

Panel Backs More Zone 7 Separation from County

By Ron McNicoll

Separation of Zone 7 Water Agency's financial and administrative services from Alameda County has been recommended by a Zone 7 committee.

Remaining with the county would be the human relations department.

The agency's administrative committee voted unanimously Sept. 10 to make the recommendation to the full board, which was scheduled to meet on Sept. 16, after The Independent's deadline. Zone 7 already has some independence from the county

in certain matters, as the result of a bill sponsored by former Assemblyman Guy Houston.

A staff recommendation for the board meeting said the board should accept a consultant's report on separation, and begin the process of separation of administrative and fiscal functions.

The administrative committee reviewed the consultant's draft report at its meeting. The report says that separation would result in staff time savings, since the agency has to deal with separate documents for its own fiscal year, and for the county's overlapping

fiscal year. Also, an independent Zone 7 could set up a two-year budget, which can also result in fiscal savings in the long run.

The committee did not recommend that the agency move ahead on the third major element proposed for separation, the Human Relations services. There was no sentiment against it. However, management wants to devote more time to ensuring that employees have information about what the transition would mean for such things as an independent civil service commission and employee benefits.

Duerig said at a past meeting that if the employees were not convinced of the merits of separation for them, the board can decide to keep human relations department features with the county. That doesn't prevent the fiscal and administrative separation.

LOOKING AHEAD TO UNKNOWN

Employees have been concerned about what lies in store for them if, or when, the agency leaves county jurisdiction. Approximately 30 employees attended the afternoon meeting to learn more about what separation would mean for such things as civil service protection and rules, and employee benefit packages.

The meeting was the administration committee's second in two weeks on the separation topic.

Several employees asked questions. They discussed how management and employees might be able to communicate as freely as possible about the proposal, without triggering any situation that would be considered labor-management negotiations.

Both employees and managers made clear statements that their remarks at the meeting were not to be construed as negotiations. Duerig said the open discussion was possible at the meeting only because all four employee unions gave their consent specifically for that meeting.

Engineer Dennis Gambs, who is a member of the Alameda County Management Employees Association, focused on the word

that he considered to be at the heart of the learning process for employees: trust.

Gambs said that a good way to inform employees would be to hand out draft copies of personnel rules. "Until then, people will just have more questions," said Gambs.

"I think we will be a separate agency some day. We do not come here to complain, but to work with you on this," said Gambs. He suggested that creation of a labor-management

committee might serve as a forum for information, without violating labor relations rules.

Director Dick Quigley, who was sitting in for absent director John Greci, said that the board meetings are also a forum, and so are calls to directors.

"If you have concerns, we want to hear them. We want to hear how to move this agency forward. We want employees to be happy and well-rewarded," said Quigley.



Last week's unusual weather produced some spectacular photos. The top photo, taken by Doug Jorgensen, snapped the photo of a rainbow in North Livermore. The lower photo was taken by Hye-Sook Park. He was working in his home in the early morning when he saw the lightening. He was able to capture one of the strikes.

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Info on Military Academies

Congressman Jerry McNerney will hold an information session for high school students interested in attending a military service academy. The session will take place at Amador Valley High School, Pleasanton, on Thursday, September 17, 7 to 9 p.m.

Every year, Congressman McNerney nominates exceptional students from the 11th Congressional District for appointment to the U.S. Military, Naval, Merchant Marine, and Air Force Academies. Appointed students receive a free 4-year university education, room and board, medical and dental coverage, and a stipend in exchange for a 5-year military service commitment upon graduation.

Representatives from the Congressman's office and various service academies will be on hand to offer information and answer questions about the application process. For further information, contact Congressman McNerney's Stockton office at 209-476-8552.

Health Insurance

Alameda County played a pivotal role in efforts to save a program providing publicly subsidized health insurance to poor children in California — efforts that resulted in legislation that was signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Three prominent Alameda County residents turned out to be key players in negotiations resulting in the new law — Kris Perry, executive director of First 5 California; Carla Dartis, a member of the state First 5 Commission; and Dave Kears, the retired Alameda County Health Director who currently works as a Special Assistant to Alameda County Administrator Susan S. Muranishi. Kears also is a key player on the state's First 5 Commission, which administers programs helping low-income youth generated through a tax on cigarettes.

The health insurance program, known as Healthy Families, was almost eliminated through \$175 million in reductions made this summer by the California legislature and the Governor in order to close the state's massive budget deficit.

The cuts sparked marathon negotiations aimed at saving a program that provides insurance to nearly 700,000 children from low-income families — talks that involved officials in the Governor's office and top legislators, as well as representatives from insurance companies and child welfare advocates. Prominent among those advocates were representatives of First 5 California.

Kears serves on the state's First 5 Commission as its Health Systems representative and vice chair. With the Commission's top seat currently vacant, Kears serves as its de facto chair, which caused him to be thrust into the talks surrounding the Healthy Families crisis. He received support in this effort from Muranishi, who has pioneered several local efforts to help at-risk youth and placed a high priority on saving a health insurance program that directly serves about 16,000 youth and families in Alameda County.

The talks resulted in legislation that received bipartisan support in both houses of the State Legislature and will be signed into law by Schwarzenegger on Wednesday. It closes a funding gap within Healthy Families of about \$200 million, of which about \$97 million will be generated by health insurers who have agreed to impose a special tax on themselves.

Another \$81.4 million will come directly from First 5, as part of an agreement involving the state organization and the 58 County Commissions that administer First 5 programs locally. Perry, Dartis and Kears were instrumental in

hammering out First 5's contribution to the new funding formula that will save Healthy Families through 2010.

DSRSD Offices Closed Alternate Fridays

The Dublin San Ramon Services District administrative office will continue to be closed on alternate Fridays through September 2010. Like many public agencies in California, the District has reduced operating expenses by laying off employees and asking others to take unpaid time off. Closing the office every other Friday enables the District to schedule employee furloughs efficiently, provide a predictable schedule for customers, and reduce heating and air conditioning costs.

The administrative office, located at 7051 Dublin Boulevard, will be closed on the following Fridays and holidays during the remainder of 2009: September 18; October 2, 16, and 30; November 13, 26, and 27; and December 11 and 25. The alternate Friday closures will continue through September 2010.

During business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the main line at the District Office is 925-828-0515 and Billing/Customer Service can be reached at 925-828-8524. To contact the District regarding water or sewer emergencies after hours, please call the Alameda County Sheriff's Dispatch at 925-462-1212.

Customer account information is available online through the District's website (www.dsrds.com) and a 24-hour automated voice response system (925-828-8524). There is a drop box for payments in the west parking lot. Customers also may sign up for automatic payments and paperless billing through the District's website.

Lawsuit Challenges EPA Waiver

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Automobile Dealers Association sued the Environmental Protection Agency in an attempt to block California from implementing its own, stronger-than-national greenhouse gas emissions standards for cars and trucks. The EPA issued a waiver to California under the Clean Air Act in May after an announcement by the Obama administration that it would adopt uniform federal standards to decrease greenhouse gas emissions and increase fuel economy for model years 2011-2016 cars and trucks.

While a waiver is not necessary for implementation of the federal standards through 2016, it affirmed California's long-recognized right to enact pollution controls stronger than the national standards. These standards can then be adopted by other states; 14 states had adopted California's greenhouse gas standards. Issuance of the waiver ended two years of litigation brought by the affected states and by environmental groups, including the Center for Biological Diversity, to compel the EPA to grant the waiver. Under the Bush administration, the EPA had denied the waiver even though California met all the statutory requirements for its issuance, and even though no California waiver request had been denied in four decades.

"The Obama administration's decision to issue the waiver was not only legally correct, but plain common sense," said Kassie Siegel, director of the Climate Law Institute at the Center. "This lawsuit has little chance of success and does a great disservice to the business members that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and National Automobile Dealers Association supposedly represent. Reduction of greenhouse emissions from the U.S. auto fleet is critical to our efforts to combat global warming and good for the economy."

AIRPORT

(continued from page one)

airport users, operators and interested members of the community to ask questions regarding the specifics of the project.

The City is proposing to rezone a portion of the Airport from an E-Zoning District (Education and Institutions) to a new proposed AIR (Airport) Zoning District. The purpose of the rezoning is to acknowledge the aviation-related uses at the Airport and identify related development standards and limitations. The proposed AIR Zoning District would replace the 1975 Livermore Airport Master Plan as the guiding document for future development at the Airport. The 1975 Airport Master Plan would then need to be rescinded as it is dated and no longer relevant. To support these actions, the Livermore General Plan would be amended to delete references to the 1975 Airport Master Plan.

Airport Manager Leander Hauri stated, "The magnitude of overall growth permitted in the 1975 Airport Master Plan, along with the very high operations forecasts of 340,000 annual operations, caused serious community concerns. Updated forecasts show substantially lower figures, around 220,100 annual aircraft operations by 2030. Current annual flight operations of about 159,500 lend credence to this forecast."

Dan McIntyre, Livermore's Public Work Director, added "It is important to note that the Airport is a self-sufficient, non-tax supported enterprise that provides economic benefits to the City, the Livermore Valley Joint School District, the County and the entire Tri-Valley economy. Always overlooked is the Airport's role as a key disaster relief air transportation hub for the Tri-Valley area. The proposed rezoning responds to community concerns in that it would constrain development at the Airport to less than that authorized under the 1975 Airport Master Plan."

A Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed rezoning and General Plan Amendment has been disseminated. The Airport Advisory Commission is expected to discuss the proposed rezoning and General Plan Amendment at their regular meeting on October 12, 2009. A public hearing on the Draft EIR is scheduled for the Planning Commission meeting on October 20, 2009 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Livermore City Council Chambers, 3575 Pacific Avenue.

The Draft EIR and "Frequently Asked Questions" are available for review or download on the City's website at <http://www.ci.livermore.ca.us/airport/index.html>.

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EDITORIALS

Bernal Community Park

The completion of Phase I of Bernal Community Park was celebrated at grand opening festivities in Pleasanton Saturday.

When the park is finished, it will lift the phrase "multi-use" to new levels. Proposed are groupings of sports fields within a forested framework, a small stadium, a 1000-seat amphitheater, picnic grounds, a children's play area, a youth center, an arts center, a community center, a dog park, acres of wooded open space, and more. There will be an over-riding "grand park," to which the individual elements will be interconnected.

Buildout will take place in five phases over the next two decades.

Long known as the Bernal Property, Bernal Community Park is the result of an enlightened city/developer agreement.

The people and political leaders of Pleasanton can applaud themselves, for it was their perseverance during the long land use struggle that created the cooperative atmosphere for the agreement that ultimately produced this marvelous park.

SCORE Scored

SCORE has quietly laid itself to rest.

The group (whose initials stand for Sunol Citizens Organized Regarding the Environment) voted to disband earlier this year and donate their remaining funds, \$1029.94, to a parks foundation.

Six Sunol residents — Lynn Bowers, Robb and Mary Marshall, Frank and Diane Fries and Joe Barrett — founded SCORE in 1974 to fight a proposed residential development on Pleasanton Ridge directly above Sunol.

When the Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved the project in April 1983, SCORE rallied the community to referend the action. It was a mythic effort. They needed 40,000 signatures in 30 days. They collected more than 50,000.

Not only did the referendum stop the development, it also set in motion the process that created Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park, guaranteeing that the open space will forever remain as it is.

SCORE's disbanding signals that all is well today on Pleasanton Ridge and they're not needed any further. This small but fierce group of environmental warriors leave a rich legacy.

North Livermore Tour

Hoping to raise awareness about North Livermore, Friends of the Vineyards will host a tour of the area Saturday morning.

The group and many others, including this newspaper, believe North Livermore has great potential for vineyards and other agricultural uses. Here is an opportunity to see with your own eyes just how scenic the area is and how productive it might become.

The tour is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch will be served. A \$15 donation is requested. More information at www.FOV.org.

Friends of the Vineyards is performing a public service in organizing this tour. We hope you will attend.

PLEASANTON API

(continued from page one)

The AYP measures the percentage of students who have achieved proficiency in various subjects. The standards rise annually, and eventually will demand that all students everywhere be scoring at proficiency levels in all subjects.

Pleasanton was rated as achieving the currently demanded proficiency levels in all classes, except special education at Hart Middle School.

Pleasanton district officials have not been content to rest on the overall high scores. They use both state and federal tests to focus on individual students' needs, and how they can perform better, to bring them to grade-level proficiency, or higher.

In a press release from the district, superintendent John Casey said, "These are great results for the district. The scores are a testament to the hard work and talent all across the district."

RESULTS SHOW UPWARD TREND

Among elementary schools, Lydiksen showed the most growth in the scores, going up 31 points from 871 to 902. Other elementary schools with double digit improvements were Walnut Grove, which went from 914 to 930, and Fairlands, which also went up 16 points from 931 to 947. Alisal was the only elementary school to drop, by seven points, from 893 to 886.

Scores for other elementary schools were Donlon, up from 922 to 924; Mohr, up from 956 to 961; Hearst from 936 to 941; Valley View, from 904 to 911;

and Vintage Hills, from 920 to 922.

Among the three middle schools, Hart dropped from 906 to 904, Harvest Park rose from 924 to 926, and Pleasanton Middle School went from 931 to 933.

At the high school level, Amador Valley went from 867 to 877, and Foothill rose from 878 to 889.

BIG RISE IN LATINOS' SCORES

The API rankings indicate results from various ethnic groups. The biggest gain was scored by the district's 895 Hispanic and Latino students. They rose from 788 to 802, a 14-point jump, which apparently reflects results of a special high school program, and the dual-language immersion program at Valley View.

The district's 6580 Caucasians showed a gain from 888 to 895. Testing of the 228 African Americans showed improvement from 802 last year to 804 this year, which statistically is virtually the same result.

The district's 2920 Asian students rose from 956 last year to 961 this year. The 290 Filipinos went from 903 to 905.

Among special groups, 1251 special education students dropped from 742 to 727. They take special achievement tests geared to their learning ability.

The district's 564 socio-economically disadvantaged students went from 727 to 764 on the testing, a gain of 16 points. The 849 English Language learners in the district went up from 820 to 830.

Livermore to Create Both a Disaster Council, and Citizen Corps Council

The Livermore City Council gave the go-ahead to establish both a disaster council and a citizen corps council. Livermore will also become an emergency preparedness partner with the Alameda County Public Health Department.

By establishing a disaster council, the city and community partners will be able to plan and practice together so that when emergencies occur, they can work together to reduce disaster recovery time.

The Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department will establish the disaster council. It will be comprised of agency designated representatives. Among those listed are the American Red Cross, ValleyCare Medical, various utilities, transportation agencies, the faith based community

and local special needs groups. The national laboratories would also be asked to join the effort.

In the beginning, the council will meet to develop and establish a charter. It will determine its annual exercise goals and objectives. In addition, federal funding can be pursued to cover planning and exercise activities.

The citizens corps council, created through the Homeland Security Department, will link local volunteers to work and prepare for emergencies at the neighborhood level. Organizations such as Community Emergency Response Team, Volunteers in Police Service, Neighborhood Watch and the local ham radio operators are among the volunteers that would be part of this effort.

The corps would provide

opportunities for special skills and interests as well as provide training in emergency preparedness. A representative of the corps would be a member of the disaster council.

Partnering with the county enables the city to use already existing plans, procedures and supplies and be provided with available medications/vaccinations in the event of a pandemic flu or bioterrorism outbreak.

The city council also approved the annual report on expenditure of Community Development Block Grant funds that come to the city each year from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The city received \$475,000 from HUD in 2008-09 and provided \$294,000 in local matching funds.

The city plans to use \$123,000 to help establish two programs targeted to support employment opportunities, community development and to enhance energy efficiency for low income homeowners.

One of the more creative uses of the money was the use of Section 8 vouchers to make it possible for low income people with disabilities to purchase homes.

Jean Prasher said that the vouchers help with house payments. One person was able to purchase a home at Savannah Terrace. "This is an experimental program. It worked well," she stated.

Councilmember John Marchand commented that he is always amazed by the creativity of the staff in using funds to help people.

LIVERMORE API

(continued from page one)

and data analysis.

"I'm so pleased with such significant improvement in one year," said Livermore School Board member Bill Dunlop. "I'm not sure I would have believed this was possible a few years ago."

The Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS) earned an API of 866, a two-point drop from last year's API score. According to LVCS Principal Tara Aderman, the scores break down to 911 for elementary school students and 828 for middle school students.

Marylin Avenue Elementary School raised its API by 40 points from 744 to 784. Over three years, Marylin has raised its score by 117 points, making it one of the top schools in the state in terms of point gain.

Even more impressive, the school met all criteria for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and will exit Program Improvement (PI). According to Alba, of

the 2,800 schools in California that are in PI, only 54 will exit this year.

API is a statewide measure of school performance based on standardized test scores. The target for all schools is a score of 800 or better. AYP is a federal metric defined by No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and takes into account graduation rate, percentage of students tested, percentage of proficient students in math and English language arts, and API score. Schools must meet percentage targets for all of their numerically significant subgroups.

Livermore's other two PI schools did not fare so well. Junction Avenue Middle School missed four out of its 21 AYP targets, all in math. The school as a whole did not meet the percentage proficient requirement in math along with the English language learners (ELL), Hispanic/Latino, and socio-economically

disadvantaged students. This is Junction's second year in PI.

While Portola Elementary School posted an impressive 37-point gain on the API, from 710 to 747, it still missed making AYP for just one criterion—percent proficient in math for the ELL (English language learner) subgroup. A total of 42.8% of Portola's ELL students scored at proficient or greater in math, but the requirement was at least 47.5%.

This brings Portola into Year 4 of PI, which could bring big changes if the school does not meet AYP next year. In year 4, both the school and District must prepare a plan for alternative governance that will be implemented if the school moves into year 5 of PI.

The State dictates the choices for alternative governance as reopening the school as a charter, replacing all or most of the staff including the principal,

contracting with an outside entity to manage the school, a State takeover of the school, or other major restructuring. Another option for restructuring is to close the school and place the students at other schools within the District.

The complete API scores for the Livermore School Districts are:

Elementary School. Altamont Creek: 870 (+33 points); Arroyo Seco: 848 (+20); Don Gaspar de Portola: 747 (+37); Emma C. Smith: 901 (+24); Jackson Avenue: 849 (+20); Joe Mitchell: 821 (+20); Leo R. Croce: 867 (+11); Marylin Avenue: 784 (+40); Rancho Las Positas: 858 (+16); Sunset: 904 (+19).

Middle School. Christensen: 822 (+37); East Avenue: 819 (+18); Junction Avenue: 762 (+18); Mendenhall: 858 (+16).

High School. Granada: 830 (+53); Livermore: 764 (-6).

LARPD

(continued from page one)

we do. If East Bay were able to obtain \$1 million, \$2 million or \$3 million more in funding than LARPD, the assertion would be that LARPD is not serving the public by existing and should voluntarily cease to exist. If East Bay didn't receive more money, there is no reason for the district to stop existing."

Kamena added it may be that we could receive more money if we were annexed and consolidated. He pointed out that someone would receive the money, if the district were gone. He wondered what would happen to the money. He suggested that perhaps East Bay could serve the area outside the city limits and the city take

over the functions within the city limits. "I have no desire for it to happen. We need to have the information so we can decide what is the right thing to do."

In other action, he Board approved revised designs for improvements to Robertson Park.

Home developer Arroyo Crossing Inc. will construct a playground at Robertson Park not to exceed \$300,000. The playground will be located near the Field House within the park. A trail and respite area will also be installed near the horseshoe pits. The respite area will include seating and climbing boulders for children. The tree-lined asphalt

trail will run from the respite area to the soccer fields parking lot. The developer will pay for the park improvements. Construction is planned to begin in October.

The changes included the removal of trees and benches, which district staff said could easily be added when funds were available.

The Board also approved an agreement with the City of Livermore for a mitigation project in Sycamore Grove Park. The City is required to provide construction and improvement of certain off-site riparian lands at Sycamore Grove Park as mitigation for the Isabel Avenue/1-580

Interchange Project. The project will include clearing the planting areas, planting natural seeds and plants, adding mulch around the plants and installing protective wire cages around some new plantings.

The Board voted to make a recommendation to the Livermore City Council to appoint Kathleen Streeter as the LARPD representative on the City's Commission for the Arts. The Commission makes recommendations to the City Council regarding local cultural arts needs, activities, facilities and programs.

OAK GROVE

(continued from page one)

Shatz, responded that it was unreasonable to expect Ayala or the city clerk, who gave Ayala the ordinance, to include the PUD map, since nothing in the ordinance explicitly referred to a map.

In essence, the map was an unknown or invisible matter. Nullifying a successful petition that forced a referendum to the ballot would greatly alter referendum rights throughout the state in an intimidating way, said Shatz.

Sabey said this week that the appellate court erred in that judgment. He asked the appellate court to review its own decision,

but the three-member panel let the judgement stand, with minor modifications. Now Sabey is asking the state Supreme Court to review it.

IMPORTANCE OF ZONING MAP

In Sabey's view, being required to carry a PUD map to show the city's zoning changes to the property amounts to "referending the zoning, without showing the voters the zoning you are asking the voters to set aside. We think that state law requires that you provide the text of what you are asking them to set aside."

Shatz said that he has filed a reply to Sabey's petition for a consideration. He summed it up by saying, "Ayala did attach everything she was supposed to attach. The appeal court analyzed it correctly. There is no issue here worthy of review."

Shatz said that he doubts the Supreme Court will take the case, since the justices take only about 3 percent of cases sought for review. It's likely the public will know by mid-October whether the case is accepted, he said.

Sabey said that he knows that relatively few cases are taken for

review. "We think we have presented a strong reason for review. It's an important area of the law. It is contested with some regularity. It's important statewide."

Sabey said that there have been somewhat conflicting rulings, even from two separate panels within the 1st District Court of Appeal, which has five three-member panels. "We believe the Lin (case) created a new test to interpret the statute," said Sabey.

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. Letter Policy: The Independent will not publish anonymous letters, nor will it publish letters without names. Frequent letter writers may have publication of their letters delayed.)

War Is Messy Rich Buckley, Pres. Peace and Conflict Resolution.Org

New rules of engagement in Afghanistan and Iraq are causing increasing levels of casualties on our troops. Close air support is being denied whenever the enemy takes cover in or too near huts and homes or, near potential population centers where the risk of "claimed" civilian casualties

may exist.

We are tasking squad size elements to engage in force projection and fire fights to rout and kill enemy combatants. This tactic worked well enough with the Marines in Helmand Province in 2008 when close air support was on hand and used. It saved our troops but killed enemy combatants. There were some claims of innocent bystanders killed. But the Marines swept the area in 2008 in a stunning performance that has become a reference point in strategic thinking.

Now the newest strategy of denying close air support to our squad-size elements when commanders 100 miles from the action fear there may be even remotely possible collateral civilian casualties, takes away the great combat advantage of close air support in growing numbers

of engagements. As a result we lose the advantage and suffer casualties at higher rates.

The enemy combatants know this to be our current Achilles heel and are staging engagements to draw our small units into engagements where they enjoy ambush advantage over us. The enemy hides out in towns, terrorizes the locals, and dares us to engage. We send in small elements, too small for the task, without proven effective close air support, and suffer higher casualties as a result.

War is a messy affair. We either need to revise our tactics with better equipped, larger elements (as opposed to using small squad size elements which need close air support) that carry the firepower-backup to control these engagements or, bring back close air support or, remove our forces

out of harms way.

It is not honorable for our national political leadership to ask our combatants to stay-the-course in the current status quo. Never mind the morality or immorality of war, our own governing morality becomes transparently false if we fail to support our own combatants. Shame on us, shame on civilian leadership at all levels. If this war is too messy for the hearts and minds of congress to engage, then stand down. Otherwise support the fight.

