



Find Out What's Happening

Check out the second section

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

Junction Ave. K-8 Scores Big with New Futsal Court

By Patricia Koning

About a year ago, Junction Avenue K-8 teacher Robert Bell started an after school Futsal Club that proved wildly successful. He was hoping for 15 students and over 100 turned out to play. He imagined that one day, maybe four or five years into the future, he might raise enough money to put in a real futsal court, with fences, official goals, and a playing surface designed for the sport.

That day came earlier this month, less than a year after the Junction Futsal Club began. Last Friday, parents, students, teachers, community members, School Board representatives, administrators from the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD), and city officials gathered for the inauguration of the new futsal court.

Bell is thrilled with how far the Futsal Club has come in such a short period of time. He now runs a Saturday recreational league, Futsal for All, and Mario Gonzalez, a well-known futsal coach from San Jose, is leading training sessions. Last year, the club played against teams from Quarry Lane School, Ballistic United Soccer Club, one of Gonzalez' MACSA teams, and a visiting Australian team.

"When I look at the new court, I don't get caught up in the shine

(See FUTSAL, page 7)

Livermore to Mark Food Day On October 25

Livermore will mark Food Day on Tues., Oct. 25 at 11:30 a.m. at the Garden of Grace at Asbury Methodist Church. The event celebrates a unique partnership involving Asbury, Open Heart Kitchen, the Garden of Grace, and Alameda County Master Gardeners.

The Open Heart Kitchen and the Garden of Grace partner to grow, prepare and serve healthy food to Livermore's hungry. Fresh organic produce is hand-carried directly from the Garden of Grace to the Asbury kitchen where Open Heart volunteers use the produce in their meals. Peelings and scraps are returned to the garden to be composted and then used to fertilize the next garden vegetable crop.

Food Day is about bringing communities together to begin an all-inclusive conversation about the way we produce, consume, and think about food in this country

The Garden of Grace, founded by Bruce Campbell and Mark Brunell, Master Gardeners of Alameda County, provides a year-round stream of organic vegetables to the Open Heart Kitchen. Other missions of the Garden include teaching sustainable/organic gardening, providing a local organic demonstration and crop trials garden, raising awareness of the importance of urban/suburban food and championing and facilitating its

(See FOOD DAY, page 2)

Labs Help Drive Economic Growth Optimism

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories will be a continuing stimulus for new jobs in the East Bay, according to an economic projection report by the East Bay Economic Development Alliance (EDA).

The report, released Oct. 13, recognizes the deep impact of the current recession on the state and regional economy. However, it notes that the East Bay counties of Alameda and Contra Costa are in a good position to rebound from the downturn.

An educated workforce, good

schools, diverse housing inventory, and scientific innovation are among the reasons for the optimistic look at the future.

The presence of professional, scientific and technical services (PSTS) industries has been strong and is growing in the East Bay. Over the past 15 years, this PSTS segment, which includes and is fed by the Valley's science labs, has grown faster than its counterpart in the entire Bay Area, state and nation, says the report.

The innovation economy associated with scientific research has attracted substantial venture

capital investments, especially in clean energy and biotechnology industries.

The East Bay is among the top 10 areas receiving venture capital funds in nine of the 14 industries tracked by the survey. The East Bay ranked second in three industries, just behind Santa Clara County in each case.

In those three industries -- clean energy, semiconductors, and electronics instrumentation-- East Bay firms received more than 11 percent of all such investments nationwide, says the report.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena told The Independent that he is familiar with the report. He is a member of the boards of directors for I-GATE and I-HUB, which have been established to enable transfer of the labs' technologies to business use.

Kamena said that 67 percent of venture capital for all of California goes to the Bay Area. Of that, 66 percent of it goes to the Tri-Valley.

Kamena notes that the Tri-Valley has the largest percentage of California. He said that 5000 new jobs are expected to

be created in the next five years through I-GATE and I-HUB.

Kamena also said the Tri-Valley is doing well with gazelles, which are small start-ups that grow by at least 20 percent each year. He said there are 645 high-tech companies in the Tri-Valley.

"I'm delighted by the potential in the Tri-Valley. It's up to the leadership here to make sure the potential is realized," said Kamena.

Dublin also will capture some of the employment being gener-

(See OPTIMISM, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Foothill High School shutout Granada High School, 35 to 0, in an EBAL match-up last week. In the photo, Nicholas Pletschette (65), Nicholas LaTourette (56) and Jake Kearney (33) team up to bring down Foothill fullback Griffith Gates.

Pleasanton Council OKs Energy Upgrade Incentive Program

The Pleasanton City Council authorized the use of \$250,000 to use to provide incentives for businesses and homeowners to improve energy and water efficiency. There would be a \$500 rebate for projects under \$10,000 and \$1000 for those above \$10,000.

The funds to be used in the Energy Upgrade Pleasanton (EUP) program will come from the

capital improvement projects reserves.

Daniel Smith, Director of Operations Services, told the council, "EUP offers the most comprehensive package of incentives available in the Bay Area. It includes unique opportunities for our residents and businesses."

The program is part of the city's climate action plan (CAP).

(See ENERGY, page 4)

Pleasanton Trustees Set to Appoint Student to Board

Pleasanton school trustees are setting the district's goals a little higher for the coming school year. Soon they will have one more trustee to help them.

They are also laying the philosophical groundwork for the district's strategic plan, which has not been updated since 2004.

The trustees discussed four

categories for setting higher goals at their meeting Oct. 11. The topics were student achievement, safe schools, communication, and fiscal solvency.

In line with the communication goals, the trustees heard a report from Superintendent Parvin Ahamdi about the first student who will be seated on the board

(See PLEASANTON, page 4)

Livermore Profiled In California's 'Strong Cities, Strong State' Campaign

Livermore was profiled a week ago Tuesday as part of the ongoing "Strong Cities, Strong State" campaign highlighting local government success stories across California. "Strong Cities, Strong State" is a project of the

League of California Cities and the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

"Livermore is proud to be a partner in the Strong Cities, Strong State project," said Livermore Mayor Marshall Ka-

mena. "We have, and continue to take proactive steps to attract and retain businesses so we can improve our local economy and provide Livermore residents with an outstanding quality of life." Kamena continued, "Our i-GATE

/ iHUB designation strengthens our place in the region as the center for high technology business development and job creation."

Highlights of City of Livermore's profile include the following:

- The city has set a high priority to support the development of its artist community by making Livermore downtown a Center for the Arts.
- The i-GATE / iHub partner-

(See LIVERMORE, page 4)

Climate Change Called Rapid and Alarming

By Jeff Garberson

The Earth's climate is changing so rapidly that by the end of this century, if we don't act very soon, we may appear to be living on a "different planet," an atmospheric expert believes.

Ron Cohen, a prominent atmospheric chemist who conducts research both on the UC-Berkeley campus and at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, told a Livermore audience that

signs of change are numerous and specific, going beyond simple temperature measurements.

They include sea level rise, the shrinking of glaciers and changing patterns of precipitation and drought. They also include detailed studies -- some of them conducted at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory -- demonstrating that the effects cannot be accounted for by natural processes, like solar cycles.

Last year tied with 2005 for the warmest globally, Cohen said. 2010 was also the wettest year on record. In the U.S., 1302 tornadoes made it one of the 10 most active tornado years on record.

It is generally not possible to connect weather records with climate change. Climate is the long term average of weather, which changes daily and regionally. However, the broad scientific

picture of atmospheric warming is largely unchanged since it was first detailed more than a century ago by the Swedish chemist Svante Arrhenius.

Arrhenius estimated that the world's temperature would increase by about 4 degrees if carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere doubled.

"This is the same answer we find today," Cohen said.

Cohen spoke last week at

Livermore's Bankhead Theater as part of the Rae Dorrough Speaker Series.

The fundamental problem is that while the Earth tries to balance its heat budget each day by radiating out to space as much energy as it receives from the sun, more heat-trapping gases have accumulated in the past 200 years to inhibit the outward flow. As a result, the Earth is warming.

(See CLIMATE, page 5)

Path to Picasso Decorates Sandia

As Sandia employees enter the Micro and Nano Technologies Laboratory each morning, they will soon be greeted by Hydrogen man, as depicted in the mural "Hydrogen Man versus Carbo". Occupants of other buildings need not feel jealous, however -- Hydrogen Man, along with four other clean-energy themed murals, will be rotated among the building lobbies at Sandia National Laboratories.

Local middle and high school students created the murals this summer through the Path to Picasso program, a partnership between Horizons Family Counseling, the City of Livermore, and the Livermore Police Department. The program, now in its fifth year, gives at-risk youth the

opportunity to work with a local professional artist to create a large piece of art that is displayed publicly.

Horizons, a division of the Livermore Police Department, provides family counseling, case management, and parent training for Tri-Valley families. The idea for the Path to Picasso Sandia project first emerged last year when Horizons participated in an event for Sandia Helps and Reaches Everyone (SHARE), the site's employee contribution program.

"I noticed some blank walls and started to imagine the possibilities," said Horizons youth and family services manager Lynn Gardner. "Path to Picasso

(See PICASSO, page 5)



Senior manager Bill Even discusses "Clean Energy versus Pollution" with artists Cianna Chavez and Brandon McCullough. (photo by Randy Wong)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Chirp, chirp, chirp. Meet Silas. Silas is a vocal kitty who loves to lounge around. His favorite place to sleep is on a cozy dog bed or in the window sill. He is a mellow dude looking for a home that will chat with him on the regular. He tends to "chirp" more often than "meow." If you are looking for a feline companion, come on down to Valley Humane Society's Kitty City. To learn more, call 925-426-8656 or visit the website www.valleyhumane.org. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Hours are Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Photo courtesy of Shireen Deo

FOOD DAY

(continued from page one)

production.

The food day celebration at the Garden of Grace will include the following:

- A ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the new garden expansion. The Garden of Grace is currently undergoing a southward expansion, creating over 2000 sq. ft. of new bed space.
- Presentation of a mayoral proclamation on Food Day by Livermore's Mayor Marshall

Kamena

• Welcome remarks by Livermore City Council member, Jeff Williams, Garden founder Bruce Campbell, Open Heart Kitchen Operations Director Jody Michalik, and Pastor Chuck Johnstone

- Garden of Grace tours
- Lunch at the Open Heart Kitchen.

Asbury Methodist Church is located at 4743 East Avenue,

Livermore. The Garden of Grace is located behind the church.

Information can be found at the following websites: Alameda County Master Gardeners <http://acmg.ucdavis.edu>, Asbury Methodist Church www.asburylive.org, Garden of Grace www.asburygardenofgrace.org and Open Heart Kitchen www.openheartkitchen.org

Speaker to Talk about Mental Health Issues

Las Positas College will host motivational speaker, author and mental health advocate Jeff Bell, who will discuss his story of dealing with obsessive compulsive disorder, at the event "Increasing Mental Health Awareness and Literacy," 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, in the Multi-Disciplinary Building Room 2420. The event is free and open to the public; parking is \$2.

Following Bell's talk will be a presentation about Let's Erase the Stigma (LETS), a nationally recognized organization

dedicated to erasing the stigma of mental illness through developing education programs, mentoring opportunities and research designed to empower youth to change the perception of mental illness. The mental health awareness event is sponsored by the Psychology Department and the Psi Beta Psychology Honor Society, according to Las Positas College Psychology Instructor Ernest Jones, Ph.D.

Bell is a news anchor at KCBS Radio in San Francisco and the

author of two books.

Bell is a national spokesperson for Mental Health America's (MHA) "Real Lives" program and a recipient of MHA's prestigious forWARDS award for "moving the cause of mental health forward."

For more information, please visit the Las Positas College website at www.laspositascollege.edu.

Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.



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<p>3030 PICCOLINE DRIVE S. LIVERMORE</p>  <p>Bed 5 Ba 4.5 3,776^{sq} So.Ft. 0.23⁺ Acres Super Los Olivos! Gourmet kit, granite, big island, 2 butler's pantries, big breakfast room, formal living & dining w/recessed lights & coffered ceiling. Built-in! Brazilian cherry flrs upstairs. Big master w/travertine tiled bath. Stamped concrete patio. Views!</p> <p>DIANE SASS 925.583.2168</p>	<p>3545 MERCATO COURT RUBY HILL</p>  <p>Bed 5 Ba 4.2 5,555^{sq} So.Ft. 0.56⁺ Acres Includes: office + unfinished bonus room. Huge accessible attic & 1,600 sq ft unfinished basement plumbed for bath. Gourmet eat-in kit w/attached sunroom adjacent to family room. Master w/fp, balcony, & double bath-huge glass block shower.</p> <p>DIANE SASS 925.583.2168</p>	<p>2889 RUTHERFORD CT LIVERMORE</p>  <p>Bed 4 Ba 3.5 3,504^{sq} So.Ft. 0.30⁺ Acres Wonderfully location at the end of a cul-de-sac, near vineyards & open fields. Spacious entry way, gourmet kitchen & grand master bedroom suite. This home has a large backyard w/ a private apartment/office above the garage.</p> <p>SARAH ARNOLD 925.253.7074</p>	<p>2068 CABERNET WAY ARROYO CROSSINGS</p>  <p>Bed 5 Ba 4.5 4,655^{sq} So.Ft. 0.34⁺ Acres Includes: LOFT + OFFICE + MUD ROOM, 4.5 baths, butlers pantry, wine fridge, 1 BR and 1.5 baths downstairs. Flowing FLOOR PLAN! Less than 4 years old, walking distance to downtown & school, large private backyard.</p> <p>GAIL HENDERSON 925.980.5648</p>	<p>2306 MERLOT LANE TAPESTRY</p>  <p>Bed 4 Ba 3.5 3,940^{sq} So.Ft. 0.36⁺ Acres Private and Peaceful describes this Beautiful Home. Located in one of Livermore's Top Neighborhoods this home includes; loft+office, close to 4000 sq ft with vaulted ceilings. Updated Kitchen and Baths! Resort like backyard with waterfall pool.</p> <p>COREY GREEN 925.583.2173</p>	<p>2188 McLEAN PLACE S. LIVERMORE</p>  <p>Bed 3 Ba 4.5 4,062^{sq} So.Ft. 0.33⁺ Acres Stunning custom home in the heart of wine country. Includes; den, bonus and dining room. Wonderful architecture & a well designed floor plan. Fantastic backyard w/ outdoor kitchen and inground pool.</p> <p>PATRICK MARAVELIAS 925.583.2192</p>
<p>1041 GERMANO WAY RUBY HILL</p>  <p>Bed 5 Ba 5(3) 8,300^{sq} So.Ft. 0.62⁺ Acres Mediterranean Villa on Premium Lot w/ Pano. Views of Mt. Diablo, Overlooking Creek, Majestic Oaks and the 15th Fairway. Features; Bonus Room, Study/Computer Rm, Den, Wine Cellar, Media Rm, Open Air Loggia w/ Fireplace for Sunset Dining & "Pella" Windows.</p> <p>THE UWE MAERZ TEAM 925.251.2568</p>	<p>8615 MINES ROAD LIVERMORE</p>  <p>Lots and Land 16.53⁺ Acres Extraordinary 16.5 Acre Horse property. Property has 3 wells. A beautiful 5800 William Poole Three Story traditional home has been designed. The plan is negotiable to go with property. Site has been approved for 8 stall barn.</p> <p>CARDL CLINE 925.683.0488</p>	<p>3728 VALLEY VIEW WAY AMBER RIDGE</p>  <p>Bed 4 Ba 2 2,553^{sq} So.Ft. 0.19⁺ Acres Beautiful Pulte Home with 4 Beds 2.5 Baths and over 2500+ sq ft. Home includes hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, side yard access and more... Needs some TLC like carpet and paint. Close to park, shopping and freeway. Great Neighborhood!</p> <p>COREY GREEN 925.583.2173</p>	<p>583 AMBERWOOD WAY AMBER RIDGE</p>  <p>Bed 4 Ba 3.5 3,201^{sq} So.Ft. 0.19⁺ Acres Gorgeous Livermore Home in a great neighborhood! Home includes; beautiful entertaining pool. Light and bright gourmet kitchen, family room, formal living & dining room, huge master. Tons of Upgrades!</p> <p>COREY GREEN 925.583.2173</p>	<p>5875 CRESTMONT AVE LIVERMORE</p>  <p>Bed 3 Ba 2 1,269^{sq} So.Ft. 0.14⁺ Acres Tastefully updated Livermore home w/ laminate flooring, permitted bonus room, side yard access, dual pane windows, eat in kitchen, romantic wood burning fireplace, landscaped yard, close to 580 freeway.</p> <p>M. SWIFT & ASSOCIATES 925.251.2587</p>	<p>3322 EAST AVENUE LIVERMORE</p>  <p>Bed 1 Ba 1 432^{sq} So.Ft. 0.51⁺ Acres Great development opportunity on this half acre lot. Zoned RG-16 - up to 8 units possible.</p> <p>UWE MAERZ 925.360.8758</p>

