

Art, Community, & Education



Find Out What's Happening Check out the second section

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

Funds Sought for Freedom Alliance Scholarships

The Pleasanton Certified Farmers Market is looking for just 82 shoppers to donate \$9.11 on Saturday 9/11 to honor the service and sacrifice of American Armed Forces. The Farmers Market has pledged to match community donations up to \$750.00 for a total donation goal of \$1,500.

Money raised will be awarded to Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund, providing educational scholarships to children whose parents have been killed or permanently disabled while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Donations will be accepted under the "Road Warriors 2010" banner from 9 am -1 pm at the Farmers Market on Angela Street. For more information contact Candyce Roberts at 925-600-0664 or PCFMA at 925-825-9090.

Bankhead Theater Ticket Sales Up More Than 30%

With just a few more days to go before the start of the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center's (LVPAC) 4th season of performances at Livermore's downtown Bankhead Theater, advance ticket sales for the LVPAC Presents series of national and international attractions are running more than 30% ahead of last season.

Len Alexander, LVPAC's Executive Director observed, "In today's uncertain economy, we've been gratified to see a strong response to the 2010-11 season we announced back in late June. With more than \$140,000 worth of tickets sold to date, we have exceeded last year's sales and are at slightly more than 30% of our overall sales goal. This compares most favorably with reports from other California venues that are experiencing declines in their advance sales."

Several reasons have been given to explain the increased sales, including a more diverse season of attractions, an increase in performances on weekends, and, after three seasons of successful presentations, the development of a loyal audience of patrons willing to experience a range of performances.

"We are particularly pleased to see the growth of a strong core audience that appreciates the convenience of making the Bankhead Theater their primary choice for live entertainment. The volume of ticket sales per patron has never been higher" Alexander said. "As downtown Livermore continues to develop its profile as the Tri-Valley's new shopping, dining and entertainment destination, our audiences are reflecting greater diversity in both home location and age. Our programming will continue to reflect and accommodate that diversity," he concluded.

The 2010-11 season of LVPAC Presents kicks off on Friday, September 10 at 8 pm with Spencer Day, a young singing, songwriter. (See TICKETS, page 2)

School Districts Eye How They Would Spend New Federal Aid

By Ron McNicoll

Valley school districts have learned what their share of \$1.2 billion of new federal money for California education will be. However, they are waiting until the state has a budget before plugging the money into their own budgets.

Also, as of Tuesday, they were still waiting for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to sign enabling bills passed by leg-

islators, which would officially send the money on to school districts.

One of the two bills, AB 185, was written by Assemblymember Joan Buchanan, a former San Ramon Valley school board member.

The other bill, SB 847, was written by Senate President pro tem Darrell Steinberg and Assembly Speaker John Perez. It passed on Sept. 1.

Assuming the governor signs the bills, districts then will check with Sacramento to look at official guidelines defining how they can spend the money.

The money is part of a federal stimulus bill that sent more than \$2 billion to California, with \$1.2 billion of it slated for education.

The intention is to help school districts retain staff or hire new staff, since most districts in the state have lost personnel because

of the shortcomings of the state budget.

The funds could also be used to extend the school year. It will be up to districts to negotiate with employees concerning contract changes, once school boards decide how to spend the money.

The money will be available for one-time spending, not an ongoing situation. Valley educators varied in their opinions about whether the money could be split

between the current school year and the following school year. The state guidelines are expected to clarify that point.

In the Valley, Livermore will receive \$2.43 million, Pleasanton \$3.03 million, and Dublin \$1.29 million.

The money will be allocated according to the regular formulas used by the state for school districts. Under that rule, Livermore (See SCHOOLS, page 4)



Visitors walk over the glass bridge, one of the unique features in the new Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Firehouse Arts Center Ready for Public Debut

The new Firehouse Arts Center in downtown Pleasanton will officially open the weekend of Sept. 17-19 with a series of celebrations.

A sold-out gala will be held Sept. 17.

The public grand opening and dedication is set for Sat., Sept. 18. Free activities will be offered from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. They include artists demonstrations, live music, theater performances, self-guided tours of the facility, art activities for children, and refreshments.

On Sunday, the "First at the Firehouse" art exhibit will open. Artwork to be displayed in the gallery has been created by members of the Pleasanton Art League. The artists reception is from 2 to 4 p.m. It is open to the public at no charge.

The facility at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton includes a 227-seat flexible studio theater, 2000 square feet of gallery space, two large classrooms, a lobby, and several patios. It is adjacent to Lions Wayside Park. There are two trails near the cen-

ter, one a jogging trail, the other a multi-use trail.

The premiere season will include music, drama, visual arts and literary events for all ages.

Andy Jorgensen, the city's Civic Arts director, said it is a dream come true. The idea was to have a small theater that complements the Amador Theater, a gallery where local and national artists can be featured, and classrooms. "We looked at the adaptive reuse of an historical building, creating a facility that would have all these ameni-

ties. The focus was on the old firehouse."

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation (PCAF) has provided both funds and advocacy. Jorgensen said that the first foundation president Greg Reznick told as, "Build your dreams, don't hold back. This will probably be all you get for sometime. Make it the best you can."

In 2008, construction began. The city provided the majority of the funding. PCAF pledged to raise additional money.

(See FIREHOUSE, page 12)

Staples Ranch Plans to Move Forward

Development on Staples Ranch can now move forward.

At its meeting on Tuesday, the Pleasanton City Council gave unanimous approval to a Continuing Life Community (CLC) facility, the Hendricks auto mall, and a neighborhood park.

The 124 acre Staples Ranch site is owned by Alameda County. Is located on the northeastern side of Pleasanton.

The council chambers were again filled with supporters of the CLC.

The council approved planned unit development provisions for each project.

CLC proposes to construct a senior continuing care com-

(See STAPLES RANCH, page 5)

Livermore Has Homes To Purchase

The City of Livermore has four homes available for purchase by moderate to low income families.

The homes are offered through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), funded by the federal government's Housing and Economic Recovery Act. Under the program, foreclosed homes are purchased, refurbished, and then sold. The idea, said Frances Reisner, City of Livermore housing specialist, is that by putting value into a property, you are lifting up the entire neighborhood.

Livermore, in conjunction with Berkeley, Fremont, San

(See HOMES, page 5)

Lam Research Bringing 350 Jobs to Livermore

Lam Research, manufacturers of machinery for computer chipmakers, will be moving 350 of its employees to Livermore at the end of the year.

Lam is located in Fremont, and will keep the 1200 employees in its other operations there.

The firm had built a Livermore facility in 2008 near KLA-Tencor east of the Livermore airport. However, the firm did not move employees to Livermore at that time, because of

the decline in the international chip market, said Lisa Garber, managing director of corporate communications for Lam.

They are now moving some operations to Livermore, because they feel more confident about the world market.

Lam makes semi-conductor fabrication systems for such firms as Samsung, Hyundai, and Intel.

The company has offices worldwide.

County Asked to Look at Wind Turbine Impacts on Neighbors

By Ron McNicoll

An Altamont rancher urged Alameda County planning staff and consultants to be sure they don't overlook the impact of wind turbine noise on nearby

residents.

Eric Sweet, member of a longtime ranching family whose home is on North Flynn Road, said that in preparing an EIR for (See WIND, page 4)



Wine tasting was a popular pastime over the weekend as the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association hosted the annual Harvest Wine Celebration. Visitors are pictured at Mitchell Katz.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

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PETS OF THE WEEK

These two kittens, who we call "Bert & Ernie," are a pair that will most certainly make you chuckle. Who needs puppets when you have kittens? Just like the characters on TV, these two goofy guys each have their own personality. To meet this wacky duo, visit Valley Humane Society's Kitty City located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Call us at 925-426-8656, or check us out online at www.valleyhumane.org Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton.

Express Lanes Being Prepared for Opening

With Northern California's first Express Lane set to open September 20, contractors putting the final touches on the lane will change carpool lane striping to "limited access" on 14 miles of Interstate 680 southbound from Pleasanton to Milpitas, starting the week of September 7. Two lanes will be closed each night along a portion of the project to facilitate the striping work.

For the first time, solo drivers can choose to use the carpool lane by paying a toll electronically via a FasTrak® toll tag. Carpools, transit vehicles, and motorcycles, as well as hybrid vehicles with a valid sticker, will continue to use the lane for free.

A 2-foot-wide buffer zone, featuring double solid lines, will be created to separate the I-680 Express Lane from the general purpose lanes between Highway 84 and Highway 237. Solo Express Lane drivers, as well as carpool vehicles, will have specific entry and exit points rather than open access across a dotted line. It is against the law to cross

over the double solid line buffer that marks the Express Lane.

"Limited access is definitely new in Northern California. It's common for carpool and Express Lanes in Southern California and elsewhere in the country," said Scott Haggerty, chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and of the joint powers authority overseeing the I-680 Express Lane. "The solid lines should reduce cheating by discouraging non-paying solo drivers from cutting in and out of the lane. With an 1,800-foot-long merge lane at access points, it should be safer, too."

There will be three entry points and three exit points along the lane's 14-mile route. The buffer zone striping will be completed in segments each night, starting with the portion from Sheridan Road to Mission Boulevard north (Highway 238), and will be completed in time for the Express Lane to open at 5 a.m. on Monday September 20. During this final construction

period, carpoolers may need to enter or leave the carpool lane at a different point than in the past in adjusting to limited access striping. Full details are online at www.680expresslane.org.

Entry and exit points are as follows:

Entry 1: The lane starts in Sunol 1 mile south of Highway 84, 1/4 mile before Andrade. Entry serves drivers from Pleasanton and areas farther north, or drivers from Livermore and areas farther east.

Entry 2: Just past Mission Boulevard north (Highway 238), before Washington Blvd. Entry serves drivers entering the freeway at Andrade, Sheridan, Vargas, and Mission north.

Entry 3: Past Auto Mall Parkway before Mission Boulevard south (Highway 262). Entry serves drivers entering the freeway at Washington and Auto Mall.

Exit 1: Past Auto Mall Parkway
Exit 2: Just past Jacklin

Road
Exit 3: The lane ends south of Highway 237.

Besides re-striping the roadway, contractors are testing the electronic toll collection system's ability to change toll amounts as traffic conditions change, testing enforcement equipment, and testing communications from the "readers" along the lane to the FasTrak computer system so tolls can be charged accurately. Drivers in the carpool lane may hear a "beep" or see a light flash as the electronics are being tested. However, no tolls are being charged and no violations are being issued.

The lane will operate Mondays through Fridays from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., replacing the current carpool lane hours. The lane will be "open to all" at night and on weekends. California Highway Patrol officers will provide enforcement using visual and electronic means.

Solo drivers who want to use the I-680 Express Lane between 5 a.m. and 8 p.m. will need to have a FasTrak toll tag mounted on their windshield. They will be charged a toll each time they choose to use the Express Lane. The operation will be fully electronic, with no tollbooths or tollgates, so customers will not need to slow down or stop to pay.

Motorists with a FasTrak toll tag can enter the Express Lane at designated places. An overhead electronic sign will display the current toll being assessed. Toll costs will vary based on real-time traffic levels on the Express Lane to ensure that traffic in the lane flows smoothly.

The project's goal is to ensure that traffic is always flowing smoothly in the Express Lane by utilizing "dynamic pricing." Tolls will be determined by the amount of traffic traveling in the Express Lane and the general purpose lanes at any given time. During peak periods, when there is more

traffic in the Express Lane, the toll will be higher to discourage too many additional solo drivers from entering and making the Express Lane congested. During off-peak periods, when fewer vehicles are using the lane, the toll will be lower. By changing the toll in response to the level of demand, traffic will keep flowing smoothly in the Express Lane. At the same time, the increased utilization of the Express Lane will improve the conditions within the general purpose lanes.

To obtain a FasTrak toll tag, drivers can go to www.bayarea-fastrak.org or to a Safeway, Costco or Walgreen's store. The tag works on all toll lanes and bridges.

Express Lanes have operated in Southern California and elsewhere in the country for many years. After I-680, the next Express Lanes in the Bay Area will be I-580 from Pleasanton to Livermore and the Highway 237 flyover to I-880 in Milpitas.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Congressman Jerry McNERney (right) and Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman took part in the "Celebrity Bagger" event last weekend at Safeway in Pleasanton. They bagged groceries to raise awareness for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). Each year, the Safeway Foundation raises funds for MDA through donations by employees and customers. The current MDA campaign ended on September 6 at midnight. In addition to the local celebrities, MDA client and Pleasanton resident David Fletcher (age 6) and his father Vince were on hand to greet customers and to share their experiences.

TICKETS

(continued from page one)

ing sensation. Day's voice has produced comparisons to Harry Connick Jr. and Michael Bublé, and his compositions to those of Cole Porter, Paul Simon and Rufus Wainwright.

Following Day, is the return of LVPAC's annual Guitar Festival on September 17 and 18,

featuring headline performances in the Bankhead Theater as well as free outdoor concerts, guitar player workshops, the latest guitar-related merchandise and special events.

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

office is open Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. On performance days the ticket office remains open through intermission. To purchase tickets, call 925-373-6800 or visit the LVPAC website at www.livermoreperformingarts.org

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FREE artist clinics

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LVPAC
Guitar Player LIVE!
2010

The guitar festival that brings players, music lovers, guitar legends, and exhibitors together for a **CELEBRATION OF MUSIC!**

Friday, Sept 17 | 8p
LVPAC Presents
World Class Guitar Legends
MONTROSE & GARY HOEY
After-Party | Sapphire Lounge | 10p

Saturday, Sept 18 | 7p
2010 Guitar Player's
GUITAR SUPERSTAR COMPETITION
After-Party | Sapphire Lounge | 10p

PLUS... Rock classics @ THE VINE CINEMA & ALEHOUSE!
"This is Spinal Tap" | Sept 17 | 11:30p
"The Wall" | Sept 18 | 11:30p

SEPT 17 & 18 If you love guitars and music, don't miss this **ELECTRIFYING EVENT!**

BANKHEAD THEATER
2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore | 925-373-6800
guitarplayerlive.com

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<p>9877 Foothill Rd, Sunol 3027 +/- sq.ft. • 4 Bd • 2.5 Ba</p> <p>Lot Acres Apx: 16.01 \$1,890,000 Style Dreaming of a Home with nice Views of the Valley, Great Castlebrook Horse Barn, Also a 4 car storage and carport Barn with loft, Pleasanton Ridge water. Kristy and Company 925.251.2536</p>	<p>1278 Lozano Ct, Pleasanton 9,000 +/- sq.ft. • 1.05 Acre</p> <p>Formal French, Ruby Hill \$2,699,000 Custom new construction home sits on a premium lot at the end of a Cul-de-Sac. Featuring gorgeous architectural detail & quality throughout. Uwe Maerz 925.306.8758</p>	<p>553 Heligan Ln Unit 2, Livermore 2 Bd • 2 Ba • 1,718 +/- sq.ft.</p> <p>Open Floor Plan \$433,950 Great floor plan with upgraded cabinets, granite countertops. Huge master w/ walk in closet. Living rm w/ gas fireplace. Attached 2 car garage. Bill & Vickie Keller 925.200.6764</p>	<p>5063 Monaco Dr, Pleasanton 5 Bd • 3.5 Ba • 3,079 +/- sq.ft.</p> <p>Pleasanton Hills \$1,029,000 Upgraded semi-custom home w/ Mt Diablo View! theatre room w/ fireplace plus den! Cathedral ceilings & MORE! Diane Sass 925.699.9508</p>	<p>7914 Paragon Circle, Pleasanton 5 Bd • 3.5 Ba • 4,592 +/- sq.ft.</p> <p>Laguna Oaks \$1,498,000 Popular floor plan w/ 1 Bd & Ba downstairs, 3 B/R + Bonus upstairs. Gourmet Kit w/ top of the line SS Appl., Granite Counters & Tumbled Marble Backsplash. Weiner & McDowell 925.251.2550</p>	<p>1548 Kingsport Ave, Livermore 5 Bd • 2 Ba • 2,304 +/- sq.ft.</p> <p>Pool & Patio \$549,000 Lovely sprawling rancher with all the bells and whistles. Don't miss this well priced home. Sunset East Neighborhood. Linda Smith 925.998.5112</p>

Blackhawk East 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300	Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd., Ste. 200 Danville, CA 94506 925.736.6000	Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000	Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Ste. 100 Lafayette, CA 94549 925.385.2330	Livermore 1983 Second Street Livermore, CA 94551 925.667.2100	Montclair/Piedmont 6116 La Salle Ave., Ste 200 Oakland, CA 94611 510.339.4800	Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100 Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000	Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Road Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500	Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500
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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Information Sought on Assault

Police are seeking assistance from the community in identifying a suspect who attacked an older woman in Livermore.