May the point of light within the mind of God stream forth light into the minds of men. May the point of love within the heart of God stream forth love into the hearts of men. May Christ return to earth.

(continued on page 5)

THE Independent
(INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.)

Publisher: Joan Kinney Seppala
Associate Publisher: David T. Lowell
Editor: Janet Armantrout

The Independent is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550; (925) 447-8700. Application to Mail at Periodical Postage Prices Pending at the Livermore Post Office and additional mailing offices. The Independent is mailed upon request. Go to www.independentnews.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

Advertising rates and subscription rates may be obtained by calling (925) 447-8700 during regular business hours or by fax (925) 447-0212.
Editorial information may be submitted by editmail@compuserve.com.

MAILBOX

Support LARPD Foundation Carolyn Siegfried Livermore

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) provides "the people of this area with an outstanding system of parks, recreation areas and facilities, along with providing recreation programs that stimulate, educate and enrich the lives of people within the District" (LARPD Mission Statement). If you are like me, you have your favorite LARPD facility - mine are Camp Shelly, my neighborhood dog park, and the trails.

Like most organizations, the LARPD board of directors approved a very tight operating budget for the coming year due to declining revenue sources. Even though we support the district through taxes and fees, additional financial support is welcomed to insure continued operation of our favorite programs and facilities. I encourage community members to join me in donating to The LARPD Foundation, a nonprofit foundation supporting the district. Donations can be general or earmarked for your favorite program such as: Camp Shelly, rock gym, senior services, equestrian facilities, parks, open spaces or Ravenswood Historic Site, to name a few.

To learn more about The LARPD Foundation, and donating your time, talent or treasures, visit the LARPD website at www.larpd.dst.ca.us. Send donations to The LARPD Foundation, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550.

Health Care Roy Cornwell Livermore

In a recent letter you (Senator Boxer) asked for comments on the proposed health plan. My general comment is that the plan is terrible, an insult to the people and will be expensive beyond belief. One especially irritating feature is the granting of full medical benefits to illegal immigrants (see page 50). By definition, an illegal immigrant is breaking the law. Next these lawbreakers will be granted voting rights. This is a bald-faced way to get voters and assure that the big spenders in Washington stay in power (thirty pieces of silver?)

Some other quotes from this 1000 page bill; there could certainly be many others:

Page 29: Admits that your health care will be rationed.

Page 65: States that taxpayers will subsidize all union retirees and community organizers. The UAW and ACORN can thank you.

Page 272: Cancer patients will have care rationed.

Page 430: A government board will decide what treatments you will have in your later life. "Quality Adjusted Remaining Years" will be decided by some politically appointed board that doesn't know an eyeball from a rectum, thereby deciding whether a treat-

ment that will reduce infirmity, pain and increase quality of life meets some accounting criteria. I have always thought that doctors along with the patients and patient's families made those decisions. Your colleague, Senator Specter, in a video available on the internet, said that he really hadn't read the bill, but it was very important and had to be enacted quickly. Whoa! The bill is very important. But that means it should be studied at length. I always thought that the Senate was a body that deliberated and thought through these matters and listened to the people who put them in the Senate. You folks are servants of the people, not the other way around.

How about doing this very important job gradually, not all at once. We need a patient centered system, not a government centered one.

Federal Deficit Douglas Kendall Pleasanton 'Pleasantopia'

Federal Health Care will be cheap.

President Obama recently revealed the great news that his healthcare plan will lower the federal deficit.

This is stupendous news! Shame on those spoilsport Republicans for ever thinking otherwise -- them and their gloom-and-doom federal Office of the Budget, and their old 20th Century style of thinking...

But, this all leads to wonderful news of heavenly proportion!

Do you realize how absolutely marvelous your life will now become??

If the President's healthcare will lower the deficit, just think of what else can be done:

If we enact, then, foodcare

(guaranteeing us all free food - and from Raleys, not Safeway, or even Lucky!), and carcure (guaranteeing the right to a cool set of wheels -- and, yes, I'm talking Japanese, of course -- Italian for members of Congress, needless to say), and housecare (giving everyone the right to a free house with deep pile carpet and granite countertops)

Ladies and gentlemen, consider the implications!!! If President Obama gives us foodcare, carcure, and housecare, why, this should actually eliminate the federal deficit altogether and lower the national debt, to boot!!! Wow! Dude!!

But wait, there's more... I just have to bring this up: Lovecare

That's right. Everyone should have the right to 'love,' if adult age, of course.

Just think of the potential, folks, of healthcare mixed up in lovecare! With government healthcare giving away free Viagra causing shockingly inflated lovecare, the National Debt will be reversed and all that money put back into our pockets. Hoo, boy! All that over-spending by our fathers and grandfathers put back into our pockets today!

Pleasantonians 4 Peace Matt Sullivan Pleasantonians 4 Peace

In the past few years new national leadership has been elected with a mandate to end the wars in the Middle East. At the same time that Iraq seems to be finally winding down, the war in Afghanistan is ramping up dramatically and alarmingly. Eventually, we will need to admit to ourselves that war to end terrorism only creates more terrorists and that we need to look to other solutions. Despite the new Administration's call for

"Change" we seem to be getting more of what we had before. History has shown that meaningful change has always come from the bottom. This is true just within our generation - ending the war in Viet Nam, the Civil Rights movement, the environmental movement, and countless other social and economic justice victories all started at the grassroots, and only when sufficient numbers of citizens became involved to demand change did our elected leaders act. It is no different now.

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, a group of local residents, has been working for almost two years on raising awareness, talking with our elected representatives, and providing a means to connect with others who share the belief that there is another way forward than "endless war." If you share these concerns please join us at the Peace Vigil we hold the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Museum on Main Street in Pleasanton. We can't rely on politicians to do this - we need to rely on each other.



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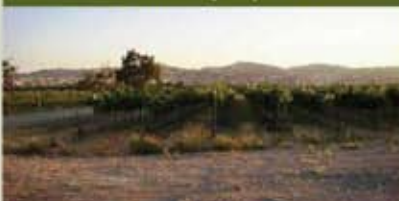
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SPORTS NOTES

Foothill Freshmen Roll

Using a punishing ground game, which was able to move the ball at will up and down the field, the Foothill High freshman football team opened the season with a 36-6 thumping on the road at Novato Saturday morning.

Griffith Gates, Cale Rubinson, Clayton Carter and Cody Shields gave the Falcons a four-pronged rushing attack, hammering out numerous long drives against the Hornets.

Gates, Shields and Rubinson all had one touchdown, with Gates and Rubinson adding two-point conversion runs. When the running game needed a break, the Foothill passing game, clicked when called upon.

Quarterback Parker Bryan hooked up a number of times with tight end Raymond Hudson, including a pretty 38-yard touchdown strike, which answered Novato's lone touchdown of the game.

The other Foothill touchdown came on a heads up play from receiver Michael Barber, when he scooped up a Foothill fumble down field, then went the remaining 25 yards for a touchdown.

The offensive line of Hunter Schaefer, Denn Hanley, Mihir Naik, Nick Paulson and Grant Sojka repeatedly opened holes for the backs, as well as gave Bryan plenty of time to throw.

With the offense hitting on everything, the defense kept the flow as well, behind big plays from Gates and Marc Lucey at linebacker. Carter and Zack Wilhite each added interceptions for Foothill.

The defensive line led by players like Tyler Trinidad was consistently in the Novato backfield, causing problems throughout the game.

So thorough was the defensive effort, Novato's only touchdown came following a blocked punt which the Hornets recovered at the Foothill 5.

Pleasanton Rage

Pleasanton Rage results from last week:

The Pleasanton Rage Under-18 AC team opened GSSL play this past weekend with a tie and a loss in their two games. The Rage started off the weekend with a 2-2 tie against the ACC Mavericks. Kira Capacciola got the first goal off an assist from Breehana Berry. The second goal came off a set piece, as Britany Carrolan hit a corner kick right to Morgan Dorsey, who in turn kicked it home for the second goal. On Sunday, the Rage fell 2-0 to the East Diablo Impact.

The Pleasanton Rage U16AC got off to a great start for opening weekend. It began with a 1-1 tie against the El Dorado Eclipse. After a handball in the box, Erin Schoendienst had no problem putting one past the keeper. Sunday, Rage traveled to Marin where they beat Marin FC 94 Red 2-0. In the first half, Abby Moore scored from the 20 yard line after a beautiful cross by Megan Ash. The second goal was scored when Haley Paxton sent the ball into space and Alexa Espinosa blasted the ball into the keeper's goal. Wednesday, Lindsay Rigel, Molly Rowse, and Stephanie Little played a tough defense, along with keeper Shannon Easley securing the shut out! Attackers Cassie Scroggins and Erin O'Loughlin kept the pressure on all weekend, while midfielders Charlie Garcia, Jillian Beck, Marisa Victor, and Ashley Jenezon also did a great job controlling the middle. Offense: Erin Schoendienst, Cassie Scroggins, Erin O'Loughlin, Defense: Megan Ash, Marisa Victor, Jillian Beck.

Rage U16 AC 2, Marin FC 94 Red 0: Offense: Alexa Espinosa, Abby Moore, Haley Paxton; Defense: Shannon Easley, Stephanie Little, Lindsay Rigel.

Under 14: Pleasanton Rage U14-AC 2nd game of the weekend resulted in a 1-0 against Mustang Revolution. Rage played the 1st half without any shots on the opponent's goal and allowed them to control and maintain possession of the ball. Lacking aggressiveness and charges towards the ball, Rage players were constantly under pressure and had to defend. Mustang's attacks resulted with the only goal of the game. Mustang's player got the ball in the middle of the field and went unchallenged towards the top of the box. She scored, after a rarely seen shot, in the upper right corner of the keeper's goal. It was unstoppable. The 2nd half started without changes in Rage's play. Marisa Riordan and the rest of the defense were able to clear all dangerous situations in front of their goal. Rage players were not able to connect two or three passes in a row and that allowed Mustang to keep constant pressure on the Rage half of the field. 10 minutes before the end, Rage started to attack in a more organized way. Mathea Turkalj had several deep passes that created opportunities for scoring. Final pressure came after Hannah Stapp had two successful runs on the left side that resulted with a shot on goal and a nice cross that was not finalized. Top Offensive Players: Hannah Stapp, Mathea Turkalj; Top Defensive Players: Marisa Riordan, Paige Hughes.

Under 14: Pleasanton Rage U14-AC played and won their 1st game of the weekend against Diablo FC 95, 1-0. Rage played the 1st half of the game in search of establishing ball possession, but physical play by the opponent prevented any serious attacks or shots on the goal. Diablo FC 95 had few chances of scoring after miscommunication within Rage's defensive line and luckily for Rage, shots did not make the target. After Olivia Brown made good stops it gave necessary confidence to move the ball into the middle of the field. On several occasions Mathea Turkalj made very good dribbles and passes in the box but forwards could not finalize it. The 1st half was concluded with a 0-0 tie. In the 2nd half Coach Walter changed the formation that resulted in better movement and possession of the ball. There were no direct shots on either goal for the remainder of the period. On the second game of the weekend, Diablo's defense resulted in the scoring and winning goal. It was scored after Diablo's defender kicked the ball into Sammie Williams's foot. The ball rebounded over the goalie's head and that defined the game. Top Offensive Players: Mathea Turkalj; Top Defensive Players: Paige Hughes.

Under-15: Rage AC 1, Walnut Creek Heat 1: The Pleasanton U15 AC team dominated their first game of the season but allowed a goal in the second half. In the final 30 seconds of play, Haley Jackson tied the score by drilling in a shot from the top of the 18. Top Offensive Players: Amanda Emery and Haley Jackson; Top Defensive Players: Christina Choing and Kasey Jensen.

Rage AC 2, Diablo FC 94 Blue 2: After a hard fought game, Rage U15 AC tied the Diablo FC 94 Blue in its second game of the season. Ellie Jurich scored the first goal for Rage on a dribble down the sideline with a shot into the far post. The second goal was scored off a corner kick by Jenel Firmino and assisted by the entire Rage offense. The team was able to keep their focus throughout a very physical game. Top Offensive Players: Ellie Jurich and Jenel Firmino; Top Defensive Players: Jenel Firmino and Meredith Jaeger.

Under 12: Rage Premier 6, Lamorinda United 2: The U12 Premier team began the season with a solid win. Malissa Shadle scored twice with assists by Carly Robertson and Julia Densmore. Julia Densmore scored twice, once with an assist by Christy Jensen. Sami LaBella scored, with an assist by Juliana Leedeman. Carly Robertson scored, with an assist by Malissa Shadle. Julia Densmore had multiple shots on goal, as did Hailey Mann. Individual shots on goal were made by Brooky Villanueva and Sophie Santos. Sophia Brown played strong defense in the goal.

Rage Premier 8, Marin Magic 0: The U12 Premier team made a strong showing in their first NorCal seeding game of the season. Julia Densmore recorded a hat trick with three goals. Malissa Shadle scored twice, with assists by Juliana Leedeman and Hailey Mann. Individual scores were made by Katlyn Franciskovich, Juliana Leedeman and Carly Robertson. Shots on goal were taken by Julia Densmore, Christy Jensen, Hailey Mann, Carly Robertson, Malissa Shadle and Sophie Santos.

DIVISION 3
Under-16: Rage Orange 8, Dublin Heat 0: After a surprise rainstorm cooled the Val Vista pitch, the Pleasanton Rage U16D3 Orange cooled the Dublin Heat 8-nil on Saturday. The Orange deluge was led by captain Haley Boehmer with 3 goals, while Delaney Holmes and Danielle Homan found the back of the net twice. Katey Cloonan rounded out the scoring, making it 1-1 breakaway with an assist from Mary Gruen. Nicole Torquato and Autumn Whitney anchored a strong defense that did not allow a single shot on goal all day. Top Offensive Players: Haley Boehmer, Delaney Holmes, Danielle Homan, Katey Cloonan; Top Defensive Players: Mary Gruen, Autumn Whitney, Nicole Torquato.

Under 14: Rage Orange 4, Walnut Creek HotShots 0: Rage opened the season against host Walnut Creek HotShots. The first goal was scored when midfielder Kayla Bautista dribbled up the left side and passed the ball into the scoring channel where Paige Peterson finessed a pass to Vanessa Villanueva for the score. After Goalie Nikki Costello made a good save in a one-on-one situation, Kayla Bautista made great moves to break free from a double team and found Paige Peterson waiting in front of the goal for Rage's 2nd score. Patti Norcross, Olivia Deutschman, and Katie Oross did a good job controlling the ball in the defense and sending it back up to the midfield, and minimizing the shots on goal. In the second half, Claire Williams won the ball near the goal and found Courtney Seams for the score. Courtney then sprinted past 3 fullbacks from midfield for her 2nd goal of the game after a thru pass from Lindsay Curtlet. Walnut Creek increased their attack in the 2nd half, but speedy Katie Oross shut down any potential threats. Goalie Nikki ended the day with 4 saves. Top Offensive Players: Courtney Seams, Paige Peterson, Kayla Bautista; Top Defensive Players: Katie Oross, Olivia Deutschman, Patti Norcross.

Under 11: Pleasanton Rage U11 Orange kicked off the season with a win over the Diablo Dragons 2-0. Both goals were scored by Gabe Hunsaker with great assists by Sarah Broacha, Ryan Murphy and Jordyn Salinas. There were other close attempts on goal most notably by Tiara Lewis and Sam Frost. In defense Ariana Nino and Amy Schoendienst hustled and held consistent throughout the game, while defenders, Haley Okumura and Lorna Roberts contributed by keeping the ball clear of the goal. Goalie Juliet Allen denied the Dragons any chance of scoring.

U-11 Orange played their first State Cup qualifying game against the Mustang Magic losing 2-1. It was a toughly fought battle against the Mustang's top rated U11 team. Down 2-0 at the half the Rage answered back when Sarah Broacha offered up a fantastic assist to Lorna Roberts who was able to stick the ball in the net for her first goal of the year. Other top players were Ariana Nino, Amy Schoendienst, and Jordyn Salinas.

Under 11 Black: Rage Black 1, San Ramon Earthquakes 1: The Rage U11 Black team started off the season with a 1-1 tie with San Ramon Earthquakes. Rage's only goal was scored by Mira Greenlee who placed a beautiful 20 yd shot into the top of the net. Rage had many scoring opportunities in the second half, but just couldn't get that second goal. The defense held strong the second half allowing very few scoring opportunities for San Ramon. Overall it was a good start to the season.

Under 9: Rage U-9 Black 0, Rage Grey 8: Super Goal keeping by Emily Esparza and solid defense by Emma Tsztook kept the Rage Black in the game early. All around play from Mollie McKay and nice footwork by Abby Smith pushed the ball upfield but it wasn't enough. All of the Rage Black played hard. Top Offensive Players: Abby Smith, Mollie McKay; Top Defensive Players: Emily Esparza, Emma Tsztook.

Under 12: Rage Grey 1, Mill Valley Rockers Red 1: Pleasanton Rage U12 Grey team dominated the first half of the game against the Mill Valley Rockers with outstanding offensive play by Avery Jones, Taylor Campbell, and Kailyn Coleman. Though many shots were taken, the assist by Taylor Campbell to Avery Jones who placed one perfectly in the corner of the net was the only goal for the Rage Grey team. The second half was a test of the defense because the Rockers came back with a vengeance. Goalie Camille Lojewski was kept busy in the goal making impressive saves. Miranda Spring, Liliana Tierney, Megan Shackley, and Jenna Crawford played excellent defense throughout the game. Emma Theroux and Sophie Martinez also played well. Top Offensive Players: Avery Jones, Taylor Campbell, Kailyn Coleman, Emma Theroux, and Sophie Martinez; Top Defensive Players: Miranda Spring, Liliana Tierney, Megan Shackley, and Jenna Crawford.

Rage U12 1, Newark Crushers 2: It was a dog fight against the Newark Crushers. Avery Jones fired many shots at the goal, Bailey Sanchez also had a shot, but it was Kailyn Coleman's beauty that sailed into the net. Jenna Crawford and Megan Shackley skillfully moved the ball up the field as well as played tough defense. Goalies Sabrina D'Ambrosio and Dalia Shafi did an excellent job protecting the net. Top Offensive Players: Kailyn Coleman, Avery Jones, Bailey Sanchez, Jenna Crawford; Top Defensive Players: Megan Shackley, Liliana Tierney, Darcy Kron.

DIVISION 4
Under-14: Chaos 2, Vortex 2: Teamwork succeeded early in the game when Alexa Hansen captured the ball to pass off to Cassidy Holmes mid field in turn passed to Zoe who enabled Juliet Logan to slice kick and score the first goal. Momentum kept defenders Britney Robison and Karah Paul busy blocking to prevent scoring and sending the ball to Priyanka Davar and Maddie Jackson both in mid field, allowing Juliet Logan to attempt a couple of scores. Vortex was awarded a free kick, which Karah Paul sent into the top of net to score a second goal. Numerous saves by goalie Katie Eppanaga gave Vortex the lead at half. Offensive players Morgan Iversen and Alexa Hansen, pounded the opposition, keeping the pressure on. In the second half Shayna Doyle powered the ball with her several kick backs to Vortex territory. Sophie Hudson ran the ball up sidelines back to Juliet who crossed it over to Mo-Mo Iversen and Alexa Hansen. Isabelle Adams, Sophie and Karah kept up the strong defense. The offense almost scored again. Chaos defense was too strong as second half. Top Offensive Players: Juliet Logan, Morgan Iversen, Cassidy Holmes -Vortex; Top Defensive Players: Karah Paul, Shayna Doyle, Britney Robison - Vortex;

Under-10: Jungle Cats 1, Jokere 5: Both teams played a great first game to lead off the season. Annie West playing for the Jungle Cats had a fabulous first time ever goalie position. She never gave up and had some great defensive hands on! Mariana Talamyan scored the goal for the Jungle Cats with a nice assist from Jessica Lawer. Rachel Rosenkranz and Makenzie Melby brought their defensive game on for the Jungle Cats as well. Sara Kenning led

the Jokere with the first and last goal of the game. She followed through every ball and was extremely successful in her game. Ava Cristobal came through for the Jokere as a tough offensive player during the second half of the game. Claire Larsen had a beautiful defensive game for the Jokere making sure to keep the ball away from the goals with some big boots. Olivia McGee gave a great shut out during the second half as goalie. Top Offensive Players: Sara Kenning, Ava Cristobal - Jokere; Top Defensive Players: Claire Larsen, Olivia McGee - Jokere.

Under-9: Polar Bears vs. Princess Warriors: It was a dark and stormy night preceding the parade and opening day for Rage, removing any first game jitters beforehand. These experienced players hustled and fought hard throughout the game on the larger field this year. Top Offensive Players: Alicia V., Maddy R., Antonia S. - Polar Bears; Allison DeFazio, Gianna Lyng, Kara Shah - Princess Warriors; Top Defensive Players: Morgan G., Vicky L., Alaysia S. - Polar Bears; Ashley Lopez, Alyssa Wu, Hannah Thoe - Princess Warriors.

Under-6: Daffodils vs. Diamonds. Top Offensive Players: Mariah, Paige, Maggie - Daffodils; Dalynn Miller, Shay McIntyre, Megan Rovira - Dashers; Olivia Soble, Marina Garcia, Sammie Manos - Diamonds; Top Defensive Players: Isabella, Arianna, Sophia - Daffodils; Emma Baer, Elizabeth Fineberg, Lauren Jang - Dashers; Kaitlyn Lemus, Amita Grewal, Olivia Martin - Diamonds.

Pleasanton Ballistic United

Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club results from last week

Under 19: Ballistic United Select 1, Mustang Roma FC 0: Ballistic striker Alex Caravan's second half goal was all the Pleasanton side needed as the team held off Mustang Roma for a hotly contested well earned Al Caffodio league victory.

In the first half the Ballistic was plagued by unlucky finishing as several golden opportunities slipped away - including Tyler Copeman's freekick that just missed far post. Jered Chinn also had a 1 on 1 opportunity that the Mustang keeper barely got his mitts to. Adding to the difficulty - Mustang often dropped 9 players behind the ball to clog things up while springing several dangerous counterattacks of their own.

The second half saw some adjustments from Pleasanton that quickly paid off. The most notable was moving Johnny Ramirez from Winger to the Attacking Midfield position. Ramirez's one touch passing, ability to possess the ball and provide service to the forwards had an immediate impact. At the 10 minute mark the second half striker Ivan (assisted by Jason Teague) was able to push home a goal after Ballistic created some havoc in the Mustang Penalty area. Brodie Roberts and Jason Scott also had standout games in the midfield as they combined with Ramirez and Brandon Lee to control the middle of the pitch.

Mustang tried desperately to tie the score but the Pleasanton defense anchored by Steven Gilbert, Tyler Copeman, Brian But, Jason Teague, and Brian Hu held firm as they turned away several attacks. Teague and Bui did a great job stepping into the midfield to assist the attack and hold possession. Troy Stetson and Jaymi Van Dam worked hard on the wing using their speed to drop back defensively when needed and then springing penetrating runs on the counter attack.

The Ballistic U16 soccer team played in the final of the U-16 "B" Division on the fields at UC Irvine against RSF Attack Green from San Diego. On Saturday and Sunday, Ballistic cruised through the group stage with three victories (1-0 against RSF Attack Green, 4-0 against North Huntington Beach Black and 4-0 against Arsenal from Gilbert, Arizona). In the semifinal against Chelsea FC from Los Angeles they prevailed by a score of 2-1 to set up a rematch in the final against RSF Attack Green.

