



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

Pleasanton Council Proposes to Endorse Affordable Housing Bond

The Pleasanton City Council directed staff to return with a resolution supporting Alameda County's Affordable Housing Bond initiative.

Councilmember Arne Olson proposed that the matter be agendized, where, hopefully the council would decide to endorse this bond. Councilmembers agreed

with his proposal Measure A1, on the November 8, 2016, ballot will require a two-thirds majority countywide to gain approval. In response to what is referred to as a severe shortage of housing that is affordable to lower income households in the county the Alameda County Board of Supervisors voted to place the \$580

million general obligation bond on the ballot.

The money would be divided into two pots. In the first pot, \$120 million would be placed to fund homeowner programs, such as down payment assistance loans, and home preservation loans. To allow access for middle income homebuyers looking to purchase

in high costs areas such as Pleasanton, this program would be available for households with incomes up to 150% of Area Median Income.

Median income in Alameda County for a family of four is \$97,500, for an individual, \$68,300.

(See BOND, page 4)

November Ballot Nearly Set

Local incumbents are unopposed in several races in the November 8, 2016 election.

They are Livermore Mayor John Marchand, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Board members Chuck Rogge and Chris Wenzel, and Chabot-Las Positas Community College District 5 Board member Carlo Vecchiarelli.

Also unopposed are Dublin San Ramon Services District incumbents, Dwight Howard, who filed for the short term, and Ed Duarte, Rich Halket and Madelyne Misheloff who all filed for the four year terms.

Filing for several races in the area was extended to August 17, because an incumbent did not file by the August 12 deadline.

For the Dublin City Council, Kevin Hart is termed out, so could not run.

In Pleasanton, Chris Grant did not file for reelection to the Pleasanton Unified School District Board. Greg Tomlinson will not seek re-election to the Dublin Unified School District Board.

Livermore Area Recreation and Park Board (LARPD) Director Steve Goodman did not file.

Incumbent Neil Davies was not among the candidates for the Sunol School Board. Denise Kent-Romo and Patricia Picard both qualified for the ballot.

Candidates that have qualified include BART, District 5 incumbent John McPartland who faces former Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman in his bid for re-election.

In Livermore, there are six candidates running for city council including the incumbents Stewart Gary and Laureen Turner and challengers Robert Carling, Bob Coomber, Chester Moore, and John Stein.

The City of Livermore filed its initiative that asks voters if they want to keep the former Springtown Golf Course as permanent open space. No arguments opposed were submitted.

As of Tuesday, LARPD incum-

(See BALLOT, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Sunday was the perfect day to enjoy ice cream during the annual Victorian-themed afternoon at Ravenswood Historic Site in Livermore. The Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social included games, music, historic demonstrations, a doll display, pony rides, tours of the building and more. Pictured are Everett Case, Nathaniel King, and Aden Conbrinck.

The River in My Backyard: Book Recalls Murder, Pain, Healing

By Jeff Garberson

A new memoir by a San Francisco man with Livermore roots tells a tragic story of mental illness, murder and a personal search for understanding and healing that has lasted for years.

The memoir by former Livermore resident Mikkel Aaland is titled, "The River in My Backyard." Aaland is a professional photographer as well as a writer, and the memoir is illustrated with his own photographs as well as family pictures from his family's ancestral home in Norway.

Family history plays a major role in Aaland's memoir, almost like a character in a play. "The river" of the book's title refers to the tide of family life that Aaland believes flows for everyone. What

our ancestors did long ago, far up river, affects us today; what we do now will affect our children and their children downstream.

The concept comes from a Shinto friend, Kazz Tagami, who lives in Japan, near Osaka. "Even a small drop of 'bad' upstream, like a toxin, can intensify and have far-reaching consequences downstream," he told Aaland long ago.

Aaland says he is not a devotee of any formal religion but is drawn to belief systems like Shinto and many Native American religions that tend to unite us with nature and with our ancestors. He believes the "fragmentation" that follows the loss of this unification can lead to instability and destruction.

It is hard to imagine a more fragmenting event for a family

than the one experienced by the Aalands on Dec. 11, 2004. On that day, Mikkel's father, Kris Aaland, a retired Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory engineer, was murdered -- suffocated by Mikkel's younger brother, Hans.

At first, Mikkel knew only what his mother had told him on the phone -- that his father was not moving.

Mikkel rushed to Livermore from his home in San Francisco. His father was 80, but healthy so far as Mikkel knew. Could he have had a stroke?

In Livermore, he found his parents' house sealed off with yellow tape. Police were everywhere.

The house had been Mikkel's childhood home. He graduated

(See BOOK, page 2)

TVLC Answers Financial Queries; Two Board Members Resign

By Ron McNicoll

Tri-Valley Learning Corporation (TVLC) has responded to a July 22 letter of concern sent by its supervisor, the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD). The response brings information up to date.

In another development, TVLC lost two of its six board members through resignations last weekend.

Board Secretary Kristin Kohn and member Tristan Pico resigned from the board. Contact information for Kohn was no longer valid. Pico did not return an e-mail seeking comment. Both members were advocates of more transparency and accountability.

Two Livermore Valley Charter School representatives remain on the TVLC board. They are president Scott Lessard and member Dave Goulart. The other two members, Stacy Harrison and Catherine Lewis, represent the Acacia Middle and Elementary schools in Stockton.

Although TVLC responded to the LVJUSD letter of July 22, it has not yet sent a response to a letter dated July 29, which focused on what district Chief Business Official Susan Kinder said were errors in portraying this year's beginning budget cash flow. The cash flow shows black ink in places where it should show red ink, said Kinder.

The response to the July 22 Livermore district Notice of Concern was sent by TVLC Acting CEO Lynn Lysko. In it, Lysko dealt with each of six points raised by school district Chief Business Official Susan Kinder.

One point related to a check written to Las Positas College, part of a payment plan to take care of a previously disputed outstanding debt total of \$208,000. One-half of the debt was paid upfront and monthly installments were due each month until the remainder is paid off.

The June 23 check was returned for insufficient funds on July 5. Lysko said that TVLC has since sent another check for the July payment, and sent the August pay-

(See TVLC, page 2)

Pleasanton Delays the Construction of Tennis Courts

The Pleasanton City Council voted unanimously to delay construction of two additional tennis courts at the Tennis and Community Park.

The decision by the council followed protest by neighbors of the site where the tennis courts would have been built. The green area is used by neighbors as a park.

The council directed staff to consider additional project alternatives and locations and to work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop a revised proposal. Staff was also told to remove construction fences as quickly as possible.

The majority of those speaking at last week's council meeting said they were not opposed to tennis or having more courts, just not in the selected location. Many said they first learned of the plan to build the tennis courts when the construction fences went up on July 21. Upon finding that they would lose the green area, they organized a drive to stop the project.

The neighbors added that they had received no notification of the proposed plan. While sports and community organizations were involved in the planning, neighbors were not represented.

On the other side of the issue,

(See TENNIS, page 2)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Families arrived at Alamo Creek Park in Dublin with sleeping bags, tents, chairs and flashlights to take part in a campout. A campfire with entertainment was just one of the activities that included group games, arts and crafts and s'mores. For more photos, go to page 8.

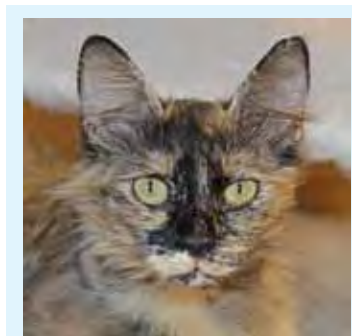
LARPD Budget Shows 7% Increase

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District board approved the 2016-2017 Final Operating Budget and the 2016-2019 Final Capital Improvement Plan Budget.

This year's budget shows a \$1.3 million or 7 percent increase over the 2015-2016 budget. The budget includes a 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment for all classification ranges. Revenues and expenditures are balanced at \$20,175,344.

The Board also approved the 2016-2019 Final Capital Improvement Plan Budget, which includes

(See LARPD, page 2)



PET OF THE WEEK

Adopt Hoda today and share all your tomorrows with this fun-loving, affectionate tortoiseshell. One-year-old Hoda has medium-length fur and a striking look that gives her a certain mystique. Visit Hoda at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, Tuesday through Saturday from 10am - 4pm. For more information, visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656. Photo - Valley Humane Society/K. Jacoby

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BOOK

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ed from Livermore High School in 1970, having discovered and nurtured his interest in photography during his senior year with encouragement from The Independent's photographer, Bill Owens. He majored in photojournalism at Cal State Chico, where he was an all-American swimmer for four years, including two on a national championship team.

Years later, he would write in his memoir that his tape-wrapped parents' home looked like "a gigantic Christmas present from the devil." When he got there, however, he could only react with stunned disbelief to what he learned from his mother. His father was not only dead, but murdered — and his brother had left a note of confession.

Could Hans really have done it? It was no surprise that he was eccentric. He often rode around town on a 12-foot unicycle and spouted passages from the Bible. In family gatherings he was sometimes tense, even aggressive. But homicidal?

In time, Mikkel's disbelief gave way to soul searching. How could it have happened? What could have driven Hans to it?

Should he be angry, or forgiving? How could he interact with Hans? How should he feel about their father, not always an easy man to get along with?

Above all, he wondered, could there be a disturbance in the family mental profile that might threaten the health of future generations, starting with his daughters, Ana and Miranda?

Aaland sees the writing

of his memoir as an act of "atonement," by which he means something more than seeking and offering forgiveness. As time passed, he found himself trying "to reassemble the pieces that had been broken apart... to bring wholeness back to something that was really shattered and broken."

It did not happen quickly. The idea of a book did not occur for several years, and even then it took a year of living in the family's ancestral home in Norway before he could feel close enough to his past and present family to start.

He wrote more than a dozen drafts, at first emphasizing photography more than text. He realized he had to face up to his father's death after his wife noted that the early drafts did not seem to be doing so.

The passing years had ups and downs. He feels that he and the book evolved together, along with them. "It wasn't like I experienced (the murder) and then wrote the book. I was writing the book and at the same time I was experiencing life."

He and his family spent a year in Norway, where he inherited and worked on the old family home. There were regular trips back and forth to San Francisco. In 2009, he nearly died of a bleeding ulcer. It took the better part of two years to regain his strength. In 2011, he visited Hans, still considered unfit for trial and confined to Gladman Mental Health Rehabilitation Center in Oakland. The visit did not go well for either of them.

His mother died the fol-

lowing year. The service for her was held at Callaghan Mortuary, the Livermore establishment where Kris's service was held nearly eight years earlier.

Although it arose out of another family death, the service represented a turning point for the Aalands. Hans

'Second Skin' Protects Soldiers

In work that aims to protect soldiers from biological and chemical threats, a team of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory scientists has created a material that is highly breathable yet protects against biological agents.

This material is the first key component of futuristic smart uniforms that also will respond to and protect from environmental chemical hazards. The research appears in the July 27 edition of the journal, *Advanced Materials*.

High breathability is a critical requirement for protective clothing to prevent heat-stress and exhaustion when military personnel are engaged in missions in contaminated environments. Current protective military uniforms are based on heavyweight full-barrier protection or permeable adsorptive protective garments. They cannot meet the critical demand of simultaneous high comfort and protection, and provide a passive rather than active response to an environmental threat.

The LLNL team fabricated flexible polymeric membranes with aligned carbon nanotube (CNT) channels as moisture conductive pores. The size of these pores (less

than 5 nanometers, nm) is 5,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair. Ngoc Bui, the lead author of the paper, explained, "We demonstrated that these membranes provide rates of water vapor transport that surpass those of commercial breathable fabrics like GoreTex."

To provide high breathability, the new composite material takes advantage of the unique transport properties of carbon nanotube pores.

Membranes provide protection from biological agents due to their very small pore size. Performed tests demonstrated that the CNT membranes repelled Dengue virus from aqueous solutions during filtration tests. This confirms that LLNL-developed CNT membranes provide effective protection from biological threats by size exclusion rather than by

merely preventing wetting. Furthermore, the results show that CNT pores combine high breathability and bio-protection in a single functional material.

However, chemical agents are much smaller in size and require the membrane pores to be able to react to block the threat. To encode the membrane with a smart and dynamic response to small chemical hazards, LLNL scientists and collaborators are surface modifying these prototype carbon nanotube membranes with chemical-threat-responsive functional groups. These functional groups will sense and block the threat like gatekeepers on the pore entrance. A second response scheme also is in development. Similar to how a living skin peels off when challenged with dangerous external factors, the fabric

will exfoliate upon reaction with the chemical agent.

Kuang Jen Wu, leader of the LLNL Biosecurity & Bionanosciences Group, commented, "The material will be like a smart second skin that responds to the environment." Current work is directed toward designing this multifunctional material to undergo a rapid transition from the breathable state to the protective state.

"These responsive membranes are expected to be particularly effective in mitigating a physiological burden because a less breathable but protective state can be actuated locally and only when needed," said Francesco Fornasiero, LLNL's principal investigator of the project.

The new uniforms could be deployed in the field in less than 10 years.

TVLC

(continued from page one)

ment on Aug. 1.

On another point, all payments to medical and retirement counts are up to date.

Lysko said that TVLC was late with its payment to LVJUSD for its supervision fee, which was due May 12. She explained, "With the departure of the the financial division of TVLC, many needs were not addressed or discussed, and communication was minimal with former employees." When TVLC did learn it owed the fee to LVJUSD, it paid on June 9, said Lysko.

TVLC was also late with lease payments, but has since delivered payments for May, June and July. "TVLC continues to honor all financial obligations," said Lysko.

Addressing delinquent vendor payments, Lysko said that there was a combination of former financial staff approving "expenditures over budget, and the lack of monitoring of each school site." There apparently was no follow-through on collecting debts, including \$300,000 in state nutrition

services money that was not sent by the state to TVLC.

Lysko said that the LVJUSD statement that included the state's rejection of last year's TVLC audit, it's true TVLC did receive a notice of it July 14. However, as of July 28, Lysko stated that the audit issue has been resolved. The resolution commits TVLC to using a system of tracking Common Core funding expenditures.

Finally, TVLC owes \$107,000 on delinquent

taxes on 18 delinquent properties, not \$283,000 on 23 delinquent properties alleged by LVJUSD, said Lysko.

Lysko lists the steps TVLC is taking to clean up the fiscal situation. It includes hiring CSMC as its financial office, using new software to keep close tabs on revenue and expenditures, starting a system that monitors all four schools, and other measures.

LARPD

(continued from page one)

\$8,155,137 in total expenditures. The 2016-2017 fiscal year spending is set at \$1,975,136.

On July 27, the Board approved \$4,593,000 in additional appropriations for four playgrounds that were incorporated into the plan. Playground renovations will take place at May Nissen, Big Trees and Pleasure Island parks, as well as Jane Addams Preschool. The next phase includes final design and specifications, bid documents and permits. Other key projects included in the budget are the Gara-

venta Wetlands Preserve, the Springtown Open Space Master Plan and repairs/renovations of capital assets.

Director David Furst noted that while the district has approved an aggressive set of projects that include funding, there has been difficulty in completing them. He suggested that perhaps the district had taken on too much. He wanted staff to look at its workload and determine what would be feasible in building projects each year.

Board President Steve Goodman asked that staff prepare a timetable of the

process as it relates to the playground renovations.

In other action, the Board will hold a public "How Can Our Parks Serve You Better?" meeting at William (Bill) J. Payne Park at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17. Citizens can learn about current LARPD projects and provide feedback and suggestions regarding Bill Payne Park or any other District facility or program. A representative from the Livermore Police Department has been invited to answer additional questions. Bill Payne Park is located at 5800 Patterson Pass Road.

TENNIS

(continued from page one)

Leonard Cooper, a member of the tennis committee involved in the planning, said they had spent a lot of time on the plan. "We need these courts and we deserve these courts."

He noted that despite efforts of the tennis community, no courts were included in the Bernal Park Master Plan.

The Tennis and Community Park, located at 5801 Valley Ave, was master planned in 1985 to include 12 tennis courts. Ten courts were originally constructed when the Park was built in 1994. The remaining two

courts were put on hold. In 2012, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was updated and contained the design for the final phase of the two additional courts. As part of any Master Plan update, workshops are held to survey the community. In 2014, the City Council adopted the completed Master Plan, and on June 21, 2016, the City Council voted to approve the contract and award \$494,353 for the construction and landscaping of two tennis courts.

Mayor Jerry Thorne commented that he wasn't

comfortable deciding where the two courts should go.

Councilmember Kathy Narum noted that everyone understands this is a tennis park. "No one said don't build the courts. They just want them in a different location. I know we need two more courts." She said that staff should go back and look at different options and assess the cost of each.

Councilmember Karla Brown, who identified herself as the only tennis player on the council, said, "Let's get it right. Make sure we have good feedback on all the options."

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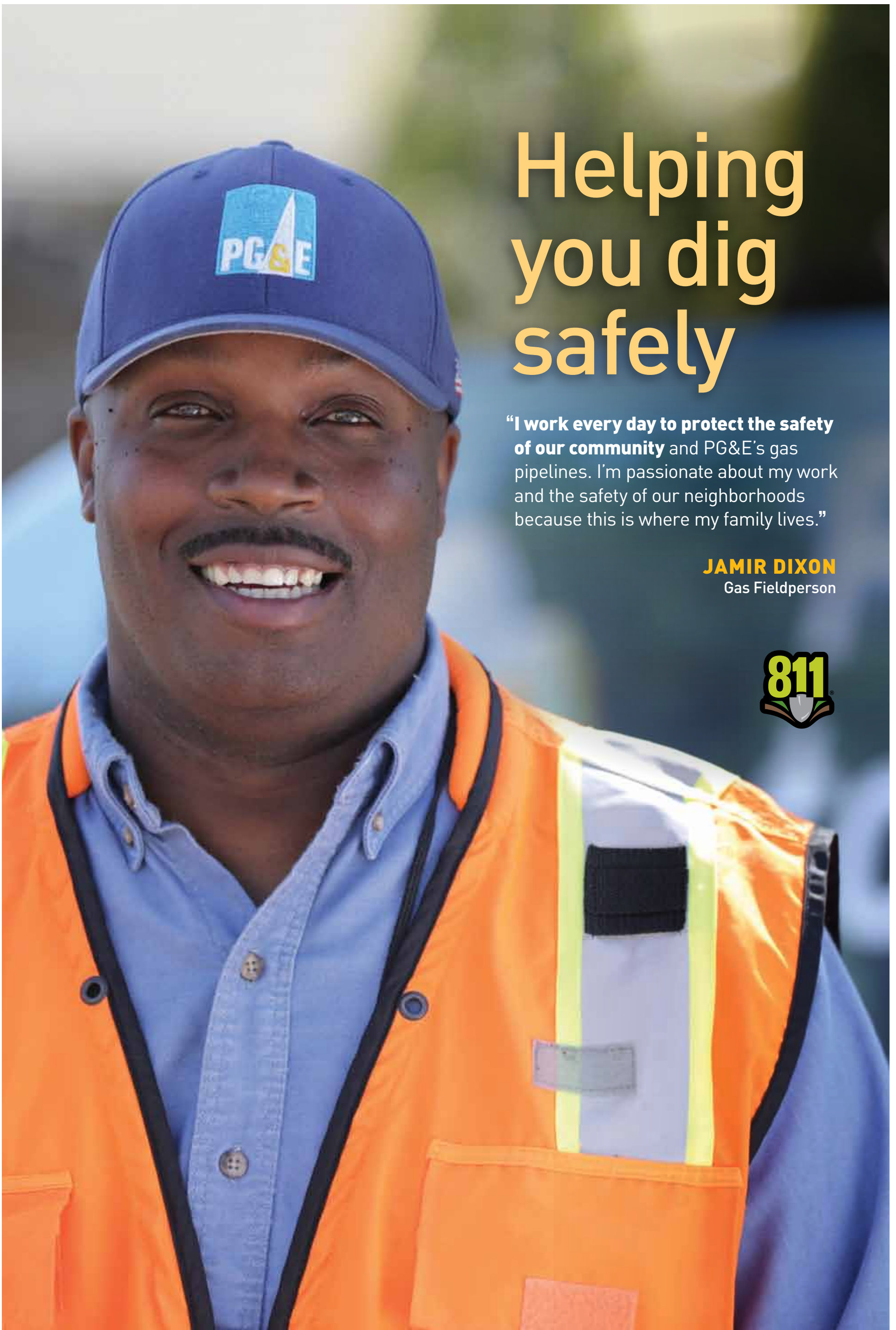
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EDITORIAL

Gary, Turner and Marchand Not Listening

At the Livermore City Council meeting last week, speaker after speaker asked for less housing and more open space in the proposed Downtown Development. Two councilmembers heard them. Steve Spedowski proposed a motion to limit the Lennar residential units to half or less, a motion that Bob Woerner seconded. However, Councilmembers Stewart Gary and Laureen Turner, and Mayor John Marchand voted the measure down.