Blackhawk East
4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir.
Danville, CA 94506
925.648.5300

Blackhawk West
3880 Blackhawk Rd.
Danville, CA 94506
925.736.6000

Danville
15 Railroad Ave.
Danville, CA 94526
925.855.4000

Lafayette
3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA 94549
925.385.2330

Livermore
1983 Second St.
Livermore, CA 94550
925.667.2100

Montclair/ Piedmont
6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200
Oakland, CA 94611
510.339.4800

Orinda
89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100
Orinda, CA 94563
925.253.7000

Pleasanton
5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110
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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Property Taxes Due

More than 425,000 secured roll property tax bills for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 amounting to \$2.68 billion were mailed in October 2011 by Alameda County Treasurer and Tax Collector Donald R. White, to all real property owners of record in the Alameda County Assessor's Office.

The secured roll taxes due are payable by two installments. The first installment is due on November 1, 2011 and is delinquent at 5 p.m. December 12, 2011, after which a 10% delinquent penalty attaches. The second installment is due on February 1, 2012 and is delinquent at 5 p.m. April 10, 2012, after which a 10% delinquent penalty and \$10 cost attaches. Both installments may be paid when the first installment is due.

There are several payment options:

- by mail or in person at the County Tax Collector's Office, 1221 Oak Street, Oakland, Ca 94612, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, holidays excepted
- by credit card, available 24 hours a day by telephone at 510-272-6800, or online at www.acgov.org
- by Echeck, available 24 hours a day online at www.acgov.org
- by KIOSK, located in the Tax Collector's lobby area allowing taxpayers who visit the office to make payments via credit card and/or Echeck

Payment by mail, telephone or online is recommended to avoid delay at the cashier's window

Real property owners who do not receive a tax bill by November 16, 2011 should contact Tax Collector's Office by calling (510) 272-6800, writing to the office, or downloading an internet copy at www.acgov.org.

Tax bills received for property no longer owned should be forwarded to the new owner or returned to the Tax Collector's Office.

Input on Transportation Projects

The Alameda County Transportation Commission is updating the Countywide Transportation Plan (CWTP) and developing a Transportation Expenditure Plan (TEP). The CWTP identifies long-term transportation needs. The TEP is a plan that will help fund the transportation projects and programs to address the needs. Input is being sought on the priorities that should be included in the TEP that may be submitted to the voters for their approval in the November 2012 election.

The survey can be found at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/cwtp-tep_questionnaire to participate.

For more information go to www.alamedact.org

Detectives Honored

The Livermore Police Department has announced that two of the department's detectives have received a prestigious award from the Alameda County District Attorney's Office.

On Monday, October 10, 2011 Detectives Steven Goard and Joseph Draghi received the 2011 Alameda County District Attorney's Officer Recognition Award. This award honors those officers who have demonstrated actions that go above and beyond the call of duty in assisting the District Attorney's Office to obtain

a conviction. The Livermore case in which the detectives were recognized was highly sensitive in nature and involved unlawful sexual relations with minors.

On July 27, 2010, Detectives Steven Goard and Joseph Draghi received information alleging that Livermore resident, Christine Shreeve Hubbs, 42 years of age, was engaging in sexual relations with boys under the age of 15.

This information led to a complex labor intensive three month long investigation. Through the detectives' investigative skills, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office charged Hubbs with 67 felony counts of sexual assault and set her bail at \$4.3 million. She eventually pled guilty and is currently serving a lengthy prison sentence.

Livermore Police Detectives Steven Goard and Joseph Draghi were two of the 10 officers who were selected within Alameda County to receive this prestigious award this year. The awards ceremony was held during the Annual District Attorney Muster. At the ceremony, District Attorney Nancy O'Malley commended both detectives for their partnership and efforts on the investigation and praised their work.

Voting Deadlines

The Consolidated District Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011. The polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. The period for requesting Vote-By-Mail Ballots for this election ends on Tuesday, November 1. Applications for Vote-By-Mail Ballots must be received by mail no later than 5:00 P.M. on November 1st.

Voters may vote in person in the Registrar of Voters office Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. or on Election Day, November 8 until 8 p.m. at the Alameda County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1, in Oakland.

Voters who are ill or will be away on Election Day may also designate, in writing, another person to pick-up and return their ballot before the election. Voters with questions concerning Vote-By-Mail voting should call the Registrar of Voters, Vote-By-Mail Section at (510) 272-6973.

New Trails Open in Livermore

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District will celebrate the addition of a new trail with a Trail Opening Ceremony on Oct. 29.

The two new segments, part of the South Livermore Valley Trail System, are now open to public use for walking, biking and horseback riding. They run along Tesla Road from Concanon Boulevard to Mines Road, then continue north through the vineyards to connect with Charlotte Way.

LARPD will celebrate the new trail with a ceremony at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 29. The location will be on the trail just north of Tesla Road at the intersection of Mines Road. Parking is available at Crooked Vine/Stony Ridge Winery, 4948 Tesla Road. Trail enthusiasts are invited to join LARPD Directors and staff for complimentary refreshments and a ribbon-cutting ceremony. In the event of rain, the ceremony will be canceled.

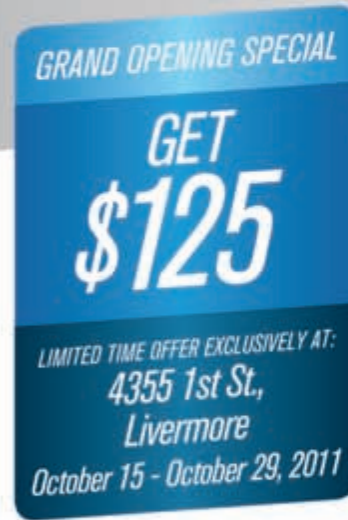
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2. Chase Mobile: Message and data rates apply. Such charges include those from your communications service provider.

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CLIMATE

(continued from page one)

Specifically, Cohen said, the Earth's surface is heated by about 237 watts of energy per square meter per day, on average, from natural sources. On top of that, some human activities warm the Earth while some cool it. The net is a manmade global increase of about 1.6 watts per square meter.

The biggest single contribution is from greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide. Depending on which gases are counted, they add a little more than 3 watts per square meter of warming. Some greenhouse gases can linger for decades, even hundreds of years.

Cooling factors include certain industrial aerosols, which reflect sunlight back to space so that it does not heat the atmosphere. They typically last for days in the atmosphere, so their effects are shorter lived. Cooling from human activities totals roughly 1.5 watts per square meter, Cohen said — leaving the approximately 1.6 watts of net warming.

NASA atmospheric scientist James Hansen has likened human contributions to global warming to lighting a small Christmas tree bulb on every square meter of the globe. Little by little, over the years, the heat from the figurative bulbs is changing the heat

balance of the atmosphere, he has testified to Congress.

On balance, the added heat is also self-reinforcing through several processes. For example, warming causes plant matter to decay more rapidly, generating more heat-trapping greenhouse gases.

Cohen's own research focus is on understanding atmospheric chemistry in detail, relating as much to pollution and smog as to climate. He has compared smog in Sacramento with that in the Sierra Nevada. He has flown across the Pacific with NASA to measure pollutants from the Canadian tundra to Diamond Head in Hawaii.

He is editor of the open access journal, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, and director of the Berkeley Atmospheric Science Center. The Center is a coalition of 14 UC faculty members from seven different departments. Faculty and students meet to discuss interdisciplinary approaches to dealing with climate issues.

Like many climate scientists, Cohen considers the present to be a "crisis moment" because major carbon-producing nations — especially the U.S. — continue with business as usual while signs of dangerous climate change are unmistakable.

In his Livermore talk, he noted the complexity of the issue. "Climate is not only temperature," he said. "Think about rainfall, think about drought." One of his slides mentioned clouds and wind as well.

Another slide was a two-panel cartoon that showed two groups evaluating information about climate change. The left panel depicted scientists studying graphs and data. The right panel showed politicians examining opinion polls.

Cohen believes that U.S. scientists are "leading the thinking about climate, with good international collaboration. Politically, it's very different. There is no political leadership (in climate issues) from the U.S."

Still, he is hopeful about progress. He finds encouragement in the passion of today's Berkeley students. Many of them are focused on the challenge of finding new energy sources much as they might have concentrated on the digital revolution in Silicon Valley a decade or two ago. "They are excited about the intellectual opportunity to make a difference," he said.

The "extraordinary" rate of climate change that is happening now worries Cohen profoundly. Average temperature change can

sound modest but it reflects much greater temperature swings near the poles, with massive loss of ice and changes in ocean levels and currents that can influence civilizations.

Still, in his talk, and later in an interview, he stressed the importance of taking a positive view to climate challenges. "Taking climate in isolation, it's easy to be pessimistic (about trends,)" he said. "I don't think that's useful."

He insists that it's not too late

to intervene to keep the damage to a minimum. We might be able to limit further warming to "one more degree" if we make an all-out effort to cut further greenhouse gas emissions and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

However, if we don't, and if the globe warms an added 5.5 degrees as current trends suggest, then Earth will be "like a different planet," he warned.

"We want to be sure we live on this planet!"

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PICASSO

(continued from page one)

art has decorated City Hall, the Livermore Police Department, the Bankhead Theater Plaza, and the Wheels Transit Depot, so why not Sandia too? I knew that doing a project for a national laboratory would open the students' eyes to new concepts and maybe even give them enough understanding to consider new career opportunities they hadn't thought of before."

To kick off the project, Sandia/California public relations officer Mike Janes and intern Allison Doughty shared with the Path to Picasso students Sandia's mission and many areas of work, including clean energy and transportation. "The theme of clean energy was challenging, because there isn't a lot of 'clean energy' art out there," said Regina Levy, creative director of Path to Picasso and art teacher at the Livermore Valley Charter School. "They really had to be pioneers. When we first got started, many of these kids weren't sure if they could do this. Finishing a project like this and seeing the reaction

of Sandians is a huge boost to their self-esteem."

When the murals were unveiled at a SHARE event on Sept. 22, the artwork struck a chord with many Sandians. "I love this mural," said Glenn Kubiak, director of the biological and materials science center, looking at Hydrogen Man vs. Carbo. "I'm a chemist and I see so many clever embedded messages."

Artists Jazmin Vital and Carlos Hernandez Reyes were inspired by Sandia's research into hydrogen as a clean transportation fuel. They chose a comic book theme of good vs. evil, in this case "Carbo" who is trying to stop Hydrogen Man from making renewable energy. In the painting, Hydrogen Man stands on top of the periodic table.

In "Clues to Solutions," Sandra Cortez, Grecia Arias, and Jessica Santiago created an abstract painting in Picasso's cubist style depicting the world, solar panels, algae, and other areas of Sandia's research. Look hard enough and you'll find the botnet lurking near

the lower left-hand corner.

Best friends Cianna Chavez and Brandon McCullough worked together on "Clean Energy versus Pollution", a painting that shows a street dividing two very different buildings. Jaidee Sandoval was inspired by Sandia's research into creating fuel from natural things to paint "Biomass Transit". Yvonne Nolasco used a tree as the unifying theme of her appropriately named painting, "Communi-tree".

"We are delighted with the art created by the Path to Picasso students. Sandia is very proud to support such an important community program," said Janes. "This is a great example of a community partnership that has been developed through SHARE."

For more information on Horizons Family Counseling, visit <http://www.cityoflivermore.net/citygov/horizons/default.asp>. For more information on Sandia National Laboratories, visit <http://www.sandia.gov/>.

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Dr. Chirag Pandya has joined the ValleyCare Medical Foundation specializing in sleep, pulmonary and critical care medicine. He recently completed sub-specialty training in Sleep Medicine at Stanford University and is the medical director of the ValleyCare Sleep Laboratory at the Valley Memorial Center in Livermore. Dr. Pandya received his medical degree from Sarda Patel University and completed his residency at Cleveland Clinic Health System in Cleveland, Ohio.

In 2010, he completed a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Wayne State University/Detroit Medical Center in Detroit, Michigan. His areas of interests include: COPD, asthma, sarcoidosis, interstitial lung disease, pulmonary hypertension, bronchoscopy, critical care medicine as well as various adult and pediatric sleep disorders. He plans to stay active as adjunct clinical faculty for the Stanford Sleep Center.

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SPORTS NOTES



The Pleasanton Phantom 12B fall travel softball team took 1st place in the Manteca Tournament, October 8-9, 2011. The girls played very well, winning all five of their games for the first place victory. Pictured are (back row) Alex Sanchez, Coach Mike Williams, Emily Trinidad, Mary Rockwood, Madelyn Bianco, Lauren Ho-Tseung, Coach Kristen Ho-Tseung; (front row) Claire Fuller, Lauren Kong, Danielle Williams, Sofia Molina, and Maya Nozaka. Not pictured: Emily Crimi and Coach Jenny Williams.



Pictured is the U13 Tri-Valley Bayern boys' team. After beating SACYSL California Northstars 2-0 on Saturday, October 15, Bayern remained undefeated with a record of 5 wins and 0 losses for league play, putting them in sole possession of first place. In the photo are (from top left corner) Assistant Coach Mike Lego, Justin Lego, Ryan Brecher, Matteo DeFina, Kyle Wright, Matthew Petrie, Coach Terry Wilson, Taylor Johnson, Parker Matsumoto, Brian Adams, Nolan Thompson, Parker Lee, Spencer Chamberlin, Ryan Marta, Lailinda Xu, Tim van der Waart van Gulik, Laith Anqud, Jung Haeng Kim and Chris Machi.

West Coast Soccer

West Coast Soccer U11 girls continue their league season with a hard fought win against PSC Highlanders. The Wrath moved up to second in the league after its third league win.