Their previous game had been a hard-fought affair settled by the only goal of the game, a powerful near-post header by Dane Shaffar from a cross by Jason Chow. The final turned out to be a similar spectacle. RSF Attack set out to disrupt Ballistics style of play with a physical approach and the Ballistic players, refusing to be intimidated, gave as good as they got. For his part, the referee seemed determined to allow play to continue wherever possible. Unfortunately as the game entered its later stages, it became increasingly bad-tempered as more and more dangerous challenges went unpunished by the officials.

Regulation time ended with the two teams tied 0-0, and they began two ten-minute periods of extra time to try and decide a winner. Ballistic appeared to have settled the issue in the second period of extra time when Nick Parisi floated a cross to Jason Chow, whose header fell nicely to Seth Niermeyer, who swept it into the net. The Ballistic fans were going crazy on the sideline as RSF Attack launched a final attack in search of the equalizer. They pumped a long ball into the Ballistic penalty area from a free kick and Ballistic captain, center back, Erik Knages appeared to be elbowed in the face as he attempted to head the ball clear. The ball dropped to the ground in the Ballistic box and was fired into the net by a RSF Attack forward. Sheer bedlam erupted on both sidelines as the referee awarded the goal and Knages staggered to his sideline with blood streaming down his face. The referee needed several minutes to regain control of the game, but eventually the field was cleared of fans and the final few seconds of the match were played out with Ballistic down to ten men.

The teams then proceeded to the penalty shoot out where RSF eventually prevailed. The referee was finally able to find refuge at the official's tent. The Ballistic players were left to collect their own trophies and head back to northern California, except for their captain, who headed to the local Emergency room in search of further medical treatment. It was an unfortunate end to a wonderful weekend for the Ballistic U-16 team and their coach Alec Taylor, who deserve nothing but the highest praise for their performances on the field and their restraint in the most trying of circumstances.

Under 16: BUC 1, Bay Oaks 3: Ballistic United U-16s had a rather disappointing start to their league season as they dropped their opener by a score of 1-3 to Bay Oaks in a rather disjointed game at the College of Alameda. Ballistic struggled to find any sort of rhythm in the first half. Playing with a revamped back four due to injuries, they struggled against a talented Bay Oaks outfit and they conceded a head on goal from a free-kick. Confusion in the defense led to a second Bay Oaks goal shortly before half-time. To their credit, they came out strong in the second half and fought their way back into the game. Dane Shaffar converted a penalty kick to reduce the deficit with ten minutes remaining and for a while the Pleasanton team looked like they might snatch an equalizer. Bay Oaks sealed the victory ten minutes before the end. The Ballistic team fought hard until the final whistle. Top Offensive Players: Dane Shaffar, Jason Chow; Top Defensive Players: Michael Viebeck, Suchi Kuo.

Under 16 Select: In a spirited hometown rivalry game, the BUC U16 Select prevailed over the U15 Select 3-1. The 16s jumped out to the early lead when Miguel Nino chipped a ball in to a crashing Jake Lorenz. Pauley scored the second goal, but Hunter Meurrens was in the right place at the right time for a deadly rebound shot in the 9th minute. The U15s came back with a brilliant strike from the left side in the 15th minute, and the intensity of the game picked up from there. In the 32nd minute, Lorenz dribbled through the middle of the



Cardinals tackle the Saints runner in Livermore Junior Football League action.

15s defense, drew them inside to him, and slid a pass to his left to a waiting Jared Shof, who buried it for the 2-1 halftime lead. The defense organized itself quickly after a shaky early going, led by Randy Copeman, Joe Lee, and Yashar Benham. In the second half, the 16s were able to secure the insurance goal on great hustle by Brandon Cohen in the 49th minute. Tyler Mendez crossed a dangerous ball in to the mix that the 15s keeper got to but did not control cleanly. Cohen took the bobble, slid to his right, and finished for the 3-1 lead. From there, the 16s applied great pressure in the 15s end and were able to make the lead stand up.

The Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club U12 Premier Team took second place this past weekend at the NHB Cup in Huntington Beach, surrendering the winning goal in the last minutes of the second overtime period to the Carlsbad Lightning.

Goals were scored by Cameron Owens (3), Jack Traube (2), Ryan Racer (1), Nathan Esparza (1), Jackson Still (1), Tyler Silva (1) and Sam Molz (1).

DIVISION III
Under-13: BUC Select 6, San Ramon Spartans 1: The BUC U13 Div III Select team opened the Al Caffodio Youth Soccer season with a dominating win over the San Ramon Spartans Saturday morning. The boys had prepared for the beginning of league play by participating in a number of Div III and Div I tournaments, developing their skills and abilities as well as bonding at a team. Their dominance on the pitch against San Ramon was evidence the boys are well on their way to repeating a very successful season from last year, making it to the State Association Cup Semi-Finals. The Ballistic boys performed well on both sides of the pitch by not shooting their opponent 36 to 4 (shots on goal) and allowing only 1 goal in the second half that resulted from an off side call against San Ramon that was reversed by the center referee. Every member of the team contributed to the win with four boys scoring goals and a total of nine team members taking shots on the opponent's goal.

Goals were scored by Mason Picono and Thomas Rozsa with 2 apiece and Brian Kinnee and Roberto Beard each scoring 1. Assists were registered by Brian Kinnee and Mason Picono with 2 apiece and Joshua Cole and Dylan Tuell each with 1. Both of Picono's assists came from driving the ball up the left side from his forward position and executing well placed crosses to Thomas Rozsa who was positioned in front of the net. Rozsa scored both his goals from Picono's crossing passes to the center of the pitch, catching the defense out of position. Outstanding team work accompanied each goal from mid field transition to accurately placed consecutive passes into the attack zone by Chris Goldhawk, Lucas Warzyniak, Pierre Marie, Reed Marquies and Ryan Vincencio. The defense virtually neutralized San Ramon's offensive attack, holding them to only 4 shots on BUC's goal. Matt Teng, Sammy Hanson and Chris Klahr intercepted attacking forwards, created strong defensive lines and generally made it impossible for San Ramon to mount any serious offensive threats. Andrew Grieshammer provided the last line of defense as keeper, registering 3 saves. He also assisted the defense with reading the opponents offensive and communicating corrections in coverage.

DIVISION 4 - RECREATIONAL
Under-6: Crocodiles vs. Copperheads, Top Offensive Players: Euan Hopper, Top Defensive Players: Gavin Crosby. The Crocodiles played incredibly well as a team in their opening game of the season. There were a few amazing goals and tremendous efforts to keep the ball away from the Copperheads. Gavin did sustain a few head bumps with his valiant effort to get the ball for his team. I hope he is feeling better and ready for the next game.

Colts vs. Cubs, Top Offensive Players: Brock Uhl & Caleb Hilton for the Colts, Top Defensive Players: Addison Franco and Michael Lu, Highlights: The boys for the Colts and Cubs had a great first game to kick off the 2009 soccer season. Nate for the Cubs played a great defensive game while Jack for the Colts had his full offensive game on. Brock and Caleb both scored goals for the Colts while Michael and Addison too their defensive game to heart.

Under-7: Stallions vs. Stealth: The U7 Stallions played an exciting game against the Stealth on Saturday. It was a fast well-matched game. Strong offense by Ronan Pitto and Lucas Castro. Excellent defense by Arjun Subramanian and Dylan Easton. Stallions, Visitor Team Name: Stealth, Top Offensive Players: Ronan Pitto, Top Defensive Players: Arjun Subramanian

Serpents vs. Stingrays: Serpents, Visitor Team Name: Stingrays, Top Offensive Players: Jeremy Fortner, Dillon Lambert, Owen

Maratsos; Top Defensive Players: Evan McConaughy, Brett Miller, Derek Nasser; Squadrons vs. Sabercats: Top Offensive Players: Ruairi Dwyer and Matteo Schiaffino. Top Defensive Players: Ariyan Govind and Riley Cornelius, Highlights: Ruairi Dwyer and Matteo Schiaffino made several end to end runs for goals while goalkeepers Jimmy Andre and Zachary Nicholas faced down the Squadron charges.

Under-8: Condors vs. Chargers: Chargers, Top Offensive Players: Ryan Weiglen, Aidan McIntyre; Top Defensive Players: Tomas Kersulis, Michael O'Brien, Taylor Lee, Highlights: Ryan Weiglen scored 3 goals, Aidan McIntyre with 2 goals, Taylor Lee and Dylan Weiglen had 1 goal each. Tomas Kersulis, Michael O'Brien and Taylor Lee were defensive machines.

Cobras vs. Commandoes: Commandoes, Top Offensive Players: Riley Gunning, Tyler Larson, Vinay Srinivasan; Top Defensive Players: Connor Grimes, Nolan Jetter, Owen Crosby. The Cobras went on offensive early and tested the goal keeper a few times. Both teams were able to score early goals to make the game interesting. Vinay Srinivasan effectively controlled the midfield, creating a few scoring opportunities. Owen Crosby made some amazing saves as Goalie. Connor Grimes and Nolan Jetter were solid in defense. Cobras played well as a team, with some excellent passing and teamwork.

Cougars vs. Cheetahs: Cheetahs, Top Offensive Players: Evan Thomas, Nate McGinty, Michael McMasters; Top Defensive Players: Kaleb Real, Will Bosse, Yezzen Atirawi

Under-9: Tyrants vs. Titans: Titans, Top Offensive Players: Joao Pais, Maxwell

Stubbs; Top Defensive Players: Maximilian Maratsos, Brandon Doyle, Highlights: A fast moving game with some great plays and passes. Tyrants played strong in the first half, 3 goals scored by Maxwell Stubbs and Mihir Weling. Goals set up by Joao Pais and Euann Owens. Strong defense by Shawn Keswani and Vishal Cherukuri. Maximilian Maratsos and Brandon Doyle played strong goal positions in both halves.

Under-10: Aces 3, Admirals 0: Top Offensive Players: Timmy Wolfenberger, AJ Mosley, Brian Neri, Top Defensive Players: Jeremy Mast, Joshua Kyong, Kaden Brady, Highlights: Jeremy Mast played great defense and offense as well and Timothy Wolfenberger was exceptional on both offense and defense covering much of the field and creating scoring opportunities.

Under-11: Revolution vs. Rapids: Top Offensive Players: Tyler Kline, Top Defensive Players: Zak Sonnenschein. On a day that dawned to the roar of thunder, the Rapids offense unleashed its own brand of lightning in its season opener, with Tyler Kline scoring two goals of his four goals in the first seven minutes as the Rapids defeated the Revolution. Kline's third goal resulted from his penalty kick that caromed off the left post, bounced like a pinball through the crowd on the right, and then found its way back to his foot for a 15-yard punch-in. Jeffrey Deguchi and Brandon Larson each chipped in with two assists and a goal, and Damian Johnson popped in a goal off a Deguchi crossing pass from the right corner to the left post. Meanwhile, the Rapids defense clamped down on the Revolution, allowing only three shots on goal and successfully defending



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Competitors carried their bicycles over the barriers during the second race of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District cyclocross series.

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| LOVE HAPPENS (PG13) DLP | | | | 1:35 | 4:15 | 6:55 | 9:45 |
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| SORORITY ROW (R) DLP | | | | 1:15 | 4:25 | 7:25 | 9:55 |
| ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG13) DLP | | | | 1:10 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:25 |
| GAMER (R) DLP | | | | 1:40 | 4:50 | 7:20 | 9:35 |
| INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R) DLP | | | | | 1:25 | 4:35 | 7:45 |
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SPORTS NOTES

against a penalty kick in the box.

Under-12: Raptors 2, Raiders 5. Top Offensive Players: Graham Catudal and Stan Luo, Top Defensive Players: Dev Naik and Chris Bayley. Highlights: Raiders, led by Graham Catudal with 4 goals, lassoed Raptors in 5-2 season-opening victory. Midfielder Chris Bayley controlled the middle early on and assisted Graham Catudal in delivering the first goal. While Raptors fought hard and dominated the remaining first half, Raiders starting goalie, Dev Naik, made 6 saves to end the first half at 1-1. With only 10 minutes remaining in the second half and score tied at 2-2, Raiders relentlessly launched attacks on Raptors starting with Stan Luo's goal assisted by Dev Naik and 2 back-to-back goals by Graham Catudal to end the game at 5-2.

Rockets 1, Renegades 1: Alex Sung scored for the Renegades. Trevor McComb named outstanding player for the game. Top Offensive Players: Alex Sung, Kevin Lee, Trevor McComb, Top Defensive Players: Daniel Newman, Bradley Green, Koedy Baxter

Livermore Jr. Football

Livermore Junior Football's season kicked off this past weekend with four games at Livermore High School. LJFL's contact football and cheer program began August 1st with a first of its kind conditioning and training program led by professional trainer Dr. Mike Sanchez and his staff from Up 2 Speed. All coaches learned proper conditioning techniques and players were instructed in proper nutrition. LJFL plays all of its games in Livermore. Highlights from September 12:

Senior Division: Jets 36, Giants 28: These two teams did not disappoint the spectators. The Jets beat the Giants 36 to 28 in a very entertaining game. The opening drive saw the Jets take the ball and methodically move it 58 yards for the score. The Giants offense said not so fast and with one burst up the gut Timothy Harris rushed 57 yards to pay dirt. The Giants would dip into that well all day with Harris having touch down runs of 26 and 52 yards behind the lead blocking of standout fullback Jay Garay. The beasts up front blocking for the Giants were C Russell Lovett, G Devin Bernacil, G Victor Eassa, T Shane Silva and T David Pinon. The Giants defense made 6 tackles for negative yards, getting into the Jets backfield was DE Jacob Martinez, DE Jacob Roach, CB Ryan Holmes, CB Alec Sblendorio. Leading the defense in tackles was hard hitting LB Taylor Disbrow with several touchdown saving tackles and Ryan Silvas with an interception on a two point conversion attempt. Also punishing the Jets offense were LB Jonathan Davis, DL Chris Lassen, DL Kyle Neves, DL Luke Quesada, DE Brandon Mullen and 5 Kevin Keys. Quarterback Greg Plantenga showed the Giants are a passing threat hitting his big TE James Wilker for a combined 82 yards. 45 yards on a bomb before the halftime buzzer. The speedy receiving duo of Cameron Church and Conor Cruz spread the defense and did an exceptional job of blocking.

Cardinals 34, Saints 2: The Cardinals opened the 2009 LJFL season with a 34 - 2 victory over the Saints in the senior division. The Saints got on the scoreboard first by a botched punt that rolled into the end zone. The play resulted in a safety when a couple of Cardinal players recovered the fumble in the end zone. The Cards then had to kick the ball to the Saints. The Saints racked up a couple of 1st downs with the strong running of Tyler Offill and Jeremy Edwards. The Cardinal defense, behind the strong play from defensive tackle Leroy Williams and linebacker Casey Soltis, forced the Saints into a 4th and long. The Cards' ends, Travis Adams and Bo Carter, sacked the punter giving the Cards the ball on the 50 yard line. The Cards' offense took over, and on their 2nd play from scrimmage, Nick Campiotti took the handoff and scampered 45 yards for the score. The next offensive series for the Cards resulted in a touchdown when quarterback Curtis Wiggington connected with Colten Paynter at the 25 yard line. Paynter then out-raced a couple of Saints to the end zone, making the score 16 - 2 at the half. The 3rd quarter was a defensive battle as both the Saints and Cardinals defensive units came up with big stops as Lucas Bumalag for the Saints and Jacob Torres for the Cards were impressive on defense. The Cards were able to break the game open late in the 3rd when Soltis took the punt, and, after a couple of broken tackles, bolted down the right sideline for a 75 yard punt return to make the score 24 - 2. Ryan Dearborn finished the scoring for the Cardinals on a 45 yard touchdown run to start the 4th quarter. The Cards' offense was led by Dearborn, who had 12 carries for 103 yards and a touchdown, and Campiotti, who had 57 yards on 2 carries with a TD, before leaving the game in the 1st with a knee injury. The line play of Kaipo Bradanini and Kevin Hayes opened holes for the Cardinal backs to run. Leading the way for the Cards defense was Soltis, with 14 tackles, and defensive tackles Williams (10 tackles) and Jeffrey Brinkley. Safety Bailey Wirth and cornerback Garren Groeniger played great against the pass.

Advanced Division: 49ers 32, Raiders 20: 49ers opened the season firing on all cylinders. The 49ers scored on every offensive possession in the first half. The 49ers Offense was led by Macellus Bayless QB, Robert Payne RB, Ian Barnes RB, Offensive Line TJ O'Ferrall, Blake Downey, Julian Chavira, Larry Phillips, and Andrew Williams. Payne led the 49ers rushing attack with 4 touchdowns on 12 carries for 182 yards. Ian Barnes had 1 TD, on 58 yards total yards. The Niners defense would not be outdone by their offense, shutting out the Raiders in the first half. The entire 49er defense played well. Defensive standouts for this game were MLB Dylan Guilin (8 tackles, 1 assist, 1 interception), OLB Stevie Royster (8 tackles, 1 for loss), DL Shane Ward, and DB Nicolas Swanger.

Dolphins 8, Ravens 0: In the season opener the Ravens and Dolphins had a defensive battle for the win. It was straight-up zero at the half. The Dolphins came out smoking in the third quarter and even though the Ravens put up a good fight, the Dolphins scored a touchdown and a two-point conversion! The clock beat the Ravens as they were taking the ball down field to score. The final score was 8-0 Dolphins. The Ravens had some great plays by their players. Here are the highlights: Running Back Kevin Garcia ran 10 carries for a total of 49 yards and Running Back Nick Arnold ran 6 carries for a total of 31 yards. Quarterback Taber Kohlmoos threw 3 pass attempts with 2 completions for a total of 5 yards. Defensive End Zach Snyder had 4 solo tackles and Defensive End Zach Stevens had 4 solo tackle and 1 assisted tackle. Linebackers Isaac Dugger and Logan Cole both had 4 solo tackles and Linebacker Austin Brown had 2 solo tackles and 7 assisted tackles. Safety AJ Ruth had 3 solo tackles and 2 assisted tackles. Defensive Tackles Tai Phan and Robbie Twisten had 2 solo tackles. Cornerback Ryan Wigginton had 2 solo tackles. For the Dolphins, the 1st half had a couple of great runs by Bryce Disbrow and Tyler Huggins, along with a fumble recovery by Jack Lutz. The 2nd half started out with an 11 yard kickoff return by Connor Glasco, and some long runs and receptions by Brandon Untalan. The Dolphins finally scored with an 18 yard TD run by Scott

Plantenga and a 2 point conversion from quarterback Jason Frost to Untalan. The Dolphins defense was on fire and held the Ravens to no score. The Dolphins had stellar defensive performances by Tyler Gonzales, Eric Meeks, and Izaiah Casillas.

Livermore Youth Soccer

The Livermore Elite Fury U14 girls opened GSSL play with two victories. Against Marin FC, the Fury applied early pressure but Marin countered with a strong rush. Goalie Hannah Gobby's diving challenge stopped a shot and defender Sarah Wilkinson cleared the ball in front of an open net. The Fury played well the rest of the half, led by Amanda Fairclough and Kylie Diaz, who made a couple of strong runs into the Marin zone. In the 29th minute, Lennier made another great save on a breakaway to keep the game scoreless. Livermore worked the ball well down the field in the second half, including a couple of deep runs by Alison Pierson. Beth McCall played a solid midfield to help the Fury maintain possession. Livermore finally broke through with 12 minutes remaining when Hannah Gobby ran down a deep pass down the middle, split the defense and drilled a left footed shot by the onrushing keeper into the right corner. Taylor Lennier preserved the 1-0 lead with one more nice save with two minutes remaining as the Fury held on for the win.

Livermore dominated play against host Elk Grove Everton. Strong midfield play by Madyson Souza and Kylie Diaz helped the Fury keep possession and attempt several shots. Morgan Brandt's strong outside run drew a foul and Amber Lennier converted a long free kick for a 1-0 lead in the 19th minute. Three minutes later, Elyse Codiroli set up Rebekah Johnson with a perfect pass within the box and Johnson scored from close range to make it 2-0. Two minutes later, Amber Lennier gained control of a loose ball in the box and fired it over the keeper for 3-0. Livermore kept up the pressure in the second half as Madyson Souza and Elise Falgout made some strong runs into the box. Midway through the half, Hannah Gobby followed up a deflected shot off the Elk Grove goalie for 4-0. Despite the big lead, the Fury continued to play hard, led by Jenna Hatch on offense and a couple of nice clears from Sarah Franklin on defense. The Fury completed the 5-0 victory when Ryley Landreth ran down a deep ball in the Livermore zone and sent a long pass which Falgout controlled and sped by the Elk Grove defense and fired a shot past the keeper.

Livermore Elite XTreme 99 played their first league game vs. the Dublin Galaxy. The score was tied 1-1. Amanda Zeck made the only goal. Goalies, Alyssa Bonfiglio and Heather Woelk were very tough. All the girls played really hard.

Livermore U10 Girls Crush defeated Dublin Galaxy, 2 to 1, in a hard fought battle. Dublin started early in the first half with a score, then both teams battled to dominate through the rest of the half. At the kick off of the 2nd half, Isabella Barbero, Kira Karter and Samantha Dukes made beautiful passes to get the ball in the Galaxy territory. The Galaxy Goalie came out of the box, and Sam was able to chip the ball over the goalies head and watch it bounce in the goal to tie the game up 1-1. Later in the second half, Sam received a beautiful pass from Reiley Davies. Sam took the ball up with a couple of touches, breezing past the final Galaxy defender, then took a beautiful shot past the goalie for the winning goal. Top players: Samantha Dukes, Reiley Davies, Tori Borgna. The Galaxy goalie, Mimi Freeman, did a great job.

Livermore Crush v. Castro Valley United: 2-4. Livermore Crush played in the Hot August Jamboree in Lafayette. United began with the first goal. Crush answered, with a passing play from their offense resulting in the ball getting to Reiley Davies, who had a sweet pull back to keep the ball from the United defender, then a shot and goal, tying the game 1-1 at half. United came back in the second half and again scored. Crush had another great passing play in the United territory, from Reiley to Samantha Dukes, to Claire Anderson. Claire had a great 2-touch on the ball, shot and goal! The game was tied again, 2-2. United were able to pull it out in the end, with 2 more goals before the end of the game for the win by United. Crush battled back after being defeated in their morning game of the jamboree, with much improvement in play and positioning in this game, and great team effort. Top Players: Reiley Davies, Claire Anderson, Madison McCallister

Impact Fury v. Livermore Crush: 3-1: Crush came out of the gates strong! Samantha Dukes took the ball up the field solo, dribbling past Fury defense and blasted a shot to the right corner of the net. Fury answered before the end of the half, to tie it up 1-1. Fury came back in the second half score two more goals near the end of the game for a Fury win. Crush showed continued improvement against this premier team. Top Players: Kira Karter on offense, Claire Abele on defense, Meghan Giamona in goal.

Danville Lightning v. Livermore Crush: 0-1: The first half of the game was dominated by Crush, but they were unable to capitalize on their shots on goal, and the half ended scoreless. Crush came back in the second half with Samantha Dukes winning the ball from the Lightning kick-off, taking it up field for a 2-touch dribble and shot for the game winning goal. Top Players: Samantha Dukes, Isabella Barbero, Andrea Sommer.