The incident took place on August 31 at approximately 3:40 p.m. Then 89 year old female was walking along the path near the Arroyo Mocho Creek at Arroyo Road and L St. in Livermore when she was approached by the suspect who began walking with her. The suspect engaged in conversation with the victim referring to himself as "Cameron," stating that he was in the seventh grade. As they continued walking together, the suspect then told the victim he wanted to show her something off the path.

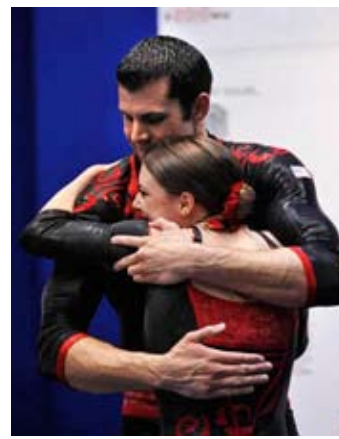
The victim followed the suspect off the path at which time the suspect struck the victim about the head with an unknown object. The blow to the victim's head caused the victim to fall down and the suspect continued to strike the victim repeatedly about the head as she lay on the ground. The victim yelled for help and a passerby who heard her, immediately came to her aid. Upon seeing the passerby, the suspect fled the area on a non-motorized scooter.

The victim sustained a significant head injury and was transported to a local hospital for treatment. She was treated for her injuries and released from the hospital the following morning.

The suspect is described as a white male juvenile approximately 13 years old. He has brown wavy short hair and a thin build. At the time of the incident he was wearing tan shorts and a gray or blue shirt.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Lieutenant Ava Garavatti at (925) 371-4730.

Livermore Duo Brings Home International Gold



Kristin Allen and Michael Rodrigues

World Games gold-medalists Kristin Allen and her mixed pair partner Michael Rodrigues, both of Livermore, West Coast Training Center, won the mixed-pair gold medal at the 2010 World Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships in Wroclaw, Poland. This is the USA's sixth straight world medal in mixed pair.

"Michael and Kristin have worked so hard for this achievement," said Steve Penny, President of USA Gymnastics. "Their performance reflects their commitment and dedication, and we are thrilled for them."

Recording a score of 28.600 in their tango combined finals routine, 0.55 higher than their qualifying combined routine score, Allen and Rodrigues claimed the mixed-pair gold medal. Russian mixed pair Tatiana Okulova and Revaz Gurgendize captured the silver with a 28.300. China's Huang Yan and Zhang Shaolong took the bronze, posting a 27.858.

Allen and Rodrigues led qualifying with a score of 84.810. Completing their first two qualifying routines on Friday, July 16, the duo posted a 28.410 in balance, 28.350 in dynamic, and a 28.050 in combined to reach the finals. In the finals, which were a new-life, zero score format, the top 8 pairs performed a combined routine.

Allen and Rodrigues are coached by Marie Annonson. Youri Vorobiev was the delegation head coach at the World Championships, Jay Binder the head of delegation, and Brandi Lewis was the team manager.

The duo was the winner of last year's Livermore's Got Talent Competition.

They have now signed a one year contract to appear with Curque du Soleil in Las Vegas. Acrobatic gymnastics, previously referred to as sport acrobatics, combines dance with the strength and agility of acrobatics. Gymnastics skills add excitement to the routines, while intense acrobatic balances show grace,

strength and flexibility. Routines are choreographed to music and consist of dance, tumbling, and partner skills. At the elite level, each pair or group performs a balance, dynamic and combined routine. Pyramids and partner holds characterize the balance routine, while synchronized

tumbling and intricate flight elements define the dynamic routine.

The combined routine unites elements of balance and dynamic. An acrobatic gymnastics pair consists of a base and a top.

Cities Hold Their Own on Sales Tax

Statistics released by the BOE were only for August. They probably will fluctuate month to month, through the fiscal year, which began July 1.

So far, the news concerning August gives some hope to Livermore. Last year, the city wound up with \$3.2 million less than it expected for the entire fiscal year because the state had estimated too high earlier.

This year the estimates were right on target for the month of August, so there are no surprises for Livermore. "It's good news that the state is not taking any money away this year," said Livermore director of administrative services Holly Brock-Cohn.

Since the cities need the monthly payments to help the continuing operation of city government, it definitely is good news.

In the overall budget picture, Livermore is projecting \$14 million for the current fiscal year, which began July 1. That's lower than several years ago, before the recession began. Brock-Cohn did not have figures available that would measure the decline.

In Pleasanton, finance director Emily Wagner said the city stayed flat in tax revenue from last year. Wagner is projecting "\$16 million and some change" for the current fiscal year. That would be a few hundred thousand dollars more than the 2009/10 fiscal year, she said.

The \$16 million does not approach the revenue that Pleasanton collected in the good times before the recession. The city took in \$21 million in the 2007/08 fiscal year.

In general, the lack of consumer spending and business-to-business spending, which is also taxed, is the reason for the flat tax performance, said the cities' financial officials.

Dublin dropped to \$11.6 million from \$14 million "two or three years ago," said director of administrative services Paul Rankin. "Several major retailers are not here now," said Rankin. He mentioned closures of Circuit City, Home Expo and Mervyn's department store.

Dublin also lost "a lot of auto-related sales tax. However, we did better than expected when (the federal government) offered the Cash for Clunkers program," said Rankin.

Volunteers Sought for Pleasanton's Alviso Adobe Park

The City of Pleasanton's Alviso Adobe Community Park is currently seeking applicants to join their Volunteer Team!

Interested volunteers may attend an orientation on Saturday, September 11 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. or on Tuesday, September 14 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Alviso Adobe Community Park, 3465 Old Foothill Road, Pleasanton. Staff and lead volunteers will give prospective volunteers an overview of the

site and will discuss the many opportunities to assist in tours, programs, exhibits, garden help and administrative functions.

The orientation is open to the public. Volunteers under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult during the entire orientation. For more information, please contact Eric Nicholas, the City of Pleasanton Naturalist at (925) 931-3483 or email enicholas@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

American Swim Academy's

2010 Walk 4 education

The school that registers the most walkers Wins \$500!



& Family Fun Festival

Benefitting the Livermore Valley Education Foundation

September 11, 2010
9am-noon

(registration begins at 8:30am)

Granada High School
400 Wall Street
Livermore

Your \$5 registration includes the Walk, a T-shirt and Breakfast!

Join us for the Walk, then stay for the Family Fun Festival including DJ, entertainment, family-friendly vendors and more.

For more information and our online auction visit
www.AmericanSwimAcademy.com/LVEF

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STAPLES RANCH

(continued from page one)

munity with 635 senior independent living units, a health center that would have 114 assisted living/Alzheimer units plus a skilled nursing facility with 38 beds. Included in the development plans are a club house with multiple dining areas, an auditorium, movie theater, computer room, billiards room, card room, library, medical exam rooms and a beauty salon.

Other amenities would include a wood shop, indoor pool, outdoor pool, tennis court, 4-hole golf course, lake, koi pond, picnic area, and a bocce ball court.

The buildings are proposed to range from 1 to 4 stories with a maximum height of 50 feet. The dwelling units will range in size from 670 to 2,419 square feet, with the exception of the Health Center units which will range in size from 298 to 1,182 square feet. The residents will be age 62 years and older.

A 20-foot tall landscaped berm, with an 8-foot tall wall on

top along the northern property line would be built to reduce freeway noise on site.

CLC is not technically covered by the city's inclusionary housing ordinance. However, assistant city manager Steve Bocian told the council that a plan has been developed that provides for CLC to make its best efforts to provide 15 percent of the independent living units as affordable. Of those, 5% would be available for households at 100% of the Area Median Income (AMI), 5% available for households at 80% of the AMI, and 5% available for households at 50% of the AMI.

In addition to the above income mix, CLC will fund an annuity for the purpose of providing an ongoing subsidy (for the monthly maintenance fee) to residents at less than 80% of the AMI. The annuity will be funded by CLC through a \$3,055 payment for every Independent Liv-

ing Unit that is constructed. The City may elect to use its Lower Income Housing Fund to increase the number of units available for limited income households or to increase the amount of the subsidy. In addition, the agreement will be recorded and run in perpetuity. Because of this agreement, CLC will not be required to pay the City's Lower Income Housing Fee.

Bocian told the council that 241 of the units would be subject to growth management. CLC could obtain growth management for that number of units in 2011.

Growth management allows for a set number of units to be issued construction permits each year.

The Hendricks project would be built on 37 acres. It would include six dealerships moving from another location in Pleasanton, and three car washes.

Dealerships include Lexus,

BMW, BMW Mini, Accura, Mercedes Benz, and Infiniti.

The architectural style would be contemporary. Over 400 new trees would be planted on the site.

The neighborhood park would be built by CLC in exchange for credit for city fees.

The park, a 4.8 acre site, would include a detention basin for flood control. There would be a restroom, a path around the park, benches, picnic tables, and lighted tennis courts.

Two other potential developments on the Staples Ranch will come to the council at a future date. They are a retail center and a community park, which could include an indoor ice rink proposed by the San Jose Sharks.

The next step is to apply to LAFCo for annexation of the property to Pleasanton. It is anticipated LAFCo would hear the request at either its November 2010 or January 2011 meeting.

Comments Sought on East County Conservation Plan

Meeting to Seek Comments on East County Conservation Plan

The public can comment on a draft East Alameda County Conservation Strategy during a meeting in the community room of the Dublin library.

The Draft East Alameda County Conservation Strategy, a blueprint for conserving biological resources in the region, is now available for a 30-day public review and comment.

The public comment meeting is scheduled from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sept. 14. The library is at 200 Civic Plaza.

The purpose of this meeting is to present the Draft Conservation Strategy to the public, provide information on the purpose and benefits of having a conservation strategy for biological resources in East Alameda County, explain who is involved, and invite comments on the draft document.

The Conservation Strategy is designed to facilitate regional conservation of special status wildlife and plant species and streamline permitting for future development and infrastructure projects.

Currently, project mitigation is provided on a case-by-case basis, resulting in piecemeal conservation that is less effective than a comprehensive plan at preserving and connecting the open space and natural habitat areas found in East Alameda County. This regional conserva-

tion strategy will facilitate the connection of open space and habitat in the upper Alameda Creek watershed with adjacent natural areas and watersheds in Contra Costa, San Joaquin and Santa Clara Counties.

The federal Fish & Wildlife Service, the state Department of Fish and Game, and the regional Water Quality Control Board have participated in drawing up the conservation plan.

Significant stakeholders who have helped draft the plan include the county Community Development Agency, the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, county Waste Management Authority, EBRPD, Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, and Zone 7 Water Agency. Environmentalists and developers have also contributed.

The end of the 30-day public comment period will be at 5 p.m. Oct. 4. In addition to comments at the meeting, the public may also address questions and comments in writing to Mary Lim, EACCS coordinator, Zone 7 Water Agency, 100 North Canyons Parkway, Livermore, CA. 94551. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to Lim at mlim@zone7water.com.

The HCP report can be found on-line at www.eastalco-conservation.org/documents.html. A CD-ROM copy is also available on request from Lim at Zone 7. Zone 7 is the lead agency.

HOMES

(continued from page one)

Leandro and Union City, applied for and received a grant for \$2.230 million from the state, which administers the Housing and Economic Recovery Act dollars.

Livermore had been eligible to receive \$400,000, if it had applied as an individual city said Reisner. She explained, "That created the need to apply as a group to obtain maximum funding. Livermore is the lead applicant."

There is no set amount allocated to each city. "It's a use it as you can program," she said.

Livermore hired a nonprofit contractor, Hallmark Community Solutions. Reisner said that it was felt that using a contractor would work best in the current competitive market in which investors are looking for foreclosed homes to purchase.

"We provide the money. Hallmark purchases the homes in targeted areas, then completely refurbishes the homes," Reisner stated.

So far, Hallmark has purchased and rehabilitated four homes in Livermore. "They had been on the market for awhile.

They had a lot of code issues," said Reisner. "There was a lot of deferred maintenance. One, purchased by another contractor, had been gutted then abandoned. Hallmark has turned them into beautiful homes that will last a long time."

The homes are being marketed to first time homebuyers. There is a restriction of a moderate income of \$108,350 for a four person family to be eligible to purchase one of the houses. There are also credit guidelines.

The houses cost between \$310,000 and \$345,000. Reisner stated, "It's a good investment for the buyers. It's also good for the neighborhoods. When the homes are refurbished and lived in, property values increase and blight is removed."

There are several purchase options. One would provide down payment assistance from the city. In the future, purchasers receiving assistance would then be free to sell to anyone at the regular market rates. The note on the down payment loan would go with the home.

If a purchaser chooses to receive no assistance, there is a

resale restriction of fifteen years. That is a federal requirement, said Reisner.

"We anticipate that most will want assistance either with closing or down payment costs," she added.

Reisner said the goal is to sell the homes as quickly as possible. Then, the city would go out and purchase and rehabilitate more homes under the two year program that concludes at the end of 2011.

In addition to the federal funds obtained through the state, Livermore will receive money from Alameda County. The county has been given a grant of \$11 million. Livermore has been allocated \$800,000. Dublin and Pleasanton were not eligible for the state money, but will receive money from the county's allocation.

"We anticipate there will be more money in the future to address blight resulting from foreclosures," said Reisner. More foreclosures are expected. She pointed out that in June over 1200 units in Livermore were listed as having pre-foreclosure activity. That doesn't mean all will be

foreclosed, she added.

Homes available in Livermore can be seen on MyNSPHome.org. The website also explains the steps that a potential purchaser would need to undertake.

"We really want to let people know about what's going on with this program and the availability of these homes," Reisner declared.

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*The City of Livermore is currently recruiting for the
Livermore Area Youth Advisory Commission*

The Youth Advisory Commission provides Livermore youth a voice in community development issues. Members are committed to providing social and recreation opportunities for young people to gather and pursue a wide variety of interests. The Youth Advisory Commission is affiliated with the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.

Youth Members (ages 12 – 20) and Adult Members Needed

For more information or an application, please contact the City Clerk's Office,
1052 S. Livermore Avenue, 960-4200, TDD 960-4014, or www.ci.livermore.ca.us.



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SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The students at Rancho Las Positas Elementary School in Livermore came back to school this fall to find that they now have a real running track to help them stay in shape. The track is wide enough for students to run side-by-side. In the photo, students try out the new facility. The school won the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports competition in 2009, but they donated the prize, \$100,000 in fitness equipment, to Tuolumne Elementary School in Modesto. The students have decided not to compete in the Governor's challenge this year. The new track was dedicated and contributors honored at a ceremony held last Thursday. Many families contributed to the track in labor, materials, and monetary donations including Vulcan Materials Co. Among those recognized were Bret Dupuis, Dave Hinds, Robert Miller, Jerry Abele, and Big Jim Buranis of Buranis Construction.

Tiger Sharks

Nicole Boschee, Caroline Eckel and Breanna Ingram from the LifeStyleRx Tiger Sharks recorded more personal bests in competition at the 'Have Fun in the Sun' Labor Day swim meet. The meet was hosted by the Morgan Hill Makos at the Morgan Hill Aquatic Center on September 4-5, 2010. Nicole Boschee, (12) swam 7 personal bests including a new 'A' time and personal best time in the girls 11-12, 50 backstroke. Caroline Eckel swam 2 personal best times

in finishing second with a new 'A' time in the 100 back in the girls 10 and under, Silver flight. Breanna Ingram (14) achieved 4 personal best times including a first place in the 200 back the girls 13-18 Silver Flight; seventh place in the 100 breaststroke and an eighth place in the 50 free in the Gold Flight. The Morgan Hill Makos hosted 681 total swimmers competing in 4238 total entries with over 48 teams represented.

