast member on *Gilmore Girls*.

Struthers provided voices for a number of animated series such as *The Pebbles* and *Bamm-Bamm Show* and *TaleSpin*. She was

(continued on page 3)

Entries Being Accepted in New Acoustic Guitar Competition

Larry Carlton to Perform at Guitar Fest LIVE!

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center has announced a new Acoustic Guitar Competition to take place during LVPAC's fourth annual Guitar Fest LIVE! a weekend-long celebration of guitars and guitar music centered in and around the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore. A package of prizes, including valuable media exposure and performance opportunities, will be awarded to non-professional guitarists. The competition is expected to draw talent from throughout the region.

The competition finals will take place Sunday afternoon, September 16, 2012 beginning at noon on the Artistic Edge Acoustic Stage at Blacksmith Square on North Livermore Avenue across the street from the Bankhead Theater.

Each year Guitar Fest LIVE! features headline performances by world-class guitarists inside the Bankhead, free outdoor concerts and guitar clinics, as well as a showcase of the latest guitar equipment.

A free performance by the Volker Strifler Band on the Shea Homes Stage outside the theater kicks off the festival on Friday evening, September 14th.

Throughout the afternoon on Saturday September 15th, there will be free guitar clinics

at ABC Music Store and Academy on First Street, as well as performances on the Shea Homes Stage and the Artistic Edge Acoustic Stage at Blacksmith Square, culminating in a performance by the Larry Carlton Trio inside the Bankhead.

Four time Grammy Award-winner Carlton has been called one of the most accomplished, admired and imitated guitarists in the world. His guitar stylings are heard on more than 100 gold records with artists from Barbara Streisand and Joni Mitchell, to Dolly Parton and Michael Jackson.

His legendary solo on Steely Dan's "Kid Charlemagne" is considered one of the most influential guitar solos of all time and he has released more than 20 solo albums. Tickets to see the Larry Carlton Trio range from \$35 to \$52 for adults and \$14 for students.

The festival concludes with the acoustic guitar competition on Sunday afternoon.

Since the Bankhead Theater opened in 2007, audiences have filled the venue for performances by such world-renowned guitarists as Eric Johnson, Dave Mason, Lee Ritenour and the late Ronnie Montrose.

"Guitar Fest LIVE! was designed to reflect the broad



interests of both guitarists and audiences alike and to represent the many different styles of music within the world of guitars," said Len Alexander, LVPAC's Executive Director. Competitions held during the festival in past years have largely attracted electric guitar participants. This year's competition is exclusively acoustic.

Guitar Fest LIVE! and the Acoustic Guitar Competition are sponsored by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center joined by local businesses.

The grand prize winner will receive a Voyage-Air Songwriter Series guitar, an interview with Rosalie and a recorded song aired on KFOG's Acoustic Sunrise, an article and music video posted on GuitarPlayer.com, a recording session at Studio D Recording with award-winning engineer/producer Joel Jaffe, three paid performance engagements at select Downtown Livermore businesses, and a paid spot on stage during the 2013 Livermore Wine Country Festival.

Entrants in the Guitar Fest LIVE! Acoustic Guitar Competition must be 18 years of age and a non-professional guitarist as outlined in the application.

(continued on page 2)

Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra Back at the Bankhead

Ottmar Liebert and his band Luna Negra have performed at the Bankhead Theater every year since his first appearance in 2009.

Incorporating international rock, jazz and pop music influences, Liebert redefined the art form with his double platinum debut album *Nouveau Flamenco*. The album, which included his signature song "Barcelona Nights," is one of the best-selling guitar albums of all time. Tickets for the single performance by Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra on Thursday, August 9 at 7:30 p.m. range from \$39 to \$62 for adults and \$14 for students.

Liebert has earned a strong global audience with music that is a reflection of the sounds and experiences he discovered in following his youthful wanderlust. He bought his first guitar when he was just 11 and left his home in Germany at the age of 18 to travel the world, where he was quick to explore and adapt to the musical traditions he encountered. Over the years, he blended his love for the unique, rhythmic aspects of traditional flamenco with haunting Eastern European melodies, passionate Hungarian gypsy music and distinctive South American percussion. Through his



Ottmar Liebert will debut "Dune."

music, he evokes a sense of time and place, light, texture and mood.

After living in New York for a number of years, Liebert eventually settled among the artistic community in Santa Fe, New Mexico in the 1980s. He initially played in local restaurants

and small venues, but his first album, recorded for limited release at an art show in Santa Fe, sparked such an enthusiastic response from local radio audiences, it was released by an independent record label as "Nouveau Flamenco" and quickly went platinum.

Considered one of the world's most successful and prolific instrumental artists, Liebert has released more than two dozen albums in the decades since "Nouveau Flamenco." He has been nominated for five GRAMMY Awards and nearly every one of his albums has achieved gold or platinum

status. While often classified in the World Music or New Age categories, Liebert's music and his relaxed stage presence appeal to fans from across all musical genres. His most recent release "Dune" continues to express the evocative sounds and rhythms inspired by his life in the American South-

west and was described by Culture Court as "poetic sunshine at midnight."

Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra appear as part of the LVPAC Presents series at the Bankhead Theater showcasing artists in a wide range of music, dance and other performing arts. They will be followed by an evening with singer/songwriter Jerry Jeff Walker, whose original country, jazz and folk rock sound will fill the Bankhead on August 17.

Throughout the summer, LVPAC Presents sponsors live music on the Shea Homes stage outside the Bankhead Theater from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. every Friday. These free concerts culminate in mid-September with the launch of LVPAC's fourth annual guitar festival, Guitar Fest LIVE!, a weekend filled with live guitar performances, free clinics, and a new acoustic guitar competition at Blacksmith Square across the street from the theater.

Tickets for all LVPAC Presents performances including Ottmar Liebert, Jerry Jeff Walker, and the complete 2012-2013 season are on sale now at the Bankhead Theater box office or online at www.bankheadtheater.org

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore.

GUITAR MUSIC

(continued from front page)

Applications must be submitted by August 15, 2012 with \$25 entrance fee. The top six entrants selected using a weighted combination of public voting and the input of professionals in the music industry, will be invited to perform before a panel of expert judges and live audience at Black-

smith Square in Livermore on Sunday, September 16. Applications and complete information are available at www.guitarfestlive.com.

Tickets for the Larry Carlton Trio concert as well as for all events in the LVPAC Presents 2012-2013 season are on sale now at the Bankhead Theater box office

or online at www.bankheadtheater.org.

LVPAC Guitar Fest LIVE! 2012 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, September 14: Free outdoor concert by The Volker Strifler Band on the Shea Homes Stage outside the Bankhead Theater. 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 15: Free guitar clinics at ABC Music Store and Academy. 2156 First Street. 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.; Free live music on the Artistic Edge Acoustic Stage at Blacksmith Square. 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.; Free live music on the Shea Homes Stage outside the Bankhead Theater. 4:00 to

7:30 p.m.; Guitar equipment showcase. Open to the public 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.; open to concert ticket holders in the Bankhead Theater lobby. 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. and during intermission. Concert with Larry Carlton Trio, Bankhead Theater. 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 16: Acoustic Guitar Competi-

tion Finals at Artistic Edge Acoustic Stage in Blacksmith Square. 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org.

Bud Donaldson Receives Jefferson Award for Unique Art and Music Programs for Veterans

Art and music nurture the soul. No where is that more apparent than the Veterans Administration Hospital in Livermore, where interactive programs of painting and music have drawn reclusive veterans out of their rooms.

