

Find Out What's Happening Check out the second section

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

Kamena Announces Plans to Run For City Council

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena has announced plans to run for city council this November.

He has reached term limits as mayor.

Two candidates have qualified for the ballot, Barbara Hickman for mayor and Stewart Gary for council.

Others who have taken out papers, but not yet returned them are the following; for mayor Councilmember John Marchand and Minuet McKernan. Marchand would be running from a safe council seat; for council, Laureen Turner, Daniel Kozak and Bobby Dale Burger.

Two council seats and the mayor's seat are available. The deadline to return papers to run for mayor is August 12. If an incumbent does not file, the deadline for a council seat is extended to 5 p.m. August 17, if Jeff Williams does not file.

Kamena said in announcing his run for the council, "The last ten years have been the most productive in Livermore. There are some projects yet to be finished. I believe my expertise in some areas can contribute to their completion. There are a lot of really neat things happening for Livermore."

He mentioned the planned business and technology center and I-GATE, i-HUB as well as transportation projects. "Transportation issues are extremely touchy. My hope is that John Marchand will be the new mayor. We work well together." Kamena believes that his seniority on the Alameda County Transportation Commission helps to keep Livermore to BART in the spotlight for funding. "It took time to developer that seniority."

Kamena added that in looking at other candidates, he sees the potential for the fall of the urban growth boundary. "I made the motion to put it in place. It needs to be protected."

County Looks At a Ban on Single-use Bags

The Alameda County Waste Management Authority is considering a ban on single-use plastic or paper bags at stores throughout the county.

The Authority, through its staffing agency, StopWaste.org, has just completed an environmental impact report (EIR) on the proposal.

The EIR will be circulated to the public. Comment will be invited from large stores and associations representing smaller merchants, too.

Supermarkets are among the major stakeholders that issue thousands of plastic bags daily. Other major issuers of single-use plastic or paper bags are department stores, drug stores, convenience stores, and stores that sell clothing, liquor, and books.

A store could use paper bags as reusable bags, if they have at least 40 percent recycled paper content. The store would have

(See BAN, page 5)

Cities Discuss Doolan Canyon; Livermore To Hold Hearings on Sphere of Influence

Both Livermore and Dublin have an interest in the future of Doolan Canyon, the green area that separates the two cities.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena reached out to Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti to discuss a possible agreement over the future of the canyon. Both cities are considering going to LAFCO to ask for the area to be placed within a sphere of influence

(SOI) that would give a city control over planning the canyon. Mayors of both said it would be good to go into discussions with LAFCO with a shared plan.

The East Bay Regional Park District also has an interest. In cooperation with Livermore, it has purchased land for permanent open space.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena said in talks with Dublin

Mayor Tim Sbranti no specific vision was discussed. "My hope is that there will be cooperation. This is an opportunity to involve both cities and perhaps Supervisor Scott Haggerty in coming up with a package that works for everyone."

Sbranti agrees. He said there is a shared interest in what ultimately happens in Doolan Canyon. "One of the things I'm

happy about is that there will be shared discussions to resolve the fate of the area. Both cities would like to see an open space buffer. The question is whether there would be any development possibilities."

Next Tuesday, the Livermore Planning Commission will consider a request to amend the City of Livermore Sphere of Influence to include approximately

2,620 acres in Doolan Canyon. Livermore's goal is to help preserve existing uses and open space. The meeting will be held Aug. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the city council chambers.

Livermore proposes to issue a negative declaration, rather than conduct an environmental review.

Last December, Dublin ap- (See DOOLAN, page 5)



Photo - Sue Evans

Teacher Brittany Allen is doing a wheelbarrow exercise with Dominic Peri. The student on the right is Matteo Musso.

Autistic or not, children grow during Livermore summer camp

By Jeff Garberson

For Annette Musso, this summer has been a confirmation of her belief that caring adults can provide a growth experience for children of all kinds, whether they are autistic, like her own

Matteo, or not, like many of the kids who came to her summer camp in Livermore.

The camp, called JumpAhead, is the prototype for her dream institution, a place with therapeutic and fun activities for children

with a whole range of needs and abilities. As Musso sees it, the interaction of kids who are autistic and kids who are not is essential to both groups.

JumpAhead will run to the end of the month, and then will pause

until January, when she hopes to re-open it as an after-school activity, with therapy capability for children who need it.

In order for that to happen, she is aiming in coming weeks (See CAMP, page 3)

Letter Asks BART to Reconsider Route to Livermore

The Livermore City Council has begun the work that will change the BART to Livermore alignment to a freeway alignment ending at Greenville Road. The current alignment would follow a route through downtown terminating at Vasco Road.

A citizen group submitted the "Keep BART on I-580" ballot initiative with over 8,000 signatures supporting a freeway alignment for the BART extension to Livermore. On July 11, 2011, after reviewing the 9212 Report on the impacts of the initiative, the City Council adopted it.

According to a statement released by the council, additional information is required to show that the freeway alignment meets BART expansion and regional programming policies. BART and the City are already cooperating on developing that information. The City will be proceeding with station area planning around the Isabel location. At the Greenville south station location it will look to establish zoning that can accommodate the required transit oriented development. The City will be pursuing regional funding and program agencies to review policies and identify how best (See BART, page 4)

CORE, Lawsuit Settlements Bring Money to the Pleasanton School District

The Pleasanton school district's finances have received a bump upward of approximately \$1.3 million.

However, only \$357,000 of that amount will go directly to the current school year's operating expense. The Community Outreach for Education (CORE) campaign raised the money. The board has allocated it to restoration of more hours for technology specialists and library assistants. The CORE donations will be joined by \$62,000 from the district's general fund. The vote was unanimous at a special meeting on Aug. 4.

The remaining \$960,000, which was derived from settlements in two lawsuits announced after a closed session at the special meeting, will go into the district's Sycamore Fund.

The district will have four hours of library assistants' services at elementary schools, and the middle schools will have six hours per day.

All elementary schools will have three hours per day of

the technical assistants, and the middle schools will have six hours per day. Additional hours may be added at some sites, but it will depend on choices made by schools about their locally administered funds.

Although trustees were appreciative of getting the CORE money, and recognized the CORE campaign will continue its fund-raising, board member Jeff Bowser noted that this year is secure, compared to the unknown future.

The district has one-time federal job stimulus money, which is being used to retain as many teachers as possible. It also has concessions from employee associations that expire at the end of the fiscal year, and will have to be explored again.

CONTRACTORS SETTLE OVER HEARST

In one of the lawsuits, the district had sued contractors who had taken on the original construction of Hearst elementary school. The suit was over damage (See PLEASANTON, page 4)

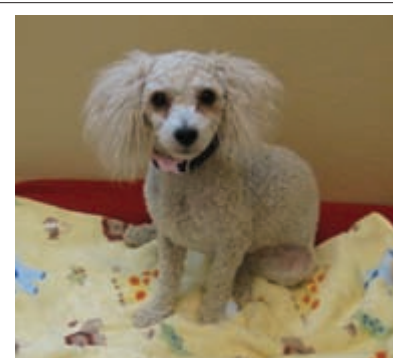


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Pooches of all shapes and sizes were the focus of attention during Pleasanton's annual pooch parade. For more photos, see page 8.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Suki, meaning love, is a miniature poodle a little over one years old. She is a social butterfly with a heart of gold. Not only does she get along great with adults and kids, but she loves other dogs! When you catch her eye, she will roll over for a belly rub and give you plenty of kisses. Suki will light up your life and make you the happiest dog owner. Go online to www.valleyhumane.org or www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety to see other adoptable dogs. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Hours are Tues.- Sat. from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Photo courtesy of Melissa Bonnel)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore Downtown Inc. hosted the 2011 Taste of Downtown; a food and wine stroll last Saturday. Participants sampled local wines and food, listened to live music and took horse drawn carriage rides.

Mobile App Offered by Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce Connects Businesses and Customers Quickly

With business consumers spending more and more time on their phones and tablets than they do on their PCs or browsing through the yellow pages, businesses need to find mobile sales channels to reach and engage with their target consumers. Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, through the use of Trends Global's ObiMobile mobile technology platform, is doing just that.

Livermore Chamber of Commerce mobile app puts Livermore Valley businesses and Tri-Valley Film office at the consumers' fingertips. Business consumers can access other business information, contact them directly, and locate them using their mobile devices.

They can access the latest Chamber member news and business to business specials. Information about news, events,

how to join and learn about new Chamber members will also be available.

Making use of built-in mobile device features such as location-based services and phone dialer, consumers don't just read a number or addresses, they can now call, email, or transact with the business directly on their device. They can also obtain driving or walking directions from a location. Consumers can access satellite views or videos of shopping locations, development sites, and even transact directly with the businesses.

Through ObiMobile's built-in content management with multi-user access features, businesses will also be able to provide a description or profile of businesses through video, images, and social media features. More importantly, businesses control the content they want to push.

With the built-in editor, the user can create, edit and manage the content without having to rely on a technical person.

"We have had positive feedback from various businesses that see the potential of the Chamber mobile app and are also interested in creating their own mobile applications," said Erwin Chiong, Founder and President at Trends Global.

Dale Kaye, President of Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce adds, "Our Livermore Valley Mobile app opens new doors for our Chamber members by bringing their business directly to their customers' finger tips. The new mobile app also allows our Tri-Valley Film Commission to support film makers who need to find location sites, film crew assistance, see sample credits, and other critical support."

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DIANE SASS (925) 462.2068 5 Bd • 3,776+/- sq.ft., • 9,817 +/- sq.ft. lot Gorgeous Los Olivos home in Livermore Wine Country. Two story. Beautiful back yard with stamped patio.	GAIL HENDERSON (925) 980.5648 5Bd • 4.5Ba • 4,428+/- sq.ft., 0.34+/- Acres Largest model in Arroyo Crossings Estates w/ 5 BRs, LOFT, OFFICE, MUD ROOM, 4.5 ba., walk to downtown & school, large private backyard. Sq.ft. DOES NOT include office + mud room.	PATRICK MARAVELIAS (925) 890.1254 3Bd • 4.5Ba • 4,062+/- sq.ft. • 0.33+/- Acres Stunning one of a kind, custom home in the heart of Livermore Wine Country. Every detail of this home has been carefully considered and has every amenity imaginable. Pool.	DIANE SASS (925) 583.2168 4Bd • 2.5Ba • 3,513+/- sq.ft. • 0.98+/- Acres Single story custom. HUGE gourmet kitchen recently done w/ slab granite, hand carved trim, stainless appliances, dual dishwashers, decor 6 burner gas stove. Huge pool w/ electric cover.	COREY GREEN (925) 583.2173 4 Bd • 3 Ba • 3,940+/- sq.ft., 0.36+/- Acres Private and Peaceful describes this Beautiful Tap-estry Home in Livermore. Located in one of Livermore's Top Neighborhoods. Updated Kitchen and Baths! Resort like backyard with waterfall pool.	DEBRA A ALLEN (925) 251.2530 4 Bd • 2.5 Ba • 2,230+/- sq.ft. • +/- 0.98 Acres New master bedroom bath w/ stain glass window. New carpeting & fresh paint show off the beautiful wood plantation shutters. Family room w/ built in cabinets.			
1441 CALVARY LN LIVERMORE	8083 BRITTANY DR DUBLIN	1041 GERMANO WAY PLEASANTON	9877 FOOTHILL RD SUNOL	892 MADEIRA PLEASANTON	583 AMBERWOOD WAY LIVERMORE			
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Blackhawk East 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300	Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd. Danville, CA 94506 925.736.6000	Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000	Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette, CA 94549 925.385.2330	Livermore 1983 Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 925.667.2100	Montclair/ Piedmont 6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200 Oakland, CA 94611 510.339.4800	Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100 Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000	Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500	Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500

VALLEY ROUNDUP

Rural Roads Workshop

A workshop focusing on "Cost Effective Methods for Ranch & Farm Roads" will be held Wed., Oct. 5 in Sunol.

This workshop will provide practical knowledge on effective, low-cost road design and maintenance for ranch and rural roads to reduce maintenance costs, improve water quality and minimize erosion. This workshop will be helpful for landowners and managers, road workers and equipment operators, and anyone who works with unpaved rural roads.

Topics will include the following: low maintenance design principles; grading and sloping for effective drainage; cross drains, waterbars, rolling dips, and culverts; and efficient solutions to common problem situations.

The workshop will include lunch and feature expert guest speakers and hands-on field demonstrations.

For questions or to register, please contact Morpheus Anima: morpheus.anima@acrcd.org (925) 371-0154 x105.

The workshop is sponsored in part by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

3-D Weapons Simulation

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has announced that it has begun production runs focusing on high resolution 3-D weapon simulations on NNSA's largest supercomputer platform, Cielo.

The simulations will be used to ensure the safety, security, and effectiveness of the nuclear stockpile while maintaining the moratorium on underground nuclear explosive testing. Researchers from NNSA's laboratories – Los Alamos (LANL), Lawrence Livermore and Sandia laboratories – are using Cielo for NNSA's Capability Computing Campaign 2 (CCC2).

"The body of work done on Cielo is one of the largest and most demanding workloads involving modeling and simulation within NNSA. Cielo is primarily utilized to perform milestone weapons calculations," said Don Cook, NNSA's Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs. "The research we're able to do in computer science, physics, and engineering because of Cielo is a vital part of NNSA's efforts to implement President Obama's nuclear security agenda."

Cielo, a petascale resource for conducting NNSA weapons simulations in the 2011-2015 timeframe, can achieve more than one quadrillion floating point operations per second. During May 2011, the Cielo system was upgraded from 1.03 petaFLOPS (72 cabinets) to 1.37 petaFLOPS (96 cabinets). After the hardware upgrade, the Cielo operating system was also upgraded.

Cielo, located at LANL, provides a production, classified computational resource. It is

operated by the New Mexico Alliance for Computing at Extreme Scale (ACES), a collaboration between LANL and Sandia.

Public Service Announcement

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11), together with his son, Michael McNerney, recently recorded a public service announcement (PSA) to bring awareness to skin cancer. According to the National Cancer Institute, skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States. More than 68,000 Americans are diagnosed with melanoma every year and another 48,000 are diagnosed with an early form of the disease that involves only the top layer of skin.

"I'm glad for this opportunity to help raise awareness about skin cancer with my son, Mike," said McNerney. "Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States. It's even affected our family. That's why this public service announcement is personally important to me. There are easy steps, however, that we can all take to reduce our risk of skin cancer. I hope people will see this public service announcement and remember to wear a hat and sunscreen, just as I do."

Members of the public can watch the video via the Congressman's official Facebook page at www.facebook.com/jerrymcnerney.

Employee Awards

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Defense Programs has announced the recipients of the Defense Programs' Employee of the Quarter Awards. Recipients of the awards are recognized for going beyond the call of duty in supporting the mission of NNSA's Defense Programs.

The local recipients of NNSA Defense Programs' Employee of the Quarter Awards are as follows:

Angela Hoehne, Livermore Site Office (LSO), is recognized for her work in facilities operations management. In addition to her regular duties in preparing and justifying the annual facility operations budget, managing the facility maintenance and repairs, Angie managed a major move within the LSO building. She organized 65 office moves over a four month period.

Chad Noble, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), is recognized for designing and analyzing a recent LLNL hydrotest fired at Site 300's Contained Firing Facility that provided an improved understanding of a use control technology present in the current US stockpile.

Correction

The address listed for Classical Clocks in last week's article in The Independent was incorrect. The correct address is 1082 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Classical Clocks will be holding a grand opening on August 19 and 20. People will be able to see the store at its new location.

CAMP

(continued from page one)

to find a more central location, create more community contacts, find more sources of support and round out her board of directors.

In short, she has a good start and is working to keep it going. She has created a non-profit umbrella organization called CAST, for Creative Autism Solutions team. Long-term, she wants CAST to offer a full-time children's center to deal with what she calls the "autism crisis" in which roughly one percent of American children are diagnosed as autistic.

It's not as if that's the only thing on her plate. She has a full-time job with the eyewear manufacturer, ClearVision Optical. She, along with husband Mark, is raising Matteo, whose needs are many, time-consuming and expensive.

It is from her experience with Matteo, now 7, that she has become convinced of the growth that occurs when autistic and non-autistic children mix.

"Kids learn from other kids," she says. "Autism schools are fine, but I am not a separationist."

She has seen Matteo benefit from interacting with fully able children. She has seen other, more aggressive children become gentle when interacting with him. "Matteo is so gentle," she says. His calmness seems to rub off.

Because kids with autism can have a wide range of symptoms, and greater or lesser disabilities, they are often called "spectrum" kids, for autism spectrum disorder, or ASD. Children without those disabilities are called "neurotypical."

This summer, she has seen spectrum and neurotypical kids mix and learn from each other. She tells the story of a neurotypical girl who at first wouldn't talk to an autistic child, but after two days asked Musso how to communicate with him. "She wanted the child with ASD to be involved with the group and feel included."

Then there was a high-functioning autistic child who was "an incredible dancer." Kids and staff were all dancing as part of a group activity, but one by one they stopped to watch because the child was so good. "It warmed my heart to see his proud face when he noticed that his peers were intrigued and impressed with his gift. They were clapping and cheering! That's

what it's all about, finding the gifts in every child and nurturing them."

Musso exudes passion and love for the children. But there is a practical side to her dedication as well.

Like many mothers of autistic kids, she has driven endless hours taking her child to therapies with specialists who live hours apart by car. She and her husband may spend thousands of dollars a month to make it possible for Matteo to receive the kinds of training he needs. They once had to go to court to obtain insurance benefits for which they had paid premiums.

Long-term, what she hopes to create is something like a one-stop-shop where parents can bring their children for different kinds of professional therapy — and also for loving supervision where they receive healthy physical activity, exposure to art, science and music, and socialization with kids of all kinds.

She doesn't think it should be necessary for parents to choose between ignoring their child's needs and only managing to meet them by running themselves ragged while going broke.

JumpAhead was two years in the making. As the summer has progressed, Musso has evaluated its programs and is pleased with the results as the basis for future plans. Activities like balance contests and eye movement exercises stimulated neurological development. Other activities encouraged social development or self-esteem, such as dance, music, physical exercise, yoga and stretching.

The children were encouraged to be courteous and attentive during visits by special guests, like scientists and firefighters. The atmosphere has been loving and patient, aided by having enough staff and volunteers to sometimes reach a one-to-one ratio with the kids.

Of course the best designs can be challenged by children who are overstimulated and unwilling

or unable to mind. Musso was particularly excited to see how well a "chill-out room" worked, a comfortable side room with shag carpet, huge, cushy pillows, blankets, fiber optic lighting that changed colors gently, and classical music playing softly in the background. The kids could choose to take a break if they felt they needed one. Then they would return to activities "with renewed energy, attitude and ability to focus."

Musso thinks part of the benefit was that the kids retained some control. They were also learning to communicate their needs to others, an important interactive step. "Kids could come to us and say, 'I need a chill-out break.'"

"The goal was to have fun and feel comfortable in this environment. We don't all process stimulus in our surroundings the same way and it can get overwhelming, so kids were free to tell us what they needed, and it worked!"

A disadvantage this summer has been the camp's out-of-the-way location on Southfront Road in Livermore, east of Vasco — not easy to reach, and a very unlikely place for drop-ins. On the other hand, it is next door to PartiPalooza, where JumpAhead staff could take the kids for some healthy and interactive exercise.

Musso is full of praise for the dedication of staff, the willingness of some professionals to help pro bono and the generosity of Livermore and Tracy teenagers who volunteered to help this summer.

Importantly, all the parents have agreed with the need for the program not just in Livermore but in every community, she says.

"Children felt special and received positive reinforcement throughout their stay each day at JumpAhead, yet they were encouraged to step outside their comfort zones, try new things and express themselves, as well," she wrote in an email.

"I was thrilled with the outcome."

Lab retirees file appeal

A Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory retiree group has filed an appeal challenging an Oakland Superior Court judge's ruling that they are not entitled to return to University of California medical insurance programs.

The judge ruled in May against the retiree group's claim that it should continue to have UC medical insurance. The group had argued that there was an implicit if not explicit contract during their active employment years that the University would continue providing access to its medical insurance programs for life.

The retirees had filed suit a year ago after months of unsuccessful informal efforts to be re-admitted to UC medical coverage.

Laboratory retirees lost the coverage in 2008 when a new contractor took over Laboratory management for the National Nuclear Security Administration, which is part of the U.S. Department of Energy.

The new contractor, Lawrence Livermore National Security, offers medical insurance that is consistent with industrial standards, which the retirees say they find more complicated, less reliable and in many cases more expensive than the university system they formerly belonged to. In addition, many retirees fear they may be vulnerable

to future cuts by an indifferent management if the Lab's contract changes again.

Following the judge's ruling against them in May, the retirees had to file an appeal by August 8 to have a chance of benefiting from a separate case now before the California Supreme Court. That case has to do with preserving Orange County employee medical benefits in the face of budget cuts. If a Supreme Court ruling favors the county employees, the Livermore retirees' appeal may be strengthened, the group's attorneys believe.

After August 8, the May superior court decision would have been final and the Orange County

decision would have had no impact. The actual filing date for the appeal was July 29.

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EDITORIAL

Focus on Education

The Innovation Forum, hosted by the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce, featured a panel of experts who offered their views on what it would take to grow the economy.

They stated that innovation, a trained workforce, and a more business friendly atmosphere are among the factors that could help to create manufacturing jobs. Such jobs, they said, are the key to growing the economy.