Pleasanton Ballistic

Pleasanton United Ballistic United Premier U-17s travelled to U.C. Irvine over the Labor Day week-end to compete in the North Huntington Beach Tournament. They opened up play on Saturday morning with a close-fought match against Pateadores Blue. Pateadores started strong but Ballistic had their fair share of play in the first half. Lucas Heuer, Seth Niernmeyer and Colin Hartland all had chances to score for Ballistic, but



Livermore Fusion SC 96G Black brought home the 1st place trophy from the Mission Bell Classic for the second year in a row. Thanks to strong defensive play Fusion allowed only 1 goal for the tournament. The championship game against Walnut Creek saw attacking runs from both sides but Fusion was quick to counter and was up 2-0 at the half. The defense was put under pressure the second half but held strong for the shut out. Damera Dodd scored a goal late in the second half and was credited with a hat trick. Fusion came away with 3-0 victory. Players pictured are (back row, left to right) Ashley McDaniel, Breana Maitia-McIhargie, Stevie Sobers (guest goalkeeper), Jennifer Chaidez, Gabby Parker, Samantha Sobers and Dana Anex; (front row) Gabriele Enzmann, Damera Dodd, Molly Farro, Alyssa Campbell, Danielle Dufek, Molly Stolz and Rachel Esser. Also pictured are Head Coach Bob Montano (left) and Assistant Coach Phil Parker (right)

it was Pateadores who took the lead when their forward took advantage of a slip by a Ballistic defender to fire across Ballistic goalkeeper, Michael Viebeck into the far corner of the net.

Ballistic pressed the attack in the second half in search of the equalizer but Pateadores were well organized in defense and managed to hold on to their lead as the Ballistic attacks became more and more desperate. The action was end to end in the last ten minutes making for a very exciting climax to the game, but in the end Ballistic's failure to convert their chances cost them dear and Pateadores claimed the win by a score of 1-0.

Top Offensive Players: Colin Hartland, Seth Niernmeyer, Top Defensive Players: Matt Digirolamo, Nandor Krause.

Ballistic Premier U-17s faced a very strong F.C. Golden State outfit in their second game of the weekend and were im-

mediately rocked back on their heels when they conceded a goal within the first four minutes. Final score was Golden State 3, Ballistic 0. The Golden State #20 controlled the ball from a corner with a sublime first touch and gave Ballistic goalkeeper, Michael Viebeck no chance with a fierce shot into the back of the net. Ballistic tried to regain their composure after this early set-back and were able to make it to half-time without conceding further.

In the second half the Ballistic midfielders, Connor O'Neill, Erik Knaggs, Dane Shaffar, Tommy Powell and Duke Driggs tried manfully to impose their authority on the game, but the quicker, more aggressive Golden State players gave them very little time to settle on the ball.

Golden State extended their lead with a simple side-foot finish from a right-wing cross fifteen minutes from the end. The

always-dangerous #20 for Golden State applied the killer blow just before the end, firing in a shot off the upright from the edge of the penalty area.

Top Offensive Players: Connor O'Neill, Jason Chow. Top Defensive Players: Toby Harvey, Michael Viebeck

On Sunday morning, Ballistic United Premier U-17 completed their weekend with a match against the Carlsbad Lightning Elite. Having already been eliminated from the next round, the team's goal was to finish strong with a good offensive performance. Heeding their coach's instructions the Ballistic players came out firing and there were chances in the first half for Erik Knaggs, Colin Hartland and Andy Gomez, but the goal drought continued and half-time arrived with the teams tied 0-0.

The second half opened in similar fashion with shots from Dane Shaffar and Connor

What Our Readers Are Saying...



In the 38 years I have been in Livermore, I have always felt it necessary not only to keep current with news of the world beyond my home town but also to keep up with the local news as well. In all of that time, the best way of doing that was to consistently read "The Independent". Our local "Independent" has always used an array of gifted talent from our valley to give us news from everything from the issues before city council to the scores and line ups of our local soccer teams. We are fortunate to have such consistent reporting on the things that really make our community operate for all ages. I hope that our community will always support this newspaper's efforts to keep us informed about ourselves as a community.

Bill Nebo

Resident of Livermore, Retired Pastor, Past President of Livermore Rotary, Retired Director of Valley Care Health Systems

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SPORTS NOTES



The Livermore Crush U14 team took home the championship trophy in the San Ramon Kick-Off Classic Soccer Tournament held at San Ramon's Central Park on August 28 and 29. Celebrating first place are (front, left to right) Helga Forstreuter Robles, Shoshana Cohen, Carmen Best, Jenna Dobson, Jordan Volponi, Brittney Turner; (middle row) Natalie Palomo-Ramirez, Meghan Lawrence, RJ Atwal, Mackenzie Schley, Brianna Ruloma, Devin Everett, Jessica Casey, Katt Rowe; (back row) Coach Jorge Palomo, Assistant Coach Art Ruloma, Assistant Coach Dave Dobson. Not shown: Dorothy Richards



The Livermore Gunners were Champions of the 2010 San Ramon Rec Plus Kickoff Tournament in the Boys U10 Division. The undefeated Gunners beat the San Ramon Eagles 3-0, the Cosmos 4-0, the Banditos 6-0 and the Livermore Galaxy 3-1, in a hard fought championship game.



The Tri-Valley Soccer Club (TVSC) boys U16 Real team won the PortuGOAL Cup 2010 in Manteca over the Labor Day Weekend. With the temperatures pushing 100 degrees, the TVSC Boys U16 Real team kept their cool and good sportsmanship throughout the tournament. Their effort paid off with a well-deserved 1st place finish. The tournament began with a 4 to 0 win over Elk Grove Everton and a 2 to 0 loss on Saturday afternoon to Mt. Hamilton YSL PAC Brazil. On Sunday morning things heated up with a last minute 2 to 2 tie against Hayward Arsenal with TVSC U16 Real advancing to the final round and a re-match against Mt. Hamilton YSL PAC Brazil. TVSC U16 came out on top with a 2 to 0 win. Juan Alfaro scored 7 goals in the tournament. The team consists of players from all over the Tri-Valley including Juan Alfaro, Alex Cairel, Tyler Ellis, Ryan Gollott, Hector Gomez, Jack Lamont, Cody Martinez, Julio Mendez, Marco Nolasco, Hector Perez, Antonio Preciado, Marcel Scoyy, Connor Silcox, Daniel Toscano and Tim Wraith. The team is coached by Terry Wilson.



The Livermore Fusion U10 Boys Maroon team finished second in the 1st Annual Manteca FC PortuGoal Cup Labor Day weekend. The team went three for three defeating the Santa Cruz Sharks 4-0, the Manteca Rangers 1-0, and the Manteca Flames 3-0 before falling to Stockton Monarcas 2-1 in a hard-fought Championship game. Excellent offensive play by Nick La Rosa, Carlos Ventura, and Carson King gave the Maroon team their goals while strong defensive play by Cameron McGee, Brodie Wolf, and Hayden Glasco along with phenomenal goalkeeping work by Marcus Robles ensured the team three shut-outs in the first three games. Ryan Phillips, Cameron Moghadam, and Nick Hill all helped to round out the team's powerhouse weekend in the heat in Manteca. The team is coached by Larry Phillips, Tony La Rosa, and Ted Wolf. Pictured are (back row, left to right) Cameron Moghadam, Marcus Robles, Ryan Phillips, Nicolas La Rosa, Carson King, Hayden Glasco; (front row) Cameron McGee, Brodie Wolf, Carlos Ventura, and Nick Hill. Coaches are Larry Phillips and Ted Wolf.



The Pleasanton Rage Girls U16AC squad traveled to San Diego this past Labor Day weekend to compete in the Nott's Forest Cup and after 5 very physical games, coach Mike Baker's team came away with the U16 Silver Division crown. Game 1 on Saturday was not in the cards for the Rage girls. The Rage AC fell 1-2 to San Diego area club, Kodiak Black. A determined Rage came to play on Sunday and would not be denied in both their games. Game 2 was vs Arizona club, Tuscon Soccer Academy 95 Blue. Rage won 1-0. They then followed with a 2nd 1-0 win over SoCal team, Arsenal FC, advancing to the Monday semi final vs CDO Edge. With 2 wins and a good night's rest, Rage AC went on a scoring spree and held an early 3-0 advantage in a very physical game that saw Rage keeper Kasey Jensen take a hard kick while smothering a CDO scoring chance that put her on the sideline. Madi Beatty came in to hold CDO to 1 goal advancing Rage AC to the championship game vs Riverside SC Elite. Rage used passing and possession to frustrate the Riverside team for another hard fought 1-0 victory. The long trip home was no doubt a little less painful with the girls wearing their Champions medals. Offensive and midfield standouts for Rage AC were: Jesse Swinkels, Haley Jackson, Carly Duval, Jenni Harmison, Meredith Jaeger, Mikayla Morgenroth, Ashley Bold and Kira Torreto. Defensively, Rage AC was anchored by Nicole Bardakos, Nicole Henninger, and Christina Choing, with outstanding help from Veronica Bossio, and Rachel Tabaracci. Goal Keepers Jensen and Beatty combined for a 4-1 record, only giving up 3 goals in the 5 game set.

O'Neill for Ballistic. Sadly, it was Carlsbad who took the lead after five minutes of the second period when a scramble in the Ballistic penalty area lead to a low shot into the corner of the net.

Undaunted by the setback, Ballistic committed more players to the attack in search of the equalizer but they left themselves exposed at the back and minutes from the end they were punished when a Carlsbad forward managed to hold off his Ballistic marker long enough to fire home for a 2-0 lead which would prove to be the final score.

Top Offensive Players: Andrew Gomez, Lucas Heuer; Top Defensive Players: Matt Digiralamo, Nandor Krause.

Beginner Lacrosse Clinic

Livermore Phantom Lacrosse is hosting a beginner lacrosse clinic to introduce the fundamentals of the game of lacrosse to boys and girls ages 7 to 16. The clinic will be held on Sunday, Sept 19 from Noon to 2pm at Granada High Turf and includes instruction on passing, catching, cradling, shooting and dodging. This is an excellent introduction into the fast moving and ever growing game of lacrosse. Demonstrations will be given by local coaches, high school and college players, and maybe a surprise guest. Cost for the clinic is \$10 and all equipment required for the clinic will be provided by Phantom lacrosse Club. Advanced registration is requested. For updated information and registration please visit www.phantomlacrosse.org or contact Bob Mezeul at 925-425-9901.

Since 1991, Surtec Adopt-A-Family, Inc., a 501C3 non-profit charitable organization, has provided food and personally selected Christmas gifts to more than 4,570 families with 13,125 children through its program.

Adopt-A-Family founder Bill Fields commented "This project has continued to grow each year with volunteer help and funds raised from our Annual Golf Classic. Our goal for the 2010 program is to provide food for 350 families and gifts for their more than 950 children, in three counties".

Fields is inviting residents and companies in the community to participate in the 14th Annual Adopt-A-Family Golf Classic on Saturday, September 25, at Sunol Golf Course on Highway 680 in Sunol. A light lunch mid-day, and a dinner banquet following the tournament are included in the cost. This event is the primary source of funding for the Surtec Adopt-A-Family program.

The average cost to complete the Adopt-A-Family Program each year is approximately \$70,000. No administrative costs are taken from the program, all of the help is on a volunteer basis and all funds and goods go directly to the needy families.

To donate or sign-up for the Golf Classic or for more information, please contact Cheryl Sanders at 209-820-3700.

Charity Golf Tourney

Registrations are now being accepted for the 4th annual Mason-McDuffie Mortgage Charity Golf Tournament Oct. 11 at the Castlewood Country Club's valley course.

Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Huntington Disease Society of America and the Contra Costa Association of Realtors Scholarship Foundation. In the first three years of the tournament, Mason-McDuffie and its associates have raised more than \$40,000 for research on Huntington's disease and breast cancer. Huntington's disease is a genetic disease passed from a parent to a child in which certain nerves in the brain degenerate. There is no known cure, but the society is funding research seeking both better treatments and an eventual cure.



The Livermore Fusion Storm U9 Girls team continued its successful season with a second place finish in the Manteca PortuGoal tournament this weekend. Storm shutout its first two opponents, De Anza Force 2-0 and Mustang Crunch 3-0 behind excellent goalkeeping by Eliana Eme and Carlie Spruiell. Storm displayed great shutout defense from Justynne Thomas, Jordan Goodwin and Claire March. The midfield controlled the game with excellent transition by Kayla Lewis, Leila Ganz, Sierra Street, Carlie Spruiell and Isabella La Rosa. The forward attack and passing by Kaleigh Castillo, Alivia Ganz, Claire March and Ally Cooper disrupted any counter attack by their opponents. Goals were scored by Sierra Street, Isabella La Rosa and Alivia Ganz with assists from Kaleigh Castillo, Justynne Thomas and Sierra Street. Fusion Storm came up short losing to the second ranked Modesto Ajax team in the championship game. The team is coached by Tony La Rosa and Bret Dupuis. Pictured (back row, from left) Kayla Lewis, Jordan Goodwin, Isabella La Rosa, Gracie Dupuis, Justynne Thomas, Sierra Street, Claire March; (front row) Carlie Spruiell, Leila Ganz, Kaleigh Castillo, Alivia Ganz and Eliana Eme.

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Welcome Tea Planned by American Association of University Women

The Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will host a Welcome Tea for prospective and current members on Saturday, September 25, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue, Pleasanton.

Interest groups will give short presentations. Gwen Locke, president, will describe the various programs sponsored by AAUW to help women in the pursuit of their education. Tea and refreshments will be served. There is no cost. However, an RSVP to 484-3321 is requested.

During the summer L-P-D AAUW sponsored nine young women to attend Tech Trek Camp, a science camp for seventh grade girls. Those attending were Enikoe Bihiri, Mendenhall Middle School; Lauren Caldwell, Hart Middle School; Chloe Chan, Wells Middle School; Zahira Chaudhry, Pleasanton Middle School; Katie Johnston, East Avenue Middle School; Monique Lemieux, East Avenue Middle School; Andrea Ludwig, Harvest Park Middle School; Abby Pandina, Christensen Middle School; and Casandra Stanley, Junction Middle School.

On August 17, the young women helped serve a Queen's Tea at the August Tea Room in Livermore. The tea, arranged by Vicki Drake, an AAUW member, was to help sponsor the Tech Trek Camp next summer. Frankie Tate, Granada High School Science Teacher, who had been chosen as 2008 Alameda County Teacher of the Year, was the featured speaker.

The L-P-D AAUW Scholarship Committee also selected three outstanding local women as recipients of the branch's local scholarship awards. They are Lauren Jow, Anna Rosa and Mary Rosa.

Lauren is currently a junior at the University of Oregon pursuing a major in International Studies with a minor in Multi-Media Studies. Anna Rosa is majoring in Cellular and Molecular Biology at Cal State East Bay. She is planning to pursue a career in genetic disease research. Mary Rosa, Anna's twin sister, is majoring in Molecular Biology. Mary has made the Dean's List each term at Cal State East Bay, and for the last two years has made the All-American Academic Team, earning "Scholar Athlete of the Year" in 2009 as a member of the water polo team.

Photos - Doug Jorgensen
The 145th annual Scottish Highland Gathering & Games at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton over the weekend. The event is presented by the Caledonian Club of San Francisco. Living history was presented by a variety of groups including Highland Warriors, Roman legions and Vikings. There was also competition in a variety of events including Highland dancing. Marching bands could be heard throughout the fairgrounds playing the familiar bagpipes. The weekend also included a variety of athletic competitions, as well as the gathering of the clans.