Livermore Rampage 98 Div 1 U11 Girls High Comp: Rampage 98 3, LaMorinda 0: Rampage played a spectacular game as they defeated LaMorinda 3-0. Rampage controlled the game and the first goal came from Leslie Jimenez as she fired off an outside shot into the corner of the net. The second goal was from Marissa Pletschette as she ran the ball down field, dribbled through two players and stuffed it in the net. The third goal came as Ashley Morton accepted a beautiful pass from Leslie Jimenez and Ashley placed a beautiful shot to the left corner of the net. Rampage defense of Hunter Vice, Jessy Espana and Bianca Stubler played an outstanding game and completely shut down LaMorinda's offense. LaMorinda played hard but was unable to put the ball in the net. Excellent Goalie efforts were made by Ashley Morton, Alyssa Oki and Jessica Mahabali.

Rampage 98 3, San Ramon Blue Crush 1: Rampage played an outstanding game against Blue Crush. Rampage midfielders Lauren Sandy, Adriana Sblendorio, Amy Silva and Amanda Silveira strategically moved the ball down the field. The first 2 goals were scored by Alyssa Oki who was "On Fire" as she carried the ball down the field and placed an impossible shot to the left corner of the net. Nice shots on goal were also taken by Brooklyn Smithers and Marissa Pletschette. Rampages third goal came from Lauren Sandy when Jessy Espana took a beautiful direct kick outside the 18 yard line and Lauren Sandy hit it "off the fly." Magnificent goalie saves helped Rampage to their win by Ashley Morton and Jessica Mahabali.

US Boys: Lightning vs. Crusher Jedis: Lightning Offense: Calvin Fletheer, Jack

Hansen, Logan Hartrum; Crusher Jedis Offense: Josiah Knight, Thomas Kello, Bryce Hall; Lightning Defense: J.J. Knight, Caelan Roberts; Lightning Defense: Travis Silva, Jeremy Dyson, Paimon Goulart.

US Boys: Spikes Vs. Tigers: Spikes offense: Luke Leary, Jason Krakowski, Mick Maia, Colin Miller; Spikes defense: Derek Thompson, Andrew McKeever, Drew Hanson, Tanner Griffith, Giann Goulart; Tigers: Joshua, Kyle, Elijah, Tyler, Johan, Ryan, J.J. and Derek

Ironhead Indoor Lacrosse

Teams are now forming for boys and girls indoor lacrosse at Cabernet Sports in Livermore. Inaugural season begins at the end of Sept. with a game-only format over eight Sundays. Cost is \$145 per player. Singles and teams welcome. Girls and boys grades 4 through 12 are welcome (previous experience required). Visit www.ironheadlacrosse.com or call Bob Mezeul at 925-989-4553.

Swim Clinic

The Livermore Aquacowboys swim club is hosting the Mutual of Omaha breakout swim clinic on Sun., Sept. 20.

The clinic will learn four strokes and understand how the body, mind and heart affect swimming. Gold medalist Aaron Peirson and Josh Davis will be featured.

The clinic will be held at the Livermore Valley Tennis Club, 2000 Arroyo Rd., Livermore from 1 to 5 p.m. The cost is \$100; spectator pass available for \$10. Limited to first 90 swimmers.

Information call Emily Horst at 443-7700.

Tea Up for Teens

"Tea Up For Teens," a benefit golf tournament for Tri-Valley Young Life is set for Mon., Oct. 19 at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton.

Registration and driving range are open 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. There will be a BBQ lunch provided by Carl's Jr. from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. followed by a shotgun start scramble format at 12:30.

The golf play will be followed by a dinner and auction at around 5:30 p.m.

For more information or to register, visit www.ylgoif.org

Golf Tournament

The 25th Annual Ohlone College & Fremont Bank Golf Tournament will be held Monday, September 21, at Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. Start time is 10:30 a.m.

Fees are \$245 individual; \$980 golf foursome.

For more information please contact Donna Runyon at 510-659-6053, or drunyon@ohlone.edu or visit www.ohlone.edu/go/golf.

Basketball Camps

Basketball Camps are offered on the following dates:

- Sept. 19 & 20, 8:30am-12:30pm, camp is for 3rd-5th graders
- Sept. 26 & 27, 8:30am-12:30pm, camp is for 6th-8th graders

Both camps are at Granada High School and are run by Mike Wood and Bryan Hahn, Varsity Boys Basketball Coaches at Granada

For more information, email Mike Wood at granadabasketball@gmail.com

Basketball Coaches Clinic

Las Positas College will be hosting its second annual Basketball Coaches Clinic, benefitting local charity organization Basic Necessities, which serves the Tri-Valley on Sunday, September 20 from 9 - 2 in the college's Physical Education Complex.

This year's speakers are Dick Davey (former head coach at Santa Clara and current Stanford Associate Head Coach), Toni West (Head Women's Coach at Cal State Eastbay), Steve Coccimiglio (Diablo Valley College) and Bill Powers (Monte Vista High School). For more information call 925-424-1281 or email tcostello@laspositascollege.edu

Tri-For-Real

The 22nd season On Your Mark Event's Triathlon Series will conclude with the traditional Tri-For-Real Triathlon, Sunday, September 20, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, in Pleasanton.

The Tri-For-Real triathlon, as like every season, follows this year's three Tri-For-Eun triathlons. The timed "Real" course distance is extended to a 700-yard swim (warm, clean lake), 19-mile bike (loop course, flat surface), and 4-mile run (rolling dirt trails).

Entry fee is \$65.00 in advance, and \$75.00 race day, individual, and \$185.00 in advance, and \$220.00, race day, relay teams. Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, after-race snacks, and entry into a huge after-race raffle.

To register or to receive more information about On Your Mark Events' Tri-For-Real Triathlon, call 209-795-7832 or visit their Web site at www.onyourmarkevents.com.

Scholarship Run

The 14th annual Back to School Scholarship Run is sponsored by the Northern California Association of Sales & Marketing Companies, along with Ocean Spray and Green Works. It will be held on Saturday, September 19, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanton Blvd., Pleasanton.

The Scholarship Run raises funds for college scholarships that are offered to children of parents whom work in the California food industry. This special event is well known for its Monster Goody Bag, given to each participant (First 400 entrants guaranteed).

The Back to School Scholarship Run features three races, with courses running through the park and the park's trails: 10K Run, 5K Run & Walk, and a Children's Mile. The fun 10K Race and 5K Walk & Run courses are made up of small rolling-hill trails that run throughout the scenic Shadow Cliffs Regional Park. The Children's Mile course is laid out through a portion of the park's lawn area.

Entry fees for either the 10K Run or 5K Walk/Run are \$25.00 pre-registered, \$30.00 race-day registration. The Children's Mile Run is \$7.00 pre-registered, and \$10.00 race-day registration. Check-in and race-day registration will open at 7:00 a.m., with both 10K and 5K events will start at 8:30 a.m. The Children's Mile will begin around 9:30 a.m. The post-race awards, raffle, and prize give-away ceremony is scheduled to start around 10:00 a.m.

For more Back to School Scholarship Run information and/or an application, call



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Dolphins marched under the arch followed by the Jitterbugs and other youth soccer teams during the annual soccer parade in Pleasanton. In the middle photo, the Jack Rabbits show off their sign. The lower photo is of the Magicians, already to work their magic on the soccer field.

On Your Mark Race Management at 209-795-7832, or visit their Web site at www.onyourmarkevents.com.

In playing uppers are required to try-out. No previous uppers experience necessary. All players trying-out must be registered for PGSL's 2010 season prior to attending one of the try-out sessions. Please visit the

PGSL website at www.pleasantonsfball.org for details regarding try-out dates, times and locations.

PGSL Registration:

2010 registration is now open for all divisions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League. All girls living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play PGSL softball. Two ways to register: 1) Online at www.pleasantonsfball.org; 2) Mail-in: PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (download a registration form from the website). For more information or questions, contact Chris Tanis at chris@tanisfamily.com.

PGSL Upper Division Try-Outs
Upper Divisions consist of girls in grades 3 thru 8 and is for all girls wanting to increase their skills and learn to play softball at a more advanced level. All girls interested

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Rosh Hashana Services:
At the Masonic Center
3370 Hopyard Rd.
Friday, September 18 - 6:45pm
Saturday, September 19 - 10:00am
Sunday, September 20 - 10:00am
Festive Holiday Buffet will follow all services

Yom Kippur Services:
at the Four Points by Sheraton
5115 Hopyard Rd.
Sunday, October 27 - 6:45pm
Monday, October 28 - 10:00am
Yizkor Memorial Service - 11:30am
Neliah, Closing Service - 6:30pm

HI / NI (swine flu) shots will not be released until the end of October at the earliest. When we get the vaccine, we'll let you know.

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Photos - Doug Jorensen
Michael Lee Firkins (far left) was one of the performers at during the Guitar Player Live. He is shown performing with other musicians on the Bankhead Theater stage in the photo at right. In the lower photo, left, performers entertained residents from the Voyage-Air Guitar Stage in front of the Bankhead Theater. According to Livermore City Councilmember John Marchand, "Downtown Livermore was really hopping over the weekend."





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SHORT NOTES

Micro Hike

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff will lead a Micro-hike on Sat., Sept. 19.

Meet Ranger Amy Wolitzer at 10 a.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. Join a "hike" that will a grueling distance of ... 50 feet. How many different plants, animals and bugs can be found in that short distance? Participants will use microscopes to examine some of the things found along the way. This program is great for the micros (kids) as well as the macros (adults).

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

Graduation

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) Golden Gate Chapter is celebrating their 12th Annual Apprentice Graduation with a ceremony on Saturday, October 17, 2009 in Livermore. This year approximately 60 students will be graduating.

ABC Golden Gate Chapter is the sponsor of five State of California approved apprenticeship programs, electrical, carpentry, painting, plumbing and construction craft laborers. Each apprenticeship program is also registered with the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship. Apprenticeship is an occupational training model that combines on the job experience with classroom instruction. Apprentices earn while they learn under the direction of a skilled journey level trainer.

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) is a national association with 79 chapters representing 25,000 merit shop construction-related firms with two million employees. Visit us at www.abccgca.org.

Frantic Families Confo

San Ramon Valley High School will be the site of Frantic Families Conference 2009 on Wed., Oct. 7.

The evening is designed around two presentations, the first one is a working family dinner with a summary presentation. Later in the evening a keynote presentation will focus on family planning and prioritizing what is important to your family. Each participant will be able to attend two forty minute breakout sessions also.

To sign up for the conference and for more information people can go to www.discoverctr.net or call (925) 837-0505.

This event is presented by the Discovery Counseling Center of the San Ramon Valley with support from the San Ramon Valley Unified School District, the San Ramon Valley YMCA and the San Ramon Valley Council of PTA's.

Wine Tasting

Fran and Lanny Replogle of Fenestra Winery are hosting an event during the crush, a "Harvest Wine Tasting," Saturday and Sunday, September 26 and 27, from noon to 5:00 PM. This event will be held at Fenestra Winery, 83 Vallecitos Road, Livermore. There is a \$5.00 tasting fee for non-wine club members.

Owner Lanny Replogle and Winemaker Brent Amos will introduce Fenestra's new releases: 2008 Semonay (55% Chardonnay/45% Semillon), 2008 Semillon, 2006 Alvaralhão, 2005 Merlot and 2006 Grenache.

"I am really excited about all these wines," said Replogle. The Grenache won Double Gold at the El Dorado County Fair, as well as 2 Silver Medals in other competitions. The Semonay won a Gold Medal at the San Francisco Wine Competition, and the Alvaralhão and Merlot have each won Silver Medals.

Owner Fran Replogle added, "Enjoy the charm of our renovated turn of the century winery building (now 120 years old), and the lovely green lawns, with lots of tables for picnicking." All Fenestra wines currently released (and the new releases) will be available for tasting.

The crush has already started,

and the grapes look to be of high quality. There should be many new wines fermenting and aging. Brent stated, "I expect this to be a great year. We've had mild weather so far, allowing the grapes to ripen more slowly and to develop more intense flavors."

The winery is open for tasting and sales every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5:00 PM. For information, phone 925-447-5246, e-mail info@fenestrawinery.com, or view the web site www.fenestrawinery.com.

Sunol Park Programs

Sunol Regional Wilderness, 1895 Geary Road, Sunol, has a variety of programs planned.

The Sunol Visitor Center is open Sat-Sunday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For information, call (510) 544-3249, or email vsvisit@ebparks.org.

Outdoor discoveries: 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children 3-5 years and a parent are invited to make wild discoveries. Sept. 17: Autumn Leaves-Leaf your worries behind as we discover the unbeleafable world of trees. Participants will print up some wearable works of art, so bring a tree-shirt. Sept. 24: Tarantulas, Spiders And Silk, Oh My! Hurray! Off to find roaming tarantulas and other wild relatives of Charlotte, Itsy Bitsy and Shelob. October 1: Rockin' Out- Investigate rocks, then use them to build! October 8: Fire-Friend Or Foe? Learn what fire needs to survive, how to behave safely around it, how to put it out and use it to cook up our lunch! October 22: Rocks Are Fall-Ing! But earthquakes do happen, so we'll find out where they come from and what to do when the ground begins to rock and roll. October 29: Halloween-Delve into the hallowed origins of our Halloween traditions. Dress in costume for a parade and bring a pumpkin to carve. 3-5yrs. Registration Required: 1-888-EBPARKS (1-888-327-2757, option 2, 3). Fee: \$6 (non-res. \$8)

Valley Nature Ride, 10 to 10:45 a.m. Sun., Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4 and 25. Enjoy an introduction to the cultural and natural history of Sunol Regional Wilderness during a horseback ride. 6+yrs. Registration Required: 1-888-EBPARKS, (1-888-327-2757, options 2, 1). Fee: \$25 (non-res. \$29)

Scary Birds

Halloween is just a few weeks away, so the latest environmental challenge from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Celebrate Urban Birds citizen-science project is taking an eerie approach. The contest is called "A Murder of Crows and Other Spooky Bird Tales" and is co-sponsored by the Encyclopedia of Life website.

"Believe it or not, a large group of crows is called a 'murder,'" says project leader Karen Purcell, "But there's nothing really scary about it. Crows are very intelligent, family-oriented birds. With this challenge, we really want to see what spooks people about birds. Then we can reveal what the behaviors are really all about. There's usually a perfectly natural, non-scary explanation!"

For the challenge, participants can take photos, do a painting, write a story or poem, even shoot a video showing birds doing something puzzling or strange to them. It may be a crow, starling, owl, pigeon, or any other type of bird.

Prizes include binoculars from Eagle Optics and Alpen, birdfeeders from YourBirdOasis.com, CDs, books, posters, and more. The first 50 entrants will receive a poster by Pedro Fernandez showing a variety of crow, jay, and other bird behaviors. Selected images and videos will be posted on the Celebrate Urban Birds website. The very best will be included in species accounts for the Encyclopedia of Life website.

Deadline for entries is Halloween: October 31. Visit the Celebrate Urban Birds website for more information and to read the terms of agreement regarding all entries. A PDF flier about the contest is also attached to this news release. www.birds.cornell.edu.

Immunization Clinic

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

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

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

Events and hikes:

Mount Diablo Challenge (Save Mount Diablo), Oct. 4. The Mount Diablo Challenge is a 10.8 mile timed bike ride, starting at Athenian School in Danville and climbing up Southgate Road 3,249 feet to the summit of Mount Diablo. 1,000 cycling enthusiasts compete and prizes are awarded for several categories in a ceremony at the summit with food and beverages for all. All proceeds benefit Save Mount Diablo's land conservation efforts. Registration cost is \$55.00. To register please visit www.savemountdiablo.org or www.active.com. No day of event registration.

End of Summer Hike (East Bay Regional Park District). Sunday, September 20, 2009 8 am - 12 pm. Leader: Naturalist "Outdoor Ed" 510-544-2768, ewillis@ebparks.org. Meet: MP #73 - Morgan Territory Regional Preserve - Main Parking Lot, on Morgan Territory Rd., 9.4 miles south of Marsh Creek Rd., 10.7 miles north of 1-580/N. Livermore exit. Explore the back-country woods, chaparral, and gracious grasslands of this high-altitude park. Approx. 6 miles, with moderate ups and downs. Registration Required: 1-888-EBPARKS option 2, 3 course #22543. www.ebparks.org

SUMMER

(continued from page one)

students in computer classes and \$25 for art and drama supplies. Parents of 55 percent of advanced placement students responded with a total of \$41,000. Parents of students in remedial classes were not asked to contribute, because the classes were not considered to be optional.

Trustee Pat Kernan said, "The politically expedient decision was to cancel summer school. A number of districts did that. This says a lot about this board and this community. We didn't take the easy way out. We made a difference for nearly 3000 kids."

Board president Chris Grant stated, "There is a ton of data showing the relationship between class time and academic performance, whether it's kids who were high achievers, or kids who need remedial help. Taking time to catch up with peers is critical. It's big to the district and the (nearly) 3000 kids. It will have a significant impact on the STAR and API scores."

Grant added that the district will be in good financial shape this coming year for summer school, because of one-time stimulus money. He told trustees they need to think about what should be done in the following year. Setting up a scholarship program for economically disadvantaged families is one consideration. "We know there are many in Pleasanton."

ENROLLMENT STABLE

The board also heard a report about this school year's enrollment from district senior director of pupil services Kevin Johnson. The 14,800 students in the district now mark the third consecutive year of district stability.

The peak district enrollment was 14,814 in 2007-08. It dropped by 19 students last year, then climbed by five students this year to arrive at 14,800.

Oil Canyon Odyssey (East Bay Regional Park District). Sunday, October 18, 2009/ 8 am - 12 pm. Leader: Naturalist "Outdoor Ed" 510-544-2768, ewillis@ebparks.org. Meeting: MP #43 Contra Loma/ Black Diamond Mines - Frederickson Lane, off Lone Tree Way/Golf Course Rd., just before the turn to Contra Loma. Secluded valleys, serene vistas, and tales of "black gold" beckon us to Black Diamond Mines' remote east end. Convoy to Star Mine group camp to begin this rugged 5-mile hike. Registration Required: 1-888-EBPARKS option 2, 3 course #22537. www.ebparks.org

Flaming Ecology (East Bay Regional Park District). Sunday, October 25, 2009/ 9 am - 11:30 am. Leader: Naturalist "Outdoor Ed" 510-544-2768, ewillis@ebparks.org. Drop-in, no registration. Meeting: MP #42 Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve - Somersville Townsite, end of Somersville Rd., south of Antioch. Learn about this "hot" issue and its effects as we hike 2 moderate miles of Manhattan Canyon and Chaparral Loop. Fee: \$5 parking. www.ebparks.org

Mr. Rooter

The World Franchising Network selected Mr. Rooter Plumbing, which has a franchise in Pleasanton, as one of its Top 100 Franchises for 2009.

This list, which is published in Bond's Top 100 Franchises (3rd Edition), breaks down the franchising industry into the categories of top food-service, lodging, retail and service-based, where Mr. Rooter Plumbing is featured.

"It's exciting to be part of a prestigious group of companies," said Dave Ferguson of Mr. Rooter Plumbing of Tri-Valley franchise. "We enjoy providing this community with professional and customer-focused services."

The top 100 franchises were chosen based on evaluations of historical performance, brand identification, franchisee satisfaction, training, on-going support, financial stability and other key variables. To be eligible,

companies must have 50 or more operating units.

Weight Management

More than half of adult U.S. women are overweight and more than one-third of adult U.S. women are obese, according to the American Obesity Association. Obesity plays a major role in the poor health of women, including diabetes and high blood pressure. The local Curves center has educational programs to address weight loss through focused curricula and classes.

"In order to reach your weight goal, however, you have to re-train and sustain your metabolism," says Kimberly Fox of the Pleasanton Curves. In recognition of National Women's Health and Fitness Day on September 30th, the Curves location in Pleasanton is announcing its no cost, 30-Day Diet Plan program for all Pleasanton-area women interested in weight-loss results and health improvement.

According to Fox, the 30-Day Diet Plan program is a series of free weight management classes. These classes are based on recent research findings from the Exercise & Sport Nutrition Laboratory at Texas A&M University. They teach Curves' demonstrated method for raising metabolism and losing weight.

Classes for the 30-Day Diet Plan program include: 1. Start-Up Class (90 minutes) and progression to Phase 2 for first-time participants. 2. Phase 3 Class (30 minutes) to teach the most important stage of the Curves Weight Management Plan and special techniques for ongoing weight maintenance. 3. Special Topics Classes (30 minutes) to cover a different health-related topic each month, including Smart Grocery Shopping, Choosing the Right Carbohydrates, Eating Out, Emotional Eating and more.

All classes are available at no fee and no membership is required. The classes are administered by hands-on activities facilitated by weight management coaches from Curves of Pleasanton, and DVDs that provide lessons by Curves' Registered

Dietitian Nadia Rodman.

For more information about Curves of Pleasanton and when the diet classes are offered, please contact Kimberly Fox at 925-600-9612 or 92529S6J@curvesmail.com.

Habitat Blitz

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage will be conducting a Habitat for Humanity blitz build week as part of its annual Habitat for Humanity fundraising campaign. The build week will be held September 21-25. Volunteers from 14 Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices will participate in six different projects throughout Northern California.

As part of the company's Northern California-wide blitz build week, some 50 agents, staff members, managers, clients and friends of the Fremont, Oakland and Orinda offices of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, will help build homes in a 54 home development in Oakland. The East Bay-specific build will be held Wednesday, September 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 10800 Edes Avenue, east of 105th Avenue, in Oakland.

Habitat for Humanity addresses the critical need for affordable housing by providing homeownership opportunities for families. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's annual fundraiser kicked off in early August will run through September 25. Throughout Northern California, more than 3,600 agents have been holding fundraisers and selling raffle tickets with a goal of raising \$341,000 this year to fund the construction of additional Habitat for Humanity homes in 2010. Last year, the company raised more than \$191,000 in donations which went toward this year's Habitat for Humanity projects.

Over the past 11 years, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Northern California has raised \$1.9 million for Habitat for Humanity and helped build 95 homes through 41,700 hours of sweat equity from agents, managers and staff.

This year's approach is less restrictive, now that the state has had some experience with that strain of flu, said Casey. Students would still be pulled from class if they show symptoms. They or health care providers would wear a mask while in the school office. The student would be taken home as soon as possible.

The only time a school would be shut down is when "many students came down with the illness," said Casey. As long as there are enough teachers and substitute teachers to staff classes, school would continue.

The district is advocating that teachers and school staff with daily contact with children be assigned a high priority for vaccination, if there is a shortage of vaccine.

The district would follow procedures outlined by the Centers

for Disease Control and other agencies. Educators would urge students to follow the common-sense rules of not sharing utensils or other personal items, wash their hands before eating. Parents would be urged to keep their children at home, not just from school, but elsewhere, to help combat spread of the illness.

MOLD REIMBURSEMENT

The board unanimously approved seeking a waiver to be reimbursed by the state for \$30,000 in lost average daily attendance (ADA) revenue. It lost the claim to the money on the opening day of school when it closed Hearst school because of the presence of mold.

Students met the next day in classrooms cleared by inspectors. Classes are still held in them, while repair and testing continue.

LIVERMORE
CALIFORNIA

FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS

Affordable Housing Opportunity

The City of Livermore is now accepting applications from households interested in participating in a drawing of homes for sale at an affordable price between \$158,000 - \$360,000.