Panel participants agreed that the dark cloud on the horizon in California is the cut in funding for education at all levels. "It doesn't bode well for innovation." The national debt could also result in less money for both education and research.

John Chen, CEO Sybase, declared, "We haven't kept up with training people. I cannot take someone who manufactured cars and move that person to manufacturing semiconductors. We need to improve training."

Other panel participants were George Miller, President, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; S. Shariq Yusufzai, VP Chevron and President of the California Chamber of Commerce; Rob Lamkin, CEO, Cool Earth Solar; and John Dulchinos, CEO of Adept Technology (robotics).

They pointed out that the United States, and in particular California, has been known for its ability to come up with innovative ideas. However, the innovation is not translating into jobs. When it comes time to developing and manufacturing the products, they have been going overseas.

Some of those jobs are starting to come back to the U.S. However, because of the fiscal crisis in California, manufacturing jobs are going to other states, such as Texas, which the panelists labeled "the China of the United States."

The panelists were enthusiastic about Livermore and its partners in pushing for innovation in job creation. They also noted the high quality of life that is attractive when it comes to recruiting employees. The one concern, was funding cuts for education at all levels. Cutting funding for education is short-sighted.

It is important to provide people with the knowledge and training they need to be able to attract and take on jobs in an ever increasing technological world. If California doesn't, other states and countries will.

It is good to hold such discussions, to remind people of the importance of education to the future success of the economy.

Livermore Charter School Is In Good Shape Over AB 114

By Ron McNicol

A state budget trailer bill that prohibits August teacher layoffs, and allows school districts to have an unbalanced budget this year, is not expected to have any negative impact on the Livermore Valley Charter School.

The bill, AB 114, was designed to secure teachers' jobs this summer, so that districts would enter the fall with at least the number of teachers that remained after the regularly authorized annual layoff period in May.

The education code normally allows August layoffs. However, AB 114 suspends that right between July 1, 2011 and July 1, 2012.

The bill also allows districts to drop below the state-mandated 3 percent reserve for that one-year period, without having to fall into a zone of supervision by the county office of education concerning a district's following year's budget.

The intention for granting leeway on the minimum reserve

is to help maintain teaching staff over the current fiscal year, in light of an uncertain state budget revenue forecast.

According to the bill, districts would be required to increase the reserve back to 3 percent in the following year, or the county would then enter the scene to conduct stricter oversight of the district. More frequent fiscal reports would be due to the county.

If a district were to remain in trouble, it could be taken over by a state master, who imposes an even tighter line of fiscal planning.

The Livermore Charter School, which has 75 teachers and 1150 students in elementary and the first three years of high school, has no plans to lay off anyone in August, or in mid-year, either. "We have a wage freeze in place, so we will not make cuts in December," said chief operating officer, Bill Batchelor.

The school maintains a reserve above 15 percent, said Batchelor. The Pleasanton school district's

level is currently at the state mandated 3%. The Livermore public schools report a 12 percent reserve, achieved by layoffs in earlier years, and annual revenue from a local tax of \$130 per parcel.

Unlike the Livermore public school district, the charter school does not have union employees. The school pays wages comparable to union scale by conducting a study of other districts in the area. The school board tries to peg the pay scale most closely to the Livermore school district.

In public schools, teachers receive a step and column increase annually, which is negotiated between union and management. Teachers go up one step on the scale each year. They move over to the next, higher-paid column, if they have achieved enough post-graduate credits to qualify for the next column.

The charter school also has a step and column pay scale. However, "it's not locked in. It's a bench mark, a guideline. We (the school's board and admin-

istration) look into issues, and make decisions on the scale," said Batchelor.

Right now the wage scale is frozen. The school wanted to be in the best possible shape for the mid-year budget picture, said Batchelor.

Like all of the state's charter and public schools, Livermore Valley will keep a close eye on how the prediction about a \$4 billion boost in state revenue will be holding up. If the prediction falls more than \$2 billion short, it's likely there will be school budget cuts. If the plunge is very deep, it would have a serious impact on all schools.

The charter school is working on closing escrow on its new campus on North Canyons Drive. It is taking over buildings that were constructed about two years ago as an office park.

If there were no unusual delays over permitting or funding, the charter school hopes to move into the new facility over the winter holiday break.

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

to rooms there from mold, caused by a leak problem.

The district sought the full cost of repair, almost \$1.3 million, which it had taken from the Sycamore Fund. However, the settlement gives the district \$610,000.

Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi will recommend that the money go into the Sycamore Fund. The fund was established from proceeds of the district's sale of a planned high school site on Sycamore Road in south Pleasanton. Over the years, it has been used to pay for technology

acquisition and to serve as a "bank" to cover funding shortfalls on such things as textbook acquisition.

Also going into the fund will be \$350,000 from a settlement in a suit to recover attorneys' fees from the district's former legal advisors. The law firm, Lozano Smith, and the attorney who served the district were sued in connection with a suit against Signature Properties, over an agreement for construction of what was supposed to become Neal elementary school on Vineyard Avenue.

Even more important to the district's financial health than recovering \$350,000, is that the district was relieved of an obligation to pay \$2.5 million plus interest to Signature Homes, which won the suit over Neal's construction. Signature Homes agreed to allow the district to forego the payment.

The district sued Signature, claiming it was backing out of a signed agreement to build the school, and turn it over to the district. The district said Signature had promised to cover any cost overruns above the estimated

cost. Signature said in court that it agreed only to a preliminary agreement. The payment was never worked out. The judge sided with Signature.

On another item from a closed session, the board announced the appointment of Jon Vranesh as principal of Walnut Grove elementary school. He has been a vice principal at Foothill High School.

Appointment of Terri Quiesinberry as the new Alisal elementary school principal was also announced. She has been a teacher at Walnut Grove.

BART

(continued from page one)

to meet them with the freeway alignment.

A letter, signed by all five councilmembers, has been sent to BART Director McPartland informing him of the adoption of the initiative and requesting that the BART Board expeditiously reconsider the adopted alignment.

The letter reads, "On July 11, 2011, the Livermore City Council adopted the 'Keep BART on I-580' initiative, which requires the City to advocate for an alignment in the I-580 corridor with stations at Isabel Avenue/State Route 84 and at Greenville Road. A 9212 Report, prepared to evaluate the impacts of the initiative, identified that the required transit oriented development could be accommodated with the freeway alignment by moving the Greenville Road station approximately 2,500 feet south of the location studied in BART's Program Environmental Impact Report. Moving the Greenville station south avoids many of the constraints to development that were identified at the site near I-580. The City Council considered this action carefully with input from the community. There is strong local support for the freeway alignment.

"We understand that the proposed Livermore extension must meet BART's System Expansion Policy. We also understand that additional work including environmental studies may be needed to consider the alternative Greenville South Station site that the City has now adopted. Our staff is available to work with BART to complete the steps necessary for the BART Board to consider this request."

At Monday's council meeting, John Stein suggested that the city present a united front on a BART route in order to gain support of Livermore residents for Measure B. The measure would reauthorize the half-cent sales tax used to fund transit and transportation projects.

Mayor Marshall Kamena commented at the end of the meeting that he is a member of the Measure B steering committee. BART to Livermore is on the high priority list. He added, "We have some work to do with the BART board in order to implement BART on 580 to Greenville. The route had been deemed unworkable because of environmental problems at Greenville. "The 9212 report found a way to make it happen." The new Greenville location avoids numerous constraints, such as the urban growth boundary, air quality regulations, sensitive habitats and wildlife corridor that exist nearer the freeway.

BART announced a proposed first phase BART to Livermore Project at the July 27 Regional Rail Policy Advisory Group. The city will be working closely with BART to identify a first phase project concept that is fully compliant with the initiative, and then advocate for a first phase BART extension to Livermore to be included in the proposed reauthorization of Alameda County Measure B, the 1/2 cent sales tax for transportation, called Measure B3.

Measure B3 is being developed for Alameda County voters to consider on the November 2012 ballot. It will include an expenditure plan of transportation projects and programs. Preliminary polling suggests broad countywide support for the Livermore BART extension. There is strong local consensus for the freeway alignment.

The council statement declares, "The time is now for Livermore to finally get BART, as promised when the BART taxes were approved by Livermore voters in the 1960s. The Livermore City Council asks that you support funding in Measure B3 for a first phase BART to Livermore within the I-580 median, and encourage the voters to support the measure in the November 2012 election."

MAILBOX

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

Medical Costs Don King Livermore

Health insurance companies have been under fire for raising their rates. But, I have to wonder why little has been reported about the reasons for high insurance rates. I am no expert on the matter, but it does seem to me that the culprits may be the high pay that I believe is typical of the health providers, especially doctors, but also nurses and technicians and the hospital administrative staff.

As an example, after I had my thyroid gland removed about a year ago, I received a bill from ValleyCare for services rendered. I was astounded to see that the charge for "operating room services" was \$23,379. I assume the lion's share of that was for the surgeon. Another \$4234 went for "anesthesia." I presume it was the anesthetist's fee comprised most, if not, all of that.

The charge for "recovery room" (two days, I believe) was \$2612.50.

The ekg/ecg charge was \$459.

The total charge was \$35,906. I had to pay only \$260, because the insurance company (or Medicare???) paid \$35,646. ValleyCare's statement reveals little, and nothing at all about pay rates.

Why don't we hear the insurance companies complaining about the high cost of the services they are insuring?

BART Stop Alice Re Livermore

I keep reading about all these different BART routes to Livermore. Frankly I would NOT like to see BART go any further than Isabel or Portola. Let's stop spending all this money on so many studies and be done with it. I don't particularly relish the

idea of some kind of Fruitvale incidents coming to our town. No matter how you look at it if BART proceeds beyond Portola or downtown for that matter, the noise will proliferate to the surrounding residences, either coming from 580 or by the railroad tracks coming from downtown Livermore towards the 580 Safeway. We don't need any more noise pollution in this area, the train's loud whistles are bad enough.

Turkey Recall Lex Manwill Livermore

This week's recall of 36 million pounds of ground turkey by Cargill proves once again that our meat supply is not safe. The product has been linked to a nationwide outbreak of Salmonella that killed one person and sickened 76 thus far. With \$108 billion in annual sales, Cargill is the world's largest meat processor.

Salmonella bacteria are nurtured in the intestines of animals raised for food, and many strains are resistant to common antibiotics. The bacteria develop resistance through exposure to antibiotics used routinely to speed growth in these animals.

As a first step, the Food and Drug Administration must ban the routine use of antibiotics in raising animals. The European Union has adopted such a ban in 2006. The World Health Organization has recommended a worldwide phase-out.

But, the ultimate solution to Salmonella poisoning and a host of chronic killer diseases associated with meat consumption is to replace animal products in our diet with vegetables, fresh fruits, legumes, and grains. These foods contain all the nutrients we require, without deadly pathogens, antibiotics, pesticides, carcinogens, cholesterol, and saturated fats.

I found the websites www.tryveg.com and www.chooseveg.com most helpful in making the transition.

Stark Ration Howard Long MD, MPH Pleasanton

Congressman Stark says of new Budget Act with Republicans, "- 12 people will have the power to cut Social Security benefits, turn Medicare into a voucher and gut the Medicaid

program into oblivion" (Independent, 8/4/11 p4). In 2014, his Democratic 2010 Health Law rations Medicare with a 15 person death panel.

Republicans passed the following in the TEA House last April (but were blocked temporarily by Democrat senators): 1, Social Security - slower increase in benefits (Democrat inaction is unsustainable). 2, Medicare choices like Congressmen enjoy now (replace Democrat czar tyranny) and, 3, Medicaid choice of HSAs, like gave \$5,000 av/yr extra to Indiana recipients (vs California Democrat bureaucracy giving only 6.3% of MediCal \$ to doctors giving the care, www.statehealthfacts.org - with unacceptable orders to ration).

Do we want Stark rationing to represent our newly integrated Tri-Valley District?

Businesses Destroyed Terry Givens Livermore

I think the City of Livermore has missed the point. If their intent is to save a money by destroying two family owned businesses (Dan Bieber and the DeBenedetis'), then why stop at looking into a corporation to run the businesses? Why not just outsource the job to China or India?

What is happening to America today? Why are we looking for ways to eliminate family owned businesses? Dan and Jeff were there when the City of Livermore needed them. Together they took the entire golf course operation on and made it a great success. They risked all they had and in return they only wanted to feed and clothe their family and make a little money. Now the City is thanking them for all their hard work by considering replacing their businesses with a corporation. Most likely not a local corporation, with local ties, but a corporation whose sole intent is to make money at any costs. What happens is the new corporation comes in terminates the original owner and staff and brings in new people from afar and pays them minimum wages.

If we are lucky some of their wages and corporation profits might be spent in Livermore. End result; City of Livermore saves some money, Las Positas Golf Course and the restaurant are operated by a corporation

(whose intent is to make money at any costs) and two families' livelihoods are destroyed.

Redistricting David Williams Livermore

Letter to California Redistricting Commission (CRC):

The proposed 15th Congressional District (15th CD) is not fair. According to The Independent of August 4, 2011, our Tri-Valley cities of Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin will be part of the new 15th CD. The rest of the 15th CD will be the Bay Area cities of Union City, Hayward, San Lorenzo, San Leandro, Castro Valley and part of Sunol. The Tri-Valley cities have little in common with the Bay cities and definitely do not together comprise a community of interest as your objectives specify. The 15th CD should be changed this week, prior to your planned August 15th deadline.

However, our Tri-Valley cities have a great deal in common with the other adjoining inland valley cities of San Ramon (an official adjoining Tri-Valley city), plus Danville, Blackhawk, Alamo, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Lafayette, Orinda and Moraga to the north.

We are interconnected by the often congested 680 freeway. Part of the long overdue solution is the connection of BART in the Tri-Valley and BART on to Walnut Creek and either Lafayette or Orinda or Pleasant Hill and beyond. This, of course, requires federal funding and we will be better served by our having the same U.S. Representative in Washington. We've paid extra sales taxes for BART for 46 years.

What you now propose is similar to the old 9th ICD we had in the 1980s when the Congressman didn't deliver despite five terms. According to The Independent, we will get the same part-time Pete Stark again, because you have gerrymandered a noncompetitive district with a 2 to 1 voter registration advantage for the incumbent again. Not again!

In the 1990s, we had a good competitive CD that actually changed hands between the Republicans and Democrats, one of the very few in the entire state and one of the few in the nation to do so. It should be noted that

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DOOLAN

(continued from page one)

proved an environmental study to accompany an application to LAFCO to place the area within the city's sphere of influence. It would be the first step before annexation. Pacific Union Land Company asked that Dublin move ahead with the study. The development company proposes to build up to 1990 units on 1450 acres in Doolan Canyon.

An active adult community is being proposed. Over 800 acres would remain in open space.

LAFCO is the agency that determines sphere of influence boundaries.

Sbranti said that no work has taken place on the environmental review. No consultant has been hired. A significant study would be required. The question would be if there were any development possible, if the environmental hurdles could be overcome.

City Councilmember Eric Swalwell said that there are a lot of serious issues that may prevent development. If there were development, he would like to see a balance of housing and open space and possibly viticulture.

Sbranti noted that EBRPD has purchased land in the area. "We would like to create a trail network to connect that land to an open space area we're trying to create in east Dublin."

Another potential Sbranti raised was creating a connectivity with Livermore Valley wineries. It may be an area where viticulture and wineries could be located.

Sbranti credited Swalwell with suggesting the potential to study establishing a connection

to wine country.

Swalwell said of Pacific Union's plans, "Those property owners have land rights. I think there is a compromise between development and open space. Vineyards could provide a big step toward a compromise."

Swalwell said he is neither advocating for or opposing the proposed development. His vote against an environmental review last December was because he thought Dublin should talk to Livermore. "It is in our best interest to find out what we could or could not agree on with regard to Doolan Canyon."

Swalwell said the entire council supported studying how to become involved in promoting viticulture and wineries. "I think joining the wine region honors the history of wine making in the area. It would also provide a balance in development in the east. I'd rather see vineyards than more homes on the hills."

He said Dublin will look at establishing partnerships to move forward with a regional Livermore Valley visitors center with such entities as the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association and Las Positas College. Swalwell would also like to see a wine theme incorporated into the city's design guidelines for future development.

Sbranti pointed out that Livermore, Danville, Pleasanton and Sunol have wineries. In looking at what niche Dublin might occupy, the idea of a visitors center was one suggestion. Sbranti and Swalwell are working as a subcommittee to look at differ-

ent ways Dublin might become involved in the wine industry.

With high visibility from the freeway, a visitors center could be one way to promote wine country. It could contain an educational component, where different grapes were grown and wines were made. "The more awareness is raised about Livermore Valley wine country, the more people will be attracted to the area. That will benefit everyone."

Doolan Canyon is currently designated as resource management under the Alameda County general plan. The zoning is for 100-acre minimum building sites.

Dublin is the only jurisdiction that could approve development without first going to voters to change an urban growth boundary (UGB). Livermore, Pleasanton and Alameda County all have urban growth boundaries. Dublin's western boundary is defined by a UGB, but one was never established on Dublin's eastern boundary.

The area has been the subject of controversy. Livermore wants to retain it as an open space buffer between the two communities. In 1993, Dublin considered zoning Doolan Canyon for 3970 residential units, but instead designated it as a future study area. In 2000, Dublin and Livermore entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that stated that Dublin would amend its general plan to take out the future study area designation. Subsequently, Dublin did so.

Lab, Spain Sign Research Agreement

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has signed a memorandum of understanding to engage in joint research and to promote the exchange of personnel with Spain's Instituto de Fusion Nuclear (IFN), a research institute of the Universidad Politecnica de Madrid (UPM) to explore the highest level of nuclear fusion research.

The Lab and IFN have had a long history of collaboration; the MOU serves to solidify that association as part of UPM's focus on building international relationships to support stability and growth in research.

"This agreement will provide a platform for the Laboratory and IFN to build on a decades-long

tradition of common research in areas related to high energy density science, inertial confinement fusion, inertial fusion energy and basic science," said Tomás Díaz de la Rubia, the Lab's deputy director of Science & Technology.

The two parties will exchange information and conduct joint research in areas including high energy density science and other fundamental science topics; fundamental science experiments of common interest in the Lab's National Ignition Facility; and various topics within the Lab's Laser Inertial Fusion Engine program (LIFE).

NIF will serve as a central

point in the research collaboration. Research will be conducted to support NIF's Inertial Fusion Energy Program, its demonstration of fusion energy, and the technology's suitability for large-scale, laser fusion-driven power plants. "This complements both the Lab's mission and research IFN is currently undertaking, providing a natural place for collaboration," Díaz de la Rubia added.

In addition to supporting shared research, the MOU provides for the exchange of scientists and students between the Lab and IFN. These researchers will work to support the common research interests at both institutions.

Bath Salts a New Source for Drugs

A new drug is on the market and may enter homes in the guise of a premium bath salt. Baths are the last thing that "Eight Ballz" bath salt and others like it are used for. These "bath salts" reportedly contain the synthetic compounds methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) and mephedrone. According to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), the compounds are related in structure to illegal substances such as MDMA (ecstasy)

and methamphetamine. The salts are ground up and sniffed in order to produce a "high."

A quick Google search on bath salts will reveal a large amount of information on the drug. Many states have banned the synthetic stimulants contained in bath salts and a number more are rushing to pass appropriate legislation; however the salts are not currently illegal in California

Doctors and clinicians at U.S. poison control centers, report that ingested bath salts cause increased blood pressure, increased heart rate, agitation, hallucination, extreme paranoia and delusions. The incidents of extreme paranoia are most problematic as many people are reportedly having a break with reality and committing suicide. As of June 30, 2011 poison control centers have fielded 3,740 emergency calls concerning the use of bath salts. (AAPCC)

The Livermore Police Department has not seen this national trend locally as of yet; however, it has found "Eight Ballz" bath salts are being sold in the city.

BAN

(continued from page one)

to charge customers 10 cents per bag. This would prevent a store hiding the cost of a bag in its goods pricing. Instead, the customer could choose whether to take the bag, says a summary in the EIR's first few pages.

An exception to the ban would be bags that protect customers' purchases of meat or produce. Also, bags used for take-home food from restaurants would be exempt.

The goal of the authority is to reduce pollution at the source, said the authority's director of communications, Jeff Becerra.

Criteria are set in the report about how to determine which plastic or paper bags are reusable, said Becerra. The report can be downloaded at <http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp?page=1171>.

Becerra said that the board is looking at a possible first reading of the ordinance in December.

Decisions it would face then include whether to exclude certain cities, or all cities, but have it apply to the unincorporated area, or to not adopt it at all.

At Monday's Livermore City Council meeting, Councilmember Jeff Williams asked that the matter be placed on a future council agenda to provide guidelines on how the city's representative to StopWaste.org should vote. Williams is currently the representative.

The department continues to monitor the situation and encourages local businesses to remove the drug from their shelves.

Bath Salt brands: "Red Dove," "Blue Silk," "Zoom," "Bloom," "Cloud Nine," "Ocean Snow," "Lunar Wave," "Vanilla Sky," "Ivory Wave," "White Lightning," "Scarface," "Hurricane Charlie," and "Spice."

Symptoms of influence: Elevated blood pressure, headache, insomnia, extreme irrational paranoia, hallucinations, psychosis, dizziness, pupil dilation, and difficulty breathing.

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MAILBOX

this allowed for the election of a woman. The United States trails way behind the other democracies in the number of women who are representatives. Also, to the best of my knowledge, both Mormons and Jews are discriminated against by the proposed 15th CD. So much for the federal Voters' Rights Act. Check it out.