Gary, Turner and Marchand said that they were not ready to decide on the appropriate number of units. They wanted more data from new studies they authorized that night, studies that will take four to five months to complete.

On the other hand, Woerner said that he heard really loudly that there is way too much housing on the 8-acre site. Spedowski said that he wanted to make sure that the community understands that the Council has heard them. He did not want the studies to come back with data that supports what the community does not want.

Gary, Turner and Marchand ignored these points. Instead, they tried to look very responsible as they directed the staff to conduct a series of analyses with broad parameters. These studies will take the decision on the downtown plan beyond the fall election.

This November, voters should look for council candidates who will listen to the citizens, candidates to replace the incumbents who do not.

BALLOT

(continued from page one)

bent Beth Wilson faces two challengers, Jan Palajac and John Kibbe.

Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne will have one challenger, Julie Testa. For the two seats on the city council, incumbents Karla Brown and Jerry Pentin, and planning commissioner Herb Ritter are on the ballot.

The City of Pleasanton also filed the initiative aimed at preventing big box stores, such as Costco, from locating within the Johnson Drive Economic Zone.

PUSD incumbents Valerie Arkin and Jamie Hintzke have qualified to run. Potential candidates are former board member Kathleen Ruegsegger and Steve Maher. They had until close of day August 17 to complete the filing process.

Dublin Mayor David Haubert has one opponent, Shawn Costello. Filing for council were incumbent Doreen Wahrenberg, and challengers Mona Lisa Ballersteros, Melisa Hernandez Smith, and Arun Goel.

Dublin Unified School District, with three four year seats and one two year seat open, lists seven candidates. Running for the short term are Dan Cherrier and incumbent Sameer Hakim. Four year term candidates are Gabrielle Blackman, Joe Giannini and Xiaozhao Zhuang and incumbents Dan Cunningham and Amy Miller.

Ed Maduli will take on incumbent William Macedo for the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District 7 seat.

TESTA TO CHALLENGE MAYOR THORNE

Julie Testa has announced plans to run for Pleasanton Mayor against incumbent Jerry Thorne this November. Testa says, "It's all about our Q!"

"As Pleasanton mayor, I will promote a different perspective of Pleasanton's Quality of Life issues: to stop excessive development, to collaborate with the school district in addressing overcrowding in

our schools, to ease traffic congestion, to plan ahead for water shortages due to recurring drought, and to avoid irreversible impacts to our historic downtown. I am committed to really listen to the people of Pleasanton and to understand your concerns."

Testa has served on Pleasanton's Human Services Commission for 11 years. She has worked with students at Las Positas College, the board of NAMI Tri-Valley (National Alliance on Mental Illness), and on local nonprofit boards including the board of directors for Tri-Valley REACH (Resources Education Activities Community and Housing).

PLEASANTON SCHOOL BOARD

Kathleen Ruegsegger, a Pleasanton resident for nearly 30 years, announced her candidacy for the Pleasanton Unified School District Board of Trustees, leveraging her nearly 20 years of experience working as a staff member in K-12 education and her three years as a Pleasanton school board member (1990-1993).

Ruegsegger believes the district can maintain its current excellence by increasing its connection with the community's ambitions for its children. She supports transparency and specificity in district reporting and communications and will seek more collaboration between the city and district to find shared projects that maximize tax dollars while greatly benefiting Pleasanton residents. Ruegsegger also recently addressed the Pleasanton board pointing to the need for at least one new elementary school.

Ruegsegger stated, "This is a pivotal time to serve as a trustee with a new superintendent and key staff members in order to expand the momentum of the past year. This is a role I can easily step into. The point where we reach for the next level of excellence, from curriculum to facilities, is while we are already at the top."

BOND

(continued from page one)

The remaining \$460 million would go to a rental housing development fund to support new construction and preservation of existing affordable units targeted to low income residents. It would include an innovation and opportunity fund that could be used for activities such as land and market rate unit acquisition.

According to Michelle Starratt from the county, there is an estimated shortage of 60,911 units for low and extremely low income households in the county. With 80% of those paying more than 30% for rent and 52% paying more than 50%, an impact on the economy occurs. Discretionary income is the key to a vibrant economy, she stated. "Every city needs low income housing."

The average property in the county is assessed at \$400,000. At \$12 to \$14 million per \$100,000 assessed value, the average cost to property owners to pay off the bond would be \$45 to \$60 a year.

Under the Housing Program, Pleasanton would be eligible for a base allocation of \$13.7 million in funds for rental housing development projects, and would have access to an additional \$27 million regional rental development funding pool for East County, which includes Livermore and Dublin.

Pleasanton would be able to leverage local funding for down payment assistance and home rehabilitation in conjunction with other County homeownership program funds.

The bonds are expected

to be 20 year bonds in several issuances over an approximate six year period, so some amount of the bonds will be outstanding for approximately 26 years.

During the public hearing, Suguna Vepa, a board member of the Housing Consortium of the East Bay, told the council the bonds would provide much needed funds to be used to provide housing for the developmentally disabled, those with mental issues, and the homeless, among others. As an example of the need, she said that her disabled daughter had to wait 5 years in order to find affordable housing.

Clara Chow, a social worker at Pleasanton Gardens, pointed out that in the 12 years she has worked there, the waiting list was

opened only once. Two hundred applications were received. She added that the waiting list will open up any time soon.

Christine Stiener, a long time affordable housing advocate from Pleasanton, said since she moved here 50 years ago, Pleasanton has become a wealthier town. Few of those who moved here then could afford to buy a home in Pleasanton today.

She said that she advocates for affordable housing, "If you don't have stable housing, you don't have stable communities. I know there are sofa surfers in my neighborhood, because they can't find anywhere they can afford to live. Companies can't hire workers, because they can't afford to live here. It's a Bay Area problem. The bond is a drop in the bucket."

College, ACE Partner to Provide Free Easy Pass for Students

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), operator of the Wheels bus system, has formed a new partnership with ACE rail and Las Positas College (LPC) to make access to the college quick and easy for students. The partnership includes a free Easy Pass for students valid on all Wheels bus routes - including the new Rapid route serving the college every 15 minutes throughout the day and linking students to BART and ACE rail.

To complement the Easy Pass, ACE rail service is

offering a 50% discount on the monthly fare and the 20-ride fare for LPC students. The Easy Pass and ACE rail discount will run through the summer of 2017.

"The partnership is a game changer for the college," said LPC President Barry Russell. "Nearly 9,000 students will have improved travel options. The college community will benefit from less traffic congestion and parking problems."

Once students are on board the Rapid, they simply show the bus operator their valid LPC student ID, which

functions as the Easy Pass.

"Why drive to Las Positas College?" asks Steven Spedowski, Chair of the Wheels Board of Directors. "With a great looking Rapid bus coming every 15 minutes on campus the connection with BART and ACE trains is quick and convenient. A student doesn't have the parking hassles and expenses. In fact, the options expand as to what can be accomplished during the commute."

ACE rail serves stops in Stockton, Lathrop/Manteca, and Tracy before stopping

at the downtown Livermore Transit Center Train.

"With one-third of Las Positas students commuting from San Joaquin County, this is a partnership that makes a lot of sense. Imagine saving over \$72 on a monthly pass from Tracy to LPC," commented ACE Chair, Bob Johnson.

For more information on the partnership, including the Las Positas College Easy Pass and the 50% discount for Las Positas College students on ACE rail, visit www.wheelsbus.com.

MAILBOX

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

How Much Parking Glenn Stewart Livermore

It appears Livermore residents are pushing back on the City Council's Lennar downtown development plan regarding the number of high-rise condos, the minimal amount of open space, the location of the hotel and parking.

Whatever the final decision is for residential condos, the hotel and more open space (town square, anyone?)... a public parking garage needs to be erected first. How big should the parking structure be?

On Friday, Aug 5 @ 6:45 p.m., I counted the number of parked cars on the development site... approx. 535 vehicles were parked and people were driving up and down rows looking for a spot. Vehicles were entering from L St., Railroad Ave, and Livermore Ave.

With a 135 room hotel and hotel staff (150 parking spaces) and handicap parking spaces (15)... the numbers suggest Livermore needs a 700+ vehicle public parking garage. The City backed plan says 550 public parking spaces in a 5 level structure. The Community Group says 630 public parking spaces in a 3.5 story garage.

Location. Location. Location. The latest Lennar proposal has the parking garage centered behind the Ale House with a driveway entrance/exit on L Street behind Valley Gas. Can you image 700 vehicles entering and exiting the parking garage on a single driveway? And if you look closely at the site plan, the driveway stops at the parking garage. How are the businesses from

the Ale House to the Indian restaurant going to get their deliveries? There's no access for emergency vehicles or waste pickup.

Suggestion: build a parking garage at the corner of L Street and Railroad Ave with an entrance on L Street and an exit on Railroad Ave (right turn only). This location means that the open space walkways or town square area would actually be used by people walking to their destinations.

My online research said that the number of parking spaces is based on an acre of land (43,560 sf). For example, a parking structure footprint of 180 feet by 242 feet is approximately an acre. An average parking space is 9 feet wide and 18 feet long. By the time the parking garage lanes are added and cars are parked on a diagonal... roughly 160 vehicles can park on one level (one acre). Livermore would need a 4.5 story parking garage for 700 vehicles.

At the community meetings it sounds like 4 or 5 stories is too high for a parking garage that would dominate the existing nearby buildings. If the vote was for a 2.5 story parking structure, then a building footprint twice the land size is needed. There may be a solution that City Council can look into... robotic parking. Ron Acciaioli spoke about robotic parking at the Aug 8 community meeting.

Check out www.roboticparking.com. This company says that a robotic parking system can reduce the land area required for parking by 50% as compared to a conventional ramp-style garage... or, park twice as many cars in the same amount of space as the typical conventional garage either above ground or below ground.

There's a chart (under the Solutions tab... For Developers) that shows the construction / development costs for a conventional garage as compared to a Robotic Parking System. Developers increase ROI by lowering the cost per space. In their example, it would cost \$8 million for 400 cars in a conventional garage

(\$47,000 per space)... and in a robotic parking garage, the cost is \$21.25 million for 850 cars (\$38,000 per space).

In the coming years, everybody might be happy that an 850 vehicle parking garage was built in 2017-2018.

Why The Depot Must Be Moved Alan Frank Livermore

Forty years ago the tracks of the original Transcontinental Railroad were pulled up through downtown Livermore. The old railroad depot on L Street was thus left behind without its historic calling. The Livermore Heritage Guild was formed in 1973 to preserve the depot and was successful in preventing its demolition. However, in all these years they were not able to achieve their dream of restoration and conversion to a history museum.

Initially the Depot was modified to serve as a restaurant, which failed after a couple of years. The historically incorrect modifications covered or destroyed much of the original fabric of the Depot. Since then it was owned by a real estate company and there have been a number tenants, further modifications, but virtually no maintenance to the structure. It subsequently came into the ownership of the Redevelopment District. With the Governor's dismantling of the Redevelopment District, ownership was transferred to the City. Efforts began to find funding to preserve the building as soon as the Depot came under City ownership. The only source to emerge has been through the historic component of federal transportation funding. The project now underway will restore it to look like it did when it was in service and return it to service as the ACE and LAVTA depot.

The Heritage Guild expressed its preference not to move the Depot from the spot where it was built. However, a quote from a letter to the City Engineer in 2014, "The Guild supports the restoration and relocation of the depot as described by the current City plan and looks forward to collaborating with the City

on the project". That letter also requested, "that the City erect a historical marker at the original location". Placing the Depot back into its historic service as a depot, may override concerns about placing it on the National Register of Historic Places. Moving and reorientation of a building may be acceptable if it allows the building to be returned to its historic service. The Depot is not now eligible for the Register because of the significant non-historic additions and changes. To me not moving the Depot on the grounds that it might in the future become eligible is not acceptable. Between tenants the Depot has become a hang out for the homeless. Homeless squatters have in the past and continue to pose a real threat to its very existence. The trade off seems to be a guaranteed future versus the possibility of loosing the depot entirely.

Officially this project has now been awarded Federal Surface Transportation Program funds through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Transportation for Livable Communities grant. The only caveat to these funds is the building must be placed back into transportation service. The funds cannot be used to turn the depot into a museum, a coffee shop on L Street or any non-transportation use. To return the Railroad Depot to depot service, it needs to be in the transit center and next to the tracks. In over forty years of failed business uses, no other successful application or funding has been forthcoming. Sadly without maintenance the Depot has seen much decay and will continue to decay if nothing is done quickly. Neither the City by itself, a perspective site developer nor a well-intentioned community group are likely to afford the considerable costs of removing the ill-conceived additions and repairing the considerable damage. Since it is impossible to bring the tracks back to the Depot, it must be moved back to the tracks for it to survive in the long term.

(More MAILBOX, page 6)

THE Independent

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ValleyCare

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

We Have a Problem
Maryann Brent
Livermore

Hello Livermore Residents! We have a problem.

Have you looked at Lennar's site plan for development of the huge gravel parking lot on Railroad Avenue and the lot adjacent to the Bankhead? (<http://www.cityoflivermore.net/citygov/cedd/downtown/overview.htm>) You really should.

Mayor John Marchand and Council members Stu Gary and Laureen Turner voted against the motion of council members Steve Spedowski and Bob Woerner to cut the 260 residential units by half or more before beginning parking, traffic, retail and environmental studies. The way forward to develop this tract is not going smoothly.

Between 200 and 400 people have attended City Council meetings (May 23, August 1, and August 8) and the July 14 workshop where this issue was on the agenda. At all of these meetings, the preponderance of audience members raised their hands repeatedly to complain about the Lennar plan. While spokespersons for local interest groups (The Chamber of Commerce, Livermore Downtown, Inc., Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association and Innovation Tri-Valley) favor the Lennar plan just as it is, hundreds of meeting attendees vehemently disagree.

Why? People want Lennar's condo canyon housing to go somewhere else. This 8+-acres should establish Livermore as a destination, a town square. If any housing is included, it should be luxury housing, and retail should be luxury retail, reflecting the importance of the space.

Many made heartfelt pleas for the benefits of open space instead of the current mass of concrete and 5-story parking lots. The Lennar plan crams too much into the space without thoughtfulness about pedestrian flow, vehicular traffic flow, trash pickup and deliveries.

While the City is obliged to spend our tax dollars responsibly, they have not looked sufficiently for streams of funding outside those coming from Lennar. The Livermore community is not satisfied with the Lennar plan and has offered alternatives, which the City has not acknowledged. They include moving the \$5 million to be spent on the new council chambers near City Hall to the downtown project. Later, the increased sales and property tax increases from the hotel and other proposed downtown projects could be used to finance new council chambers.

The City is following the Downtown Specific Plan, which includes a large area on the Lucky site for the lost 2000-seat theater - lost because of the state's cancellation of redevelopment funds. The Downtown Specific Plan should be updated for current needs. The City seems to be thinking short term, while tax payers are taking the long view.

Livermore residents, do you want our downtown to be Dublinized?

Misleading Headline
Mayor John Marchand
City of Livermore

Anyone who only read the last week's Independent masthead headline would have come away with a vastly different impression than what really happened. The truth is, the Council majority heard loud and clear from the community that they wanted less housing in the draft downtown plan. That

is why the Council majority directed City staff to look at all options "ranging from none to the proposed 260 units." The Council majority did initially vote "no" to a motion which would have arbitrarily cut the housing numbers in half with no data behind it. Readers had to turn the page to get the real facts that the City Council provided clear direction to staff to reduce the number of housing units and expand the planning area.

The Independent also published a statement from the "Ad Hoc Community Group" on July 28 that stated, "It was evident that the City was not interested in the input from the residents" since the plan was not changed after the July 14 workshop when the housing numbers of both the City and the Ad Hoc plans were nearly identical.

Quite the contrary, the City Council did listen to the public. However, unlike the Ad Hoc group, the City Council must, by law, conduct all of its deliberations in public. The Council cannot simply meet behind closed doors like the Ad Hoc group did when it removed their six-plus story hotel and subtracted housing units from their rendering.

The Councilmembers read through all eight hundred pages of comments and then held two nights of additional public comment on August 1st and August 8th because we do care what the public has to say. August 8th was the Council's first opportunity to meet and discuss the results in public. It was only then that the Council could deliberate and only after developing consensus, could they provide direction to staff to collect more data to modify the draft plan, reduce the housing, add more parking, seek additional funding options and partnerships to ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of any project.

The current Lennar draft proposal was submitted in response to a Request for Proposal (RFP) from the City recognizing the desire for additional parking, a hotel and some housing in keeping with the approved Downtown Specific Plan (DSP). The DSP was also developed after a great deal of public input in 2004 and in 2009. Ironically, at that time the Council heard widespread support for over 400 housing units on this same site when they were part of the now defunct plan for a regional theater.

The RFP was for a "market-supported" strategy, which ensured that a plan which included parking, a hotel and some housing would be financially viable and ultimately be built. The City is not making any money on this. From the beginning, it was understood that there would be modifications based upon public input and the availability of funding to pay for and maintain the desired public amenities. For example, we heard the demand for additional parking as soon as possible so the plan sought to build the parking first. Some commenters have asked for all parking to be underground and continue to be free. However, with an estimated cost of \$50 million, that means that new sources of funding would need to be identified if that were to move forward.

The Council heard you loud and clear but we have to go through the public process and we need good data to ensure that the City can afford whatever gets built. Livermore is a great place to live and raise a family. This Council is committed

to keeping it that way and we will continue to work with the community to do just that.

Thank You
Susan Houghton
President, Board of Directors
Sunflower Hill

We owe a very special thank you to so many people in our community who support Sunflower Hill and our vision for a residential community and vocational programs for individuals with special needs.

Our recent gala, Moonlight in the Vines, was an absolute success. We raised more than \$80,000 thanks to our sponsors, donors and attendees. Special thanks to the Independent for being a platinum sponsor and promoting our event and then reporting on our very special surprise gift of an additional \$500,000 from Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty.

With our abundant Sunflower Hill Gardens at Hagemann Ranch and our proposed residential community for 45 individuals on First Street, we are excited about what the future holds. Thank you Livermore for embracing our organization and for making a difference for local residents with developmental delays/special needs!

Downtown Livermore
Chelle Clements
Livermore

Livermore is not San Francisco East. Livermore is a great city with different values, and most people living here do not want to be living on top of each other like they do in SF. I like being able to enjoy the First Street amenities...and it is getting more difficult to find parking.

Livermore wanted a great downtown and now they are feeling the pinch of "inner city parking blues." 260 housing units with 500 parking spaces for the units and the local businesses will not work. 260 units will need at least 520 spots (many homes in my neighborhood have 3 cars each). Are the downtown businesses counting on that parking structure to provide parking for their businesses? Or are the occupants of the 260 units going to be the sole users of the downtown? New housing already abounds near downtown, we need more open space...parks are the lungs of a city.