Bud Donaldson is the founder of the unique program. Two afternoons a week, he and other volunteers teach painting. A third afternoon is devoted to music. For his efforts, Donaldson is the recipient of a Jefferson Award.

Donaldson himself is a veteran, serving 23 years in the Air Force, flying 150 missions over Vietnam and earning 3 Distinguished Flying Crosses.

The Jefferson Awards are a prestigious national recognition system honoring community and public service in America. The Jefferson Awards are presented on two levels: national and local. They were instituted in 1972 to create a Nobel Prize for public service. Today, their primary purpose is to serve as a "Call to Action for Volunteers" in local communities.

The program at the Livermore site is unique. It is the only weekly program run by volunteers. "We can always use more volunteers," Donaldson mentioned. His description of a volunteer, "The person should be dedicated, fun

loving and a little crazy. You have to have an open mind."

About 17 instructors have participated in the program over the last eight years. Some had very little experience, others came in with 20 to 30 years of painting expertise. Donaldson mentioned his current volunteers: Lynn Foote, Jeanette and Doug Brown, Linda Lavis, Tries Cunningham, Leigh Masi, Janie Alvegedis, Lorrie Jones, and Dick Seavey. "We don't have credentials, we're not therapists, we're not psychologists," he said. "We are dedicated and compassionate."

Donaldson says that he had wanted to paint and at age 50 started taking lessons. Eventually, he began teaching his grandchildren to paint. After moving to Livermore, he taught painting in his home to students ranging in age from 6 to 72.

In 1998, he started volunteering at the VA, helping the art teacher. "After she left, I took over the class. But soon traded the art for playing guitar." Donaldson and other volunteers now play every Friday. Anywhere from 5 to 9 musicians are on hand on any given Friday.

In 2004, he began to teach water-based oil painting to three veterans. He supplied all of the paint and other needed supplies. "It was a success. I recruited other artists to help. Over the last 8 plus years, we have

had over 120 veterans paint at least one painting, some have created over 70 works of art." One of the original three veterans, Sonny, is still participating in the program.

Donaldson recalled that it took three months to draw Sonny into the class. He was full of anger. During the first three years in the program, he turned his anger into love, made up with his children and has sold over \$800 worth of paintings.

Work created by the veterans has been displayed at the Livermore ArtWalk, the Creative Art Show in Palo Alto, the Livermore Library and on-site in the nursing home. He uses frames that he collects at garage sales to display the paintings.

Donaldson sees the benefit of his and his volunteers paying dividends, "creating small miracles. Despite all of their problems, they come down and they try."

One patient with ALS, Jim, never got out of bed for six years. He was sent to the Livermore facility. His roommate urged him to join the painting group. Jim was given a wheelchair and could use his chin to move it. He came down and watched, finally coming up with an idea to put a glove on his right hand with a slit under his middle finger. A brush was placed in the slot. His hand was attached to his knee with velcro and he finished his painting by moving the

brush with his knee.

According to Donaldson, Jim has said that if it weren't for his painting classes, he would hardly get out of bed. Now he can paint on his own, mix his colors and will be receiving a new chair so he can use his hand instead of his chin to move around.

Mike was paralyzed from the neck down. Over the last two years, he has created nine paintings using his mouth to hold the brush.

Ozzie used to stay in his room. He was wounded in the head while serving in Vietnam and was afraid to be around people. He has been painting for four to five years. Today he is very sociable and goes out on outings provided by the VA.

In the information submitted to nominate him for the Jefferson Award, Sue Scott, Voluntary Service Specialist at the Livermore service, had much to say about Bud. He has volunteered over 8,250 hours. He was instrumental in starting and keeping the art program up and running and is a key player in "Sally's Pub," on Friday afternoons. He has an incredible library of music and makes sure the residents hear their favorite songs. He plays his sax at memorial services for the veteran residents who pass away. He also visits the residents with one of the pet therapy dogs.

Donaldson says, "Volunteers find that they get back

as much as they give." As for myself, "I am doing what I want to do at this point in my life."

Anyone who would like

to volunteer is invited to help out on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. Music is played on Fridays.

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SALLY STRUTHERS

(continued from front page)

one of the voice stars on ABC's Dinosaurus produced by Walt Disney and Henson Productions.

Struthers is also widely known for her work with ChildFund International, advocating on behalf of impoverished children in

developing countries, especially Africa. Her activism has been satirized on television episodes of Grey's Anatomy, In Living Color, and South Park.

Tickets are adult: \$28, \$33 and \$38 and senior; \$28,

\$33 and \$33. Group discounts are available. Tickets may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box

Office. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. The entrance to free parking is on Spring Street near First Street.



The photos are of the Del Valle summer camp excursion held last month.

The American Indian Center Fosters Appreciation for Indigenous Culture

Across the nation Native American Indians gather for powwows, attend cultural classes, take field trips and learn Native American dancing to celebrate and preserve their indigenous heritage. Locally, Indian Education Program director Mary Puthoff, of the Livermore American Indian Center, located at Rancho Las Positas Elementary School, 401 E. Jack London Blvd., Livermore, works to foster appreciation for and create pride in Indian culture.

Puthoff, born on the Rosebud Lakota Reservation in South Dakota, was adopted at age five into a family that raised her in the Black Hills. Once married, she and her husband brought their young family to the Bay Area. Puthoff received her degree from UC Berkeley.

“One-third of Indians, nationally, haven’t been raised by birth families,” said Puthoff, referring to the

Indian Adoption Project. It is a contract which existed from the 1950’s until about 1970 through the collaboration of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the U.S. Children’s Bureau and the Child Welfare League of America, allowing the adoption of Native American children to white families in the U.S. The idea was to allow Native children to have a better life.

“The Livermore American Indian Center serves students of American Indian heritage in the Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, Sunol Glen and Castro Valley school districts,” said Puthoff, who has held her Tri-Valley Program Specialist, Title VII, position since 1978. “Families may sign up with the Indian center even with a small amount of Indian heritage, depending on the tribe.”

The museum exhibits a large collection of memorabilia and historical artifacts to promote understanding

and respect for the heritage of our continent’s earliest inhabitants.

“The facility is centrally located for those coming from out of town,” explained Puthoff. “The museum was previously located at Junction Ave. K-8 School for over a decade. It moved to Rancho Las Positas Elementary in 2011.”

The museum is federally funded through the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, which annually applies to the Office of Indian Education, U.S. Dept. of Educ., for a grant to operate the Indian program. The mission of the Office of Indian Education is to support the efforts of local educational agencies, Indian tribes and organizations, and postsecondary institutions to meet the educational and culturally-related academic needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

“The family or guardians of kids of American Indian

heritage fill out a form so the school can count each child for funding under the program,” said Puthoff. The form asks for verification (if known) of the student’s Indian tribe, band or group. Puthoff said there are over 100 tribes represented in California.

Free services provided for participating students include genealogy research, tutoring, heritage enrichment, summer day camp, scholarships, tobacco prevention education, and referrals for social services and counseling. At Christmas these students receive gifts from an American Indian Santa Claus, courtesy of donations the program receives throughout the year.

“Working with kids, in a variety of activities, is never boring,” said Puthoff.

The 2012 American Indian Education Program Summer Camp was held 9 a.m.-4 p.m., June 18-21 at Lake Del Valle, and Native

American Day will be held in Sept. 2012 at Rancho Las Positas Elem. School in Livermore.

To visit the museum, contact Mary Puthoff at

mputhoff@lvjUSD.k12.ca.us or call 925-606-4748 ext. 3, or visit http://rancho.schoolloop.com/cms/page_view?d=x&piid=&vpid=1211910070914

Zydeco Festival Set

Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont will host the Annual Cajun Zydeco festival on Saturday, August 11.