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Wednesday, September 8 - 7:00pm
Thurs. Sep. 9 & Fri. Sep. 10 - 10:00am
Shofar Blowing 11:30am
Festive holiday buffets will follow all services

Yom Kippur Services:
at the Doubletree Hotel
720 Las Flores
Friday, September 17 - 7:00pm
Saturday September 18 - 10:00am
Yizkor Memorial Service - 12:00pm
Netilat Closing Service - 6:45pm

Band and The VOENA Choir Open To All 4th & 5th Graders

Information & Registration Night
September 9th • 7:00 p.m.
Bothwell Arts Center
2466 8th Street, Livermore

This is your opportunity for you and your child to meet the instructors, ask questions and evaluate the programs. Every child will be able to try out various band instruments in order to decide their preference. The VOENA Choir presentation will include a performance, the choir's history, and this year's goals in Livermore. Sign-ups will be accepted that night for both BAND and CHOIR as well as over the following week (at ABC Music) to give ample time for parents to think about the details and commitments involved for the school year.

BAND Schedule

Band classes will be held after-school on Tuesdays and Thursdays with first class starting Sept. 21st. Spring concert and other events as opportunities are presented.

BAND Registration & Tuition Fees

Band is a full-year (school year) program. Participation in the Band Programs is a 9 month commitment.

Registration Fee: \$25 (one-time, due at enrollment)
School-Year Tuition Fee: \$612 (Paid Monthly) \$68
Tuition fee includes instrument rental and book.

A 10% discount on the tuition is available for both:
a) students using their own instrument
b) tuition paid in-full at registration

Some instrument accessories will be required as a separate purchase. Participants will enjoy a 15% discount on any supplies or instruments purchased at ABC Music during the school year.
Instrument sign-up choices on a first-come basis:
Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Alto Sax, Trombone, Drums/Bells/ Percussion.

VOENA Schedule

There are no audition requirements to join VOENA - Any child between the ages of 6 and 18 is eligible to join. College prep theory, multi-lingual repertoire, and performance technique will be taught in each semester.

VOENA will rehearse once-a-week on Wednesdays from 3:30pm to 4:15pm. VOENA will perform during the Winter holiday season and in the spring and for other events as opportunities are presented

VOENA Registration & Tuition Fees

The winter semester starts Sept 22, 2010 and ends December 15, 2010. The 2011 semester begins January 12, 2011 and ends June 1, 2011.

Registration Fee: \$45 (yearly, due at enrollment)
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Conflicting Statistics Muddle Housing Picture

By Cher Wollard

National figures for July show steep declines in housing sales, causing some analysts to predict dire times ahead. For example: • Sales of existing homes fell 27.2% from June, and 25.5 percent from July 2009, according to the National Association of Realtors (NAR). • Sales of new single-family homes dropped 12.4 percent from the month before, and 32.4 percent year-to-year, according to the U.S. Census Bureau and the department of Housing and Urban Development. • Home sales decreased 20.8 percent from June, both statewide and in Alameda County, according to figures from MDA DataQuick and Trendgraphix. • The value of California real estate - residential, commercial and land, fell 1.8 percent this year, after having dropped 2.4 percent in 2009.

And yet, other reports hinted at reasons for optimism: • The national median existing-home price was up slightly over the previous year to \$182,600. • Statewide, the median price paid for a home was \$268,000, down slightly from \$270,000 in June, but up 7.2 percent from \$250,000 in July 2009. The year-to-year hike was the ninth in a row, following 27 months of year-to-year decline. • Median prices of single-family homes increased 10.4 percent to \$314,850 July-to-July. • Alameda County pending sales of single family homes rose 5.7 percent from the month before, and 7.8 percent year-to-date. What to make of all these statistics?

For one thing, they each measure a different aspect of real estate. But in general, sales were brisk the first half of this year and slowed dramatically in July. That may be consumer reaction to the end of national and state tax credits. It may be fallout from an artificial rush to purchase in the spring by buyers eager to meet the deadlines for those credits - buyers who might not have bought until later in the year. It could be evidence of another downturn. It might be a fluke. "There was more to last month's sales drop than expiring federal home buyer tax credits," said John Walsh, president of MDA DataQuick. "But we think they were the main reason the decline was so sharp."

Lawrence Yun, chief economist for N.A.R. agrees. "Consumers rationally jumped into the market before the deadline for the home buyer tax credit expired," Yun said. "Since May, after the deadline, contract signings have been notably lower and a pause period for home sales is likely to last through September. "However, given the rock-bottom mortgage interest rates and historically high housing affordability conditions, the pace of a sales recovery could pick up quickly, provided the economy consistently adds jobs."

Yun added that annual sales are still expected to reach 5 million this year. Annual sales have averaged 4.9 million for the last 20 years. The statistics also seem to indicate that California - and especially the Bay Area - may be seeing a somewhat different real estate picture than the nation as a whole. Sales did fall here in July, but pendings - homes going into contract - rose 5.7 percent from the month before and about the same over last July. Prices are also up.

In Alameda County, the average sales price was \$540,000, off slightly from June, but substantially higher than \$454,000 in July 2009. Mostly this is because the market has shifted from a focus on low-end foreclosures and short sales to include more mid- and upper-range homes. But there is evidence that the market value of similar properties has also risen.

For one thing, the price per square foot of residential property has been on a steady incline since hitting a five-year low of \$250 in January 2009. The price in July was \$303, up more than 10 percent from \$274 a year ago. Days on the market - the statistic for the average time it takes to sell a residential property - is constant from June at 36 days - and down considerably from 60 days a year ago. Months of inventory for pending sales - a statistic used to describe the ratio between demand and supply - is at 3.4. This is well below 6.0 months, which N.A.R. says represents a balanced market. That means we still have more buyers than sellers, keeping the pace of sales relatively high.

In Livermore, the picture is only slightly different. Average sales price dropped from \$490,000 to \$473,000 July to July, although that may be an outlier as June's average sales price was \$527,000 and we've seen a steady increase all year. Price per square foot was up from \$259 to \$264. The months of inventory - 2 - is the same as last year and slightly ahead of June. In fact, the market in Livermore, as in the rest of the Tri-Valley, has been moving at a brisk pace since January of 2009.

Statistics for condos and townhouses tell a similar tale, although they spend more time on the market before going into contract. So what is on the horizon for prospective homebuyers and sellers? It's hard to know, but a few other statistics may prove pertinent: • The number of California homes pushed into foreclosure dropped for the fifth consecutive quarter to the lowest level in three years, according to MDA DataQuick. • Statewide entry level affordability, indicating the percentage of first-time homebuyers who can afford an average-priced home in California, was 64 percent in the second quarter of 2010. This is considered very good news for buyers.

"There's been a pause in the market," Walsh noted. "Some potential buyers - including those who held off until the tax credits expired - will take their time to assess market conditions." Combined with all-time low interest rates, this could make for an interesting autumn market.

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

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Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Andy Jorgensen (left), Civic Arts manager for the City of Pleasanton, and Randy Steward of O'Connor Construction, discussed how the Firehouse Arts Center was built. They are standing on the stage of the theater.

FIREHOUSE

(continued from page one)

Debbie Look, executive director of PCAF, pointed out that successful arts centers are partnerships between private and public entities. The goals of the new arts center are to provide high quality arts experiences in Pleasanton, enhance arts education, and to provide significant economic benefit. "The arts center brings both prestige and quality of life aspects. It enhances land values and will add vitality to the downtown," she declared.

Current PCAF president Bill Butler said just the idea that it is opening has already drawn people into the downtown.

Butler said that the PCAF's sole mission was to raise private funds for the arts center. The goal was \$2 million. "We are just at \$1.9 million." He was on hand at Tuesday's city council to present a check for \$250,000 to the city.

Butler said that one of the most successful fund-raising programs has been selling bricks. There will be 1000 bricks. Just in August, \$30,000 worth of bricks were purchased. People have until Sept. 24 to purchase one.

Assistant City Manager Julie Yuan-Mu was the program manager. "It does take a village to build an arts facility," she declared. "The city council had the foresight to breathe new life into the facility." She was proud of the fact that all of the bricks used were part of the original firehouse. The bricks were made in Pleasanton. Natural elements are used throughout the building. She noted that it has achieved the necessary points to be a green building, including the use of solar power.

The old firepole is located in the lobby. It is dedicated to the firefighters who lived here for 40 years, stated Yuan-Mu.

Rob Vogt is in charge of programming. "I get to have fun with the building," he declared. "The 227 seat theater is a great space for programs. I believe we

have created a sophisticated, high quality season of entertainment." A variety of series are planned, including jazz, acoustic and classical.

The center, he added, also allows for interdisciplinary programming. For example, jazz performances and a jazz themed art show could be presented as part of the Campana Jazz Festival.

Opening weekend will feature jazz guitarist Earl Klugh on Sept. 24 followed by jazz

composer Mose Allison on Sept. 25. On Sept. 26, classical pianist Evelyne Brancart will perform a Chopin Concert.

An additional jazz performance, featuring Tia Fuller, is scheduled for Oct. 23.

A classical concert on Oct. 24, "A Ceremony of Cellos," will be a tribute to the late Lawrence Granger.

The acoustic music series will feature Dala on Oct. 24, Craicmore on Nov. 13 and Roger McGuinn on Nov. 28.

There will be cabaret type performances offered. Franc D'Ambrosio kicks off the season with "Hollywood," on Nov. 3. David Burnham will be in concert on Nov. 6. In addition a Motown Holiday review and a Rodgers and Hammerstein with Hart performance have been scheduled. The theater can be transformed into a restaurant type setting by removing seats and extending the stage area.

The Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre will stage a performance of "Cabaret" in January.

The Civic Arts Stage Company will perform in partnership with the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. First production will be James and the Giant Peach, followed by The Princess and the Pea, and concluding with Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm.

Second City, out of Chicago, leads the comedy series with two performances on Oct. 22.

Vogt said there are discussions underway about moving the Museum on Main lecture series and the Pleasanton Library classic film series to the Arts Center. Local performances will feature the Pleasanton Community Concert Band, possibly the Livermore

Valley Opera, Don Lewis and Jeff Bordes.

The classrooms will provide an opportunity for acting classes and workshops. Some rehearsals will be held in the larger classroom. The Pleasanton Art League will be able to present art workshops. In the spring, the city will offer fine art classes, said Vogt.

Julie Finegan manages the art gallery, which is named for the Harringtons. Pleasanton residents Nancy and Gary Harrington donated several of the most dramatic features of the Firehouse Arts Center - two large glass marqueses and a statue of Claude Monet to be installed near the outdoor plaza.

The Pleasanton Art League show will be the first in the gallery. Finegan said all 84 artists will have one piece in the show. She noted that excitement over

the gallery has led to additional memberships in the art league, including artists such as Jill Tishman, Carol Maddox and Carolyn Lord.

The second show in the gallery will feature the National Watercolor Society traveling exhibit. In addition, four local signature members will have works included. They are Carolyn Lord, Mike Riordan, Robin Purcell and Karen Frey. Frey will also be conducting watercolor workshops.

The third show will be brought by Paintbrush Diplomacy. It features children's artwork from around the world.

Tickets for all performances can be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org. For box office information, call 931-4848. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue.

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Firehouse Arts Center Opening Weekend of Offers Variety of Entertainers

Season openers at the City of Pleasanton's Firehouse Arts Center will include performances by master jazz guitarist Earl Klugh on Friday, September 24, celebrated composer musician Mose Allison on Saturday, September 25, and award-winning pianist Evelyne Brancart in a Chopin Piano Concert on Sunday, September 26, 2010.

The full weekend of entertainment will be presented at the newly-opened facility at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton, Calif.

During his career, *Earl Klugh* has been the recipient of twelve Grammy nominations and 23 Top Ten Billboard Jazz Chart albums. His 8:00 p.m. show on September 24 will highlight his newest album, *The Spice of Life*, which was the

Billboard and iTunes Bestselling Jazz Album for 2008.

Mose Allison's more than 150 songs are known to cross all musical boundaries and have been sung by artists such as The Who, Van Morrison, Elvis Costello, Bonnie Raitt, The Clash and Diana Krall. He will perform at 8:00 p.m. on September 25. Audiences will experience his style, a unique blending of jazz and blues, and wit. After a 12 year recording hiatus Allison recently recorded *The Way of the World* on Anti Records, produced by Joe Henry.

Award-winning Belgian pianist *Evelyne Brancart* is chair of the piano department at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. The school is the largest music school in the United States. The piano department is the larg-

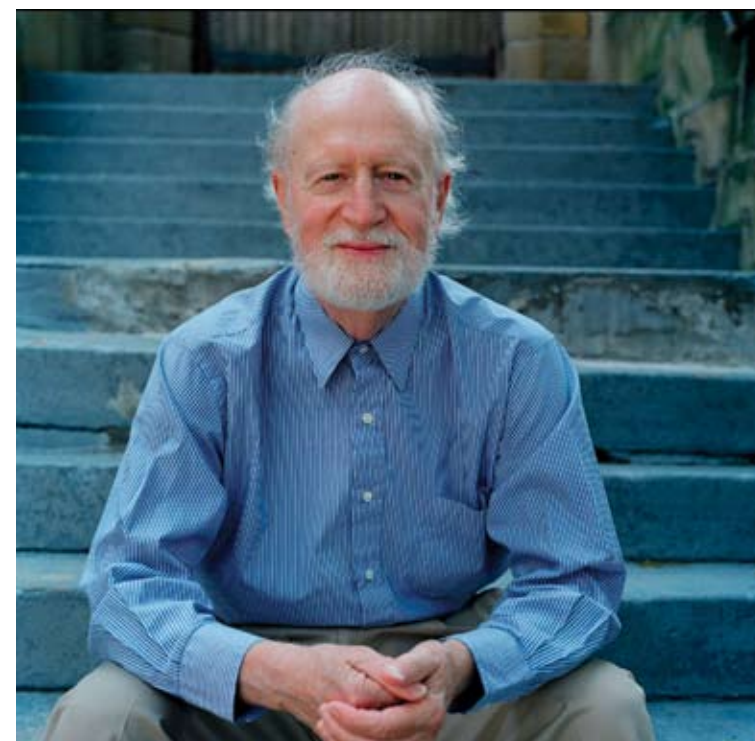
est in the world. A solo recitalist and chamber musician, Brancart has performed worldwide and has taught many of the best upcoming pianists.

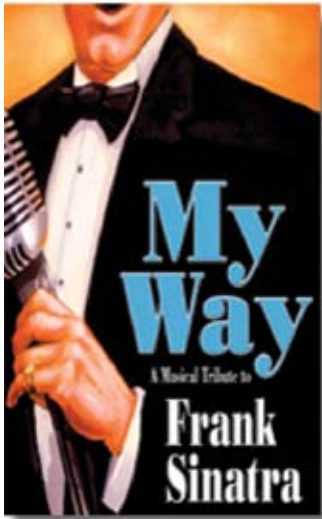
She will perform Chopin's *24 Etudes, op. 10 & 25*, and Schumann's *Sonata No. 1 in F# minor, op. 11* at a 3:00 p.m. Sunday matinee on September 26, 2010. The concert will honor the 200th birthdays of both of Chopin and Schumann.

On the following day, Monday, September 27, Brancart will present a lecture, *The Hand as a Source of Inspiration*, for the Alameda East County Branch of the Music Teachers Association of California (MTAC). In the lecture, she will present an innovative view of the Chopin Etudes, considering the

(continued on page 3)

Opening weekend performers are (upper left) Evelyne Brancart, (upper right) Earl Klugh, and (lower right) Mose Allison.





Pictured, from left, are cast members Anthony Lucido, Katie Potts, Tom Reardon, Michael Scott Wells, and Amy Lucido.

Season Opens with a Sinatra Tribute

Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre will open its season in Pleasanton with "My Way, A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra."

Opening night is Fri., Sept. 17. Performances will be in September-October at the Studio Theatre.

This new music revue features 56 songs recorded by "Old Blue Eyes" and is currently playing to packed houses throughout the country. "Sinatra said that the secret of his success was to sing

great songs. My Way offers some of the greatest music of the 20th century in a smart, tight production that has broad appeal. Every night the audience is on their feet cheering," declared Marc Masterson, Artistic Director, Actor's Theatre of Louisville. Encore Attractions called it, "...the hottest musical revue since Forever Plaid."

The show was created by David Grapes and Todd Olson.

The cast includes: Amy Lucido, Anthony V. Lucido, Katie Potts,

Tom Reardon and Michael Scott Wells. "My Way" will be produced by Kathleen Breedveld, directed by Robert Sholty, musical direction by Sierra Dee, lighting design by David Lam and costume design by Lisa Danz. The show is used by Permission of Summerwind Productions.