The teams' success has been accomplished with excellent defending from Sierra Bettencourt, Lindsey Phillips, Kayli Lawsen and Francesca Hyde. The midfield core is comprised of Tyler Rene Enderlein, Kate Wallace, Kelsi Green, Allyssa George and Abby Andrews. Wrath's attack are Haley Thompson, Kylie Karter and Abby Hoobing. Main goalkeeper is Anneliese Widdman, supported by Kylie, Allyssa and Fran.

The team's latest win came Saturday against a well-organized PSC. In the first half, Wrath pressured PSC constantly. Wrath

quickly seized the advantage after some good open play. Kylie netted the first goal. Hayley scored with a precision volley. Wrath continued to put on the pressure, but PSC defended well and Wrath were unable to add a goal. PSC came out fighting in the second half and the coach changed his tactics and Wrath concentrated on their defensive skills. The play went from end to end with chances for both sides. The game finished with a well-earned win for the Wrath girls.

Livermore Jr. Football

Livermore Junior Football League results:

Junior Division: Texans 19, Raiders 6: The Raiders played a hard fought battle against the Texans but were unable to come



Pictured is forward Mia Mendosa of the Fusion SC U10 girls Maroon team as she sets up for a shot on goal.

out with a victory with their third loss of 6-19. With honorary captain Tyler Ferrick hurt during the week and other key players out, the Raiders had to change up their offensive and defensive positions to cover the gaps. The Raider's defense rose to the challenge with key sacks delivered by Baker O'Dwyer and D'Cy Ashford and key open field tackles by Drew Braudrick and Jaxen McLaren. The Raider's offense wasn't productive in the first half but the intensity was turned up after the halftime break. Benjamin Nuddelman contributed with key runs and backfield blocking to keep the Raiders offense moving. It wasn't until the 4th quarter with Logan Church breaking tackles on a 30 yard run to put Raiders in scoring position and Jaxen McLaren running for 13 yards with a quarterback keeper to put the Raiders on the scoreboard with 6 points.

The Texan defense was off to a strong start with a couple of sacks and not many yards gained by the Raiders offense. With the Texans with possession of the ball, Luke Vanbuuren ran in the first and the second touchdown it was an impressive run that covered most of the field. The defensive line led with great tackles by James Foley and Brandon Adams kept the Raiders at bay and ended the first half at 13 to 0. Even with a strong start from the Raiders defensive line at the beginning of the second half, Jesse Goodman was able to get in some good runs with a lot of yardage gained. A duo that showed great teamwork was, AJ Guel threw a pass that connected to, Mason Paulo. Then, Mason deLisser ran about 30 yards for a touchdown and also made the 1 point conversion. The Raiders then ran in their own touchdown to a lot of proud cheering from the sidelines. The Texan defense was able to have the game end without any more points scored.

Vikings 83, Bucs 62: This week's game almost required a new scoreboard (one that has 3 digits). This was a very exciting, high scoring game. The Vikings got on the board first followed up by the Bucs QB Hunter Kronmal running in the first of FIVE touchdowns scored by Hunter. The offensive

line Andrew Hernandez, Matthew Anderson, Jackson Brown, worked really hard today and gave the backfield an opportunity to work it. Shane Waechter and Hunter Kronmal worked together to get Shane in for a touchdown too! Cameron Stephenson also scored for the Bucs. Way to tuck and run guys. The defensive line worked just as hard to keep the Vikings offense at bay. Elijah Hodgers took down guys twice his size many times. Kyle Winkler & Andrew Waller also had good tackles today. This game was hard fought and well played!

The Vikings remained undefeated after their win against the Buccaneers, beating them 83 to 62. Top plays included three tackles by Riley Cornelius, Jeremy Waibel sacked the quarterback, Jeffrey Fairbanks had two tackles, Donovan Humes had a block and the team was cheered on by Ryan Delaney-O'Neill who broke his arm in game 2.

Intermediate Division: 49ers 12, Falcons 0: Despite a strong effort, the Falcons fell to the 49ers in LJFL action by a score of 12-0. The game featured strong defense by both teams, but turned on the strength of an outstanding catch and run by receiver Jacob Murdoch who broke a number of tackles en route to a 50 yard touchdown reception to open the scoring for the Niners. The Falcons took to the air early in the game with quarterback Raymond Carlson finding a number of Falcon receivers on successive plays to move the team into 49er territory. Matthew Waller, Connor Parkerson and Troy Wentworth were on the receiving end of Carlson's passes to move down the field before a fumble ended the drive. Carlson had five completions on the day. Connor Parkerson also contributed on the ground with a series of punishing runs throughout the game to keep the chains moving for the Falcon offense. The protection up front came from Ryan Wright, Alex Katsich, Nathan Wilson, Aaron Epstein and Ruzzel Yee. The Falcon defense had another strong effort led by defensive end Alex Schicke who delivered a half dozen tackles including a quarterback



California Gymnastic Academy's Level 4 Team includes Calli Renner, Carly Oniki, Julia Humphrey, Anna Foehner, Karinna Stevenson and Delaney Watkins.

sack and two others for losses. Ryan Escover and Joseph Murphy also had big games. Parker Brandt ended one 49er drive with a big interception. On the defensive line, Brian Torres, Nick Volponi and Ruzzel Yee pushed into the 49er backfield and each had several tackles on the day. Ryan Brandt and Mitchell Dennis made their presence felt throughout the game as well.

Dolphins 18, Ravens 12

Senior Division: Steelers 21, Giants 0: Theo O'Ferrall barreled through the Giants defense in order to score the Steelers' first touchdown in the second quarter. Tyler Gonzales had an outstanding tackle on the punt. Joseph Doherty and Jack Lutz pounded through the defense to sack the quarterback. Ben Thompson also broke through the defensive line to sack the Giants quarterback. Aaron Andrews bolted down the field and blocked the punt which allowed Kyle Neves

to recover a fumble on the punt. Jason Frost was on target, as usual, when he threw a pass to Ben Parker which allowed the Steelers to gain 12 yards on the pass. Thanks to excellent blocking by Ken Moniz, Francis McVeigh-DiPesa, Shane Ward, and Kevin Martin the Steelers' offense was able to gain yardage throughout the game. Ben Parker was able to run in touch down number two and three. Will Mohler busted through the line and sacked the quarterback twice. Jason Frost threw a pass to Wes Katz who caught the ball on the 1 yard line. Just when you didn't think the Steelers could play better, as a team, they tackled the Giants in their own in zone and score two points on the safety. Austin Brown returned the punt 21 yards. The Steelers defense, along with Eric Pinon, was able to keep the Giants from scoring.

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Kamena for City Council

DEFINING ISSUES: BART to Livermore: Settled for City of Livermore. I-580 to go to Isabel/Portola with approx. 2013 construction, then on to Greenville Road along I-580 median.

Our Initiative-backed Urban Growth Boundary is at risk from the opposition-backed candidates. Former Dublin Mayor Linda Jeffrey, Cathie Brown, and Valerie Raymond worked for and supported the Pardee project.

ENDORSEMENTS:

Every member of the **Livermore City Council:** Honorables: Marj Leider, Jeff Williams, Doug Horner and Vice-Mayor John Marchand

Every Mayor of the Tri-Valley:

Mayor Tim Sbranti, Dublin; Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, Pleasanton; Mayor Abram Wilson, San Ramon; Mayor Karen Stepper, Danville;

Both Tri-Valley Congressmen:

Congressman John Garamendi and Congressman Jerry McNerney.

Alameda County Sheriff Gregory Ahern

Alameda County Fire Chief Sheldon Gilbert

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty

Rev. Deacon Dave Resendes



Projects I will see to completion:

Jack London Blvd. extension to Stoneridge Drive to complete the road to ValleyCare Hospital.

5000-job Business & Technology Center in East Livermore through my Board position on I-Gate, I-Hub, and the Innovations Tri-Valley Collaborative.

4 star hotel in reserved location downtown.

Four full lanes for Highway 84 from I-580 to Pigeon Pass.

Completion of Pope John Paul II regional High School on I-580 in Livermore.

Degree-conferring university campus next to the Business & Technology Center.

Projects completed under my administration:

Award winning new downtown 14 screen movie theater; 500 seat Bankhead theater

150+ store high-end factory outlet center on I-580. Ready in October 2012

Urgent care medical center at Valley Memorial Hospital

Widening of I-580 from Greenville to El Charro

A Better Vision for Livermore

Elect

KAMENA

City Council

SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Players try out the new futsal court at Junction Avenue K-8 School in Livermore.

FUTSAL

(continued from page one)

of the metal fence or the cushion of the rubber surface, instead it's the effort behind the court and the spirit of community that comes through most. This court represents a community deeply caring about its kids," said Bell.

He added that futsal provides another opportunity for kids to connect with their school. "Junction had the highest gains in state testing this past year within the District. I believe futsal and other afterschool activities played a role in this. We want every student to fall in love with their school experience," he said.

Futsal is a faster, smaller, and tighter version of soccer played on a basketball-sized court with a small, heavy ball and five to six players to a side. Bell described it as combining the skill of soccer with the pace of basketball.

"Even our die-hard soccer kids now admit they find futsal more fun. Why wouldn't they? In a game of futsal every player will touch the ball six times as often as in a soccer game. Every player will take a shot at goal. A basketball court can be found in just about every neighborhood park. Our outdoor court was modeled after this idea. Futsal should be free and available to everyone," he stated.

Bell's first goal was to raise enough money for goals, benches, nets, and a stained surface, about \$6,000. The Junction PTA, the Rotarian Foundation of Livermore, and Wente Vineyards were some of the early contributors.

Money collected through fees and concessions for Futsal for All, as well as t-shirt sales have gone towards the court.

The final piece was a \$32,000 grant from StopWaste.org awarded last spring. The City of Livermore receives funds from StopWaste.org, generated from landfill usage fees, and distributes them to projects that promote waste reduction, recycling, or the purchase of recycled products. The futsal court qualified because it is made from recycled rubber.

"This is local government at its finest," declared Livermore vice-mayor John Marchand, speaking at the inauguration. "It's about interagency cooperation, public/private partnerships, good environmental stewardship, and leveraging limited resources for our students. What started as a fun after school activity has become a win-win for Livermore schools, the community, and the environment."

Livermore school superintendent Kelly Bowers and Marchand, whose wife Sue teaches at Junction, cut the official ribbon on one of the futsal goals. Bowers, after removing her high-heeled shoes to protect the court surface, kicked in the first goal.

Futsal Club members then played several demonstration games, followed by performances by Junction's Ballet Folklorico and Mariachi clubs, a barbeque dinner, and a raffle of donated soccer and futsal equipment.

Junction's futsal courts are not

quite complete, though. Currently, there are two courts. However, only one is fenced. The fence is essential to the game, as the ball is played off the fence. Bell needs to raise another \$8,000 to complete the fence on the second court and \$2,500 for a second set of goals.

Casa Orozco, Tequila's Taqueria, Contreras Market, Chavez Soccer, Soccer Pro, Sports Chalet, Wente Restaurant, and Campo di Bocce, Junction parents, the Junction Futsal Club, and the Junction Mariachi Club all donated items for the inauguration.

For more information on the Junction Avenue K-8 futsal program, contact Belia Martinez at 925.606.6392 or Robert Bell at rbell@lvjUSD.k12.ca.us.

Pleasanton Rage

Pleasanton Rage results: Pleasanton Rage Div. 3 U14 Black 1, San Ramon Azuri 1: It was a well matched game between Rage Black and San Ramon Azuri. Much of the game was played in the midfield with Bailey Sanchez working hard as the team backbone to hold the game to a tie. The only goal was scored in the second half by Ashly Groth. Kelly O'Neill was the outstanding player of the game playing goalie and as offense. Top Defensive Player: Ashly Groth; Top Offensive Player: Kelly O'Neill

Pleasanton Rage Black U10: Mustang Angels 2, Pleasanton Rage 0: The Pleasanton Rage turned in perhaps its finest showing of the season in a heartbreaking 2-0 loss to the Mustang Angels in U10 Girls Bronze East league action on Saturday. Andrea Harding, Sophia Shibliq and Lydia O'Brien were shining examples of a newly focused offensive attack that kept the Angels on their heels for much of the game. Angels goalies Gabrielle Scheibley and Maddie Langbein shared the credit for the shutout despite a flurry of Rage scoring chances near the end of both halves.

Harding, who made plays all over the field for the Rage, should have been rewarded with a goal with eight minutes to play. Her hard smash from inside the penalty box would have headed into the goal had it not ricocheted off the back of an Angels defender and sailed just outside the right post. Rage goalies Kelly Meyrath and Amanda Dilger displayed some strong play. Dilger had four second-half saves and her aggressive charges to the top of the box snuffed out Angels scoring chances. Mustang broke the scoreless tie with nine minutes left in the first half. Kennedy Rivera fed a ball to midfield to jump start a scoring play that ended with Allie Van Wagenen skidding a ball into the net from 15 yards.

The Angels' Celine Ertekin took a 30-yard shot on goal that took a late bounce off the goalie's hands for a 2-0 lead just two minutes into the second half. Aside from Van Wagenen's score and the fluky second-half goal, the Angels were continually turned away by Julia Damiani, Paige Oniki and Harding. Each of them excelled in redirecting Mustang pushes and turning them into offensive chances for the Rage, whose offensive pressure wasn't indicative of its two shots on goal. Olivia Murphy, Samantha Lipsker and Lacy Becker also contributed to Rage attacks. Top Offensive Players: Lydia O'Brien, Sophia Shibliq, Amanda Dilger; Top Defensive Players: Andrea Harding, Paige Oniki, Julia Damiani

Pleasanton Rage U9 Black hosted the Dublin United Firecrackers on Saturday, October 15th. The Rage scored seven goals in the 7 to 2 victory. With key defensive plays by Clare Beer and Nicole Medina goalies Meaghan Penrice and Rachel Klein held their opponent to only 2 goals (by Firecracker Kalena Johnson). On offense, teammates Shyla Capinogro (1), Rachel Klein (1), Annika McCarty (2) and Isabella Segundo (3) scored successfully with direct assists from Clare Beer, Kayla Gonzaga and Olga Merkadeau. Great pass plays and forward momentum were achieved by Madylin Mendoza, Meaghan Penrice, and Rylee Scanlon.

U-11 Grey: In Saturday's home game, Pleasanton Rage Grey U-11 scored the season's first goal against the Walnut Creek Cyclones, the top-ranked team of the Norcal Premier Division 1 Silver. The final score was 1 to 1. In the fourth minute, Grey forward Karin McCarty scored off an assist from midfielder Ecknoor Kaur. The Grey offense pressed intensely for five more minutes. These shots included a Kaur indirect free kick first tapped by Hannah Gossett, a result of a pass back to the Cyclones' goalie. The strong Cyclones answered with their own barrage of shots that were shut down by solid Grey defending by Devyn Baldus, Zoe Moulia Julianna Pereira and first-half goalkeeper Isabella Clark. At the 20th minute, Grey offense kicked it back into high gear, with a soaring corner kick by Emily Tincher to Emily Esparza, who drilled the ball, which was deflected by the Cyclones' goalie. A



West Coast Soccer U12 Wild Fire shocked the first place Pleasanton Rage with a 3-2 win at home. The Wild Fire dominated on all fronts to keep the ladies of Rage at bay. At the mid-point in the fall soccer season, the Wild Fire are putting the excellent training from Coach Marlon Fernandez to use to control the speed game and execute on the field. Pictured is Forward Jenna Tidwell making an offensive move on a Rage player. Jenna went on to score one of the three goals in the match.