The day will be filled with the Cajun/Zydeco music, dancing, Cajun & Creole cuisine and other festival food favorites. The 16th annual festival features Chubby Carrier & The Bayou Swamp Band, Bay Area favorites Andre Thierry & Zydeco Magic, Corey Ledet & His Zydeco Band, and opening the Festival is Tom Rigney & Flambeau.

Gates open at 10 a.m., live music will play from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Proceeds benefit the Park Express Transportation Program for low-income schools and groups serving senior or disabled persons visiting the East Bay Regional Parks. Additional donations welcome. Contact the Regional Parks Foundation: (510) 544-2202.

Ardenwood Historic Farm is located on Ardenwood Boulevard just north of Highway 84 (Dumbarton Expressway) in Fremont. Advance tickets: \$18 for adults, \$3 for youth (ages 4 – 15 years). Advance tickets can be purchased through August 8 at (510) 544-2202 or online at EBParksOnline.org. Day of event tickets: \$22 for adults, \$5 youth (ages 4 – 15 years), 3 years and under free. Free parking.

Additional information can be found at (510) 544-2202 or www.ebparks.org.

Taste of Downtown This Weekend in Livermore

Livermore Downtown Inc. presents the "Taste of Downtown; Explore the More," a food & wine stroll through downtown Livermore. The event will be held August 4 and 5 from noon to 5 p.m. each day. Purchase a "Taste of Downtown" Passport and Wine Glass then stroll downtown where participants will be able to sample 18 different wines in participating downtown stores and food samples from over 19 downtown restaurants. Live music will be performed at the Flag Pole Plaza, Bankhead Plaza & Blacksmith Square. The passport is also good for a free horse drawn carriage ride.

Pre-sale Passport & Wine Glass Packages are available for \$35.00 (if purchased by August 3rd) at Artistic Edge at Blacksmith Square, 21 S. Livermore Ave. or online at www.livermoredowntown.com

Passport & Wine Glass Packages will also be available for \$40.00, while supplies last, the day of the event at the Flag Pole Plaza on the corner of First Street and Livermore Avenue. Those who have a 2012 Livermore Wine Country Festival Wine Glass, will be able to purchase a passport for \$25.00 Pre-Sale or \$30.00 day of the event. Food only Passports will be available the weekend of event for \$15.00.

For more information please visit www.livermoredowntown.com or call Livermore Downtown Inc. at 925-373-1795

Authors to Present Program at the Library on Two Paths to Getting Published

Authors Lorena Bathey and Susy Flory will present their program *Two Paths to Getting Published* at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, on Sunday, August 5, 2012 at 2 p.m.

There is no charge for this event. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Authors Lorena Bathey and Susy Flory will share their stories of the trials and tribulations they face when the writing's done and compare the traditional and self publishing routes, among the many options available to writers today.

Susy Flory is a New York Times best-selling author who grew up on the back of a quarter horse in Northern California. She took degrees from UCLA in English and psychology and has a background in journalism, education, and communications. Susy first started writing at the Newhall Signal with the legendary Scotty Newhall, an ex-editor of the

San Francisco Chronicle and a one-legged cigar-smoking curmudgeon who ruled the newsroom from behind a dented metal desk where he pounded out stories on an Underwood typewriter. She taught high school English and journalism, then quit in 2004 to write full time for publications such as Focus on the Family, Guideposts Books, In Touch, Praise & Coffee, Today's Christian, and Today's Christian Woman. Susy is the author or co-author of four books, including *So Long Status Quo: What I Learned From the Women Who Changed the World*, as well as the much-anticipated 2011 memoir she co-wrote with blind 9-11 survivor Michael Hingson, called *Thunder Dog: The True Story of a Blind Man, His Guide Dog, and the Triumph of Trust at Ground Zero*.

Lorena Bathey's first book was *Happy Beginnings*, a hysterical memoir of her journey to find herself

after her world fell apart while she was facing her mother's death and her own divorce. These circumstances pushed her to change and inspired her to learn to make her own wishes come

true rather than waiting for them to happen. Lorena has gone on to write and publish Beatrice Munson, House on Plunkett Street, and coming soon, *The X*.

The Friends of the Liver-

more Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.



Day in the Park
Sunday, August 26, 2012
11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. • Camp Arroyo, Livermore

Silent Auction • Live Auction • Epicurean Ensemble
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call 925.455.5118 or send an e-mail to TTFF@ttff.org

A Benefit Supporting Northern California Children with Life-Threatening and Chronic Illnesses, Developmental Disabilities and Youth At-Risk.

Tri-Valley Treasures Can Be Seen at the Bankhead

Tri-Valley Conservancy and the Bankhead Theater are working together to share an exhibit of the winners from the 2012 "Tri-Valley Treasures" Plein Air competition and top 25 Freeze Frame photographs from our 2011 competition.

The exhibit will run through September 10. A reception is set for August 15 from 6 to 8pm in conjunction with the Founder's Room Exhibition Reception for realist artist Maryann Kot, also at the Bankhead Theater.

Linda Ryan, curator and manager of the Bankhead Theater Art Exhibition program stated, "I'm delighted with this exhibition of the Freeze Frame photographs and the Plein Air paintings. Each piece captures the rural and agricultural landscapes of our community. I am thrilled to be working with the Tri Valley Conservancy."

For more information about Tri-Valley Conservancy, the art exhibit at the Bankhead Theater, or the upcoming 2012 Freeze Frame competition beginning August 27, please visit our website at www.trivalleyconservancy.org.

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Camp Arroyo is owned and maintained by San Bay Regional Park District and is managed in partnership with The Taylor Family Foundation and YMCA of the San Bay.

Artist's Reception Scheduled at Prudential

The artwork of Alan Ryall, a Livermore artist who specializes in marine paintings, is on display at Prudential California Realty, 1780 First Street, Livermore, through Sept. 30.

A free reception with wine and hors d'oeuvres will be held Saturday, Aug. 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Alan Ryall's paintings depict a variety of marine subjects in settings that convey the feelings and moods of the marine environment — the exhilaration of sailing in a stiff breeze on San Francisco Bay, the tranquility of a misty Chesapeake dawn, the melancholy of a mothballed warship being towed out to sea for disposal, or the mood of anticipation aboard a British schooner hunting for slavers on the African coast.

"As a fourth-generation Californian I am particularly attracted to scenes involving San Francisco Bay or the rugged western coastline," he said.

Ryall credits an aunt with mentoring his first attempts at pen-and-ink sketching.

After junior college he shelved artistic endeavors for several decades to pursue more other activities — three years in the Army, where he trained in Russian language and various Signal Corps schools; earning an A.B. degree in geology and a Ph.D. in geophysics; and a career in teaching, research and government program management.

He started the geophysics program at the University of Nevada-Reno; conducted studies of earth structure, earthquake and volcanic processes, and research to improve nuclear test ban treaty monitoring; and he participated in test-ban negotiations between the United States and the former Soviet Union in Geneva.

While working in Virginia, Ryall took up sailing, ship modeling and maritime history, and made frequent visits to the superb maritime museums along the eastern seaboard.

In 1987, with particular inspiration from a Naval Academy exhibit of William Gilkerson's paintings of "The Ships of John Paul



Cape Arago

Jones," he began thinking about combining his nautical interests to pursue a new career in marine art.

In 1994, he and his wife Floriana returned to California where, over a seven-year period, he completed a comprehensive program of art courses under Bill Paskewitz at Las Positas College.

"Marine art as we know it in America arose in the Netherlands in the 17th century, matured further in 18th-century England, and reached the US early in the 19th century," he said.