The Bay cities you've selected have much warehousing and manufacturing, while the inland valley cities are mostly residential with some administrative and research. Both are in different climate zones with, of course, differing unmet ecological challenges. Crime is higher in your Bay Area cities and there are many social differences as well.

In the 1990s a competitive CD only came about due to a lawsuit so that again may be our only option. For that we didn't need Props. 11 and 20 and the CRC. In the past decade, 2000s, our CD was not competitive + or - due

to the collusion between both the Democratic and Republican incumbents and their cronies. As we all are now painfully aware, this resulted in safe seats and the lousy governments that noncompetitive districts guarantee. The recession and massive unemployment and debt could have been prevented by full-time and objective representatives and

legislators.

With the noncompetitive districts you've drawn, the carpetbagger incumbents are well served. I've made multiple presentations to the CRC both in person and by fax and email. Copies of this letter have been forwarded to the local media and local officials. Reconsider your unfair district lines.



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SPORTS NOTES



Pleasanton Jr. 90's Gold team won the District 57 Championship. The team members made the cut from over 80 boys from all over Pleasanton and finished the season with 30 wins, 3 losses and 2 ties. Their stellar play continued even in the latter part of the season when many teams added several high-school players. This group of 8th graders kept on winning without that benefit. Pictured along top row from left to right: Manager Terry Duran, Daniel Rodriguez, Kyle Freitas, Ryan Probst, Parker Moberg, Brandon Ruotolo, Andy Duran, Coach Joe Clark, Scott Rasnick, Joey Danckert, Coach Perry Rodriguez, Matt Finney. Bottom Row: Stone Godi & Brennon Morris. Not Pictured Will Richardson & Coach Mark Danckert.



Livermore Fusion U12 competed in the Pleasanton Rage Junior Showcase, finishing second. For details, see story below.



The Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club U11 Premier team won all of its games at the Santa Clara Sporting Invitational 2011 and went on to win the final in overtime, 1 to 0, against the Inter Rage Academy Extreme Jrs. It was Christian Neves who shot the winning goal during overtime. Goalie Colin Trivasos had an amazing tournament, allowing three goals against during the entire six games and recording a shutout in the final. When it came time for the U11 Premier boys to accept their victory trophy the boys dedicated the win to the memory of Stewart Ritchie's mother Jacqueline Ritchie. Pictured are team members.

Livermore Fusion

Livermore Fusion's U-12 Girls Maroon '99 team opened up the summer tournament schedule July 30 competing in the Pleasanton Rage Junior Showcase. Fusion featured a quick striking offense and tenacious defense and opened up their season with a well played 4-0 victory vs. newly formed CCSA from the Fresno area.

The afternoon match was against a very quick and aggressive Tracy Blaze squad. After taking an early 1-0 lead late into the second half, the Blaze broke through to tie the match at 1 all, only to have their tally matched only minutes

later by Fusion's Makenzie Farro which provided Fusion with the winning 2-1 score. The game's highlight play was after a miscommunication on Fusion's part resulted in a 5-0 break away and Fusion's goalkeeper, Claire Abele's highlight reel save.

Sunday's game vs. Pleasanton Rage White again featured timely scoring and a "clamp down" defensive effort by the entire Fusion team and they came away with a 3-0 win for their second shutout of the weekend.

The win vs. Rage set up a championship game vs. Southern Alameda Co. Northstars from San Leandro, a rematch

from Spring League that was played to a 3-3 tie. The Northstars started the scoring early and scored two quick goals before Fusion had a chance to regroup and shut down the very quick and aggressive Northstar squad. Score at halftime was 2-0.

Fusion came back with a score to bring them back to within 1 and the tide of the game seemed to be changing but the Northstar defense continued to bend but not break and kept Fusion out of the net for the remainder of the game. A late counter attack goal provided the final 3-1 margin to win the Gold Division, with Fusion taking a hard-fought and well deserved 2nd place in their first tournament of the season.

Hard work by forwards Makenzie Farro, Sheyllynne Holsen, Jessica Bonfiglio was complemented by outstanding two-way play of mid-fielders Marley Walke, Kaitlyn Oki, Lauren Martin, Kylie Moore and Reiley Davies. The hard work of fullbacks Kylie Martinez, Lauryn Souza, Tori Borgna, Alexis Salazar and Andrea Sommer did a tremendous job in keeping the pressure on goalkeeper tandem Claire Abele and Jenni Kovits to a minimum.

Rage U13 Champs

Pleasanton Rage U13 Premier Orange participated in the Mustang Stampede Soccer Tournament August 5-7. Rage started out slow losing the first 2 games 1-0 against Davis Legacy and Slammers. In the third game, the girls came alive beating El Dorado United 4-2. In this game, Hunter Vice scored 2 goals, Megan von Sosen and Sarah Broacha each had 1 goal. Barely making it into the playoffs (ranked 8th out of the 12 teams), Rage played the quarter-final game against Placer Prestige. Brooke Williams and Rachel Rice each scored one goal in this game giving Rage a 2-0 win. Moving onto the semi-finals, Rage was up against De Anza Force Black. Alyssa Oki passed the ball up to Brooke Williams who crossed the ball in front of the goal. Megan von Sosen was able to connect on the pass and kick it into the goal. This gave Rage a 1-0 win and allowed them to advance on to the championship game.

In the championship, Rage met up with Davis Legacy once again. This time Rage was able to come out with the victory 3-2! Megan von Sosen started off the scoring

by kicking the ball strong and in the top corner of the goal. About 5 minutes later, von Sosen was able to score again by chipping the ball over the goalie's head after a free kick deflection. The 3rd goal for Rage was provided by an own goal from Davis. Davis did not let down and was able to score 2 goals before the first half. Forwards Rachel Rice, Ariana Nino, and Brooke Williams fought hard with many close shots. Luckily, strong defense by Sadie Grozier, Tiara Lewis, Samishka Alur, and Amy Schoendienst throughout

the tournament and especially in this final game secured the victory. Goalie Ashley Morton had numerous amazing saves to keep Rage on top! Midfielders Alyssa Oki, Hunter Vice, Shanece Hunsaker, Sarah Broacha, Jessica Hayes, and Mia Banducci played strong throughout the tournament. Congratulations to the girls for playing well as a team and becoming champions!

What Our Readers Are Saying...



"We have relied on The Independent for local news and information on cultural events since we moved to Livermore in 1964. If you want to know what's going on in the Tri-Valley, you read The Independent. No other newspaper or magazine has as thorough coverage of the community in which we live. We're delighted that The Independent continues to expand its coverage and we particularly appreciate the Art, Community, & Education section. We can quickly find out about the many artistic and theatrical events in our home town."

Clark & Kathy Streeter

Both Residents of Livermore since 1964 and members of Livermore Rotary
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SPORTS NOTES



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

A new event, **Fast and Furious Pleasanton**, was held last Saturday in downtown Pleasanton. It was an all-day wellness and lifestyle event that brought cycling and running together in one place. The day will begin with a 5k run/walk followed by the **Fast & Furious Kids Run**. A full afternoon/evening

of criterium style bike racing concluded the day. Racing events were held for elite riders as well as youngsters. A wellness and lifestyle expo featured local and regional health care vendors, lifestyle companies and specialty product manufacturers.



West Coast Soccer boys' and girls' teams went undefeated at the Union City Norcal Premier July play date. The West Coast boys and girls battled top teams from all around the Bay Area in a strong showing for the newly formed Livermore soccer club. Pictured above is the West Coast U9G teams' Katie Zeck blocking a shot on goal against the Walnut Creek Lightning.



The Pleasanton Rage U13 Orange team played six games in three days, going on to capture first place at the Mustang Stampede Tournament. The team showed extreme determination and incredible teamwork as they defeated Davis 3-2 in the finals. Pictured are (back row, left to right) Asst. Coach Trisha Gonzales, Ariana Nino, Megan von Sosen, Shanece Hunsaker, Brooke Williams, Hunter Vice, Rachel Rice, Coach Roy Miller; (middle row) Amy Schoendienst, Tiara Lewis, Mia Banducci, Ashley Morton, Samiksha Alur, Sarah Broacha, Jessica Hayes; and (front row) Sadie Grozier and Alyssa Oki.



West Coast Soccer Girls U11 (Wrath) were unbeaten during the Union City play date. For the story, see Sports Notes.

Win a Chevrolet

Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club Under-14 and Under-15 Premier teams will travel to London, Sheffield and Manchester over Spring Break 2012 to train and compete with local soccer teams in a new program called Ballistic Abroad. The program is designed to give kids greater cultural awareness through athletic development and exchange.

Dublin Chevrolet is partnering with Ballistic Abroad for a unique fundraiser that gives members of the community the chance to win a Chevy Equinox or a Chevy Cruze by purchasing a fundraiser-entry ticket for \$5.00. BUCS gets to keep all of the money they're able to raise through the Chevrolet fundraiser to help defray costs of the England trip, as well as soccer equipment and other supplies.

Tickets can be purchased during the BUCS Summer Classic Tournament to be held this weekend, August 12th-14th, at either Val Vista Park or the Pleasanton Sports Park.

For more information about Ballistic Abroad, please contact BUCS President Nandor Krause at (925) 451-1102.

Dublin Chevrolet is one of 20 Chevrolet dealers from the San Francisco Bay Area that have partnered with local youth soccer leagues for the 2011 season, as a community outreach program. Ballistic United Soccer Club was selected because of the league's proximity to the dealership.

Equipment donated by Dublin Chevrolet included equipment bags, soccer balls, soccer cones, water bottles, and t-shirts.

"We are delighted to be involved with the American tradition of youth soccer," said Mario Beltran, Sales Director, of Dublin Chevrolet. "Sponsoring BUCS gave us the opportunity to illustrate our commitment to the youth and families in the Tri Valley and we're glad to have the opportunity to offer such a positive fundraiser for the community."

For more information about Chevy Youth Soccer, visit www.YouthSportsWired.com.



Caroline Eckel, age 10 of Livermore, won first place in TBF Racing's Tri for Kids Championship at Rancho Seco. Caroline completed the summer series of three Tri-for-kids triathlons and won first place in her age group on August 7, 2011. Caroline took third place in her race and was the all around champion in the 10 year old girls age group. For more information about TBF racing and triathlons for kids see tbfacing.com

The second game was a hard fought goalless draw with Walnut Creek Cyclones. Strikers (Hayley, Abby, Kate, Kylie, Kelsi, Abby and Fran) tried hard to break the deadlock but Walnut Creek's tough defense kept the game scoreless. Walnut Creek also attacked hard. Excellent work by Anneliese, Allyssa, Lindsey, Sierra, and Kaylie meant that no goals were conceded.

In the third and final game, Wrath came out fighting against a valiant team (Diablo FC Blue). Kylie took her turn in goal and made some excellent saves. Linzi, Kelsi Kate and Fran took the game to Diablo. Kate scored the opening goal. This was quickly followed up with a second from Fran. In the second half, Diablo came



This past weekend the Livermore Fusion U9 Black girls soccer team competed in the Santa Cruz Breakers tournament. The girls started off strong and played great soccer in the first two games resulting in wins. On Sunday they faced another good team and played equally well before narrowly losing in the end. Due to their overall performance and scores the girls moved onto the Championship game to face an equally strong team. With a close, back and forth game Fusion SC just narrowly missed out on winning the title. This was Livermore Fusions 9th championship game in two weekends and the 2nd for the U9 girls. Pictured are (back row, left to right) Kelsey Hoopes, Cassidy Brackett, Olivia Turner, Payton Hall, Melanie Branda, Alina Guzman and Coach Matt Caution; and (front row) Gracie Ackerman, Faith Rogers, Emma Kello, Danielle Castro, Jennifer Barron, and Kaleigh Castillo.

back. The new defensive line of Anneliese, Fran and Allyssa played tough. Lindsey, Abby H. and Kelsi continued to press, with Abby A. scoring the third goal. As Kylie, Kayli and Sierra continued to press, Allyssa came through from the back and sealed the win with a 4th goal.

Concord. The Seahawks ended the 2011 season with a bang, as the entire team put forth their best effort.

(continued on page 8)



Livermore Fusion girls under 10 White soccer team finished 3rd in the San Ramon Azuri Summer Classic Tournament. On the way to a 2 and 2 record the girls beat Pleasant Hill/Martinez 7-1 and Castro Valley 6-2. Pictured are (back row, left to right) Coach Laura King, Phoebe Omweg, Ally Cooper, Amber Feduniw, Jessica Warren, Lisette Hernandez, Jessica Zogarc, Director of Coaching Ben Graham; (front row, left to right) Megan Garka, Brooklyn Mocny, Eliana Eme, Mia Mendoza, and Lexi Borgna.

West Coast Soccer

West Coast Soccer Girls U11 (Wrath) were unbeaten during the Union City play date. They opened the day with a hard fought win against Ceres. The first half was goalless with Ceres Earthquakes and Wrath defending hard. Allyssa George worked hard in goal, with good defensive backup by Kaylie Lawsen, Sierra Betten-court and Lindsey Philips. In the second half, Wrath started well. Kylie Karter broke the deadlock with a lovely volley. Continued good defensive work from Anneliese Widmann kept Ceres at bay, with excellent support from Fran Hyde, Hayley Thompson, Abby Hoobing and Abby Andrews. Kate Wallace added a second goal. Kelsi Green completed the win with a third goal from a midfield run.

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SPORTS

(continued from page 7)

Results: Junior Group: Paulina Uman-sky finished (100 breast) and broke the team record (50 breast); Miranda Heckman finished in many events, broke the team record (50 back), and will be competing in the Western Zone All Star meet in Clovis; Tim Yao finished (100 breast); Nja Zuniga (100% best times); Mike Martin raced well (50 back) and was a huge contributor in the 11-12 relays.

Pre-Senior Group: RJ Scott (bettered 5 out of 8 swims & finished in 800); Michael Yao (100% best times/PRT cuts in all 9 swims, finished in 100/200 free, and made NACC selection team to compete in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico); Nathaniel Sproul (bettered 3 of 6 swims, and won PRT cut in 100 fly); Samantha Howell (100% best times/PRTs in 7 events and one Western Zones cut - 100 free); and Wolfgang Lachance (bettered his 400 free time). The 11-12 Girls 400 free relay placed 9th and set the 3rd fastest time for PLS records top 10 (Samantha Howell, Vera Urmansky, Meg MacGregor, Shawn Kim).

Aquacowboys at Challenge

Katie Kulp and Trent Trump, members of the Livermore Aquacowboys Swim Team, represented the U.S. and Pacific Swimming at the 2011 North American Challenge Cup, an international swim competition.

The 2011 North American Challenge Cup was held at the Albeca Olympica in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, August 4-6.

The North American Challenge Cup (NACC) has been held annually since 2007 and is an international age group competition open to ages 11 through 18 for all-star swimmers from Canada, Mexico, Southern California, Pacific, and the Pacific Northwest. The fastest 80 swimmers are eligible, however this year Pacific Swimming chose only 48 swimmers to compete.

Katie and Trent were selected among the 48. They were chosen based on qualifying age-group long course times swum through June Age Group Championships in the 15/16 age division.

The competition was fierce with Canada and Mexico bringing their top Junior National age group swimmers. Over the course of 3 days swimmers race their events in hopes to finish in the top 10, and move on to finals in the evening. Katie and Trent each swam 6 preliminary events (maximum possible) and both qualified to compete in 3 individual finals, as well as team relays each evening.

Katie made finals in the 200m free, 100m fly and 200m fly and placed 10th over-all for both the 200m free and 200m fly.

Trent qualified in finals finishing with an over-all 6th place in the 400m free and an 8th place in both the 200m free and 200m back.

This is the first international competition for both swimmers.

With top finishes, they helped Pacific Swimming, USA, take home 4th place.

CYO Golf Tourney

St. Michael's/St. Charles CYO Bas-

kethall program invites all golfers to join in the fun at the 1st Annual CYO Golf Tournament to be held Friday, September 16th, 2011, at Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore. A shotgun start will begin at 1:00 p.m. \$120.00 per player with a banquet dinner included. (Dinner only guests - \$35.00. Sponsors needed at \$100.00 per tee. Raffle prizes as well as per hole contests. Looking for foursomes or we can match you up that day. For more information, please contact Norma Jean via email at njfromindy@yahoo.com.

This fund-raising effort will help to reduce fees and provide scholarship funds for young athletes participating in Livermore's Catholic Youth Organization Basketball program this fall. Many youths can't afford the registration fees associated with various sports programs.

Bocce Kits for Rent

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

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

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

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

Bat Busters Teeball League

Bat Busters Teeball League is starting soon. The City of Dublin's teeball program is a great entry point into the world of sports, focusing on teamwork, individual skills and fun. The league consists of pre-game instruction plus a 40 minute game each Saturday. Participants will receive a league tee-shirt and a participation trophy at a season ending barbeque. Parents are highly encouraged to take part in the experience by accompanying their child out on the field. Games will be played in the morning at the new complex at Fallon Sports Park. To register go to www.dublinrecguide.com

Tri-For-Fun Triathlon

A field of close to 900 first-timer, few-timer, and many-timer triathletes will be on hand on Sat., Aug. 20 for the third leg of On Your Mark Events' 24th annual Tri-For-Fun Sprint Triathlon Series (four events), at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton.

Utilizing the lake and rolling hills of Shadow Cliff Park and the flat paved roads running through Pleasanton and Livermore, the Tri-For-Fun features a course distance of 400-yard Swim (warm,

clean lake); 11-mile bike (loop course, flat streets); 3.1-mile run (rolling fire trail). The course is perfect for the newcomer as well as the seasoned triathlete. Along with the shorter (than usual tri distance) course and the safe, friendly, and non-competitive atmosphere, the Tri-For-Fun makes an excellent event for the numerous first-time triathletes. It's not unusual to see a 10-year old running alongside with a 70-year old. (Last year, the youngest and oldest participants recorded were 6-years old and 78-year old.) Though the three Tri-For-Fun triathlons are not competitive with awards (remember, it's for fun), there is a digital timing clock so each participant can check on his/her time personal achievement.

After the novice athletes master the first three Tri-For-Funs, they can meet the challenge of the final event - the Tri-For-Real. The final event of the series is held at the same location, but the distances have been increased to 700-yard swim, 20-mile bike, and 4-mile run. The Tri-For-Real is also professionally timed, giving our official results.

The 2011 On Your Mark Tri-For-Fun Series dates are June 18, July 16, and (Tri-For-Fun #3, August 20). The Tri-For-Real will be held on September 18. All races will start at 7:00 a.m., at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton. There is a 1,000-participant maximum for each triathlon. The triathlons do sell out.

Entry fee for the three Tri-For-Funs is \$65.00 in advance, and \$75.00 day of. Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, refreshments, snacks, and entry into the always exciting raffle (must be present to win). (\$75.00 advance, and \$85.00 day of for the Tri-For-Real, which also includes trophies and medals.) Multiple-triathlon discounts available.

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

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

Water Polo Registration

Register now for water polo. The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is offering two water polo programs this fall. Six to ten year old athletes can register for Splashball, a "T-ball" version of water polo. Splashball meets on Fridays from 3:45-5:15pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center pool from September 7 through November 14 and costs \$72. Older or experienced athletes can register for the 14 & Under LAZERS team. The LAZERS team practices on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 4-5:30pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center pool from September 7 through November 18 and costs \$275. All experience levels are welcome.

To register, call 925-373-5751, or visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us. For more information about the LAZERS, visit lazerswp.clubspaces.com.



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

A parade of pooches headed down Main Street last Wednesday during the 14th Annual Pooch Parade. The event benefits the Tri-Valley Guide Dog Puppy Raisers. This event runs in conjunction with the "1st Wednesday Street Party" sponsored by the Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA). Categories included "Most Creative Pooch Costume," "Cute Enough As Is," "Best Team Outfit," "Best Pooch Trick," "Senior Pooches" and "Puppy Fun." In the bottom photo, Marieke Moyers leads Snowball through a series of obstacles.



Purple Heart Tour Arrives in Livermore on August 18

The 3rd Annual Purple Heart Outdoor Tour is coming to Livermore on August 18, 2011. This year local ranchers will be hosting four U.S. Army Rangers from the 75th Regiment and 1 New York Fireman from 9-11. This is an opportunity for the communities of Livermore and Pleasanton to come out and show support for these men who have served our country. The goal is to have the entire route (from Mexico Lindo in Pleasanton to N. Livermore in Livermore) lined with people. So please come out with your flags and banners and wave them on.

The Warrior Watch Riders

will escort these men to their final destination in Livermore. The route is as follows: They will begin in Pleasanton at 5:15 at the Mexico Lindo Restaurant, 6690 Koll Center Parkway (at Valley Ave.) and continue on Bernal to Main Street in Pleasanton then to Stanley into Livermore. Once in Livermore they will continue down First Street to N. Livermore and then onto the Ranch.

The Purple Heart Outdoors Tour is a series of group hunts, fishing trips and other outdoors sporting events organized exclusively for wounded military service members of all branches of the service who have served

in the Global War On Terrorism (GWOT) combat operations since September 11, 2001.

Their Mission is to assist in convalescence, build self-confidence and morale, and expose the participants to different outdoor experiences and environments. A further goal includes the promotion of public awareness and mutual appreciation through interaction between military and civilian hosts and participants.

For more information please contact Spike Schau, 925-628-2201 or email him at spiker592000@yahoo.com.