Pleasanton Rage U18/19 team battles.

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SPORTS NOTES



Elijah Hodggers of the Bucs stops the Vikings for no gain in Livermore Junior Football League action.



The 12U Mavericks girls' softball team seized its third championship title of the 2011 season at the "Think Pink" cancer awareness tournament. The team traded the usual teal uniforms for pink to participate in this event held in Modesto, CA on October 15-16, 2011. During this tournament the Mavericks Fastpitch organization also held their annual pledge drive to raise money for breast cancer awareness. The Mavericks were relentless, winning all five games to capture first place. The offense pounded out 41 runs, and the pitching was very stingy, striking out 25 batters and allowing only 4 runs all weekend. This tournament marks their fourth consecutive championship game appearance. The Mavericks are: (first row from left) Mia Niklewicz, Mallory Jones, Amber Rice, Katie Lucas, Erica Espinosa; (back row from left) Manager Greg Dobson, Robyn Dobson, Jamie Wittmer, Shelby Rocereto, Jordan Maddox, Tea Stephenson, Natalie Waters, Coach Tim Waters, and Coach John Niklewicz. Not pictured is Maggie Kilday.

minute later, Mary Tincher fired a rocket shot over the crossbar. Just before the half-time whistle, the Cyclones found the net to even the game's score.

The second half began auspiciously for Grey, with an early corner by Kaur that led to a shot by Isabella Huyler that was stopped by the Cyclones' goalie. Both teams appeared hungry to win, but neither was able to convert their shots into points.

Pleasanton Rage Division 4
U-8: The Mountain Lions faced a tough Mountain team on a warm sunny fall day. The game was fast paced with both teams demonstrating dramatic improvement over their first meeting this season. Top Offensive Players: Olivia M., Sophia M., Gwen B. - Mountain Lions; Top Defensive Players: Macy H., Julia B., Jewels S. - Mountain Lions

U-9: The Pumas continued their winning ways after clashing in a hard fought battle with the Puppies. Julia Thomas debuted in goal for the cats, and proved that they were saving the best for last! Julia stopped over a dozen well-placed shots and kept the Puppies strikers on hold. Avenley Rose played through injury and bounced a shot of the goalpost into the Puppies net. Nicole Brown was superior on the field, and helped to keep the Pumas on top. Top Offensive Player: Avenley Rose - Pumas; Top Defensive Player: Julia Thomas - Pumas

Peace Dogs 7, Parakeets 0: Offensive Players: Amanda Brown scored 4 goals for the Peace Dogs in a 7-0 win over the Parakeets. Sadie Brown scored 2 goals and Dania Espinosa scored 1 for the win. Defensive Players: Rachel Singh, Katrina Terpstra and Hannah Loeffler led the winning defense.

U-12: The Her-Ricanes beat P-Town United 4-3 in a hard fought, seesaw battle. P-Town United scored early in the game, only to have the Her-Ricanes score 2 unanswered goals. P-Town United netted a goal just before the half to tie the game at 2-2. The Her-Ricanes opened the second half with a goal and with 10 minutes left, P-Town United tied the score once again. An impressive save by the Her-Ricanes kept the score even and with less than 5 minutes remaining, the Her-Ricanes scored the final goal for the win.

Her-Ricanes 4, P-Town United 3: Bengals 1, Bay Cats 0: Top Offensive Players: Catherine Cho, Gianni Lyng, Megan Gee - Her-Ricanes; Bliss B., Escha C., Slyyer L. - Bay Cats; Top Defensive Players: Emma Tszoto, Alyssa Wu, Summer Reeves - Her-Ricanes; Lulu C., Amira N., Panda P. - Bay Cats

U-14: The Ladyhawks where led Sunday afternoon by Lauren Posschl's two goals in a tightly contested 2-2 match against a well coached Mark Sanchez Chaos team. Brianna Sobrero and Megan Doi led the defensive play for the Ladyhawk as Leah Daniel again was outstanding in the net. The Ladyhawks stayed undefeated as they moved to 3-0-3. Last weekend, the Ladyhawks chalked up a 6-2 "W" against the same Chaos team. Lauren Jepson's 3 goals led the scoring attack, while Lauren Posschl, Priya Kallu and Karina Galvez each added a goal apiece.

Ladyhawks 2, Chaos 2; Rowdies 4, Orange Pride 0: Top Offensive Players: Lauren Posschl - Ladyhawks; Kayla Schroeder, Rachel Butler, Haley Issacs, Megan Cavanaugh - Rowdies; Top Defensive Players: Brianna Sobrero - Ladyhawks; Paige Ryback, Tessa Vlacos, Ellie Kim - Rowdies

U18/19: Rage Cyclones 0, Lady Rebels 4: Hat trick by was scored Kaala Cheney. Nicole Beheil added a goal, the first goal of her soccer career. Offense attack was supported by Tara "20 GSQ" Byrne, Rachel Duggan and Rachel Halperin. Defense backed by Nichol Schroeder, explosive closing speed by Camille Tszoto, and keeper Marie "Clean Sheet" Morley.

Livermore Fusion

Livermore Fusion Soccer Club reports:

U-11 Girls: Livermore Fusion U11 Girls dominated the SACYSL California Northstars this weekend winning their Sunday game 6-3. Total team coordination allowed six individual players to score, including Josie Berg, Abby DeVries, Lindsay Harnish, Cassidy Herberth, Samantha Kwan, and Jen Wise. But these players could not have put



Livermore Fusion S/C U11 girls Black Team played tough opponent Mission Valley United of Fremont in league play on Sunday Oct 8. Mission Valley came out strong scoring on Fusion in the first half. That would be the last Mission Valley would see at the Fusion end of the field as Kayla Jones, Lauren Meeker and Kaitlin Krakoski played defense. Fusion didn't let down as midfielders Alaina Sekany and Stephanie Boshee kept feeding the ball to forwards Camille La Blanc, Cassidy Bates and Abby Harnish as they attacked the goal from all angles. Fusion gets a break as forward Bates takes a corner kick and connects with forward Harnish for the goal tying the game 1-1.



Pleasanton Rage Grey U-11 forward Karin McCarty shoots for an early goal against the Walnut Creek Cyclones. Photo courtesy of Warren McCarty.

U-8: Fireballs vs Red Rockets: Offense: Samuel Langefelds, Jacob Sisto, Benjamin Sears (Fireballs); Nolan Moseley, Isaac Romero, Tyler James Stubbles (Rockets); Defense: Jackson Snodgrass, Theo Xenakis, Gavin Rose (Fireballs); Christopher Hutton, Christian Silva, Adam Tufts (Rockets)

U-7: Star Wars vs Skullz: Offense: Duncan Maxwell, Joaquin Sanchez (Star Wars); Jake Walton, Marcos Valdez (Skullz); Defense: Cody Judd (Star Wars); Brayden Vash (Skullz)

Dragons vs Earthworms: Offense: Jay Jay Mitchell, Kyle Denton (Dragons); William Fuller Dylan Ison (Earthworms); Defense: Dominic Peri, Cameron Angotti (Dragons); Joey Makarewicz, Silbano Ortega (Earthworms)

U-12: Fireballs 8, Hot Shots 2: Offense: Madilyn Martin, Ally Brown, Tyler Lee (Fireballs); Sierra Wysock, Bridgette Meyer (Hot Shots); Defense: Miriam Brown, Emily Hewitt (Fireballs); Emmy Poe, Letti Cisnosen (Hot Shots); Goals & Assists: Madlyn Martin (3G), Ally Brown (3), Tyler Lee (2G), Megan Brodie (G), Raegan Demo (G) (Fireballs); Sierra Wysock (G) (Hot Shots)

Chaos 1, Shockwave 0: Chaos exemplified strong defense led by Craft and Hernandez and kept the ball in Shockwave territory for most of the game. For Shockwave, Worley and Finnegan broke through the defensive line of Chaos, but could not capitalize on their momentum. The offense for Chaos relentlessly pummeled Shockwave, but goalies Romero and Jensen fought off 18 shots on goal, letting only a powerful kick from Powell into the net. Acosta swooped in to clear the ball from scoring range 11 times for Shockwave to help keep the Chaos lead to 1 goal. Two very well matched teams of outstanding players created an exciting game for all. Offense: Brooke Powell, Ashley Derdak, Maggie Rosendin, Jodi Bryant (Chaos); Anya Worley, Alyssa Sausen, Mary Griffin (Shockwave); Defense: Arina van Schoonenberg, Amanda Craft, Jennifer Hernandez (Chaos); Anika Jensen, Luci Romero, Ciara Acosta (Shockwave); Goals & Assists: Brooke Powell (G), Ashley Derdak (A) (Chaos)

U-8: Soccer Sisters vs a Great game on Saturday, October 15, against the Angry Birds. The top players for the Soccer Sisters were: Gianna Allen, Wallis Bergman, and Calissa Smith.

U-7: The Heartbreakers vs Blue Bombers: Offense: Shelby Maverakis, Maddie Flack, Evelyn LeDesma (Heartbreakers); Grace Anderson, Amy Jensen (Bombers); Defense: Mackenzie Wherry (Heartbreakers); Ava Lewis, Hailley-Ann Stubbles (Bombers)

U-6: Kicking Tigers vs Sparkly Ladybugs: Offense: Aida Ramirez, Natalia Puente, Madi Perkins (Tigers); Savanna Battaon, Sydney Goodwin, Aniella Zullo (Ladybugs); Defense: Aida Ramirez (Tigers); Anne Polaski, Maddison Colagross, Eliana Green (Ladybugs)

U-5: Unicorns vs My Little Ponies: Offense: Mackenzie Salimida (Unicorns); Adah Hu, Kaylee Smith (Ponies); Defense: Elise Goulart (Unicorns); Shreya Shetti, Audrey Torrez (Ponies)

Division-4 (Recreation/House) Boys
U-10: Snipers 3, Groundbreakers 2: Offense: Brandon Umeki, Joshua Spencer (Snipers); Caleb Nieto, Scott Pagel (Groundbreakers); Defense: Evan Nyström, Kevin Indrajith (Snipers); Kaegan Nelson, Blake Teixeira (Groundbreakers); Goals & Assists: Brandon Umeki (2G), Joshua Spencer (G) (Snipers); Caleb Nieto (2G) (Groundbreakers)

The Champions 3, Strike Force 0: The Champions and the Strike Force both played hard. It was a fast paced, high intensity game. Both teams moved the ball around the field. In the end, the Champions played a slightly more aggressive game and took the win 3-0 over Strike Force. Offense: Chad Madrid (G, A), Thomas Cowles (G), Nathan Jones (G) (Champions); Jeffrey Fairbanks, Robert Jimenez, Jacob Johnston (Force); Defense: Michael Bearden (GK), Ben Morrisroe (Champions); Tracie Addington, Kevin Collytt, Calvin Jue (Force); Goals & Assists: Chad Madrid (G, A), Thomas Cowles (G), Nathan Jones (G) (Champions)

U-9: Thunderbolts 8, Jets 4: Offense: Edwin Zabala, Christian Cruz (Thunderbolts); Taha Diah, Kaden Hickmott (Jets); Defense: Juan Cadna, Wesley Short (Thunderbolts); Pedro Aceves, Elijah Schell (Jets)

U-8: Fireballs vs Red Rockets: Offense: Samuel Langefelds, Jacob Sisto, Benjamin Sears (Fireballs); Nolan Moseley, Isaac Romero, Tyler James Stubbles (Rockets); Defense: Jackson Snodgrass, Theo Xenakis, Gavin Rose (Fireballs); Christopher Hutton, Christian Silva, Adam Tufts (Rockets)

California Gymnastics

The Level 4 and 5 girls from California Gymnastics Academy competed at the Teddy



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Foothill High School Falcons traveled to play the Granada Matadors to start the second half of EBAL varsity girls volleyball play. Foothill recovered from a first set loss to win the next three sets, taking the match 3-1. Pictured are Sara Markle (6) and Jennifer Corbin (9) from Foothill go up for a block against Granada's Essi Helminen (3).



The West Coast Wrath U11G team win its third league game. The girls were on fire against the PSC Highlanders, beating them 1-0. Pictured is Tyler Rene Enderlein beating the PSC defender prior to passing to Hayley Thompson who is pictured running down on the wing prior to receiving Tyler's cross.

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THE BIG YEAR (PG) DLP	12:05	2:30	4:55 7:15 9:35
REAL STEEL (PG13) DLP		1:05	4:00 7:00 9:45
THE IDES OF MARCH (R) DLP	12:00	2:20	4:40 7:15 9:35
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Livermore Yotsukiado Sister City Organization's Annual Youth Exchange Underway



Twenty eighth-grade student ambassadors, chaperones, a board member and a student representative will board a flight to Tokyo this week beginning a 9-day adventure with Livermore's sister city hosts in Yotsukaido. They gathered for a group photo before leaving.

The Livermore Yotsukiado Sister City Organization (LYSCO) is making its annual trip to Japan this October. The group consists of 20 Livermore eighth grade students, four parent chaperones, LYSCO student representative Trevor Malone, and current LYSCO President Keith Jess.

Sponsored by the City of Livermore, LYSCO serves to foster better understanding and cultural exchanges with our sister city, Yotsukaido. The organization was formed in 1977, and the exchange program started in 2001. The yearly exchange was recently started, rather than every other year. Middle school students in Livermore are invited to apply for the program in early spring. A rigorous application and interview process selects those youth eager to represent Livermore in a positive image while learning a new culture.

Youth from Livermore are paired up, and stay with a family in Yotsukaido with children their own age. While in Japan, the Livermore students attend school in with their host family's youth. This affords the opportunity to compare schools and cultures, while realizing their similarities. Although most of the Japanese youth are learning English, and Livermore youth learn key words in Japanese to help them communicate, they both use a lot of dictionaries and miming. They quickly learn, though, that language differences are no barrier. They form bonds that often last a lifetime. Mayor Marshall Kamena has been a big supporter of the program. "The LYSCO program has fostered world peace at its best level, the local one. From person to person contact our students have melted away the differences that

have separated us. How does one not have peace when we are friends?" he states.

Yotsukaido is about one hour from Tokyo, near Narita airport. It is a city of similar population and socio-economic circumstances to those of Livermore. There will be plenty of time for sightseeing and learning about the region. While the youth are at school, the adult chaperones spend time with Yotsukaido's representatives, visiting shrines, touring the city, and sharing cultures. LYSCO President Keith Jess is excited about the trip. "I started as a chaperone when my daughter went in 2007 and have been involved ever since. I really enjoy meeting the students and their families. My family has made some very good friends in Japan, and we look forward to fostering those friendships," said Jess.

The student and adult representatives from Yotsukaido visited Livermore in March of this year. They left home the day after the major earthquake and tsunami that hit not far from them. With the region in turmoil, it was not known until they were actually in the air if they would be able to make the trip. While Yotsukaido was not hard hit and everyone was safe, they did have some damage from the quake. As the danger in the hardest hit areas was realized, over 2000 refugees went to Yotsukaido for relief, straining resources. While here, host families did their best to distract the Japanese youth from news of their home country. Two days before they were to return home, though, an urgent message came from a parent to bring home needed supplies. LYSCO families quickly organized a supply drive, and while the Japanese and Livermore youth spent their last night together with a bowling party, over 30 boxes of supplies were collected and packaged to send home with them. Japan Airlines graciously flew the extra baggage back at no charge.