"Today it is practiced by a robust and growing group of painters, and is part of a general resurgence in classical realism within the art community. My paintings are in oil on canvas or linen, and my techniques are those that have been used traditionally in this genre."

Since 1999, Ryall has had paintings in juried and/or invitational maritime art exhibitions on both the west and east coasts, and has won numerous awards for his work.

He also completed four

book jacket paintings for novels dealing with the American Revolution.

"For contemporary scenes, my paintings are based on my own photographs of boats and ships, with elements of those photographs combined in various ways to achieve the desired composition," he explained.

"With a background in scientific research, I also enjoy reconstructing scenes from the historic past, and those paintings typically involve a good deal of analysis — of ships' plans, rigging diagrams, maps, old photographs — and even building and photographing my own models."

Ryall is a signature member of both the American Society of Marine Artists (ASMA) and the International Society of Marine Painters, and recently joined the Coast Guard Art Program.

In 2008 he was elected as one of two ASMA representatives for the western United States, and in 2009 he was appointed to the ASMA Board of Directors.

His paintings have been shown in fine art galleries in San Diego, Tiburon, Sausalito, Danville, Blackhawk, Morro Bay and Avila Beach, CA; Coos Bay, OR; Seattle, WA; Williamsburg, VA; and Rollinsford, NH., as well as in juried shows.

Ryall's paintings have been accepted for the Foss Maritime Company's 2012 calendar; the 2012 Coast Guard Art Collection, and for inclusion in the ASMA's War of 1912 Bicentennial website.

He also won first prize in oil painting at the Livermore Art Association's Spring Art Show.

Ryall served as a juror for the 19th Annual Maritime Exhibit at the Coos Art Museum in Oregon, and has two paintings in the 57th Haggin Museum Exhibition in Stockton.

The Prudential show is open for viewing during business hours, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or by appointment.

For information, contact Cher Wollard at 925 824-4824 or cherw@cherw.com



Enjoying dishes of ice cream at a previous Social.

Victorian Flavor to Annual Ice Cream Social

A Victorian-themed afternoon is planned at the picturesque Ravenswood Historic Site in Livermore as the annual Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social takes place.

This year's Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12.

Presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District and the Ravenswood Progress League, this event transports visitors

back to a slower-paced time for a summer celebration to glimpse what Livermore may have been like in the 1890s.

Admission is free. The day will feature games, music, historic demonstrations and more.

Ice cream and hot dogs will be for sale. All funds raised from the event go toward restoration of the site, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, a

State of California Historical Point of Interest and a City of Livermore Historic Preservation Landmark Site.

Musical entertainment will be provided by the Pleasanton Community Concert Band and Valley Banjos. Children can enjoy pony rides and a petting zoo offered by Tickle Me Pony Parties as well as other kid-friendly activities.

Ravenswood Historic Site is located at 2647 Ar-

royo Road, Livermore. Ravenswood is also open for free public tours from noon to 4 p.m. the second and fourth Sunday of each month.

Costumed docents lead hour-long tours of the site, which also includes the Ravenswood Progress League Gift Shop located in the Tank House.

For more information, call 925-443-0238 or visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us.

Livermore Valley Chamber Announces “Livermore Schools Rock” Video Contest

By Patricia Koning

The Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce wants to show why Livermore schools rock—in a video. “We want to connect the business community with our schools,” explains Dale Kaye, chief executive officer of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce. “There is a lot of negative press about where Califor-

nia schools fall in national rankings. We want to show everyone how great our local schools are.”

The Chamber is seeking three-minute videos on the theme “Livermore Schools Rock.” The theme is deliberately broad, says Dale, to encourage creativity. She adds that the contest is open to all Livermore schools, including the Livermore

Valley Joint Unified School District, Livermore Valley Charter School, Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory High School, and private schools within the city.

The submissions will be judged anonymously by a panel of film professionals that includes Joel Goldstein, MSI manager for top talent like William Hurt and Christina Aguilera; Ted Kaye, former head of production for Disney Television; and Jody Amos of Amos Productions.

One winner will be chosen in each of four categories: K-8, high school, college, and community.

The winning videos will be shown at the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce Summer Luncheon on Wednesday, Sept. 26; posted on the Chamber website (www.livermorechamber.org) and the Innovation Tri-Valley website (www.innovationtrivalley.org); used as promotional pieces for the schools, city, and region;

and potentially screened at the Vine Theater in Downtown Livermore.

“For any aspiring filmmaker, having their work shown in these venues will be an exciting opportunity,” says Dale. “I’m excited to see what the youth and community of Livermore will create to show how Livermore schools rock.”

The videos must be in either MP4 or H.264 format and no longer than 3 minutes including credits. Entries are

due by August 31. They can be submitted to the Chamber via email to info@livermorechamber.org with the subject line “Video Contest” or by mail to Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, 2157 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550, Attn: Video Contest.

For more information, contact Dale Kaye at the Chamber office by calling 925-447-1606 or by e-mail to dkaye@livermorechamber.org.



Creatures by Carol Peake-Faber

The Last Art Happens of Summer Set

Join artists, artisans and art supporters in Downtown Livermore for an evening stroll and art on August 9. Art Happens is a monthly tour that occurs the second Thursday of each month from 6 to 8pm. Pick up a brochure map at any participating venue, or download one from www.bothwellartscenter.org.

This month, Bothwell’s Downtown Art Studios, the organizer of the monthly event, hosts open studios and the multi-faceted art

of Carol Faber. Her work ranges from stained glass to paintings of the minute made large. Figurehead Gallery, in the Old Theater Mall, offers a new multi-artist exhibition entitled “Figures and Faces.” Theresa Guinasso’s colorful, universal art is featured at Panama Red Coffee Company (go early before open mic if you can!).

For a hands-on art experience, Art Glass Studios offers an inexpensive “make your own stepping stone”

project. Stop by the Livermore Art Association Gallery at the Carnegie Building in the heart of the Farmers’ Market, and check out some fine work by local artists.

Combining a stroll through art with fine tapas and drinks available for purchase are Sanctuary Ultra Lounge, showing a permanent rotating display of works by Trish Fenton, WineMaker’s Pour House exhibiting art programmed by Artistic Edge, and Artistic Edge’s own home base at

Blacksmith Square, features Animal Art in the Square, where you will find wine and craft beer, tapas and entertainment as well. The Wild Vine has closed temporarily and until they relocate, the art shows scheduled there are on hold.

Art Happens is produced with significant help from Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center staff and volunteers such as Jennifer McGregor and Brenda Rose. The Bothwell is a project of LVPAC.

'Figures & Faces' New Exhibition Opens at the Figurehead Gallery

The Figurehead Gallery in Downtown Livermore is opening a new exhibit entitled Figures & Faces that will be showing during the month of August.

The opening reception will be Sat., Aug. 4 from 6 to 9 p.m. It features the work of Thomasin Dewhurst, Lara Hoke, Carolyn Lord, Ed Mestre, Lana Rak, Roy Reynolds, and Elizabeth Zanzinger

The human figure is one of the most challenging yet captivating subjects for artists and viewers alike. Whereas other artistic subjects such as landscapes, and still life can be enjoyed

with a sense of detachment, the human figure and face elicit an emotional response derived from a common bond we all share with the image—that of being human.

The exhibit Figures & Faces features the work of five painters and one photographer from the Bay Area, and one painter from Idaho. The common theme the seven artists share is that of a deep interest and respect for the human form. Each artist explores and interprets the figure in their own personal way, some highly realistic and others, more impressionistic, yet always striving to develop a

strong emotional connection between the subject and the viewer.