Stoneridge to Issue Wrist Bands For Cody Simpson Performance

Stoneridge Shopping Center will implement a wrist band procedure for Atlantic recording artist Cody Simpson's upcoming performance at Stoneridge Shopping Center scheduled for 2 p.m. on August 14, 2011.

Simpson's appearance at Stoneridge Shopping Center is part of the Australian pop sensation's 'Coast To Coast Tour' - presented by Pastry and co-sponsored by Claire's and Defeat The Label - at select Simon Property Group malls throughout the U.S. The tour supports the release of his debut album, slated to arrive in stores and at all digital retailers on September 20th.

Simpson will be on stage in Grand Court starting at 2 p.m. to perform four (4) songs and sign autographs for fans who pre-purchase his CD only. This is the only time he is making an appearance at the event.

By Fire Marshall Ordinance, there is limited space for fans to see Cody Simpson at Stoneridge Shopping Center. Approximately

400 wrist bands will be distributed on a first come/first serve basis. Once all the wrist bands have been distributed, no other consumers will be allowed to enter the event area.

Fans can start lining up at 9:30 a.m. on August 14 at Stoneridge Shopping Center in Grand Court. Once consumers receive their wrist bands, they will be asked to come back to the event area at 1:00 p.m. when they will be allowed to enter the event area. No-

body will be allowed in the event space without a wrist band.

Marketing director, Carrie Williams, stated, "We have worked very closely with our colleagues at Atlantic, the appropriate municipal safety contacts, and our own mall management team to come up with a plan that meets our paramount safety objective and also provides controlled access to as many of Cody's fans as possible."

Coldwell Banker Launches Habitat for Humanity Drive

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Community Foundation has launched its 13th annual Habitat for Humanity fundraising campaign.

The major event of this year's fundraising effort will once again be a month-long Habitat for Humanity raffle in August. Last year's fundraising campaign raised more than \$105,000, which helped build 32 homes for low income families. Organizers of this year's campaign, dubbed "Homes and Hope," have set a goal of raising \$365,100. Money will also be raised through fundraisers held by individual Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices throughout Northern California.

"Our partnership with Habitat for Humanity has been incredibly successful over the years and we're looking forward to raising even more this year," said Rick Turley, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "The money that our fundraisers bring in goes directly to our local Habitat for Humanity chapters and stays in the community to help build homes for those families who are most in need. It is rewarding to see just how much good can be done with a little generosity."

Over the past 12 years, the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Community Foun-

dation has been the leading corporate sponsor of Habitat for Humanity, raising more than \$2.1 million through the efforts of its sales associates, managers, staff and clients in Northern California. The Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage team has also volunteered more 44,000 hours and participated in the construction of 159 Habitat for Humanity homes.

The raffle runs through August 31 in all 62 Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices throughout Northern California. Tickets are \$2 each and the public is invited to participate. Checks should be made payable to Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Community Foundation. All money raised through the raffle will be donated to local Habitat for Humanity chapters for homes to be built in 2012.

Prizes for the raffle include \$5,000 donated by Princeton Capital, gift certificates, hotel stays and much more. For a list of prizes or Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices, visit www.CaliforniaMoves.com or call 925.275.3085.

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30 MINUTES OF LESS (R) DLP	12:15	2:30	5:00	7:15	9:40
RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE APES (PG13) DLP	12:20	2:05	2:50	4:30	
	5:30	7:00	8:15	9:35	
THE CHANGE UP (R) DLP	1:20	4:15	6:50	9:25	
COWBOYS & ALIENS (PG13) DLP	12:10	1:10	3:05	4:00	
	6:10	6:55	8:50	9:45	
SMURFS (PG) DLP	1:30	4:10	6:40	9:10	
CRAZY STUPID LOVE (PG13) DLP	1:15	4:10	6:45	9:30	
HARRY POTTER 7 PART II (PG13) DLP	12:30	3:30	6:30	9:20	
CAPTAIN AMERICA...AVENGER (PG13) DLP	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:50	

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Reservations Being Taken for Mediterranean Cruise with Winemakers

Fans and friends of Livermore Valley's winemakers are invited to embark on a 10-day Mediterranean cruise in June 2012 to soak in the Southern European sights and celebrate Livermore Valley wines.

In collaboration with Azamara Club Cruises, the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association (LVWA) is offering special pricing on a cruise that will visit 11 ports and feature private wine tastings, an exclusive winemaker dinner and a wine country excursion to Croatia—birthplace of Zinfandel—led by LVWA President Jim Ryan of Concannon Vineyard.

Wine events during the cruise will allow guests to visit with several Livermore Valley winemakers.

The Livermore Valley Wine Country Cruise is a 10-day Adriatic Coast voyage that departs

from Venice on June 17, 2012 and finishes in Rome on June 27. Shore excursions and overnight stays will allow guests to experience turquoise waters, cascading gardens, pastel villages, stunning vistas and Europe's deepest—and perhaps most beautiful—fjord. Ports of call include: Venice, Italy; Split, Croatia; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Kotor, Montenegro (overnight stay); Brindisi, Italy; Corfu, Greece; Taormina, Sicily; Amalfi, Italy (overnight stay); Capri, Italy; Sorrento, Italy; and Rome, Italy.

Azamara Club Cruises is one of Travel + Leisure's top five large-ship cruise lines for 2010. Guests will sail away aboard Azamara's cruise ship, Quest. Specifically designed to be smaller and sleeker than most cruise ships, Quest accommodates 694 people. Amenities include two specialty restaurants, concierge

amenities, a spa and wellness center, piano bar, wine bar, live entertainment, and daily enrichment programs such as evening lectures.

Fares for the Livermore Valley Wine Country Cruise range from \$2989 per person for an inside stateroom to \$4199 per person for a deluxe veranda stateroom.

Each fare includes boutique wines at lunch and dinner, bottled water, soft drinks, specialty coffees and teas, English butler service for suite guests, complimentary self-service laundry, gratuities for housekeeping, dining and bar staff, shuttle services to and from ports (where available) and port fees and taxes.

For reservations and more information, contact Sue Smead of La Belle Vie Travel at 408-202-1901, sue@labellevietravel.com.



Rolling hills create scenic vistas throughout the Livermore Valley.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

OBITUARIES

Rev. Robert Stuart Vogt

The Rev. Robert Stuart Vogt, an energetic and personable spiritual and community leader who guided Pleasanton Presbyterian Church for 29 years, died Saturday, July 16, 2011 in Edmonds, Washington. He was 88.

A memorial service celebrating his life and ministry will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 3, 2011 at First Presbyterian Church Livermore. Rev. Vogt's colleague in ministry, the Rev. Bill Nebo, who retired as pastor at First Livermore after serving for more than 30 years, will officiate at the memorial service.

Known for his warm smile and sense of humor, Vogt served in civic, non-profit and spiritual groups during his nearly three decades of service. He retired in 1987.

He took controversial positions such as when he allowed farm workers led by Caesar Chavez to spend the night in the church's social hall while on a protest march. The church also hosted a debate on the state's fair housing act and engaged in debating the difficult social issues of the day.

For instance, relatively early in his tenure, he led the discussion about whether Christians can design and build nuclear weapons. This discussion took place during the height of the Cold War when a number of congregants were employed at Lawrence Livermore or Sandia national labs.

He encouraged the school district to add sex education to its curriculum as well as urging members to engage in community affairs.

He twice served on citizens committees developing and reviewing the city's General Plan. The plan adopted in 1965 set the stage for Pleasanton's development to this day, planning industrial for peripheral areas of the community and laying out the road grid including Valley Avenue-Bernal as a loop road.

"Bob was very community-minded," said Brad Hirst, who has worshipped in the congregation from Vogt's tenure to this day. "I always called him the conscience of our community whether you agreed with him or not."

When drug use became a key issue in the 1960s, he and the church elders founded a youth center staffed by professional

counselors to reach out to teenagers.

His community activities included 18 years of involvement with the Red Cross, service on the county's committee on aging and helping form Children's Theater Workshop and the Tri-Valley Community Foundation.

During the summers, he changed up the worship routine, inviting people such as the city manager and the school superintendent to address the congregation. While away travelling during another summer, he invited pastors from different countries to deliver sermons.

Rev. Vogt preached about what he saw as problems, but then took action to address them. He was the driving force in establishing the consortium of four churches that built the community's first very affordable elder housing complex—Pleasanton Gardens. Pleasanton Gardens continues to serve very low-income elders with its 40 units on Kottinger Avenue.

Along with key church leaders, Vogt then led the drive to establish a low-income project, Pleasanton Greens, on Vineyard Avenue. It eventually was turned over to private investors when federal financing could not be obtained.

Early in his service, the church began to outgrow its historic Neal Street site, where the congregation was established in 1876. In 1963, the congregation purchased 3 acres on Mirador Drive and built a classroom wing in 1965.

As the church continued to grow, it built a sanctuary, offices and additional classrooms on the Mirador site and moved "up the hill," uniting the children and their parents on one site 14 years later.

He had the gift of relating to people. One member, Sherline Montgomery of Pleasanton, wrote on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as pastor:

"Your warm, teddy bear hugs, twinkling blue eyes and wonderful smile have made me feel special and loved many a Sunday morning. Your sense of humor and listening ear are a real gift."

An avid woodcarver, Rev. Vogt hand-carved the pulpit for the new church. He gave each teen-ager, who completed the study to become a member, a hand-crafted cross.

One key to the church's expansion was Rev. Vogt's embrace of the Cursillo movement. Cursillo is a three-day "short course in Christianity" that helped people deepen their faith and learn how much God loved them as did their brothers and sisters. Service in love to others became a key

response from members of the congregation.

Many members of the congregation attended and it was a life-changing experience for a number of people and brought a different style of music to Sunday worship.

One of those profoundly affected was the late Dick Pearson. Gladys Pearson, his wife, said, "His loving side came out. It made a big change in our lives—a nice change. He sponsored many people because of his experience."

She related how Dick flew home early from a European vacation to greet his close friend, Morris Mote, after Mote attended his Cursillo.

His 25 years of ministry were celebrated in special RSV Week Dec. 11-18, 1983. The joint rules committee of the Legislature wrote a special commendation for his "achievements that set him apart as an outstanding spiritual and community leader." The City Council declared it "RSV Week."

In 1986, he was honored with the Mayor's Award for his contributions to Pleasanton.

Born July 20, 1922 in Sacramento, Vogt attended the University of California, Berkeley, graduating with majors in psychology, sociology and history in 1943. He then attended Princeton Theological Seminary and received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree in 1946 (this was later changed to a masters of divinity).

He was ordained in May, 1946 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Sacramento. He moved on to serve at Calvary Presbyterian in San Francisco, First Presbyterian in Seattle, a new church development in Milwaukee, Oregon and Stone Church in San Jose, before moving to Pleasanton in 1958.

After he retired to Willits, he served as an interim pastor at Old First Presbyterian Church in San Francisco.

Throughout his ministry, his wife, Sallee, was an active partner in ministry. They were married for 53 years before she died in 2003. They had one son, Robert-John Stuart Vogt who died in a drowning accident.

In 2004, the Rev. Vogt renewed his acquaintance with a former Princeton classmate, Virginia Redfield whom he married and then moved to Edmonds. He lived for his last two years at Sunrise where he became known as the "Mayor of Sunrise" for the way he cared for and related to his fellow residents.

He is survived by his wife, his niece, Mary Huntsberger/Sleeth Paananen and her husband, Terrence of Seattle and his sister, Dr.

Jean Gahagan of Duarte, CA.

The family prefers contributions to Princeton Theological Seminary, PO Box 821, Princeton, NJ 08542-0803.

Opal Marie House

Opal Marie House, 88, of Livermore, California, passed away on July 28, 2011.



Opal was born on June 23, 1923 in Elkhart, Kansas to the late Henry "Ancil" and Viola Irene Young. She was raised on the farm in the panhandle of Oklahoma along with her sister, Fretia.

In 1937, the family moved to Ponca City, Oklahoma with the dustbowl migration to escape the drought. It was here that Opal graduated from high school.

Opal attended Tonkawa Junior College with plans to finish her degree at Pepperdine University. She began her career as a teacher at Redrock High School in Redrock, Oklahoma.

Opal's family had moved to Keys, Oklahoma (a one store, one filling station town of about 400 people). It was here on a summer visit that Opal met her future husband, Andrew Franklin House. Andy had finished his course work at David Lipscomb Junior College and was working in Keys to earn money to attend Pepperdine.

After a budding courtship (that would culminate in sixty-three years of marriage), and the desire to attend Pepperdine, Opal became Opal Marie House. The then President of Pepperdine, Hugh Tiner, performed the ceremony in the Rose Garden on campus.

Opal and Andy graduated from Pepperdine in 1947. Opal's degree was in Home Economics and Psychology. Andy's degree was in Theology.

After graduation, began a series of moves where Andy would receive preaching assignments and Opal would teach. They began in Banning, California then on to New Deal Texas, then to Denver, Colorado. It was there that they adopted their son Andy II (in 1950). They next found themselves in Sacramento, California in 1954. It was there that they adopted their second child, a premature (three pound) baby that they named Susan Marie House.

The House family finally settled in Chico, California where Andy preached and was an Elder at the Church of Christ. Opal

became a Home Economics Teacher in Orland at Orland High School and was there for over 25 years. It was during this tenure in Chico that Andy and Opal began leading tours to various areas of the world. Opal's favorite places were Egypt, Turkey then Greece, in that order. World travel became a big part of their adventure together and a highlight for their lives.

In July 2004, Andy passed away after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Opal, ever diligent in his care, took care of him and the household business for over two years.

After Andy's passing, Opal relocated to Livermore, California to be near her daughter's family and finish her race with life. In her seven years here in Livermore, Opal attended the Tri-Valley Church of Christ on East Avenue who were faithful to her and her needs in these final years.

Opal loved to play her piano and to listen to music, from Willie Nelson to Opera. In addition she loved to knit and play with her cat.

Although having open-heart surgery and a pace maker implanted, she was generally in good health. Although, somewhat unexpected, God took her mercifully as she napped.

Opal is survived by her two children, Andrew Franklin House II, Susan Marie (House) Walker, six grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held on Sat., Aug. 13, 1 p.m. at Tri-Valley Church of Christ, 4481 East Ave., Livermore.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Mary Barbara Kennedy

Former Livermore resident Mary was born on Dec. 28, 1919 in New Mexico and passed away on Weds., Aug. 1, 2011 in San Jose, CA. She was 91 years old.

She is a longtime parishioner of St. Michael Catholic Church and a parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi in San Jose since 1998. She did volunteer secretarial work for the Chaplin's Office at the VA Hospital in Livermore. She was a member of SIREtte's, Columbian Women, and Valley Wheelers RV Club.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, John R. Kennedy in 1996. She is

survived by her children; John T. Kennedy of Lake Tahoe, Robert M. Kennedy and wife Pam of Santa Rosa; and Paul T. Kennedy and wife Pat of San Jose, 5 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated August 9 at St. Michael Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore, CA.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Dennis Wayne Regynski

Livermore resident Dennis passed away on Aug 7, 2011. He was born in Pierre, South Dakota, April 14, 1951.

Dennis enjoyed spending time outdoors enjoying the sun and gardening. There were many friends and relatives that had the pleasure of sharing his life. Dennis spent the last 27 years working for Devcon as Senior Project Manager.

Dennis is preceded in death by his father, Johnny and his brother, Blaine.

He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Nancy; sons, Mark of Las Vegas, David of San Jose, his mother, Maxine and sister, Laura, both from South Dakota.

A celebration of Dennis' life will be held on Friday, Aug 12, 2011 at 11 a.m. at Callaghan Mortuary 3833 East Ave, Livermore, CA.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 452591
 The following person(s) doing business as: Tommie's Deli and Sandwich Shop, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): J Cubed, Inc., 869 Caliente Ave., Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by: a Corporation

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 10/16/06.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/: Kelly Van Fossen, Secretary
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 8, 2011. Expires June 8, 2016.
 The Independent Legal No. 3028. Published July 21, 28, August 4, 11, 2011.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 453672
 The following person(s) doing business as: Evolution Pools,

1491 2nd St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Saben Osmunson, 1491 2nd St, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by: an Individual
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
 Signature of Registrant: /s/: Saben Osmunson
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 5, 2011. Expires July 5, 2016.
 The Independent Legal No. 3029. Published July 21, 28, August 4, 11, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454034-35
 The following person(s) doing business as: (1) Midnight Game Club, (2) MidnightGameClub.com, 298 Goldfinch Way, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Anthony Pittman, 228 West Santa Cruz Way, Mountain House, CA 95391 Gregory Caulder, 555 Palm Cir, Tracy, CA 95376 This business is conducted by: Co-partners
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed

above on 7/1/2011.
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Gregory Caulder Anthony Pittman
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 15, 2011. Expires July 15, 2016.
 The Independent Legal No. 3031. Published July 28, August 4, 11, 18, 2011.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 453765
 The following person(s) doing business as: My Meaningful Art, 670 Concord Place, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the fol-

lowing owner(s): Laura Lynette Leavens, 670 Concord Place, Pleasanton, CA 94566
 This business is conducted by: an Individual
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Laura Leavens
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 8, 2011. Expires July 8, 2016.
 The Independent Legal No. 3032. Published July 28, August 4, 11, 18, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 453136
 The following person(s) doing business as: San Ramon Home Care, 11501 Dublin Blvd. #200, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sarabjit Singh, 7100 San Ramon Rd. #142, Dublin, CA 94568 Ramanjit Singh Kailey, 201 E. Grantline Rd. #46, Tracy, CA 95376
 This business is conducted by: a General Partnership
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed

above on N/A.
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Sarabjit Singh (Partner) Ramanjit Singh Kailey (Partner)
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 21, 2011. Expires June 21, 2016.
 The Independent Legal No. 3034. Published July 28, August 4, 11, 18, 2011.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454212
 The following person(s) doing business as: Modena Fashion, 306 Turnstone Dr., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the fol-

lowing owner(s): Krasimir Gospodinov, 306 Turnstone Dr., Livermore, CA 94551
 This business is conducted by an individual
 The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
 Signature of Registrants: /s/: Krasimir Gospodinov
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 20, 2011. Expires July 20, 2016.
 The Independent Legal No. 3040. Published August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2011.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454130

The following person(s) doing business as: Balance Technology, 585 Tiffin Place, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Thomas A. Prickett, 585 Tiffin Place, Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by: an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on September 7, 1983.

Signature of Registrants: /s/ Thomas A. Prickett. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 19, 2011. Expires July 19, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 453709

The following person(s) doing business as: MYGARTER.COM, 16 Fawn Drive, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michele Juliana Burkett, 16 Fawn Drive, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on February 10, 2006. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Michele Juliana Burkett. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 8, 2011. Expires July 8, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454348

The following person(s) doing business as: XITRADER, 4034 San Giorgio Ct., Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Golden Future Montessori LLC, 4034 San Giorgio Ct., Pleasanton, CA 94588. This business is conducted by: a limited liability company.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Shilpa Parekh - Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 26, 2011. Expires July 26, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454459

The following person(s) doing business as: Sweet Sinsations - Cupcake and Dessert Bar, 1799 Genoa St., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Gagandeep Mallatt, 1799 Genoa St., Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by: an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Gagandeep Mallatt. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 28, 2011. Expires July 28, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454550

The following person(s) has (have) abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name: Patisserie Chocolat, 4867 Charlotte Way, Livermore, CA 94550. The Fictitious business Name Statement for the Partnership was filed on December 22, 2009 in the County of Alameda.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 432722

The full name of Registrant: Krista Bell, 4867 Charlotte Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business was conducted by: Krista Bell. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Krista Bell. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 14, 2011. Expires July 14, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454825

The following person(s) doing business as: Freedom

Merchant Solutions, 7172 Regional Street #125, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Dream Big, LLC, 8438G North Lake Dr., Dublin, CA 94568. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 8/1/11.

Signature of Registrants: /s/ Aaron Davis, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 5, 2011. Expires August 5, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454763

The following person(s) doing business as: Haircraft II, 22151 Redwood Rd, Castro Valley, CA 94546, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christina Jessica Irena Linhares, 24674 Tioga Rd., Hayward, CA 94544. This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Christina Linhares. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 4, 2011. Expires August 4, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 454509

The following person(s) doing business as: Cal State Smogs, 3985 First Street, Suite F, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Harjit Deo, 595 Bourne Lane, Danville, CA 94506. This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/9/2011. Signature of Registrants: /s/ Harjit Deo (Owner). This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 29, 2011. Expires July 29, 2016.

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Do Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac Matter?

By Cher Wollard

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are back in the spotlight, with some calling to scale back or eliminate the government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs). Earlier this week, the credit rating agency Standard & Poor's downgraded both Fannie and Freddie from AAA to AA+. This same agency had previously downgraded the federal government's rating, also to AA+, and cited the entities' reliance on the U.S. government as a reason for the downgrades. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are both privately owned but with public responsibilities and some government support.

The other major credit rating agencies, Moody's and Fitch are sticking with their equivalent of AAA ratings for now.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac today own or guarantee about half of all mortgages originating in the United States - 31 million home loans worth more than \$5 trillion.

The downgrade is widely expected to lead to higher mortgage interest rates for consumers over time. As of Tuesday morning, interest rates on 30-year fixed conforming mortgages averaged about 4.25 percent.

In September 2008, the two entities were put in U.S. conservatorship amid subprime mortgage losses that pushed them toward insolvency. Since then, they have drawn \$170 billion in federal aid.