Performances are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, Sept. 17 to Oct. 10. The Studio Theatre is located at 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309,

Pleasanton.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$22 for seniors, \$20 for students, and a substantial discount for groups purchasing 20 or more tickets. A processing fee will be added to the price of each ticket. Tickets may be purchased on-line at www.trivalleyrep.com (click on TICKETS), by phone at 925-462-2121, or in person by visiting our ticket office at 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 307 in Pleasanton on Wednesdays or Fridays between 11:00am and 3:00pm.



Bicycle Rodeo (upper right) is one of the activities at the fair.



Fun and Games for All Ages at Children's Fair

Fun and games, entertainment and information will all be part of this year's Children's Fair, presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.

Children's Fair 2010 is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, and Sunday, Sept. 12. With more than 60 booths packed full of kid-friendly activities, this year's event has the largest number of participants ever.

From 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday only, the Livermore Police Department will offer Car Seat

Checks in the East Avenue parking lot for families with young children. Featured on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. will be the Bicycle Rodeo in the Loyola Avenue parking lot. Kids can bring a bike and a helmet to learn safety rules while having fun.

The Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department will be on hand both days with its Safety Trailer and Fire Truck.

Throughout the fair will be free make-it-and-take-it craft booths as well as informational and vendor

booths. An inflatable activity center and carnival games will keep kids busy in the gymnasium, while pony rides and a petting zoo will entertain families outdoors. Food booths will offer treats such as hot dogs, hamburgers, pizza, drinks and shaved ice.

The Pleasanton and Livermore Military Families support group will be on hand for families to send cards to troops. The Boy Scouts will also attend and lead the fair in a moment of silence to commemorate the anniversary of Sept. 11.

Admission is free to Children's Fair, with select activities having a nominal fee. All happenings are at

the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Parking will be in the Loyola Way lot. For more information, visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us or call 925-373-5700.

Performance lineup for Children's Fair 2010: Saturday, Sept. 11

10:30 a.m. – Livermore School of Dance

11:15 a.m. – Break-Thru Crew

Noon – Livermore Idol winner Chris LaBel

1 p.m. – Livermore Martial Arts Academy

2 p.m. – Grupo Folklorico Tlapalli

3 p.m. Gymfinity Gymnastics and Dance

Sunday, Sept. 12

10:30 a.m. – Extreme Dance Force

11:15 a.m. – Mad Science

12:15 p.m. – Livermore Idol runner-up Michelle Morrison

1 p.m. – Amador Judo and Jujitsu

2 p.m. – Livermore Idol runner-up Emily Stuart

2:45 p.m. – Triple Threat Performing Arts

Firehouse Arts Center Offers Discounts on Entertainment Series

The newly-opened Firehouse Arts Center at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton, will offer subscription discounts for several entertainment series during its 2010-2011 season.

Those who purchase series tickets in advance will receive a 15 percent savings (when choosing three shows) or 20 percent (when choosing five shows) from within the Firehouse Cabaret, Firehouse Classical, Civic Arts Stage Co. and Firehouse Kids series. Patrons may also create their own series by choosing three or five shows from the entire 2010-2011 Firehouse Arts Center season. All tickets must be purchased in a single order.

The *Firehouse Cabaret Series* showcases some of the greatest hits from Hollywood, Broadway and Motown including: Franc D'Ambrosio's *Hollywood* on October 2, 2010, David Burnham on November 6, 2010, Motown Holiday Revue on December 11, 2010, Rogers & Hammerstein with Hart on January 15 and January 16, 2011 and Wesla Whitfield on February 13, 2011.

The *Firehouse Classical Series* highlights a wide range of classical music experiences including pianist Evelyne Brancart in *Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of Chopin* on September 26, A Ceremony of Cellos (in memory of

Lawrence Granger) on October 24, Cypress String Quartet on January 9, 2011, classical guitarist Peter Fletcher on February 20, 2011 and the Pleasanton Chamber Players on March 6, 2011.

Civic Arts Stage Co. productions include *James and the Giant Peach*, October 8-10 and 15-17, 2010; *The Princess and the Pea*, December 10-19, 2010; *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, May 6-15, 2011.

Firehouse Kids are offered on one Saturday morning each month. This season's theater and music experiences include *James and the Giant Peach* by Civic Arts Stage Co. on October 9; Craicmore, Celtic music with a world view, on November 13; *The Princess and the Pea* by Civic Arts Stage Co. (at the Amador Theater) on December 11, 2010, a show to be announced on January 8, 2011, and the Youth Music Festival performance on Saturday, February 19, 2011.

Those wishing to place subscription orders may do so online at www.firehousearts.org, and beginning September 10, 2010, by phone at (925) 931-4848 or at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office.

Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12:00 Noon-6:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and for two hours prior to each performance.

OPENING WEEKEND

(continued from front page)

fact that Chopin was not only an extraordinary pianist but also a drawing artist. She will relate to each Etude as a physical, musical, emotional or pianistic *sketch* and examine how each etude evolves from the previous one.

The lecture is free and open to the public. It will take place at 10:00 am at the LuPing Yang piano studio, 2980 Amoroso Court (off Montevino) in Pleasanton, Calif. More information is available at (925) 484-1150.

Tickets to the Earl Klugh performance are \$35, \$40 and \$45. Tickets to the Mose Allison show are \$22, \$27 and \$32. Tickets to the Chopin Piano Concert are \$16, \$20 and \$24 with senior tickets at \$20 and student tickets at \$12. Group discounts are available.

All tickets may now be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org up to three hours prior to each performance. Phone orders

at (925) 931-4848 and in-person sales at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office begin September 10, 2010. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and for two hours prior to the performance. More information about Firehouse Arts Center is available at www.firehousearts.org.



Above is one of the booths from last year. Don Eagling, right, offers his acrylic paintings.

Art in Carnegie Park Features Art, Music, Wine, Food and Entertainment

"Art in Carnegie Park" will be held on Saturday, September 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.,

This is a summer event presented by the Livermore Art Association (LAA) that is something the whole family can enjoy. Local artists will fill Carnegie Park in downtown Livermore with arts and crafts for sale, and provide art demonstrations. Shoppers can purchase art directly from the artists. There will also be live music, local wines and food.

Le Tableau Magnifique Ballet company will perform on stage in the park. Activities for kids include face painting. Visitors can also browse LAA's art gallery, located right in the park in the historic Carnegie building. The art gallery is a co-op run by the artists themselves.


Carnegie Park is at 3rd & K street in downtown Livermore. Open 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Free to the public. For more information call 925-449-9927.



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Season Has Literary Theme

Civic Arts Stage Company Opens Season with James and the Giant Peach

City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company will present three productions during the 2010-2011 season, *James and the Giant Peach*, *The Princess and the Pea*, and *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*.

All will be produced through a partnership between City of Pleasanton and San Francisco Shakespeare Festival and cast at open auditions of local children and adults.

James and the Giant Peach is the story of young James, who lives with his nasty aunts, Spiker and Sponge. One day, a mysterious little man gives him some wiggly green things with magical powers. He accidentally drops them beneath his aunts' peach tree. A giant peach begins to grow. Dahl's offbeat humor and unique understanding of a child's perspective make this story very funny and surprising.

James and the Giant Peach was cast from auditions on August 8, 2010. Performances will take place at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, Calif. on October 8-10, and October 15-17, 2010 (weekend performances and October, 13-14 (daytime school performances). Tickets to public performances are \$10, \$15 and \$18 for adults and \$6, \$9 and \$12 for children and seniors.

Auditions for roles in *The Princess and the Pea*, written by Kate

Hawley and directed by Rebecca J. Ennals, will take place on Saturday, September 25, and Sunday, September 26, 2010.

Children ages six years and older and adults are welcome. Audition packets are posted at ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/arts/civic-arts. Those wishing to audition should call 415-865-4425 for an appointment. They will be asked to read from the script and participate in improvisation activities. They are asked to dress comfortably and come prepared to have fun.

A Musical Theatre Audition Workshop for ages six-adult will take place on Saturday, September 11, 2010 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center. Those attending will learn about what to expect at the "Princess and the Pea" auditions, selecting the appropriate audition piece, singing and dancing auditions, and about resumes and photos. More information is available at ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/arts/civic-arts.

The Princess and the Pea is a story about the vain Queen Grosioso, who runs her kingdom through deception and pretension. Her conniving henchman Rata-touille has his own plans to gain the throne, until Princess Victoria arrives to seek her fortune dressed as a boy. The traditional tale takes on all the fun of a holiday panto, complete with singing, dancing, and Shakespearian plot twists. All

performances, December 10-19, 2010, will take place at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, on the Amador Valley High School campus in Pleasanton, Calif.

Auditions for *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, written by Kate Wiggins and directed by Paula Wujek are scheduled for Saturday, February 26, and Sunday, February 27, 2011 for ages six-adult. Audition packets will be posted at ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/arts/civic-arts beginning January 31, 2011.

In the play, Rebecca is a very creative, sometimes unruly young girl who alternately charms and horrifies the residents of Riverboro, Maine, where she comes to stay with her kind Aunt Jane and strict Aunt Miranda. Themes of this play include the importance of a good education, the value of differences between people, and the power of family love. Performances will take place May 6-15, 2011 at the Firehouse Arts Center.

Tickets to all Civic Arts Stage Company performances are available online at www.firehousearts.org. Phone and box office sales will begin on September 10, 2010. Call (925) 931-4848 or visit the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon- 6:00 p.m., Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and for one hour prior to each performance.

Variety of Volunteer Opportunities Available at Firehouse Arts Center

The Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton, will open to the public on September 18, 2010. Opportunities for volunteers, including theater ushers and visual arts gallery docents, are available at the new facility for senior citizens and retirees, adults, youth ages 16 and over, and for community service volunteers.

The Firehouse Theater Volunteer Usher Program is integral to the Firehouse experience. Ushers scan tickets, help seat patrons and assist the house manager in making the theater-going experience an enjoyable one. Ushers must attend a mandatory orientation, after which they will be eligible to sign up on a monthly basis to

usher at performances. The time commitment required is flexible — a few hours a day, a week, a month or a year.

The Harrington Gallery Attendant volunteer staffs the gallery desk during the facility's open hours, greeting visitors and providing a friendly, welcoming and watchful presence. The volunteer ensures security of artwork, makes periodic rounds to monitor the gallery, answers guests' questions, etc. He or she also refers art sales and inquiries to appropriate staff, answers the phone and assists with occasional administrative tasks.

Harrington Gallery Attendant must be over 21 years of age and must attend an orientation. The time commitment is flexible.

The first orientation is scheduled for Saturday, September 11, 2010, with Theater orientation beginning at 10:00 a.m. and Gallery orientation at 11:30 a.m. Those interested in both areas are welcome to attend both sessions. On that day, volunteers schedules for the first four-six weeks of programming will be confirmed and additional sign-ups will be taken to fill existing open time slots. Those who wish to attend the September 11 orientation *must* register at the volunteer site: www.helpendahand.org.

A second volunteer orientation will be held once the Firehouse Arts Center has been open for several weeks and additional volunteer needs have been identified.



Jewelry artist Michele Buckettt is the Livermore Art Association (LAA) Gallery's featured artist for the month of September. Michele creates jewelry using semi-precious stones, pearls, and crystals. Her designs reflect her love of nature's colors, shapes and textures. She makes a variety of necklaces, earrings, and bracelets. Her work will be available for purchase at the LAA Gallery. Admission is free. LAA Gallery is open 11:30-4:00 Wed-Sun, and is located in the historic Carnegie Building at 2155 3rd St. Livermore. For more info call the Gallery 925-449-9927.

SF Mime Troupe Performs

The Tony Award-winning San Francisco Mime Troupe will present, "Posibilidad, or Death of the Worker" at the Chabot College Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, September 15, at 7 p.m., with live music beginning at 6:30 p.m. It is the troupe's last scheduled free performance of the play in the Bay Area.

"This year's play presents a wonderful opportunity for our entire community to enjoy an evening of the best political theater in the U.S.," said Kip Waldo, Chabot College social sciences faculty member.

"The mime troupe is not silent," Waldo explained. "Their songs, the comedy, and drama will involve and move you like no other theater. The subject matter is always topical. This year it focuses on the economic crisis we face - not with doom and gloom, but with energy and humor. The show explores the problems many people face during the economic crisis. Workers are being laid off. Workplaces are closing, and plants are being moved to places where workers' wages are lower. What to do? That is the question the workers in this play confront."

Chabot College individuals and clubs, including the Students for Social Justice, are sponsoring the performance. Donations are welcomed. To help with publicity and the show, contact ChabotSSJ@gmail.com. Parking fees will be enforced. Parking Lot G is closest to the Performing Arts Center, located at the corner of Hesperian Boulevard and Depot Road. Parking is \$2; permits can be purchased at the dispensers located at light pole locations in the parking lot areas. For more information, visit the Chabot College website at www.chabotcollege.edu.

Chabot College is located at 25555 Hesperian Boulevard in Hayward.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A toast to the harvest is offered by (from left) Rabbi Richard Winer from Congregation Beth Emek, First Presbyterian Senior Pastor Stephen Wilde and Candice Dixon from Les Chênes Estate Vineyards.

Annual Blessing Signals Start of Local Grape Harvest

As a prelude to last weekend's Harvest Wine Celebration, the annual blessing of the grapes took place in the Livermore Valley wine country.

Rabbi Richard Winer from Congregation Beth Emek and Senior Pastor Stephen Wilde from the First Presbyterian Church, conducted the ceremony, which has become a yearly tradition. Also participating in the event were members of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association.

Winer declared, "In my religion, we have a blessing for everything. We bless our food, we bless special moments in life, we have a blessing for seeing a rainbow and for setting eyes upon the ocean. We have a special blessing for grapes

and wine — for the fruit of the vine. ... We understand creation to continually unfold day after day, year after year, from one harvest to the next including all the important steps in between."

Wilde added, "We gather here this morning not just to express gratitude for the bounty of this harvest, but also to express gratitude to the men and women who give tirelessly of their efforts, their time. They plant seeds, they water, but we acknowledge that it is God who provides the growth." Wilde noted that wine had played a role in miracles and is used to mark sacred moments.

Winer explained that one of the most ancient blessings is that for wine. He recited the blessing in

English, "We praise you, O God, who continually creates the fruit of the vine," and in Hebrew.

Prior to the blessing, Winegrowers Executive Director Chris Chandler talked about three recent accomplishments.

One is the first ever wine seekers guide to the Livermore Valley. She described it has containing intimate interviews with winemakers as well as things to see and do in Livermore Valley.

The Wine Seeker's Guide to Livermore Valley was written by Thomas Wilmer. It was published by RiverWood Books. It will be available on Amazon.

The second accomplishment is the launch of the first iPhone app for the Livermore Valley wine

country. Chandler noted that it contains winery events, places to dine and other information of interest. The app allows the user to post information about their experiences in the Livermore area to their Twitter and Facebook feeds, directly from the app.

The final accomplishment was the first sign in the new signage program. The post contains multiple signs directing visitors to area wineries. Chandler stated, "Providing signs will educate visitors and commuters as well as remind residents that Livermore Valley wine country is a great asset to the community."

Chandler then introduced Winer and Wilde stating, "Every glass of

wine starts with the harvest."

Jim Ryan of Concannon Vineyard, who hosted the blessing, said this year's harvest is a few weeks behind. The heavy rain earlier in the year has impacted the size of berries. "We need to watch the berries to make sure the vines are not over-cropped," he stated.

Ryan said, that unlike Napa, where the weather has impacted the crop, there has been none here. The east-west orientation and daily breeze helps to deter mildew and bunch rot he stated.

Richard Dixon of Les Chênes Estate Vineyards, said of the upcoming harvest, "It's just fine. Everything is wonderful."