Artists and photographers themselves, owners Ken Ball and Victoria Whyte Ball explain that it was their intention at the inception of the Figurehead Gallery to regularly feature figure work and to carry both figurative art and photography in their gallery inventory.

The Gallery is located at 2222 2nd St., Suite 21 in downtown Livermore. The work will be exhibited through August 25. Gallery hours are Wednesday, 12-6, Thursday, 12-8:30, Friday, 12-6, Saturday, 12-5, and by

appointment

For more information, contact Ken Ball at 925-353-0419 or ball@figurehead-gallery.com.

Thomasin Dewhurst’s paintings are ephemeral and dream-like. She says of her work, “By reworking an image numerous times, either by scraping off paint or erasing drawn marks, an expression of tactility emerges through the ghosts of previous images.”

Lara Hoke executes her paintings with a combination of direct application of paint and thin glazes of color and is especially interested in light, form, and line and

how they work together to create space and emotional atmosphere.

Carolyn Lord teaches academic drawing workshops and is exhibiting oil studies and drawings. Lord lives in Livermore and teaches drawing workshops at the Figurehead Gallery.

Bay Area photographer Ed Mestre first became interested in photography in the mid 1980’s. In his work he strives to find his own artistic vision and achieve results that go beyond the usual pin-up or fashion approach to figure photography.

Born and raised in Kiev,

Ukraine, Lana Rak now calls the Bay Area home.

Painter Roy Reynolds is best known for his depictions of western landscapes, people and architecture and also for his bronzes of cowboys and mountain men. He regularly draws and paints from the model rendered in a loose, impressionistic style with bold brushwork.

Elizabeth Zanzinger is an emerging artist from the San Francisco Bay Area. Zanzinger “sees the life of an artist as a journey through continually evolving processes, whether the focus is technical or conceptual.”

ART & ENTERTAINMENT



"Jazz"

'Color Matters' Is Theme of New Exhibit at Wente

Wente Vineyards Estate Winery, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore will be hosting the art exhibit, Color Matters, by Linda Jeffery Sailors during the month of August. Sailors' paintings will be on view in the tasting room during regular business hours.

There will be an artist's reception on Aug. 5, from 1pm-3pm. The public is invited.

Sailors specializes in rich colors using watercolors and various types of paper to create unique textures and color blends. The exhibit will contain examples of both her representational and abstract work. She is a frequent award winner and currently serving as the President of the Pleasanton Art League. For more information visit www.LindaJefferySailors.com

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

Humanimals and Such Exhibit, July 19 - August 25, 2012. Featured artists include Julie Alvarado, William Charuhas, Michael Cutlip, Rebecca Haines and Stan Peterson. Exhibit with whimsical, playful paintings and

sculpture that depict humans, animals, or an incongruous combination of both. Opening reception, Thursday, July 19, 7:00-9:00 pm. Harrington Gallery, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org. **Absolutely Abstract**, August art exhibit at the Livermore Library. About 30 works of art will be displayed featuring all local abstract artists. Livermore Main Library Artist's Gallery at 1188 S. Livermore Ave. It is open during normal library hours.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Everything Poetry (in two parts), Second Saturday Soup-workshops 2nd

Saturday of every month, 10 a.m.-12 noon Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton; Third Tuesday Trope - poetry critiques 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Towne Center Books, 555 Main Street, Pleasanton. Contact Cynthia Bryant at PleasantonPoetry@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Poet Laureate, Cynthia Bryant, will host a poetry critique group called "Tuesday Trope" from 7-9 p.m., on the first Tuesday of every month, beginning in June at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St. This is an open group, need not be a resident of Pleasanton, free to all. Please bring 10 copies of one or two of your original poems to workshop. E-mail Cynthia at pleasantonpoetry@ci.pleasanton.ca.us

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

Art Critique & Coffee Hangs at Coffee Ali, Friday at 10 a.m. sharing latest work and a gentle critique to fine tune work. Original paintings from a group of Local Professional and Emerging artists, with a New Theme, create New Works each month. Grab a cup of coffee and pull up a chair to hear what we have to say and enjoy Original Fine Art. For more information Google: Poetry on Canvas Pleasanton or call Claudette 510 543-4776.

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

Young Artists' Studio has openings in its Summer Sessions for 2012. Summer classes are one week long and cover a wide range of projects, from drawing and painting, to printmaking, mask making, sculpture, AP projects and portfolio preparation. Instructor Peggy Frank has been working with youngsters in the Valley for thirty years in her Livermore studio. Students entering second grade all the way through high school are welcome to enroll. Contact Peggy at (925) 443-8755 or email her at frank.a@comcast.net.

Livermore Art Classes, Artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst offers art instruction to children and adults. Classes cover painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, collage, animation and construction. Students also learn about Master Artists from the History of Art. For further information please call

(925) 216-7231 email thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com>

Piano lessons, Private and small group piano lessons available for beginning students. Lessons include playing practice, theory, expression and an introduction to various types of music and composers. Private classes are \$15 per half hour and group lessons are \$12 per student per half hour (up to 4 students). For more information please call (925) 216-7231 email thomasin_d@hotmail.com or visit <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com/>.

WINERY EVENTS

The Winemaker's Pour House, Be Happy At "Happy Hour" with Livermore Valley Wine. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 4 to 6 p.m. Buy a glass of Livermore Valley Wine or Flight and order a Flatbread for half price. Take the wine puzzle challenge. Ask the wait staff for the wine puzzle. Information call (925) 215-2656 or visit www.winemaker-spourhouse.com.

La Luna Fridays, evening of tapas, live music and wines on the terrace of Murrieta's Well on Aug. 3, Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 6 to 9 p.m. 3005 Mines Road, Livermore. \$50 per person, \$40 Silver Spur Club members plus tax; ticket includes live music, tapas and wine. Reservations are required. Call 925.456.2395. www.murrietasswell.com

Tamas Estate Winery, Cafe Tuesdays, August 14, California Classics. \$25 per person advance purchase / \$30 per person the week of the event \$20 for Salute! Club members. Price includes live music, buffet-style dinner, and one glass of wine. Purchase tickets for all events for \$75/per person & \$60/per person Salute! Club members. www.tamasesates.com. 5565 Tesla Road Livermore, (925) 456-2380.

Third Annual East Tesla Old World Wine Tour, Friday, August 3, 5:30 until 8:30. Les Chenes Estate Vineyards, Eagle Ridge, Bodegas Aguirre and el Sol will be serving wine and food pairings from around the world. Bodegas Aguirre will be serving Spanish pairings, Eagle Ridge will be serving Greek pairings. Les Chenes will be serving Celtic cuisine pairings and el Sol will be serving Italian pairings. Call or visit any of the four participating wineries. el Sol (925) 606-1827, Bodegas Aguirre (925) 606-0554, Eagle Ridge (925) 447-4328 and Les Chenes (925) 373-1662. Limited tickets available and will not be sold on the day of the event. Tickets: \$40.00 a person - \$35.00 for wine club members. Tickets include a souvenir logo wine glass plus raffle ticket.

Cedar Mountain Winery, Aug. 4, 6 to 9 p.m. BYOM (bring your own meal), rock music by Louisiana Rain. Winery supplies the grill with hot coals; bring grilling food and side dishes, plates and utensils. Wine by the glass/bottle and beverages available for purchase. Call the tasting room for more information at (925) 373-6636. Fee is \$5/p

person. No outside alcohol permitted. 7000 Tesla Rd., Livermore.

Thomas Coyne Winery, Vinticulture and Winemaking Seminar, August 4 and 5, 2012, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 51 E. Vallecitos Road, Livermore. For information call 925 373-6541.