Despite these difficulties, many real estate experts see the GSEs as having an important role in providing opportunities for homeownership.

In an article by Roger Cruzon, published in this month's edition of Real Estate Magazine, Joel Singer, the chief executive officer for the California Association of Realtors, summed up the situation.

"Fundamentally, this debate is about three things: Maintaining the flow of mortgage funds under any market conditions, ensuring that affordable mortgages are available, and preserving a range of mortgage products to serve the marketplace," Singer said.

The article, which appeared before the S&P downgrade, went on to explain how Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac contribute to homeownership for millions of American families.

Fannie and Freddie insure 90 percent of conventional mortgages. Traditionally, it did so using fairly conservative underwriting guidelines. Because of this, Fannie and Freddie had far fewer delinquent loans than private sector banks in the early days of the real estate slump. While 42 percent of private label mortgage-backed securities were delinquent in 2007, only 15 percent of loans secured by Fannie and Freddie were in trouble.

The GSEs faltered when they started following the lead of private sector institutions, investing in higher-risk mortgages. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, under pressure from Congress and the White House, have since returned to more conservative underwriting standards.

"You could actually leave Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac under their current structure and they probably would perform okay," Singer told the magazine. "The problem is that they are so tainted. But many of the practical safeguards and constraints that have already been put into place could very well solve the problems people are concerned about over time."

The Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, commonly known as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, grew out of efforts to restructure the economy during the Great Depression. Their purpose was to insure mortgages in order to motivate banks to make loans.

Today we think of the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage requiring a downpayment of 20 percent or more - a conventional or conforming mortgage - as being safe and prudent. But prior to the 1930s, such mortgages did not exist.

Most people had to pay cash for their homes. When banks did issue mortgages, they required downpayments of 50 percent. The mortgages were short-term, interest-only, which meant people would owe the entire amount as a balloon payment after five years or so. At the end of the term, the homeowner would have to either pay off the balance or refinance.

The Federal Housing Authority (FHA) was created to insure mortgages. Originally the agency encouraged banks to offer 20-year fixed-rate, amortized mortgages - a revolutionary idea at the time. As prices rose, terms were extended to the 30-year mortgages we are accustomed to today.

Fannie Mae was established in 1938 to create a secondary mortgage market - meaning it bought FHA-insured loans. Most lenders do not hold the mortgages they issue. Instead, they put up the initial funds for the mortgage, and then sell them at a profit and use those funds to provide more mortgages.

The GSEs purchases these mortgages and either keeps them or sells them as securities, which they guarantee, thus keeping the pool of mortgage funds flowing.

Thirty years later, Freddie Mac was created to expand that market. Now some are calling for revamping or even eliminating these entities.

Richard Green, head of the Lusk Center for Real Estate at the University of Southern California, says that's a bad idea.

"I think if you were to say tomorrow, 'No more Fannie and Freddie,' that would be catastrophic. First of all, the idea that banks are purely private institutions is silly. They are government-sponsored enterprises just as much as Fannie and Freddie," he told Real Estate magazine.

"Second, the idea that 'too big to fail' would go away if we allowed banks to be the principal source of finance just makes no sense. The worst performers were companies like Countrywide, WAMU, IndyMac and Wachovia, which were all federally chartered depository institutions."

CAR chief economist Leslie Appleton-Young agrees. She told the magazine that in the case of an abrupt GSE wind-down: "The market would freeze. Nobody would want to originate loans, and nothing would be securitized because there would be no 30-year loans. Everything would grind to a halt."

Earlier this year, two Washington think tanks—the conservative American Enterprise Institute and the liberal Center for American Progress—put out rival plans.

The American Enterprise Institute proposed getting Fannie and Freddie completely out of packaging conventional loans over the next five years, with the private sector would eventually handling all packaging of mortgages into securities.

The Center for American Progress's proposal would replace Fannie and Freddie with Chartered Mortgage Institutions and a separate Catastrophic Risk Insurance Fund. Although private, these institutions would be regulated by a federal agency and have high equity requirements, but with no government guarantees.

In May, Reps. John Campbell, R-Newport Beach, and Gary Peters, D-Michigan, introduced the Housing Finance Reform Act of 2011, which would permit special purpose associations banks could acquire interest in. These associations would require strict underwriting policies for mortgages.

(See REAL ESTATE, page 12)

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Tri-Valley Society Focuses on Vegetarian Diet

By Ron McNicoll

Pleasanton resident Lisa Williams wants to get the word out to more people about how healthy and satisfying a vegetarian diet can be.

When Williams moved to Pleasanton, there was no meeting place for vegetarians to learn about vegetarian cooking and its healthful impacts.

She decided to remedy that situation by founding the Tri-Valley Vegetarian Society, which is open to all who live in the area's five cities and surroundings.

The club will reach out to the public by having a potluck from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 13 at the San Ramon Valley Library, 100 Montgomery St., San Ramon. The event will feature two guest speakers about the relationship between food, health, and the environment. There also will be a food demonstration.

April Shabazz, a health and wellness consultant, educator and advocate, will talk about the "Nutrition and Your Health." She has many affiliations, including service as regional director of the United States for CancerActive, a British-based charity that provides integrated medicine for prevention and treatment of cancer.

The other speaker is Randy Wilson, who will talk about "Long Live You: The Quest for Longevity." Twenty years ago, Wilson began learning about food's effects on health.

Wilson says that he learned that there are many things in food, water and air that can be

detrimental to people's health. He became a vegetarian six years ago, because he felt that a vegetarian diet helps to prevent diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

Founder of the Long Live You Foundation, Wilson wants to help people make healthier lifestyle choices.

Williams will be giving a demonstration of preparing a salad made from land and sea vegetables, with citrus sesame dressing and kale.

Williams is a raw food chef and certified green chef instructor and caterer through Greenivore. She also has her own company, Holistic Therapeutic Care. She has taught classes at the Dublin Community Center. Topics include such things as vegetarian cooking for the non-vegetarian, vegan cooking (where dairy products are excluded), raw foods, and living foods.

Healthy cooking for kids, gluten-free meals and foods, and gourmet vegetarian cooking are other topics she has taught.

Williams became a vegetarian in 2004. She attended a seminar presented by scientists and medical professionals who said that the best thing a person can do to reduce the risk of cancer is to stop eating meat and dairy.

"It really stuck with me. If that's all it takes, it's not much to ask," said Williams.

Williams was also influenced by author John Robbins, who wrote "The Food Revolution." In his book, Robbins asked how people can call one animal a pet,



Lisa Williams

and another animal "food."

The question about pets and food struck a chord with Williams. "I love my dogs so much. They mean so much to me. How can I tell one animal, I love you, and another one, 'I eat you, and think of you as nothing but food? It changed my life forever," she said.

Another influence on Williams was T. Colin Campbell, author of "The China Study," a

book that former President Clinton credited during an interview on CNN as inspiring his major weight loss.

Campbell's book found that the rate of cancer, heart diseases, diabetes and hypertension studied in China are linked to the amount of animal products consumed, said Williams.

"Campbell started studying other countries. He showed through empirical evidence that

what he calls the diseases of luxury, with the most meat and animal products, (are connected to) the highest rates of obesity, cancer and diabetes," said Williams.

(More information about Campbell's studies is available at his web page at www.tcolincampbell.org/.)

campbell.org/.)

Williams has appeared several times at Dublin's continuation high school taking about the preparation of foods. She said, "A lot of young people are open to a vegetarian diet." She hopes to interest other Valley schools about similar appearances.

Williams refers to her work as a ministry. She explained that as author Robbins indicated, "all of our lives have a purpose — to make the world a better place, somehow, in some way, to help your fellow man. That's what a ministry is."

"A ministry ties into a purpose. We've been getting wonderful items from the earth: fruits, veggies, herbs, and spices, and all the things that are good for our bodies," said Williams.

People who wish to attend the potluck should bring a vegetarian or raw/living foods appetizer, entree, or dessert to feed five persons. Plant-based and non-dairy items are greatly preferred.

There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person help cover the costs of room rental, beverages and utensils. People who don't wish to bring food are asked for a \$12 donation per person to help cover the cost of catered food. Children are welcome and there is no charge for their meal.

To reserve, or for more information, call 925-989-1811, or email Williams at Lisa@Thrive-Holistic.com/.

SHORT NOTES

Leadership Academy

Alameda County has begun accepting applications for its 11th Leadership Academy. This free, six session interactive forum is for people who live, work, or own a business in Alameda County.

Through presentations from top County leaders and small group exercises, the Leadership Academy provides an opportunity for the community to increase knowledge of local government. Participants learn about the wide range of services provided by Alameda County, the mission and strategic visioning initiative, and the budget development process. Participants are able to practice leadership and communication skills such as public speaking, and participate in mock budget and other public policy exercises while acquiring knowledge on how to increase their civic involvement and networking with other community members. This is also a great opportunity for County officials to hear from residents.

The Academy begins October 5, 2011 and continues through March 2, 2012. Sessions will be held the first Wednesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at facilities throughout the County on the following dates: October 5, November 2, December 7, 2011 and January 4, February 1 and March 7, 2012. To graduate from the Academy, participants are required to attend at least five of the six sessions.

Space is limited. Interested applicants can obtain additional information and complete an on-line application at www.acgov.org/adultleadership, or by contacting the County Administrator's Office at (510) 272-6510. The application deadline is August 19, 2011. Participants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis and will represent the County's various geographic areas.

Back to School Safety

The Livermore Police Department would like to remind parents and students about the following back to school traffic safety issues:

Bicycle: If a child rides a bicycle

to school, make sure the child is wearing a bicycle helmet correctly. Also follow all the bicycling laws i.e. riding on the right-hand side of the road (same direction as traffic), stopping for stop signs, and a maximum of one occupant per bicycle.

Pedestrian Safety: Students must cross at the signal lights or marked crosswalks. Any students observed crossing in the middle of the street (jaywalking) may be cited. This also includes trips off campus at brunch and lunchtime.

Driving in school zones: Abide by all traffic laws - remember the speed limit in school zones is 25 MPH when children are present (regardless of the posted speed). Also keep in mind the safe speed for conditions may be quite a bit slower in school zones due to increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic, so drive cautiously.

Parking at the school: The school's parking area may have been re-striped or posted so please abide by all parking zones in and around the school. The parking zones are strategically placed for you and your child's safety.

Red curb: never stop, stand or park your vehicle in a red zone.

Yellow curb: Drop off only, do not park or exit a vehicle.

Green curb: Time limit parking, regulated by a posted sign or curb marking.

Driving and parking in school zones can be a hectic time. Try the following tips; they may make your journey more pleasant. Arrive early: Even 5 minutes earlier can make a difference. Carpooling: One seatbelt per occupant. Park a block away. Walk to the school. Pre-arrange a pick-up spot: Make sure the location is safe and legal for you to stop in.

As part of our continuing Parking, Education, Enforcement Program (P.E.E.P.) the Livermore Police Department's Traffic Unit will be monitoring the schools at drop off and pick up times on a daily basis. Citations may be issued to drivers who do not follow the rules.

Veterans Park History

A History of Veterans Park will be

the subject of the Sunday, Aug. 14 program offered by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff. Meet Ranger Darren Segur at 10 a.m. at 5211 Arroyo Road.

The area traditionally known as Veterans Park has had a long and storied history. Cowboys and Indians, pumas and padres, doctors and debutantes and a whole lot of wine. Join this program for a slow-paced one-mile tour of the park to sift through the layers of time. Bring water and a camera if you would like.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at both entrances to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Job Fair

Massage Envy Spa will hold a job fair on Thurs., Aug. 11 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Dr., San Ramon.

Over 200 positions will be available including licensed massage therapists, licensed estheticians, front desk/sales staff, and management team. Please bring multiple resumes as representatives from Massage Envy locations throughout the Bay Area will be conducting on-site interviews.

Visit www.messageenvy.com for more information.

Volunteers Sought

Volunteers are sought for Sandra J. Wing's Healing Therapies Annual Fundraiser, taking place at the Palm Event Center in Pleasanton on March 2, 2012. The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation is actively

seeking volunteers to help with the planning and execution of the 2012 Ragin' Cajun, an evening of dinner, live and silent auctions, music and dancing.

The group's annual fundraiser's proceeds will be distributed to local cancer patients going through chemotherapy and radiation, providing complementary therapies to help them feel better during the treatment.

Funds raised at this event and year-round are used to help Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville cancer patients who are going through chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Funds enable the use of complementary therapies, including acupuncture, cupressure, therapeutic massage, guided/visual imagery, and/or deep breathing meditation.

Volunteers interested in helping to plan the 2012 event are asked to contact Judy Sherry at heyjudesherry@comcast.net. The organization especially needs help with marketing, registration and auction efforts.

The Pleasanton-based Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation provides financial aid to cancer patients for complementary healing therapies which are not covered by insurance. These therapies, which complement traditional cancer treatment, can make a huge difference in the quality of life and recovery of cancer patients. The Foundation grew out of local resident Sandra Wing's own experience battling cancer.

REAL ESTATE

(continued from page 11)

Another bill, the Secondary Market Facility for Residential Mortgages Act of 2011, co-sponsored by Rep. Gary Miller, R-Diamond Bar, and Carolyn McCarthy, D-NY, would create a different type of vehicle for facilitating mortgage lending while reducing the government's role in the market.

The Realtor's association is open to these hybrid solutions, but whatever is decided, assuring the availability of affordable mortgages is paramount.

C.A.R. president Beth L. Pearce, in Real Estate magazine's President's Forum column, wrote: "A 30-year mortgage purchased from a lender by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac and guaranteed by the federal government has made it possible for tens of millions of Americans to become homeowners..."

"At C.A.R. we realize the extreme importance of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and are making it a top priority to fight to save these mortgage market mainstays."

Cher Wollard is Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.

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Art, Community, & Education

Livermore's Erik Biczkow Part of Winning Cal Poly Concrete Canoe Team



Erik Biczkow with the winning canoe.

By Patricia Koning

Concrete is not the first material that comes to mind for constructing a canoe—but for more than 50 years, civil engineering students have been building concrete canoes to challenge their engineering skills. In June, Livermore High School graduate Erik Biczkow was part of the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo team

that won the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) National Concrete Canoe Competition.

Teams spent most of the academic year creating a concrete canoe that floats, passes a swamp test, and meets design specifications. They also wrote a report documenting their mix design, explaining how they constructed their canoe, and highlighting special

features. At the competition, each team made an oral presentation about their canoe.

To win the competition, it's not enough to design a canoe that floats—it also has to be fast and attractive. "It has to look good too," explains Erik. "You're judged on aesthetics along with meeting specifications. We spent two weeks sanding our canoe."

The most exciting part of the competition is the races, an endurance and sprint competition. The Cal Poly team took second place in both events, finishing about 10 seconds behind Canada's Université Laval in the sprint and seven seconds behind in the endurance race.

Cal Poly took fourth place for their design paper; the University

of Nevada Reno won that part of the competition, followed by the University of California Berkeley and University of Wisconsin Madison. The Cal Poly team sealed their championship with first place in the oral presentation and final product.

The Cal Poly team used light-weight concrete, which has less

(continued on page 4)



Eliza Leoni as Hebe (far left) with the rest of Sir Joseph's sisters, cousins and aunts, H.M.S. Pinafore. (Photo by Lucas Buxman, 2011)

Review

'H.M.S. Pinafore' Sales into Livermore

by Susan Steinberg

Hip, hip, hooray! The Lamplighters are sailing back into Livermore with "H.M.S. Pinafore," the most universally popular of Gilbert and Sullivan comic musicals.

This world-famous Bay Area company has been performing the classic G & S repertory for nearly 60 years and this devoted reviewer has been attending them for nearly 50, never failing to be delighted.

How on earth have they managed to do this? By combining top-notch singer-actors with a flair for comic delivery, a wonderfully well-trained chorus (also first-rate actors), a lively pit orchestra, exceptionally handsome sets, lavish costumes, and an enthusiastic zest

for performing that is absolutely irresistible.

Having enjoyed "Pinafore" many times, yours truly almost didn't travel to the opening weekend at Walnut Creek's Leshner Theater. After all, I was sure I could write this review in my sleep, without ever seeing it in person. **WRONG, WRONG, WRONG!** Under the direction of Jane Erwin Hammett, herself a great Lamplighter star, this is a fresh production, sparkling with creative staging and hilarious new funny business.

And there are some wonderful new talents in the company's ranks as well. Michael Belle, as gallant hero Ralph Rackstraw, impressed the audience from the first scene with his rich and ardent tenor. In fact it will be heard on stage in the

coming San Francisco Opera Season. Lindsay Thompson Roush, a recent graduate of Peabody Conservatory, captivated listeners with her lyric-coloratura soprano, also a truly operatic voice. Playing heroine Josephine, Roush ably met the challenges of two formidably difficult areas. Brava! The pair seemed confident and comfortable together, even in their first performance, enhancing the power of the romantic storyline.

The plot is a simple variation on "Romeo and Juliet," with two lovers separated by the strict social codes of the day. Ralph, a lowly sailor, hopelessly adores the elegant lady, who scorns him. Of course, she secretly loves him, but is too proudly class-conscious to admit it until she sees him about to commit suicide. Complications

include her disapproving father, the captain of Ralph's ship, and a preposterously pompous old suitor, Sir Joseph Porter, KCB. As First Lord of the Admiralty, he is naturally Captain Corcoran's top choice for a son-in-law, despite Josephine's protests of distress.

With the sympathetic support of the crew and Sir Joseph's perpetual entourage of "his sisters and his cousins and his aunts", the lovers plan a midnight elopement to the shore, where they can be secretly married. Warned by a particularly nasty sailor, the captain intercepts them, and disaster threatens. Fortunately, Little Buttercup, the maritime trinket peddler, knows a mysterious secret which will, naturally, resolve all the problems and lead to a triply happy ending.

Does this sound trite? Well,

that's only if you have never laughed at Gilbert's devilishly clever words, or soared on Sullivan's magnificent musical melodies. Both have helped these Victorian works live on for over a century, continually attracting new fans and delighting those already devoted.

G & S societies exist all over the world, but none is more highly regarded than San Francisco's own Lamplighters. In the famous International G & S Competition in Buxton, England, this troupe won the top prizes for Best Performance, Best Tenor, and Best G & S Company in the World. Since the demise of London's famous D'Oyly Carte Company, the Lamplighters are now also the oldest G & S troupe, and still going

(continued on page 3)

H.M.S. PINAFORE

strong, as their box-office success proves today.

Luckily for Valley residents, they will be bringing their marvelous new production of "H.M.S. Pinafore" to Livermore's Bankhead Theater on August 20 and 21. Peter Crompton's smashing two-story set has been refurbished to ship-shape spiffiness, and a handsome "sky-drop" has been created, funded by gifts in memory of Ken Singer. The Lamplighters' full orchestra, directed by Brett Strader, begins the fun with the spirited fast-paced overture, and continues the merriment up to the joyous curtain.

The women's chorus is elegant in the smart new period outfits by Judy Jackson MacIlvaine, long-time chorister and Costume Designer. Taken from the latest styles in "fashionable summer frocks for nautical outings" in the late Belle Époque, they have been specially constructed by MacIlvaine's Theatrical Costuming Class at La Cañada College's Fashion Design Department.

Of course Josephine, as a high-born lady, is decked out in the finest turn-of-the-century gowns from Harrod's, still London's toniest department store over 100 years later. Her bridal gown is so especially exquisite that it's hard to imagine

it in an elopement rowboat. But in those days, proper appearance was everything.

In fact it was the absurd "properties" of the day that G & S were satirizing, the strict adherence to rigid class dividing lines, and the bumbling elite society that ruled the government with no particular qualifications for their positions. Sir Joseph Porter is an excellent example of a complete booby who rose in the ranks only by political loyalty. As he sings, "I always voted at my party's call, and never thought of thinking for myself at all." He caps off his career résumé with, "I thought so little they rewarded me by making me the Ruler of the Queen's Navy." It's a hilarious confession of complete incompetence that convulsed contemporary audiences, and continues to be insightfully truthful in today's politics. Queen Victoria, however, was NOT amused, and knighted Sullivan, snubbing Gilbert for his discomforting sarcasm.

Today we can enjoy the punchy humor of all those great witty lines, which are still so appropriately timely. In fact audiences now have the advantage of seeing them printed in supertitles, making every clever word completely clear, a wonderful modern innovation,

(like the telephone, mentioned for the first time in a theatrical production toward the end of "Pinafore.")

The chorus of sailors is a nimble-footed ensemble, with newly-choreographed dance routines like "We Sail the Ocean Blue", the opening deck-swabbing hornpipe, a real standout routine. Other lovely innovations include a grand comic re-staging of "Ring the Marry Bells", the congratulatory trio for Josephine, her father, and Sir Joseph. Viewers will howl, as the Walnut Creek audience did, watching the gummy-rubber legs of Sir Joseph (professional dancer F. Lawrence Ewing), who cuts amazing capers, preens like a peacock, and manages to be both supercilious and silly at the same time. Just one of his facial contortions is worth the price of admission.

Behrend Eilers, who was so entertaining in last year's "Pirates of Penzance," brings a rich resonant baritone to the role of Captain Corcoran, alternating with Jonathan Spencer, the hilarious "Model of a Major-General" in "Pirates." Jennifer Ashworth, the company's resident soaring soprano and comedienne, will don Josephine's gowns for some shows, alternating with Thompson Roush.

Perhaps the best-known song

of the show is "I'm Called Little Buttercup," delivered with coy charm by Sonia Gariaeff who has her saucy eyes fixed on the Captain, an eligible widower. But, alas, class distinction would never allow him to stoop to a woman of her low station. Or would it?