It has been interesting to watch the downtown development process, and more interesting to watch the councilmembers faces while people spoke against the plan...so attentive and yet I do not think they really heard what people were saying (especially people who do not want the development). A few years ago BART was a major factor in the city council election. This year it may well be how the council voted on the downtown development and what the new applicants for the open positions are saying that is a factor.

No Place for Apartments
Pat Caldeira
Livermore

I have lived in Livermore for over 60 years. I loved it from the beginning. The beautiful hills, vineyards, rodeo, and the great small town atmosphere.

I think the vineyards, and wine country feel is important, and the downtown has changed to be so pleasant, with the small town feeling.

(continued on page 8)

SPORTS NOTES



Pictured, from left top photo, are bocce team members Gerald Gilligan and Dario and Joey Bernardi; (lower photo) Margaret Shields, Laura la Rosa, Jean Godin and Navina Bernardi.

Bocce Teams Shine

Not only did Navina Bernardi place 4th in the world Bocce Championships held in Rome this past year, but she and her team, Campo di Bocce of Livermore, won a silver medal in the 2016 US Bocce Championships --- just completed at Campo di Bocce in Livermore.

Along with her teammates Laura de La Rosa, Jean Godin and Margaret Shindelus, the group of 4 took second place in the Women's Punto, Raffa, Volo competition, qualifying the Livermore team to compete in the PanAm Friendly games to be held in Methuen, MA (Boston area) and in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (USA vs. Argentina & Brazil).

This 2016 United States Bocce Championships drew over 190 players from across the US, so the competition was strong.

In addition, the Bernardi name (Pleasanton residents) popped up again as Navina's father Dario and brother Joey teamed up with Gerald Gilligan and Manny Romo to clinch the silver medal for their Livermore team in men's Punto, Raffa, Volo.

Pleasanton Rage

In only their second weekend playing together, Pleasanton Rage 2001 Premier girls won the premier division championship at the 2016 Summer Classic Tournament this weekend in San Luis Obispo, Calif., with a 4-0-0 record. Under the leadership of coach Jarreth Chan, Rage started off their winning streak with midfielder Jaylah Abello persistently attacking up the right in the early minutes of the first of four games, drawing a foul just outside CV SJ Earthquake 01G Red's box. Taking the free kick, Rage center back Julianna Pereira hit an arcing ball over the goalie's up-stretched hands, hitting the net at the top back of the goal. Seven minutes later, Rage midfielder Hana Pani crossed from the left. The CV SJ Earthquakes goalie jumped up to reach the shot, but she was unable to contain it, and Rage forward Isa Clark headed the loose ball off an Earthquake defender to score Rage's second goal. The Earthquakes answered back in the 25th minute with a goal. In the second half, strong defending by Rage midfielder Savana Sadler, who consistently executed great tackles to win the ball, and center back Holly Judson, who saved a powerful shot by the Earthquakes to a Rage open goal in the 42nd minute, resulted in the 2-1 score.

Taking on the Rocklin FC Heat late Saturday afternoon, Rage again scored early, when outside mid Addy Mapes switched the ball from left to right to find forward Bella Foster, who beat the Rocklin goalie with a low shot. The Rocklin team went into overdrive, interrupted by Rage's midfielder Hannah Gossett who appeared to anticipate and stop many of their intended plays. Rocklin's persistence paid off in a goal in the 20th minute. Off a later clearance by a Rocklin defender, Rage midfielder Rebekah Balza claimed the ball, firing off a shot from 30 yards that went over the goalie's head, putting Rage up 2-1 at the half. Rocklin early in the second half drew a foul in Rage's box, taking a penalty kick, but a goal was denied by Rage goalie Cierra Lofthouse-Wolf's diving save. In the 49th minute, Rage



Rage 2001 Premier girls win 2016 Summer Classic Tournament at San Luis Obispo, Calif.

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SPORTS NOTES

Hard Work Pays Off for Young Motorcyclist

By Carol Graham

Twelve-year-old Jon Wolfson already understands that hard work pays off.

"When it's hot outside and I'm tired, I need to keep working hard to get better," he says. "It feels good to see results."

Results are something the 6th-grade East Avenue Middle School student is familiar with. He's been riding motorcycles since he was three, and is today an accomplished motocross and dirt-bike competitor.

"Jon competes in the District 36 AMA (American

Motorcyclist Association) off-road series which travels through northern California," says dad Paul Wolfson. "He also competes in the California Hillclimb series and at various motocross tracks throughout Northern California."

District 36 is an AMA-recognized and chartered district organization of motorcyclists created in 1955 to provide supervision and sanctioning for motorcycle racing in Northern California and Nevada.

"Motocross riding is very, very physical," says



Photos - Doug Jorgensen
Jon Wolfson (pictured at right); above he negotiates one of the motocross course.

Paul, who has been riding for 35 years. "It requires discipline, effort, dedication and commitment."

Motocross is a form of off-road motorcycle racing held on enclosed off-road circuits. The sport evolved from motorcycle competitions held in the United Kingdom more than a century ago. As it gained an international following, it became known as motocross - a portmanteau evolving from the French word for motorcycle, motocyclette (moto for short) and the phrase cross country.

Motocross, hillclimb and off-road racing are three different dirt bike disciplines: motocross riders race against 10-40 competitors at the same time for the best time and smoothest ride; hillclimb competitors race against a clock, one at a time, for the fastest time ascending a hill; and off-road racers compete for 1.5 hours over rugged, natural terrain to complete the most laps.

"All three disciplines are relevant in training, but are different types of dirt bike motorcycle racing," says Paul. "Jon is one of the most talented 12 year olds you will ever meet, and has proven he can ride and compete at a very high level in all three disciplines while other young riders do only one."

Paul adds that Jon has racked up scores of titles and championships that include: 2010 through 2013 hillclimb champ; 2014 65cc off road champ; and 2015 85cc off-road champ ages 7 to 11.

"For 2016, Jon is in a great position to finish in the top five overall for the entire series," Paul adds. "He is the youngest competitor in 85cc B class in the 12-15 age bracket."

Additionally Jon was featured in a Golden State National Hillclimb commercial that aired on ESPN,

Polo team (USWP), the LAZERS, which encourages high standards of play and good sportsmanship. As a USWP club team, all practices and competitions will be sanctioned, requiring all participants to be registered with USWP. All experience levels are welcome. However, athletes must be able to swim two laps (50 yards) without stopping. To register, call LARP at 925-373-5700, or visit www.larpd.org. For more information about the LARP LAZERS, visit lazerswaterpolo.weebly.com or e-mail lazerswp@gmail.com.

The fall session begins on Sept 7, 2016, and includes play for 14 & Under Co-Ed Level 1 (beginner), 14 & Under Co-Ed Level 2 (advanced).

Water Polo

LARP sponsors a USA Water



Pleasanton RAGE 06 Premier team beat San Luis Obispo Storm in penalty kicks to win the Rage Showcase tournament that was held the last weekend in July. Pictured are (top row) Coach Pippa Whitehand, Siena Hunter, Keelie Schouhamer, Sydney Head, Mackenzie Wright, Ava Kenitzer, Aishwarya Anburaja, Coach Kevin Whitehand; (bottom row) Sadhika Pani, Kyllia Oki, Savannah Battaion, Gianna Masinter, Reese Gotchall, and Brianna Dowling.



Livermore SC U13 Girls Maroon team captured the championship at the SLO Summer Classic 8/6-7/2016. The team coached by Ben Graham, includes Avery Bingham, Bella Finch, Bella Lopez, Gabi Fields, Cassidy Castro, Gianna Ceccanti, Gianna Pietro, Harris Baxter, Jordan Knight, Krya Nishimoto, Laney Lawrence, Maci McCormick, Olivia Hardesty, Stephanie OShaughnessey, not pictured: Carly Chance and Katie Fenner.



The Fusion U9 Boys Maroon Team started the fall season with an impressive 2nd place finish in the San Ramon Summer Classic Tournament. They went into the championship game undefeated and lost by only one goal in overtime. It was a hard fought battle with great play, teamwork and passing by every member of the team. Pictured from left to right are (top) Sean Gavin, Kaleo Jones, Nicolai Barren, Coach Francisco Munoz, Griffin Lee, Nolan Locey; (bottom) Seth Raborn, Alex Ramirez, David Zarco, Sammy Lara, Head Cheerleader Sofia Macias, Gerardo Macias, Jorje Ramirez, and Chris Thomas.

mid Kasey Cring took advantage when the Rocklin goalie came out of the box, hitting a 40-yard shot that dropped behind the goalie and bounced into the goal. The game ended 3-1.

After Sunday morning off, Rage faced the Coastal Valley Rampage in the semi-final. Rage defenders Carina Stacey and Emma Monsen worked to ensure a shutout, while Clark shot a ball in the first minute of the second half that rebounded before she finished with a second shot that hit its target for the game's only goal. Rage continued to press, with strong efforts by midfielder Lucia Castaneda, to advance to the final with a 1-0 win.

Facing the Rocklin FC Heat again in the final, Rage defenders controlled the game, with Carolyn Lai and Judson dominating the Rage half of the field. Rage forward Alexis Gundermann pressed, looking for weaknesses in the Rocklin defense, but ultimately, the final went to a ten-minute overtime period. Rage found the winning combination when Mapes passed to Foster, who shot the goal to win the championship in the second minute of O.T.

Fall Softball

Livermore Girls Softball Association is now accepting registration for the Fall Recreational season. Registration is already open, go to www.LivermoreGirlsSoftball.org to register. The season starts in late August, early September and ends in early November.

Tri for Fun

On Saturday, August 20, a field of close to 500 first-timer, few-timer, and many-timer triathletes will be on hand to continue On Your Mark Events' 29th annual Tri For Fun Triathlon Series (four triathlon events) with number three, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, in Pleasanton.

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).

Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, plenty of refreshments and snacks, and entry into the always-exciting raffle (must be present to win).

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 website.

Water Polo

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Paul and mom Wendy couldn't be happier.

"We're very proud of Jon not only for his accomplishments, but for working hard and putting in the effort that this sport requires, and for being a good friend to the people we've met in the

sport," says Paul. "He helps littler kids and is a good role model. This is a tough sport and sometimes things don't go as planned, but Jon just likes to work harder to get better."

In this, Jon shows he has the heart of a true champion.

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MAILBOX

(continued from page 6)

I am appalled at the Lennar plan to put so many apartments right down town in the old Lucky store area. It will destroy the small wine town image totally. There are so many more areas to place those apartments, other than downtown. Just drive down First St. to the freeway and you get a feel for the oppressive feel of many apartments.

Please think this over carefully. The citizens presented a much better plan for that area.

The middle of downtown is no place for many apartments, and the increased traffic it will create.

Listen to Residents Craig Bueno Livermore

My wife and I have lived here over thirty years and have had the opportunity to see quite a bit of positive change to our beloved City of Livermore. Our Downtown is thriving, wine enthusiasts flock to our many wineries and shoppers line up at our mall. We are home to two National Labs, and have a top-notch school district that is striving to achieve even higher goals. We are a community on the up and the key element to our success has been the people's input.

I am very concerned that we as a community may be taking a step backwards by moving forward with the recent City plan to build high-density apartments in the core of our Downtown.

Leaving the exact specifications to the experts, the idea that we need high-density housing in the heart of what most consider to be a remarkably successful dining and shopping district

is not logical. A massive 5-story concrete parking structure in our heart, bordered by narrow concrete alleys seems incomprehensible. The lost opportunity to capitalize on our current success and build something that our generations can pass on to our future community is saddening.

Having attended the past two, historically attended special Council meetings, I realize there are different renditions being proposed. However, the residents of our community spoke very clearly and overwhelmingly against the City's plan. Please listen to the people, build a place where we can gather, enjoy, create and share, not a concrete maze.

No More Housing Sheryl Volkman Livermore

I have been a Livermore resident for 45 years and I patronize the downtown restaurants and shops several days every week. I will avoid the downtown area if the Lennar Multifamily Communities proposal is accepted.

The Lennar proposal has too much housing in a small area. It will not be a pleasure to be downtown -like it is now. I could live in a crowded, impacted city but I chose to live in a city like Livermore.

The Lennar proposal would change the downtown in a way that does not reflect our Livermore culture. Two hundred and sixty units or even half Lennar's proposed housing will change the atmosphere in downtown Livermore and force many of us to go eat and shop in downtown Pleasanton.



Pictured standing, left to right, are Ashlee Ginn, Katie Maginnis, Jacqueline Summers, Sophia Buie, and Kimberly Golden being held, support drivers are Emily Eastburn and Rachel Kehlee Lewis

Riders Talk about Experiences Biking Across U.S. to Raise Funds

By Carol Graham

The night before the Ride For Water team began its bicycle ride across the U.S., Paul Joung recalls thinking, "We are about to start the greatest journey of our lives. This is the moment that we have all been waiting for and tomorrow it starts, tomorrow we ride." Joung was one of five men who along with five women (all attendees or alumni of Azusa Pacific University) made up the 4th annual Ride For Water team that bicycled across country this summer to raise money and awareness for "charity: water," a non-profit organization bringing safe, clean drinking water to people in developing nations.

"It feels like a long time ago," Livermore's Jacqueline Summers says of the night before the ride. "We had put so much time and energy into preparing for the ride, and I was ready. There was no place I wanted to be other than on the road."

The women's team left from Florence, Oregon, on May 16; the men's team from Seattle on May 17. They met 2,187 miles later in Chicago to ride together the final 800 miles to New York City. They arrived on the 4th of July, having raised more than \$67,000.

"This means that so far 2,249 people will get clean water for the rest of their lives," says rider Kimberly Golden, of Glendora.

"It is extremely humbling," adds teammate Sophia Buie, of Aptos. "We were able to pair one of our passions with a cause that hopefully will allow others to discover their own passions. The women's team was so excited to stand up for other women as they are disproportionately affected by the water crisis. By helping bring clean water to communities, our hope is that women and children will be able to spend their time receiving education, creating their own businesses, or discovering their passions and talents."

Diseases from unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation are said to kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. As the cyclists attracted attention at each break and stop, they would share the reason for their ride.

"Normally, the conversation would start with, 'Where are you headed?' From there, we'd mention our destination for the day, then throw in our start and end points," says Golden. "Once people learned it was for charity, they understood a bit more. We definitely were entertained by people's responses throughout the trip."

"When we told people about our cause, they loved asking questions and encouraging us," adds Ashlee Ginn, of Ontario. "I especially loved the people who'd give us pointers about where to visit while in their state, or who wanted to take photos or follow our social media. There was even a man we met in a parking lot who invited us to have dinner with him and his wife and to stay at their ranch."

Such spontaneous acts of generosity and support were a constant, welcome surprise for the riders. Folks they met along the way bought meals for the riders, offered lodging, or donated to their cause. "A bartender we met donated on the spot; a couple invited us to breakfast the next morning with their family; a man in a Mexican restaurant left \$50 on the table for our campaign; and bike store owners donated free labor," says Ginn. "I was blown away every day by the kindness of those who were willing to talk, give and connect."

"People even bought us tickets to a water park to cool off in the middle of Iowa!" adds Golden. "Each day brought new adventures, new places, new people and endless laughter."

In Wyoming, the women's team stopped at a bike shop in which two young boys, aged 9 and 11, were buying new bicycles. Their mom said they were trying to convince her to let them ride their new bikes home but she was nervous to let them go on their own. "When we found out we all were headed to Victor, we asked if she would let them ride with us," says

Buie. "To our surprise she said 'yes.' We rode with the boys and met up with their mom at the local ice cream shop to celebrate finishing our day's ride."

Yet a ride of nearly 3,000 miles in the middle of summer can't help but offer some challenges as well.

"As was expected, there were days that were harder than others," says Summers. "Had it not been for the other girls pushing me, depending on me as much as I did them, I would have had a substantially more arduous path."

Joung adds that he wanted to give up across "the entire state of Pennsylvania. Who put those mountains there?!"

A near-breaking point came for Ginn about halfway through the 50-day ride.

"In Valentine, Nebraska, I was so over the hills and the wind," she says. "I stayed in the back and had a good cry about how hard this ride was. I just wanted to go to a hotel and take a nice long bath. After some complaining, my rational subconscious kicked in: 'Are you kidding me? There are girls waking up right now - in wind and dust and grime - just wanting a sip of water. You have water right here in your bottle and you want to give up?' So I kept riding."

The teams have reached 84 percent of their goal to raise \$80,000. They hope to ultimately reach their goal through donations made on the Ride For Water website, where donations will be accepted through September. One

hundred percent of donations goes to charity: water, which will provide geographical coordinates of where projects are installed, types of project involved (filtration, well, etc.), and how many people benefited.

How each of the riders have benefited is beyond calculation.

"I've taken away the knowledge of just how strong I can be," says Ginn. "I've learned that limits are just an illusion, and are easily broken as long as you're imagining what's on the other side. I've learned how to trust a team and give up control now and then. I've learned how to be accepting of different cultures and respectful when entering someone else's space in the world. I've learned how to be resilient. I've learned how to dream."

"Life on the road is remarkable and wonderful," says Buie. "You learn to depend on the kindness of strangers. I'm learning to see the world and each day differently because of this ride."

"I still can't wrap my head around it to be quite honest," adds Joung, of Woodland Hills. "Living a life that is meaningful is about looking out for others who are in desperate need. As I have been unpacking the experiences of this ride, I know that we rode for faces we will probably never see, names we will never know, and stories we will never hear. The ultimate reality of changing people's lives forever with our campaign is something I feel honored and privileged to be a part of."

To donate or learn more, visit www.rideforwater.com.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A family shares one of the playground items at Alamo Creek Park during the Dublin Campout. In the photo below, the moon shines down on a group as they play music.



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SHORT NOTES

Workshop Set

A free Dynamic Resume and Cover Letters workshop will be held on Wednesday, August 31, 2016, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Civic Center Library located at 1188 S. Livermore Ave. Registration is required. Sign up by calling 925-373-5505.

This free workshop will be taught by Sheila Purcell, career counselor at the Tri-Valley One-Stop Career Center. Located in Dublin, CA (with a satellite office at Las Positas College in Livermore), Tri-Valley One-Stop Career Center offers universal resources available to the general public for the purpose of seeking jobs, training or education. In addition, they offer resources targeted for job seekers and more focused support for special populations in the community. They also offer business resources and services specifically for employers. There is no charge for any of their services.

For more information about Tri-Valley One-Stop Career Center, visit www.trivalleyonestop.org. To learn more about other library programs and events, visit www.livermorelibrary.net.

Celebrate Innovation

New applications and technologies are being applied across industries to improve efficiencies, health and comfort for consumers. The best examples of innovation in product development, services and processes will be celebrated at the East Bay Economic Development Alliance's (East Bay EDA) 5th annual East Bay Innovation Awards on March 9, 2017 at the

historic Fox Theatre in Oakland.

The awards ceremony highlights East Bay EDA's marketing of the competitive advantages of the East Bay and showcases outstanding companies and organizations that embrace innovation in their manufacturing, services, design and information.

Awards are given out in the categories of Advanced Manufacturing, Clean Tech, Education, Engineering & Design, Food, Information and/or Communication Technology, and Life Sciences. A Catalyst of the Year award is presented to an individual, organization, or company that is currently transcending organizational boundaries to pull East Bay assets together in new ways and/or to catalyze new thinking or processes.

An annual Legacy award is also presented to an organization with a history of innovation that has impacted the quality of life and/or business development. The 2017 Legacy awardee is Bayer.

Nominations for the 8 competitive awards are open now. Go to www.EastBayEDA.org to complete the online nomination process. Self nominations are also welcome. The nomination period ends on September 28, 2016.

For more information about the nomination process, contact: Luis Aguilar (510) 272-3889 luis@EastBayEDA.org

Dos Mesas Program

Dos Mesas will be the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger program for Sat., Aug. 20. Meet Ranger Darren Segur at 10 a.m. at Sycamore

Grove Park, 5049 Arroyo Road.