Cedar Mountain Winery, Zinfandel release party, Aug. 5, 2 to 4 p.m. Enjoy a flight of three gold medal Zinfandels. The winery will release its 2009 Zealous Girls Zinfandel and tasting the 2007 Hansen Vineyard Zinfandel, and 2009 Livermore Valley Reserve Zinfandel. Small tidbits will be served. \$5 per person, club members are free. 7000 Tesla Road, Livermore.

Charles R Vineyards Barbera Release & Club Pick-Up Party -August 11, Saturday, noon to 4:30 p.m. Rock out with live music by the Hurricane Band and join us to celebrate a new addition to the Charles R flight of wines--a Barbera that's loaded with personality and sure to please in our club wine release party with a food and wine pairing. Tasting is \$5 per guest and tasting complementary for club-members. Wine for purchase available by the glass and bottle. 8195 Crane Ridge Road Livermore, (925) 337-3315

Wood Family Vineyards, 9th annual release party and futures pickup, Aug. 11 and 12. Noon to 4:30 p.m. Wines to be released: 2011 Chardonnay, 2010 Grenache, 2010 Cabernet Sauvignon, Clone 30, 2010 50/50 (Zinfandel, Petite Siorah blend), and the 2010 "Big Wood Zin" Zinfandel. Live music by Patty & Abigail on Saturday and The Mundaze on Sunday. \$10 per person (waived for "Extended Family" club members) and keep the logo crystal wine glass. 7702 Cedar Mountain Road, Livermore, 606-7411. www.woodfamilyvineyards.com/

Thomas Coyne Winery Summer Open House, Aug. 18 and 19, noon to 5 p.m. at 51 E. Vallecitos Rd., Livermore.

Four new wines to be released: 2011 La Petite Quest Rose, California; 2005 Syrah, Livermore Valley; 2007 Grenache, Livermore Valley; and 2010 Secrete wine from grapes that have never been bottled before. Served with a selection of fruits and cheeses. For more info call (925) 373-6541 or visit <http://thomascwynewinery.com>

Charles R Vineyards Friday Night Uncorked -August 24, Friday Evening, 5:30-8:30 p.m. summer evening on the patio at Charles R. This month's theme of Chuck Wagon, features appetizers paired with our award winning wine and music by Robyne and Nick Teslick. Board games available, or bring your own. Meet some new friends or invite those you know. \$10 per guest and \$5 for club-members. Cost includes appetizers and a glass of wine. Wine for purchase available by the glass and bottle. 8195 Crane Ridge Road Livermore, (925) 337-3315

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Music every Saturday in the tasting room from 12 to 4; open every day if the gate is open and for sure on

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 11 to 5. Red Feather Winery, 5700 Greenvine Rd., Livermore. Information at 449-1871 or www.redfeatherwinery.com

Blacksmith Square, music every Saturday 3 to 6 p.m. in the courtyard: 6/16 Chris LeBel, 6/23 Anna Steiger, and 6/30 Roger Kardinal, 21 South Livermore Ave., Livermore.

Summer Concert Series, Sundays in July, 5:30 p.m. San Ramon Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd, San Ramon. Bring a picnic, blanket and/or lawn chairs. Adult beverages, soda and ice cream available for purchase. July 29, Fabulous Cruisetones, oldies. Final concert Aug. 5, David Martin's House Party. Free admission. www.sanramon.ca.gov/Parks/events/summer_concerts.htm

Authentic New Orleans Style/Danceable Dixieland Traditional Jazz now at Sunol Jazz Cafe. Comfort food served up with Smokin' Hot Jazz every 1st and 3rd Wednesday Mission Gold Jazz Band. Dinner orders begin at 6 pm; music from 7:30.

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

Shawn Brown's Chasing Streetlights Album Release Show, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 5. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. firehousearts.org.

Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra, August 9, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankhead-theater.org or 373-6800.

The Concerts at Wente Vineyards, Aug. 15, Diana Krall Summer Nights US Tour, Wente Vineyards, 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. www.wentevineyards.com

Carl Tilchen, International Singer/Songwriter, concert Aug. 16, 6 to 9 p.m. Nonni's Bistrion, 425 Main St., Pleasanton. For information 510-371-9688, email cartilchenmusic391@gmail.com. Carl Tilchen's Concert will include: Jazz, Popular Songs by Stevie Wonder, Folksongs by Pete Seeger, Blues by Ray Charles, and Original Comedy Songs The Guerilla Gardener, You Feel Romantic, & Google's Car No Driver.

Jerry Jeff Walker, August 17, 8 p.m. singer, songwriter, troubadour of cowboy rock 'n roll. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Concerts at Wente Vineyards, Aug. 29, Steve Martin and the Steep Canyon Rangers. Wente Vineyards, 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. www.wentevineyards.com

ON THE STAGE

Livermore Shakespeare Festival presents Shakespeare's Hamlet outdoors at Concannon Vineyard July 12 through August 12, in partial repertory with The Merry Wives of Windsor. For a calendar and information, visit Livermore-Shakes.org. Tickets range from \$25 to \$39, day-dependent, with discounts for seniors, students and educators. For

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

tickets call 1-800-838-3006, or visit LivermoreShakes.org.

Oklahoma, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production, weekends July 21 to August 5. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Sally Struthers Live!, Aug. 18, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

The Mikado, by Gilbert & Sullivan, August 25 and 26, 8/2 p.m. Lamplighters Music Theatre. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Lamplighters open its 60th Season with Gilbert & Sullivan's The Mikado. The Mikado is a playful tale set in a make-believe Japanese town where flirting is a capital offense, The Mikado is actually a satire on Victorian British society. Nanki-Poo has fallen in love with the beautiful Yum-Yum, fiancée to the Lord High Executioner Ko-Ko. When the Mikado, emperor of Japan, demands the execution of Ko-Ko, and Nanki-Poo volunteers to take Ko-Ko's place under the condition that he first be allowed to marry Yum-Yum, chaos, desperation, and comical mayhem ensue. Bankhead Theater, Livermore. Sat., Aug. 25, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sun., Aug. 26, 2 p.m. 925-373-6800 or bankheadtheater.org

COMEDY

Creatures of Impulse Tri Valley High: Heroes and Villians, Aug. 3, 7:30 p.m., Aug. 4, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Comedy Uncorked, Retzlaff Vineyards in Livermore. Aug. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Faith Alpher, Carla Clay and Kurt Weitzmann. Funds raised benefit Open Heart Kitchen. Advance tickets are \$30, tickets are \$35 at the door. For tickets and information, go to www.comedyuncorked.com. Retzlaff is located at 1356 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

DANCE

Friday Evening Group Dance! Learn how to dance with great instructors from It's All About Dancing, new dance every week from Salsa, Tango, Swing and more. Group lesson starts at 7:30, followed by open dance until 9:45 in our new location at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore; 925-449-9292. \$15.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

Valley Concert Chorale will hold auditions by appointment for its upcoming 2012-2013 concert season on the following dates: Monday, August 27; Monday, September 10. Auditions and rehearsals will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore, corner of 4th and L Streets. The Chorale's 49th season will include the music of Gilbert and Sullivan, its December holiday program including the Cho-

rale's annual Sing-it-Yourself Messiah, Durufle's Requiem, Lauridsen's Lux Aeterna, and finally Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Livermore Amador Symphony at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore. The Chorale is seeking experienced singers with sight-reading skills who enjoy singing exciting and challenging music. The Chorale performs a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary, and folk to jazz. To schedule an appointment, call (925) 462-4205.