MAXIMUM ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Note: A minimum income is required based on down payment and debt-to-income ratios.

| Household Size | Low-Income | Moderate-Income |
|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | \$46,350 | \$75,000 |
| 2 | \$53,000 | \$85,700 |
| 3 | \$59,600 | \$96,450 |
| 4 | \$66,250 | \$107,150 |
| 5 | \$71,550 | \$115,700 |
| 6 | \$76,850 | \$124,950 |

Application packets may be obtained at Livermore City Hall 1052 S. Livermore Ave., all Livermore libraries, the Multi-Service Center, 3311 Pacific Ave., or online at http://www.ci.livermore.ca.us/housing_assistance/documents/PreliminaryApplicationMASTEROct2009.pdf. All applications must be received by the City of Livermore Community Development Dept., 1052 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA, no later than **Friday, October 16, 2009 by 5:00 p.m.**

Applications received after this date and time will not be considered, even if postmarked earlier. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Please email your questions to housing@ci.livermore.ca.us or visit our website at:

http://www.ci.livermore.ca.us/housing_assistance/housing_opportunities.html

FAMILY FLEA MARKET • Saturday, October 3
Spaces \$25, Crafters Welcomed!
Join us at Croce Elementary, 5650 Scenic Avenue
Livermore, CA 94551 • Call (925) 606-4706 x7291
E-mail: fleamarket@crocepta.com



Our office's special flu shot clinics are filling up fast. This is for the yearly regular flu shots. Call our offices now for an appointment.

Livermore/Pleasanton
Pediatrics
925.455.5050

OBITUARIES

Rosemary Gilbert

Rosemary Gilbert passed away at her beloved Carlton Plaza home on September 6, 2009. She went home with Jesus at the age of 86. She was born Feb. 3, 1923.

"Rosy the Riveter" worked at the defense aircraft factory, assisting the war efforts which ultimately aided her future husband in his valiant efforts and ultimate victory with the battle of Iwo Jima. She attended Bible school and enjoyed traveling and evangelizing with her brothers in the "Soper Trio." She blessed many with her love, encouragement, and prayers throughout her lifetime. She especially enjoyed her years as a preschool teacher loving and aiding little ones.

She was preceded in death by her husband Sheldon A. Gilbert. She is survived by her children Sheldon (Suzanne) Gilbert, Barbara Johnson and Rosemary (Jim) Kock; grandchildren Michael and Joey; brothers Kirk (Betty) Soper and Leonard (Aurelia) Soper, and many nieces and nephews and a multitude of precious friends.

A Memorial Service for Rosemary was held September 14, at Sunset Community Church in Livermore.

In lieu of flowers Rosemary requested memorial donations be sent to Sunset Community Church.

Edna Louise Gerton

Edna Louise (Stratton) Gerton died September 1, 2009. She was born June 6, 1923. A resident of Pleasanton, Louise passed away in her home with members of her family by her side.



Having lived off and on in Pleasanton since 1960, Louise was known and loved by many. For many years, she was a deacon in the Pleasanton Presbyterian Church and, more recently was a member of the Lynnwood Methodist Church. Louise was a founding member of the board of directors for Pleasanton Gardens, the city's first senior housing project. For this service, she was honored with the Mayor's Award in the early 1970's. She enjoyed painting and singing but, most of all, Louise will be remembered for her love of her family, in particular her twelve grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren who affectionately called her

"Honey."

She is survived by her five children: David Gerton, Margene Rivara, Grayce Stratton, Cheryl Lulofs, and George Gerton.

Friends and family are invited to a memorial service celebrating Louise's life at 2:00 pm on Saturday, September 19, 2009, at Lynnwood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Lynnwood Methodist Church or Oakland Children's Hospital.

Dr. Thomas James Edwards

Dr. Thomas James Edwards



of Livermore, beloved husband, father and long-time Livermore dentist, passed away on Monday, September 7, 2009 at the age of 79. He was born in Anoka, Minnesota on January 27, 1930, to the late Kathryn Critchfield Edwards and Thomas Jennings Edwards. Most of his childhood was spent in Klamath Falls, Oregon where he was an avid outdoorsman and standout student athlete at Klamath Falls High. His high school career culminated in Tom playing in the prestigious 1948 East-West Shrine All Star football game and earning a football scholarship to the University of Oregon.

At the University of Oregon he played football and was a member of the Ducks track team. He enjoyed many fond memories of his athletic career, including playing under the tutelage of Oregon coaching legend, Bill Bowerman. He was also a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. Tom earned a B.S. Degree in Chemistry in 1952 and stayed on at the University of Oregon to earn his Doctor of Dental Science degree in 1956.

It was at the University of Oregon that he met his wife of 57 years, Dorothy Lee Carr. After dental school, he served as a Captain in the army for three years at Fort Lewis, Washington. He then moved his growing family to California, settling in Livermore in 1962 where he established his dental practice and raised his five children. Tom was dedicated to practicing dentistry and enjoyed working with his patients. He was also a long time member

of the Livermore Rotary, Elks and Livermore-Granada Boosters clubs participating in many local community improvement projects.

After retiring from dentistry in 1985, Tom spent his time fly-fishing, golfing, gardening, bowling, and taking many trips with Dorothy to their vacation home in Sunriver, Oregon. He loved the outdoors and recalled as a child "seeing so many ducks and geese on Klamath and Tule lakes that when they took flight it looked like the whole lake was rising up out of the earth."

Tom is survived by his wife, Dorothy; sister Nancy Closs of Baytown, TX; children Sheryl Howser (Dave King) of Livermore, Stan Edwards of Livermore, Greg Edwards (Kathy) of Gaithersburg MD, Sally Bannon (John) of San Rafael CA, and Shirley Digness (Ken) of Eagle Point OR; grandchildren Nick Howser, Travis Howser, Jennifer Edwards, Brandon Edwards, Kip Edwards, Jack Bannon, Madeleine Bannon, Michelle Musso, Anna Musso; nephews and nieces Matt Closs, Mona K. Bonds, Dan Carl, Nancy Fisher; and great grandchild Jady N. Enriquez. Nephew, Mark Closs, preceded him in death.

Tom is dearly missed and fondly remembered as an especially devoted husband, brother, father and good friend, as well as an accomplished, yet humble man of great integrity. A private family service will be held at a yet to be determined date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Livermore Rotary Club.

Esther Iddings McMillin

Esther was born on March 21, 1927 in Petaluma, Ca. and passed away in her sleep on August 5, 2009, after a brief illness. She was 82 years old.

Esther graduated in the final class of Army Nurse Cadets from the program at St. John's Hospital in Oakland, CA just before the end of World War II. This was her service to her country, in the military. Esther was a Registered Nurse for over 40 years, and was keenly aware of children's issues. As an RN, she worked with children in Juvenile Hall for the county, and in migrant farm workers camps in the Central Valley, over the course of her long career.

She was also a member of the Sierra Club for decades, and interested in preserving the wilderness for future generations. She enjoyed Yosemite in particular.

Esther met her first husband, Glen, on a blind date, though not

each other's date. Soon they married, and began a family, having 4 children. A couple years after the accidental death of Glen, Esther met and married her second husband, "Mac," who came with two more children to be raised. These 6 children blessed her with grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her brother Jens J. Henriksen in 1996, husband Glen Iddings in 1969 and her 2nd husband, Warren McMillin in 1999. She is survived by her children, Thomas Iddings of Sunnyvale, CA, Patricia Iddings Tighe of Walnut Creek, CA, Paul Iddings of Soquel, CA, and Steven Iddings of Snohomish, WA, stepchildren, Colleen McMillin Wilsons of Clovis, CA, Kelly McMillin of Salinas, CA, her sister Eva Henriksen Johnson of Royal Oaks, CA, and 6 grandchildren, with two living close by, Adrian Tighe and Jeremy Tighe.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, Sept. 18, 2009 at 3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore, CA. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the charity of your choice, in the name of Esther Iddings McMillin.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

James Sandstrom

James (Jim) Joseph Sandstrom, 64, formerly of Livermore, died Monday, September 1, 2009 at home in Tracy, California.

Jim was born May 3, 1945, in San Francisco, to Albert and Margaret Sandstrom. He graduated from Mission High School in San Francisco with the class of 1963. He served in the US Army as Tank Commander, while training in Germany. On October 12, 1968, he married Helen Rock. While married they had one son, Jason.

Jim had a passion for finding "good deals," and was very good at locating the deals. He worked at the VA Medical Center in Livermore as the only painter for many years, and was enjoying retirement his last several years. He will be deeply missed by all whose lives he touched.

He is survived by his son: Jason (Krysta) Sandstrom; three grandsons: Joshua, Jonah and Jalen Sandstrom of Oelwein, Iowa; one sister Astrid (Ed) Cox; two nephews: David Cox and Jeffery Cox; one niece: Kari Sandstrom, all of Valley Springs, CA; five great nieces, and special friend Linda Cambra of Livermore, CA.

He was preceded in death by his parents and twin brother, Robert Sandstrom.

Services were held September 16 in Livermore. Inurnment followed at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Colma, CA.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Patricia Ann Rofkahr

Patricia lost her long fought battle with cancer on September 9, 2009. She was born to Harold and Anna Hoffine in Boston, Massachusetts on March 17, 1947.

Pat was the proud daughter of a U. S. Marine, a Jobs Daughter and a member of the Order of Rainbow for Girls. She graduated from Tustin High School, June 16, 1966 and later attended cosmetology school. Patricia married Clifford Rofkahr, a young Marine, in Las Vegas, NV on May 3, 1968. Their first home was Bremerton, WA. When he left the service they returned to northern California. In 1971,

they moved to Livermore, where she was a Foster Mother and day care provider for many children in her home. For years, she was an active league bowler, enjoyed country music, Nascar, football, arts and crafts and many friendships.

Patricia is survived by her husband Clifford Rofkahr of Livermore; parents Harold and Anna Hoffine, brother Karl and his wife Patty of Orange Park, FL; the Pridgen Family of Livermore: daughter Dannielle, husband Ronney, grandchildren Ronney, Brandon, Steven, and Arianna; the Fachner Family of Livermore: daughter Angie, husband Rudi, granddaughters Stephanie Coca and Brady.

Memorial Services will be held Thursday Sept. 17, 2009, with visitation at 10 am and services at 11 am at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore.

Pleasanton Police Dept. Offers The Parent Project Program

The Pleasanton Police Department, in conjunction with Amador Valley Adult and Community Education, will be presenting the national program, "The Parent Project." This program is used to teach parents the skills necessary to change their adolescents' destructive behavior. Skills parents will learn through lecture and practical exercises include the following:

- How to improve school attendance and performance
 - How to prevent the use of alcohol, other drugs and tobacco
 - How to provide effective interventions for out-of-control teens
 - How to recognize and prevent gang involvement
 - How to improve communication between parents and teens
- In addition, parents attending this course form support groups that allow them to build upon their successes after the class ends.

The 11-week program is administered through Amador Valley Adult and Community Education. There is a fee of \$65, which includes all course materials. Classes will meet Tuesdays from 6 to 9 p.m. beginning Sept. 22 and ending Dec. 8. There will be no class Thanksgiving week. All classes will be held at the Pleasanton Police Department, 4833 Bernal Avenue. Attendance is not limited to Pleasanton residents.

To register, call 426-4280. For further information, contact Sgt. Mike Tryphonas at 931-5169 or mtryphonas@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. A class flyer is also available on the Police Department website, www.pleasantonpd.org. Click on the parent project banner.

Emergency Preparedness Fair Set for Sept. 24 in Livermore

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department will host an emergency preparedness fair on Sept. 24 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Carnegie Park.

The event is held in conjunction with the Farmers' Market, Fourth Street between J and K Streets, Livermore.

Fair participants include the Fire Department, Livermore Police Department, Red Cross/Bay Area Chapter, Noah's Wish, Latter Day Saints Church, Dom's Store, ARES/LARK, Boy Scouts of America, LFPD HazMat, Your Safety Place, Masonic Lodge, AlertMed, Animal Medics, Kaiser Permanente and the Alameda County Sheriff's Office (bringing a search and rescue dog).

There is no admission charge for this event.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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LEGAL NOTICES FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES

CONTACT BARBARA @ 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 428231

The following person(s) doing business as: Systems Analysis And Design Group, 5728 Newfields Lane, Dublin Ca 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Pierre Lewald, 5728 Newfields Lane, Dublin Ca 94568

This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on January 1996.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Pierre Lewald

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 18, 2009. Expires August 18, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2568. Publish August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 428186

The following person(s) doing business as: John L. Massage, 703 Debra Street, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): John Allen Lewis, 703 Debra Street, Livermore Ca 94550

This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on July 21, 2009.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/John Allen Lewis

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 18, 2009. Expires August 18, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2569. Publish August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 427761

The following person(s) doing business as: DIVA IN U, 1141 Catalina Dr #135, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Chrysalis Couture, Inc., 1141 Catalina Dr. #135, Livermore CA 94550

This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on August 1, 2005.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Linda Ellis

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 6, 2009. Expires August 6, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2570. Publish August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 428666

The following person(s) doing business as: Jaime Ascencion Dominguez, 2047 Broadmoor Street, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jaime Ascencion Dominguez, 2047 Broadmoor Street, Livermore Ca 94551

This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on August 28, 2009.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Greg Marty

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 28, 2009. Expires August 28, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2574. Publish September 3, 10, 17, 24, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 428531

The following person(s) doing business as: Jaime Ascencion Dominguez, 2047 Broadmoor Street, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Jaime Ascencion Dominguez, 2047 Broadmoor Street, Livermore Ca 94551

This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on August 28, 2009.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Greg Marty

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 28, 2009. Expires August 28, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2574. Publish September 3, 10, 17, 24, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 428590

The following person(s) doing business as: Coast Pass, 1856 Autumn Oak Drive, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Takahiro Niwa, 1856 Autumn Oak Drive, Livermore Ca

This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on August 25, 2009. Expires August 25, 2014.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/John Allen Lewis

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 18, 2009. Expires August 18, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2569. Publish August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 429173

The following person(s) doing business as: S.A.S.S.Y. Dance Armabands, 2795 Vintage Ct., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sydnie Rose Montoya, 2795 Vintage Ct., Livermore Ca 94550

This business is conducted by a General partnership

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Sydnie Rose Montoya and Klaus Montoya

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 11, 2009. Expires September 11, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2579. Publish September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 2009.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Date of Filing Application: July 8, 2009

To Whom It May Concern: The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: EDDIE PAPAS LIVERMORE L-PSHIP

The Applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 2389-2417 1ST ST LIVERMORE, CA 94550-3144

Type of license(s) Applied for: 47 - ON SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 8, 2009. Expires September 8, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2578. Publish September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 428666

The following person(s) doing business as: La Landscape Management, 1217 Arlington Rd., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Greg Marty, 1217 Arlington Road, Livermore Ca 94551

This business is conducted by an individual

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on August 26, 2014.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Greg Marty

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on August 26, 2014.

The Independent Legal No. 2573. Publish September 3, 10, 17, 24, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 428666

The following person(s) doing business as: S.A.S.S.Y. Dance Armabands, 2795 Vintage Ct., Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Sydnie Rose Montoya, 2795 Vintage Ct., Livermore Ca 94550

This business is conducted by a General partnership

Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.

Signature of Registrant: /s:/Sydnie Rose Montoya and Klaus Montoya

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This statement was

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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121) ESTATE/GARAGE/YARD SALES
RAIN OR SHINE! Call Barbara
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130) MISC FOR SALE
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Heavy Duty Electric
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 Good Working Order
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NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

155) NOTICES

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

I Saritha Nampally
 Changed my name from
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 Saritha Nampally with mar-
 riage to Anil Nampally on
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 rent address:
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 Pleasanton, CA 94566

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157) APT/CONDOS/HOUSE/TOWNHOUSE/RENTAL

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REAL ESTATE NEWS AND NOTICES

The Right Condo at the Right Price

By Cher Wollard
 Many homebuyers are attracted to condo living because of affordability and the easy lifestyle.
 Attached homes have declined in price even more than single-family homes over the past few years, making for some great bargains.
 Condominiums, townhomes and even duets generally have small or no yards to maintain. Developments often offer amenities such as pools, spas, gyms, laundry and community rooms.
 First-time homebuyers especially may find living in such a community ideal for their lifestyle.
 Interest rates on mortgages are low, and with the federal \$8,000 tax-credit for first-time homebuyers, real estate is a better value than ever.

But the deadline for taking advantage of that credit is fast approaching. Transaction must close before Dec. 1.

For most buyers, that means they must be in contract by mid-October. In the case of short-sales or when utilizing certain types of loans, even that's too tight a timeline.

So first-time homebuyers are advised to move quickly.

Purchasing a condo or townhouse is much like purchasing a single-family home, but there are a few differences:

- The purchase agreement usually stipulates that sellers inform buyers as to whether the unit is a condominium – meaning it shares areas in common with other homeowners – or is individually owned. Apartment-style units are always condominiums. Townhouses and duets may be condominiums or individually owned.

- Condominiums and many individually owned attached homes are part of homeowners' associations. Those HOAs provide services, such as maintenance of exteriors and common areas, fire insurance for the exteriors of units, and amenities such as pools, laundry facilities and community rooms. To support HOAs, homeowners pay dues, which can amount to hundreds of dollars per month.

The purchase agreement likely requires sellers to provide buyers with a copy of HOA documents, which includes information about homeowners' rights and responsibilities, a financial statement and notice of any pending litigation. A development involved in a lawsuit or where there are low cash reserves can mean huge headaches – and expense – for buyers.

- The purchase agreement may require sellers to deliver HOA documents to the buyers in a timely fashion, but some HOAs move slowly. To obtain the documents, the sellers often must personally sign a request for them. Some HOAs will not release documents without a signed purchase agreement.

- Buyers should check out the development as well as the unit they plan to purchase. Significant deferred maintenance could be a sign of problems down the road. Some homeowners' associations will not allow units to be rented out. Some are bogged down in legal quagmires that could end up costing homeowners – including new buyers – money out of pocket. Some have onerous regulations. Check the fine print.

- Most HOAs have regulations designed to ensure the comfort and safety of residents – rules about noise, parking, pets, etc. But some of those rules may not work for all buyers. Potential buyers should be given a copy of the HOA regulations.

- Most HOAs charge a fee to provide copies of documents. Those fees can run to hundreds of dollars. The seller usually pays those fees, but the purchase agreement should spell out clearly which party is responsible.

- Not all mortgage programs are available for purchase of condominiums and townhouses.

There are currently fewer than 100 attached homes on the Multiple Listing Service for the Tri-Valley. Of those, 26 are in Livermore, 19 in Pleasanton and 42 in Dublin.

Because Dublin approved several townhome and condominium developments over the past decade, the proportion of attached homes compared to single-family homes offered for sale in that community is quite high. More than half of the homes available for purchase in Dublin this week are attached homes.

Pricing on attached homes varies widely. The least expensive unit in the valley is an older one-bedroom, one-bath condo on Murrieta Boulevard in Livermore being sold short at \$78,000. The most expensive unit is a 4,300-sq.-ft. duet in Ruby Hills priced at \$1.599 million.

Attached homes in Livermore top out at \$492,087 for a brand new highly upgraded 3-bedroom, 2-bath townhome. In Pleasanton, the least expensive unit is priced at \$249,000. Condo living in Dublin ranges in prices from \$124,900 to \$769,950.

One year ago, condominiums in Livermore took 9.5 months to go pending; last month that was down to a mere 1.9 months. The median price in August 2008 was \$209,000. The median price in August 2009 was \$120,000. This means the market has responded to lower pricing by moving much faster.

The situation is similar, although less extreme, in both Pleasanton and Dublin.

In Pleasanton, the median pending rate last year was 6.3 months compared to 2.3 months in August; and in Dublin, the figures were 3.6 months (in July 2008, it had been 10 months) vs. 2.5 months.

In contrast, attached homes comprise about 15 percent of available homes in Livermore and Pleasanton.

So we know there are great deals to be had on attached homes and that the market is moving fast.

Making that purchase is another matter.

Mortgages for attached homes are dependent not only on the credit-worthiness of the potential buyer, but also on the condo development itself. For example, FHA, which is a preferred option for many first-time homebuyers, will make loans only in developments it has approved.

In some cases, when buyers make offers, they are competing with investors who are able to purchase with cash. All-cash offers are especially attractive to sellers these days: no mortgage, no appraisal contingency, faster, easier and surer transaction.

None of this is intended to dissuade homebuyers from pursuing the right condo at the right price. But navigating those waters requires help from an expert.

Your Realtor should be able to refer you to a good mortgage specialist to obtain financing, and help you find and purchase a condo, townhouse or duet that meets your needs.

N.A.R. Lobbies Congress to Extend Tax Credit

The National Association of Realtors is urging Congress to extend the popular tax credit for first-time homebuyers for another year. The program is due to expire Dec. 1.

Under the program, thousands of people have been inspired to purchase their first home, which has helped the housing industry begin to rebound over the past year.

N.A.R.'s statement to Congress concludes:
 "The market has improved, but it has not yet fully corrected itself. The credit needs to be extended for an additional period of time and expanded in order to build upon the progress that's been made. Uncertainty about the future of the credit will dampen consumer demand. The best way to assure continued housing activity is to extend and expand the credit and to do that NOW."

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

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Some of the rugged terrain in the new area.

Photo - Scott Hein

165 Acres Added to Mt. Diablo Park

Save Mount Diablo has signed an agreement to purchase a 165-acre property located on the slopes of Mt. Diablo's North Peak.

The land was once owned by the Viera family. Viera-North Peak has been one of Save Mount Diablo's top five priorities for 25 years because of its location, spectacular views and unparalleled resources.

In 1909, the property was appraised at \$413.27. One hundred years later, Save Mount Diablo signed a purchase agreement for \$975,000. A down payment of \$25,000 has been made. The organization has 300 days to raise the remaining \$950,000.

Viera is located on the Eastern slopes of North Peak and crossed by Perkins Canyon. Further down the slopes, a thick band of chaparral (covering half the property) gives way to blue oak woodland with small rocky meadows, then lush creek-side vegetation. Two onsite tributary creeks join the main drainage just east of the parcel before flowing into Marsh Creek.

This is one of the parcels of the Viera family, who once owned 1,045 acres on and around the mountain. In 1995, Anne Homan interviewed Lucy Viera,

then 93 years old, for her book *The Morning Side of Mount Diablo*. Lucy was the youngest of 12 Viera children and eager to share stories of the old days living in the foothills of Mt. Diablo. She claimed that an old Indian used

to live on the property, who paid for all his groceries with gold nuggets.

Seth Adams, Save Mount Diablo's Director of Land Programs, wrote this review of the property after his first visit: "More wild-

flowers than on any property we've bought in a long time and the rocky soils seem to keep the pigs from doing much damage. Many, many globe lilies, huge banks of sticky monkey flowers, lots of little rocky meadows of Ithuriel's spear, Chinese houses, Indian paintbrush, larkspur, pink flowered onion, and more. Birds everywhere, plus lots of lizards. Many rocky ridges in every direction with landslides of rock from North Peak above, all covered in vegetation. Lots of trees: juniper, buckeyes just starting to bloom,

sycamores and big leaf maples. Imagine the Falls Trail area on North Peak without the trail. It would be a great place to build a narrow trail allowing access from

Morgan Territory Road and the State Park up to North Peak. All this and we've only hiked a small part of it so far. It's absolutely essential that we add this property to Mt. Diablo State Park!"

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page 6



page 3



page 6



page 2



page 2

A variety of performances and activities are available in the Valley. Top photo (left) are Abbott and Costello (aka Jerry Thorne and Chuck Deckert) who present a live radio show from the Museum on Main featuring the comedic sketch, Who's On First, as part of Hollywood in Pleasanton (go to page 6). Upper photo (right) is Chanticleer, who will bring their orchestra of voices to the Bankhead Theater (see page 3). Middle photo is the Pacific Chamber Symphony, who will open their season at the Bankhead Theater (see page 6). Lower photo (left) is the Alexander String Quartet, who will open the Del Valle Fine Arts Season at the Bankhead Theater (see page 2). Lower photo (right) Jennifer Hughes answers the phone in the Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre's production of "Wait Until Dark," opening this weekend in Pleasanton (see page 2).