Will that malicious sailor, the aptly-named Dick Deadeye (Robby Stafford) succeed in ruining romantic dreams, or will he be, in his own frustrated outbursts of rage, "Foiled, Foiled, Foiled..."? It's a real old-fashioned melodrama of a plot, and no one can be sure of the outcome until Buttercup unravels many long-hidden mysteries in her famous song "A-many years ago, when I was young and charming..."

Far be it for this reviewer to spoil the surprise ending and gala finale. Let me just guarantee that everyone, young or old, will leave

the theater smiling and humming, and wishing for an encore. The next best thing is the opportunity to meet and greet the cast in the lobby following the show. It's a special treat, especially for families, to see these fine performers "up close and personal", speak with them, and maybe even snap a few photos.

Performance dates will be Saturday August 20 (2 pm and 8pm), and Sunday August 21 (2 pm) at Livermore's Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street. For tickets, contact the Box Office at 925-373-6800 or www.bankheadtheater.org. Yours truly will be enjoying "Pinafore" once again with the grandchildren, who time their annual trip to Livermore just to catch the Lamplighters in action. (It must be a hereditary addiction, but a harmless and completely joyful one.)

'A Midsummer Night's Dream' Slated

Acclaimed all-female Shakespeare troupe, Woman's Will, brings a '60s-style "A Midsummer Night's Dream" to Centennial Park in Pleasanton on August 14.

The show begins at 4:30 p.m. The park is located at 5353 Sunol Blvd., near the Senior Center, in Pleasanton.

A Midsummer Night's Dream is about magic, love and family—the family we are born into and the family we create. Woman's Will's open-air production is set in the late 1960s. According to Director Victoria Evans Erville, the show brings that era's "melting pot of music, sexual freedom, creative expression, and politics" to the classic play. All elements of the show are portrayed in "family friendly" fashion.

Callboard Magazine says, "Woman's Will proves itself the most imaginative and one of the best Shakespeare companies" and Chad Jones, formerly of the Oakland Tribune, wrote, "There's probably no Shakespeare that Woman's Will wouldn't do well...



Cast members in the Woman's Will summer production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" prepare to entertain. They are (left to right) Anne Kobori, Alicia Stamps, Katie Krueger, Alariza Nevarez and Anna Smith. (Photo courtesy of Woman's Will)

Woman's Will is no-nonsense theatre brimming with intelligence and passion."

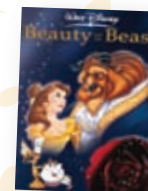
Audiences are invited to bring

picnic blankets and refreshments to the park. Admission is free; donations will be accepted. Information: 925-931-5340.

BANKHEAD THEATER

Beauty and the Beast

Livermore Valley Children's Performing Arts School Theater by Children for Children
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Sun August 14 1, 3, 6pm



H.M.S. Pinafore

Lamplighters Music Theatre
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2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore



Team takes canoe their into the water.

CANOE

(continued from front page)

than half the density of regular concrete and created air pockets to lessen the weight. That paid off—in the swamp test, canoes are submerged and must rise to the surface within five minutes; the Cal Poly canoe took just seconds.

Erik was one of six co-captains for Cal Poly's concrete canoe team. With two other co-captains, he headed up the construction team. He estimates that the team put in over 5,000 hours of work on the project, including seven all-nighters on the paper.

He joined the concrete canoe team because he was looking for a challenge and wanted to network with engineering students. "It was more of a challenge than I antici-

pated, but it was 100% worth it," says Erik. "I learned a lot about working with other people—there were 60 people contributing towards the end. I also learned how to manage a timeline. I think my communication skills really improved and of course, I picked up a lot of engineering knowledge."

This summer Erik is working as an intern in San Francisco on the new San Francisco General Hospital. He'll return to Cal Poly in the fall for his last year of school. While he doesn't plan to be on the concrete canoe team, he says he'll help out the team in the final crunch.

"One reason that Cal Poly has done so well, this is the second year in a row that we've won

nationals, is that we pass down a lot of information," says Erik. "So I'll probably pull a few all-nighters with the team."

After graduation, he plans to earn a masters in structural engineering at either Cal Poly or Georgia Tech and then begin a career as a structural engineer. In 2005, Erik started at Las Positas College not as an engineering student, but in administration of justice. "It was too boring," he says. "I've been around engineering and construction all my life because my dad has his own construction business. I'm good at math, so engineering was a natural choice."

Learn more about the concrete canoe competition at <http://concretecanoe.asce.org>.

Urban Mural Artists Selected

The City of Livermore's Commission for the Arts has approved the following mural designs for its UrbanArt Mural Program:

Bearded Iris by Susan Marchand; Blocked Out by Richard Reitz; Dream by Regina Leyva; Diablo Dragonfly by Caryne Mount; Lazy Daisy by Kathryn Thompson; Under the Sea by Emeline Young; Catbots Come in Peace by Emilee Dunlop; Windmills by Usha Shukla; Wall by Jesse Moore; Hummingbird by

Marcella McCormick; Utopia by Jesse Moore; and Pinwheels by Usha Shukla.

The Commission for the Arts developed this utility box mural program because it supports multiple blight elimination efforts, beautification, job creation, and promotion of civic pride. The first boxes to be painted this month are utility boxes in Downtown Livermore as these boxes had been hit by graffiti the most.

The City of Livermore is still

accepting sponsorships for the utility boxes.

The UrbanArt Mural Program Sponsorship Forms are available on the City of Livermore's website www.cityoflivermore.net. Those interested may also obtain a copy of the sponsorship form by calling the City of Livermore's Economic Development Department at (925) 960-4140. For more information, please contact Theresa De La Vega, Economic Development Specialist at (925) 960-4049.



LAS POSITAS

VINEYARDS

Grand Opening Festivities Planned

The Maier Family will host the Grand Opening of their new winery and tasting room in Livermore on Sunday, August 14, 2011. The address of the winery is 1828 Wetmore Road, near the junction of Wetmore and Arroyo Roads.

Festivities will begin at 12 noon and continue until 5 p.m. They include the following:

- Live Music provided by the Jesse Hendricks Trio
 - Appetizers will be offered
 - Special Grand Opening Discounts on Current Releases
- Currently, Las Positas Vineyards offers the following wines for tasting and sale:

- 2007 Petite Sirah, Casa de Viñas Covarrubias Vineyard
- 2008 Livermore Valley Barbera
- 2007 Chardonnay from the Maier Family Vineyard
- 2008 Chardonnay from the Maier Family Vineyard
- 2009 Chardonnay from the Maier Family Vineyard
- 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon, Casa de Viñas Covarrubias Vineyard
- 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon, Casa de Viñas Covarrubias Vineyard

This year, Las Positas Vineyards wines have earned three medals of distinction for quality at prestigious annual events including a Gold Medal from the California State Fair for the 2008 Barbera.

In 2007 the Maier Family vineyard located on Kalthoff Common in the southwest region of Livermore Valley was planted in small blocks of Petite Sirah, Chardonnay, Barbera, Tempranillo, Petit Verdot, Malbec and several clones of Cabernet Sauvignon.

Along with the new wine production facility and tasting room, the property on which it is located features approximately 20 acres of vineyards planted in Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Petite Sirah, Syrah and Nebbiolo. The new Wetmore Road vineyard compliments the original Kalthoff vineyard.

Las Positas Vineyards is described as a vineyard and winery dedicated to the marriage of Old World craftsmanship and New World pioneer spirit in the production of world class wine from our estate in California's Livermore Valley. "We offer small lots of handcrafted wines that epitomize our commitment to the earth and her fruit. We promise our consumers and business partners to be true to the ideal of "good wine starts with good vines and soil."

Lecture on Artists Planned at Library

Artist and educator Marlene Aron will present the program *Monet, Pissarro and the Impressionist Movement* at 2pm on Sunday, August 21, 2011 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

There is no charge for this event.

It's Paris, 1874, and the world of art is about to change forever. Join Marlene Aron as she presents a beautiful slide presentation of over one hundred works of art by Monet, Renoir, Cezanne, Morisot, Lautrec, Sisley, Degas, Pissarro and Van Gogh—artists who experienced and expressed the world about them, each in their own unique and personal way. The effect of light on nature, joyous use of color. Expressive use of line. Dance hall girls, ballet dancers, water lilies, peasants, gardens laborers. They gathered together in studios, cafes, bars and on the streets to talk and argue about art, its meaning, and how and what to paint. Together they shaped the Avant-garde world of Impressionism, and opened the doors to the Modern Art Movement of the 20th Century and beyond.

Marlene Aron is an artist, educator and published poet. She was educated in The Netherlands at the Vrije Academie voor Beeldende Kunsten and in the United States, receiving her Master of Fine Arts degree from California College of the Arts. Her work is in the permanent collection of the Butler Institute of American Art and has been featured in *Sculpture* magazine. Ms. Aron taught art and art history and has given lectures, workshops and courses on Van Gogh for fifteen years in universities, museums, libraries, art centers, retirement homes and private schools.

The Friends of the Livermore 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.

Lab Engineer Urges Young Latina Women to Stay in School

It's a long way from Chihuahua, Mexico, to Livermore, but for Yahel De La Cruz, it has been a rewarding journey -- and one worth sharing.

De La Cruz, a software engineer at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, discussed growing up in Mexico, coming to the United States and the challenges she faced and opportunities she found along the way, with a group of young Latina women at Las Positas College recently.

The middle-school and high-school aged girls are members of 'Nosotras en Control' (We are in Control), part of Livermore's BasicNecessities program with the goal of encouraging young women to stay in school, and to be open to career possibilities available through education. Many are the first women in their family to go to high school and will be the first members of their family to attend college.

De La Cruz was frank about the difficulties she faced coming to the United States from Mexico with her parents and four sisters at 15.

The family settled in Stockton where De La Cruz attended Franklin High School.

New to the school and not speaking much English, she said it was "a little scary," adding that the atmosphere was a bit like the inner city school depicted in the movie "Lean on Me."

A turning point came when her ability to play basketball was recognized. Both she and her sister were skilled at the sport and were quickly recruited for the school team, much to the dismay of their mother -- she wanted her daughters to devote their time to their studies.

That's when the team coach stepped in and made a deal -- he offered his services as a mentor. He would help the sisters with their studies every day after school if they could join the team.

"People who help you along the way make the difference," she told her audience about the coach's generosity.

"My parents knew the importance of a higher education," she said. "They embedded in our heads the need to go to college."

De la Cruz excelled in more than



The Lab's Yahel De la Cruz, shares her journey of coming to the United States with a group of students during a recent program at Las Positas College.

basketball, and although speaking English still remained difficult; her aptitude in math became more apparent. She completed algebra and then went on to grasp trigonometry and calculus.

She attended Delta College for two years and then was accepted to California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. Although she considered teaching as a career, she enrolled in the school of engineering. That's where she became interested in computer science.

In addition to her background and education, De La Cruz, also spoke about the Lab and shared a twist of fate that brought her here.

While in high school, she received a \$500 scholarship through the Lab's Amigos Unidos Hispanic Networking Group that is committed to encouraging Hispanics to pursue careers in mathematics, science, and engineering.

Even after she received the award, representatives from the group continued to keep in touch with her. Then, several years later, while attending a career fair, she met Jose Hernandez and Frank Robles, who remembered her. Both encouraged her to apply at LLNL.

"I really don't know who brought me to the Lab, but both men can take credit," she remarked.

She served as a summer intern in the National Ignition Facility (NIF) and in 1999 after completing a bachelor's of science degree in computer engineering from Cal Poly she obtained a full time position at the Lab.

Although nothing is easy, De la Cruz emphasized to the students, "You make your own opportunities."

As an example of the many

types of opportunities there are within today's technical and engineering fields, she gave the students a list of more than 20 positions needed to develop an iPod. These included: hardware engineer, digital artist/engineer, CPU software engineer, display engineer, web designer, and software developers, to name a few.

Of the Lab, she said, "Working there has given me the means for economic achievement and career growth." In 2004, she earned a master of science in information systems with honors from the University of San Francisco.

Today, De La Cruz is active in community outreach such as Expanding Your Horizons, Science Extravaganza, and the Delta College Minority Engineering Program advisory board.

"Giving back to our community, particularly to our kids, is everyone's responsibility," she says. Throughout her career, her desire to teach has never waned. She has taught computer science courses part time at Delta College. "It is so rewarding. I learn so much from my students. I see the changes in their lives."

For more information about 'Nosotras en Control' go to the Web.

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What Our Readers Are Saying...



"Orthodoxy is called *'the best kept secret in America,'* but thanks to The Independent's online event calendar, the secret is out. The Independent's calendar is letting folks know who we are and what services we offer. For example, the Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery in Pennsylvania is the speaker for our pre-Lenten Retreat, February 18-20 (see The Independent's Online Calendar for details).

We are proud (in a humble way) to be listed side by side with all of the churches in town. Thank God, The Independent is riding the crest of electronic progress and is inviting every religious body in the Tri-Valley to catch the online wave. Let's go surfing together!"

Archpriest Leo Arrowsmith

Rector, St. Innocent Orthodox Church in Livermore; Besides pastoring St. Innocent Orthodox Church in Livermore, he is a teacher and painter of Orthodox icons; Seven Year resident of Livermore

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A view of Livermore Valley wine country (Photo - Doug Jorgensen)

The Ed Kinney Lecture Series presents Livermore Valley Winemakers Speakeasy

More than 100 years ago a long tradition of acclaimed wine making began sprouting in the Amador-Livermore Valley. Museum on Main welcomes winemakers from historic wineries including Concannon Vineyard, Elliston Vineyards, and Wente Vineyards to the Ed Kinney Lecture Series on August 17 at 7 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in Downtown Pleasanton.

Winemakers will discuss the past, present, and future of wine-making in the region. The lecture is sponsored by Pat Lane and

Sarah Warnick.

All lectures in the 2011 Ed Kinney Lecture Series take place at the Firehouse Arts Center at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, and \$3 students and teachers w/ID. Tickets may be purchased at the door or reserved in advance by calling the Museum on Main at (925) 462-2766. All tickets are open seating. After 6:45pm any unclaimed reserved tickets will be released for sale. All tickets are paid at the door.

Payment forms include cash, check, Visa and MasterCard.

For more information on the Ed Kinney Lecture Series or speakers taking part in the lecture series, contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

The Museum On Main is located at 603 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, 925-462-2766, Fax: 925-462-2779. Regular hours of operation: Tuesday through Saturday 10:00am to 4:00pm and Sunday 1:00pm to 4:00pm. www.museumonmain.org.

Forest Home Farms Offers Docent Training

Forest Home Farms Historic Park will hold a docent training session for new volunteers on Thursday, September 15, 2011, from 9:30am-12pm. The meeting will be held in the Boone House Apt. B at Forest Home Farms Historic Park. The address is 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583. This training is open to the public and is for anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer at the farm. Those attending are not required to volunteer after the meeting.

There are four different areas for volunteers to choose from:

Grandpa- leads tours and activities, Grandma- leads tours and activities, Garden- explains concepts of organic gardening and aids children in gardening chores, and Canning- presents a canning demonstration and leads activities.

Docents lead hands-on activities that teach the agricultural history of the San Ramon Valley and Forest Home Farms Historic Park. Public speaking experience is helpful, but not required. Education docents need to attend a three-hour training session twice per year. Volunteer commitment is 2 times per month minimum, and each tour

lasts 3 hours. Volunteers must be available on weekday mornings and be fingerprinted through the San Ramon Police Dept.

Fieldtrips run Tuesday thru Friday, 9am-12pm during the school year with a short break in winter. Fall fieldtrips for 2011 begin September 20. Volunteers for this program also participate in a variety of fun and educational networking activities and fieldtrips to areas of local interest throughout the year. For more information or to RSVP for this meeting please contact Stephanie Herscu at (925) 973-3282 or sherscu@sanramon.ca.gov.

'Super Diamond' Tickets Still Available

Benefit for Juvenile Diabetes

Plenty of tickets are still available as "Super Diamond," returns to Wente Vineyards on Friday August 19, 2011 for a concert and dinner benefit at the JDRF "Summer Classic." The Neil Diamond tribute band played at the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation event in 2010, and fans demanded an encore!

"We are thrilled to have 'Super Diamond' back for 2011," said Jason Skeoch, co-founder of Active Charity, which is putting on the 6th annual JDRF fundraiser. "The dance floor was packed all night and our supporters enjoyed over four decades of Neil Diamond hits," Skeoch added.

This year's event at Wente Vineyards will showcase the dinner and concert. It will also include a live and silent auction to raise money to help kids battling diabetes. The fundraiser includes a separate, optional golf tournament earlier that day.

Active Charity is a group of local businessmen and their supporters who have now raised over \$1.4 million dollars for JDRF in the first five years. Chevron is the presenting sponsor. Valentine Wealth is the host sponsor.

"The money raised helps our treatment, education and prevention programs, aimed at kids and their families coping with juvenile diabetes," said Kelly Craft of



Singer "Surreal Neil" of Super Diamond dances with a fan at the 2010 "Summer Classic" at Wente Vineyards. (Photo by Jinah Manly Photography)

JDRF. For ticket information see: www.JDRFbayarea.org/summer.

Since its founding in 1970 by parents of children with type 1 diabetes, JDRF has awarded more than \$1.5 billion to diabetes research, including more than \$107 million last year. More than 80 percent of JDRF's expenditures directly support research and research-related education. For more information, please visit www.JDRFbayarea.org.

Dublin to Show 'True Grit' Under the Stars

The final "Family Movies Under the Stars" event in Dublin of the summer will feature "True Grit" (G) - the original starring John Wayne. It will be shown at the newly opened Heritage Park and Museums on Saturday, August 13. The park is located at 6600 Donlon Way at the corner of Donlon and Dublin Blvd.

Arrival time is 7:30 p.m. Bring low beach chairs and blankets. Movies begin at dusk (approximately 8:30 to 9:00 p.m.) Free popcorn will be served. Drinks and other snacks will be available for purchase. No pets please. This is a free event.

For more information please call 556-4500.

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Angie Apolinar, Branch Director

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ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

Back to the Future Show, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. July 13 to Sept. 19. Sponsored by the Livermore Art Association. Theme for all pieces is "Through Time." Show honors LAA founders and early LAA contributors in the Founders Room at the theater. Public reception, Aug. 18, 6 to 8 p.m.

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

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

Pleasanton Art League Fall Members' Exhibit, Sept. 15-Oct. 15. Firehouse Arts Center, Harrington Gallery, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Reception and awards ceremony Sat., Sept. 17, 1 to 3 p.m. www.pal-art.com.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

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

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

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

Beginner watercolor classes offered for teens and adults on Saturday mornings from 9:30am to 11:30am. Learn the basic techniques of watercolor and oil paints as well as the fundamentals of composition, color theory, light and dark balance. Learn to work with freedom and freshness in both mediums in a variety of subject matter such as landscape, still-life and portrait painting. The classes will be held in Livermore. The Instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst, holds a Master Degree in Painting and History of Art, and is a nationally and internationally exhibiting watercolor and oil painter. For further information, please visit: <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com/p/adult-and-teen-saturday-classes.html> or contact via email:

thomasin_d@hotmail.com, or telephone: (925) 216-7231.

WINERY EVENTS

La Rochelle, seven dollars from every bottle sold of its new 2008 La Rochelle "Bradley Vineyard" Pinot Noir will go directly to the Taylor Family Foundation (TFF) in Livermore. La Rochelle Winery is located at 5443 Tesla Road in the Livermore Valley. For more information, please call 925.243.6442.

La Luna Fridays, Murrieta's Well, August 12, Spanish-inspired tapas and Murrieta's Well wines served on the terrace under the light of the full moon, accompanied by live music performed by Rodrigo Teague. Tapas and wine service 6:00-8:00 pm. Music and fun until 9:00 pm. \$40 for Silver Spur Members and \$45 for guests. All reservations will be considered guaranteed and will be charged 72 hours in advance of the event date and are non-refundable. Reserve by August 6th. For reservations, directions or more information, call 925-456-2395.

Free tasting Fridays, Rodrigue Molyneux Winery will now be open Fridays from 12:30-3:30 for the month of August and possibly beyond. The entire flight of wines will be poured for any guests. On Friday, August 12, the winery will be supporting the charity www.findourfathers.com. Go on to the website for a chance to donate to this great cause that supports the men last seen when their boat capsized on July 3rd, 2011 in the Gulf of Mexico. 3053 Marina Ave, Livermore, www.rmwinery.com, 925-443-1998

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

Full Moon Dinner at Retzlaff, August 13, with Posada Catering, specializing in delicious Argentine cuisine. Should be a spectacular evening out on the lawn beneath the fragrant pepper trees! RSVP to 925-447-8941. 1356 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore.