LYSCO was represented at the annual Wine Festival in downtown Livermore in May. Past Livermore student representatives manned a booth collecting donations. For a small fee, festival attendees could learn to make an origami crane. A Japanese symbol of peace, guests could keep one for themselves, and make one for Yotsukaido. One thousand cranes were made, and will be presented to Yotsukaido Sister City representatives at their welcome ceremony. The money that was raised, over \$2000, will

also be donated to Yotsukaido to assist with their recovery and refugee programs.

By the end of October, twenty Livermore middle schoolers, five adults, and one teenager will return home with a greater understanding of Japanese culture, many new friends, memories to

last a lifetime, and, hopefully, a desire to foster peace throughout the world.

For more information on the Livermore Yotsukaido Sister City program, log on to www.lysco.org or email lysco2010@yahoo.com

more info at www.livermoredowntown.com

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Social Media Can Boost Arts Groups' Publicity

By Ron McNicoll

People who are promoting their arts group, small business or themselves as students seeking a job have picked up some tips about using social media from a professional public relations person.

David Perry, who owns a San Francisco firm whose clients include that city's mayor's office, spoke to an audience of about 60 people on Oct. 13 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton.

Perry's appearance was sponsored by the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council, whose members said they wanted to find more effective ways to promote their organizations.

Perry talked about the four leading social media tools today, and how to use them to their full effectiveness. The four were Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Twitter.

Most of the tools and a web page can be used to promote an event. Perry illustrated the point by referring to the Pacific Coast Repertory Theater's production of "Thoroughly Modern Millie," which was being performed right next door to the meeting room where he was speaking. Perry's firm provided some of the promotion for "Millie."

The basic idea for a web page is to have the production listed prominently on the home page, and a spot for selling tickets, one that is easily seen by the page visitor.

YouTube could be used to show a few minutes of a scene from the musical, and also show brief interviews with the actors. Video clips of selected audience members talking after a performance can be posted.

More powerful than YouTube, though, is Facebook, because of its "friends," according to Perry. These are people who have signed on to a Facebook page, and are interested in you and what you are doing. Perry said that he has 1200 Facebook friends, and has met every one of them.

The effectiveness of Facebook is all about the relationships, he said. "The 100 who see you on Facebook all the time (are preferable to) the 1000 who see you on YouTube," said Perry.

Twitter is another way of making contact. Although limited to 140 characters, it can be a handy medium to send short messages to people about how "Millie," for example, was

appreciated.

LinkedIn is the "Facebook of business." Perry said that he checks his every other day, compared to his daily checks of Facebook. He uses it for his business. He recommended that if the students in the audience want to use it to post resumes, the first should have someone ready to recommend that someone in the firm take a look at them.

Perry's firm job is public relations, which is not the same as marketing. Perry explained the difference. "Marketing is giving someone \$5 to say that I'm the greatest. Public relations is giving two people \$1 each to stand near someone and say, one to the other, 'I hear he's great.'" Basically, that's what happens on Facebook between friends, with others able to look in on Facebook's "wall," and see the comments.

'THINK LIKE JOURNALISTS'

With the lines now blurred between journalism and social media, Perry said that people spreading the word about their arts group or business need to "think like journalists. That

means grab attention, send information out there, and get out of the way."

Publicists need to adopt the journalist's five W's: who, what, when, where, and why? They also need to add how and how much?

Arts groups could try putting games on their web pages, said Perry. His client 42nd Street Moon, a musical comedy group in San Francisco, has a game question, with a reward of two free tickets. "You could ask who was the first actress to play Millie in 'Thoroughly Modern Millie,'" Perry suggested.

Despite all the electronic activity today in promoting business and the arts, paper is still "a very effective tool. It's tactile." Although air traffic controllers rely on computers, they keep one key element on paper. Each flight

they are tracking is written on a separate sheet of paper. When that plane goes into another sector, the first controller hands the paper to the second controller. In that way, no mistakes.

The controllers' practice shows that paper is a sure record. Theaters give audiences sure records: their tickets on paper. Theater companies should be listing their Facebook page address on the backs of those tickets, said Perry.

An audience member asked Perry whether it's worth paying someone to insert key words for a web page, in hopes that it will be one of the top choices when people look at a search engine page.

Perry replied, "Key words are overrated. You can pay someone to do it, but the next day, it's low on the page."

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Foothill Band Review Steps Off for 37th Time

Every year since 1974, on the fourth Saturday in October, the top high school bands in Northern California and Nevada have gathered in Pleasanton for the Foothill Band Review. On October 22, 2011, for the 37th time, the grand tradition will go on as Foothill is hosting the biggest, most competitive, and best-run band review in our area of the country.

As in previous years, the Pleasanton and the Foothill Band programs will be showcased along with over 50 high schools for parade, concert and field show competitions.

This year's parade will begin on Main Street at 8:30 am with Foothill stepping off first. It is free and open to the public. The parade is scheduled to run until approximately 12:30.

Concert competition is at Amador Valley High School from 7:30 am- 12:30 pm. Parade and concert

awards are at 3 pm at Foothill High School.

The field show will be held at Foothill High School from 4pm - 10pm with the awards ceremony set to begin at 10:15 pm.

Tickets and programs are available for sale on Main Street and at Amador High School during the Parade. Tickets and programs will also be available at Foothill High School. Event pins and souvenirs and food vendors will be on hand during the event.

General Admission is \$10. Amador Valley and Dublin High Schools are competing in the field show. Dublin High School and Wells Middle School are in the parade.

The 2011 Grand Marshall for the Foothill Band Review is Valerie Arkin, School Board President. The 37th Annual Foothill Band Review is a major fund-raiser for the band program at Foothill.

Acoustic Guitarist Leo Kottke Returns to Bankhead

Acoustic guitarist Leo Kottke returns to the Bankhead Theater in November with the signature sound and innovative fingerpicking style that has made him one of the foremost acoustic guitarists of our time.

The New York Times has described him as "a guitarist who plays like two" and he is known for the rich and luscious instrumentals he produces from his six-and 12-string guitars. Leo Kottke was a part of the opening season at the Bankhead Theater and now returns in the fifth season for a single performance on Monday evening, November 7, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

In his four decades as a guitarist and performer, Leo Kottke has established a reputation for skillfully blending folk, pop, blues, jazz and classical elements into his own unique musical style. He moved several times during his childhood, absorbing and enjoying the many musical influences he encountered. Despite a partial hearing loss suffered as a child,



Leo Kottke

when he landed in Virginia for high school he took up music, playing the trombone before eventually finding his way to the guitar. After serving in the Navy, Kottke settled in Minnesota playing his guitar in local coffeehouses and small clubs. His growing popularity eventually led to the 1969 recording of "6- and 12-String Guitar," a brilliant landmark album still revered by guitarists worldwide.

Kottke's remarkable ability to bring forth what some called "torrents of notes" from his guitar was instrumental in his rapid rise in the music world, but also nearly resulted in the end of his career. In the 1980s, he suffered from debilitating tendon damage caused by his intense fingerpicking style. In order to continue playing, Kottke developed a completely new method, repositioning his hand and combining jazz and classical playing techniques. This original fingerpicking style, combined with unconventional tuning

(continued on page 4)

Duo Performs the Songs of Irving Berlin at the Firehouse

The Firehouse Arts Center Cabaret Series continues with Linda Purl and Lee Lessack in *Steppin' Out With My Baby: The Songs of Irving Berlin*.

The performance will be Sunday, November 6, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

Broadway, Hollywood and TV star Purl teams up with cabaret and recording artist Lessack in a nostalgic tribute to the career of "America's composer." The much-applauded duo will perform Berlin's most beloved songs -- "There's No Business Like Show Business," "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "God Bless America" and many, many more.

Linda Purl is a television veteran who has starred in more than 40 Movies of the Week including *Born Free*, *The Last Days of Pom-*

peii (with Sir Laurence Olivier), and *The Mansions of America* (with Pierce Brosnan.) She appeared as Charlene Matlock in the long-running hit, *Matlock*, and as Ashley Phister, Fonzie's fiancée, in *Happy Days*. Recently, she has played recurring roles on *Desperate Housewives* and as Pam's mother on *The Office*.

Her feature film credits include Disney's *Mighty Joey Young* and, on Broadway, she starred in the Tony-nominated *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. As a singer, she appears in concert and at cabarets and has recorded albums "Alone Together" and "Out of This World".

Lee Lessack's lyric baritone vocals and sophisticated-yet-endearing persona have made him a star of the international cabaret and concert scene. He tours extensively in the United States and

Europe to sold-out performances and has released six albums to rave reviews. Many of his recordings feature duets and special appearances with notable artists such as Michael Feinstein, Maureen McGovern and Stephen Schwartz. His "In Good Company" was awarded both a MAC and a BISTRO AWARD for Best Recording of the Year.

Tickets are adult \$17, \$22 and \$27; child \$17; senior \$24. Group discounts are available. Tickets may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org, by phone at (925) 931-4848, or in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office. Box Office hours are Wednesday-Friday, 12 noon-6:00 p.m.; Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance.

The entrance to free parking is on Spring Street near First Street.



Linda Purl and Lee Lessack

Amador to Stage 'The Laramie Project'

Amador Valley High School drama students will present its production of "The Laramie Project," on Oct. 27, 28 29 and Nov. 3, 4 and 5 at the Amador Theater in Pleasanton.

The play was written by Moisés Kaufman and The Tectonic Theater Project

In October 1998 Matthew Shepard was kidnapped, severely beaten and left to die, tied to a fence on the outskirts of Laramie,

Wyoming. Five weeks later, Moisés Kaufman and fellow members of the Tectonic Theater Project went to Laramie, and over the course of the next year, conducted more than 200 interviews with people of the town.

From these interviews they wrote the play *The Laramie Project*, a chronicle of the life of the town of Laramie in the year after the murder.

On Friday nights, Oct. 28 and

Nov. 4, the Amador Gay Straight Alliance will join the cast and crew for an audience Q&A after the performances. No children under six and no children under 13 will be admitted without parent.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$8 for adults. Contact Kelsey Hartman (Drama Director) at khartman@pleasanton.k12.ca.us or visit www.amadordons.com for more information

'Howl-o-Ween' Goes to the Dogs



Valley Humane Society's "Howl-o-ween" event is all about the dogs. On October 28, 2011 from 6pm to 9pm Valley Humane Society will host a dog costume

party and contest at A Touch of Health Day Spa, 377 St. Mary's Street in downtown Pleasanton. The event will include a raffle for great prizes, including a cruise to the Caribbean.

Dogs will be competing to win in the following categories: Best

Dressed, Most Creative, Best Duo, Cutest, and of course Best Naked. (To be clear, Best Naked is for the dogs only. Owners must come dressed!) In addition, Valley Humane is introducing a dog/owner look-a-like contest. Many dog owners look like their dog, but rarely do people admit it.

All event proceeds benefit Valley Humane Society, the local no-kill shelter where hundreds of cats and dogs are adopted into new forever homes each year.

"This event is so much fun. The atmosphere is light, yet competitive. I think the dogs know they are trying to win. The dog/owner look-a-like contest is what I'm really looking forward to the most.

It should be a hoot," said Melanie Sadek, Executive Director

Tickets can be purchased in advance at Murphy's Paw, 410 Main Street, downtown Pleasanton or Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street, Pleasanton. The event is \$25, which includes admission and one drink ticket. Beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages will be served.

Valley Humane Society is an animal welfare organization advocating responsible pet ownership. They seek to provide the community with educational outreach and collaborative programs that enrich the bond between people and companion animals and eliminate unnecessary euthanasia.



Library Presents 'Brothels, Bandits and Bars'

"Brothels, Bandits and Bars," a history presentation, will be held at the Pleasanton Library on Thurs., Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.

Pleasanton in the 1850's was called "The Most Desperate Town in the West." Main Street was home to brothels, gambling halls and bandits. Join long-time locals Gene Pons and Phil Henry for a review of the rip-roaring history of Pleasanton.

A presentation Pons and Henry will cover the history of the changing community including the time of wild saloons, prohibition and bootlegging.

There is no admission charge. No registration is required. For more information, please call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

Students Attend a Free Night at the Opera

Livermore Valley Opera's Educational Outreach Takes Opera to the Classroom



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Students watch intently as the story of *Roméo et Juliette* is told.

Area students were among the first to see Livermore Valley Opera's (LVO) 20th Anniversary season production of Gounod's opera *Roméo et Juliette* during a free dress rehearsal performance held September 22 at the Bankhead Theater. Students from Tri-Valley schools and beyond were treated to a fully-staged performance accompanied by orchestra. Refreshments were served during an intermission special reception in the lobby of the theater. Over 180 students filled the theater. For many, it was their first trip to the Bankhead and a live opera.

The free student night performance was the culmination of LVO's student outreach program over the weeks leading up to the opening night of *Roméo et Juliette* coordinated by LVO orchestra member Gary Sears. The effort involved *Roméo et Juliette* principal opera singers performing arias in classrooms of Tri-Valley middle and high schools including Amador Valley High, Foothill High, Hart Middle School and Pleasanton Middle School in Pleasanton, and Livermore High.

"It's been a delight to see the students' faces light up when

our professional singers belt out their arias in the classroom," says Sears. "I'm pleased that many of the students came to the free dress rehearsal production and hope they will become regular opera fans."

The music teachers were equally excited by the students' reactions. Mark Aubel, Music Educator at Pleasanton's Amador High and Harvest Park Middle School said "Your soprano Melody King's presentation was exactly what I was looking for. You reinforced my teaching and inspired my students."

Livermore High's music teacher Art Gagnier also expressed his gratitude. "Thank you for the wonderful presentation. Singer Bernardo Bermudez and his accompanist Mary Martin were spectacular. The students really enjoyed the interaction. I really appreciate these professionals taking time out of their busy schedules."

Sears distributed invitations to the Students Free Night to the students who attended the classroom performances, many of whom came to the dress rehearsal. The event attracted students studying choral singing, orchestra, and drama as well as French language

and English classic literature.

Amador Valley freshman and soprano in the school's chamber choir Madeline Aston came to the dress rehearsal to see her first opera. "I love it! It's absolutely beautiful," she commented during intermission. "We heard Melody King perform in our classroom. We just loved her. She was amazing." King was the "cover" or understudy for Juliette and performed the lead role of Cio-Cio San in LVO's production of *Madama Butterfly* last spring. She is also a regular performer for LVO's outreach events.

For Jonathan Neuman, a seventh-grader at Mendenhall Middle School and a violinist in the school's orchestra, *Roméo et Juliette* was his fifth opera. "I've seen a lot of Livermore Valley Opera's shows. *Die Fledermaus* is my favorite - so far."

Sisters Emily Ofiana and Taylor Ofiana learned about the Students Free Night on Livermore High School's website. "I wanted to come to see the opera because it's sung in French. I plan to study French in college," said Emily, a senior at LHS.

This was the second Students

Free Night that LVO has offered and plans to continue with its next opera production of Puccini's *Tosca* on March 10, 11, 17 and 18.