Alexander String Quartet (above) and June Oh (at right) will perform in Livermore.

Quartet Plans Varied Program

Del Valle Fine Arts opens its 2009-2010 concert season by presenting The Alexander String Quartet on Saturday September 26 at 8:00 pm at the Bankhead Theater.

The program will consist of the Mozart Quartet in F Major, KV 168; the Schumann Piano Quintet in E-flat Major, Op. 44 and the Elgar Piano Quintet in A Minor, Op. 84 with pianist, June Oh.

The Quartet has performed in the major music capitals of four continents, securing its standing among the world's premier ensembles. Widely admired for its interpretations of Beethoven, Mozart, and Shostakovich, the Quartet has also established itself as an important advocate of new music through over 25 commissions and numerous premiere performances. The Quartet is a major artistic presence in its home base of San Francisco, serving there as directors of the Morrison Chamber Music Center at the School of Music and Dance in the College of Creative Arts at San Francisco State University and Ensemble in

Residence of San Francisco Performances.

The Quartet has appeared at Lincoln Center and the Metropolitan Museum in New York City; Jordan Hall in Boston; the Library of Congress and Dumbarton Oaks in Washington. Recent overseas tours have brought them to the U.K., the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, France, Greece, the Republic of Georgia, Argentina, and the Philippines. The Alexander String Quartet's 25th anniversary was also the 20th anniversary of its association with New York City's Baruch College as Ensemble in Residence. This landmark was celebrated through a performance by the ensemble of the Shostakovich string quartet cycle at Engelman Recital Hall in the Baruch Performing Art Center in April 2006. Of these performances, *The New York Times* wrote, "The intimacy of the music came through with enhanced power and poignancy in the Alexander quartet's vibrant, probing, assured and aptly volatile performances. ... Seldom have



these anguished, playful, ironic, and masterly works seemed so profoundly personal." They will be joined by the noted pianist June Oh, a founding member of the Tilden Trio and a faculty member at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and at Dominican University of California.

Tickets are \$30-\$25-\$20 and students through high school are free. Day of concert tickets for college students are \$10. Tickets may be purchased at the Bankhead box office (925-373-6800) or online at www.performingsarts.org.



Photo - Eric Wood

Jennifer Hughes as Susy Hendrix.

Studio Theatre Opens with Mystery-Thriller

The Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre will open its 2009-2010 season with "Wait Until Dark" at the Studio Theatre in Pleasanton.

Performances are weekends September 18 to October 11.

The plot involves a sinister con man and two ex-convicts who are about to meet their match. They have traced the location of a mysterious doll (with several grams of heroin sewn inside), which they are much interested in, to the Greenwich Village apartment of Sam Hendrix and his blind wife, Susy.

The con man and his ex-convicts, through a cleverly constructed deception, convince Susy that the police have implicated Sam in the woman's murder. The doll, which she believes is the key to his innocence, is evidence. She refuses to reveal its location when she figures out she is the victim of a bizarre charade. Susy knows the only way to play fair is by her rules, so when darkness falls she turns off all the lights leaving both of them to maneuver in the dark until the game ends.

Harry Roat Jr. & Sr. is played by Dean Creighton; Mike Talman by Ben Ortega, Sgt. Carlino by Christopher Zuniga; Susy Hendrix by Jennifer Hughes; Sam Hendrix by Dustin Battaion; Gloria by Emma Thvedt and the policeman by Kevin Adkins.

Matt Davis is the director; Benjamin Krantz the producer. Davis also is handling set design, while Lisa Denz is the costume designer and Dan Levack the light designer.

Curtain time is 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays.

Tickets are \$25 for adults (18-60), \$22 for seniors (60+), \$20 for juniors (under 18), and \$19 each for groups purchasing 20 or more tickets. Tickets may be purchased on our website at www.trivalleyrep.com or by phone at 925-462 2121 beginning August 31, 2009.

Wait Until Dark is presented with permission from Dramatists Play Service.

Grammy Award Winning Group to Perform Concert



Chanticleer back in Livermore.

The Grammy Award winning, San Francisco-based, male chorus Chanticleer returns to the Bankhead Theater to open the 2009-2010 LVPAC Presents season on Sunday, September 20 at 3pm.

The group appeared during the Bankhead's inaugural season and was an instant success with Livermore's classical music audience. In addition to the upcoming September performance, the group will return to the Bankhead

on December 23rd for a special performance of "A Chanticleer Christmas" a beloved San Francisco Bay tradition making its first visit to Livermore.

In their new September 20th program "In time of..." Chanticleer reflects on the most profound experiences that touch all of us - love and loss, war and peace - letting some of the repertoire's most beautiful music by Janequin, Palestrina, Sametz, Gershwin, Mc-

Glynn, Bates and others, old and new, give us inspiration and restore our optimism. Notable, in this program, is the interplay between works composed as early as 1450 with works from living composers that have been commissioned by Chanticleer and showcase the group's amazing vocal dexterity and complex sound.

Over its three decades, Chanticleer has developed a reputation for its vivid interpretations of vocal literature, from Renaissance to jazz, and from gospel to venture-some new music. With its seamless blend of twelve male voices, ranging from countertenor to bass, the ensemble has earned international renown as "an orchestra of voices" and was recently inducted into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame in Cincinnati.

Named for the "clear-singing" rooster in Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Chanticleer was founded in 1978 by tenor Louis Botto, who sang with the group until 1989 and served as Artistic Director until his death in 1997. In 1999, Christine Bullin joined Chanticleer as President & General Director. Music Director Joseph Jennings joined the ensemble as a countertenor in 1983, and shortly thereafter assumed his current title. A prolific composer and arranger, Jennings has provided the group with some of its most popular repertoire, most notably spirituals, gospel music, and jazz standards.

Called "the world's reigning male chorus," by the New Yorker magazine, Chanticleer performs

more than 100 concerts each season. Praised by the San Francisco Chronicle for their "tonal luxuriance and crisply etched clarity," Chanticleer tours throughout the United States, including appearances at the Walt Disney Concert Hall under the auspices of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C., and New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

In 2008, the ensemble performed at venues in major European cities: Paris, Luxembourg, Bruges, Vienna, Prague, Budapest, and Vilnius and released *The Mission Road*, a CD and DVD set featuring music from California's

vibrant mission period. In 2007, Chanticleer's newest Christmas CD, *Let It Snow*, was released by Warner Classics and Jazz. *Let It Snow* features the ensemble with the Chanticleer Holiday Orchestra performing such favorites as "Feliz Navidad" and "The Christmas Song." Chanticleer was named the 2008 "Ensemble of the Year" by the editors of the *Musical America International Directory of the Performing Arts*, the first time a vocal ensemble has been so recognized.

Tickets may be purchased at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, at 373-6800 or go to www.livermoreperformingarts.org.




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Economy Jeopardizes Kyle Allen's Future at Kirov Academy of Ballet

By Patricia Koning

For the Allen family, this has been the best and worst of times. Their 14-year-old son Kyle recently began his second year at the prestigious Kirov Academy of Ballet (KAB) in Washington, D.C. After taking gold in both the World Games and Freedom Cup this summer, their 17-year-old daughter Kristin and her partner Michael Rodrigues are the world's best acrobatic gymnastics mixed pair.

The worst part comes closer to home. Tim Allen, Kyle and Kristin's father, lost his lucrative sales job in April. Now the family is struggling. Karen Allen, their mother, had for years worked at a couple of part-time jobs, judging acrobatic gymnastics and teaching at the Revere Academy of Jewelry Arts in San Francisco. Now Karen works a third job as a waitress at the Orinda Country Club.

"My income just keeps us in our house," she said. "It doesn't come near to replacing what Tim made. People might think we are crazy to keep Kyle at the Kirov, but for him this is now or never."

Kyle has a 50% scholarship this year, putting tuition at about \$2,225 a month, which is still out of reach. Bob Taylor, owner of Retzlaff Vineyards and a friend of the Allens, held a neighborhood wine auction and raised over \$1,000 for Kyle. Now Retzlaff is putting up a \$2,500 matching grant to encourage more contributions from the community.

"I want to contribute to this exceptional kid and his dancing," said Bob. "These kids [Kyle and Kristin] are the biggest sports news in Livermore since Max Baer."

KAB was founded in 1990 with the mission of providing the best classical, Vaganova, Kirov style ballet training to the most talented ballet students seeking professional company careers. The school serves students in grades 7 through 12 and offers a high school diploma in addition to ballet training.

Three years ago, the Allens, especially Kyle, would never have expected to be in this situation. Like his sister, Kyle is a national



acrobatic gymnastics champion. He was a member of the USA Gymnastics Acrobatic Junior Olympic Team. In five years of competition, he earned just one silver medal—the rest were gold.

Then, his partner became injured. "Since he wasn't competing, Kyle needed something else to do," explained Karen. "He always enjoyed the dance aspect of acro, so I signed him up for a hip-hop class with Tiffany's Dance Academy."

A once-a-week class wasn't enough for someone used to training 20+ hours each week, so he joined the performing company, which meant instruction in all dance disciplines. If you attended the Tiffany's Dance Academy Nutcracker performance in 2007, Kyle danced the part of the Nutcracker.

His ballet instructor Valentina Elovskaya quickly recognized his potential and suggested he audi-

tion for KAB. "I saw [in Kyle] clear and incredible talent and stage presence that remind me of Nureyev," she wrote in a letter of recommendation.

"When Valentina told my father I had potential in dancing, I thought it was crazy and wanted nothing to do with it," Kyle explained in a letter. "Regardless of my narrow-mindedness, she pushed me to audition for the Kirov's summer program. Not seeing any chance of my acceptance, I said I would attend if accepted."

Six months later, Kyle was in Washington, D.C. attending the KAB summer intensive program. "I thought it would be a good opportunity for him, to spend the summer in DC and meet people from all over the world," said Karen. "I was blown away by how well he did."

Karen and Tim were further blown away when Kyle was invited to attend KAB's year-long program on a 25% scholarship. The decision to send him was difficult, but one they have not regretted.

"He grew up a lot, but he didn't change who he was," said Tim. "He was all of Kyle, and then more. He learned so much responsibility and discipline, things that as a parent

you want your child to learn."

Since they were new to ballet, to a large extent the Allens relied on the opinions of others, such as Valentina, who said Kyle was good enough and that KAB would be good for him. "That first year, we sent him on faith," said Karen. "However, this year, he earned it. He did everything we asked him to do—kept his grades up, managed his money, in addition to the dancing. He really exceeded everyone's expectations."

Kyle wrote that the first year was "amazing, such a new experience. I learned so much. I have developed a passion to perform and it is in my nature to do whatever possible to get on stage. My scholarship for this next year has doubled so I believe I have improved quite a bit. I am sad to say the odds have been against us this past year and although my family is only required to pay half the tuition, we still cannot afford it."

Rather than attend a summer intensive program at KAB or elsewhere as did other students in his program, Kyle came home to Livermore for the summer. He worked at Retzlaff and taught ballet at Pleasanton's Spark Dance Studio to earn money for the coming school year.

The Allens covered the first month's tuition through a \$2,500 interest-free Student Education Loan Fund (SELF). Finding loans and grants for a high school student has proven difficult; the majority of such programs are directed at college students. "We are open to any suggestions anyone has," said Karen. "We're just trying to put this together piece by piece." The Allens also remain optimistic that their financial predicament will be temporary.

The last word on Kyle goes to his big sister. "He's an incredible dancer. He is hilarious, amazing, and brightens up my life in every way," Kristin wrote on her USA Gymnastics biography page.

For more information on Retzlaff's matching grant, contact Bob Taylor at the winery at retzlaffwinery@gmail.com or 925-447-8941.



Photos show Kyle Allen dancing different roles at the Kirov Academy of Ballet.

Photos - Paolo Galli



Ronn Vigh



Michael Slack



Faith Alpher



Sam Arno

Comedy Uncorked Benefits Open Heart Kitchen

Comedy Uncorked will be back at Retzlaff Vineyards on Fri., Sept. 25 for a second show.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit Open Heart Kitchen.

Featured comedians are Michael Slack, Ronn Vigh, and Sam Arno. Faith Alpher will host the event.

Slack headlines comedy festivals from Florida to Hawaii. He is described as "A very funny human being," by Brian Regan.

Vigh was featured on NBC's Last Comic Standing II. He hosts "The Weekly Show" on VidSF.com.

Arno is a regular at the Original Improv in New York and a member of the Groundlings East.

Alpher, a Livermore resident, is a comedian, actress, radio DJ, mother of three and one-time Jello Pudding kid.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Limited selection of tables and admission for six can be reserved for \$150 each.

Please bring nonbreakable and imperishable food items to the show.

Doors open at 6 p.m. The show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Los Vaqueros Grill will be on-site offering a selection of delicious grilled Mexican specialties with an American twist. Guests are also welcome to bring outside food. Outside alcohol is not permitted. The tasting room will be open to purchase wine by the bottle or glass.

Retzlaff is located at 1356 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore.

Tickets available at www.comedyuncorked.com.

Community Concert Band Performs

The Pleasanton Community Concert Band will be playing at the Pleasanton Farmer's Market on September 19. The downbeat will be at 9:15 AM.

Under the direction of Bob Williams, The Band will play a medley of tunes fit for an outdoor shopping experience. Popular selections made famous over the years will be brought together in a robust, full-bodied blend that releases a pure acoustic sound.

For further information contact Director Bob Williams at 846-5897.



The Pacific Chamber Symphony will open its season performing J.S. Bach's *Orchestral Suites* on Thurs., Sept. 24 at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. The performance begins at 8 p.m. Lawrence Kohl is the Pacific Chamber Symphony's Conductor and Director. The *Orchestra Suites* are considered monumental peaks in the Baroque writing for orchestra, in their use of colors and textures. Tickets at \$38 / \$32 / \$26 / \$7 student may be purchased on-line at livermoreperformingarts.org at the Bankhead Theater or by calling 925.373.6800. For more information about the symphony go to www.pacificchambersymphony.org. The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First St. in downtown Livermore.

Hollywood in Pleasanton Featured This Sunday

Hollywood in Pleasanton is returning to the Museum On Main this year on Sunday, Sept. 20.

In the early 1900s, Pleasanton was one of the places to make movies. With Essanay movie studios in Niles, Pleasanton's quaint downtown worked well for many sets.

The Museum On Main is reenacting four of the thirty plus movies filmed in Pleasanton. Local actors will reenact some of the scenes from the silent movies, *Tom Sawyer*, starring Jack Pickford, *Yellow Dog*, *Gigolo*, and the neighborhood circus scenes from *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, starring Mary Pickford.

The Museum on Main will become a movie theater showcasing the world premier of *It Ain't Hay* with Abbott and Costello. Abbott and Costello (aka Jerry Thorne and Chuck Deckert) will present a live radio show from the Museum featuring their famous comedic sketch, *Who's On First*. Check out the movie theater's showing of some of the more famous silent films before or after watching the reenactments.

Ticket prices are \$10 per person.

Bring a camera to the Red Carpet event beginning at 1:00



Abbott and Costello (aka Jerry Thorne and Chuck Deckert) will present a live radio featuring "Who's on First?"

pm. Immediately following the Red Carpet, the actors will go to their locations and act out scenes from the four selected silent movies until 3:30. Movies will continue to be shown at the museum until 4:00.

There is an opportunity to play a part in a movie. The church on Neal and 2nd was the original church used in the filming of *Tom Sawyer*. The Museum has been invited to film the funeral

scene from the movie on Sunday afternoon. Tom, Huck, and Jim are thought to be dead, when they suddenly show up at their own funeral. Residents are invited to be a part of the church scene. Please wear black, shawls and hats work well, and look appropriately mournful.

Tickets can be purchased at the Museum On Main, 603 Main St., by calling the museum at 462-2766, or at the museum on the day of the event.

Annual Children's Fair This Weekend

Whether for information or entertainment, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's Children's Fair 2009 has something to offer families with all interests. Set for this Saturday, Sept. 19, and Sunday, Sept. 20, this year's Children's Fair will feature new activities as well as popular offerings from past years.

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 little ones. 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 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.

Potbellied pigs, ducks, chickens, goats and rabbits will all be included in the Petting Zoo, which will be open to children for \$3 each. Kids will also be able to go on Pony Rides, which will be available for \$5. These pony rides are hand-led by a trainer around a grassy hill, as opposed to pony rides that only go in a small circle. The animal entertainment will be provided by Tickle Me Pony Parties. All the hand-raised animals live on a ranch and are considered safe for children.

Old favorites returning to Children's Fair, which is in its 14th year, include make-it-and-take-it crafts, an inflatable activity center, carnival games, food booths, information for parents and kids and much more. Also new this year, the Aquatics Center and Sigi's Café will be open for swimming and snacks during the event.

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

Admission is free to Children's Fair, with some activities having a nominal fee. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, and Sunday, Sept. 20. 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 2009:

Saturday, Sept. 19: 10:15 a.m. – I Sit and Stay: A Survival Guide for Kids (and Parents); 11:15 a.m. – Livermore Idol Braden Sweeney; 12 p.m. – Livermore Martial Arts Academy; 12:40 p.m. – Ballet Folkloric; 1:15 p.m. – Curtain-Up Productions; 2 p.m. – Kalaicoil Dancers: Classical Dance of South India; 3:15 p.m. – Story Time with John Weaver

Sunday, Sept. 20: 10:30 a.m. – Hui O'Kalani: Hawaiian Dance; 11:15 a.m. – Mad Science presents Fire & Ice; 12:15 p.m. – Amador Judo & Jujitsu Studio; 1 p.m. – Grupo Folklorico Tlapalli; 2 p.m. – Amador Dance Xtreme; 2:30 p.m. – I Sit and Stay: A Survival Guide for Kids (and Parents); 3:30 p.m. – Livermore Idol Braden Sweeney with Runner-up Jacob Woll



Those who attended last year's even, joined in the dancing.

Jeans & Jewels - a Casual Event

Jeans & Jewels, a fund-raiser for the Tri-Valley Conservancy, is set for Thurs., Oct. 1.

The event is designed for those who enjoy music, dancing, friends and fun in a casual atmosphere. Their second annual Jeans & Jewels party this year includes a Cowboy Hat Contest for "Truly the West," "Over the Top" and "Most Elegant."

Tri-Valley Conservancy (TVC), the only Alameda County Accredited Land Trust.

Dinner will be provided by Beet's Catering. In addition there

will be a live auction featuring experiences such as an airplane ride over the valley taking off from a private runway in the Livermore, private dinner with Karl Wente, private guided tour of Brushy Peak including a catered meal overlooking the valley and many other priceless experiences. Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty will be the guest auctioneer.

After the auction, dancing will end the festivities.

Jeans & Jewels will be held on Thursday, October 1, 6 p.m. at

the Casa Real Event Center, Ruby Hill Winery, 410 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton. Tickets are \$75 per person, includes dinner, dancing, auction and no-host bar. Book in advance by calling 925-449-8706 or go to www.trivalleyconservancy.org (tickets will not be available at the door).

Proceeds of the event benefit Tri-Valley Conservancy, which is celebrating 15 years of service to the Tri-Valley community.

AAUW to Host Annual Membership Tea

The Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch American Association of University Women will hold a Membership Tea from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 26, at the Livermore Main Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Room B. Long-time, new, and potential members are invited to attend the tea and learn about the many activities and interests sponsored by L-P-D AAUW.

Special guests at the tea will be the two outstanding young women who are recipients of the branch's two \$2,500 scholarships, Alexandra Bright and Glenalyn Hunt, both of Pleasanton. Alexandra and Glenalyn will be speaking about their studies and plans for the future.

Alexandra will be a senior at

Sonoma State majoring in Liberal Arts. She has also won two scholarship awards from her sorority, Gamma Phi Beta. As an active member of her sorority, she has worked on a number of philanthropic projects. Alexandra plans to become a teacher.

Glenalyn will be a senior at the University of Southern California majoring in International Relations. Inspired by Greg Mortenson's Three Cups of Tea and her work in an after-school-tutoring program at USC, Glenalyn realized her true passion was about increasing access to education for young girls in developing countries. Upon graduation she hopes to work for a non-governmental organization serving people in need.

These scholarships are given

on a one-time basis in memory of two branch past presidents and educators, Elizabeth Dawson and Jeanne Shaw.

Other special guests will be the ten young women who were selected to attend Tech Trek Camp this summer. Tech Trek is a week-long science camp sponsored by the AAUW for seventh grade girls. The girls, each of whom will be giving a short presentation, are Stephanie Aronson, Hart Middle School; Morgan Brandt, Mendenhall Middle School; Megan Cinquini, Mendenhall Middle School; Generose Cabusao, Junction Middle School; Heather Chandler, Christensen Middle School; Bianca De, Pleasanton Middle School; Karine Lee, Harvest Pak

Middle School; Katie Mikulina, Fallon Middle School; Kelsey Nannini, Christensen Middle School; Niharika Singh, Christensen Middle School.

Eight of the girls attended camp at CSU Sonoma and two attended camp at Stanford University. The L-P-D Branch coordinator for the Tech Trek Program for the past three years has been Vicki Drake. During this time the number of girls sponsored by the L-P-D Branch to attend Tech Trek Camp has increased from two to ten.

Information will also be available about the AAUW Educational Foundation that awards scholarships to post graduate students as well as the Legal Advocacy Fund. AAUW's Educational Founda-

tion is one of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women. In the 2009-10 academic year, AAUW is providing over \$3 million for more than 200 fellowships and grants to women and non-profit organizations. The Legal Advocacy Fund supports plaintiffs with significant cases that have the potential to set precedent and protect others against discrimination in the future.

Representatives of branch interest and activity groups such as bridge, writing, gourmet, and Mah-Jongg will also be available at the tea to provide information about membership. To RSVP, contact Gwen, 846-9136, or Mary, 846-5056. Contact Carol, 484-0839, for membership information.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

ART EXHIBITS

The Wild Vine Gallery featured artist for September is John Beahm. "Pushing the paint with bold color and active brush movement, I strive to convey the subject's spirit while leaving room for the viewer's imagination" is how Beahm describes his work. Wild Vine Art Gallery & Wine Lounge, located at 2187 First St., Livermore.

An art exhibition, "Good Earth," featuring abstract paintings by Alan Mazzetti and landscape photography by Brad Perks will be on display at Deer Ridge Vineyards through October 11. The work will be open for viewing Friday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. An artists' reception and book signing will be held Sun., Sept. 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. Deer Ridge Vineyards is located at 1828 Wetmore Road, Livermore. For more information, call 1-866-561-0838.

Lindsay Wildlife Museum, Butterfly Art. Opens September 19. The Museum's upstairs art gallery will feature the work of water colorist Elizabeth Koval Maffeo from September 19, 2009 thru November 15, 2009. Free with museum admission. For more information contact Connie Loosli at cloosli@wildlife-museum.org. www.wildlife-museum.org. The Museum is located in Walnut Creek.

Wildlife artist Carl Brenders, exhibit opens September 19 at Lindsay Wildlife Museum. An exhibition of the work of the internationally acclaimed wildlife artist Carl Brenders opens for just nine days, September 19 - 27th, 2009. Free with museum admission. Special Event and Reception: Sunday, September 27th 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Carl Brenders will be available to sign and personalize prints, posters, and his most recent book "Pride of Peace." Admission to the event is free; reservations are required. Call or write Pacific Wildlife Galleries (925) 283-5809 / dennissalvo@gmail.com to RSVP. For more information contact Connie Loosli at cloosli@wildlife-museum.org. www.wildlife-museum.org. The Museum is located in Walnut Creek.