Come explore an area of Sycamore Grove Park that is steeped in history. Since the early 1800s, it has been a cattle ranch, a winery, a hospital, a picnic spot, Hell's Angel country and finally, a park. Join this program to sift through the layers of time and uncover the forgotten story of this overlooked part of Sycamore Grove. This will be a slow-paced walk of about a mile. Bring water and a camera if you like. RSVP required by calling 925-960-2400 or emailing valleywilds@larpd.org.

The daily parking fee has increased to \$7 per vehicle at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. There is an annual parking pass available that provides significant savings over the daily fee for regular park visitors. A \$3 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Try Transit to School

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA), operator of the Wheels bus service, is offering Tri-Valley middle and high school students a ride free to any location as part of their annual Try Transit to School promotion.

Now in its 16th year, the special promotion offers unlimited rides on all regularly scheduled Wheels and Rapid bus routes from August 22 – September 2nd for all Tri-Valley middle and high school students. The purpose of this promotion is to increase student ridership to key attractions such as schools,

libraries, theatres, shopping centers, BART, and more.

To take advantage of the promotion, students simply board a Wheels bus and ride. No ticket or pass is required.

For schedule information, visit www.wheelsbus.com, or call the Wheels Customer Service line at (925) 455-7500.

Application Essay

The Livermore Public Library invites local high school seniors to attend a presentation and workshop on "Writing a Successful College Application Essay." This free event will take place Wednesday, August 31, 2016, 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Storytime Room of the Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue. No registration is required.

Jackie Stamps, an independent college admissions advisor located in Livermore, will explain what college admissions departments look for in an application essay, alert students to potential pitfalls, and give strategies for composing a distinctive essay. In addition, she will discuss the new essay prompts being used by the University of California, discuss how the U.C. admissions essay differs from other application essays, and how to make the best use of a supplemental essay. The session also will give students the opportunity to begin planning their own college application essay.

For questions or more information, call Jennifer Mosel, Teen Services Librarian, at 925-373-5576, or visit the library website: www.livermorelibrary.net.

Tutor Training

New tutor training will be offered at the Pleasanton Library for Project Read, the library's literacy program. Training will be offered to volunteers who want to help newcomers learn or become proficient in English.

Training will take place from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sat., Aug. 27 at the library, 400 Old Bernal Ave.

Volunteer can work one-on-one with a student, and/or assist in our Group Literacy Classes.

The Literacy Program provides the books and materials.

Volunteers should be at least 18 years old, and fluent in American English and able to devote a consistent hour or two weekly for a minimum of one semester.

This session will introduce interested individuals to the literacy program and provide an orientation on teaching resources, lesson planning and teaching techniques.

For more information or to register for the orientation session, contact achilds@cityofpleasantonca.gov

Dublin Activity Guide

The Fall/Winter edition of Dublin's Guide to fun in the New American Backyard is now available and registration for Dublin residents is open. Starting August 24, copies will also be available at Shannon Community Center, Dublin Heritage Park and Museums, Dublin Library, Dublin Civic Center, and the Dublin Senior Center.

The Fall/Winter Guide

features classes and activities for children and adults from September through February, and includes Thanksgiving Break and Winter Break camps.

Registration for non-residents begins on Tuesday, August 30. Register online at www.dublinrecguide.com, in person at Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Avenue, or by mail using the registration form at the back of the Activity Guide.

For more information, contact the Parks and Community Services Department at (925) 556-4500 or parksandcommunityservices@dublin.ca.gov.

Twilight Tasting

Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation invites the public to attend a Twilight Tasting at Page Mill Winery on Thursday, September 15 from 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Page Mill Winery is located at 1960 S. Livermore Avenue in Livermore.

Participation can help make a difference in the lives of cancer patients in the Tri-Valley. The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation provides cancer patients in the East Bay Tri-Valley area with financial assistance for complementary healing services during the course of their chemo and/or radiation therapy that are not covered by insurance.

The wine tasting fee of \$10 per person goes to the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation. The event will also include vendors and raffle prizes. No pre-ticket sales. For more info, go to www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org.

OBITUARIES

Pamela Jewell

Pamela Jewell of Livermore, the light of her husband Dave's life, passed away on Friday August 5th, 2016, at the age of 70. She fought a brief but hard battle with pancreatic cancer.

Pam was born in Seattle on June 27, 1946. She moved with her parents to Stockton when she was 9 years old and graduated from Stagg High.

She and Dave were married for 16 wonderful years. Pam owned and operated Elegant Edge, a hair and nail salon in downtown Livermore for 18 years, eventually selling it and continuing to take care of her loyal customers as a manicurist in her home. People were naturally drawn to Pam, and she formed lasting friendships easily wherever she went. She touched everyone she knew with kindness, grace and class.

Pam was preceded in death by her parents, Marie and Ramond Young and granddaughter Savannah Overstreet. In addition to her husband, she leaves her son Christopher Vujovich of Gilmer, Texas; daughter, Christine, son-in-law Robert and grandsons Blake and Brice Overstreet of Gilmer, Texas; granddaughter, Britney, and her husband, Davis, and great grandson, Sawyer Smelley of Longview, Texas; stepdaughter Tara, her husband Josh Andersen, and granddaughters Payton Guiles, Alexis and Taylor, of Mountain House, California; stepson Jeremy Jewell and his wife Rachel, and granddaughter Emma, of Castro Valley.

In lieu of a funeral service, a celebration of life will be held at Peppertree Ranch, 8414 Tesla Road in Livermore on Sunday, August 21st from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.

Sayoko Mary Kobayashi

March 8, 1919 – Aug. 5, 2016 Resident of Livermore, CA

Sayoko 'Mary' Kobayashi passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on August 5, 2016. She was 97.

Sayoko was born in Port Costa, CA in a farmhouse to parents Hisakazu 'Henry' and Shizu Ogasawa. She was the second of three siblings, preceded in death by older brother Toshi and younger sister Shigeko (Mayeda).

The family moved to Oakland where she graduated from Oakland Technical High School. She was an accomplished seamstress and was given a scholarship to attend a dress making academy. After high school she went to Japan to study language, customs and culture. She returned to the United States on one of the last ships to leave Japan prior to World War II with Japan.

With the outbreak of war in 1942, she and her family were sent to the relocation center at the Tanforan Race-track in San Bruno, CA prior to being sent to the internment camp in Topaz, Utah, near the town of Delta. After two years, she went to Marshalltown, Iowa to attend Nursing school. After graduating she worked at Mercy Hospital in Chicago, Illinois and the Veterans Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri. After the war ended, she returned with her family to Oakland, CA. She worked as a RN nurse at Highland and Peralta Hospital and retired as a surgical nurse from the Veterans Hospital in Livermore, CA.

Beloved wife of 55 years to the late Minoru Kobayashi, she is survived by her children Andrew (Diane) S. Kobayashi and Gary Kobayashi; grandchildren Anne and Andrew K. Kobayashi.

She particularly enjoyed the annual family camping trips to the Sierras and trips to the coast. She was an avid

gardener and canned several fruits and vegetables from her bountiful garden. She was a phenomenal cook and could make a delicious meal from scratch. Celebrating the New Year with traditional Japanese food was always special to her and her family. She enjoyed her grandchildren and always had words of wisdom to share with her family. She was a member of the Tri-Valley Japanese American Citizens League.

Friends and family are invited to a memorial service on Friday, August 19 at 1130 AM at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue in Livermore. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the American Red Cross or to a charity of your choice.

Lynn Lekse

Celebration of Life

"Pizza man" and longtime Livermore resident celebration of life to take place at the Corzett residence at 508 Regulus Road at 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 20. Family and friends invited to share memories. Colorful attire requested.

Marilyn Rita Estill

Marilyn Rita Estill passed away quietly in her sleep on the morning of August 13, 2016, at the Lower Umpqua

Hospital in Reed-sport, Oregon.

She was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 7, 1927 where

she graduated from Immaculate Conception High School. She completed a Registered Nurse (RN) training program at Mercy Hospital in Cedar Rapids in preparation for WWII deployment but the war ended just prior to her graduation. She went on to work as an RN for 20 years. She was part of the Greatest Generation that gave full allegiance to God, family and country.

Rita was the middle child of three children born to parents Emil Joseph and Ellen

Florence Lynott Charipar. She is preceded in death by her husband of over 60 years, Wesley Boyd Estill, parents Emil (Butch) and Ellen (Nell), brother Robert Charipar (Bobby) killed in action at the Battle of the Bulge in Europe, granddaughter Jennifer, daughter in law Margaret Ellen Estill (Peggy) and nephew Patrick.

She is survived by her seven children including sons Robert Eugene Estill, Wesley Gordon Estill, Thomas Joseph Estill, Paul Stephen Estill, John Charles Estill, Shannon Edward Estill, and daughter Mary Ellen Estill-Childress. She is also survived by her sister Patricia Utley and nephews Michael Utley, John Utley, Thomas Utley, Robert Utley, Daniel Utley, and Christopher Utley. Each of her children was her favorite. Rita was also very proud of all of her daughters-in-law, 14 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Rita had a full life raising her children and making sure they were on the right path. She did this with keen wit and uncompromising integrity while raising her children in Albuquerque, New Mexico and Livermore, California. Rita had an outgoing personality, sharp wit, and sense of humor. She loved going to the horse races, playing bingo and the slot machines at local casinos but always attending Sunday Mass. Rita was a music lover who loved to dance with her husband Wes, and knew the lyrics to most songs. She loved going to the casino with her adult children and never missed a Kentucky Derby. She loved watching sports especially the Oakland Raiders, San Francisco 49ers and her beloved Fighting Irish of Notre Dame.

Being raised by an Irish mother and Czech father she enjoyed a few beers in the evening and a smoke or two during the day. Being tired or sick were not excuses to

be used with Rita for not getting your business done. She had high expectations for her family always. She taught her children by example commitment to family, always doing the right thing, financial prudence and the value of hard work.

Services will be held at St. Michael's Catholic Church at 458 Maple Street in Livermore, CA with visitation starting at 6 pm Thursday August 25 and a vigil starting at 7 pm, and a funeral mass Friday morning at 10 am August 26. Burial services will be conducted immediately following the funeral at St. Michael's cemetery 3885 East Avenue in Livermore, CA.

James E. Faulkner

James Earl Faulkner died quietly and peacefully on Friday, August 5, 2016 at the age of 90 years, in his Assisted Living apartment at Heritage Estates in Livermore, CA. He had grown fond of a number of the staff and, following a brief hospitalization in early July, requested to return to his "home" at Heritage with Hospice care. Nurses from Hope Hospice and his stepdaughter, Maureen, were with him at the time of his death. He was a long-time resident of Pleasanton and Livermore.

Born and educated through secondary school in Michigan, he was awarded a PhD in Physics from the University of Chicago in 1956. He worked for a number of institutes and companies throughout the United States and Europe including Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Max Planck Institute for Plasma Physics in Garch-

ing, Germany. His areas of expertise were Electromagnetics, Magnetic Fusion and Computational Physics.

He was a member of the parish of St. Claire's Episcopal Church, Pleasanton, CA, and was a practicing Episcopalian through most of his life. The philosophy and fellowship of the church were integral parts of his existence.

He was an ardent and accomplished chess player and relished games with friends well into the last year of his life. Following his retirement in 1991 he and his wife, Kathleen, enjoyed golf and bowling and traveled extensively throughout the world.

He is preceded in death by his father and mother, Paul M. Faulkner and Mary Aline Faulkner of Solana Beach, CA, his wife Donna Joyce Faulkner (1953 to 1978) and his wife Kathleen Mackay Faulkner (1980 to 2005). He had no siblings. He is survived by his daughter, Gloria Faulkner Fields of Allentown, PA, his granddaughter, Caroline Fields of Carlisle, PA, his stepdaughter, Maureen Mackay Taylor of Pleasanton, CA, granddaughter, Heather Taylor Kerr of Livermore, CA and four great grandchildren – Ella and Iris Farmer of Carlisle, PA, and Patrick and Madison Kerr of Livermore, CA.

Funeral services will be held at Callaghan Mortuary when arrangements are finalized and a date set. Friends will be notified of date and time of the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations in his honor to the Salvation Army.

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Demonstration Protests 'By-right' Housing Bill

A demonstration against a state budget trailer bill containing a "by-right" housing provision was held in San Francisco.

The City of Livermore went on record in March as being opposed to the earlier form of the trailer bill, which essentially has remained the same.

About 35 people turned out Aug. 5 at the Millennial Tower at 301 Mission St. in downtown San Francisco.

Demonstrators represented organizations devoted to producing more affordable housing, said Julien Ball, of the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment.

One of the objections to the bill is that it would weaken local control over affordable housing requirements. General plan requirements for the property would have to be followed, but local governments would be required to set a timeline for processing density bonus applications.

The bill would "prohibit a local government from requiring additional reports or studies to be prepared by the developer as a condition of the application," according to an analysis from the League of California Cities.

Also, if the government misses a deadline for its notification to developers, the developers would be entitled to "by right" construction of the project.

Ball said, "The trailer is billed as affordable housing. However, for a token amount of affordable units, it speeds up the development process, and cuts people out of the discussion to negotiate a better deal."

The bill would put 5 percent very low-income housing or 10 percent low-income housing in an attached development. Ball said that this would leave out stricter local requirements, and bring in a ratio of one very low income unit developed for every 20 high-end units. Showing off that housing imbalance was the reason that demonstrators chose to picket the Millennial Tower, a high-cost residential building that opened in 2009.

The demonstrators also went to the San Francisco headquarters of Salesforce to urge its CEO, Marc Benioff, to withdraw his support for the bill. However, Benioff did not respond, said Ball.

There was also a demonstration in Los Angeles on the same day at the Califor-

nia Association of Realtors, asking that CEO Joel Singer to have the organization withdraw its support for the bill.

The bill is supported by Gov. Jerry Brown, who sees it as a way to create more affordable housing throughout the state.

The California Apartment Association has endorsed the bill, the League of California Cities is opposed.

Work Planned on Patterson Pass Rd.

The Alameda County Public Works Agency will be completing emergency guardrail repairs on Patterson Pass Road at MM 6 and MM 8 on Thursday and Friday, August 18-19, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. During construction, traffic will be reduced to one lane, with traffic control for both directions.

When approaching the construction zone, motorists are encouraged to reduce their speed, observe the construction signs, and watch for construction personnel and equipment.

For additional information, call the Public Works Agency at (925) 803-7007.

State Change Drops Pleasanton School Budget by \$300,000

The Pleasanton Unified School District budget approved June 28 will dip by about \$300,000 as the result of a Sacramento update on state budget revenue to all schools in the state.

Deputy Superintendent of Finance Micaela Ochoa told the board at its meeting Aug. 8 that the state issues a report 45 days after the Legislature adopts the budget. There was a slight increase in revenue from the state lottery. However, the per-student Average Daily Attendance (ADA) income was lowered, producing a net reduction of about \$300,000.

The drop of \$300,000 brought the budget reserve down from \$6.1 million to \$5.8 million, 7 percent of the total budget. The budget update was for information only.

On another item, the board passed a resolution 4-0, with Chris Grant absent on business, to accept the metering that will enable the district to use recycled water to irrigate Hart Middle School. The school located in Hacienda Business Park, will receive recycled water from the same city project serving businesses.

Trustee Mark Miller asked Director of Maintenance and Operations David Young if there would be a health concern, if a student

ingested recycled water. Young said that city officials assured him that it is safe. "It is safe. There are precautions we need to take. We will send information out to parents at Hart," he said.

The Hart water will have tertiary treatment, as has been done in various purple pipe projects that irrigate Dublin fields.

Dublin San Ramon Services District General Manager Dan McIntyre told The Independent that DSRSD will not be using any RO filters. The treatment plant had RO equipment ready for a ground-water injection project 15 years ago, but the project never materialized. That equipment is moth-balled.

Congress Urged to Enforce the Renewable Fuel Standard

Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15 led five of his California colleagues in writing to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to urge that it live up to Congress' intent in enforcing the Renewable Fuel Standard.

The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is a federal law that requires transportation fuels be blended with renewable biofuels. The law sets targets which increase each year for how much biofuel is to be blended. The EPA has proposed waiving these levels and setting total required renewable fuel levels below the statutory amounts.

The House members urged EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy to get the program back on track. The letter was sent as advocates from the across the country joined to celebrate the landmark legislation's 11th anniversary.

"The RFS was created to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and provide U.S. consumers with access to cleaner transportation fuels. Despite the recent increase in domestic oil production, the U.S. economy remains heavily dependent on foreign oil and at the mercy of international market prices," the lawmakers noted.

They point out that the EPA's proposed rule for 2017 falls short of total renewable fuel volumes set in the law by Congress.

Increased fuel demand and greater availability of higher ethanol blends is more than enough justification for the EPA to increase volumes for 2017 and get the RFS back on track, they concluded.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION ON PLACING LEGAL NOTICES IN THE INDEPENDENT, Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 520552

The following person(s) doing business as: Heavenly Remedies Day Spa, 357 Ray Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christy Lee Solorio, 9005 Alcosta Blvd #220, San Ramon, CA 94583

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrant(s): Christy Solorio
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 18, 2016. Expires July 18, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3985. Published July 28, August 4, 11, 18, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 520133

The following person(s) doing business as: Banfield Pet Hospital #0059, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Medical Management International, Inc, 8000 NE Tillamook St, Portland, OR 97213

This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrant(s): Phil Freeman, CFO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 6, 2016. Expires July 6, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3986. Published July 28, August 4, 11, 18, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 520816

The following person(s) doing business as: Orange Tea, 6033 Northfront Road, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pelangi Trading Corporation, 6132 W. Branch Rd, San Ramon, CA 94582

This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrant(s): Joann Lee, CEO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 25, 2016. Expires July 25, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3987. Published August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 520391

The following person(s) doing business as: Xkzit Electronics, 321 Scott St, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sublime Acoustic, LLC, 321 Scott St, Livermore, CA 94551

This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name listed

above on 7/1/2016. Signature of Registrant(s): Mark Longley, President
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 13, 2016. Expires July 13, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3988. Published August 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016.

STATEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL OF PARTNERSHIP OPERATING UNDER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME ORIGINAL FILE NO. 511361

The following person(s) has (have) withdrawn as General Partner(s) from the Partnership under:

Fictitious Business Name: Studio Dance Art Fit Livermore, 151 E. Airway Blvd., Livermore, CA 94551.
The Fictitious business Name Statement for the Partnership was filed on 11/04/2015 in the County of Alameda.

Full name of Withdrawing Partner(s): Jacqueline Razon Pascual, 60 Meritage Common #100, Livermore, CA, 94551

This business was conducted by: Jacqueline R. Pascual
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on July 27, 2016.

The Independent Legal No. 3989. Published August 11, 18, 25, September 1, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 521036

The following person(s) doing business as: Heavenly Pies From The Heart, 4057 Pomona Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1) Tonya Fletcher Higby (2) Douglas Clyde Higby, 4057 Pomona Way, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by Married Couple. The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above on 11/4/2015.

Signature of Registrant(s): Tonya Fletcher Higby
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 1, 2016. Expires August 1, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3990. Published August 11, 18, 25, September 1, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 521193

The following person(s) doing business as: Plates For My Car / Placas Para Mi Carro, 233 Junction Ave, Ste C, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael Harris, 2856 4th St, Unit 1304, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.

Signature of Registrant(s): Michael Harris
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 4, 2016. Expires August 4, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3991. Published August 11, 18, 25, September 1, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 520656

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 using the fictitious business name listed above on 2/10/2006.

Signature of Registrant(s): Michele Juliana Burkett
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on July 19, 2016. Expires July 19, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3992. Published August 11, 18, 25, September 1, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2016-073549

The following person(s) doing business as: Harrison Customs, Inc, 2260 N. MacArthur Dr, Tracy, CA 95376, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Harrison Customs, Inc, 2260 N. MacArthur Dr, Tracy, CA 95376

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above on 5/24/2011.