LVO's educational outreach effort supports its fundamental mission to enrich our community by

producing the world's best operas, to foster the careers of talented opera singers, and encourage a wider appreciation of opera and the associated arts. Funding was provided by the City of Pleasanton and Wells Fargo Corporation.

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When I saw Dustin Hoffman in "The Graduate" shortly after the film's release in 1967, I didn't know I would meet him several years later.

In 1973, I was taking singing lessons from a tenor who had sung at the Metropolitan Opera. He told me that if I was serious about singing, which I was at the time, I would have to see as many operas as possible. So I attended a Met performance practically every evening. Since even the cheapest seats were out of my price range, I would buy a ticket for \$1.75. This allowed me to stand at the back of the family circle at the very top of the theater (I could almost touch the ceiling) with the rest of the budget-challenged patrons, mostly students. Still, the singing filtered up there and it sounded glorious, even if the singers down on the stage looked so small you couldn't see them moving.

The particular evening I met Dustin Hoffman, I went with Rose to see *Carmen*. Rose, as I mentioned in an earlier column, was the senior citizen who had marched with me on the Pentagon. In addition to her political fervor, she was also a diehard opera fan, but one on a limited retirement income. Over the years, she had developed, shall we say, a creative method for enjoying some of the finer things in life.

Rose and I bought the higher-priced standing-room tickets for \$2.50 for the area in back of the orchestra section. We waited on the fringes until Eddie, the head usher in charge of the center aisle, approached us, which Rose assured me he would since she was one of his regulars.

In due fashion, Eddie came and Rose slipped him a five spot — \$2.50 for her, \$2.50 for me — that had been so carefully folded it was no bigger than a nickel. He clandestinely wrapped his fingers around the tiny bundle, further

Yesterday into Today

Meeting Dustin Hoffman

By Sarah Bobson

camouflaged it with the flashlight he was holding, and proceeded to walk up and down the aisle in search of two empty seats. A few minutes later, he returned, gave us "the nod," and we followed like dutiful ducklings to the sixth row, center.

Surrounded by a sea of glittering bracelets, rings and necklaces, and mink stoles, Rose took off her raccoon coat, which must have been at least 40 years old and looked like it suffered from the mange. She placed her plastic shopping bag patched with adhesive tape (it contained a few emergency essentials) on the floor, and sat down in a manner befitting the reserved dignity of her now expensive seat. I followed suit, sans raccoon coat.

Unfortunately, the seats didn't work out because their rightful owners claimed them. Feeling like an evicted homeless person, I was further embarrassed because, as luck would have it, Eddie had seated us next to one of my bosses at the real estate firm where I worked part-time. The very wealthy man, who had initially given me but a furtive glance, now sat stone still as though he didn't know me.

Eddie was leading us back to the standing-room pit when he spied four empty seats on the side section. He pointed to them officiously with his flashlight, and we scooted in, saying "Excuse me" and "Sorry" as we stepped on feet, knocked against knees, and Rose's coat swished past faces.

The famed crystal chandeliers rose dramatically to the ceiling,

signaling the beginning of the performance. The house went dark and the curtain rose. I breathed a sigh of relief that we were safe, at least until the second act, when two people rushed into our row from the side aisle and sat down to my right.

I was watching the performance when, out of the corner of my eye, I became aware of the profile of a nose. And in that instant I knew, don't ask me how, that the man sitting next to me was Dustin Hoffman. I calculated the odds of that being true. Still, I whispered my thoughts to Rose. She craned her neck, and then whispered back that it did, indeed, look like Dustin Hoffman.

As soon as the house lights came back on for the first intermission, Rose leaned over and started chatting. Looking directly at the man now, there was no doubt: It was Dustin Hoffman. Rose told him how much she admired his acting. Before too long, she pulled from the shopping bag a silver flask containing Canadian Club and small V-shaped paper cups, the kind that nest one inside the other and hang from metal containers near drinking fountains. She poured the brew into a cup and offered it to Mr. Hoffman, and he accepted, after a slight hesitation. She poured a cup for his companion, a slim lady with blond hair, one for me, and one for herself.

Rose asked Mr. Hoffman if he liked *Carmen*.

"Well, I don't know," he said through that charming but controlled smile we've seen in his films. "I've never been to the opera before." Without missing a beat, he

added: "How long is the show? We didn't eat before we came?"

The four of us continued to sip from our paper cups. Rose did most of the talking. Mr. Hoffman listened attentively. He had, I thought, a gentle, kind, quiet manner about him, even though by this time he was quite the star, having appeared in 12 films, including not only *The Graduate*, but *Midnight Cowboy*, *John and Mary*, *Little Big Man*, *Straw Dogs*, and *Papillon*.

Soon, people started filtering to their seats, accompanied by the usual din of voices. But then a hush fell over our section of the orchestra. Like the old Merrill Lynch commercials, which said, "When Merrill Lynch speaks, people listen," the opera patrons sensed that something important was going on and they wanted to know about it. I began to hear: "Isn't that Dustin Hoffman?" "Who are those people with him?" When I looked around, I saw what felt like eyes the size of daisies, all turned in the same direction toward the invisible spotlight shinning down on us. I felt terribly important. What was it Andy Warhol said about everybody having their 15 minutes of fame?

Our new-found fame proved to be just that: 15 minutes. The boom dropped when Eddie returned with the rightful owners of our seats. Rose made a feeble attempt at saving face in front of Mr. Hoffman and the whole damn audience. She fumbled in her plastic bag, ostensibly for her ticket, and said, "There must be some mistake." Some mistake, indeed. Eddie had our five dollars and we had no seats.

Eddie carted us away once again, this time all the way back

to the standing-room arm rests. Because there was no longer even a sliver of space left for two more bodies and the other standees wouldn't even let us squeeze in, Rose and I had to stand in the aisle, without even a plank of wood where we could rest an elbow. Ah, the operatic tragedy of it all. We had gone from fame to shame, not in one act but in one intermission.

After the second act, we went to the lobby to get replacement cups for the Canadian Club. When we returned, one of the standees asked, to our great surprise, "Are you Rose and Sarah?" Hesitantly, we said, "Yes." The standee said, "Mr. Hoffman was looking for you. He left these." She held up two tickets.

For the third act, we sat in Mr. Hoffman's seats.

The next day, Rose sent Mr. Hoffman a letter thanking him for the tickets. Knowing that he was a liberal, she also included a few choice left-of-center remarks. Mr. Hoffman answered promptly with a lovely letter, in which he commented on the country's political situation.

I will never forget Mr. Hoffman's singular act of kindness. When he left early, he could have simply tossed his tickets. Instead, he took the time to look for a couple of opera-loving, Chaplin-esque characters in order to let them sit in his expensive orchestra seats. To me, he is not only one of the great actors of our time, but he is also a very thoughtful soul.

LEO KOTTKE

(continued from front page)

of his six- and 12- string guitars, has set Kottke apart with a unique and identifiable sound.

His quick wit and relaxed humor have entertained audiences in venues of all sizes, as well as during his frequent guest appearances on the radio program A Prairie Home Companion.

Tickets to hear Leo Kottke at the Bankhead Theater this November range from \$18 to \$40 for adults and \$14 for students.

Later this season, "International Guitar Night" will unite leading acoustic guitarists from around the world to share musical ideas and their latest compositions. California-based guitar poet Brian Gore will be joined by Adrian Legg from England, Lulo Reinhardt from Germany, and Marco Pereira from Brazil on Tuesday evening, January 24, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

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



A.J. Swearingen and Jonathan Beedle

Simon & Garfunkel Retrospective Benefits School Music Programs

A Simon & Garfunkel Retrospective will be performed at Livermore High School to raise money for Livermore's school music programs.

The performance will be Fri., Nov. 18 at 8 p.m. in the high school theater, 600 Maple St., Livermore.

Performers A.J. Swearingen and Jonathan Beedle, the national touring duo, has been performing this tribute for more than a decade. Their sold-out shows prove their effect of transporting the audience back to the 1960's.

With only an acoustic guitar, AJ and Jonathan re-create the memories of the classic hits as well as some obscure Simon & Garfunkel originals.

ABC Music in downtown Livermore is producing this benefit concert and directing proceeds to the Livermore Valley Education Foundation.

Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 students, and \$18 seniors. Advance ticket sales are at ABC Music, 2156 First St, Downtown Livermore or call 925-443-1244

A Study of Collaboration: The St. Petersburg Quartet

By Richard Yates

The St. Petersburg String Quartet played to a receptive Livermore audience Saturday evening at the Bankhead Theater as part of the Del Valle Fine Arts concert series. Performing Shostakovich's String Quartet No. 1 in C major, Op. 49, Tchaikovsky's String Quartet No. 1 in D major, Op. 11, and Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" Quartet No. 14 in D minor, D. 810, the evening's music captured a comprehensive spectrum of emotional substance.

The programming choice of playing both the first quartets of Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky is significant in light of creating a bright and hopeful first half of the concert to foil with the brooding of Schubert's late work comprising the final half. At the time of the quartet's composition, Shostakovich's son Maxim was just born. The composer was in a rare state of favor with the Soviet Authorities after the success of his Fifth Symphony. Tchaikovsky infuses his quartet with the energetic sounds of folk music, having been composed for the purpose of raising funds at a benefit concert. Schubert was unfortunately at a much different point in life, battling incapacitated health from syphilis. The St. Petersburg's task at reconciling these differing emotional states and creating a musical result that creates a compelling dramatic perspective is challenging. Through their collaboration Saturday night, the quartet members managed to succeed in crafting these varied frameworks; establishing their own

unified voice.

Collaboration as a means to achieve a powerful communicative experience is epitomized in chamber music, where the players, audience, and musical compositions all come together in a concentrated way to form an exploratory unit into the vast reaches of human sentiment. The kernel of the string quartet, in many ways, sheds what can easily become excesses in the symphonic medium by reducing the number of players per part to the most efficient of means. Subtle glances between the violist and cellist are important moments of alignment between the orchestral equivalent of leaders of entire instrumental consorts. Players and audience alike can be easily stunned by the sheer sweep of bold gestures that are seemingly impossibly derived from just four solo acoustic players. The directness of the medium distills the music into a powerful sonic space rife with the potential for garnering a certain state of connectedness that in turn allows all participants the opportunity for contemplative or deeply felt experiences.

In order for the resultant music to resonate in any meaningful way, however, there is much groundwork that first needs to be addressed. The quartet, because of its reduction in personnel, is incredibly transparent. The first violin especially has the often-unfortunate distinction (in traditional repertoire) of being the foreground both because it is usually the highest part acoustically, and because it carries the melody. The result is a

sound complex that doubly emphasizes its emblematic, rather than substantive, roles. There is both an objective, acoustical emphasis, and a linear, narrative-based unfolding, working simultaneously to seemingly obliterate any hope for a true balance of sound between players. It's no wonder that the leadership in excellent string quartets often resides in the thoughtful diplomacy of the first violinist.

On the flip side, an overbearing player who doesn't key into listening and collaborating with the other ensemble members creates a deep divide, which can secure a mediocre performance at best. The first violinist is left with a contradictory job description: lead the group through taking initiative, yet listen and be adaptive to the others players, creating a balanced sound world that is more of a heterogeneous soundscape than a dictatorship.

The St. Petersburg Quartet demonstrated both the sublime richness that can be evoked from collaboration, and examples of the above problem: where the sound is overly treble dominated. The Schubert was a clear highlight of the former. The lower strings, enraptured by the drama, came out of their shells more and inhabited the lush counterpoints and bold resonances of their parts. The cellist was deeply expressive carrying the melody in the Andante, emerging from the shadows and emoting a majestic profundity. Though short-lived in duration, the ensemble swells grounded in the richness of the bass register were

among the most riveting moments of the evening.

The slow movements throughout the program illuminated the quartet's ability to emote compelling music with genuine warmth. The ensemble connectivity and concentration produced instances of the most shimmering, milky, vibrato-infused tone. In the Schubert Andante, the melody played by the first violin expressed more of a vulnerability than an all-knowing perspective (the music perhaps mirroring Schubert's own coming to terms with his death). The violist, likewise, was consistently passionate in terms of exhibiting an expressive performance style. He turned subtly, from facing primarily inwards to the ensemble, to outwards towards the audience when he was making an important addition. This physical gesture engaged the greater room with these rich moments of contrapuntal activity or the playful passing of bits of melody between players.

Perhaps the violist was the most overt in his attempt to foster a collaborative atmosphere during the evening. Modes of quiet listening, thoughtful interjection, and overall flexibility need not be visually perceptible to be beneficial to fostering effective conversations. Very often, though, the physicality in gesture expresses sentiments more directly and passionately than without.

In the end, to judge a successful collaboration, it boils down to whether the produced experience was compelling. In the case of The St. Petersburg, it was.



Art work from liquidlibrary/Thinkstock

Sign Up to Learn to Draw Anime and Manga

"How to Draw Anime & Manga" kicks off a new four-part series of free children's workshops beginning this fall at the Pleasanton Public Library.

Kids in grades 3-8 will receive a 90-minute hands-on introduction to this and three other "how to" topics: juggling, magic and origami. Presented on the first Saturday of each month between November and February, the library brings Bay Area experts who not only know their subjects but who love teaching them to children as well.

Registration, which opens three weeks prior to each workshop, is for either of two sessions: 10:30-12:00 for children in grades 3-5, and 1:30-3:00 for those in grades 6-8. The "How to Draw Anime & Manga" registration period begins Monday, October 17. All workshops are free.

To register, or for more information about these and other library programs and events, stop by the library at 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton or call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 ext. 8. Information is also available on the library's website at <http://www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library/programs-and-events.html>.

Brew Crawl Tickets Available in Downtown Pleasanton

Downtown merchants, restaurants and local breweries will come together on Saturday, October 29 at the first Brew Crawl event, hosted by the Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA) and sponsored by Redcoats Pub, Handles on Main and the Pleasanton Main Street Brewery.

Patrons can shop along Main Street, sample local craft beers and food pairings while enjoying a beautiful fall evening. To add to the festival holiday spirit of this event, guests are encouraged to wear costumes.

The Pleasanton Downtown Association encourages everyone to enjoy downtown responsibly. To support this effort the PDA will be selling designated driver tickets for \$10 at the door and the event program will include taxi contact information.

Participating downtown businesses include: Balloons and Beyond, Bellezza Cristali's Hair Salon, Bicycles! Pleasanton, Clover Creek, Fleet Feet, Jewelers Gallery, Murphy's Paw, Pans on Fire, Prim, Renee Huber State Farm, Salon 645, Serenity Stone-

works, Sincerely Yours, Studio Seven Arts, Towne Center Books and Vision One.

Participating Breweries include: 21st Amendment, Ale Industries, Black Diamond, Buffalo Bill's, Coney Island, Firestone Walker, Gordon Biersch, Handles Gastropub, High Water, Knee Deep, Lagunitas, Lost Coast, Mendocino Brewing Company, Pleasanton Main Street Brewery and Sierra Nevada.

Tickets are on sale now for \$25 at Handles on Main – 855 Main Street, Pleasanton Main Street

Brewery – 830 Main Street, Redcoats Pub – 336 St. Mary Street and Studio Seven Arts – 400 Main Street. Tickets will be available for \$30 at 4:30 p.m. on the day of the event at Chase Bank – 561 Main Street. Tickets must be redeemed by 6 p.m. Ticket price includes tastings at all 16 locations, a commemorative beer glass and tasting map. Only 500 will be sold.