Livermore-Amador Symphony

Association applications for the 40th annual Competition for Young Musicians deadline is Sun., Oct. 7, 2012. Open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside or attend school in Livermore, Sunol, Pleasanton, Dublin, or San Ramon. Students are eligible through grade 12. If not enrolled in high school, the maximum age is 17. All instruments will be considered. Two winners will perform as soloists with the symphony on Feb. 23, 2013. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$300. Completed applications must be accompanied by an \$8 application fee and a CD or cassette tape for preliminary screening. Additional information may be obtained from www.livamsymphony.org or by contacting the competition chairperson at 447-1947.

MOVIES

Family Movies, outdoors in Dublin, arrival time, 7 p.m., showtime, approximately 8 p.m. No pets please. Refreshments available. Fri., Aug. 10, Moneyball, Emerald Glen Park. Information, 556-4500.

Movies shown at dusk at Amador Valley Community Park, located at 4301 Black Avenue. Seating cordoned off in sections with blanket seating in the front, low-back beach chairs in the center, and camp chairs and other higher positioned seating in the rear. Thursday, Aug. 7, Cars 2, (PG). Thursday, Aug. 9, Hugo (PG). Thursday, Aug. 16, The Adventures of Tintin (PG). Free admission. For more information about the film series, please call the Community Services Department at (925) 931-5340.

CHORAL

Broadway Chorus special benefit concert on August 25 and 26 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre presents "A Cabaret Gone Choral!" an evening of song, starring Broadway Chorus Directors Jenny Matteucci and Daniel Lockert, a/k/a the Matlock Duo, and featuring the many friends and voices of Broadway Chorus. The program will include the music of Broadway with songs from Berlin to Bernstein and beyond. Tickets www.firehousearts.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the

national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions
We're Talkin' Books! Club is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Susan at 337-1282 regarding the *We're Talkin' Books! Club*.

Museum on Main, preschool pre-literacy program, M.o.M.'s Reading Time. For ages 2 to 5 and families, free reading program, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Reading at 10 a.m. with theme crafts following. Donations appreciated. No reservations required. Large groups or playgroups please phone in advance: 925.462.2766 or email: education@museumonmain.org. 2012 M.o.M.'s Reading Time Dates and Themes: August 8, It's A Circus; September 12, Fiesta; October 10, Creepy Critters; November 14, Thank You, Veterans; and, December 12, Light Up the Seasons. The Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street in historic downtown Pleasanton.

Taste of Downtown, August 4 & 5, 2012 - noon to 5 p.m. Downtown Livermore, a food & wine stroll. www.livermore-downtown.com

Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social at Ravenswood Historic Site, 2647 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, August 12, 2012, Noon - 4:00 p.m. No admission charge. Pleasanton Community Concert Band. Classic Car show. Petting zoo. History mobile. Ice Cream and lunch available. Victorian historic estate. Ravenswood Progress League event. Sandy Silva, president 925-462-7324.

Ed Kinney Lecture Series, 7 p.m. An Evening with Sourdough Steve, Tues., August 14. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. \$10 general admission, \$5 members & seniors, \$3 students/teachers with ID. All tickets are paid at the door. All tickets are open seating. Information www.museumonmain.org or (925) 462-2766.

Sunset at the Ridge, Friday Aug. 31, 6pm - 9pm. at Eagle Ridge Vineyard. This fund-raising event is presented with the Livermore High School Alumni Association (LHSAA). The profits from this event will be donated to the LHSAA to provide league approved uniforms for the LHS Boys Varsity & JV Soccer Teams. Without league uniforms, LHS must forfeit all the league soccer games. Evening of live music with TankhalfFull with food & wine available for purchase. There will be plenty of opportunities to contribute to the LHSAA & the Boys Soccer Teams. 10017 Tesla Rd., Livermore. eagleridgevineyard.com/



Sunset Soiree An Evening of Dance and Fellowship, will be held on Sat., Aug. 4, 5:30 to 8p.m. on the Shea Stage in front of the Bankhead Theater at 2400 First Street. Downtown Livermore. Entertainment will be provided by Livermore School Of Dance Jazz Company and local entertainers. Those attending are invited to bring a picnic dinner or purchase a boxed dinner from Uncle Yu's restaurant at a special price. Wear all white. Bring a blanket to sit and picnic on. Chairs and seating section for handicap and seniors will be provided. For more information and to purchase event tickets and/or one of Uncle Yu's boxed dinners please log on to [@www.livermoredance.com](http://www.livermoredance.com)

The Californios used the Spanish word *chaparro*, meaning scrub oak, to describe the community of shrubs that often grows on the local hills. It is shaped by our Mediterranean climate, with its mild, wet winters and its hot, dry summers. Chaparral plants, usually no higher than 10 feet, have adapted to hot, steep, rocky areas where the rainfall runs off quickly. An estimated five percent of California is covered by chaparral. The Black Hills, north of Livermore, were named for their chaparral, which looks black in the summer and autumn in contrast to the golden grasses.

Smaller varieties of chaparral plants sometimes have leaves with fragrant oils smelling like turpentine, vinegar, or mint to ward off browsing animals: most people react to the oil of poison oak. On hot days the plant oils evaporate, thus cooling the leaves. Some chaparral plants, like poison oak, are deciduous, but most are evergreen. The chaparral biome carefully preserves against water evaporation: manzanita's stiff leaves turn sideways to avoid direct sunlight; chamise has developed needlelike leaves, which provide less surface for the sun's rays. Ceanothus—wild lilac or buck brush—protects its leaves with a waxy substance. Another familiar plant in the chaparral is toyon, sometimes called California holly, with its bright orange-red berries in late summer.

The natural oils and waxes of these plants cause them to be highly flammable. Fire is essential for chaparral to renew

itself. When an arson-ignited blaze broke out on 14 July 1981 and burned 2,400 acres from Blackhawk Ridge to Finley Road to Curry Canyon, it raged for three days until it was contained. Burning chaparral sent up huge columns of flame fanned by erratic winds in areas too steep for fire engines to maneuver. The main attacks had to come on foot and by air.

One authority from the California Division of Forestry said appreciatively of the assembled firefighters, "It's a direct attack. Hot, smoky and dirty, with hand tools. It's the only way to do it, and they're doing a tremendous job." Roger Lake told of local volunteers being caught in the middle of an aerial drop of bentonite: "We were up on a ridge. We were getting 40- or 50-foot columns of flame coming up through the chaparral. There were air drops on us, behind us, in front of us, to keep sparks away." A firefighter who had been bulldozing hillsides for a day and night had a face smudged with dirt, and his bright yellow fire retardant clothes were a dull gray. He commented to a reporter, "You get used to it. But it does get a little hard when the dozer starts going sideways."

One evening, 32 hours into the battle, local firefighters were stationed on the west side of Finley Road with instructions to protect nearby houses from the approaching fire. The winds came up again after dark, gusting up to 25 miles an hour, and sent flames scurrying into more brush. As chaparral that had been

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan
Livermore City Historian



CHAPARRAL



John McGlinchey in his "woolies."

holding back the rocks on the hillside burned, rocks tumbled down the hill toward the firefighters. They could hear and feel them whistling past in the dark. One hit a fire engine and put it out of commission. Although the flames came close, no structures were lost, and no one died. Almost 1,000

firefighters from all over the state fought the blaze. In the natural world of the chaparral, fire is good. Sprouts rise from old root crowns, and the heat of the fire germinates seeds.