Signature of Registrant(s): S. M. Harrison, CEO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on June 24, 2016. Expires June 24, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3993. Published August 11, 18, 25, September 1, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 521260

The following person(s) doing business as: Backcountry Babes, 275 Woodland Ct, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Constellation Outdoor Education LLC, 275 Woodland Ct, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above on 8/1/2016.

Signature of Registrant(s): Michelle Trame, Member
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 5, 2016. Expires August 5, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 3994. Published August 18, 25, September 1, 8, 2016.

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LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JOE C. HILTON

Case No. RP16820943
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of:
JOE C. HILTON

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **MARTIN JAMES WELK** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ALAMEDA**.

The Petition for Probate requests that: **MARTIN JAMES WELK** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

(X) The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

(X) The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: 10/4/2016
TIME: 9:30 AM DEPT: 201 at:
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
County of Alameda
2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way
Berkeley, CA 94704

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (Form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

(X) Attorney for Petitioner: **LESLIE ROBIN AZCONA**
ATTORNEY AT LAW
2255 CONTRA COSTA BLVD #301
PLEASANT HILL, CA 94523
(925) 596-0107

The Independent Legal No. 3995.
Published August 18, 25, September 1, 2016.

Request for Proposal:
August 23, 2016
Dublin Eclipse Station

Contractor Walkthrough,
Sept. 1, 2016
Bids Due on
Sept. 29, 2016, 4:30 PM

Construction Manager:
Berkeley Research Group, LLC, 1600 Dove Street Suite #400, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Contact: Kevin Kegham, kkegham@thinkbrg.com, Office, 949-222-1032, Cell, 949-537-7910.

Scope: Tenant improvement project that includes typical modernization of existing spaces including new clubhouse, fitness area, Leasing center and Exterior courtyard & Lounge. The project consists of multiple buildings which are occupied by tenants. In no event are any contractors or sub-contractors to visit the site without written approval. All bidders will have to comply with a Responsible Contractor Policy provided by Owner.

The Independent Legal No. 3996 Published August 18, 25, September 1, 8, 2016

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS

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

Adopt a new best friend: TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, dogs are available at the Pleasant Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin from 12:00 to 4:00 and the Pet Extreme in Livermore from 12:00 to 4:00. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and Pet Extreme in Livermore from 12:00 to 4:00. For more information, call Terry at (925)487-7279 or visit our website at www.tvvar.org

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livermore Petco on Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that have been tested for FIV & FELV, altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats & ranch cats for adoption.

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118) FREE SECTION

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155) NOTICES

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REAL ESTATE NEWS & NOTICES

Helping Your Children Purchase Their First Home

By Cher Wollard

Your son Zack and his wife Lindsey are almost ready to buy a home. They have steady jobs. They have been working on their credit. They've put money aside in savings.

The problem is that savings is not enough to cover their downpayment, closing costs and moving expenses. Or their income is a little short of what is required. Or maybe their credit still isn't good enough to qualify for a mortgage.

You want to help, but how?

- Give Them Money

Probably the most common way parents (or grandparents, aunts and uncles, etc.) help grown children achieve this major life goal is to provide help with the upfront costs associated with purchasing a home.

The biggest expense will likely be the downpayment. Unless he or she is a veteran obtaining a mortgage through the Veterans Administration, a first-time homebuyer can expect to need a minimum of 3.5 percent down.

Some state and municipal programs offer downpayment assistance, but the income requirements are such that many Bay Area two-income households won't qualify.

Besides, a bigger downpayment means a lower monthly mortgage cost. Or it might mean the buyer can purchase a more expensive home.

Most lenders allow gifts from relatives for downpayments and closing cost on owner-occupied homes. The lender will likely require additional paperwork to document precisely where the money came from and to verify it is actually a gift and not just a loan.

To circumvent this, some loan officers recommend the gift funds be "seasoned." This means you would transfer the funds to Zack and Lindsey at least two months before they plan to purchase their home. Once the money has shown up on their bank statements for two cycles, the lender will likely be satisfied.

How much can you give them? That depends.

You can give them as much as you like and can afford, but there may be tax consequences if you give more than a certain amount.

Under current Internal Revenue Service's rules, most people can give up to \$14,000 to anyone in 2016 without triggering a gift tax. So you could give Zack \$14,000. You could give another \$14,000 to Lindsey.

If you are married, your spouse could also give Zack and Lindsey \$14,000 each, for a total of \$56,000.

If you want to give them more, you may be able to defer the tax by gifting the additional funds from your estate. This means your heirs will have less of their inheritance sheltered from taxes, but if your estate is worth less than \$5.12 million, that may not matter.

(Of course, regulations can change at any time. It's always best to consult your tax advisor before making any decisions of this type.)

Be aware that some lenders will require that a certain percentage of the downpayment be made by the borrowers, and not in the form of a gift.

- Loan Them Money

Maybe you can't or don't want to just give Zack and Lindsey that much money. But maybe you are in a position to loan them the funds.

If it takes the form of a personal loan, Zack and Lindsey will need to include this debt when filling out their loan application. The payments will count against them in figuring their debt-to-income ratios. If they are on the edge of having enough income to qualify for a mortgage, that additional debt could hurt them.

If repayment will be secured by the property, the lender will want assurances that your loan is subordinate to the mortgage, meaning in case of default the lender would be repaid before you got your money back.

A real estate attorney can help you draw up the necessary loan documents and place a lien on the home.

- Cosign The Mortgage

Maybe Zack and Lindsey don't need help with the downpayment. Maybe their income isn't quite enough to qualify them for a mortgage. Or maybe their credit is less than pristine. But if someone with good income and credit is willing to cosign the mortgage, they can still purchase a home.

Whether or not this is something you can, should or want to do will depend on your circumstances.

On the plus side, it doesn't cost any money to cosign for them.

On the minus side, entangling yourself in their finances can impact your credit and make you responsible for their mortgage payments if they can't make them.

The mortgage will show up on your credit report as well as theirs. If they make the payments on time, great. If not, you will be dinged every time they are late. Worse case scenario: They default and you are stuck with the mortgage.

Even if they make every payment on time, your credit is impacted because your credit report now shows you have additional debt. Debt lowers credit scores and could make it harder for you to refinance your home, purchase another property, buy a car or start a business.

Should you decide to cosign for your son and his wife, make sure you spell out exactly what is expected of each of you.

- Buy a Home with Your Children

Rather than simply providing money for the downpayment or cosigning the mortgage, you may prefer to do both and actually purchase the property with them.

These arrangements are common, but they require careful planning to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Are you providing the entire downpayment or just a portion of it? Will you be contributing monthly to pay the mortgage? What about property taxes and insurance? How will maintenance costs be allocated? Who will be living in the property? How long do you plan to hold it? What happens if one of you is ready to sell and the other party wants to keep the property? What if one of you wants to buy out the other's share?

These are a few of the issues you'll want to spell out in a written agreement. Even if you are confident you and your offspring can make an oral agreement and everything will work out fine, what if something happens to one of you and your heirs are left to sort things out? Get everything in writing to avoid misunderstandings.

Sometimes the parent's contribution is handled like a loan. When the property is sold, you get your money back, possibly with interest.

In other cases, it's more of a joint investment. When the property is sold, the proceeds are split according to how much each contributed.

Either formula can work on out fine, as long as everyone is clear about expectations.

- Buy a home and rent or sell it to your children

Or you might want to purchase the home yourself, perhaps rent it to them for the short-term. Then, when they are ready to buy, you can sell it to them.

If you are thinking about helping your children purchase a home – or you have any other real estate needs – contact your local Realtor today.

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Drysdale Properties in Livermore.

Need to Move Historic Train Depot Questioned

Speakers at several Livermore City council meetings raised the issue of the future of the 120-year-old Southern Pacific Depot currently located on the site proposed for housing in downtown Livermore.

Citizens advocated for leaving the building where it is rather than moving it to a the downtown transit center used by the ACE train where it would be used for transit purposes.

In April, the City Council approved using a \$2.5 million grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to move the historic railroad depot on South L Street to a spot near the Livermore Transit Center and to restore it to its original condition. The city would add \$500,000 in general fund money to finance the move.

The city originally received the MTC grant for a downtown housing project, but that project didn't qualify. The MTC approved the grant swap for the depot project earlier this year.

This particular grant is for transportation related projects. The Depot project meets this criteria, in part, because the Depot will be used for bus and train passenger ticketing and waiting areas. If the funds were not used for the depot move and refurbishment, the City would need to start over by requesting funds for a different project. According to MTC staff, there is no guarantee a new project would be funded. Allocations are based on available funds and other

competing projects at that time.

Heritage Guild President Jeff Kaskey noted that the depot's importance to Livermore was as a transit hub that allowed goods and people to activate the young town's economy and lifestyle. Once the tracks were moved, the depot was in the wrong place because it was no longer part of the rail connection. "We now have an opportunity to put the building back into use in its original role, in its original environment, and to do so with secure funding to do the job right."

He says of those opposed to the move, "You can preserve an old building by building a park around it and installing a gallery or museum. If that were our only option versus demolition, then we would support it. However, with a new life as a restored train station, the depot is being given the most appropriate new lease on life to serve this generation and the many yet to come."

Those who oppose the move state that the city has not seriously considered restoring the depot at its present site as part of the development project. They proposed that the depot remain where it is through the 21st century as a vestige of Livermore's pioneer days.

Kathy Chase asked the council why the city was even considering moving the depot. "It represents the basic history of Livermore. It is not a good idea to move it."

Pleasanton Taking Applications for At-Large Members to Serve on the Downtown Task Force

Three at-large members of the community are being recruited by the Pleasanton City Council to serve on the Downtown Specific Plan Task Force. The Downtown Specific Plan (DSP) was adopted in 2002. It serves as a guide for the future development and preservation of the Downtown area and addresses issues such as land use, transportation, parking, historic preservation, design and beautification, and economic vitality.

The key objective for the DSP is to complete a comprehensive update of the plan to better reflect community priorities and incorporate recent land use and policy changes. Some specific objectives include: evaluation of parking requirements for development projects; integration of residential development; evaluation and clarification of maximum building height in Downtown for residential and commercial properties; integration of trails and pedestrian pathway; and Division Street enhancements.

In addition, the DSP Task Force will evaluate and provide recommendations for land uses on the existing civic center site in coordination with the Civic Center Master Plan.

The DSP Task Force will be comprised of two City Councilmembers, two Planning Commissioners, two Pleasanton Downtown Association representatives, one Economic Vitality Committee member, and three At-Large members.

The Task Force is expected to meet monthly for a period of 18-24 months. No specific membership requirements are necessary. However, past experience on major land use and design skills is desired.

To apply online, visit: <http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/clerk/boards/default.asp> by 5 p.m. on September 2, 2016.

Tesla Vintners Seeks CUP for Its Events Center

Steve Powell has applied for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to operate an events center at Tesla Vintners. He proposed to conduct up to 80 events a year at a 4.7 acre site at 5143 Tesla Road near Livermore.

The site has been in use for years. An application for a CUP in 2005 was rejected by the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments (BZA), a decision upheld in early 2006 by the Board of Supervisors.

The site was declared a public nuisance in 2009, in response to neighbors' complaints about music-related noise and late operation of events. That complaint was also upheld by supervisors.

The county's code-enforcement division has dealt with complaints over the years. However, since Powell started the process in August 2015 for this new request for a CUP, no complaints have come to code enforcement according to a staff memo.

Powell told the BZA, "We can go on for hours about what was right or not (about

past operations)." He said that he has been complying with the rules.

The Tesla Vintners facility features tasting rooms for four wineries. They are Powell's own "The Singing Winemaker" label, Pat Paulsen Vineyards, Ehrenberg Cellars, and Lone Dove.

The BZA conducted a public hearing July 28 on Powell's new application. Staff recommended approval, subject to certain conditions. They include removal of a 4000-square-foot tent. Shipping containers are to be used for winery storage, not as tasting rooms, as has been done.

Up to 40 indoor and 40 outdoor events would be permitted. All events must stop at 11 p.m. and amplified music must stop by 10 p.m. All lighting must be shielded from neighboring properties.

For the July 28 meeting, many of the county departments asked for comments. They sent responses declaring no comments. Board members said they want to know why that was, and decided to continue the

public hearing, in order to have staff meet with the departments' representatives to learn more. They also referred the request to the fire department, public health, code enforcement, and other departments. They continued the hearing to a date uncertain. Two meetings set for August have been cancelled.

Supporters and opponents attended the public hearing. One supporter said

that the site has been family-oriented and has "quality products and events." A former employee of Powell's said that Tesla Vintners was a community tasting room. It's still serving the community.

Four neighbors expressed concern about noise and lights coming from the site. One raised the issue of past violations, while another said that the windows in her 1918 house rattled because of the loud music.

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— arts —
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Closing Reception and Fashion Show Sat., August 27 1-3:30pm

Shawna Hipple modeling her Magazine Dress

Art & Wine Intertwined: Enjoy light snacks and wine tasting. Live music by Karl Wentz with Front Porch Recycled and Mark Clarin with Junkyard Dawgs.

Fashion show at 2:30pm

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Recycled Runway Show Features Wearable Art in Conjunction with Art & Wine Intertwined



“Paper Dress” by Shawna Hipple

Wearable art from the innovative art exhibit, “Recycled Runway,” will be modeled in a free fashion show and wine tasting event at the Visitor’s Center and Gallery at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore on Saturday, August 27, 2016. The afternoon event runs from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. It combines the closing reception of the two-month art exhibit with the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center’s regular “Art & Wine Intertwined” wine tasting.

Curated by the Bothwell Arts Center, “Recycled Runway” features one-of-a-kind wearable art made with discarded items that have been imaginatively and artistically repurposed and reused. Jackets, dresses, scarves, jewelry and other pieces have been created from used textiles, paper, gloves, photos, maps and expired gift and credit cards that might otherwise have ended up in the landfill.

Each piece will be modeled live at the fashion show scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Music will be provided by Karl Wente with “Front Porch Recycled” and Mark Clarin from McGrail Vineyards with “Junkyard Dawgs.” Both bands use instruments made from recycled materials. Light appetizers will be served. Wine tasting will be available from McGrail Vineyards, Wente Winery, Steven Kent Winery, and

Ruby Hills Winery for \$1 each.

According to Anne Giancola, Bothwell Arts Center Manager, the exhibit invites the public to think about environmental impact, the importance of recycling, and conservation

of limited natural resources. Many reusable and recyclable items end up in the landfill every day, despite a growing awareness of environmental issues and the knowledge that everyone needs to reduce waste.

(continued on page 4)



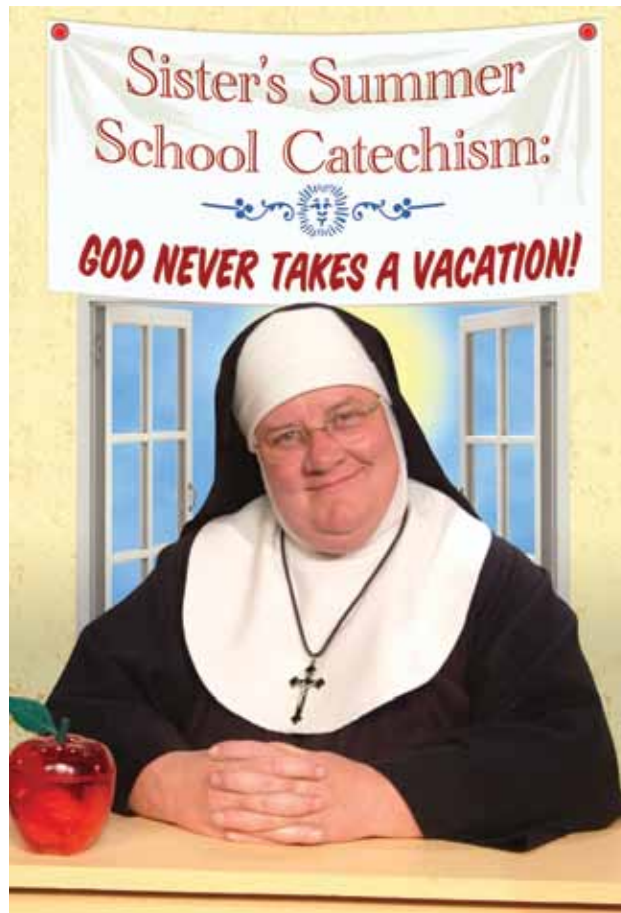
“Fits Like a Glove” by Vera Lowdermilk

'Late Nite Catechism' Coming to the Bankhead

One of the longest-running comedy series in Chicago theater history, "Late Nite Catechism" returns to the Bankhead Theater on Friday, August 19, 2016, with a new take on old-school catechism classes. "Sister's Summer School Catechism" finds the irrepressible Sister stuck teaching catechism to students she knows weren't paying attention all year, instead of taking a relaxing three weeks off. With the audience as catechism students, Sister reviews such vital questions as "Did Jesus have to go to summer school?" "What's an appropriate summer vacation for a practicing Catholic?" and "What's the best use of what's left of your vacation?" Part catechism class, part stand-up comedy routine, the show evokes humorous memories of an earlier era when parochial schools reigned supreme and nuns patrolled the classroom ruler in hand.

At the Bankhead, Sister will be played by Kimberly Richards, a graduate of Oakland's Holy Names High School and current resident of San Francisco, whose career as a performer includes stints as a professional dancer, illusionist, choreographer, aerialist, and comedienne. As an actress, she won two Drama-Logue awards and has appeared in such long-running San Francisco hits as "Bar None" and "Beyond Therapy," among her many other roles. Richards has appeared as "Sister" on tour for more than 11 years, bringing both her experience as a beleaguered Catholic school student and her rich sense of humor to the role.

"Late Night Catechism" is the brainchild of writers Maripat Donovan and Vicki Quade. While filled



with laugh-out-loud humor from beginning to end, the one-woman show maintains a warm and respectful demeanor towards the Catholic sisters to whom, Donovan says, she owes a debt for her early education. A Chicago native, Donovan attended Catholic grammar school and later, Loyola University where she worked in the theater department. She ran her own construction company for a number of years before returning to the theater in 1985 as an actress. Quade also grew up in the Chicago suburbs, working as a journalist for daily newspapers and national magazines, including 10 years as a correspondent for Newsweek. She has written and produced comedies, bluegrass musicals, improv and magic shows. The two became writing partners in 1992, creating the show they have described as "Loretta Young meets Carol Burnett" the following year. "Late Nite Catechism" opened with Donovan in the role of Sister and has since become a hit across the country, as well as in Great Britain, Canada and Australia. They have developed multiple versions of the original show including "Sister's Summer School Catechism," as well as "Sister's Back to School Catechism: The Holy Ghost and Other Terrifying Tales" and "Sister's Easter Catechism School: Will My Bunny Go to Heaven?"

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets for all performances can be purchased at the box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6868.

Sister will be played by Kimberly Richards.

Exhibition Features Theme of 'Local Presence'

The Grand Theatre Center for the Arts in Tracy opens the 2016-17 exhibition session with a special exhibition, titled "Local Presence" featuring paintings by Carolyn Lord.

The exhibit will run from August 26 to Oct. 15 in the GWF Energy and Souza Galleries. An opening reception will be held on Fri., Aug. 26 from 7 to 9 p.m.

A gallery talk will be held noon to 2 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 17. A painting workshop will be offered on Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with registration \$15 residents and \$17 non-residents.

Admission to events is free. They are open to the public.

Local Presence by Livermore artist, Carolyn Lord, investigates the local landscape and architecture of Livermore, the Altamont Pass and Tracy. Her interest in comparing and contrasting these elements of the area led to a unique community-based project at the street level. Neighbors and passersby engaged Lord while she painted on site, sharing stories and local lore. Her work is de-

scribed as an embodiment of observations and memories that provide insight into the fabric of a common history.