Livermore Valley Camera Club, photographic exhibit the month of September at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Information 373-5500.

ArtWalk, Oct. 10 from 11-5 pm, downtown Livermore. Cross between an arts festival and an exhibition, with over 150 artists exhibiting inside boutique shops, restaurants, wine bars, and outside on sidewalks and pocket parks. Live music. Hands-on art. End-of-event celebration with live music and fine art banner auction at the Livermore Valley Plaza. www.artwalklivermore.org 925-447-ARTS.

WINERY EVENTS

Wine release, Charles R Vineyards, Saturday, September 19, award winning 2008 "Sur Lies" Chardonnay. The wine will be paired with cheese. This wine was barreled "sur lies" adding a complexity and slight toasty notes not often found with this varietal. The winery is open from noon to 4:30 p.m. at the end of Greenville Road, at 8195 Crane Ridge Road, in the heart of the Livermore Wine Valley. There is no charge for this event. No reservations are required. Information 925-454-3040.

Cedar Mountain Winery events: Port Seminar and Tasting - September 19, 2 p.m. Winemaker, Earl Ault, will guide you

through how port is made. Taste Ports from Portugal and California. Class limited to 30 people. Advance reservations required. \$10 p/person, \$7 p/club members. Call 373-6636 for reservations. **Evening of Port and Cigars** - September 26, 7 p.m. Cedar Mountain Winery has partnered with Vino Cellars & Accessories to present you with some of the finest port and cigars in the valley. Selection of Cedar Mountain Port and 2-premium cigars, (90 pts.) hand picked by Vino Cellars and Accessories, from downtown Livermore. Music and Hor d'oeuvres will be provided. Tickets are \$35 p/person when purchased before September 22nd; \$40 p/person after September 22nd. Advance reservations required! Please contact Cedar Mountain Tasting Room at (925) 373-6636, or Vino Cellars at (925) 447-8000 for reservations.

Harvest Tour & Tasting Event: Wente Vineyards, behind the scenes look at how estate grown wines are produced; Chef Arthur Wall creates a daily changing menu to highlight produce from the restaurants organic garden. Dates: Sept. 19 and 26, 10 a.m., noon, 2 and 4 p.m. Reservations for the specially offered event are required, and tour space is limited. Reservations can be made by calling 925-456-2305 ext. 4. The tour and tasting is offered at \$20 to the public and \$15 to wine club members. The event will take place at the Wente Vineyards Estate Winery and Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore.

Summer Mini Concert featuring: Red House All Stars, Saturday, September 26, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Food and wine available for purchase. 4948 Tesla Road, Livermore. (925) 449-0458

La Luna Friday, Fri., Oct. 2. Murieta's Well, Livermore, features Spanish-inspired tapas and Murieta's Well wines served on the terrace under the light of the full moon, accompanied by a live musical performance by The Top Secret Band. Tapas and wine service 6:00pm - 7:30pm; music until 9:00pm. \$45 for club and \$55 for public. For reservations, directions, or more information, please call (925) 456-2395 or visit www.murietaswell.com.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

Tuesday Tunes, Livermore Downtown Inc. free, live music to the Flagpole Plaza each and every Tuesday through October 13th. Concerts begin at 5 p.m. Bands to perform on the following schedule: Sept. 22, Damn Neighbors Blues Band; Sept. 29, Groovy Judy; Oct. 6, U Get What U Pay 4. For more information, go to www.livermoredowntown.com or call 925.373.1795.

George Winston, Sat., Sept. 19, 8 p.m. Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents program. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets at http://civicartstickets.org or (925) 931-3444.

Chanticleer, an orchestra of voices, Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center Presents. Sept. 20. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.bankheadtheater.org.

Pacific Chamber Symphony concert, Thurs., Sept. 24, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Tickets available at 925-373-6800, www.bankheadtheater.org.

Alexander String Quartet with June Oh, piano, Sept. 26, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts concert. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.bankheadtheater.org.

Diablo Symphony Orchestra, guest conductor John Kendall Bailey leads an all Mendelssohn concert with violinist Andrew Sords and Voices of Musica Sacra. Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m. Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. \$12, \$18, \$20. 943-7469, www.lesherartscenter.org, www.diablosymphony.org.

Sunol Jazz Café, 11986 Main Street, Sunol (925) 862-2800: Organic local farm produce sold Tuesdays and Sundays. Ballroom dancing with Dixie Sounds 2nd and 4th Tuesdays; ballroom dancing with Big Band Sound 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (\$5 suggested donation for band); dinner buffet available. Downtown Blues Band plays Aug. 28. Sunday brunch and Jazz Music - full breakfast fare / made-to-order omelets and BBQ.

presented by Livermore Rotary Club, Fri., Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m. Our Saviour Lutheran Church, 1385 South Livermore Ave., Livermore. www.oslm.net. Tickets are \$20 general, \$15 students available at www.BrownPaperTickets.com/event/79681.

ON THE STAGE

On the Town, Leonard Bernstein musical about three sailors on shore leave. Diablo Theatre Company (formerly Diablo Light Opera Company). Performances 8 p.m. Sept. 17, 18, 19; 2 p.m. Sept. 19, 20, 26, 27. (\$29-\$42). Leshner Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. 943-7469. www.lesherartscenter.org.

Manon, Opera San Jose, eight performances of work by French composer Jules Massenet. Sept. 12-27, California Theatre, 345 South First St., San Jose. In French with English supertitles. \$51-\$91. 408-437-4450 or www.operasj.org.

Speed-the-Plow, Role Players Ensemble Black Box Production, Sept. 18, 19, 25 and 26, 8 p.m. Diablo Actors Ensemble Theatre, Walnut Creek. Tickets at \$12 will be on sale at the door. Space is limited. Reservations may be made by calling 820-1278.

Wait Until Dark, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre Studio Theatre production. Sept. 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, Oct. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11. 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton. Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m. Sun. 2 p.m. Ticket information 462-2121 or www.trivalleyrep.com.

Sullivan and Gilbert, a play with music by Ken Ludwig, Sept. 25-Oct. 11; Thurs., Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. The Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 North Third Street, Hayward. Tickets adults \$25, seniors \$22, students \$15. www.dmtonline.org.

A Taste of Opera, Livermore Civic Center Library, Sat., Oct. 3, 3 p.m. 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Arias from Livermore Valley Opera's upcoming operas will be performed, featuring tenor Mathew Edwardsen and Soprano Jillian Boye who will appear in the roles of Turiddu and Lola respectively in Cavalleria Rusticana. This is a non-ticketed event, and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

COMEDY

Comedy Uncorked, Fri., Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m. Retzlaff Vineyards, 1356 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Featuring Michael Slack, Ronn Vigh, Sam Arno and Faith Alpher. Portion of proceeds go to Open Heart Kitchen. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Bring food donations. Doors open 6 p.m. www.comedyuncorked.com.

DANCE

Argentine Tango - Lecture and Demonstration, Sept. 20, Livermore Library, Jurek Mazur and dancers from Academia

de Tango Argentina trace the roots and history of Argentine tango dance and music. 2 p.m. No admission charge. 1188 So. Livermore Ave. For more information call 925-373-5505 Joyce Nevins.

AUDITIONS/VOLUNTEERS

The Valley Concert Choral will hold auditions for the 2009-2010 concert season by appointment on Monday, September 21, at the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore. The church is located at the corner of 4th and L Streets. The Choral is seeking experienced singers with sight-reading skills who enjoy singing exciting and challenging music. The Choral performs a wide variety of music ranging from classical to contemporary, to folk to jazz. To schedule an appointment, call (925) 462-4205. The 2009-2010 concert season highlights include the music of Gilbert and Sullivan, Saint-Saens' Oratorio de Noel (Christmas Oratorio), Mozart's Requiem at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore, and an entire performance of folk songs from around the world. More information about the Valley Concert Choral is available at www.valleyconcertchorale.org or by calling the general information line at (925) 866-4003.

Cinderella



Cinderella auditions, production of the City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company, in partnership with the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. Auditions Oct. 5 and 6 at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Auditions for adults and teens 12 year and older will take place on Monday, October 5, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Auditions for children 6-11 years will be on Tuesday, October 6, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Audition appointments are required and may be made by via email by submitting the auditioner's name, age, parent's name (if under 18), telephone number and email address to LEbright@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. Appointments will be confirmed via email or phone. Audition packets will be available online after September 15, 2009 at www.pleasantoncivicarts.org, or at Pleasanton Parks and Community Services offices, 200 Old Bernal Modular in Pleasanton from 8:00 am-5:00 pm., weekdays. Cinderella will be presented in the English pantomime style, combining elements of the fairy tale, a musical, and a satire to produce a high-spirited, fanciful review. Rehearsals will take place at the Amador Theater on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from 6:30-9:00 p.m. beginning October 20, 2009. Daytime performances will be at the Amador Theater on December 11-13 and 16-18. Evening performances will take place on December 19 and 20, 2009.

Competition for Young Musicians. Livermore-Amador Symphony Association is taking applications; 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 of the competition is to select

two young musicians who will perform as soloists with the symphony on Feb. 13, 2010. Each winner/soloist will be awarded \$250. The application deadline is Oct. 4, 2009. Completed applications must be accompanied by a \$5 fee and a cassette tape or CD for preliminary screening. Application forms and additional information may be obtained from the symphony's website, www.livamsymph.org or by calling the competition committee at 447-1947.

MOVIES

Outdoor Movie Night, Shadow Cliffs Regional Park. Sat., Sept. 26, 7 p.m. showing "Back to the Future." Free. Bring warm clothes, flashlight and a blanket or chair to sit on. Purchase snacks or bring own. No pets. 510-530-8241 or www.ebparks.org.

CHORAL

Harmony Fusion Chorus, Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets at http://civicartstickets.org or (925) 931-3444.

MISCELLANEOUS

History Lecture, presented by Pleasanton Museum on Main Ed Kinney Lecture Series, Thurs., Sept. 17, 7 p.m. "Lights, Camera, Action," the film industry in Pleasanton and Niles talk by D. Kiehn. Lynewood Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. \$10 nonmembers, \$5 museum members. Reservations suggested. 462-2766.

Oktoberfest Family Festival. Saturday, September 19, St. Charles Borromeo. Featuring Tony Raymann's Edelweiss Band. The band will play from 5:00-9:00 p.m. Festival begins at 2:00 p.m. with family games. Food will be available for purchase from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Advanced purchase is required for the German Bratwurst and Sauerkraut dinner, which will be served from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Dinner tickets may be purchase until Wednesday, September 16 by calling St. Charles Borromeo at 447-4549 x 103. Dinner tickets are \$15 and a children's hot dog meal is available for \$5. St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Avenue, near the corner of Concannon Blvd. and Holmes Street, in Livermore.

Fiddlers' Jam, Sat., Sept. 19, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the main street of Fiddletown. Free event. Day includes fiddle music, food, craft vendors and a fiddlers' contest with cash prizes. Free shuttle. Directions or information, go to www.fiddletownca.org.

Day on the Glen, Emerald Glen Park, Dublin, Sept. 19 and 20. Carnival rides, jump houses, magicians, clowns, and animals. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. (925) 556-4500.

Children's Fair, Sept. 19 and 20, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Free admission. Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, 373-5700.

The "Lights, Camera, Pleasanton," exhibit Museum On Main Street, 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. Reception from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, September 23. No reservations are needed nor is there a charge to attend the reception. The exhibit showcases the history of moviemaking in Pleasanton. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m. www.museumonmain.org

Writers on the Edge Café, A social gathering that centers around literature and its creation. Thursday, September 24. Writers and lovers of literature are invited to drop in anytime between 7:00 and 9:00 PM at Livermore's Literary Arts Center,

O'Neill Festival Set in Danville

4th Street Studio, 2235 Fourth Street, for lively discussions on the art and craft of writing.

Dan Winters, photographer, will talk about his early influences and interest in film and photography on his path to becoming an editorial photographer. He will also discuss his first book: *Dan Winters: Periodical Photographs*. Thurs., Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m. at the Livermore Library. For more information call 925-373-5505 or e-mail Joyce Nevins.

Friends of the Pleasanton Library Fall Book Sale, Sept. 25-27 at the library in the meeting room. Friday, Sept. 25, sale will run from 6 to 9 p.m. for members of Friends of the Library. Memberships will be available at the door. The sale is open to everyone on Sat., Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sun., Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For book sale or volunteer information, call Nancy Bering at 462-4368.

14th annual Airport Open House, Saturday, September 26, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Livermore Municipal Airport. Free. Features exhibits, food, entertainment, and a fabulous static display of Livermore based aircraft. Visitors to open house will be able to meet representatives of local flight schools, clubs and organizations. The US Coast Guard Air Rescue team will perform a simulated rescue. Members of the "Henry's Model A's" and the Tri-Valley Classic Car Club will be there as well.

Quilting in the Garden, Sept. 26 and 27, Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. Quilts, local artists as well as featured artist Laura Wasilowski. Classes begin on Thursday. 447-0280.

Nostalgia Day Car Show, 20th car show staged by Altamont Cruisers, Sept. 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in downtown Livermore. Muscle cars, street rods, custom and classic cars on display. Fund-raiser for local organizations that promote the Tri-Valley youth, help strengthen their families and help keep kids off drugs. Free admission. Food booths and vendors of every type on hand. Information at altamontcruisers.org.

Wedding Faire Experience, Sun., Sept. 27, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. \$6 in advance, \$9 at the door. www.LivermoreDowntown.com. 373-1795.

Jeans & Jewels, Thurs., Oct. 1. night of music and dancing hosted by Tri-Valley Conservancy. Fund-raising event designed for those who enjoy music, dancing, friends and fun in a casual atmosphere. Live auction. Event 6 p.m. Casa

Real Event Center, Ruby Hill Winery, 410 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. Tickets \$75 per person at 449-8706 or go to www.trivalleyconservancy.org.



Bill Sala & Friends, Open Studio will be Sept. 26 and 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days at 17628 Vineyard Rd., Castro Valley. Nine artists will be showing. Meet the artists and purchase from them directly. Barbara Stanton will be demonstrating miniature oil painting both days. Big Al Lopez will be drawing caricatures. The other artists besides Bill Sala (surrealist) are Doug Desmond, (pen & ink, etchings, fantasy), Ron Norman (colored and graphite pencil, landscape & still life), Jason Griego (figurative, fantasy sculpture), Ruth Hussey (pastel still life, figurative), Mark Mertens (pastel, landscape) & Bill Weber (surrealist). For more information, call Bill Sala (510) 537-8566 or Ron Norman (925) 674-1261

The 2009 O'Neill Festival will take place in Danville Sept. 24 to 27.

The Eugene O'Neill Foundation, in conjunction with the National Park Service will present several free events and three performances of a play on O'Neillian themes.

The *Designated Mourner* by Wallace Shawn has been chosen for the mainstage production at the 10th annual Eugene O'Neill Festival on September 25, 26, and 27. Theater and television director Michael Uppendahl, (*MAD MEN*) with actors from his Namaste Theater Company of Los Angeles, will bring this show to the Old Barn at Tao House. William Davies King, an O'Neill expert and a guest speaker at the Festival, has written a book on Shawn entitled *Writing Wrongs: The Work of Wallace Shawn*. King sees Shawn as a major figure in contemporary theater, known for his plays, *Aunt Dan and Lemon* and *My Dinner With Andre*, as well as for his performances on stage and in film.

This is a harsh, yet poetic, play about the pursuit of beauty in brutal times—certainly O'Neillian in that theme. Anna Christie, *The Iceman Cometh*, *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, and *Long Day's Journey into Night* all include characters, like the family members in *The Designated Mourner*, that are searching for some relevance in their lives—longing to find some kind of permanent meaning. Shawn's play, though, is also laced with subtle humor and certain evocative phrases like "the colors in the park were quite edible."

The Designated Mourner is a play about a woman who is torn between her scholarly father and her worldly husband, Jack, in a time when political violence is forcing many to take sides. While the government is using the threat of a revolt by the underclass to set up a brutal police state, this family lives in a circle of artists and academics. Jack, suffering extreme emotional distress, becomes obsessed with taking sides between the upper class, of which he is a part, and the downtrodden. Again in looking at shades of O'Neill in Shawn's play, internal struggles and family battles are at the essence of both men's work.

Jack, however, is a survivor, not a hero. He'd prefer to remember that there once was something called "art" rather than fight to keep it alive. It's easy to see *The Designated Mourner* as a cautionary tale: in a world where pop culture is becoming increasingly anti-intellectual, who will preserve art?

Performances are in the Old Barn at Eugene O'Neill National

Historic Site, Tao House. There will be limited seating for only three performances: Fri., Sept. 25 and Sat., Sept. 26 at 7:30 p.m. and Sun., Sept. 27 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$30. To purchase tickets by phone, please call 925-820-1818.

WOMEN IN O'NEILL'S LIFE
An afternoon forum is planned on the theme of "The Women in O'Neill's Life." The free program will be held at the Danville Town Meeting Hall, 201 Front Street, Saturday, September 26, at 1:00 p.m. The program will begin with a staged reading of "Always, Gene" A One-Act Play by Dr. Beth Wynstra.

The play is based on the premise that manifestations of five pivotal women from Eugene O'Neill's life are able to meet somewhere long after his death. The five women compare notes, joke, and argue with and about each other as they reflect upon, describe and defend their roles in the complex relationship each had with O'Neill. The women are: Beatrice Ashe, his first love, and object of rapturous, intimate and passionate letters; Louise Bryant, his lover in Provincetown, whom he shared with his friend, Jack Reed; Agnes Boulton, his second wife, to whom he was married as his star began to rise, also the mother of two of his children; Carlotta Monterey, his third wife, with whom he built Tao House in Danville, and under whose protection or control, depending on how you look at it, he wrote his last great masterpieces; and Ella Quinlan O'Neill, his mother.

The five women who appear in the play will be played by Sharon Sprecher, Sarah Kate Anderson, Kerry Wieder, Susan Jackson, and Elinor Bell. Robin Taylor will direct.

The staged reading will be followed at 2:00 p.m. by a panel consisting of Michael Uppendahl,

who will be directing the mainstage production for the Festival, "The Designated Mourner," by Wallace Shawn, and Davies King, author of two books about Agnes Boulton, O'Neill's second wife. They will share their insights about the women in O'Neill's life.

Dan Cawthon, professor emeritus from St. Mary's College, will present an overview of Eugene O'Neill and his impact on the American theatre. The talk will be held at the Danville Town Meeting Hall, 201 Front Street on Thursday, September 24 at 7:00 PM. Admission is free.

TAO HOUSE TOURS

The Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site will be open for tours during the Festival. The schedule is as follows: On Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday, advance reservations are required and can be made by calling the National Park Service at 925-838-0249 for a tour. Choice of start time for these reserved tours: is 10:00 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

On Saturday, the 26th, a special schedule is in effect. Shorter tours of the house are available with no advance reservation necessary. To take a Saturday tour, board a park van waiting at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley (205 Railroad Ave.) at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. No reservations are needed on these Saturdays this summer. If you are planning to bring a large group, please contact the park at (925) 838-0249.

WALKING TOUR

Take a walking tour of downtown Danville, including a look at the O'Neill Commemorative in Front Street Park. The tour is led by an experienced docent. Meet at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley. Saturday, September 26, 10:00 AM. Cost is \$3.

Information on all events is available at the website www.tao-house@eugeneoneill.org.

Photos, Banjo Music Highlight Annual Guild Dinner

The Livermore Heritage Guild's 36th annual dinner will be held on Sat., Sept. 26 at the Duarte Garage on the old Lincoln Highway, corner of Portola and L Street, Livermore.

The evening's musical entertainment will start off at 5:30 p.m. with the Valley Banjo Band. Dinner and dessert will follow. Susan Dopking Canfield will present photos from Elliott Dopking's collection, "Old Livermore, Then and Now."

Dinner will be served starting at 6 p.m. It will be catered by Kinder Deli. The barbecue menu includes beef or chicken, baked beans, four types of salads and dessert.

Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$10 for children age 10 and under. There will be no host wine and soft drinks. Dress is casual, western wear is encouraged.

Tickets are available in advance at the Carnegie Building, 3rd and J Streets, Livermore. The building is open Wed.-Sun. 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Thursdays until 8 p.m. For information, call 449-9927.

Day on the Glen Offers an Animal Adventure

It's a jungle out there and it will be a true Animal Adventure at this year's Day on the Glen Festival.

The event will be held at Emerald Glen Park on Saturday/Sunday, September 19 & 20 from 10am to 5pm both days.

The event goes way beyond the traditional Petting Zoo so that attendees of all ages can get up close and personal with a variety of interesting, fun, furry, and even feathered critters. Visitors can learn all about reptiles (with Python Ron) leopards, cheetahs, cougars, and lynx (with Wildlife Conservation Fund), grasshoppers and butterflies (with Sandi & Steve and the Insects), and "pet" a potbelly pig, a llama, or iguana at the Petting Zoo.

On Saturday afternoon at 3pm, Rock Replica will be playing a collection of all your favorite tunes from the 80's. Other Main Stage entertainment includes Cotton Candy Express

What Were YOU Doing Two Weekends Ago?

Harvest Celebration in the Park Attracts A Crowd

By Laura Ness

Holding a Harvest Wine Celebration during grape harvest makes a lot of sense on the face of it. The problem with early September around here is that it's usually hotter than the vinyl seats in a 1972 Impala left sitting in the summer sun. Trust me, I know what that peels, I mean, *feels*, like. A bit of that steamy nostalgia crept back during my visit to Robertson Park on Labor Day for the 28th annual Harvest Wine Celebration: part of it was from the heat that naturally builds up under tents in direct sunlight, and the other, more fun part was seeing the sun gleaming on the perfectly purple and masterfully muscled lines of the 1965 Plymouth Barracuda parked outside the Cuda Ridge table at the Swirl Tent. Wow! Talk about a vivid picture, and the excellent low alcohol (12.5% — hooray!!) Cuda Ridge wines became a part of it. For some of the other wines poured in that tent, the picture is far less crisp.

Mixing things up can often breathe new life into long-standing events. Sometimes it can also blow them a bit off course. Finding that right mix of wind in the sails is not just a dilemma for those who take boats to water, but for event planners as well.

And so it was that a Harvest Village was created in Robertson Park. Full disclosure: I attended on Monday, when the parking was easy, there were no lines to enter the event, food vendors stood around waiting for customers, and crowds were minimal around most of the winery tables. Sunday, apparently, was a different story, with much congestion and frustratingly long lines for everything. The commonality between the two days was the overall impression that the wines being poured were far too warm to be properly enjoyed.

Give the Winegrowers Association an A for ambition, with all the entertainment, ample assortment of food vendors (loved Gimanelli's bread sticks) and people selling everything from baby clothes (Funzies) to photo cards (Phil Long Photo) to custom storage sheds made of recycled materials (Green Sheds). Some truly pretty painted glassware from JJS Designs would perk up any parlor or picnic table, and anyone could make grocery shopping a stylish event with Girls Go Green bags and totes. My



Wine tasting at the festival.

chimes were ringing when I tasted the crushed garlic and fresh lemon olive oils from Olivas di Morgan: the lemon is the ticket for summer salads. Go get some at the store at 2339 First Street in Livermore. The bottles are refillable: now there's a great idea that's even catching on with some winemakers, most notably Eckert and Page Mill. A trend to be emulated.

What cannot be emulated, though, are the lip-smackingly racy mustards put out by Candice Dixon of Les Chenes Winery. These saucy sensations were selling almost as rapidly as bottled water. The Cognac with Pepper and the Tequila mustards were particularly potent with the winery's Syrah.