From Guitar Music to Magic - Something for Everyone at Bankhead Theater

September and October Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center programs offered at the Bankhead Theater include the following:

Spencer Day, singer/songwriter, Fri., Sept. 10, 8 p.m. His seriously sexy vocals are nostalgic reminders of a time when ladies were ladies and gentlemen were gentlemen. But his music is an eclectic and refreshing mixture of everything from Cole Porter to Paul Simon creating an epic feel with each song. Largely self-taught, Day's work reveals the influences of such diverse composers as Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Joni Mitchell, Carol King, John Lennon and Paul Simon. Day has developed an artistic sensibility that borrows from numerous sources, jazz, musical theatre, cabaret, soul, folk, traditional pop and contemporary pop, that are just the tip of the iceberg. Day uses intuition and improvisation as his primary tools to craft a sound that is traditional and familiar, yet fresh and innovative at the same time, creating a blend too subtle to parse into neatly defined categories. Tickets \$18/\$29/\$40/Students \$12

Guitar Player LIVE! Two Days of Guitars and Music on Friday & Saturday, Sep 17 & 18, 2010 The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, in partnership with Guitar Player Magazine, presents Guitar Player LIVE! A guitar festival that brings together players, music lovers, guitar legends, and exhibitors for a celebration of music inspired by guitars — free live performances, free artist clinics, the latest gear and more. The weekend kicks off with a concert by legendary rock guitarists Ronnie Montrose and Gary Hoey, and closes with Guitar Player Magazine's sixth annual Guitar Superstar Competition. Enjoy local bands on outdoor stages during the afternoon, mingle with guitarists, band members, and music enthusiasts at post-show parties, and rock the past with late night screenings of two guitar-inspired films, "This is Spinal Tap" and "The Wall." For all of the details, outdoor schedules for free performances and clinics, visit www.guitarplayerlive.com.

Montrose and Gary Hoey - World Class Guitar Legends, Fri-

day, Sep 17, 2010 at 8pm In 1993 Gary Hoey launched his career with the hit song "Hocus Pocus" and his fiery technique helped to send it to the Top 5 on Billboard's charts. He then followed up with the soundtrack to the surf saga, "Endless Summer II." With a collection of 16 albums and five Top 20 Billboard hits, it's no wonder Gary Hoey is considered one of the greatest guitar players of all time. Ronnie Montrose and Sammy Hagar formed their band Montrose in 1973. Montrose pioneered and influenced an entire generation of West Coast Rock and Roll by firing out big guitar riffs, the classics "Rock Candy," "Bad Motor Scooter," "Rock the Nation" and "Space Station #5," and soulful dynamic vocals with extreme "attitude!" Ronnie's guitar genius and legendary rock albums have earned him the title of "Rock and Roll Guitar Legend." Tickets \$27/\$38/\$49/Students \$12

Guitar Player's Guitar Superstar Competition, presented by Guitar Player Magazine on Saturday, Sep 18, 2010 at 7pm. Now in its sixth year, Guitar Player Magazine's Guitar Superstar 2010 pits ten accomplished guitarists in a thrilling live-performance battle to impress a panel of world-famous guitar heroes and win the annual Guitar Superstar crown. Hundreds of guitarists posted videos of themselves performing original instrumental songs at truefire.com, and were rated by the staff of Guitar Player magazine. Nine astounding players were selected by the Guitar Player editors, and one player made the finals by winning a "People's Choice" spot as voted by the public. The 2010 judges — who will evaluate each performer on technique, tone, creativity, and charisma — include Elliot Easton (The Cars), Reeves Gabrels (David Bowie), fusion great Scott Henderson, and instrumental titan Gary Hoey. Host of this year's big event is Brendon Small, co-creator of Adult Swim's *Metalocalypse* animated series, and shred-tastic guitarist for Dethklok. Tickets \$23/\$29/\$37

Caledon, the "Three Tenors" of Scotland, Thursday, Sep 23, 2010 at 7:30pm. Caledon's repertoire



Pictured are (top photo) Red Priest - Nightmare in Venice; (lower right) Caledon; and (lower left) Deolonda.



is drawn from a rich and diverse selection of Scottish songs from the Borders to the Hebrides: famous Burns orchestrated poems, including "My Love is like a Red, Red Rose," classic ballads and traditional songs. Before you think, "Oh, those old Scots songs-I have heard them a thousand times," - pause awhile and listen

to these three tenors. Together, their individual tenor quality and pitch, blended in perfect harmony, creates a totally distinctive vocal performance. The classically trained opera singers, Alan Beck, Ivan Sharpe and Jamie MacDougall have each pursued successful, independent careers. Tickets \$18/\$29/\$40/Students \$12

Deolinda performs Portuguese Fado Music on Saturday, Sep 25, 2010 at 8pm. The secret to their popularity must surely lie in their exuberant, sometimes comic performances, the sweet and catchy or soft melancholic guitar melodies, and music littered with emotive references to fado (a plaintive Portuguese folk song) and other less



It's Magic Celebrates 54th anniversary.

prominent musical traditions. The songs carry the stories of Deolinda – a young Lisbon woman who lives with her cats and goldfish in an apartment and watches through her window as the world goes by – as brought to life by the group's dynamic, charismatic singer, Ana Bacalhau. Tickets \$18/\$29/\$40/Students \$12

It's Magic!, new 54th Anniversary Edition on Thursday, Oct 14, 2010 at 7:30pm. "It's Magic!" has been delighting magic enthusiasts for more than five decades. This live stage show is unique in that it features many of the top professional magicians worldwide,

with each act carefully selected to represent the variety of the art of magic. Many of these performers are internationally recognized award-winners, direct from exotic showrooms around the world as well as Hollywood's famous Magic Castle. Tickets \$29/\$40/\$51/Students \$12

Red Priest: "Nightmare In Venice" performs chamber music reinvented for the 21st century, Thursday, Oct 28, 2010 at 7:30pm. One of the major success stories on the early music scene today, this extraordinary British foursome (named after the flame-haired priest, Antonio Vivaldi) has given

hundreds of sell-out concerts in many of the world's most prestigious festivals, including the Hong Kong Arts Festival, Moscow December Nights, Prague Spring, Ravinia, and in most European countries, Japan, Australia, and throughout North and Central America. They are the only early music group in the world to have been compared in the press to the Rolling Stones, Jackson Pollock, the Marx Brothers, Spike Jones and Cirque du Soleil. Dare to attend Red Priest's infamous Halloween show, Nightmare in Venice. Tickets \$29/\$40/\$51/Students \$12

For tickets to any of the shows, call 925.373.6800 or online at www.bankheadtheater.org

The Bankhead Theater is at 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore

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What Our Readers Are Saying...

To the Many Fans of The Independent:

Khabira and I arrived in the Valley in January 1971. From the first I have depended upon the Independent for clear-headed and keen insight of what is important in the TriValley. I avidly read the front page, the editorials, and the letters. I particularly praise the Independent for their focus on local Arts and Community activities with a separate section. This section gives us readers a complete review of all our wonderful Arts. There is no substitute for the Independent for information about our community.

Thank you "The Independent" for being independent, comprehensive, and fair.

Chuck Hartwig

Resident of Livermore, President of Livermore Cultural Arts Council, Chair of the Rae Dorough Speakers Series, President-Elect of the Livermore Rotary Club, Board Member of the Livermore/Granada Boosters, Pacific Chamber Symphony, and Shakespeare's Associate



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ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

Call for artists. Fine Art Exhibition October 22 & 23 in the Center Court at the Stoneridge Mall in Pleasanton. Presented by Poetry On Canvas, sought are a handful of Unique Artists in Painting, Sculpting and Glass Work. Submit a sample of your work to PoetryOnCanvas@mac.com.

Livermore Art Association Gallery, located in Carnegie Park, 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.

The Contra Costa JCC exhibits featuring work by Michael Yashar, a collection of Ketubot, and Traditions: From Generation to Generation, an eclectic collection of Judaica from the local community. Contra Costa JCC's Friedkin Art Gallery, Gallery 925, and Tice Valley Gallery through September 17, 2010. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 8:00 p.m. and Fridays, 9:00 am to 3:00 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy the exhibits. Admission is free. The Contra Costa JCC is located at 2071 Tice Valley Blvd. in Walnut Creek.

Artist Reception for local Pleasanton artist Rob Tomlinson (www.robtomlinsonart.com). Saturday, Sept. 18, noon to 5 p.m. Complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres at Serenity Stoneworks, 252 Main Street, Pleasanton.

The Wild Vine, Taylor Common is the featured artist through September. Taylor's acrylic paintings draw the viewer in with colorful images and intend to generate an emotion, whether good or bad. "I want people to rethink what they see as beautiful, to see beauty in perhaps something that you have not considered before." Taylor received the 2010 PAL \$1000 scholarship award in recognition of her art and in support of her continued art practice. The Wild Vine is located at 2187 First St., Livermore.

Artist Diane Rodriguez is celebrating twenty years of painting trains, as she shows her collection at the Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Tasting Room. The public is invited to an artist's reception Sunday, September 12 from 1-3 pm. The paintings will be on display and for sale from September 1 to September 29. Her husband Stephen will also have a toy train display in conjunction with the paintings. The Wente tasting room is located at 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore. It is open daily 11:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Museum on Main and Pleasanton Art League, Explore the imagination of Pleasanton's art community in an exhibit entitled Imagination Expressed 2010, showing through October 16 at the Museum on Main, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. Thirty-five members of the Pleasanton Art League and the Museum on Main are partnering in this fourth annual showcase that is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sundays 1-4 p.m. Additionally, artists will talk about and/or demonstrate their particular art form at various times during the course of the exhibit; phone the Museum for details. Artwork will also be for sale. For more information phone Pleasanton Art League members Carole Hilton at 443-3849 or Charlotte Severin at 846-6382, the Museum on Main at 462-2766 or email: office@museumonmain.org.

Deer Ridge Vineyards & Art Gallery Celebrates its 3rd Anniversary during this year's Harvest Wine Celebration Weekend and Features New Art Exhibition honoring vineyard landscapes with "Wine Country Views." Paintings are by artists, Margery Ammon and Nova Starling. The exhibit will be on view Aug. 7 to Oct. 1. Reception for artists with live entertainment Sat., Sept. 18, 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Open to the public. Deer Ridge Vineyards, 1828 Wetmore Rd., Livermore. 1-866-561-0838. www.DeerRidgeVineyards.com

Pleasanton Art League, inaugural show at Firehouse Arts Center will feature work by local artists, Sept. 17-Oct. 2. 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

Art in Carnegie Park, Sept. 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Livermore Art Association. Work by local artists on display and for purchase. Music, art demonstrations, etc. Free admission. 2155 Third St., Livermore.

9th Annual ArtWalk, Oct. 9, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Livermore. Over 150 artists will set up exhibits, displaying their work in boutique shops, wine bars, restaurants, sidewalks and parks throughout the heart of downtown. The event is a fundraiser for the Bothwell Arts Center. More info is available at www.artwalklivermore.org; music event info at www.valleysingout.com. Follow it on Facebook by searching "ArtWalk Livermore."

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Livermore Art Association and Pleasanton Art League Potluck and Social, Sept. 13, 7 p.m. Charles R Vineyards, 8195 Crane Ridge Road, Livermore. Some wine will be provided at no charge, and you may purchase additional wine as well. Information and reservations: 925-371-7777.

Karen Frey Watercolor Workshop, Oct. 20-22, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, Pleasanton. Presented in conjunction with the National Watercolor Society exhibit. Deposit of \$100 due by July 1. The fee for this workshop is \$295. Space is limited to 16 people. Phone 925-449-4226 or e-mail lsbeach@comcast.net.

Alexander's Fine Art Gallery, series of summer and fall art workshops. Instruction will be in acrylic, oil, pastel and watercolor. Classes will be held at the 608 Main Street. Visit www.alexandersfineart.com for complete workshop information, or call Rosalinda Herrera at (925) 846-6015.

Art Critique and Coffee, every Friday, 10 a.m. at Border's Cafe, Rose Pavilion, Pleasanton. poetryoncanvas@mac.com.

WINERY EVENTS

Wente Wednesdays, Every Wednesday 5pm - 8 p.m. relax with friends and family on the newly renovated Estate winery grounds. Every Wednesday evening through September, enjoy live music with a glass of your favorite Wente Vineyards wine. Light snacks available for purchase, or bring your own picnic. Estate Winery Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore, 925.456.2305, www.wentevineyards.com

Thomas Coyne Winery at Blacksmith Square, 25 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Live music every Saturday: Sept 11 Chris LeBel 3-6 PM; Sept 18 Andy Joe Stewart 3-6 PM; Sept 25 Highway 4 3-6 PM.

Nottingham Cellars, 2245C South Vasco Rd., Livermore. End of summer art and wine meltdown, Sept. 18 and 19, noon to 5 p.m. Featuring local artists, musicians

and restaurants. 925.294.8647, nottinghamcellars.com.

Muestra de Arte, Sat., Sept. 18, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the historic barrel room at Murrieta's Well. Features local artists and special library wine tasting. Admission is free for this event. Winetasting is \$10 for all guests, Silver Spur members are complimentary. For information, call 925-456-2395 or go to www.murrietastwell.com. 3005 Mines Road, Livermore.

Harvest Tour & Tasting, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 18 and Sept. 25. Rare behind the scenes tour and tasting during the upcoming 2009 harvest. Learn how Wente Vineyards produces world class wines. See the processing first hand and sample some current vintages from our small lot winery. Reservations required \$20 Public/\$15 Wente Wine Club. Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore 925.456.2305, wentevineyards.com

MUSIC/CONCERTS

2010 Concert at Wente Vineyards, Willie Nelson, Sept. 13; Don Henley, Sept. 20; Harry Connick, Jr., Sept. 21. Ticketmaster.com or by calling the Wente Vineyards Box Office at 925.456.2424. Wente Vineyards, 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore.

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

12th annual recital co-sponsored by Asbury United Methodist Church and the Alameda County East Branch of the Music Teachers' Association of California (MTAC). Saturday, September 11, at 7:30 p.m. in Asbury's sanctuary, 4743 East Avenue in Livermore. Children are especially welcome at this event. It will last about an hour. The pianist will be glad to sign programs and meet members of the audience after the performance. This year's performer is Fremont resident David Wu will perform: Beethoven's hauntingly beautiful and tempestuous "Appassionata" Sonata; Chopin's Scherzo No. 4 in E major; Liszt's Etude No. 3 ("Un sospiro"); and Prokofiev's energetic Toccata in d minor. The recital is open to the public. There is no charge for admission. Refreshments will be served. For more information: (925) 443-2514

Guitar Player Live Superstars, Ronnie Montrose and Gary Hoye perform Fri., Sept. 17, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. In 1993 Gary Hoye launched his career with the hit song "Hocus Pocus" and his fiery technique helped to send it to the Top 5 on Billboard's charts. He then followed up with the soundtrack to the surf saga, Endless Summer II. Ronnie Montrose and Sammy Hagar formed their band Montrose in 1973. Montrose pioneered and influenced an entire generation of West Coast Rock and Roll by firing out big guitar riffs, the classics Rock Candy, Bad Motor Scooter, Rock the Nation and Space Station #5, and soulful dynamic vocals with extreme "attitude!" Performance will contain strong adult language, parental discretion is advised. \$27/\$38/\$49 or \$12 students, Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, Tickets www.livermoreperformingarts.com or 373-6800.

Pacific Chamber Symphony, concert Fri., Sept. 24, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Program of Beethoven and Schubert works. Tickets

www.livermoreperformingarts.com or 373-6800.

Concerts on the Green, Summer Series, Tuesdays through Sept. 24. Music 5 to 8 p.m. at the Livermore Valley Plaza in front of the Bankhead Theater. Hummingbirdz, high octane blues. No admission charge. Each week, two Livermore wineries featured; also beer selected by downtown bartenders. Non-alcoholic beverages will be available. Restaurants will offer food for purchase. The Livermore Downtown Inc. website lists the restaurants, wine shops and tasting rooms at www.livermoredowntown.com.

Blacksmith Square Saturday Concerts, Thomas Coyne Winery, John Christopher Cellars, Swirl Tapas Bar and Victorian Olive Oil present live music in the Square, 3 to 6 p.m. Wine tasting (fee waived with purchase), food at menu prices. No outside food or adult beverages. Corner of South Livermore Ave. and Railroad Ave. downtown Livermore.