Lord explains, "The towns and outlying fields of Tracy and Livermore, and the open landscape of the Altamont Pass, are the themes of this body of work. I am especially inspired by the historic and cultural clues present in the streets and vernacular architecture of these two cities. Because I like working at the scene I am painting, the people who live or work nearby are often curious and stop by. The conversation typically starts by talking about the art and is often followed with personal stories or the lore of their neighborhood. These paintings embody my observations of the scenes and my memories of these interactions."

The center is located at 715 Central Avenue in Tracy. Public hours are Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fri., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and one hour prior to performances on the Grand Theater stages. Exhibitions are open to the public.

Information is available at www.atthegrand.org.



"Grant Line Trailer" by Carolyn Lord



Sunset Soiree Offers Dance Program

Livermore School of Dance presents its 5th annual Sunset Soiree on Saturday, August 27th, 2016 from 6:00-8:30pm in front of the Bankhead Theater at Shea Homes Plaza. All are invited to bring a picnic dinner and chairs and enjoy an evening outside while watching the sunset in Downtown Livermore.

The local teen rock group, Next Generations, will start the evening off, followed by a presentation by the Livermore School of Dance Jazz Company performance, directed by Liz Roberts. The show includes Jazz, Modern, Musical Theater, Tap, Hip Hop and Contemporary Lyrical styles of dance with popular songs of today and some



Pictured are scenes from last year's Soiree, including "One Leap," above, and Delaney, (lower photo).

added classics. This is a very family friendly and fun event for all ages. Admission is free. To celebrate the love of the country, those attending are invited to come wearing red, white, and blue attire.

For those who don't wish to bring a picnic, there are neighboring eateries where it is possible to sit outdoors in their patio dining areas to enjoy the music and dance performance.

Livermore School

of Dance would like to personally thank the City of Livermore for the mini grant received for this performance.

Livermore School of Dance Jazz and Tap Division, directed by Liz Roberts since 2004, offers a nurturing environment for all ages and levels. Our goal is to teach proper technique with positive reinforcement in a professional and fun environment.

Concert Benefits Children's Hospital

A benefit concert, "The Gift of Love," will be held for UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in Oakland on Aug. 21 at 3 p.m. The event will be take place at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries in Livermore.

The afternoon will include musical performances featuring flute, vocal (solo), piano (solo, duet and trio) and small ensemble.

Donations from the concert will be given specifically to the Craniofacial Center, which has been caring for children with Craniofacial differences since 1954. One out of every 900 babies are born with a cleft lip, with or without a cleft palate.

Christine Lee, a former patient at the center and

Livermore resident, has organized the event. She will talk about how her life has been impacted. Carole Ann Reilly, RN, BSN, the clinical nurse coordinator of the center, will share what the center does.

According to Lee, the event will raise awareness of the importance of this clinic and all the hard work

and dedication the doctors and staff provide for patients who are in need.

Our Savior is located at 1385 East Ave., Livermore. Donations by cash/check payable to UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital, Oakland.

For more information, contact Lee at christine.jlee3@gmail.com

Child's Safety Fair Planned In Dublin

A Child Safety Fair will be held in conjunction with the unveiling of the Imagination Playground at the Valley Children's Museum.

Assemblywoman Catharine Baker will host the event in partnership with the Dublin Police Department, Dublin Fire Department, Valley Humane Society, Dublin Rotary Club and more. Events are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sat., Aug. 20 at Emerald Glen Park, 4201 Central Parkway, Dublin.

The safety fair will include fire safety tips, pet and animal safety, pool and open water safety and bike and road safety. Parents will be able to get a free child identification and fingerprinting kits.

To RSVP, contact the district office at 328-1515.

| L I V E R M O R E — arts — BANKHEAD THEATER | |
|--|---|
|  <p>TONIGHT!</p> <p>Keiko Matsui A FREE SPIRIT IN CONTEMPORARY JAZZ Thu AUG 18 7:30pm</p> |  <p>Late Night Catechism SISTER'S SUMMER SCHOOL CATECHISM Fri AUG 19 8pm</p> |
|  <p>3rd Annual Desi Comedy Fest BIGGEST SOUTH ASIAN COMEDY FESTIVAL IN AMERICA Sat AUG 20 8pm</p> |  <p>Recycled Runway Leo Chic Fashion Show and Exhibition Sat AUG 27 2:30pm</p> |
|  <p>GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S COMIC MASTERPIECE</p> <p>The New Mikado LAMPLIGHTERS MUSIC THEATRE Sat AUG 27 8pm Sun AUG 28 2pm</p> | |
| <p>925.373.6800 LVPAC.org 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore</p> | |

Museum Displays 25 Years of LVO's Music and Magic

Pleasanton's Museum on Main has joined forces with Livermore Valley Opera (LVO) to celebrate the company's twenty-fifth season in the exhibit 25 Years of Music and Magic, which opened on August 2. Featuring posters, costumes, props, and pieces of sets as well as footage of live LVO performances, 25 Years of Music and Magic showcases the work both on and behind the stage that goes into making LVO's productions. Highlights include a wedding kimono used in *Madama Butterfly*, Juliet's window from *Romeo et Juliette*, part of a church column from *Tosca*, a real boar's head from *Die Fledermaus*, and the bloodstained dagger and wedding dress of Lucia di Lammermoor.

"A lot of people think of opera as something kind of formal and stuffy," says Museum on Main curator Ken MacLennan. "However, many of the stories are pretty sensational—sex,



Tosca Church Choir panorama: "LVO's 2003 production of Tosca. Photo: Barbara Mallon

jealousy, murder, suicide. It's a lot like the National Enquirer, only with really pretty music."

Livermore Valley Opera's origins lie in a failed attempt to form an opera company in Fremont in 1991. A production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado* fared poorly there, but a follow-up performance in Livermore sold enough tickets to suggest that a permanent company

might succeed in the Valley. Five members of *The Mikado's* chorus, all Valley residents, then organized the Livermore Valley Opera and produced Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* in February 1993. From those first productions until 2007, the company performed in the theater of Livermore High School, then moved to the Bankhead for their eleventh season. This fall, season 25 will open with *The Fly-*

ing Dutchman, LVO's first production of an opera by Richard Wagner, and continue in the spring with Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*.

"25 Years of Music and Magic" will run through October 16. Pleasanton's Museum on Main is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday 10-4 and Sunday 1-4. The Museum is at 603 Main Street in downtown Pleasanton; the telephone



"R&J window – starting to add color" Juliette's window under construction. Photo: Bill Rabe

number is 925/462-2766, and general inquiries by

e-mail may be directed to info@museumonmain.org.

WEARABLE ART

(continued from front page)

Giancola credits the original idea for this exhibit to a conversation she had with artist Vera Lowdermilk last year. A well-known muralist whose work graces the Old Livermore Firehouse on First Street and other local venues, Lowdermilk is a familiar face at the Bankhead where she currently serves as a visitor center supervisor. Although best known for her murals, her artistic talents find expression in a wide range of mediums.

Lowdermilk grew up with the school of thought that things can often be used and reused. She says, "There is often potential to use things again in a new way." Over the years she has saved things she thinks

might be useful, collecting them in a cabinet in the garage or in her studio. As an artist and in everyday life, her collections have often come in handy. "You never know when you'll find you have just the very thing you need," she laughed.

For her, the creative challenge of "Recycled Runway" was in capturing the potential of things most people might see as disposable and instead envisioning how they might be turned into something of value that could be admired and worn. Her pieces for this exhibit include "Raining Cats and Dogs," rain garb made from recycled pet food packaging, "Fits Like a Glove," a dress

fashioned from a discarded collection of gloves, and "Who Swiped Whom," a stylish dress ornamented with expired credit cards. Lowdermilk has enhanced the display of some of her pieces with two-dimensional paintings as well.

Giancola says the works in "Recycled Runway" were created by a number of local artists, as well as students from Sian Oblak's 3D art class at Las Positas College. The exhibit includes a dress crafted from colorful magazine pages by Shawna Hipple, "Spring Garden," a jacket made by textile artist Caryne Mount from vintage kimono fabric, the vivid multicolor "Pea-

cock Coat" by Loran Watkins, a dress and accessories featuring expired Peets gift cards entitled "500 Cups of Coffee" by Bernice LaRosa, and many more. A display of two-dimensional art made from recycled materials by Joanna Crenshaw is on display in the Founders Room off the lobby.

The exhibit is on display in the Gallery at the Bankhead Theater seven days a week from noon to 6 p.m. until Friday, August 26th. The fashion show will be held the following day. Run by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC), the Visitor's Center and Gallery is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore.



"Raining Cats and Dogs" by Vera Lowdermilk

Second Emmy for Raiders' Production

By Carol Graham

After Livermore resident JR Romero read a text from his daughter on the evening of June 4, he jumped up and yelled to his wife, "She did it again!"

He was speaking of his 28-year-old daughter, Jessica Romero, who for the second year in a row won an Emmy for her work with Silver and Black Productions, the Oakland Raiders' in-house television production operation devoted to providing viewers with behind-the-scenes content.

"We are so proud of her. The drive and creativity she has just blows me away," said JR, whose family owns Tri-Valley Auto Body in Livermore. "To win one was awesome. To win again? I don't have the words. Nothing but admiration for her."

The 45th Annual Northern California Area Emmy Awards, honoring excellence in all fields of television and on-line production, was hosted at the SFJAZZ Center in San Francisco.

"It's an exciting event because a lot of talented people from within the



Jessica Romero with her Emmy.

television industry are all gathered in one place," said Jessica. "It's neat to

recognize some of them and realize you're all there for the same reason.

Jessica was part of a team that won the Sports: One-Time Special Emmy

for "The Raiders Report: A Rookie's Dream."

"The episode is part of a sports documentary series, and focuses on a few of the most influential Raiders rookies in 2015: Amari Cooper, Ben Heeney and Mario Edwards, Jr. The story follows their backgrounds, their transition into the NFL, and their immediate impact on the team," said Jessica. "I enjoyed interviewing the rookies. One of them, Amari Cooper, is perceived as being shy, so I was nervous I wouldn't be able to get the sound I hoped to collect for the show. But he told great stories and really opened up. While he was talking I just kept thinking, 'This is going to be perfect.'"

"Our show was in a category with great pieces produced by larger studios, so I was kind of looking at our show as the underdog," added the 2011 San Francisco State University graduate. "When they an-

nounced the winner, they paused before saying, 'Go Raiders!' I was filled with pride to be able to help bring that back for the organization."

Jessica, who now lives in Oakland, had grown up in a family of avid Raiders fans.

"As a football fan, it's awesome to see what it takes to become an NFL player," JR said of the video. "As a Raiders fan, it is exciting to see and to get a feel for the personalities and talent these young players bring to the team."

"People ask how it feels to have an Emmy; it's cool, but I am happier about how it makes my parents feel," said Jessica. "Working for a team my entire family and I love has been such a blessing. I am so excited for football this season! I see some awesome stories in the near future."

To learn more or watch the video, visit www.Raiders.com.

Program at the Library Focuses on the Beatles' Final Concert

Professional musician Dulais Rhys will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Beatles' final public concert held at Candlestick Park in San Francisco during their 1966 tour. His illustrated lecture Hello, Goodbye will be held on Sunday, August 28, 2016, 2 pm to 3:30 pm, at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. There is no charge for this event.

Rhys' lecture outlines the details of the Beatles' final public concert – including the supporting acts - as well as the background, content and aftermath of the event. The songs that the Beatles sang will be heard and discussed along with a brief history of the group's formation and a discussion of why their music is still popular and relevant today.

Dulais Rhys is a professional musician based in San Francisco. He holds bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in music from the University of Wales as well as several teaching diplomas.

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.

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Yesterday into Today

By Sarah Bobson

PROTESTS AT THE 1968 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION: AN INSIDER'S LOOK

The Youth International Party, or Yippies as they called themselves, wanted to make something happen at the 1968 Democratic National Convention held in Chicago August 25-29. So they decided to organize what they called a Festival of Life full of music and political theater, to counter what they called the Convention of Death.

Berkeley resident and former Yippie Judy Gumbo remembers those days. We recently sat down in her beautiful co-housing home studded with framed 60s posters and chatted about her experiences in connection with the convention. The following comes not only from that interview, but also from information at Gumbo's website www.Yippiegirl.com.

Gumbo is a warm, ingratiating woman, a grandmother now. And yet, that pretty young woman pictured in photographs with Yippie founders Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin, or with celebrity sympathizer Marlon Brando, or with demonstrators in protest marches, still seems to reside inside her, especially when she revisits the turbulent events surrounding the Convention.

As we began our discussions about the convention and the protesting anti-war groups, she was quick to draw the distinction between what she referred to as mainstream peace movement groups such as the National Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam (MOBE) and Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), who staged marches, speeches, and rallies, and the coun-

terculture Yippies, who, like the MOBE and SDS, also wanted to wake up the American people to President Lyndon Johnson's stepped-up military campaign in Vietnam, although the Yippies wanted to do it in a theatrical and dramatic way.

In preparing for the Yippies' Festival of Life day, both Hoffman and Rubin, children of the media and devotees of communications philosopher Marshall McLuhan and his seminal book *The Media is the Massage*, felt they had to make the event dramatic, not only to draw media attention but also to make a lasting impression on people. What better way to do that than to stage something outrageous and weird. Thus was born the idea to run a pig as the presidential candidate of the Youth International Party. To Hoffman and other Yippie founders, including Gumbo's boyfriend Stew Albert, Hoffman's wife Anita, Rubin and his girlfriend Nancy Kurshan, journalist Paul Krassner (editor and publisher of the *Realist*), and folk singer Phil Ochs, a pig seemed to be the logical symbol for the Yippies anti-establishment festival. During the 60s and 70s, antiwar protesters and members of the counterculture showed their opposition to police brutality used against the American peo-

ple by referring derogatorily to members of law enforcement as pigs. The Yippies' decision to use a live pig, however, led to a huge internal debate, as Judy points out with her wry sense of humor in her present-tense narrative, "The Battle of Chicago," which originally appeared online in *Counterpunch* in 2008.

"Abbie, Anita and Paul want a tiny cute pig. Jerry gets incensed. It violates his sense of effective Yippie marketing: to adequately represent the candidates and all they stand for, the Yippie pig needs to be big, fat, ugly and mean. Jerry calls a meeting and, disregarding Stew's advice to let it be, reads a statement out loud to Abbie, Anita and Paul, denouncing Abbie as a media-hungry 'ego tripper.' Jerry even threatens to hand his statement out as a leaflet in Lincoln Park, if Abbie doesn't relent about the size of the Yippie pig. This is what a serious ideological split in the Yippies comes down to – the girth and poundage of our presidential candidate." In the end, the faction led by Rubin decided to get the largest, smelliest, most repulsive hog they could find.

On the Friday before the convention was to officially begin, they all piled into a truck and Ochs drove Gumbo, Albert, and a Yippie tai chi expert named Wolf Lowenthal

to a farm on the outskirts of town. Here they met a farmer who agreed to sell the pig but told them they would have to get into the pigpen and catch the 200-pound beast themselves.

"I'll never forget how hysterically funny that was," Gumbo says, "all of us falling, slipping and sliding, covered in mud and pig poop. Phil, being more fastidious, declines to participate, but he's the one who pays the farmer (\$25). Somehow we manage to load Pigasus into our truck (she was very stubborn, not the activity of a presidential candidate, Gumbo points out in the interview) and take her back to Chicago for a press conference at the Civic Center the next day. On our way back, with occasional oinking in the background, Jerry advocates in his forceful, Jerry, ad-man way that the Yippies demand Pigasus get treated as a legitimate candidate, with secret service protection and foreign policy briefings."

That night, although Pigasus the presidential candidate did not get secret service protection, she did get some sort of protection. Wolf, the tai chi expert, stood guard, ready to use his martial arts training if necessary to protect the candidate, who, rather ignominiously, had to spend the night in the truck parked

on a Chicago residential street.

Early Sunday, the day of the Yippies' Festival of Life," Gumbo says she heard the whump-whump-whump of a helicopter hovering over the park and Hoffman heard over a walkie talkie that the police were entering the park. Then, in a frozen moment of time, Gumbo remembers looking over at Albert, her boyfriend, a surfer boy in looks who a few years later would become her husband of 30 years, and seeing blood running from his forehead down through his long blond curls.

"'You're bleeding,' I tell Stew. As if he didn't know that. Isn't it amazing the stupid things you say in a crisis?"

Volunteer medics took Albert to the hospital in what Gumbo describes as a multi-purpose vehicle designated with a red cross. She wanted to ride along with her boyfriend but she says there was no room. "There were too many journalists in there covering the story."

Had the Yippies expected violence? No, says Gumbo, who blames the police for initiating it.

"Let me be absolutely clear," she said during the interview. "The violence came from the Chicago police. Stew's was the first bloodshed in Chicago. The cops attacked everybody. It was

indiscriminate. A member of the British Parliament was beaten. A reporter was beaten."

Gumbo says a subsequent report, submitted by David Walker, Director of the Chicago Study Team, to the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, verified the police violence. Nevertheless, Gumbo offers a caveat. She points out that the Yippies did say provocative things, among them that they were going to put LSD into Chicago's drinking water. She believes that Chicago Mayor Richard Daley's response to those provocations, to send in a contingent of cops and to call for the help of the National Guard, all of which outnumbered the protesters roughly two to one, may also have spilled over from earlier measures he took to contain anticipated riots following Martin Luther King's assassination on April 4th of that year. Before the convention got underway, it became apparent to the Yippies, MOBE, and SDS that the large number of protesters they had hoped would come from all over the country, somewhere in the tens of thousands, would not materialize. Word had spread that Daley intended to clamp down on demonstrators. The bands had been scared off, and only MC-5, a hard rock band out of Ann Arbor, showed up. Nevertheless, Gumbo and her fellow Yippies, "pure of heart and pure of soul," as she describes it, still believed they would be allowed to demonstrate peacefully.

Next Month: In Part II, read about Allen Ginsburg and Phil Ochs and their experiences with the National Guard and tear gas.

LAS's Youth Concert Adds New Dimension

By Carol Graham

Music from three centuries filled the night air as the Livermore-Amador Symphony Youth Orchestra performed its 8th annual summer concert. This year featured a new addition: the orchestra's 76 musicians, aged 11 to 21, included two pianists from Pleasanton's New World Music Academy.

"Mark Anderson, owner of New World Music Academy (NWMA), and I met last winter and spoke about how we wished to create more advanced opportunities for our two academies," said Goran Berg, owner of Sycamore Strings Academy (SSA) in Livermore. "NWMA has excellent piano students, and SSA has equally great string students. This quickly went from thought to action."

The result was a resplendent concert that took place on August 6th at Livermore's First Presbyterian Church. It featured the 18th-century music of Mozart; the 19th-century music of Brahms, Saint-Saens and Grieg; and the 20th-century music of Carl Nielsen and John Williams.

While the final name on the list may not be recognizable to many, his music is known by all. Williams composed one of the best-known soundtracks of all time for the movie "Star Wars." Hearing the soaring Star Wars Medley played live by the young musicians was not only great fun, it was truly beautiful - a performance

that honored the brilliance of Williams' work.

"Throughout the program, the orchestra's accuracy, precision, and emotional highs kicked in after our nine weeks of rehearsals," said Berg, who directs the LASYO summer program. "Kudos to the orchestra for responding to us conductors, including our very fine co-conductor Don Adkins. The collaboration with the two young pianists was new to me and a kick for me."

Berg added that in planning the program for this year's youth symphony, "We decided on Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saens. The unusual score calls for two advanced pianists."

The pianists, both 8th-grade students, were Franklin Ho and Jason Hale.

"I imagine the audience was well aware of the exceptional talents of the young performers and their high degree of commitment and hard work," said Anderson of the concert. "At the same time, I imagine the musicians witnessed the joy of musical collaboration with their peers and the tremendous self-confidence that is built by such opportunities."