Such a plethora of non-wine items is uncommon at a wine festival, but it seemed as if there might have been something for almost everyone at the event, from a vast assortment of food for purchase, to jewelry a-plenty at every point in the price spectrum. Mango Glass had adorable glass fish pendants, Michelle's Jewelry Box was good eye candy, Silver Productions Jewelry had class, and those sequined "Group Therapy" depicting champagne flutes and wine glasses, were everywhere.

Two bands were battling it out at Robertson Park, just far enough from each other to avoid notes duk-

ing it out in the breezy air. Georgia and the Rough Week reminded us it was only Monday, while Lane Coker and Big Delta reminded us it was probably Friday somewhere.

Ok, what about the wine, you ask? Right. The wine. Two things: there are intelligent people who understand how to store and serve wine under these circumstances, and then there are the not so savvy people who think it's another day at the air-conditioned office, and proceed to pour both white and red wines at "room temperature," which at this point was 82 degrees.

People, ice is not the enemy. Ice is your friend. Put ALL your wine on ice when the temperature is above 72 outside, especially when you are pouring in a tent under God's Very Large Solar Array. Let me also impart this wee bit of advice: ill-made wine can occasionally be chilled into nearly drinkable submission. Ill-made wine at "room temperature" exacerbates its flaws to the point of undrinkability.

Kudos to Dr. Aguirre and his staff for keeping all their wines in the cooler, enabling guests to really appreciate the sassiness of the 06 Cabernet, the lush roundness of the 05 Merlot Reserva and the milk chocolaty mid-palate of the Tempranillo.

From the fair number of subpar

wines, many from newer wineries, it appears some winemakers are getting "deals" on grapes from Lodi. Unless you're working with a first-class grower who knows something about balance, the wines are never going to be anything but unremarkable. The notable exceptions are Mike Eckert and Thomas Coyne who clearly have a handle on Lodi fruit and do well by it. For the new kids in the cellar, it would be best to buy Livermore fruit from experienced

growers, so you start with decent fruit. Just when I was getting real tired of the statement: "Good wine begins in the vineyard," it once more bears repeating.

Voting by texting was another of the new things introduced at this Celebration. According to Chris Chandler of the Winegrower's Association, guests submitted a total of 1552 votes, which were collected by NuAlerts, a social media communication tool. The Top Five vote getters, in alpha order, were: Concannon Vineyard, el Sol Winery, Ryhan Estate Vineyards, Tenuta Vineyards, and Thomas Coyne Winery.

The Livermore Valley wine country gift basket was awarded via random drawing to Jane Randolph of Livermore, whose comments were, "It was a big deal for me to text to vote since I don't even have a plan." She voted for Steven Kent Winery, which actually was not one of the top 5 winners and had this to say about why she voted for them, "About 10 years ago I walked into Steven Kent winery and they had the best Cabernet I had ever tasted and I still feel that way."

Perhaps the highlight of the day was sampling the freshly picked grapes that Eagle Ridge brought from their vineyard. The Cabernet was peppery and sassy, the Petite Sirah, bold and plush and the Zinfandel, a bursting berry bomb.

It bodes well for a fine harvest in 2009.

Saturday Salon Open to All

4th Street Studio Saturday Salon invites writers to read and listeners to listen on Saturday, September 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Everyone will have up to 10 minutes to share.

4th Street Studio celebrates literary artists—writers who are dedicated to the art and craft of writing. Saturday Salons provide a unique venue — an opportunity for writers to read their work and hear how it sounds as spoken word, and for everyone to listen to what writers have written. All literary forms are welcome: fiction, literary non-fiction, memoir, poetry, monologues.

In addition to hosting literary readings, 4th Street Studio publishes an annual anthology of work from writers who attend the Salons. *4th Street Studio's Saturday Salon Literary Harvests 2010*, will be released in November 2009. Release party events will be announced in October.

Bring a nosh and something to drink to share.

Check out 4th Street Studio blog at 4thstreetstudio.wordpress.com. Contact Karen Hogan at 925 456-3100 if you have questions.

4th Street Studio is located at 2235 Fourth Street, in Livermore. Salons are held on the third Saturday of each month at 4th Street Studio, 2235 Fourth Street.

Milestones

Community

Peace Corps Volunteer Seeks Funds

Peace Corps volunteer Nic Dominguez of Pleasanton hopes to make a big difference in Kenya with the help of small donations coming from home.

Using the Peace Corps Partnership Program, Dominguez hopes to raise \$5000 through on-line donations to help fund a business incubation project in Kenya, where he currently serves in the Peace Corps.

Dominguez's project, designed by members of his host community and matched with 25 percent location contributions, will support several income generating activities including fish farming and tree nursery sales.

"This is the most donor and volunteer friendly method of assistance, that I have come across," Dominguez said of the Partnership Program. "Donors can be sure of the credibility of each project and make tax deductible donations. Volunteers have an easy to use platform for promoting their projects and don't have to worry about all their donations going to cover administrative fees. Every dollar will go directly to the volunteer's project. In my case, every dollar will go towards creating a steady income for the villagers of Kilisa, Kenya."

His mother, Suzanne Dominguez is leading his hometown recruitment drive. "I'm working on donations from family, friends, really anyone who will listen," she declared. She will be passing out information on projects at local street fairs and hopes to engage local students in fund-raising.

"I have people go right to the website so money goes straight through the Peace Corps Partnership," she explained.

Currently, 17 Bay Area Peace Corps volunteers are implementing projects that reached full funding through the Partnership Program - from a \$200 reforestation project in Togo to an \$8600 water pump installation in Cameroon.

In order to receive funding, a community must make a minimum 25 percent contribution to the total project cost, as well as outline a project's sustainability.

For information, go to www.peacecorps.gov/contribute.

Edward Moses, the director of the National Ignition Facility at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Riccardo Betti, professor and director of the Fusion Science Center of Extreme States of Matter and Fast Ignition at the University of Rochester, are recipients of the 2009 Edward Teller Medal.

The American Nuclear Society (ANS) presented the awards last Thursday evening at the international conference on Inertial Fusion Science Applications (IFSA) in San Francisco.

Moses was cited for his "leadership in the development and completion of the National Ignition Facility" (NIF). As principal associate director for NIF and Photon Science at Lawrence Livermore (LLNL), Moses is leading an international effort to perform the first ignition experiments on NIF. He joined NIF in 1999 as a laser scientist and program manager of the AV LIS program after working on a number of laser research projects at Hughes Aircraft and LLNL. He led the development of the Peregrine radiation therapy planning tool for the treatment of cancer. He has overseen the construction of NIF, the world's largest and most energetic laser, and is leading the team in gearing up for ignition

experiments in 2010.

Moses is a fellow of SPIE and the American Association for Advancement of Science. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering. He received the 2008 Leadership Award from Fusion Power Associates, the NNSA Defense Programs Award of Excellence, and the Memorial D.S. Rzhdestvensky Medal for lifetime contributions to laser and optical sciences.

Betti was cited for his "seminal contributions to the theory of hydrodynamic instabilities, implosion dynamics and thermonuclear ignition in inertial confinement fusion." A professor at the University of Rochester and director of the Fusion Science Center for Extreme States of Matter, Betti has devised new ignition concepts and theoretical models for inertial fusion implosions and scaling laws for ignition. These scaling laws are the basis for present experiments on the OMEGA laser and future research on NIF.

Betti was elected fellow to the American Physical Society in 2001 and has served on a number of review, advisory and organizing committees. These include vice chair of the DOE Fusion Energy Science Advisory Committee and chair of the Plasma

Science Committee of the National Academies.

Established in 1991, the Edward Teller Medal recognizes pioneering research and leadership in inertial fusion sciences and applications. The award, sponsored by ANS, is normally presented at IFSA during odd-numbered years, and consists of a silver medal embedded in a plaque and a \$2,000 monetary award.

The medal is named in honor of the late Dr. Edward Teller, distinguished physicist, director emeritus of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Senior Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution. Teller is recognized worldwide as a pioneer in inertial



Edward Moses is shown with his award.



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BULLETIN BOARD

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

Jeans and Jewels. Tri-Valley Conservancy's 2nd annual fund-raiser for those who enjoy great food, dancing, friends & fun in a casual atmosphere. Wear your jeans & favorite jewels (real or faux)! Fear your jeans & favorite jewels for "Truly the West" "Over the Top" & "Most Elegant." 6-10 p.m. Oct 1 Casa Real at Ruby Hill Winery, 410 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$75 online www.trivalleyconservancy.org call 925-449-8706. (tickets will not be available at the door)

Dance Clinic. Granada High School Dance Team's Sixth Annual Dance Clinic. Saturday, October 3, 9 am to 12 noon. Open to Grades 3rd - 8th. \$40.00 per person. Go to www.granadadance.com for more information and a registration form.

Bingo, with the Pleasanton Seahawks. Bingo Ranch: Saturday 9/19, 10/3, 10/17 and 10/31. Regular game pays \$175 to \$500. Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Ave. Livermore. Doors open at 4:30 pm. Bingo starts at 6:30 pm. Buy in as little as \$17.00 (must be 18 years old to enter and play).

Cosmic Dog Yoga studio has a new weight loss support group Mondays at 11 am. It is free; the focus is a healthy relationship with your body, food and exercise. More information at www.CosmicDogYoga.com

Bells Across America. The Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will participate in the nationwide commemoration of the 222nd anniversary of the signing of the Constitution by ringing bells on Sept. 17 at 1 p.m. at the Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. This will coincide with the 4 p.m. bell ringing in Philadelphia where the Constitution was written and first read to the public on Sept. 17, 1787. Bring own bells, or use bells available for ringing. Please arrive by 12:45 p.m.

Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group. meets Sept. 22, 10 a.m. at Heritage Estates Retirement Community, second floor conference room, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome. Dr. Naleen Prasad, podiatrist, will be the speaker. Contacts are Lorene Stack, 447-6158, or Ann Laye, 443-4098.

Seminar on the use of Trusts in Planned Giving. September 22, 7 p.m. at the Livermore Public Library, conference room A, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. The topic is: The use of Trusts in Planned Giving. The sponsor of the seminar is the Rotarian Foundation of Livermore. Space is limited, so attendees are requested to call Peter Poulsen at 925-455-0542 for a reservation.

Trips, Dublin Senior Center. Treasure Island Dragon Boat Festival, Sept. 26, 9:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Trip to Treasure Island, boats, live dance and musical performances, arts and crafts. No-host lunch. Resident \$28, nonresident \$32. Ironstone Vineyards, Oct. 10, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Harvest Festival, no-host lunch, \$30 residents, \$35 nonresidents. 556-4511.

Family Flea Market. Croce Elementary School, 5650 Scenic Ave., Livermore. Sat., Oct. 3, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fall Fashions. the latest looks will be featured at Nordstrom in Stoneridge Mall, Pleasanton on Thurs., Sept. 24. The Business and Professional Women of Livermore Valley and Pat Lees of the Personal Touch Department will present the stylish Scholarship Fund-raiser. Money raised helps provide funding for a college re-entry woman from this Valley. The 6 p.m. dinner and fashion show will cost \$35. Reservations should be made by Sept. 20 by calling Mona at 828-3006.

Flea Market. Fraternal Order of Eagles event Sat., Sept. 26. Set-up 6 a.m., closing 4 p.m. 527 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Cost \$20 for a 15'x15' space, \$5 for a table rental. Sign up for space at the Eagles social room, or call 449-6281 or 449-5807. Vendors welcome.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club. Sat., Sept. 19, 56 miles American River trail from Old Town Sacramento, meet 9 a.m. at Discovery Park, Mike Smith, 628-4333. Sun., Sept. 20, 30 miles to Ed Levin Park via Calaveras Reservoir, meet 10 a.m. near the Calaveras Nursery, Gail Blanco, 872-1001.

Wed., Sept. 23, 27 miles ice cream and cookies ride around the straits, meet 10 a.m. at Benecia Bridge, Edith Norby, 707-748-1508. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Flea Market Old / New treasures. Sept. 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Ridge View Commons, 5200 Case Ave., Pleasanton. Free to the public. Old and new merchandise. Jewelry, scarfs, Honey, Flowers, clothes, and many many more we are also selling food Hot dog's Ice cream, chips, soda coffee etc., etc.

Job's Daughters will have an informational booth at the Day on the Glen festival in Dublin, September 19 and 20. Job's Daughters International is an organization for young women from ages 10 to 20. Members learn important skills that benefit them now, as well as in the future - Skills such as leadership, organization, teamwork and self reliance.

Hearing Loss Association of America, Tri-Valley Chapter. meeting, Sept. 17, 7 p.m. Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton. The program will start at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public, are free, and refreshments are served. Tingting Zhou will demonstrate the free telephones and other assistive listening devices provided for hard of hearing people by the California Telephone Access Program. The meeting will be captioned for the benefit of those with extreme hearing loss. Contact Hiram Van Blarigan at hvanblarigan@hotmail.com or Richard Taylor at 925 846 3647.

Fall Meat Sale. Foothill High School Athletic Boosters fund-raiser, September 19 and 20 from 10AM to 5PM both days in the Foothill High School Parking lot. Restaurant quality meats at wholesale prices: USDA inspected choice meats - such as NY steaks, rib eye and filet mignon. Also for sale will be FDA inspected seafood (shrimp, scallops) and chicken. All items for sale are purchased directly from quality wholesale suppliers. Proceeds go to support all of the Foothill Athletic teams for funding uniforms, equipment, and referee/tournament costs. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Foothill parking lot, 4375 Foothill Road, Pleasanton.

Project Read, tutor training and orientation. Oct. 3, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Pleasanton Public Library needs adult volunteers to provide free tutoring to adults who want to improve reading, writing, and English speaking skills. Adults come to the library's literacy program - Project Read - with a variety of goals. They want to learn to read to their children, help their children with homework or get a job. Tutors have flexible hours, volunteer once a week and we supply all materials. Qualifications: at least 18 years of age, average reading and writing skills, interesting in helping another adult, no reaching experience needed. Please call to register for the Project Read orientation. For more information, call Janice Bauman, 931-3411 or email jbaum@ci.pleasanton.ca.us

Beginning Drawing. Saturday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM; 4 sessions starting September 19, 2009, ending October 10, 2009. Class Fee: \$139.00. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. commed@laspositascollege.edu

Beginning Sewing--Introduction to Machine Sewing. Saturday, 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM; 4 sessions starting September 19, 2009, ending October 10, 2009. Class Fee: \$79.00. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. commed@laspositascollege.edu

Scrapbook Crop Event - Fairlands Elementary School, Pleasanton, Saturday, September 19, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Organize those

photos and get them into albums, hang out with friends old and new. Continental breakfast, lunch catered by Sweet Tomatoes, raffles, vendor make & takes & demos. \$40 pp can accommodate first 50 people to sign up. Need to have at least 30 sign ups in order to host this event. Contact Coleen Azuma @ itoazuma@yahoo.com for more information and to sign up.

French Education, a nonprofit organization will make it possible for French speaking and non-French speaking families to come together to promote the French culture/language by offering afterschool programs for children and local cultural events for the community. If you would like to be invited to upcoming events please contact: Merlin myamssi@hotmail.com or (925) 413-2872.

Learn German. Livermore Adult School www.livermoreadulted.org. beginning German, Sept. 17-Dec. 10; continuing beginners, Sept. 22-Dec. 15; advanced German, Sept. 23-Dec. 9. (925) 606-4722. Community Education at Las Positas College, (925) 424-1467, Conversational German, Sept. 11-Oct. 9, Oct. 16-Nov. 13. www.laspositascollege.edu/communityed. More info: Carla Peck 925-455-8196

The Foothill High School Choirs are selling the East Bay Entertainment Book now through September 30. This is a school fundraiser. Books cover from Tri-Valley to Oakland, Fremont and Tracy. Cost is \$30. Information at www.foothillfalcons.org/apps/pages.

Sick Around the World, a one hour film exploring single payer healthcare in other civilized nations, will be shown on Saturday, September 19, at 7:00 PM, at the IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. Guest speaker from "healthcare For All Californians," Sue Bergman, will discuss options for and answer questions about single payer healthcare in California. Meet & greet begins at 6:30 PM, refreshments are served, the hall is air conditioned, and wheelchair accessible. This event is open to the public and free; although, \$3.00 donations are encouraged to cover costs. For more information, call 925-462-3459.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., Lunch/optional shopping Livermore, Sept. 23, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by Sept. 21 to Kathy after 5 p.m., 398-8005. Happy hour in Hayward, Sept. 25, 4 p.m., RSVP by Sept. 22 to Margaret, 510-782-1819. Birthday dinner in Pleasanton, Sept. 27, 5 p.m., RSVP by Sept. 24 to Ruby, 462-9636. Annual picnic in Pleasanton, Oct. 17, 2:30 p.m., RSVP by Oct. 12 to Ruby, 462-9636.

Pleasanton VIP Travelers, Tues., Oct. 13, Sausalito, ferry ride from SF, time on own to walk and shop and have lunch. \$43 members, \$45 nonmembers. Senior Center, 3535 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton, 931-5370.

Job Discovery Group, meets Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore. Bring resume (and maybe a few extra copies to pass around), ideas, roadblocks & any resources to share in a supportive & proactive atmosphere of networking at UUCIL. Contact Brent Parry or Maureen Hamm (Brent-Parry@aol.com) / (mhamm33@earthlink.net) for more info.

Dublin Senior Center (DSC) Ride Match Program. Share a ride with a senior. The DSC Ride Match Program aims to facilitate carpooling as an alternative means of transportation. It provides seniors with a means to get to the senior center and back home. The Senior Center Staff will maintain a list of interested drivers and riders. Participants of the program will be able to access the service and find drivers

and/or riders with similar transportation needs. Individuals will be responsible for working out their own arrangements for the carpool. Please call (925) 556-4511, e-mail: seniorctr@ci.dublin.ca.us or pick up a form at the Dublin Senior Center. This program will begin on September 1.

Assistance League of Amador Valley, Pleasanton/Dublin/Livermore to hold an informational gathering for prospective members to introduce prospective members to what volunteers do for the community. Thurs., Sept. 17, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Open House to meet our members and get information about volunteering with Assistance League of Amador Valley. For information, call call Carmen Seropian 925-371-4566 or go to www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org.

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network meets Sept. 21. Will Joel Friedman, who specializes in Presence-centered psychotherapy, will be the guest speaker. He will address relationship issues, anxiety, depression and traumas through cognitive, systems, and mind-body approaches like EMDR. Meetings at Living Vine Fellowship, 4100 First St., Pleasanton. This meeting is free for members, as well as for first time visitors to Tri-Valley HMN. For further information, please visit www.holisticmoms.org or e-mail Tri-ValleyHMN@hotmail.com

Rummage Sale. Iron Horse Mothers Club (IHMC) 3rd Annual IHMC Rummage Sale on Saturday, September 19 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Iron Horse Middle School. All proceeds will benefit the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition (FESCO). Sale is open to the public. Merchandise will include gently used clothes and gear for babies and kids, including: Sizes newborn through 6 (including name brands), strollers, swings, car seats, bouncers, high chairs and more, indoor and outdoor toys, and books, videos and games. For more information about FESCO, visit www.fescfamilyshelter.org.

Hawaiian Beach Party. Fri., Sept. 25 at the Veteran's Hall in downtown Pleasanton. Special guests will be the delegates from Tulancingo, Mexico. Authentic Hawaiian menu, dancing to the live music of Audio Jetz, no host bar. 7:30 p.m. to midnight. Hosted by the Pleasanton-Tulancingo Sister City Association. Everyone is invited. Tickets are \$35 per person. To purchase a ticket, call Frances Hewitt at 487-4748.

Success with Money and Spending, presented by Community Education at Las Positas College. Sat., Sept. 19, 9 a.m. to noon. Fee \$49. Contact 925-424-1467 for more information or register on-line at www.laspositascollege.edu/communityed

Walk for Education. American Swim Academy will host a Walk for Education at Granada High School on Saturday, September 26. All of the proceeds will go to the Livermore Valley Education Foundation. Includes Family Fun Festival with games, prizes, children's entertainment, a live DJ and more. The Livermore Valley Education Foundation (LVEF) is dedicated to restoring and enhancing academic and extracurricular programs within the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. (925) 373-7946 for information or go to LVEF@AmericanSwimAcademy.com Federal Tax ID # 94-3136289. www.americanswimacademy.com/LVEF/

Panama Red Coffee, K St. Block Party is scheduled for Sat. Oct. 3, 10am-2pm. Proceeds will benefit the Tri-Valley Haven. Author Sandra Kay will provide signed copies of her

book, "eat, write & exercise," with 100% proceeds (for sales on this day) going to the Tri-Valley Haven. In addition, a percentage of proceeds from all sales moving forward will be donated.

Bingo, every Sunday, Games 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. \$8 \$250 pay-outs, 1 \$350 payout, & more! Bingo Ranch, 3070 Pacific Avenue, Livermore. 606-7777. Must be 18 years old to attend. Pacific Avenue, Livermore. 606-7777. Benefits LVCS / CCEF.

RELIGION
Rosh Hashanah celebration, Saturday, September 19, a kid-friendly (but not kid-centered) non-religious program of readings and music for the Jewish new year. Gather at 10:15, program begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Bothwell Center, 2466 8th St. in Livermore. Bring canned or boxed food for the Alameda County Food Bank and a lunch dish to share. Juice, apples and honey and honeycake for dessert provided. Free to members. \$10/adult (over 13) for non-members. Please let us know you're coming by e-mailing reservations@Tri-ValleyCulturalJews.org or 485-1049.

Kol Nidre observance, Sunday, September 27, a non-religious program of readings, music and examination of ourselves and our communities. 5 p.m., program begins at 5:15 at the Bothwell Center, 2466 8th St. in Livermore. Free to members, \$10/adult (over 13) for non-members.

Parish Picnic, Catholic Community of Pleasanton, Sunday, September 20 at St. Augustine's Church Hall and grounds, 3999 Bernal Avenue from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be international food, live music, crafts, games for all ages, a toddler corner, face painting, Karaoke, "international tug of diversity", cake walk, pinata and pabitan. Bring a picnic lunch or purchase food from various ethnic food booths. Information, contact the Catholic Community of Pleasanton at 846-4489 or visit www.catholicsofpleasanton.org

Faith Chapel, special Sunday evening service on Sept. 20, 6 p.m. Computer Animation and Christianity. Guest speaker Michael Comet, a technical artist at Pixar Animation Studios. 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton. 846-8650.

Chocolate (and other sweets) & Comedy - A Night for Couples, fun-filled evening of amazing desserts and the always hilarious comedy of Barnes & Miner - part reality, part therapy, all comedy. Television appearances include: Fox, NBC, HBO, A&E, National Lampoon, Comedy Central, and more. Saturday, October 24, 7:00-9:00pm at Crosswinds Church in Dublin. \$35 per couple through October 17; \$45/couple thereafter. Purchase tickets online at www.crosswindschurch.org, community life, events.

Summer Prayer/Meditation Circle - 60 minutes of prayer, meditation, song, and sharing. Tues. evenings, 7-8 pm, Tri-Valley Unity Church's Gathering Place, 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Rm. 120, Dublin. (925) 829-2733.

Grief support, meetings Thursdays, Sept. 17 to Nov. 5 7:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Open to all, regardless of religious orientation. Call Mary at 846-5377 with questions. A one-time \$15 donation is requested.

Divorce Care, Valley Bible Church, 7106 Johnson Dr., Pleasanton. 13 week seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. Meetings Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. \$25 for workbook and other materials. Preregistration is required. Contact Mark Porter, 846-9693 or mporter@hotmail.com for details or to register.

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