To protect their legs from the dense thickets and from rainy weather when chasing cattle or horses, vaqueros wore *chaparajos*,

leather guards now called "chaps." I am from back East, where we pronounce the word "chaps" as if it begins with the "ch" of the word "chin." Here in the West, however, the common pronunciation has the word beginning with the "sh" of "she." That is because both chaparral and *chaparajos* begin with the soft "sh" sound of Spanish. Chaps fit over the rider's pants with a separate belt. Sometimes the leather has the animal hair or wool left on, offering even more protection. Kathryn Laughlin remembers her grandfather, John McGlinchey, had chaps made of angora goat skin with the wool left on the outside. Kathryn calls them "woolies."

The natural oils in the animal hair helped to shed rain water and kept the rider warm in the winter. With the development of the rodeo as an entertainment, the design of chaps became not only functional, but decorative. The fringe, which had little importance originally, became an integral part of rodeo chaps because it exaggerates the motion of the bucking animal and dramatizes the cowboy's ride.

The overarching shrubs of chaparral conceal the tracks of many residents, including skunks, bobcats, deer, feral pigs, coyotes, rabbits, snakes, and lizards. In bygone days grizzly bears often retreated from hunters into these warrens. One of my favorite places to visit chaparral is in Morgan Territory Regional Preserve on the loop of the Prairie Falcon Trail. You won't see any grizzlies, but you might see

hummingbirds, towhees, and scrub jays. The trail curves from woodland into chaparral habitat and back. Red-barked manzanitas are common as well as wild lilac and chamise. In an 1861-62 survey of the area, maps and notes showed places called "*chamisal*," a now rarely used word for the almost impenetrable thickets formed by chamise.

(Readers can reach me at am50homan@yhoo.com.)

Still Space for Vendors

The upcoming 2012 Children's Fair, put on by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, still has space available for vendors interested in connecting with community families.

This year's fair is set for Saturday, Sept. 15, and Sunday, Sept. 16, at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. The fair will include performances, safety information, entertainment, crafts, carnival games, food booths, "Make It and Take It" crafts and more. The objectives of Children's Fair are education, safety, recreation and fun.

Nearly 2,000 people attend this free fair each year, making this a great opportunity to spread the word about local businesses. Vendor spots are available in the areas of food, commercial and nonprofit information for children and families. The deadline for vendors is Friday, Aug. 24, or sooner if spots fill up. Booths are 10-by-10-feet, with shade.

The Children's Fair runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Interested vendors can contact Moe Kline at 925-373-5717 or mkline@larpd.dst.ca.us. F

Milestones Community

Education

Caroline Rose, of Livermore, has been named to Notre Dame de Namur University's Dean's List for the spring semester. Rose is a graduate of Livermore High School. To be eligible for Dean's List, a student must have attained a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher in a program of 12 or more units of graded courses.

Several local residents made the academic Dean's List at Azusa Pacific University. These students are honored for a spring 2012 academic standing of a 3.5 grade-point average or bet-

ter. They are joined by 1,650 students receiving the same honor. Livermore residents on the list are Tyler Carter, history; Luke Gutierrez, English; Joel Jaeger, music and worship; Chelsea Marriott, liberal studies; Adam Nunea, English; Garrett Steward, marketing; and Kimberly Troutloff, accounting.

Danika Briggs of Livermore has graduated from California Lutheran University. Briggs graduated with a bachelor's degree in communication. She was among 672 students who were eligible to participate in the Forty-Ninth Annual Undergraduate Commencement on May 12.

Livermore resident Alicia Avery graduated from Azusa Pacific University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music on Fri., July 27, 2012, and joined approximately 635 graduates at the summer commencement ceremonies.

Supervisor Haggerty Honors First Responders

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty recognized a police officer from the Livermore Police Department and a fire fighter from the Fremont Fire Department as the recipients of the 2012 Law Enforcement Officer and the 2012 Fire Fighter of the Year Awards at Haggerty's 16th annual barbecue held at the Fairgrounds in Pleasanton today.

"It is an honor for me to recognize the contributions and sacrifices of our public safety personnel each year," said Haggerty. The sacrifices and contributions of our fire fighters and law enforcement officers occur every minute of the day and this is a small but special gesture to highlight two of these heroes."

Officer Dan Cabral has been with the Livermore Police Department for seven years and currently serves as one of two School Resource Officers. Dan was selected for the 2012 Law Enforcement Officer award because of his hard work and dedication to the youth in the community and for going above and beyond the expected duties of his current assignment. He works hard to maintain trust and open communication between the police and students, as well as the school faculty, recognizing the destruction that drug influences can have on students. Officer Cabral took a proactive stance to help combat the problem by using the K9 unit drug sniffing dog on school campus. Prior to conducting the searches, Officer Cabral met with school officials to counterattack any reservations they may have had with the use of the drug canine. He also took a proac-

tive approach with the students through preventative and educational measures.

Officer Cabral created and presented numerous lectures to students, parents, school administrators, and faculty with the school district on sexual battery, bullying, mandatory reporting requirements, teamwork, and integrity. Due to the success of the sexual battery presentation, Officer Cabral was asked to expand his sexual battery presentation to include Las Positas College. He also worked with school officials on the increasing gang concerns at the schools. As part of his zero tolerance ideology, Officer Cabral routinely contacts suspected or known gang members wearing gang colors, taking the necessary enforcement action through consent and probation searches. Furthermore, he participates in expulsion meetings involving gang members by providing valuable input warranting action taken by the administrators. Currently, he is working with members of department and the Livermore School District for an operational plan should an active shooter incident happen at one of the schools. Since the School Resource Officers are considered the first line of defense for Livermore high school students, Officer Cabral felt it necessary to be better prepared should such a misfortune take place.

Receiving the 2012 Fire Fighter award Retired Fremont Captain Michael Avila began his employment with the City of Fremont in 1980 where he played a major role in the development and

delivery of the Department's Wildland Firefighting equipment, the Department's Hose Evolution Binder and the design and delivery of the Department's Confined Space Awareness Rescue training that was delivered to more than 220 employees. Captain Avila conducted five (5) separate Firefighter Recruit Academies for entry-level employees. He also played a key role in the rescue efforts involving the collapse of the Cypress Structure in Oakland after the Loma Prieta earthquake. He served as a member of the FEMA California Area Task Force - 4 (CATF-4) Urban Search and Rescue Team based out of Oakland, California. Retired Captain Avila is currently finishing an assignment as the Project Manager of the Fire Department's Building Program. The Building Program was instituted following the

passage of Measure R and focused on seismically retrofitting/remodeling seven of the existing eleven (11) Fire Stations, relocating three (3) others and building a new Fire Department Training Center. Captain Avila has had a profound and steady influence on the Fremont Fire Department. His skill, experience, leadership, tenacity and dedication to this community through exemplary service will continue to positively influence the employees of the Fremont Fire Department and the residents of Fremont for generations to come. Captain Avila retired in April 2006.

Scott Haggerty represents the First District communities of Fremont, Livermore, Dublin, and east unincorporated areas on the five-member Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Amador Valley Student Receives Scholarship

Six Bay-area youth were recently awarded \$1,000 Kohl's Cares® regional scholarships for their impactful efforts in their communities.

Among the recipients is Claire Williams, 17. Williams lives in Pleasanton and attends Amador Valley High School. Aspiring to be an English teacher, Claire created the Read To A Teen program where young kids can work on their reading skills by spending half an hour reading a story of choice to a teen every Sunday at the local library. The teen volunteers help students practice reading while encouraging and building the young readers comprehension skills.

The program has been very successful. Many librarians throughout the state of California have expressed an interest in adopting it in their own libraries.

Kohl's Cares® regional scholarships are to be used toward post-secondary education. More than 35,000 nominees nationwide were considered for this award.

Winners are chosen based on initiative, leadership, generosity and project benefits and outcome.



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