The program included Overture to The Magic Flute (Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart), Symphony No. 4 in E Minor, Opus 98 (Johannes Brahms), Holberg Suite (Edvard Grieg), and Aladdin Suite, Opus 34 (Carl Nielsen).

Yet the concert's highlight was French composer Camille Saint-Saens' Carnival of the Animals, a humorous, playful piece that allowed various performers to shine as each movement depicts, through sound, the essence of an animal, such as a tortoise, elephant, kangaroo, swan, cuckoo, and yes, even human.

"I hope audience members took how unbelievably talented these young people are," said LASYO coordinator Betsy Hausberg, "and what hard work can achieve."

The Livermore-Amador Symphony established LASYO in 2009 to provide an opportunity for young local musicians to develop their skills, participate in a unique performance, and learn from experienced musicians who served as mentors volunteering their time, skill and experience.

"New World Music Academy is proud to be associated with Sycamore Strings Academy, and to give our students the opportunities that this union provides," said Anderson. "Our two music academies have found a common mission which is to design, create and provide the invaluable gift of chamber music to our students. As an educator, that is the holy grail."

To learn more, visit www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org, www.sycamorestringsacademy.com, or www.newworldmusicacademy.com.

Pancake Breakfast Raising Funds for 'The Paws in Need' Program

A tasty pancake breakfast will be held to raise funds to help save the life of local pets and help prevent animal overpopulation. The Paws In Need Applebee's Flapjack Pancake Breakfast will be held Saturday, August 20, 2016 from 8 to 10am at the Applebee's located at 4808 Dublin Blvd. in the Hacienda Crossings Shopping Center, Dublin.

The menu pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs and a beverage of your choice including coffee, tea, juice or soda.

All proceeds will benefit local animals. The Spay/Neuter and "Just Like New" programs rely solely on public donations and contributions from the community to provide financial assistance for veterinary

medical needs to prevent unnecessary euthanasia of animals in the Tri-Valley area.

Breakfast tickets are \$10 per person. Tickets can be purchased online at www.Paws-In-Need.org.

Contact event coordinator Dana Daley at 925-323-7140 or sparkelady88@yahoo.com for more information.

Annual Student Art Contest Taking Entries

"Art transcends all boundaries. It speaks to your heart and engages your mind."

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Tri-Valley Haven invites all Tri-Valley area students to help raise awareness about family violence through participating in the Annual Student Art Contest. Youth of all ages and levels of experience are invited to participate.

This year's theme is "Freedom from Fear." Through services for families, the Haven hopes to build a world without violence. Students are asked to imagine a hopeful future where all families are free

from fear.

Artwork must be original and students may use up to four colors. Pictures cannot be larger than 14x14 inches. Contest Guidelines and Entry Forms can be downloaded from the Tri-Valley Haven website: www.trivalleyhaven.org. Deadline for submissions is Friday, September 9, 2016.

First place winner receives \$100 cash prize. Artwork will be featured on the t-shirt for Tri-Valley Haven's Pace for Peace 5K/10K Run/Walk. In addition, the winner will receive a commemorative t-shirt and be presented with their

prizes at the Pace for Peace event.

The Pace for Peace 5K/10K Run/Walk will take place on Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 8am at Tri-Valley Haven, 3663 Pacific Avenue, Livermore.

Now in its fourth decade of service Tri-Valley Haven provides vital shelter and support services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, homelessness, and hunger. The Haven also provides comprehensive violence prevention education to local schools.

For more information about Tri-Valley Haven, visit www.trivalleyhaven.org or call (925) 449-5845.

Expert to Answer Questions on Gardening

Mark Brunell, PhD, professor of biology at the University of the Pacific and president of the California Botanical Society, presents a Question and Answer (Q&A) session on such topics as seed starting; plant problems; water-wise gardening; irrigation; planting and growing tomatoes; trellising; bed preparation; lawn removal and more.

The Gardening Q&A program will be held at

the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, from 2:00 to 3:30 pm on Saturday, August 27, 2016. There is no charge for this event; no sign-up is needed.

Brunell holds a doctorate in botany and plant sciences, and has been a Professor of Biology at the University of the Pacific since 2002. He is past-president of the Alameda County Master Gardener advisory board and is currently president

of the California Botanical Society. He has been teaching general biology and plant courses full-time since 1997, and has been actively gardening at home and other gardens since 2004. He lives in Livermore with his wife and two children.

To learn more about this program and other events, check the library's website at www.livermorelibrary.net.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

Members of the Pleasanton Art League Public Art Circuit are currently exhibiting art at six businesses in the Pleasanton - Dublin Area. Viewing locations are: Bank of America at 337 Main Street, Pleasanton; Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 4900 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton; US Bank at 749 Main Street, Pleasanton; Edward Jones at 6601 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin; and The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Avenue Pleasanton. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimmingham at (510) 877-8154.

Recycled Runway, exhibit, Visitor's Center and Gallery, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. runway fashion show 2:30 p.m. Aug. 27. Free. www.bankheadtheater.org.

Transformation: 25 Years of Asian American Women Artists. New multidisciplinary exhibit featuring 42 artists opens at the Harrington Gallery on Saturday, July 30, on display through September 3. Among the wide variety of interesting works: written word pieces, books, a floor mandala, a 7' kimono constructed of glass and copper wire, and an installation with chair and mirrors. August 4, for the Young@Art children's gallery program, kids will view and discuss this exhibition and create a colorful koinobori and a mandala to take home. To register, visit www.pleasantonfun.com, and type in the code 62510. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue.

Pleasanton Art League Annual Members Exhibition, Sept. 20-Oct. 9, Harrington Gallery, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad

Ave., Pleasanton. Reception, Sept. 20, 6 to 8 p.m.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Show and Tell, Artists are invited to a monthly function at the Bothwell Arts Center, called "Show & Tell. 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Artists bring finished or unfinished work to show and if desired, receive a critique from the group. Refreshments are brought by some of the artists, and a donation of \$5.00 is desired although not mandatory. Contact for this event is D'Anne Miller at danne_miller@att.net, or Linda Ryan at LRyan@Livermoreperformingarts.org

ACC/Art Critique & Coffee, Discuss and share work with Professional Artists in sketching, painting, exhibiting and marketing your work. ACC members currently working on exhibiting theme works, under the Inspiration of "The Artist's Edge /The Edge of Art & Chosen Pathways." Meets and Critiques Friday mornings in Pleasanton. PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

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

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

Art Classes, For children, teens and adults. Beginner to advanced. Drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and ceramics taught by highly experienced artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst. Weekday and weekend classes, Home school classes, Special classes during school breaks offered. (925) 216-7231 or email

thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

Piano and keyboard lessons, For children to adult. Beginner to early intermediate level. Half-hour private classes or small group classes offered. Twice-yearly recitals. (925) 216-7231 or email thomasin_d@hotmail.com for further info.

PPL/Pleasanton Poetry League, now meeting the 1st Thursday and 3rd Wednesday of each month 7:00 at The Corner Bakery Cafe in Pleasanton. Join us as we challenge ourselves to poetically relay our thoughts, emotions and experiences through poetry. Become a member & share your work - Contact PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com for more info on Theme Challenges, Membership & Opportunities.

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the last Saturday from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First St., Livermore. Confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are available for purchase. Small \$10 fee to cover meeting costs.

The Young Artists' Studio has openings in its 2016 Summer Session. Artist Peggy Frank welcomes interested students ages 7 and older to sign up for a week or more of small group instruction in art. Projects include all kinds of drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. High school students working on advanced portfolios are welcome, as are adults and families, if space allows. Peggy has been working with young artists in the Livermore Valley since 1980. For information about the summer art program or weekly school year lessons contact her at (925) 443-8755 or email frank.a@comcast.net.

WINE & SPIRITS

Las Positas Vineyards, Livermore. Fri., Aug. 19, Evening in the Vineyards, 6 to 9 p.m. featuring Terry & Mary. Wine, non-alcoholic beverages along with Artisan Pizza's available for purchase (sorry no outside food or beverages permitted) To purchase tickets please visit www.laspositasvineyards.com. Space is limited.

Charles R Vineyards Summer

Sipping Party, Music by Mudd Daddy & Club Pick Up With An Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, August 20th from 11:30am - 4:30pm. Special "Anniversary Day Only Sale" on the 2012 Barbera for Club Members. 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore.

Eagle Ridge Vineyard, celebrating the Release of its 2012 Petite Sirah and a new Syrah Port "Cadison." Both of these wines will be available Sunday Aug. 21, 2016. Come out & enjoy these new wines and live music with Chris Head and "Rhyme & Reason." A private Release Luncheon from 12:00 - 3:30, is available for all of their "Taste of the Vine" Wine Club members ONLY. Please RSVP for luncheon by Aug. 19 to 925-447-4328.

Charles R Vineyards, 4th Friday, free summer concert series, 6 to 9 p.m. Aug. 26: KNR band; Sept. 23: Afterglow! 8195 Crane Ridge Road/end of Greenville Road, Livermore.

Wood Family Winery, Sandra J. Wing Healing Foundation Release Party, August 28th, 2 to 7 p.m. Releasing the 2014 "HeartYWood" Red Wine. Proceeds will benefit the foundation. Live music by "Hannah Jane Kyle" trio and Smokin Hot Meat N Treats food truck will be here with their delicious food for purchase for snacking or dinner. \$10 per person and keep your logo crystal wine glass. No tasting fee for "Family" members who choose to leave their glass. 7702 Cedar Mountain Rd. Livermore.

Nottingham Cellars, Thursday night music, 5:30-7:30 pm. - 8/18: Eric Eckstein; 8/25: Tom Duarte; Saturday - Music on the Patio, 1 to 4 p.m. - 8/20: Dave Land; 8/27: Meredith McHenry. www.nottinghamcellars.com

Wente Vineyards, The Cinema at Wente Vineyards: Aug. 19, Inside Out; Sept. 9, Star Wars, The Force Awakens; Sept. 23, Under the Tuscan Sun. Wente Family Estates Vineyards, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore. 925-456-2300. Visit wentevineyards.com for Cinema details.

Nottingham Cellars, Aug. 20, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. When in Rhone party featuring five Vasco Urbano Rhone style wines paired with food crated by Chef Eduardo Posada. 2015 Passport Series Grenache Blanc, 2013 'Norm' Grenache, 2013

'Henry' Syrah and 2013 'H.P.' Mourvedre as the featured wines as well as the unveiling of our 2014 'The Sheriff' GSM. Tickets \$55 for members, \$65 public. For tickets, visit the website or contact the winery at 925.294.8647 ext.5

McGrail Vineyards and Winery, second annual fundraiser for Open Heart Kitchen on Saturday, August 27, 2016. Tasting of 16 of the Livermore Valley's best Cabernet Sauvignons and Sauvignon Blancs, followed by a tri-tip buffet dinner and dessert. The fun continues with prize drawings and dancing to the music of Lunafish. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$85 per person. Advance tickets are available by visiting mcgrailvineyards.com. For more information, please call (925) 580-6793. McGrail Vineyards is located at 5600 Greenville Road in Livermore.

Cedar Mountain Winery, Grill & Chill, Music - Wine - BBQ Grilling, 6 to 9 p.m. Sept. 3. Music by Chris Ahlman. B.Y.O.F. (bring your own food to grill), grill supplied. Bring your grilling food, BBQ tools, side dishes, plates, and utensils. Wine by the glass/bottle and non alcoholic beverages, salami, cheese, and crackers will be available for purchase. Call the Tasting Room for more information at (925) 373-6636. Fee is \$5 per/person. (cash collected when parking). All fees go to the band. Law prohibits ANY outside alcohol on the premises.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Concerts in the Park, June 3 to August 25, Fridays, 7 p.m. Lions Wayside Park, corner of First and Neal, Pleasanton. No admission charge. Pleasanton Downtown Association, www.pleasanton-downtown.net

Castle Rock, performance schedule. Aug 28: Hot August, 5 to 8 p.m. Nights (Theme) Take Two; Sept. 6: Jambalaya Swing Band, 7:30-9:30 p.m.; Sept. 13: Chris Bradley, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Sept. 11: Take Two, 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 25: Take Two, 5 to 8 p.m. 848 Portola Ave., Livermore. Cover charge.

Evenings on the Green, Tuesdays 6:45 to 8:15 p.m. Shea Homes Plaza outside the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Free. www.bankheadtheater.org.

Blacksmith Square, music every Saturday 3 to 6 p.m. in the courtyard, 21 South Livermore Ave.,

Livermore.

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band appears regularly at: The Castle Rock Restaurant in Livermore/ on Portola Avenue-- the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30--Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

Fourth Annual Music in the Orchard Summer Benefit Concert Series, Purple Orchid Wine Country Resort, 4549 Cross Road, Livermore. Presented by the Purple Orchid, Nottingham Cellars, Altamont Beer Works and Sauced BBQ. Crawdad Republic on Aug. 24, and Toree McGee on Sept. 29. All concerts are 6 to 9 p.m. \$14 in advance, \$20 at the door. Purchase tickets online at PurpleOrchid.com. Advance tickets also available at Nottingham Cellars, 2245 C So. Vasco Rd. and Altamont Beer Works, 2402 Research Dr., Livermore.

Keiko Matsui, August 18, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Front Porch Music Festival, Saturday September 3, 2016, 11am - 9pm at Wente Vineyards Estate Winery & Tasting Room, hosted by Fifth Generation Winemaker, Karl Wente. Performing will be Hot Buttered Rum, Wolf Hamlin & the Front Porch Drifters, David Luning, Elliott Randall and the Deadmen, Night Harvest, Garage Band Academy, Kingsborough, Peter Case, Matt El, Danny Click. 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore. 925-456-2300

Opening Night Season 7 Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center. An Evening with Internationally Celebrated Jazz & Cabaret Singer Ariana Savalas joined by Special Guest 2-Time Grammy Award-Winning Jazz Violinist Mads Tolling. Musical Saturday, September 3, 8:00 p.m. Reserved seating tickets are \$17.00-\$27.00; available at www.firehousearts.org, by calling 925-931-4848, and at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Brilliance at the Bankhead, Featuring singer Judy Collins. Gala to Officially Open Tenth Season at the Bankhead Theater, Saturday, September 10, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore. \$250 per person. 373-6800 or www.bankheadtheater.org. Largest fundraising event of the year for

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, the gala supports both the Bankhead Theater and the Bothwell Arts Center.

The Bird Dogs, Everly Brothers Salute, Sept. 10, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org, 931-4848.

Annual Piano Recital, Saturday, September 17, 2016, 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 (MTAC) and Asbury. Fremont resident Elliot Wu, MTAC Young Artist Guild member and pre-college scholarship student at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, will perform timeless music masterpieces by Beethoven, Chopin and Rachmaninoff. The community invited to attend. No charge for admission; refreshments served. Further information:

925 443-2514 acoll@comcast.net

Young Dubliners, 8 p.m. Sept. 30. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org, 931-4848.

ON THE STAGE

Late Night Catechism: Sister's Summer School, August 19, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

The Magic & Comedy of Ryan Kane. Current reigning San Francisco magic champion winner "Best Stage Magician in the Bay Area." Saturday, August 20, 8:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. Reserved seating tickets \$15- \$25. Known for his comedic edge, high energy, and original magic, Ryan performs from New York to Las Vegas, and for prestige corporate clients such as Microsoft, Intel, and Louis Vuitton. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Lamplighters Music Theatre, Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Mikado*. Sat., Aug. 27 at 8 p.m. and Sun., Aug. 28 at 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Firehouse Arts Center Season 7: Tickets now on sale both online and at the box office. Three theater companies and diverse concert and show offerings, with pop/rock, indie, folk, blues, jazz, comedy, magic, world music, holiday, classical, and tribute shows all on the schedule. SHOW HIGHLIGHTS: Ariana Savalas, The Young Dubliners, Marc Broussard, Four Bitchin' Babes, Cashore Marionettes, Spencer Day, 3 Blonde Moms. TRIBUTES to the music of Barbra Streisand, The Everly Brothers, John Denver, Elvis, Led Zeppelin, The Kingston Trio. THEATER HIGHLIGHTS: *Evita!*,

My Fair Lady, Anything Goes, The Phantom Tollbooth, Madagascar Jr. PLUS magic, improv, holiday shows and children's theater. Ticket and membership info now at www.firehousearts.org, and in person at the Firehouse Box Office: 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, or 925-931-4848. Hours: Wednesday - Friday 12:00 noon-6:00pm and Saturdays 10:00am-4:00pm, and 2 hours prior to performances.

The Phantom Toll Booth, Jr. Sept. 16-Sept. 25, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org, 931-4848.

17th Eugene O'Neill Festival. Tickets online at village theatreshows.com - *Seascape* by Edward Albee 1975 Pulitzer Prize winning drama; Village Theatre, 233 Front Street, Danville; September 2, 3, (8 pm), September 4 (2 pm), September 9, 10, (8 pm), September 11 (2 pm), September 16, 17 (8 pm), September 18 (2 pm). Presented in cooperation with Role Players Ensemble. The Emperor Jones by Eugene O'Neill O'Neill's 1920 Classic drama, Old Barn, Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site, Danville; September 23, 24 (8 pm), September 25 (2 pm), September 30 & October 1 (8 pm), October 2 (2 pm). N by Adrienne Pender, New play by Travis Bogard Artist in Residence, Old Barn, Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site September 29 (8 pm) -- Staged Reading. Documentary Screening of Ric Burns' PBS American Experience documentary about Eugene O'Neill. Thursday, September 8 (7 pm). Danville Veteran Memorial Hall, 400 Hartz Ave. special exhibits on Eugene O'Neill's career and The Emperor Jones at Tao House. www.eugeneoneill.org or Call (925) 820-1818

COMEDY

An Evening of Magic & Comedy, featuring Ryan Kane, 8 p.m. Aug. 20, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 631-4848.

Comedy Uncorked, Retzlaff Vineyards, Sat., Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m. Benefiting Open Heart Kitchen. Details online at comedyuncorked.com. 1356 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

MOVIES

Dublin Picnic Flix, free summer

movie series at Emerald Glen Park. Food, beverages and snacks available for purchase beginning at 7 p.m. Movie begins at dusk. Guests are encouraged to bring low-back chairs and/or blankets. Final show, Aug. 19: *Frozen* (PG). Information, 556-4500.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

Competition for Young Musicians, Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, application deadline Sept. 18, 2016 (applications will be accepted starting on Sept. 9). 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 purchase is to select two young musicians who will perform as soloists with the symphony on Feb. 18, 2017. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$500. Applications must be accompanied by an \$8 application fee and a recording for preliminary screening. Additional information at www.livermoreamadorsymphony.org or by contacting the competition chairperson at 447-1947.

Broadway Chorus, registration for both the Adult Chorus and the Kids' Chorus at Ridgeview Common, 5200 Case Avenue, Pleasanton on Sunday, August 21, 2016 between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. For more information about Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre's Broadway Chorus: TVRT's Broadway Chorus. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre: 1020 Serpentine Lane, Suite 101, Pleasanton. 925.462.2121, info@trivalleyrep.com, website www.trivalleyrep.org

Valley Dance Theatre, seeking boys and men for its 2016 Nutcracker and 2017 Spring Rep performances. Auditions will be held at Valley Dance Theatre in Livermore on Sept. 17 at 1:30 p.m. Contact the office at office@valleydance-theatre.com or call 243-0925 with questions or unable to attend the scheduled audition. Nutcracker performances ate Dec. 10, 11, 13, 16, 17 and 18, 2016; Spring Rep May 27 and 28, 2017.

OPERA

Livermore Valley Opera, Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman*, Sept. 24, 25, Oct. 1, 2. Bankhead Theater,

2400 First St., Livermore. 373-6800 or www.bankheadtheater.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions

We're Talkin' Books! Club is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Nancy Tingstrom Turner at ntingstr@yahoo.com.