Event is rain or shine, no refunds. The sponsors are not responsible for lost, misplaced or stolen tickets.



Alameda County CattleWomen (ACCW) have partnered with G&M Farms to make the Corn Maze a fun, learning experience. CattleWomen will be on hand every weekend in October with beef samples and free recipes. Pictured are (seated) Dana Rivinius, Teresa Valdez, Allison Batteate, Debbie Bradford, and Carolyn Colson; (standing) Kim Bonde, John Gandolfo (G&M Farms), Barbara Anderson, Dan Marciel (G&M Farms), Lillian Marciel, Nancy Mueller, Merry Carter, and Dina Goff. For more information about G&M Farms Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch, contact Diane Gandolfo at 925-766-7262 or information@gmfarms.com. The maze is located at 487 East Airway Boulevard, Livermore.



On Saturday October 1, a Livermore family visited the Livermore Airport during the annual open house. Capt. Chesley Burnett "Sully" Sullenberger III was a guest at the show. He was promoting pilots of the future through Young Eagles. Only the first 12 kids got to fly with Sully. Among them were Brandon Ersepke (9 - shaking hands with Sully) and his sister Julianna (8 - polka-dot hat+shirt). The kids had a blast flying with a real life hero. After the flight, each child was awarded a Young Eagles flight certificate plus a flight logbook by Sully. The children reported that Sully pointed out major points in the area during the flight. The air show also included displays of vintage planes, a car show, air acrobatics, safety procedure info by the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Dept. and Police, US Army, games, face-painting, food, on-site animal adoption, local businesses, and more. (Photo by Jackie Ersepke)

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



Eucalyptus Trees

One of the thousands of immigrants to California during the Gold Rush was the eucalyptus. No one is quite sure exactly when it arrived or who brought it—obviously someone from its native Australia. The first successful known growth at a nursery was by the Golden Gate Nursery in San Francisco, where W.C. Walker planted seeds from several species in 1853. Twenty years later, the tree was a common sight in the state, having easily adapted to our Mediterranean-type climate.

California forestry experts hoped to replace the redwoods and oaks that were lost to early construction and firewood needs with the eucalyptus, a fast-growing tree. Railroad men hoped to use the wood for ties. These uses were tried, without early success. The tree holds a great deal of water, and if its timber is used green and not allowed to dry, it will twist and split. If allowed to dry, the wood becomes so hard that it is almost impossible to put a nail through it.

There are more than 700 species of eucalyptus trees. "Eucalyptus" means "well-covered," referring to the woody fruit which has a button-like cover which pops off when the seeds are ripe. The largest and earliest planted in our area is the blue gum, *Eucalyptus globulus*, with its light, peeling bark, its tall height, and, in old trees, its wide trunk. Eucalyptus trees are evergreen, and their leaves have a distinctive pungent herbal odor. In Australia they are called gum trees like the tree on which the kookaburra sits in the old campfire song. When the bark is wounded, the tree's sap (gum) bleeds at the wound. This particular species is called "blue" because the young oval-shaped leaves have a powdery blue back. The dark green older leaves are sickle-shaped.

Whenever you see the tree in the local countryside, it usually serves as a marker for old build-

ing sites. At their two homes built in the 1800s near the end of North Livermore Avenue, the Weymouth brothers put up fences, making a yard that protected their houses and out-buildings from their cattle, and they planted blue gums around the perimeter of the yard. The trees served as windbreaks in the flat valley with its strong winds from the north and west and also probably were planted because people believed that their odor and oil were medicinal. One of the Weymouth properties has 22 eucalyptus trees (counting a few stumps), and the other 31. Many other local ranches and farms have several of the towering trees near their homes.

In the Bay Area, there are large areas of eucalyptus trees, especially in Berkeley and the Oakland hills. Unfortunately, they burn easily and were a major problem in the October 1991 Oakland hills fire. In Livermore the trees were not planted in such dense clusters. *Croft's 1880 New Overland Tourist and Pacific Coast Guide* described the town of Livermore and mentioned: "Here are particularly noticeable the eucalyptus or Australian blue gum tree." The first owner of the *Livermore Herald* was interested in planting trees in the city and in the countryside. Some time between 1878 and 1890, he had hundreds of black locust trees planted along city streets and along country roads; he chose this tree because of its ability to survive without irrigation. The locust trees still lining North Livermore Avenue north of I-580 are the best remaining examples of his work. Recognizing the growing scarcity of firewood, he also had flats of 100 blue gum seedlings delivered to the *Herald* office and offered the seedlings to ranchers.

We know that the Livermore Grammar School on Fifth Street had eucalyptus trees planted

around it because in 1926 they were removed in order to put in sidewalks. Last week I enjoyed a eucalyptus treasure hunt, looking for the old blue gum trees surviving in Livermore. One area still having a grove of eucalyptus is the city park in the housing area called The Grove on Sonia Street. This property once belonged to the Coast Manufacturing and Supply Co. The Livermore Heritage Guild had a dig there before the park was created and found a number of artifacts from the Chinese workers that had once lived in the grove.

Despite its name, old Oak Knoll Cemetery, now the daffodil hill near Granada High, has eucalyptus, not oak trees planted on its peak. Another group of eucalyptus stretches from behind Oak Knoll north and west along the Arroyo Mocho. A city trail follows its path, ending at Isabel Avenue, although the trees continue west of the city line to El Charro Road. In the city Summer Tree Drive and Daisyfield Drive circle part of the area. Roselawn Cemetery has a row of eucalyptus lining its southern edge. Hagemann Farm has a number of blue gum trees scattered on the existing farm and in the adjoining park. A row of eucalyptus crosses the intersection of Olivina Avenue and Murrieta Boulevard, perhaps planted by the Hagemanns; local residents fought to save them. LARPD maintains Big Trees Park near the Lab on Susan Lane; it has a long double row of blue gums.

Today, very few people in Livermore plant blue gum trees. Full grown, they are very messy, dropping branches and shreds of bark. If you have time, I recommend a short drive on Sonia Street to see the well-groomed park with its striking eucalyptus trees.

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

Pour House Devoted Solely to Local Wineries

by Harry Stoll

These women are opening their first business when the economy isn't looking good. However, what does look good for Kelly McFarland and Julie Racine is their business, The Winemaker's Pour House, a coolegant wine bar with a corner on the action at First Street Street and South Livermore Avenue, where the fountain splashes and the flag flies.

Right off the sidewalk, you walk under a merlot-colored awning, into warmth and comfort, in a well-laid out space. Choose a four-person tall table against an old brick wall, a larger lower table, the tasting bar, or a table on the patio in back. The acoustics invite conversation. Art by local artists—to be periodically changed—hangs on the walls. The lighting is pleasant, the paint jobs and other surface treatments are subtle and peaceful—it's a tasteful tasting place with good-tasting wines.

Either Julie or Kelly—sometimes both—will be there to pour and serve. This is a small business with the owners dealing with

the nuts and bolts, the nuts, the cheeses, the salads, the soups, paninis—and, of course the wine.

In a first for Livermore, The Winemaker's Pour House serves only wines produced by Livermore Valley wineries. Each day, The Pour House pours three pours of 2-ounces each, from \$8 to \$12.

One night, the tasting menu, simply and clearly displayed on tasty creamy paper, offered sparkling wine, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Rosé, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Zinfandel—from such valley luminaries as Charles R, Engarde, Fenestra, John Evans, Little Valley, Page Mill, Retzlaff, Rodrigue Molyneaux, Ruby Hill, el Sol, and Steven Kent.

Other nights, featured were Bodegas Aguirre, Chouinard, Concannon, Las Positas, and Wente. Starting out, Julie and Kelly have more than 15 local wineries, and expect to add more. This is a pleasant place to compare valley wineries varietals or blends.

Winemaker evenings will have local winemakers talking about their wine, wine in general, and moving about the place to talk

Soon, the Pour House will offer wine appreciation events, with enoscenti presenting the information in a straight-forward way with no pretension but plenty of appreciation. Some nights they will offer wine and food pairing for you to chew on. This could move from the time-tested to recognition of some unusual pairings and maybe some deeper dishing about why they work.

Ooooo, the food:

Five salads—six cheeses from goats, Humboldt, sheeps, France, cows, and Mt. Tam—almonds, cashews, pistachios, and walnuts—how do you like them sliced apples, grapes green and red, and strawberries. The cheeses are served with a mini baguette, or go for the Pour House plate of three cheeses with fruit and nuts.

It's a place not only for a stylish nibbling nosh, but also a light meal on the way to the Bankhead for a play, the ballet, or bowling. The panini grill puts out, oh yes, a BLT with Fontina and garlic aoli spread—Chicken blue with caramelized onion, Italian Chicken with tomato pesto—sharp ched-

dar—and peanut butter and strawberry preserves on cinnamon and sugar crusted bread to take you back to mama's kitchen.

The brie and spicy apricot chutney croissant livens you right to your toes. Try to take small bites, try not to gobble it and make guttural sounds. Tapping it to your lips and sighing would be all right with Miss Manners. JR's (apparently for Julie Racine, Kelly says Julie is the foodie) will warm you with ground turkey topped with bleu cheese.

A smores panini, brownies infused with Livermore Valley Port, and nibs and bits of dark chocolate and dried cranberries is a delight. Local chef Tiffany Mooney is responsible for the soulful food.

Often, there shall be music on the back patio. It is to be acoustic music, no blaring, but plenty of depth. Roger Kardinal opened the place. Other musicians will enter herein. They will either be locally well-known or will be after they play here. The patio looks straight up to the sky. A nice view of the floodlit famous huge Livermore downtown flag. It is a good place for glass clinking, getting together

with friends, getting it together, or eye gazing. Your oldest stories are renewed here.

Kelly McFarland is a retired U.S. Navy chief petty officer. Julie Racine is a veteran of the retail wars. Both these business partners have that shining smile and welcoming way that is necessary for a business that intends to make people feel good. Their hospitality is of the real kind that you can't make up. But more importantly, they are onto something unique, with their soulful sole dedication to local wineries. Of course, it was, and will be, a lot of hard work. These women are up to it.

Chouinard Winery usually does not sell off site, but Pour House is a delightful exception. "We are honored." Caroline, George, and Damian Chouinard, said, "It's great to see these women open a new business featuring Livermore Valley wineries."

2241 First Street, Livermore
888.316.1499

winemakerspourhouse.com

Mon., Wed., Thur. 11:30 am to 8:30 pm; Fri./Sat. 11:30 am to 9:00 pm, Sun. 11:30 am to 8:30 pm.

Jeans & Jewels A Shimmering Success

by Laura Ness

Over 200 sharply dressed cowboys and cowgirls showed up at Casa Real for the Jeans & Jewels fundraiser on Thursday, October 6, to enjoy the sounds of The Front Porch band, and indulge in deliciously prepared wine country cuisine. Boots were very much in evidence, as were jewels of all types, and some gals went all out in their interpretation of the theme. The Livermore cowboy heritage was celebrated with bolo ties and cowboy hats, and Mark and Maria Triska probably should get the most thematically coordinated couple award. Loved her red boots.

The silent auction was anything but, with lively conversation and bidding on items including a gorgeous red and gold heart necklace, handmade pottery in a beautifully decorated basket, elegant and enormous glass platters, a picnic basket from Les Chenes featuring Candice's fabulous mustards, and an nth Degree wine basket and tasting package that really got the ink flowing on the bid sheet. Additional excitement was generated by the sale of balloons, at \$25 a

pop, which held the chance of a key to a wrapped gift box. Every time a balloon burst, someone had a good chance of being a winner. And regardless, everyone wins, because all the proceeds went to helping the Tri-Valley Conservancy preserve and protect the lands in their care. Lucky couple, Gina and Ken Perine, popped the right balloon and went home with two \$25 gift certificates to Whole Foods.

Gold medal winning wines from the 2nd Annual TVC "Uncorked" Wine Competition were proudly served at each table, complimenting a delicious family style dinner, including seared chicken breasts topped with grilled Brentwood corn and tomato salsa, braised short ribs of beef with a decadently good barbeque glaze, roasted garlic mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese with brioche topping and roasted tomatoes and green beans with shallots and lemon. The Steven Kent "Lola," a blend of Semillon and Sauvignon Blanc, went nicely with the southwest style chicken and string beans, while the rich and fruity 2008 "Intesa" Cabernet blend

from Ruby Hill (with Barbera and Cabernet from the Estate, Smith Ranch and Ghielmetti vineyards), complemented the rich, perfectly cooked short ribs beautifully. The Bodegas Aguirre dessert wine was served with a densely dark chocolate lava cake with crème fraiche and raspberry coulis.

The live auction was spirited and fast-paced, with only ten items up for bidding: each guest got a beautiful cowboy boot-shaped paddle to kick up the auction action. Lisa and Lothar Maier of Las Positas Vineyards, who just opened one of the newest winery tasting rooms in Livermore, bagged the Duck Hunting package donated by Top Grade Construction and Bill Gates, valued at \$1200, for \$1700. They'll be sporting rifles on a guided duck hunt at Sprig Haven Farms in Los Banos, and we wish them luck in bringing home some delicious fowl to accompany their spicy Barbera.

The week in South Lake Tahoe in a newly renovated cabin off Ski Run Boulevard, one block from Heavenly Valley, donated by Jim and Cheryl Perry, went for \$2k to the lucky bidder, and the week

in a Big Sky Montana condo, donated by Bill and Sandy Thomson, will most certainly be enjoyed by the winners, who snagged it for \$2250.

Sports Nut, which included tickets for four to A's, 49er's, Warriors, Giants, Raiders and Sharks games, was scored for \$1k. Always a big winner, the Winemaker's Dinner for Eight, featuring live music in the cellar dining room of the lovely Restaurant at Wente Vineyards, with 5th generation winemaker, Karl Wente, was bid to the value of \$2500, and was donated courtesy of Wente Family Estates.

Immediately thereafter, Karl took to the stage, along with Picazo and McGrail winemaker, Mark Clarin, and the rest of The Front Porch Band, sounding mighty fine despite a cracked rib, due to a sparring incident with his cousin's husband, a US Marine whose job description includes training SEALs. One hopes some good technique was thereby imparted, and that it never needs using.

Executive Director, Laura Mercier, sporting cowboy boot earrings, was all smiles as she watched the parade of western

wear file in. "I'm incredibly gratified that so many people came out to support the TVC this evening," she noted. "Everyone involved did a great job to make this event special and we're thrilled at the turnout." She later recapped that the proceeds exceeded last year by 14% in income, bringing the net to \$24,000, and the number of attendees increased 24% to 211, up from 171 last year.

A well-compiled slide show accented the natural beauty of the Livermore Valley, highlighting the fact that the TVC currently serves as custodians for 4200 acres in the area, including 1900 that support the South Livermore Trail System. The printed program reminded everyone: "We are here to protect the Valley we love the most. We do not inherit this land from our ancestors: we borrow it from our children. Let's leave them something to remember us by."

Well said, well done, and to all who support and make possible the vital work of the TVC, may you enjoy continued success in your efforts to preserve the true jewels of Livermore.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

tors" films is available at the Pleasanton Public Library. Movies will be shown the first Thursday of each month through June 7, 2012. No registration required. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

CHORAL

Valley Concert Chorale, Las Positas College Choir, featuring Anders Paulsson, Sun., Oct. 23, 3 p.m. Fundraiser for LPC. Tickets \$20. Mertes Center for the Performing Arts, on the Las Positas Campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006.