Spencer Day, singer, songwriter, Fri., Sept. 10, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.livermoreperformingarts.org or 925-373-6800

Annual Piano Recital, Saturday, September 11, 2010, 7:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. Annual recital co-sponsored by the Alameda County East Branch of the Music Teachers' Association of California and Asbury. MTAC Young Artist Guild member David Wu will perform music of Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt and Prokofiev. No charge for admission; refreshments served. Further information: (925) 443-2514.

Caledon, Three Tenors of Scotland, 7 p.m. Thurs., Sept. 24, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.livermoreperformingarts.org or 925-373-6800.

Earl Klugh - Guitarist - *The Spice of Life*, Friday, Sept. 24, 8 p.m., Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$35, \$40 and \$45. They may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org up to three hours prior to the performance and, beginning September 10, 2010, by phone at (925) 931-4848 and in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office.

Mose Allison, Composer/musician, Firehouse Arts Center, Sat., Sept. 25, 8 p.m. 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. Tickets are \$22, \$27 and \$32. They may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org up to three hours prior to the performance and, beginning September 10, 2010, by phone at (925) 931-4848 and in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office.

Deolinda, Fado music (Portuguese folk song). Sat., Sept. 25, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.livermoreperformingarts.org or 925-373-6800.

Evelyne Brancart, Chopin Piano Concert with Evelyne Brancart, Sun., Sept. 26, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

Award-winning Classical Guitarist Peter Fletcher will be performing a diverse program of music from four centuries on Sun., Oct. 17 at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Avenue, 2 p.m. This concert will feature selections from Fletcher's 2008 CD release on Tower Hill Records: Music of the Baroque. Other repertoire will include Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring from Cantata No. 147 as well as the Chaconne in D minor by J. S. Bach; Usher-Waltz, an unusual and intense piece

by Russian guitarist and composer Nikita Koshkin; two works from Maurice Ravel's exquisite Mother Goose Suite, and music of Weiss, Albeniz, Villa-Lobos Ponce, Reusner, and Grieg. Free and open to the public. Information at 373.5500 or www.livermore.lib.ca.us/ The program will culminate with Koyunbaba.

ON THE STAGE

Eugene O'Neill Festival, September 10-26. The theme of the Festival is "Expressionism" and will feature a professional, fully staged production of "The Hairy Ape." www.eugeneoneill.org. Presented by Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House.

Leading Ladies, Douglas Morrisson Theatre's production of Ken Ludwig's hilarious comedy "Leading Ladies," directed by John Maio, will open on Friday, September 3 and run through Sunday, September 26. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. There will also be two Thursday evening performances, on September 16 & 23, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$24 for adults, \$22 for seniors, and \$15 for students. Group rates available. Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 North Third Street, Hayward. www.dmonline.org. (510) 881-6777.

My Way, musical tribute to Frank Sinatra. Sept. 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, Oct. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton. Call 462-2121 or go to www.trivalleyrep.com.

Senior Players present: "The Boardinghouse" Welcome to the Home Sweet Home Boardinghouse, where life is anything but normal. Miss Harriet runs a clean, cozy home occupied by a zany cast of boarders. It's a comedy full of colorful characters and villains, and will have you laughing from beginning to end! Friday, October 1st 7 p.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday, October 2nd 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., Sunday, October 3rd 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Advanced reservations \$9R/\$10NR at the door \$10R/\$11NR. Performances held at the Pleasanton Senior Center. For more information call 931-5365.

COMEDY

Comedy Uncorked, summer series hosted by Retzlaff Vineyards, benefitting the Open Heart Kitchen. Final show, Sept. 18. Shows begin at 7:30 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m. Complete show details and tickets are at www.comedyuncorked.com. Performers include Joe Klocek, Michael Meehan, Norm Goldblatt, Sandy Stec, Johnny Steele, Will Durst, Debi Durst, Michael Bossier, Lynn Ruth Miller, Tim Babb, Will Franken, Anthony Hill, Fred Anderson, Aundre the Wonderwoman. Retzlaff Vineyards is located at 1356 South Livermore Avenue in Livermore. Tickets at www.comedyuncorked.com.

DANCE

The Nutcracker, Livermore Ballet School performs the classic ballet each year. Those who would like to participate are invited to join the next session of training starting on Sept. 7. Costumes are provided. Admission is free; \$20 program fee. To register by phone, call 373-5700; or go on line LARPD at www.larpd.dst. For more information, see the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District fall 2010 brochure of classes.

All The Way Live USA Urban Dance Festival, Fri. and Sat., Sept. 10-11, Smith

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Center at Ohlone College Outdoor Amphitheatre, 43600 Mission Boulevard, Fremont. Fri. 7:30 p.m. The Go-Go Brothers, Skeeter Rabbit and Rock Steady Crew; Sat. noon workshops; dance competition at 3 p.m. Hip Hop dancers showcase their skills in energetic performances during this two-day festival. Top B-Boys from around the country show off their skills and teach workshops while local crews will battle it out. Kool Raul (aka "RJ" from Supreme Soul) DJs this event. 510) 659-6031 Sergio@allthewaylive.tv. Advance Ticket Prices: \$10 Performance; \$10 Dance Competition; \$30 Workshops. www.smithcenter.com

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

AUDITIONS/VOLUNTEERS

Musical Theatre Audition Workshop for ages six-adult will take place on Saturday, September 11, 2010 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center. Those attending will learn about what to expect at the "Princess and the Pea" auditions, selecting the appropriate audition piece, singing and dancing auditions, and about resumes and photos. More information is available at ci.pleasanton.ca.us/community/arts/civic-arts.

Livermore's 2011 Regional Talent Competition is now accepting applications. Top winners in each of two categories - youth (17 and under) and adults (18 and over) - will each take home \$2,500. This competition will feature singers, dancers, bands, pianists, magicians, comedians and other types of performances. Aspiring performers from anywhere are invited to audition and compete. Information and applications for auditions are available at LivermoresTalentCompetition.com. Applications must be received by December 31, 2010.

Cantabella Fall 2010 Registration, Cantabella Children's Chorus has been teaching fine vocal production and music literacy through great choral works to children in grades K-12 since 1992. Cantabella staff are now preparing for the Fall 2010 season and extend an invitation to children who would like to join the Chorus. A new rehearsal venue in Dublin at Resurrection Lutheran Church has been added to the existing Livermore and Pleasanton sites. New singers are invited to email Director Bee Chow, director@cantabella.org or call (925) 292-2663 for information about placement in the training choirs or to arrange an audition for the performing choirs. Classes resume 8/31, 9/1 and 9/2. Please visit www.cantabella.org for more information.

Valley Concert Chorale auditions by appointment for the 2010-2011 concert season on Monday, September 13 and 20, at the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore. The church is located at the corner of 4th and L Streets. The Chorale is seeking experienced singers with sight-reading skills who enjoy singing exciting and challenging music. The Chorale performs a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary, and folk to jazz. To schedule an appointment, call (925) 462-4205. The 2010-2011 concert season titled "Musical Reflections" will

include an October performance featuring the songs of movies and musicals, "Carols of Comfort and Joy" in December, an "In Remembrance" concert in March marking the upcoming 10th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 tragedy, and finally in May "If Music Be the Food of Love." More information about the Valley Concert Chorale is available at www.valleyconcertchorale.org or by calling the general information line at (925) 866-4003.

MOVIES

This is Spinal Tap, Sept. 17, An American rock musical mockumentary directed by Rob Reiner about the fictional heavy metal band, Spinal Tap. At 11:30 p.m. in the Vine Cinema & Alehouse, 1722 First Street, Livermore. Cost: \$7. Information: 925-373-6800 or www.LivermorePerformingArts.org.

The Wall, Sept. 18, The life of the fictional rock star 'Pink' is the subject of the visually evocative cult film based upon the music and visions of the group Pink Floyd as portrayed in the album of the same title. At 11:30 p.m. in the Vine Cinema & Alehouse, 1722 First Street, Livermore. Cost: \$7. Information: 925-373-6800 or www.LivermorePerformingArts.org.

Going Places: A Classic Film Series, shown the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Pleasanton Library's meeting room through June 2, 2011. The program is a partnership of Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Public Library proudly present. Candy Klaschus, film historian and Coordinator of the Humanities Program at Las Positas College, is the host. There is no admission charge. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. 931-3400. No registration required.

OPERA

Opera San José launches its 27th Anniversary Season with the West Coast premiere of *Anna Karenina*, an American opera by composer David Carlson with libretto by the late Colin Graham. Eight performances are scheduled from September 11 through 26 at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San José. Opera San José will present *Anna Karenina* with a new scene added by the composer following the opera's 2007 world premiere at Florida Grand Opera. Tickets are on sale at the Opera San José Box Office, by phone at (408) 437-4450 or online at www.operasj.org. *Anna Karenina* is sponsored by a grant from the Carol Franc Buck Foundation and is made possible, in part, by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San José.

Opera Live at the Library, Sun., Sept. 19, 2 p.m. in the craft room, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Meet and hear stars from

the Livermore Valley Opera's production of Mozart's Don Giovanni. Generously by the Friends of the Livermore Library. Admission is free. For more information call 925-373-5505.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Alameda Creek Watershed 2010 Photo Contest is taking entries. The contest is sponsored by the Alameda Creek Watershed Council. Visit www.acrcd.org/WatershedCouncil.aspx for more details and to view the complete rules and regulations, or contact Amy Evans at 925-371-0154x112. Deadline for submission: September 15, 2010.

Del Valle Campfire Programs, Del Valle Regional Park, 7000 Del Valle Rd., Livermore. Campground Amphitheater. Various times, Friday, September 3, Saturday, September 11, 18. Play games, hear stories and sing a song or two as you learn about the wonders of the natural world around you. Children should be accompanied by an adult. Non-campers welcome. Please park by the campground store. Information: (510) 544-3249. September 3, 8:30-9:15 p.m.: Critter Talk—Which amazing animals call Del Valle "home"? Rattlesnakes, bald eagles, mountain lions, tarantulas, and big mouth bass are just a few. September 4, 8:30-9:30 p.m.: Stories of the Night Sky, with Naturalist Cat Taylor—Sit back in your celestial armchair for an evening of stars and stories as we navigate around the summer sky. Bring a flashlight. September 11, 8-9 p.m.: Ecological Diversity of Del Valle, with Naturalist Anthony Fisher—Why are some organisms found here and not there? Learn to read the landscape! September 18, 8-9 p.m.: Tarantula Travels, with Naturalist Cat Taylor—Enter the webby world of the eight-eyed and eight-legged as we learn about the amorous tarantulas of Del Valle.

38th annual Competition for Young Musicians, Livermore-Amador Symphony Association competition is open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside or attend school in Livermore, Sunol, Pleasanton, Dublin, or San Ramon. Students are eligible through grade 12. If not enrolled in high school, the maximum age is 17. All instruments will be considered. The purpose is to select two young musicians who will perform as soloists with the symphony on Feb. 12, 2011. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$250. The application deadline is Sun., Oct. 3, 2010. Completed applications must be accompanied by an \$8 application fee and a CD or cassette tape for preliminary screening. Additional information may be obtained by calling the competition chairperson at 447-1947.

Blackhawk Bargain Basement Sale, a

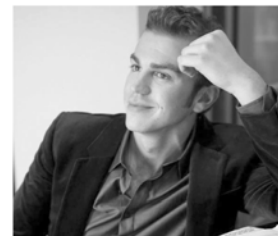
white elephant-style event, Blackhawk Museum and Wheelchair Foundation, lower floor of the Museum. Preview Fri., Sept. 10, 6 to 8 p.m. Admission of \$20 includes wine tasting and appetizers. Sale Sat., Sept. 11 and Sun., Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. The Blackhawk Museum is at 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville. Information, call 925-736-2277 or go to www.blackhawk-bargainbasement.org.

The Great Catsby Casino Night, Saturday, September 11 to benefit Valley Humane Society. The 6 p.m. event will take place at the home of Becky and Murray Dennis, 838 Gray Fox Circle, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$65 and include a catered buffet dinner, two drink tickets, valet parking and gambling chips for the casino games. Prohibition era-cocktails and Livermore Valley wines will be served. Participants are encouraged to dress in 1920s-themed cocktail attire. Toucan Jam provides music for dancing; silent auction. Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament with separate buy-in. Tickets for the event that include

the poker tournament buy-in are \$100. Non-refundable tickets can be purchased online (Visa and MasterCard accepted) at www.valleyhumane.org, or at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street, Pleasanton. All participants must be 21 years or older. For information, call Valley Humane Society at (925) 426-8656. For details about the poker tournament, call Phil Vermont at (925) 460-3700.

2nd Annual Ardenwood Shakespeare Festival and Renaissance Faire, September 11 and 12, live and entertaining re-creation of the Elizabethan era. Theme is Shakespeare's Muse. Over 800 costumed entertainers and over 100 shopkeepers and artisans will take part. The show features acappella singers, dancers, magic and acrobatic feats on four stages, blacksmiths, royalty, period archery and, hard hitting joust. The Ardenwood Shakespeare Festival will be held September 11-12, at Ardenwood Historic Farm, 34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont. Grounds will be open 10-6 on Saturday and 10-5 Sunday. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors, military, and ages 13-17, and \$8 for children 3-12. More

BANKHEAD THEATER



SPENCER DAY

Singer, Songwriter, Sensation!

"A twenty-nine-year-old on the edge of full-fledged stardom."
— Cabaret Scenes

Friday, September 10 at 8pm

Adults \$18 - \$40, Students \$12

LIVERMORE VALLEY WINE COUNTRY WEDDING FAIRE

Experience the Romance! Over 40 vendors & wedding industry professionals, food & wine tasting, Fashion Show & more!
Presented by Livermore Downtown Inc.

Sunday, September 12 at 11am-4pm

\$8 in advance, \$10 at the door

MONTROSE & GARY HOEY

"Every night before every Kiss show we listen to the first MONTROSE album for inspiration before we go onstage." — Gene Simmons, KISS

Friday, September 17 at 8pm

\$27-\$59, \$12 Students

GUITAR PLAYER SUPERSTAR COMPETITION

Guitar Player's Superstar Finals return to the Bankhead, following last season's sold-out success. Open to electric and acoustic guitar players of all styles who have what it takes to earn the title of "Guitar Superstar."

Saturday, September 18 at 8pm

\$23-\$37

For details visit www.guitarplayerlive.com

Three days of Shopping, Entertainment & Prizes!



PLEASANTON
September 17-19
Alameda County Fairgrounds
Fri. & Sat. 10-6; Sun. 10-5



For info or tickets: www.harvestfestival.com or 1-800-346-1212

SAVE \$2.00 on one adult or senior admission with this ad

Tickets: 925-373-6800 • 2400 First St., Livermore
www.bankheadtheater.org

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

information can be found at <http://www.ardenwoodfaire.com/>

Livermore Author Ruth Stern Gasten, Sunday, Sept. 12, 2:00 PM. Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Local Livermore author Ruth Stern Gasten speaks about her book *An Accidental American*, her memories of her experience as a young Jewish girl who is taken from Hitler's Germany to Chicago. Free admission.

Livermore Valley Wine Country Wedding Faire, Sept. 12, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Over 40 vendors & industry professionals, food & wine tasting, fashion show & more. Livermore Downtown Inc. (925) 373-1795.

Pleasanton Poetry on Main: A Monthly Gathering of Poets, Sept. 16, once-a-month group for feedback and appreciation of each others' poems in downtown Pleasanton at Little Valley Winery. Marilyn Slade of Pleasanton, author of humorous poetry and prose, will co-host the gatherings. Bring two poems for critique. Free event. Soft drinks provided. No-host wine by the glass with ID. From 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Little Valley Winery, 739 Main Street, Pleasanton. Michelle Russo at mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us or 925-931-5350 or Deborah Grossman at pleasantonpoetry@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/PleasantonPoetry.