Storied Nights: An Evening of Spoken Word. 2nd Thursday of each month. Features local authors reading their work 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea, 152 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Sponsored by LVPAC and Peet's. Information go to <http://facebook.com/StoriedNights>

An Evening With... Julia Morgan, Tuesday, September 20, 7pm. Museum on Main Ed Kinney Speakers Series, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 seniors (65+) / students (with valid ID), \$5 members. Tickets may be purchased online at www.museumonmain.org, at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766. For more information on the Ed Kinney Speakers Series visit www.museumonmain.org or phone Museum on Main at (925) 462-2766.

Taste Of Africa presented by Cheza Nam Foundation, 4 p.m. Oct. 1. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org, 931-4848.

Note

Costumes for the Lamplighter Musical Theatre's production of "The New Mikado" were designed by Miriam Lewis.

Singer/Songwriter Performs at Panama Bay

Singer/Songwriter Ira Leitner (pictured below) returns to "Music City," as he refers to Livermore, to perform his original music at Panama Bay Coffee House at 2 PM on August 21st.

A former long-time

California resident, Leitner sings of inspirations drawn from journeys to in the Calaveras Wilderness and along the John Muir Trail ("Sierra Sundown"); joy at finding a bottle of Bay Bridge Wine on a Walmart shelf in Huntsville, Ala-

bama ("Livermore Wine"); a morning in Pleasanton shared with backyard roses and chirping birds ("Morning Sun"); and, touching the granite of El Capitan ("We'll Find Gold Once More in California").

Since leaving California for work, Leitner has lived and played music in Huntsville and Muscle Shoals Alabama, Slidell Louisiana, and Nashville Tennessee. Leitner returned to the Bay Area several times during this period for inspiration and to perform in Livermore music events such as ArtWalk.

Leitner's show is part of the "Sunday Matinee" series of music programs at Panama Bay Coffee House. The series features original singer/songwriters seeking an opportunity to perform in public. Interested performers may contact info@valleysingout.com. Panama Bay Coffee House is located at the corner of First and K Street.



Milestones

Hope Hospice Announced New Chief of Patient Care

Nenette Hoffman, RN, Patient Care. She is responsible for managing all aspects of our patient care services.

NEW FACES

Children born at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton: A son to Thomisha and Carlton Booker of Concord on July 1. A daughter to Colleen and Vernon Mendoza, Jr. of Livermore on July 1.

MILITARY

U.S. Air Force Reserve Airman Tyrone Jereza graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Jereza is the son of Fe and Rodolfo Jereza of Daly City, Calif., and brother of Sarah Corpuz of Pleasanton. He graduated in 1993 from Quezon City Science High School, Quezon City, Philippines.

EDUCATION

Pleasanton resident Bryan Park received a UG Communications Design degree from New York City's prestigious Pratt Institute at its 127th Commencement ceremony. Held at the iconic Radio City Music Hall. Bryan was one of nearly 1,000 graduating students to be awarded their degree.

The Rotary Club of Pleasanton awarded six Pleasanton students, who are Juniors or Seniors in college, scholarships of \$1000. These newest scholarships were awarded based on financial need and interviews. The funds were available through the annual Father's Day Run held by the Rotary Club. Scholarships were awarded to the following students: Haley Do, a Junior at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY; Taylor Dorsey, a Senior at University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA; Andrea Flores, a Senior at CSU in Monterey, CA; Angelica Flores, a Junior at San Francisco State University, CA; Yasmeen Ghavamian, a Junior at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, CA; Jessica Techel, a Senior at San Diego State University, CA.

ChristinaJoy Edholm of Pleasanton was among nearly 800 graduates who received degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln during the summer all-university commencement ceremony Aug. 13 at Pinnacle Bank Arena. Edholm earned a doctor of philosophy from the Office of Graduate Studies.



Nenette Hoffman

"We are very pleased to have Nenette as part of our Hope Hospice family," says Bob Boehm, Hope Hospice CEO. "She brings great enthusiasm and a wealth of experience in hospice and home care to Hope Hospice."

Hoffman served as site director at Kaiser Santa Clara Home Health and Hospice (2007-15), where she managed both programs, and was previously the clinical supervisor for Home Health at Kaiser South Bay (1999-2007). Most recently, Nenette worked as a consultant on Kaiser's latest home health and hospice-related project. She has also worked as director of Patient Care Services in other hospice and home care agencies.

"I am proud of the work we do in providing hospice care," says Hoffman. "Our goal is to provide compassion and the highest quality of care for patients and their families."

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.)

Square dancing for all ages 8 years and up beginning September 8. Join us Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm at Del Valle High, 2253 5th Street, Livermore. Families and friends welcome. September classes free to new dancers. Questions? Margaret 925-447-6980 or mmiller1435@gmail.com

Writing Club for Young Adults. age 13 through 21 will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on August 18, September 15, October 20, November 10, and December 15, 2016. Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore. The club is free and no registration is required. Led by published Young Adult author, J.L. Powers. For more information, visit Teen Space page on the library's website: www.livermorelibrary.net, or contact Teen Services Librarian Jennifer Mosel at 925-373-5576.

Armchair Travelers, a monthly program, Livermore Public Library Civic Center on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 1:30 pm. Bill Leach will present a slideshow entitled "Vietnam: Its People and Prospects." Bill Leach and his wife took a 25-day tour of Vietnam in January 2016. Bill will share his photos and talk about the changes occurring in Vietnam. Adults are invited to this free program on the second Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. For additional information, call 925 373-5500.

Flea Market, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Sat., Sept. 17, set up from 6 a.m. to close at 4 p.m. Eagles parking lot, 547 No. Livermore Ave., Livermore. \$20 for a 15'x15' space, \$5 for a table. Sign up at the Eagles socoal room, vendors welcome. Call Eagles Hall at (925) 449-6281 OR Val Olson at (925) 449-5807.

Livermore Community Blood Drive: Friday, August 19, 1-7 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue. Every single day, Bay Area hospitals need over 300 units of blood to keep sick and injured patients alive. Donations always go down during the summer, so please come donate, bring a friend or family member to the drive and help save a life. Register at www.redcrossblood.org and use ASBURY925 as the Sponsor Code, or call Thomas Petty at 925-980-8164 for more information.

GNON (Girls Night Out Network) to partner with American Cancer

Society, 5 to 7 p.m. Mon., Sept. 12, Berevino Cucina & Wine Bar. Donations to American Cancer Society gladly accepted. Prepayment required, RSVP by Sept. 7. www.gnon.org/rsvp.html or 925-487-4748. \$10 for members, \$15 nonmembers.

Beneficial Insects - a gardeners' allies, Learning Series Talk on August 20, 2016, 11 a.m. to noon. Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave, Livermore. Presented by Fertile-Ground Works Garden of Grace. Free to the public.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA, Aug. 21, 1 p.m. lunch in Sunol, RSVP to Ruby, 462-9636 by Aug. 18. Aug. 24, 1 p.m. lunch in Fremont, RSVP to Vickie, 510-656-1166 by Aug. 22. Aug. 28, 1 p.m. lunch in Pleasanton, RSVP to Athene, 846-0111 by Aug. 25.

27th Annual Nostalgia Day Car Show, Altamont Cruisers Car Club, Sun., Sept. 25, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in downtown Livermore. Opening ceremonies at 9 a.m. Parade of Champions at 3:30 p.m. www.altamontcruisers.org.

Grief Workshop, There is no right or wrong path, there are stepping stones that are part of each grief journey. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 25 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. No pre-registration is necessary. Sessions open to all regardless of religious affiliation. Call Eleanor Flatley at 846-8708.

Volunteer Drivers Needed: to transport seniors to medical appointments. Volunteers chose when they want to drive, where and when, via email. All that is needed is a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle, automobile liability insurance, and have a clear DMV record. Contact Jennifer Cullen for information at 931-5387 or jullen@ssptv.org. Funding for this program is provided by Alameda County Transportation Commission Measure BB funds.

Taste for Giving, Fertile Ground-Works, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Aug. 20. Activities for all ages in Garden of Grace, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore, just behind the Asbury Methodist Church. Children's crafts, games, garden tours, silent auction, opportunity drawings, and live music. Food service will begin at 5 p.m. with barbecued meats, garden fresh sides, desserts and nonalcoholic beverages. Tickets are \$25 adults, \$5 for children under 12 years of age. Tickets are available through brownpapertickets at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2563199. More information at fertilegroundworks.org

Italian Catholic Federation, meets 3rd Friday of the month, 6 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Anyone who loves all things Italian is invited to meet to celebrate the Italian heritage with monthly dinner meetings and holding charitable events. The group supports

Children's Hospital research, college scholarships and other charities. For information, contact Judy Wellbeloved, president, 462-2487.

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group, nonprofit, peer-based, self-help, support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Cluttering is a psychological issue, not an organizing issue. New meeting location: Parkview, 100 Valley Avenue (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, Pleasanton. Mondays except some holidays 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Come or call a volunteer at 925)289-5356 or 925-922-1467. More information at: www.clutterlesseastbay.org

NAMI Tri-Valley Parent Resource & Support Group meets monthly for parents/caretakers of children ages 5-17 years with (or suspected of having) emotional/psychiatric disorders. It meets the third Tuesday of the month from 7-9pm at Pathways to Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Suite 114, Pleasanton. The group is drop-in and free. Contact person is Marsha McInnis at 925-980-5331.

Tri-Valley Stargazers Astronomy Club. Feed your wonder about the Night Sky and the Cosmos by joining us on the 3rd Friday of the Month for our club meeting. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. talk starts at 7:30 pm. For more info visit us @ http://www.trivalleystargazers.org/

Ravenswood Historical Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore, Docents in 1890s costumes give free guided tours beginning at noon, on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Each tour includes the 1885 Cottage and the 1891 Main House, and the beautifully landscaped grounds. For information on the Ravenswood Progress League (RPL) or the volunteer Docent Program, please call the Docent Coordinator at (925) 443-0238.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a social group of retired men who join together to better enjoy their leisure time. Activities include golf, bridge, photography, travel, fishing, biking, wine tasting, and technology. The Tri-Valley Branch serves men living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon. The group meets for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at the San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Please read more about the Tri-Valley SIR at http://sirs34.org/ and the Statewide SIR at www.sirinc.org/. For information or to attend a meeting, call Carl Churilo, 925-967-8177.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a group for retired men who seek activities to enhance their retirement. Monthly meetings feature lunch and an interesting speaker. Men have the opportunity to learn about and join activities such as hiking, bridge, investment, bowling, bocce ball and wood carving.

BULLETIN BOARD

There is also a neat group of guys to get to know. SIR Branch #121 meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the DoubleTree Hotel, Las Flores Road (near Bluebell Drive), Livermore, at 11:30. Any retired man is welcome to drop by to learn about your opportunities. For more information check our website: branch121.sirinc2.org or email Neal Cavanaugh at nealcavanaugh@att.net (put "SIR" in the subject line).

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

Pleasanton Lions Club welcomes visitors to come experience a great time while making a difference in our community & beyond. Dinner meetings every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. Check the website for meeting location: PleasantonLionsClub.org

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

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

Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in

Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit www.operationssam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net or call 925-443-7620.

Bereaved Mother's Network of the Tri-Valley meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Livermore Civic Center Library, Small Conference Room. The aim of the network is to allow bereaved mothers to make connections with, share resources, and support other mothers who have been through the worst experience of their lives, losing a child. For more information, contact katiestrube@comcast.net.

Pleasanton Newcomers Club, open to new and established residents of the Tri-Valley. Activities include a coffee the first Wednesday of the month, a luncheon on the second Wednesday of the month, Bunco, Mah Jongg, walking/hiking groups, family activities, and monthly adult socials. Information, call 925-215-8405 or visit www.PleasantonNewcomers.com

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

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the third floor movie room at Heritage Estates Retirement Community. The address is 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome. Contacts are: Sandra Grafrath 443-6655 or Lee Parlett 292-9280.

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-484-1273 for additional information.

Tri-Valley Triathlon Club (TVTC),

Information on programs and memberships, training philosophies and schedules, and all things TVTC, an all inclusive triathlon/marathon/endurance training program. www.trivalleytriclub.com.

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program. For more information www.fpcl.us or 925-447-2078.

Tri-Valley Bible Church, 2346 Walnut St., Livermore, holds Sunday worship at 10 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. Children's classes during adult worship service. AWANA children's program Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 449-4403 or www.Tri-ValleyBible-Church.com.

Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747 or www.uucil.org

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Reform, Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. Rabbi Dr. Lawrence Milder, www.bethemek.org.

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (csjo.org). Information, Rabbi Judith Seid, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 485-1049 or EastBaySecularJews.org.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, services 10 a.m. every Sunday. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at Third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. For information, call (925) 447-2946.

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Hispanic service starts at 2 p.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 447-6282.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sunday Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 9 a.m. worship (semiformal); 10:30 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school. For information, call 925-447-1246.

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

Calvary Chapel Livermore, meetings Sundays at 10 a.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. (925) 447-4357 -

www.calvarylivermore.org.

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

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

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Senior adult ministries meet every other month. Call the office at 846-8650 for more information.

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave. Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., and Sunday School and Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday night there is adult Bible study, youth activities and children's choir at 6:30 p.m. Child care during all events. 447-1848, www.trinitylivermore.org

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

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 5860 Las Positas Rd., Livermore. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details, go to www.stinnocent.net or call Fr. John Karcher at (831) 278-1916.

St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton, Services on Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School & Chapel at 10:15 a.m. All are most welcome to come and worship with us and to enjoy our hospitality. For more information call the church office 925-462-4802.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, (925) 447-3289. www.saintbartsilvermore.com. Service Schedule: 8:00 a.m. Contemplative Eucharist; 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study (check web-site); 10:20 Sunday School (Godly Play); 10:30: Sung Eucharist with choir, child care provided.

Little Brown Church, United Church of Christ 141 Kilkare Road, Sunol. 10:30 a.m. worship. All are welcome here. www.littlebrownchurchofsunol.org 925-862-2580

Pathway Community Church, 6533 Sierra Lane, Dublin. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday 10:30 am. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcomed. www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org (925) 829-4793.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. worship service. Bible Study/Sunday

School 10:20. Bible Basics Class, which explores the main teachings of the Bible, meets at 7:00 Sunday night. Call 371-6200 or email pjmrueller@gmail.com for more info.

Bethel Family Christian Center, 501 North P Street, Livermore. Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall; 925-449-4848.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. Interpretation for the deaf at 9:00. 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org

Valley Bible Church, Livermore, Meeting at Altamont Creek Elementary School, 6500 Garaventa Ranch Road, Livermore. Services at 10:00 a.m.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedargrove.org or call 447-2351.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

Well Community Outreach Center ministry provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies (only available prior to the start of the school year). (925) 479-1414

Lynwood United Methodist Church at 4444 Black Ave in Pleasanton offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome, no matter where they are on their faith journey. Fall worship schedule begins on September 11th, with Sunday services at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Childcare provided at both services and Sunday school at 10:30. Children's choir at 11:40-12:10. Contact Rev. Heather Hammer at 846-0221, send an email to office@lynwood.org or visit our website at www.lynwood.org.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints--Livermore Stake, Sunday services--1501 Hillcrest Ave: Springtown Ward 9:00 am; 1st Ward 11:00 am; 4th Ward 1:00 pm. 950 Mocho St: 3rd Ward 9:00 am; 2nd Ward 11:00 am; Mocho Branch (Spanish) 12:20 pm. 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin: Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 1:30 pm.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 3rd Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paseo Santa

Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 8203 Village Parkway.

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages 3-18 during worship. Adult education Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Jr. High youth group Sundays 4:00-6:10 p.m. High school youth group Sundays 5:50-8:00 p.m. www.jkpcdublin.org (925)828-1846.

Livermore Quakers: Unprogrammed worship, Sundays at 6pm, 1886 College Ave. (United Christian Church). www.LivermoreQuakers.com
St. Francis of Assisi, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) - 8:30 AM. Communion - 9:30 AM. 925-906-9561 stfrancisanglican.church.

Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley - People from all faith traditions, cultures, races and sexual orientations welcome. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Youth and teen programs offered as well. All are welcome. Meeting place 1617 2nd St., 2nd Floor, Livermore. For more information contact revharriet1@yahoo.com or visit us at <http://cslvighthouse.org>.

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

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

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

Unity of Tri-Valley - 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. 10:00 am Sunday service. Rev. Micah Murdock, minister. All are welcome. Children's program available. Ongoing groups and activities. www.trivalleyunity.org (925.829.2733).

GraceWay Church will worship at 10 a.m. Sundays at Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Rd. until new home is refurbished and updated. Services include band-led worship music, as well as choir anthems. Sunday School for infants, preschoolers and elementary through high school students. GraceWay will move to its new home at 1183 Quarry Lane, Pleasanton, later this year. www.gracewayfaith.org or 846-4436 for information.

Internship Builds Community at Arbor Vista

Sally Trautwein had no idea how popular the internship program she initiated would become for residents at Arbor Vista in Livermore and students from California State University at East Bay.

"I like working with students and educating them about the aging population," says Trautwein, service coordinator at the independent living community. "It's good for them and it's good for our residents."

However, after hosting two interns, Trautwein was preparing to take a well-deserved rest for the semester.

Then she met Jay Bieske.

Bieske, a 20-year veteran of the United States Army, is working on a degree in human services. One of the requirements of his coursework is completion of a service-learning project and a corresponding case study. While researching approved internship organizations, he came across Arbor Vista.

"I've always had a rapport with older adults," he says. "My father-in-law is a resident of an assisted-living community, and I enjoy spending time with him and his friends. I already volunteer a lot of my time there. Once I met Sally, I knew this was a perfect match."

Sally agrees. "I have a military background as well, and we both suffer from the effects of PTSD," she says. "The commonalities, aside from age, are striking. I told him, 'If a loud sound goes off, we'll hit the floor together.'"

These days, Bieske can be found visiting with residents, or helping with initiatives such as Open Heart Kitchen or Mercy Brownbag, local organizations that work closely with Arbor Vista to help meet residents' needs.

"At Arbor Vista, we see a lot of residents who are economically challenged," says Bieske. "Both of those programs help provide much needed food to supplement their food budgets."



Jay Bieske enjoys spending time with residents, from left, Lois Hogback, Lucy Rodrigues, Gladys Rezendes and Joyce Farris.

A disabled veteran, Bieske is no longer able to manage his former career as a construction engineer, so he's attending school on a vocational rehabilitation grant from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Changing careers mid-life isn't always an easy feat. However, he sees the positive in the situation and says residents have been just as helpful to him as he has been to them.

"One of the things I'm noticing is how interpersonal relationships help older adults adapt and maintain health," Bieske says. "One of the things that's special about Arbor Vista is the unique relationship between the staff and the residents. They really care about each other."

Applications Due for Community Gift Program

Applications are due Friday, Aug. 19, for the Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC (LLNS) 2016 Community Gift Program for 2016.

Established in 2008, the Community Gift Program provides a total of \$100,000 in awards to support non-profit organizations addressing STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education, community service and philanthropic needs of local and surrounding communities.

Nonprofit California educational institutions, IRS-qualified 501(c)(3) organizations and government agencies serving Alameda, Contra Costa and San Joaquin counties are eligible to apply. Gifts will be awarded in amounts from \$1,000 to \$20,000.

In 2015, the Community Gift Program received 78 applications for grants. Thirty-two applications were selected for awards, the majority of which served children in the Tri-Valley and San Joaquin County, with a focus on literacy, science, technology, engineering and math education and cultural arts.

All organizations interested in applying to the LLNS Community Gift Program must be sustainable and financially viable and accountable for spending and program results. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their proposal by Oct. 26.

More information on LLNS and its Community Gift Program is available at www.llnslc.com. For an application, go to the Web at <http://www.llnslc.com/community-giving/llnsgift.asp>.



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Downtown Livermore restaurants offered samples of culinary creations during the annual Taste of Downtown. Shops hosted tastings of Livermore Valley Wines. Live entertainment and shopping specials were found throughout the Downtown.