Thomas Coyne Winery Summer Open House, Aug. 20 and 21, noon to 5 p.m. at the tasting room in a historical building at 51 E. Vallecitos Road Livermore. Release of five new wines. Selection of fine fruits and cheeses served. New releases: 2010 Gruv, A Grenache Blanc, Roussanne, Ugni Blanc and Viognier blend; 2004 Syrah, Livermore; 2007 Merlot, California; 2006 Petite Sirah, Livermore; 2007 Syrah Reserve, Livermore, Detjens Farms. For more info call (925) 373-6541 or visit <http://thomascoynewinery.com>

30th Annual Harvest Wine Celebration - Labor Day Weekend (Sunday & Monday) Sunday, September 4, 2011 and Monday, September 5, 2011, 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Livermore Valley Wine Country. Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association. www.lvwine.org

Wood Family Vineyards 8th Annual Release Party, Sat. and Sun., Aug. 13 and 14. Releasing 2010 Chardonnay "Para Mas Amigas;" 2009 Cabernet Franc; 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon, Thomson Ranch; 2009 Petite Sirah and 2009 Zinfandel, "Muy Bueno." Paired with gourmet cheeses. Live Music by "Patty & Abigail" on Saturday and "Tank Half Full" on Sunday. \$10 per person and

keep your Wood Family Wine Glass. No Charge for "Extended Family" Club Members. Special "appreciation" 20% off case purchases during the event. 25% off case purchases for Club Members. 7702 Cedar Mtn Rd., Livermore. www.woodfamilyvineyards.com

Cedar Mountain Winery, BYOF (bring your own food) and country band, Aug. 20, 6 to 9 p.m. Country music by "Cowboy Bill" and a "BYOM" (bring your own meal) BBQ. The winery supplies the grill. Those attending bring grilling food and side dishes, plates, and utensils. Wine by the glass/bottle and beverages will be available for purchase. Call the tasting room for more information at (925) 373-6636. Fee is \$5 p/person. 7000 Tesla Rd., Livermore.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Concerts at Wente Vineyards, August 30, Kenny G and Michael Bolton; Sept. 8: Tears for Fears; Sept. 13: Kenny Loggins; Sept. 14: Diana Ross. Ticket options include different dining and seating choices. Wente Vineyards Restaurant and Event Center is located at 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore. For more information or tickets, go to www.wentevineyards.com/concerts/

Wallin & Barretta A Tribute to Italian Singers, Aug. 13, 8 p.m., Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$12-\$25.

The Tubes, San Francisco Sound of the 70's and Beyond, Fri. and Sat., Sept. 9 and 10, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

Annual Piano Recital, Saturday, September 10, 2011, 7:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. Annual piano recital co-sponsored by the Alameda County East Branch of the Music Teachers' Association of California and Asbury. Award-winning Fremont resident and MTAC Young Artist Guild member Gus Liu, 16, will perform timeless music masterpieces by Bach, Beethoven, and Liszt, and whimsical jazz piece by contemporary composer William Bolcom. No charge for admission; refreshments served. Further information: 925-443-2514 accoll@comcast.net

Eugene Brancoveanu, opera singer, Sept. 11, 3 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$12-\$24.

Guitar Festival LIVE, Lee Ritenour with special guest James Robinson, Sept. 16, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Guitar Festival LIVE, Sonny Landreth with special guests Eric Gales and Michael Landau Group, Sept. 17, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Lisa Vroman, Sept. 18, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$12-\$27.

Michael Kaeshammer, jazz pianist, Sept. 24, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$12-\$25.

Jimmy Webb, country and wester, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

MOJO and the Bayou Gypsies, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Jazz at the Library, Kenny Washington Trio, Friday, September 30; 8 p.m. the San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery Street, San Ramon. \$20 each (Seniors 62+ and Students \$15) www.sanramonjazz.org/wp/wp-admin/edit.php

Pops Concert. The Livermore-Amador Symphony will perform its annual pops concert with the theme Fanfare for Food on Friday, October 21 at 8 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center Ballroom. Wearing costumes and bringing your dinner is encouraged. This event is sponsored by the Livermore-Amador Symphony Guild. Call 925-447-6454 to make your reservation starting Sept. 1.

ON THE STAGE

Beauty and the Beast Jr. at the Bankhead Theater on August 13 at 1, 3, 6, 8 p.m. and August 14 at 1, 3, 6 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 for children, \$10.00 for Seniors, \$15.00 adults. Children coming in Beauty and the Beast costumes receive a free ice cream cone at Lord's or Silly Bandz from Kooly Katz Toys, or Chocolate Chip cookie from Toll House. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or contact SmARTSunlimited at www.SmARTSunlimited.com. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First St., Livermore.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Women's

Will production. Sun., Aug. 14, 4:30 p.m. Centennial Park (next to the Senior Center), 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Free admission. 931-4848. Danville, August 13, on the library green at 2 p.m.

Chicago, Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, Aug. 20-Sept. 4, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. \$14.45-\$33.

HMS Pinafore, Lamplighters Musical Theatre production, Gilbert & Sullivan. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Sat., Aug. 20, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sun., Aug. 21, 2 p.m. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Last Five Years, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre Studio Theatre presentation. Weekends Sept. 16 to Oct. 9. 1048 Serpentine Lane #309, Pleasanton. www.trivalleyrep.com.

National Acrobats of China, Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Mourning Becomes Electra by Eugene O'Neill, September 16 - October 1, Role Players Ensemble, 8 p.m. Th., Fri., Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Village Theatre, 233 Front St. Danville, www.ci.danville.ca.us

COMEDY

Comedy Uncorked, Retzlaff Vineyards, benefit for Open Heart Kitchen. Aug. 26, Sept. 24. Doors open 6 p.m., performance 7:30 p.m. Retzlaff Vineyards is located at 1356 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. They can be purchased at www.comedyuncorked.com/

DANCE

Friday Night Dance Parties, themed parties each Friday night from Salsa to Swing, includes a group dance lesson at 8:15. \$15 cover charge, 8:15 dance lesson, 9:00-10:30 for dance parties. It's All About Dancing, 171 So. J Street, Livermore. 925-449-9292, or studio@itsallaboutdancing.com.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

Cantabella Registration and Auditions, Cantabella Children's Chorus is preparing for its 20th year of music education for children ages 5-18. In three training choirs and three performing choirs singers learn vocal production, music literacy and theory through the great choral literature of the world. Registration is now open to new students for classes beginning August 30 in Dublin, August 31 in Livermore, and September 1 in Pleasanton. To register for the training choirs, to schedule an audition for the performing choirs, or for more information, visit Cantabella.org or call 925-292-2663.

39th annual Competition for Young Musicians, Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside or attend school in Livermore, Sunol, Pleasanton, Dublin, or San Ramon. Students are eligible through grade 12. If not enrolled in high school, the maximum age is 17. All instruments will be considered. The purpose is to select two young musicians who will perform as soloists with the symphony on Feb. 11, 2012. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$300. The application deadline is Sun., Oct. 2. Completed applications must be accompanied by an \$8 application fee and a CD or cassette tape for preliminary screening. Additional information may be obtained from www.livamsymph.org or by contacting the competition chairperson at 447-1947.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Nuncrackers, auditions. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre Studio Theatre production. Tues., Aug. 23, 7 to 8:30 p.m. children; 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. adults. Callbacks will be held Thursday, August 25 by invitation only. Auditions will be held at the Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane #309, Pleasanton. Download the audition at <http://trivalleyrep.org/bayAreaMusicals/2011MusicalTheatre/images/Audition%20Form%20-%20Nuncrackers.pdf>. For questions contact the producer, Kathleen at KBreedveld@trivalleyrep.com. Please bring 16 bars uptempo Broadway. There will be no tapes or a capella allowed. Be prepared to dance a short combination. Please bring a current resume, head shot and conflict calendar.

Auditions. Pacific Masterworks Chorus, second season under the leadership of Dr Greg Lyne. Mixed choral ensemble, devoted to high quality performance, embracing a wide variety of works both a cappella and accompanied, with an emphasis on American choral music. The auditions are open to singers with previous choral experience, particularly altos, tenors and basses. Audition dates: Wednesdays August 31, September 7 and 14 (a prepared audition piece is not essential). John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd, Dublin. 6:30pm - 7:15pm The chorus has regular rehearsals every Wednesday, and you are invited to attend our preliminary rehearsals on August 17 & 24 at 7:30pm. Pacific Masterworks Chorus Winter program will include Beethoven's Choral Fantasy to be performed with the Livermore-Amador Symphony and also in our own Winter concert. Additional repertoire includes Copland's 'Promise of Living' and Conrad Susa's lovely collection of 'Lullabies and Carols' plus other notable repertoire. auditions@pacificmasterworkschorus.org

Auditions. Home for the Holidays, with San Ramon Community Theater's musical review. Auditions can be scheduled between now and in September. Final auditions and selection will be held September 6 and 8 at 7 p.m. at the Front Row Theater in San Ramon. Please call (925) 389-7529 or email us at info@sanramoncommunitytheater.org to schedule an audition.

MOVIES

Movies in the Park. Amador Valley Community Park, 4455 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Movies are free and begin at dusk. Schedule: Aug. 11 - Tangled; Aug. 18 - Tron Legacy. Information at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us or 931-3423.

Outdoor Movie Nights. Emerald Glen Park, Dublin. Sat., Aug. 13, "True Grit." (G). Bring lawn chairs, blankets and snacks. Arrival time is 7:00pm, show time is approximately 8:00-8:30pm, or when the sun goes down. Refreshments will be available. For more information please call 556-4500. No pets please.

The Cinema at Wente Vineyards: Aug. 25, "Dirty Dancing." Ryan Flynn, winner of text vote Livermore's Got Talent, performs at 7:30 p.m. All dining options are available before the start of feature presentation. All movies are complimentary and begin at twilight. Cafe and seating open at 6:30 p.m. Come early and enjoy music performed by various winners of Livermore's Got Talent competition. For more information call the Box Office at 925.456.2424. 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

OPERA

Roméo et Juliette. Livermore Valley Opera 20th Anniversary Season open-

ing opera. Gounod's Roméo et Juliette. Gounod's opera about star-crossed lovers will be presented in French with English supertitles at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore on September 23, 24, 30 and October 1 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

Pleasanton History Walk, 4th Saturday of the month. Tours depart from the Museum on Main at 2 p.m. and are approximately 1 1/2 hours long. The tour is appropriate for all ages, covers a distance of approximately one mile and is handicapped accessible. Tours are limited to the first 25 people in attendance. Upcoming summer tours on: Saturday, August 27; Saturday, September 24. For more information on tours or programs at Museum on Main contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Association hosts its Annual Summer Barbeque on Saturday, August 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the Ivy Glen Area, Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. There will be a full Tri-Tip dinner, with no-host bar serving up margaritas, beer, wine, and more. Music and dancing. There will also be live and silent auctions featuring an array of items and opportunities. Price is \$30.00/person, and reservations can be made by visiting ptsca.org. (credit cards accepted). Contact phone is Mike Terkelsen, 925-846-6463, after 3:00 PM.

M.o.M.'s Reading Time, ages 2 to 5 and families, Museum on Main monthly reading program, 10 to 11 a.m. with theme related crafts immediately following. Admission is free. Donations are always appreciated. No Reservations required. Large groups or playgroups please call in advance: 925.462.2766 or email: education@museumonmain.org. August 10: Place Your Votes- Kids get a vote as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the right to vote for California's women. September 14: Officer Buckle and Gloria- Enjoy this Caldecott Award winning book plus a special visit from recently retired Pleasanton Animal Services officer Roy Ficken and his canine partner Gandalf. October 12: Spooky Stories- Are you ready for Halloween? Come dressed in your costume and enjoy a spooky morning at the Museum on Main. November 9: Giving Thanks- What are you thankful for? Enjoy books and make a craft to share at the Thanksgiving table. December 14: Snow Day- You never know where you'll find snow! Join us for a cool morning of books and fun all about snow. 603 Main Street, Pleasanton.

Ice Cream Social, Ravenswood Historic Site, Livermore. Aug. 14, noon to 4 p.m. No admission charge. Docent led tours, entertainment. www.larpd.dst.ca.us

Museum on Main, 2011 Ed Kinney Lecture Series. Wednesday, August 17, 7 p.m., Valley Winemakers Speakeasy, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. No reservations are required. Tickets are available at the door on a first come first served basis. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, \$3 students/teachers with ID. Information, contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

Day in the Park auction fund-raiser on Sunday, August 28 at Camp Arroyo in Livermore Proceeds from the auction help fund The Taylor Family Foundation's summer and weekend camp adventures

for children living with life-threatening and chronic illnesses, developmental disabilities and youth at-risk - at no cost to them or their families. Gourmet food and wine, more than 150 silent and live auction packages, raffle to win a 2011 Mini Cooper. For tickets/tables and event sponsorship opportunities for Day in the Park, please visit our website at www.tfff.org or call us at 925-455-5118.

Monet, Pissarro and the Impressionist Movement, Authors and Arts Series, Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. August 21, 2 p.m. lecture. Marlene Aron presents a slide presentation of over one hundred works of art by Monet, Renoir, Cezanne, Morisot, Lautrec, Sisley, Degas, Pissarro and Van Gogh—artists who experienced and expressed the world about them, each in their own unique and personal way. Free. 925-373-5505

146th Scottish Highland Games, presented by The Caledonian Club Of San Francisco. Sept. 3 and 4, Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. Gates open at 8 a.m. Tickets and information at www.caledonian.org

1st Wednesday Street Party, Sept. 7, 6 to 9 p.m. Main Street, downtown Pleasanton. Celebrate Pleasanton theme. Pleasanton Downtown Association pleasantondowntown.net

Moonlight on the Mountain, Sept. 10, Save Mount Diablo's 40th anniversary celebration at Mount Diablo's China Wall. Includes elegant dinner, live and silent auctions, live music and presentation of the Mountain Star Awards. Call (925) 947-3535 for reservations. Tickets are \$250 per person. A Benefit for Save Mount Diablo to: Preserve natural lands through acquisition & cooperative efforts; Defend Mount Diablo and its foothills from development through land use planning; Restore habitat, wildlife and creeks & build trails.

2011 Children's Fair, presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Saturday, Sept. 17, and Sunday, Sept. 18, Children's Fair is a free event with kid-friendly activities, crafts, performances and more. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore.

Beer Train, Livermore Stockmen's Rodeo Association, 3rd annual Beer Train, Sat., Sept. 17, on the Niles Canyon Railway in Sunol. BBQ at 3 p.m.; train departs 5 p.m. sharp. Strolling minstrels, gunfighters, raffles. \$40 includes a barbecue in the park; bottled water and will available. No one under the age of 21; must show ID when purchasing ticket and boarding train. Reservations, contact Tim at 447-7562. Information at www.LivermoreRodeo.org.

Book Club - Cultural Differences in Fiction, first meeting of the year will feature Major Pettigrew's Last Stand, by Helen Simonsen. Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 7 pm in the Storytime/Craft Room at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. The book group will be led by Carol Bloodworth, a local resident. For more information on this book club, please contact Carol at 449-7860.

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, 2011 Ed Kinney Lecture Series. Wednesday, September 21, 7 p.m., California Woman Suffrage, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. No reservations are required. Tickets are available at the door on a first come first served basis. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 members and seniors, \$3 students/teachers with

ID. Information, contact Jennifer Amiel, Director of Education at (925) 462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org.

Quilting in the Garden, Sept. 24 and 25, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Presented by Alden Lane Nursery and In Between Stitches. Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. Featured artists Verna Mosquera and Rob Appell. Classes, displays, etc. Information www.aldenlane.com.

Nostalgia Day Car Show, Sun., Sept. 25 downtown Livermore. Presented by the Altamont Cruisers. Over 700 cars, music, prize drawings, vendors, and arts and crafts. Parade of award winners. Activities 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission.

Cajun Zydeco Festival Planned

Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont will host the Annual Cajun Zydeco festival on Saturday, August 13, 2011. There will be Cajun/Zydeco music and dancing, as well as Cajun and Creole cuisine and other festival food favorites. Take a tour of the farm, visit the farm animals, shop specialty vendors and join in dance lessons. Our 15th annual festival features BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet, Bay Area favorites Andre Thierry & Zydeco Magic, Jeffery Broussard and The Creole Cowboys, and Gator Beat.

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

Take the train from the entrance to the festival site. Bring a blanket, low-back lawn chair, sunblock, and hat. Low canopies welcome in the back or side areas (please be courteous and do not block the view of the stage). Alcohol prohibited. Please purchase beverages inside festival. Food will also be available for purchase. No pets allowed.

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.

Founded in 1975, Grammy winners BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet became one of the most

well-known bands performing traditional and original music rooted in the folk tunes of the creole and Cajun people of Louisiana. BeauSoleil recently won their 15th award for Best Cajun Artist from Off Beats Magazine's Best of the Beat awards.

Andre Thierry & Zydeco Magic return to get the crowd dancing with a blend of traditional Zydeco music, hip-hop, blues, jazz and rock. They were voted best Zydeco group by the West Coast Blues Hall of Fame in 2008.

Jeffery Broussard & The Creole Cowboys features the accordion mastery and soulful vocals of front man Jeffery Broussard, from the legendary band, Zydeco Force. Jeffery Broussard & The Creole Cowboys recently won the Louisiana Division of the Arts grant recipient 2007-2008.

Gator Beat, based in Sonoma County, has been playing dances and festivals on the West Coast for 20 years. The band specializes in its own brand of South Louisiana music, combining traditional Cajun, Zydeco, and New Orleans R&B.

Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$5 youth (ages 4 - 15 years). 3 years and under free. Free parking.

Additional information is available at 1-888-EBPARKS or www.ebparks.org. The Festival is presented by the East Bay Regional Park District.

Are You Hearing And Understanding The Sounds of Life?

HEARING SERVICES

 Kenneth Billheimer, Au.D Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist	 Jacquie Pedraza Hearing Aid Specialist
Pleasanton 4460 Black Ave., #F 484-3507	Livermore 1524 Holmes St., #D 960-0391
www.pleasantonhearingservices.com	



Nicole King a Freshman at Granada being fitted at Dana's Boutique in downtown Livermore for her upcoming role as Belle in SmARTSunlimited's Beauty and the Beast – August 13 and 14 at the Bankhead Theater. Nicole has been a student of the performing arts school since she was 6 and has played 20 different roles over an 8 year span.

Performing Arts School Expands Theater Department

SmARTSunlimited and the Livermore Valley Children's Performing Arts School have expanded the theater department to include classes for preschoolers, youth and teens. Classes in acting begin on August 22 for Pee Wee Ugly Duckling, 12 Dancing Princesses-Youth Division, and Little Women – Teen Division. All productions include performances at the Ruby Slipper Theater.

Also beginning the week of August 22 are film classes for students 10 – 17. Their film program has produced over 9 short independent films of varying genres, some of which have won awards in both the local Livermore Film Festivals and the California Independent Film Festivals.

Established in 1997, the school offers music education classes in piano, voice, guitar, percussion, violin, and early childhood foundation music classes. Their music programs include contests, recitals, and competitions at local, state, and national levels including the Contra Costa Sonata Contest, the Contra Costa Baroque contest, and Music Teachers Association of California's - Certificate of Merit Program, and the American College of Musicians National Guild Auditions. Their annual recital is held at the Bankhead Theater.

Basic dance training is also provided to primarily assist singers and actors who need additional help with movement for musicals. Many children have started classes at the age of 3 and are now in high school performing in local musicals, and commercials.

To enroll go to www.SmARTSunlimited.com or call 925-245-0283.

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



Komandorski Village

The military base Camp Parks, formally opened by the federal government on 19 January 1943, became the home of the Seabees, naval engineers during World War II. It was built on an isolated 2,700-acre site north of Highway 50 (the early version of Interstate 580), now renamed Dublin Boulevard in that area, between Dougherty and Tassajara Roads. It served not only as a place for the Seabees to receive advanced and combat training, but also where they could rest and enjoy recreation after a return from overseas.

Inserting a large military base into an isolated farming area meant that there were no housing accommodations available for the influx of military families and civilian workers. The Navy built a large group of two-story barracks that held apartments for the Navy families. This area, just to the west of the base and to the west of Dougherty Road, was named Komandorski Village. The Commander Islands, or Komandorski Islands, which belong to Russia, are the farthest west of the Aleutian Island chain that hangs down from Alaska below the Bering Sea. The islands were named for Captain-Commander Vitus Bering, who died on one of the islands, now called Bering Island, in 1741.

Our Komandorski Village was not named for him, but for the naval battle between Japan and the United States on 27 March 1943 that occurred in the open sea about 160 miles below the islands. Japan lost the engagement, and probably newspapers were full of news about the battle as the Navy was building the new housing.

In the fall of 1945 Betty Holdener was attending UC Berkeley. When she needed a leave of absence, she was offered a teaching job at Komandorski School, which had just opened at Camp Parks. A boxy-shaped redwood building was used for the school

with two classrooms on each floor. The first floor held the first and second grades in one room and the third and fourth grades in another room. The second floor held the fifth and sixth grades in one room and the seventh and eighth grades in the other room. Betty taught the fifth and sixth grades.

She remembered: "There were four teachers in the school who received classroom supervision from the Alameda County Department of Education. The classrooms were sparsely furnished. My room had 20 desks, and I had about 17 students." She still has photos of the students on the playground equipment and on the front steps. Betty enjoyed this experience, and it led to her choice of teaching as a career; she taught in the Livermore Valley School District for 34 years.

After World War II, the Navy left Camp Parks, but with the onset of the Korean War in 1950, the Air Force came to the area and again needed the Village for housing. Tommie Simpson's husband was recalled to active duty at Oak Knoll Naval Hospital. They moved into Komandorski Village with their four-year-old son. Their apartment, on the second floor of one of the barracks-like buildings, consisted of a living room, a kitchenette/dining area, two bedrooms, and a bath. The Navy furnished the kitchen with an icebox—ice delivery was daily. The Simpsons finally bought a Crosby refrigerator.