Fourth Annual Wine & Equine benefit for SonRise Equestrian Foundation. Saturday, September 18, from 1-5 p.m., at the Charles Wilhelm Training Center in Castro Valley. SonRise Equestrian Foundation helps create connections between children and horses. At no charge to the children and their families, the Danville-based nonprofit provides riding and horse care programs to kids ages 8-18 with social, emotional and physical challenges. Additionally, the beloved miniature horses of SonRise visit younger children at school and those who are terminally ill in hospice settings. The Wine & Equine benefit provides the majority of SonRise Equestrian Foundation's annual income. In addition to the barbecue and desserts provided by Esin Restaurant, the afternoon includes a wine cellar raffle, live and silent auctions, demonstrations and a horse show. Wines from Wente Vineyards and Murrieta's Well and hand-crafted beers from Drake's Brewing Company. Event sponsors include Murrieta's Well, Wente Vineyards and 95.7 The Wolf radio station. Tickets to the Fourth Annual Wine & Equine event are available for \$75 per person by contacting the nonprofit at 510-838-7433 or go to sonriseequestrianfoundation.org. SonRise is located at the Charles Wilhelm Training Center, 6496 Crow Canyon Road in Castro Valley. For more information, visit www.sonriseequestrianfoundation.org.

Fiddlers' Jam, Fiddletown, Sat., Sept. 18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Main Street. Free, includes fiddle music and entertainment by SideTracked and Extended Roots, food and craft vendors. Raffle with cash prizes. Information 209-296-0918 or www.fiddletownca.org.

Wine for the Cure, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation fund-raiser Saturday, September 25, 2010 at John Madden's Goal Line Productions in Pleasanton. Wines from the Livermore Valley paired with culinary dishes from a special menu created by Skip Hinsley of Girasole Grill and a Pampered Palate. The event includes at 5

p.m. VIP Lounge, 6 p.m. Main Event at John Madden's Goal Line Productions, 5959 Coronado Lane, Pleasanton. To purchase tickets on line go to <http://nca.cff.org/wineforacure>, by phone, call: 415.989.6500.

Friends of the Pleasanton Public Library Fall Book Sale 2010, Friday, September 24, through Sunday, September 26 at the Library's large meeting room. Friday night sale will run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. for members only of the Friends of the Library, (memberships will be available at the door). The sale is open to the general public on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Because of the tight confines of the sale layout, no strollers are allowed. Paperbacks will be priced at .50 cents each. Hardbacks and large-format paperbacks will be available for \$1. The books are in good-to-perfect condition. The Friends are seeking adult volunteers to help set up the sale and during the sale hours. For book sale or volunteer information, please call Nancy Bering, (925) 462-4368.

Quilting in the Garden, Sept. 25 and 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. Presented by Alden Lane Nursery and In Between Stitches. Quilt display, classes, tours. www.aldenlane.com or www.inbetweenstitches.com.

Nostalgia Day Car Show, Sept. 26, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Downtown Livermore. Presented by the Altamont Cruisers as a fund-raiser for local charitable organizations with a focus on youth programs. Event includes over 700 cars, continuous deejay music, prize drawings, vendors of car products,

arts and crafts and a parade of award winning vehicles. Information, call 461-2020 or go to www.altamontcruisers.org.

In the Shadow of the Raven: Edgar Allan Poe, Sept. 29, Broadway and film veteran Duffy Hudson brings his talent and fascination for Edgar Allan Poe to life in this one-man play. At 7:00 p.m. in the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, CA. Free. Information: 925-931-3405

A Conservation Affair, Thurs., Oct. 7, Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, Pleasanton. Proceeds will benefit Tri-Valley Conservancy projects. Evening includes dinner, silent and live auctions, and music. Information and tickets at 449-8706 or www.trivalleyconservancy.org.

3rd Annual "Put A Little Love in Your Heart" fundraiser for Open Heart Kitchen, Fri., Oct. 22, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Blacksmith Square, 21 South Livermore Ave., Livermore. Live music by El Desayuno - Latin Jazz and Salsa. Wine tasting with John Christopher Cellars, Thomas Coyne and Little Valley Winery. Appetizers provided by Scotty's Catering. Food and wine pairing provided by Swirl Restaurant and Green Leaf BBQ. Olive Oil and Balsamic Vinegar tasting provided by Victorine Olive Oil Co.. Michelle Bucket, of Michelle's Jewelry Box, will be selling her custom jewelry. Raffle prizes. Linda McKeever, Executive Director of Open Heart Kitchen, will be on hand to accept tax deductible donations. Checks, cash and credit cards will be accepted. For more information call 925 580-6793 or go to <http://www.openheartkitchen.org>.

Plan a Wedding in One Day at One Location

The Wine Country Wedding Faire will be held Sun., Sept. 12 starting at 11 a.m. at the Bankhead Theater in downtown Livermore.

Livermore Downtown Inc. is presenting the event.

Those attending will be able to plan a wedding in one afternoon in one location. Local experts will be showcasing the latest wedding trends. Among the topics will be flowers, videos, bridal boutique, wedding cakes, photography, invitations, jewelry, entertainment, transportation, hair styling, make up, spa, winery venues, hotels, real estate, travel, and event planning.

Entertainment includes a fashion show, horse and carriage rides and even wine country limo tours.

The theater is located at 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Tickets and information are available at 373-6800 or www.livermorevalleyperformingarts.org.

Reception and Book Signing

The East Bay Regional Park District will hold a hosted reception and author signing of the recently-published *Living Landscape* book on Fri., Sept. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. The book details the history of the Park District's 75 years.

The reception will take place at the Oakland Museum of California on the Peace Terrace, located outdoors on the third level.

Published by Wilderness Press, *Living Landscape* traces the Park District's beginnings during the Great Depression and goes behind the scenes to disclose how the Park District became the largest regional park agency in the nation. Author Laura McCreery will sign books during the event. Books will be available for purchase at the event courtesy of the Museum.

More information can be found at www.museumca.org/visit.

Party Palooza Benefits Healing Therapies Foundation

The 2nd annual "Party Palooza" is coming to the Tri-Valley in October and November to benefit the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation. The nonprofit is hosting 14 events to raise money to help cancer patients.

The fun includes: "Under the Tuscan Sun," an Italian food, wine and Bocce party on Saturday October 2; "A Whole New You" salon and spa day on Sunday October 17; and "Abracadabra: A Magic Show for the Entire Family" on Saturday November 6. Back by popular demand, we will host the 2nd annual "Soups of the World" on Saturday October 23.

"We were so thrilled at the response for last year's first 'Party Palooza,' said founder Sandra J. Wing, a cancer survivor. "Party Palooza and other donations helped us provide financial assistance to 28 patients this past year."

The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation offers grants

for helpful treatments not covered by insurance including acupuncture, acupressure, guided imagery and meditation.

Those treatments are used to treat cancer side effects such as neuropathy, pain, nausea, anxiety and fatigue.

"When I had cancer, these therapies brought me great comfort. It's important to provide them to others with cancer," said Wing, of Pleasanton. Patients who live in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville are eligible for the grants.

The Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, which operates with the guidance of the Tri-Valley Community Foundation. For more information see www.HealingTherapiesFoundation.org/palooza.

Friends of the Dublin Library Fall Sale Set for Sept. 17-20

Friends of the Dublin Library will hold a fall used book sale Sept. 17-20 at the library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin.

Fri., Sept. 17 is members only night, 6 to 9 p.m. Memberships will be available starting at 5:30 p.m. The sale continues on Sat. Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun., Sept. 19, 1 to 5 p.m. It concludes on Monday, Sept. 20, noon to 3 p.m. with Bag Day. Fill a bag (provided_ for \$4, or fill a special edition Friends of the Library canvas tote bag for \$13. Totes are also available alone for \$10.

There will be bargain books and audio-visual materials at the semi-annual Used Book Sale. Most prices are \$1 or less. Funds from sales go towards purchasing the Library's materials and supporting its programs. Sale special features include specially priced books, new or of extra value; teacher materials section, and silent auction of unique items.

More information is available on the Library's website at www.aclibrary.org, the Friends' website at www.dublinfriends.org, or call the Library at 925-828-1315. The Library is wheelchair accessible.

Lecture Series Looks at American Troops in California

An American Soldier of 1846, focused on the victories and defeats of American troops in the conquest of California. The program will be presented with the guidance of re-enactor and researcher Ernie Manzo in the September 16 lecture in the Museum on Main's ongoing Ed Kinney Lecture Series. Lecture sponsors are Pat Lane and Sarah Warnick.

The lecture, which starts at 7 p.m., will be held at Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Avenue, Pleasanton.

Tickets are \$5 for Museum on Main members and seniors, \$10 for non-members, and \$3 for students and teachers with identification. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. Admission is a \$2 requested donation. Contact 925.462-2766 or education@museumonmain.org

Milestones

Golf Tournament Raises over \$340,000 To Benefit Juvenile Diabetes Research

The 5th Annual "Summer Classic" golf tournament, dinner and concert to benefit JDRF, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation raised over \$340,000 this year.

The all-day event on August 13th included a golf tournament at Wente Vineyards, a gourmet dinner, and a concert from "Super Diamond," a Neil Diamond tribute band. A live and silent auction also raised money to help kids battling diabetes.

"Super Diamond was the perfect addition to our 'Summer Classic' line-up," said Jason Skeoch, co-founder of Active Charity which hosted the fundraiser. "We had four generations of Neil Diamond fans dancing, singing and raising one-third of a million dollars to treat juvenile diabetes," Skeoch added.

Active Charity is a group of local businessmen and their supporters who have now raised over \$1.4 million dollars for JDRF in the first five years. The charity fundraiser was co-hosted by Tri-



Photo - Jinah Manly Photography

A table of JDRF supporters bids and cheers in the live auction.

Valley Bank. Chevron was a major sponsor.

"Our goal is to cure Type-1 diabetes," said Kelly Craft of JDRF. "This money is essential to our treatment, education and prevention programs. We appreciate the continued support of Active Charity, Wente, our families and all of

our sponsors."

The next big JDRF event is the East Bay "Walk to Cure Diabetes" on Sunday October 24, at Heather Farm Park in Walnut Creek. To sign up, contribute, or to just come join the fun see: www.CureType1.org

Community

Kirk Pickerele, ABC National President and CEO has recently awarded Tucknott Electric Company its 8th successive Platinum Step Award for outstanding level of achievement in safety and construction for 2010. This award was announced by Toby Cummings at the annual members gathering at the local Golden Gate Chapter office in Livermore. Tucknott Electric and its CEO, Robert A. Tucknott, are proud to be able to participate in demonstrating the Associated Builders and Contractors are the safest construction group and take safety of its work and safety of its workers seriously.

Military

United States Army 19th Field Artillery soldier PVT. 2 Nathan B. Hewitt (pictured at right) graduated from basic military training at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma on August 28th, 2010.

This soldier completed the intensive, nine week training program that included military discipline, core values, physical endurance testing and basic warfare principles and skills. He also served as platoon leader during this program.

He is the son of Darrel and Beth Hewitt of Livermore. Nathan resided in Livermore since infancy. He attended Las Positas College and was a member of the Citizen's Police Academy prior to departing for active duty with the military.



BULLETIN BOARD

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

2nd Annual Walk for Education to benefit the Livermore Valley Education Foundation, hosted by American Swim Academy at Granada High School in Livermore on Saturday, September 11 from 9 a.m. until noon. Students from every Livermore Valley school along with their friends and families are invited to participate in the walk, and the school that generates the most walkers will win \$500. Registration is open to the public by downloading a registration form at www.americanswimacademy.com/LVEF. The entry fee is \$5. Each walker who participates will receive a t-shirt and refreshments. There will also be a Family Fun Festival during the walk with live entertainment, DJ music, family friendly booths and more.

Gigantic Rummage Sale, Sat., Oct. 3, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Amador Valley High School Parking Lot, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Proceeds benefit Assistance League of Amador Valley, a philanthropic group. There will be hundreds of items for sale including furniture, household goods, books, toys,

games, children's items, gardening, sporting goods, jewelry and more. There will also be an extensive assortment of Christmas decorations and ornaments. All money generated stays right here in the Tri-Valley to support children, teens and seniors through various philanthropic programs. www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group, (CL) is a nonprofit, peer-based, self-help support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Tentative guest speaker for Sept. 27 meeting is Emily Wilksa of The Organized Life. Meetings in Room 7 at 7 p.m. every Monday 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the St. Mary & St. John Coptic Orthodox Church, Room 7, 4300 Mirador Drive, Pleasanton. Just come or call our one of the volunteers: 925-200-1943, or go to www.ClutterLess.org.

Flea Market, Sat., Sept. 11, set-up at 6 a.m. close at 4 p.m. Fraternal Order of Eagles parking lot, 527 N. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Cost for 15x15 space is \$20, table rental \$5. Sign up for space at the Eagles social room or call 449-6281 or 449-5807. Vendors welcome.

"Growing Up Female" Workshop for Mothers and their 4th-5th grade Daughters, Mothers and their fourth- to fifth-grade daughters are invited to attend an uplifting workshop about body changes and the realities of being

female on Tuesday, Sept. 21, from 4-6 p.m. at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave. Led by RN specialist Amy Sluss, this two-hour workshop explores the normal changes that occur in girls as they go through the preteen and teen years, offers tools and tips for handling puberty, and connects girls and adult women together in a powerful and positive way. The session is crafted to build self-esteem, positive body image, and a healthy sense of "being a girl." A warm and comfortable environment for questions, exploration and learning, this experience sets the stage for future conversations and positive growth as your daughter transitions to adulthood. There is a \$75 fee per mother-daughter pair for the workshop, which includes \$50 worth of take-home material to continue the learning. For more information, call Sluss at 858-0702. Register online at www.fab2bfem.com

"Talking to Your Kids About Sex:" A Teleseminar for Parents, Amy Sluss, RN, and health and family life specialist, will lead a one-hour teleseminar on Tuesday, Sept. 21, a noon, that will offer tips on how to talk to your kids about sex. With the hyper-sexualized culture we live in, parents wonder how to address this sensitive yet important topic with their children. Tune into this one hour teleseminar to find out why you, as a parent, need to talk to your

kids about issues around sex, sexuality, and sexual expression. Sluss will address the most common mistakes parents make, parent fears around talking to kids about sex, and exactly what kids need to know and at what ages. Connect from the comfort of your own home or car. There is a \$49 fee for the teleseminar. For more information, call Sluss at 858-0702. Register online at www.fab2bfem.com

"Growing up Female II: The Middle School Years" Workshop for Mothers and their 6th-8th grade Daughters, Mothers and their middle school aged daughters are invited to register and attend this uplifting workshop about body changes and the realities of being female on Tuesday, Sept. 28, from 4-6 p.m. at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Ave. This workshop offers girls and mothers a safe haven in the midst of the complexities and struggles of middle school. The session explores and promotes positive relationships (with friends, parents, and boys), healthy and realistic body-image for the teen years, and issues around intimacy and emotional intelligence, all in an uplifting safe environment. A \$75 fee per mother-daughter pair covers the workshop, materials, and \$50 of take-home instructional materials to continue the learning. For more information call Sluss at 858-0702. Register in advance at www.fab2bfem.com

fab2bfem.com

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Sept. 11, 20 miles, down the Embarcadero and over the Golden Gate Bridge, meet 10 a.m. at BART, Randy Huey, 518-8439. Sun., Sept. 12, 50 miles ride to assorted local breweries in Hayward, Livermore and Dublin, meet 10 a.m. at Shannon Center in Dublin, Bill Goodwin, 487-0521. Wed., Sept. 15, 40 miles Mt. Tam climb, meet 10 a.m. at Safeway, Dane Carlson, 323-5865. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Night Sky Saunter, John Muir National Historic Site, 2 hour walk, Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m. one mile 600 ft. climb. Reservations are required, call 228-6800. Wear good walking shoes. Meet at CalTrans Park and Ride lot, corner of Alhambra Ave. and Franklin Canyon Rd., Martinez.

50s Dinner and Classic Car Show, Fri., Sept. 17, Livermore-Pleasanton Elks #2117, 5 p.m. cocktails and classic car show; 6:30 p.m. burgers, hot dogs, fries, salad bar, dessert; 7:30 p.m. dancing to the oldies. Tickets \$10. Elks Lodge, Livermore. RSVP to 455-8829.

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club invites new and established residents to its monthly luncheon on Oct. 21 at Faz Restaurant (continued on page 12)