Tommie remembered lots of friends—"It was one of the happiest times of our lives." They purchased a television on a 12-month payment plan, and often their friends came, settled around on the floor with pillows, and watched the shows on this new kind of entertainment. Later in her life, Tommie served for a number of years as a docent for the Camp Parks Museum.

Terry Baer came to live at Komandorski Village when his father retired from the Navy in

1964. In 2006 he wrote Barry Schrader an e-mail that said, "That was the most wonderful time in my childhood. We had the creek, the meadow, and the hills to be our playground. The railroad went through the meadow, and we kids climbed all over the stationary cars." At that time a storage building on the site was transformed into the Komandorski Community Center, where on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons the local kids paid five cents to see a movie checked out from Treasure Island Navy Base. In June 1980 the community center burned down.

Komandorski Village was built in 1943 during war time with the building codes of that era. The walls had been framed with studs that today are considered substandard, the structures had no insulation, and little or no fire-resistant materials were used in construction. The state mandated that the Village be demolished in 1981, but not before replacement low-cost housing was provided. At first, this project was taken on by the Pleasanton Housing Authority, which had purchased Komandorski Village from the Navy in 1954.

The *Valley Times* in July 1982 told of 53 families being ready to move into the new Arroyo Vista low-cost development, 37 of them from the few still-standing Komandorski buildings, which originally had totaled 170 units. Three phases of Arroyo Vista, adding up to 150 units, were all completed by 1983. After Dublin's incorporation in 1982, the city took responsibility for the project. Unhappy with the quality of the Arroyo Vista project, Dublin had its units razed earlier this year.

The ground-breaking for modern low-cost housing in the footprint of the old Komandorski Village will take place on August 15. This newest development will not have a preference for military personnel. (You can reach me at am50homan@yahoo.com.)

Milestones



Asante Africa primary school students

Rotary Grant to Provide Water for School in Kenya

The Asante Africa Foundation is to be the designated partner of a \$60,000 Rotary International Foundation grant to fund the construction of a water well, pump, power source and four new classrooms at Nchaishi Primary School, located in one of Kenya's most impoverished rural regions. The grant reflects the contributions and collaborations of two International Rotary Clubs in Kenya, Nyvaisha and Narok and five California-based rotaries; Danville-Sycamore, Alamo, Rossmoor, Danville and San Ramon clubs.

"This grant award reflects the important role everyone can play in making the world a better place. With the support of local and international rotary groups, the Asante Africa Foundation will be able to extend its reach that much farther, bringing lasting change to children and youth living in some of the most remote areas of East Africa," declared Erna Grasz, CEO Asante Africa Foundation

Nchaishi Primary School and its surrounding village suffer from a lack of adequate and clean water supply, poor building infrastructure, latrines, electricity and adequate awareness in health and sanitation practices. Due to these

harsh living conditions, severe droughts and a lack of natural resources, many school-aged children are removed from school as their families migrate searching for food and water. The Rotary International grant will address these needs through funding the construction of a well and pump, a solar or wind power source, new classrooms, latrines and the implementation of a health and sanitation education program.

Grasz stated, "If a child has a full stomach, less dysentery sickness, and a classroom to sit in, they are more likely to be able to focus on learning, focus on what tomorrow can look like and dream about how they can help their families be better."

As part of Rotary Foundation's Future Vision Plan, members of the Danville Sycamore Rotary Club sought to work jointly with other rotary clubs, on a Future Vision International matching grant opportunity that would focus globally on impacting communities in Kenya. Through a partnership with Asante Africa Foundation, the grant will launch the Nchaishi project after a two-year planning phase.

Ted Mendelson, Chairman of the International Committee for

the Danville/Sycamore Rotary Club, said, "With grant funds we can change the lives of all the poor children at the Nchaishi School. This will ultimately help the entire village since education, especially of women, is the key to lifting themselves out of poverty."

AAF has been working closely with Chief Salaton and Nchaishi school headmaster, Joseph Tikawa to develop the project and will continue this collaboration as the construction phase begins. In addition, Asante Africa Foundation and the Danville Sycamore Rotary will continue to work on other projects at Nchaishi to enhance and maintain quality of education and livelihoods for the school and local villagers. Asante Africa Foundation is committed to continue awarding educational scholarships to deserving children in the village to send them to high school and college.

The Asante Africa Foundation, Inc. (www.asanteafrica.org, info@asanteafrica.org, 925-292-0245) is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization with Global Headquarters in the U.S.A. (1334 Carlton Place, Livermore, CA 94550) and NGO status in Kenya and Tanzania.

Community



Kate Patricia DaLessi will celebrate her 100th birthday on Aug. 16, 2011. She was born in Oakland, CA to Marion and John Lewis. She had five sisters and four brothers. Kate grew up in East Oakland attended Fremont High School. At age 22, she married John DaLessi and moved to Richmond, where she resided until she moved to Easyliving Care Home in Livermore five years ago. She grew up during the Depression, her only job was working part time in a clothing store. She loved being a housewife and mother. Her children are Donna and Donald. She has three grandchildren and four great grandchildren. She says, "I want to be kind and for people to treat me the same." According to Theresa Cleaver, at the Care Home, "Kate is thriving and happy. She goes out often and insists that she be walked daily, puts on make-up and loves having her hair done. She is still health conscious and wants the vest for everyone at all times. She is a jewel. At the same time, she is so alert and strong willed, she loves feeling like she is watching over the residents, it makes her feel special, she is kind and loving; a truly Godly woman."

Education

James Childress of Livermore, was recognized for outstanding academic accomplishments by being named to the LeTourneau University Dean's List for the Spring 2011 semester. Childress achieved a grade point average between 3.50 and 3.99 for the semester. LeTourneau University Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Steven D. Mason said being named to the Dean's List is a significant academic achievement and honor.

LeTourneau University is a nationally recognized interdenominational Christian university based in Longview, Texas, offering academic programs in aeronautical science, business, computer science, education, engineering, health care, the humanities and sciences.

The following local students graduated from Seattle Pacific University: Danielle Elizabeth Bradford of Livermore, graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Global Development Studies and European Studies - Spanish. Cynthia Kaye Haan of Livermore, graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Global Development Studies. Founded in 1891, Seattle Pacific University is a premier Christian university that equips people to engage the culture and change the world.

Harsha Koneru, a junior from Livermore, has been named to the spring 2011 dean's list at St. Bonaventure University. Koneru is a biology major.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Evening in the Vineyard, SonRise Equestrian Foundation partners with Wente Vineyards for: An Evening in the Vineyard Friday, September 16 starting at 6 p.m. The event will be held Wente Vineyards in Livermore. This will be an evening featuring estate grown wines, appetizers on the terrace, gourmet food by Wente, dancing entertainment from Jack Pollard, a live and silent auction and wine cellar raffle. All proceeds will provide support to rescue horses and help children to who are facing social, emotional and physical challenges. Tickets cost \$150. For more information or to purchase tickets call 925-838-RIDE (7433) or visit www.sonrisequestrianfoundation.org.

Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated invites members of the public to attend its annual BBQ picnic on Saturday, August 27th, from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person. Menu includes BBQ pulled pork, BBQ chicken breasts, plain baked chicken breasts, Red Bliss Potato Salad, Classic Caesar Salad, Dinner Rolls and butter, and pickles. The event will be held at Amador Valley Community Park, 4301 Black Avenue, Pleasanton (behind the Aquatic Center). Guest speaker will be Charley Freedman, radio host on KSCO, Santa Cruz. A prize will be given to the winner of the best patriotic dessert (optional). RSVP by check sent to TVRWF, P. O. Box 1901, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Aug. 13, 23 miles, Fuddrucker's, meet 10 a.m. in the Willows Shopping Center, Concord, Randy Huey, 518-8439. Sun., Aug. 14, 60 miles, Bollinger Canyon park and ride to junction on Mt. Diablo, meet 8:30 a.m. Marcus van Rallie, 437-3332. Wed., Aug. 17, 38 miles Vacaville to Winters, meet 10 a.m. at Lagoon Regional Park, Dave LeDdon, 462-0727. Wed., Aug. 17, 16+ miles, ride by Diablo as far as you'd like, meet 6 p.m. at St. Timothy's Church, Heidi Fraser, 451-1430. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Beauty and the Beast Jr. at the Bankhead Theater on August 13 at 1, 3, 6, 8 p.m. and August 14 at 1, 3, 6 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 for children, \$10.00 for Seniors, \$15.00 adults. Children coming in Beauty and the Beast costumes receive a free ice cream cone at Lord's or Silly Bandz from CooleyKatz Toys, or Chocolate Chip cookie from Toll House. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or contact SmARTSunlimited at www.SmARTSunlimited.com. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First St., Livermore.

VA Burial Benefits. There will be a special seminar to discuss VA Burial Benefits only available to Veterans. This is a free presentation sponsored by VFW Post 6298. All veterans and spouses are invited. Please join us at the Pleasanton VFW Hall, 301 Main St. Pleasanton. August 13 at 8:30 a.m. Refreshments will be served.

Losing sight? We can help you adjust. There will be a monthly meeting of the Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind on Saturday, August 13, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. We meet in Cafeteria Room 2 at Valley Memorial Hospital in Livermore, 1111 East Stanley Blvd. A lady from Wheels will talk to us about the new company that is now running paratransit. Any visually impaired or blind person is urged to attend. Call, Carl, 449-9362 for more info.

Hike & Thrive, Oak Hill Tour, Saturday, August 20, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm. Four ten acre parcels under threat of development for more than twenty years have recently been protected by Save Mount Diablo. Guided tour to learn about our new property Oak Hill. Located on the slopes of North Peak less than a 1/4 mile from SMD's Viera-North Peak and Wright Canyon, the property rises from 960' to 1240' and supports a diversity of habitat types. A steep ravine cuts through the center of the property and is flanked by a locally rare blue oak/narrowleaf goldenbush - juniper plant association. Chaparral rises from Wright Canyon onto the property across the Mount Diablo Meridian (Oak Hill's

southern boundary) providing habitat for rare flora and fauna. The hike is a short 2 miles with some cross country and short steeper sections, a total of 280' elevation gain/loss. Leader: Dick Heron herondick@comcast.net for more info. Meet at the Clayton park-n-ride (corner of Peacock Creek Dr. and Clayton Rd.) to consolidate vehicles. Bring plenty of water. Wear a hat and sunscreen.

English tutoring. The Pleasanton Public Library needs adult volunteers to provide free English tutoring to adults who want to improve reading, writing, and English conversation skills. New volunteer training is Aug. 27 from 1 to 4 p.m. Adults come to the library's literacy program - Project Read - with a variety of goals. They want to learn to read to their children, communicate with their children's teachers, meet their neighbors, take the GED, or improve their job skills. Tutors have flexible hours and meet with their student once a week. Tutor qualifications are: At least 18 years old, average reading and writing skills, and interest in helping another adult. No teaching experience is required. Please call to register for the Project Read orientation. For more information, email pjohnson@ci.pleasanton.ca.us or call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

Free Diabetes Class. Pleasanton Public Library, Tuesdays August 16 - Sept. 13, 6-8 pm. This 5 week series will teach you how to manage your Type 2 diabetes or Pre Diabetes, eat the foods you love, how and why to check your blood sugar, medications, exercise and more! New series in Hayward, Dublin and Pleasanton, evening classes available. Please call the Alameda County Public Health Diabetes Program at 510-383-5185 for more information and to register.

7th Tri-Valley Vegetarian Potluck, Saturday, August 13, 2011 from 1pm to 4pm. This event will allow Tri-Valley residents to share and enjoy delicious plant-based foods and listen to 2 guest speakers talk about the relationship between food, health and the environment. There will also be a food demo presentation. Participation is open to everyone. The San Ramon Library is located at 100 Montgomery St. in San Ramon. For further information, persons can call 925-989-1811 and/or view www.ThriveHolistic.com for potluck guidelines.

Girls Night Out (GNON) event remembers the victims of 9-11. GNON will be partnering with Pleasanton Military Families in receiving donations to send to the troops overseas. GNON is a social networking group open to all women in the valley looking to meet new friends and have fun in an informal setting. Meeting Wed., Aug. 24, 5 to 8 p.m. at Hairlights Salon - 4307 Valley Avenue, Pleasanton (in the shopping center on Santa Rita/Valley Ave.). \$10/for members; \$15/for non members. Includes heavy appetizers. No host bar available. Contact Frances Hewitt at (925) 487-4748 or visit www.gnontrivalley.com for more details

Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment (Tri-Valley CAREs) was founded in 1983 in Livermore, California by concerned neighbors living around the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, one of two locations where all US nuclear weapons are designed. Tri-Valley CAREs monitors nuclear weapons and environmental clean-up activities throughout the US nuclear weapons complex, with a special focus on Livermore Lab and the surrounding communities. All are welcome at monthly meeting at the Livermore Civic Center Library Thursday, August 18th from 7:30pm to 9pm. For more information call Tri-Valley CAREs at (925) 443-7148 or visit our website at <http://trivalleycares.org>

The Writing Club. Young Adults, ages 12- 21, are invited to join The Writing Club at the Livermore Public Library, Civic Center. The Writing Club will meet once a month on Thursdays, September 1, October 6, November 3, and December 1, 2011, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm, for an evening of writing with author J.L. Powers! There is no charge to join. Take writing a step further by learning about publishing and how to expand writing horizons. For more information, please visit TEEN SPACE on the library's website: www.livermorelibrary.net, or contact Sandy at 925-373-5500 extension 5583.

1st Annual CYO Golf Tournament to be held Friday, September 16, 2011, at Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore. A shotgun start will begin at 1:00 p.m. \$120.00 per player

with a banquet dinner included. Dinner only guests - \$35.00. Sponsors are needed, as well - \$100.00 per tee. Raffle prizes as well as per hole contests. Reserve a spot today! Looking for foursomes or we can match you up that day. For more information, please contact Norma Jean via email at njfromindy@yahoo.com.

Disaster Preparedness Fair, September 22, 2011, 4 to 8 p.m. at Carnegie Park, Livermore. Held in conjunction with the Livermore Farmers' Market.

Vineyard Alternative Elementary / Middle School, is a Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District run Independent Study program for grades 1-8. The school is currently accepting enrollment for the 2011-2012 school year. A Parent Orientation meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at 4:00 pm in Room 8 at 1401 Almond Avenue, Livermore. This voluntary program is designed to assist parents who wish to instruct their children at home. The program provides, at no cost, educational materials that meet district and state framework guidelines. For more information call 925-606-4722 or visit our website at www.vineyard.schoolloop.com.

Tri-Valley Democratic Club, potluck BBQ on Sat., Aug. 20, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kolb Park in Dublin. TVDC will supply the main dishes & set up, you bring the rest. Please RSVP to SHGOLDS237@aol.com 925 831 8355 so we know how much to buy.

Drop-in Computer Tutoring. Need help with downloading E-Books from the library to your E-Reader, sending E-mail attachments, social networking, blogging, general internet questions, or ??? Help is available at the Pleasanton Library Thursday evenings 6 to 8 p.m. Questions? Ask at the Reference Desk or call 925-931-3400 (press 7 for Ref. Desk). Library programs are free and open to everyone. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 for information.

Find Our Fathers Fundraiser Friday, August 12 from 12:30 PM to 5:00 PM. Rodrigue Molyneux Estate Vineyard & Winery, 3053 Marina Ave., in Livermore, is supporting Find Our Fathers, an organization supporting families of 7 missing fishermen from the Bay Area whose boat capsized on July 3rd in the Sea of Cortez. Fundraising will support the families' efforts to hire a private search & dive team. Rodrigue Molyneux Estate Vineyard & Winery is donating 10% of net proceeds (mention this bulletin when you arrive). For more information, contact (925) 443-1998 FindOurFathers@gmail.com, or visit www.FindOurFathers.com

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA, Happy hour in Pleasanton, Aug. 18, 5 p.m., RSVP by Aug. 16 to Kathy, 398-8005. Brunch buffet breakfast in Livermore, Aug. 21, 10:45 a.m., RSVP by Aug. 19 to Hilda, 398-8808. Luncheon in Sunol, Aug. 24, 1 p.m., RSVP by Aug. 22 to Ginny, 510-656-5625. Happy hour in Castro Valley, Aug. 25, 4 p.m., RSVP by Aug. 22 to Jill, 510-881-4788. Luncheon in Dublin, Aug. 27, noon, RSVP by Aug. 24 to Marge, 828-5124. Lunch in San Ramon, Aug. 31, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by Aug. 28 to Marsha, 830-8483.

Beginners Internet Classes, four-class series to learn to surf the Internet and send emails. Absolute beginners are welcome. Classes are held at 9:00 am with a choice of Tuesday or Thursday sections. Registration is required. Reserve a spot at the Reference Desk, or call 925/931-3400, extension 7. Library programs are free and open to everyone. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 for information.

Newark High School, Class of 1971-40th Reunion on October 8, 2011 at W Hotel, Newark. Please contact Julie McKinnon at 925-487-9271 for details or see the website: <http://classcreator.com/Newark-CA-1971>.

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club invites new or long-time residents to its monthly luncheon on August 18 at Blackhawk Grill, 3540 Blackhawk Plaza Cir., Blackhawk. 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., the cost is \$21. The speaker will be Phil Ribera, a retired undercover narcotics officer from Hayward. Call Susan, 925-718-5214, for reservations or information.

Victorian Tea, Sun., Sept. 11, 1 to 4 p.m. San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon. Hosted by San Ramon Historic Foundation in honor of Ruth

Quayle Boone. \$35 per person, includes one free opportunity basket. Deadline Aug. 22. www.srhf.org/teal/

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

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA), a free Twelve Step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia. Meetings are held Wednesdays at San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church in Alamo at 9:30 am 2nd floor. For more information or a list of additional meetings throughout the U.S. and the world, call 781-932-6300 or visit: www.foodaddicts.org.

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, August 24, between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. Please join us if you can. Questions?? Call Cathe Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or kdowning@pacbell.net. www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org

Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Association hosts its Annual Summer Barbeque on Saturday, August 13 at 5:30 PM at the Ivy Glen Area, Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton. There will be a full Tri-Tip dinner, with no-host bar serving up margaritas, beer, wine, and more. Music and dancing. There will also be live and silent auctions featuring an array of fantastic items and opportunities. Price is \$30.00/person, and reservations can be made by visiting ptscsa.org. (credit cards accepted). Contact phone is Mike Terkelsen, 925-846-6463, after 3:00 PM.

Hawaiian Luau, Sat., Aug. 22, presented by the Livermore-Pleasanton Elks Lodge #2117. 5:30 p.m. Pupus and Mai Tais; 6:30 p.m. Hawaiian feast. Prepaid reservations \$18, tickets at the door \$20. 455-8829. Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore.

New Event. In addition to our Victorian tea, Ice Cream social and Children's Yuletide, Ravenswood has created a new Fall event, an old fashioned Peddlers Faire. On Sunday October 9, vendors' booths will fill the beautiful grounds between the hours of 11am and 4pm. Chairman Sandy Silva is requesting early vendor registration of quality crafts, antiques, jewelry, books, bric-a-brac, quilts, linens, photographs, paintings, ceramics, furniture and glassware. A \$25 donation will include a table with 2 chairs. Early registration is recommended. Contact Ms. Silva at silva4398@comcast.net or at 925-462-7324. Light refreshments will be provided by Victorian dressed volunteers and docents will give cottage tours.

Dress a Girl Around the World Sewing Circle, Sat., Aug. 27, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. St. Michael's Church in the Parish Hall, 300 Maple St., Livermore. Help transform 100 pillow cases into dresses for little girls in developing countries. For more information email Suzanne at suzanneslu@yahoo.com or visit <http://stm-scm.blogspot.com/p/dress-girl-around-world-sewing-project.html>.

Livermore Military Families, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. All family members are welcome to attend meetings. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information please call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com.

Adult Volunteer Case Managers, The Tri-Valley Youth Court (TVYC) needs adult volunteers to serve as case managers for the youth participating in the program. TVYC is a nonprofit diversion program working with

middle and high school youth who have been arrested for misdemeanor or lesser crimes. Please visit www.communityyouthcourts.com/Community_Youth_Courts/Volunteer_Positions.html or contact Tonya Clenney at 337-7175 or tonyaclenney@trivalleyyouthcourt.com.

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

The Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave. in Livermore and is open Mondays, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays. Buenas Vidas Youth Ranch has been running Bingo for 16 years and is now working with Livermore Charter, Christensen, Arroyo Seco, East Avenue, Livermore High and Granada High schools, Pleasanton Seahawks and All American Sports Academy Teams. Come play Bingo and support the kids in the Valley. Call 925-606-7777 for more information.

RELIGION

Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. Sunday worship. Information 447-1950.

Calvary Chapel Livermore, Sunday Services 10:30 am and 6:00 p.m. 545 N. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - www.calvalyrlivermore.org.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church, 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

United Christian Church, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worship on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820 for more information.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concanon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

Seventh-day Adventist Church, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462, services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.livermoresda.org/ All are welcome.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Bible studies for all ages, including 21 classes for adults every Sunday morning at 9:45. Worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. as well as 6 p.m. There is also a Hot Topics Bible Study on Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. while children are in Children's choir and youth are in worship and other activities. 447-1848, www.trinity-livermore.org.

Divorce Care, starts Sept. 13 at Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton. Seminar and support group; 30 minute video each session focuses on variety of topics. Meetings Mondays 7 to 9 p.m. There is a charge for the workbook and other materials of \$25. Pre-registration is required. Contact Mark Porter, 846-9693 or mporter@hotmail.com.

St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scola at 447-9800 or clairlascola@yahoo.com.