Broadway Chorus, presents Broadway A-Z, Nov. 11-13, Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, tickets www.trivalleyrep.org.

OPERA

Broadcast from the Met, Dublin Regal Hacienda Cinema. Anna Bolena, replay Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 2. Saturday morning, Oct. 29, Don Giovanni; replay Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 16. Siegfried, Nov. 5; Satagraha, Nov. 19, Dec.

7; Rodelinda, Dec. 3, Jan. 4; Faust, Dec. 10 and Jan. 11; Enchanted Island, Jan. 21; Gotterdammerung, Feb. 11; Ernani, Feb. 25 and March 14; Manon, April 7 and 25; Turandot, April 14, May 2. First date is a morning showing, second date afternoon. Check for exact curtain time. 560-0900.

Opera San José, double-bill, Leoncavallo's emotional tour de force Pagliacci paired with Poulenc's French monodrama *La voix humaine*. Eight performances are scheduled from November 12 through 27 at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San José. Tickets are on sale at the Opera San José Box Office, by phone at (408) 437-4450 or online at www.operasj.org. Pagliacci and *La voix humaine* are made possible, in part, by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San José.

MISCELLANEOUS

M.o.M.'s Reading Time, ages 2 to 5 and families, Museum on Main monthly reading program, 10 to 11 a.m. with theme related crafts immediately following. Admission is free. Donations are always appreciated. No Reservations required. Large groups or playgroups please call in advance: 925.462.2766 or email: education@museumonmain.org. November 9: *Giving Thanks*- What are you thankful for? Enjoy books and make a craft to share at the Thanksgiving table. December 14: *Snow Day*- You never know where you'll find snow! Join us for a cool morning of books and fun all about snow. 603 Main Street,

Pirates of Emerson - Haunting Fields & Corn Maze, through Oct. 31 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. Weekdays 7:30 to 10 p.m.; Fri. and Sat. 7:05 to 11 p.m. Sat., Oct. 29, 7:05 p.m. to midnight. The Pirates of Emerson is a very intense atmosphere, with extensive use of smoke, strobe lights, animatronics and scores of freaky costumed characters. Not recommended for children under 13. Doing our best to make Pleasanton UN-Pleasant! General \$20, Speed Pass \$30, Combo Ticket \$40, Corn Maze \$10. Bumpkin Patch, Carnevil, Bone Ball, Fields Family Corn Maze, Misfortune Teller and more! www.PiratesOfEmerson.com

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, govern-

ance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions

We're Talkin' Books! Club is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Susan at 337-1282 regarding the *We're Talkin' Books! Club*.

Philippa Gregory, bestselling author of "The Other Boleyn Girl," visits the Diablo Country Club on October 26 at 7:00pm, 1700 Clubhouse Road, Diablo. Ticket details at <http://www.rakestrawbooks.com/gregory.htm>. She will discuss and sign her new novel, "The Lady of the Rivers" recent history book, "The Women of the Cousins' War" (September 2011, coauthored by David Baldwin and Michael Jones).

Downtown Halloween Carnival, Oct. 29, 1 to 5 p.m. downtown Livermore. Presented by Livermore Downtown, Inc. www.livermoredowntown.com.

Brew Crawl, Sat., Oct. 29, hosted by the Pleasanton Downtown Association (PDA) and sponsored by Handles Gastropub

and the Pleasanton Main Street Brewery. Patrons can shop along Main Street, sample local craft beers and food pairings. Designated driver tickets for \$10. Tickets at 3 for \$25 at Handles on Main—855 Main Street, Pleasanton Main Street Brewery—830 Main Street and Redcoats Pub—336 St. Mary Street. Tickets will be available for \$30 at 4:30 p.m. on the day of the event. Tickets must be redeemed by 6 p.m. Ticket price includes a commemorative beer glass and tasting map. Only 500 will be sold. Event is rain or shine, no refunds. PDA is not responsible for lost, misplaced or stolen tickets.

Like There's No Tomorrow, Warren Miller's 62nd annual reminder that winter is on the way. Nov. 3, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Veteran's Day Parade and Ceremony, Nov. 6, downtown Pleasanton, 1 to 2 p.m. Main Street.

Lithorama, annual rock and gem show, hosted by Livermore Valley Lithophiles. Nov. 19 and 20 at The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Something for all kids, young and old. Doors open at 10 a.m. \$5 adults, children under 12 free w/adult. www.lithophiles.com.

Role Players Perform Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead

Verbal wit and comic treatment of philosophical issues in often bizarre theatrical contexts are found in Tom Stoppard's Tony-award winning *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* — the second production of Role Players Ensemble's 2011-2012 season.

The play runs Oct. 28 to Nov. 19 with curtain time 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays at the Village Theatre, 233 Front St., Danville.

"Life is what you do while you wait for something to happen," would be an apt description of this play. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, incidental characters in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, are thrust into the forefront of this re-telling of *Hamlet* to brilliant absurd comic effect.

Almost as if they are trapped in a bad dream, stuck in the waiting room of life, their fates seem to be handed to them bit by bit as if they were all scripted. They are left to muse and rail at the absurd twists and turns that are handed down to them. In many ways, *Rosencrantz*

and *Guildenstern are Dead* is a very funny rendering of the secret lives of "spear-carriers."

Director Chris Ayles, returning to Role Players after directing the critically acclaimed, *The Foreigner*, last season, says, "Tom Stoppard's brilliant take on the Hamlet tale combines absurdist, existential elements with Shakespeare's original text. Often likened to Beckett's masterpiece, *Waiting for Godot*, it challenges the audience to use their imagination in ways unlike traditional theatre."

Featured in the play are Damien Seperi as Rosencrantz and Charles Woodson Parker as Guildenstern, with Bill Dietz, Lindsey Murray, Craig Eychner, Charlie Guitron, Megan Miller, Ben Oldham, Carina Lastimoso Salazar and Eli Wirtschafter.

Tickets can be purchased at www.villagetheatreshows.com; or 925 314 3400; or at the Community Center, 420 Front St, Danville. More information is available at www.danvilletheatre.com



Charles Woodson Parker (Guildenstern) and Damien Seperi (Rosencrantz) appear in Role Player's production. Photo - Eric Fraisher Hayes

Author of 'Plum Gorgeous' to Speak at Livermore Library

Romney Steele, author of *Plum Gorgeous: Recipes and Memories from the Orchard and My Nepenthe: Bohemian Tales of Food, Family, and Big Sur* will speak at 2 pm on Sunday, October 23, 2011 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

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

In *Plum Gorgeous*, Romney Steele recognizes the gorgeousness that food—and particularly fruit—can be all on its own. *Plum Gorgeous* celebrates seasonal fruit, encouraging cooks to use different

recipes depending on their local fruit selection. This visual and flavorful work of art is inspired by Romney's time living in orchards, working in professional kitchens, and by her favorite books, destinations, and chefs. With each turn of the page, *Plum Gorgeous* celebrates the sensuous and enchant-

ing nature of fruit, as well as the pleasures and joys of the table.

Romney "Nani" Steele is a writer, cook, visual artist, and food stylist. As the granddaughter of Bill and Lolly Fassett, creators of Nepenthe Restaurant, she grew up at the family business and

opened Café Kevah, located on the grounds of Nepenthe.

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

Community

'Y' Opening in Dublin

The Grand Opening Preview of the new Tri-Valley YMCA Facility in Dublin is scheduled for Thursday, November 3 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend and celebrate the YMCA's expansion to the City Dublin at 6693 Sierra Lane, Suite F, Dublin.

Executive Director Kelly O'Laughlin describes the event as "an opportunity for the Tri-Valley YMCA to showcase the new facility to those who live and work in the Tri-Valley community. We will share information about the programs and services available and explain how businesses and individuals can get involved." Scheduled activities at this free public event include demonstrations, self-guided tours, informational displays, music and refreshments. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to win an Apple iPad 2 and a variety of other prizes.

The expansion of the YMCA was made possible by a grant from the City of Dublin and residential home developer Jordan Ranch Properties. This expansion now allows for programs and services to take place at two facilities (Dublin and Pleasanton) in the Tri-Valley.

The new facility includes a Family Wellness Center with an array of services ranging from recreational programs to mental health services to fitness and dance classes. Throughout the year, the YMCA will continue to develop programs, classes and services to meet the needs of the Tri-Valley community. Up to date information about programs and services is available at www.trivalleyymca.org or www.facebook.com/trivalleyYMCA

For additional information or to RSVP for this event call (925)263-4444 or go to www.facebook.com/trivalleyYMCA. RSVP's are requested but not required.

Grant to Fund Development of New Anthrax Vaccine

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, working with Loyola University, has won a \$3.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to help develop a new anthrax vaccine. The grant is the first major NIH-funded biodefense grant focused on LLNL's nanolipoprotein technology.

Nanolipoprotein (NLP) technology is a potential breakthrough in vaccine development. Today, many vaccines are based on a single protein derived from a specific pathogen (bacterial, viral, fungal). The idea is that the body "sees" the protein as foreign and mounts an immune response to kill the invader, which keeps the body free from disease.

However, this approach to vaccine design has not been as effective as whole organism vaccines in protecting people from getting sick. NLP technology, pioneered by lab scientists Paul Hoeprich, Matt Colman, Nick Fischer and Craig Blanchette has the potential to revolutionize vaccine design, constituting a novel next-generation vaccine that can more readily prevent disease and better protect people.

To achieve this, the scientific team has developed methods to mix NLPs with specific pathogen-derived proteins. After the NLP and the proteins are mixed, the

proteins anchor to the surface of the NLP.

Effectively, the NLP provides a delivery platform for the proteins of interest, and it is this construct that has been used successfully as a vaccine in mice.

Under Hoeprich's direction, Fischer, Blanchette and other scientists have used NLPs to create a successful vaccine against West Nile Virus.

LLNL has secured a series of patents to protect the intellectual property resulting from the NLP team's inventions.

The Lab's share of the grant will come to about \$2.5 million during the five-year period and will help support a team of approximately six scientists, many of whom have spent years pioneering NLP technology, said Amy Rasley, the LLNL biomedical scientist who co-authored the proposal along with Hoeprich and Adam Driks of Loyola University.

"I spent most of my career working for pharmaceutical companies," said Hoeprich. "Working at the Lab is like a dream come true for me because I've been able to come up with some interesting ideas and do the science necessary to turn them into tools that can impact global health, especially in under-developed countries."

School of Imagination Opens at New Site

The School of Imagination, an education center that pairs typically developing children and children with developmental disabilities, announced that its state-of-the-art 12,000 square foot custom-built facility is open to the public at 9801 Dublin Boulevard in Dublin.

The ribbon cutting was the culmination of a decade-long journey for school Founders Charlene and Mitch Sigman and their team of specialists and educators, who moved facilities for the eighth and final time.

Beginning as Happy Talkers in 2001, the Sigmans opened their rented family home for daycare and therapy, serving more than 120 children each week. Happy Talkers rapidly evolved into the heralded community resource, School of

Imagination, which provides developmental and educational programs as well as free screening and outreach services for children who may be battling developmental disabilities such as Autism.

Children without special needs benefit from the small class sizes, strong academics and individualized attention. "In this environment, children don't learn prejudices and discrimination because of a person's differences. They learn compassion, patience and understanding. It's the way the world is supposed to be," said Charlene Sigman, co-founder, School of Imagination.

The founders note that the state-of-the-art facility would not have been possible without contributions and support from hundreds

of volunteers, dedicated staff members, as well as government, non-profit and corporate entities.

Key support has been provided by Discovery Homes, the City of Dublin, Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Black Tie Transportation, Quest Foundation, Pleasanton North Rotary, Providing Autism Research for Kids Sake, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, and Santa's Charities.

"It's an absolute miracle that the community came together to provide this incredible gift for our children and families," added Charlene Sigman. "We finally have a permanent home. It's a dream come true."

For more information, call (925) 682-6419 ext. 580 or email [jnaval\(at\)discoveryhomes.com](mailto:jnaval(at)discoveryhomes.com)

Fallon Middle School Students Take Part in Mix It Up at Lunch Day

Students at Fallon Middle School joined more than 2 million others across the country to cross social and racial boundaries on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2011, as part of the 10th annual Mix It Up at Lunch Day, an event designed to foster respect and understanding in schools. Mix It Up encourages students to sit with someone new in the cafeteria for just one day. Many schools held similar barrier-busting activities throughout the day. Some use the event to kick off a yearlong exploration of social divisions.

Fallon 8th grader Grant Lemen told ASB Vice President Sean Haggerty, "I am looking forward to another year of Mix It Up Day

because they change the theme and activities to where I have more opportunities to make new friends!" "Mix It Up Day is not only a time to make new friends, but a time to get to know your current friends even better!" stated an energetic FPT Leadership student Jaylen Vistosa.

More than 5,000 schools were expected to participate in this year's Mix It Up at Lunch Day, which is sponsored by the Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance project.

Student organizers agree that Mix It Up at Lunch Day encourages students to cross group lines and meet new people. Mix It Up also fosters school spirit and unity, raises awareness about social

boundaries and helps students meet different kinds of people.

Guidance counselor Kelly Zummo organizes the annual event at Fallon. "This is our fourth year participating in national Mix It Up at Lunch Day. It's one of my favorite activities of the year; we've even mixed it up other days of the year too, not just the one." Mrs. Zummo also stated, "Students need direction, they can't be told just to sit with someone new; that's not an easy thing to do. Organizing a specific lunch time activity is essential. Last year, students sat at the cafeteria tables by their birth month; so they automatically had at least one thing in common. This, of course, brought all kinds of different kids to each table who might never sit together otherwise. Over the course of the lunch period, they soon found out they had a lot more in common than just their birth month."

The Southern Poverty Law Center launched Teaching Tolerance in 1991 to provide educators with free resources designed to reduce prejudice and promote respect for differences among our nation's children. The Mix It Up program began in 2002.

Military

Army None Nathan D. Matkinshas graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission and received instruction and training exercises in drill and ceremonies, Army history, core values and traditions, military courtesy, military justice, physical

fitness, first aid, rifle marksmanship, weapons use, map reading and land navigation, foot marches, armed and unarmed combat, and field maneuvers and tactics.

Matkins is the son of Douglas and Terez Matkins of Livermore. He is a 2011 graduate of Livermore High School.

Milestones

Education

Granada Grads from 1966 and 1967 Planning Reunion

The Granada High classes of 1966 and 1967 are gathering for a reunion on October 22, 2011 at Alden Lane Nursery.

"The classes of '66 and '67 are the "founding" students of Granada High School," says Jacquie Williams Courtright, who is organizing the reunion. "We spent our first semester sharing space at Livermore High, then moved to the Granada campus in January, 1964. Mr. Lee, the principal, had to ring an old-fashioned hand school bell outside the buildings the first week because the bells didn't work yet. It was a unique experience, being the student foundation for a new school."

Former classmates as well as teachers are invited to the event. "Founding" teachers Mrs. Shugert (French teacher) and Miss Faoro (math) have confirmed that they will be attending.

The evening before the reunion, October 21, is Granada's homecoming game. The sixth an-

nual alumni barbeque will be held in the Alumni Plaza on the Granada campus prior to the game.

"Granada High has changed a lot since that January, 1964 opening," says Courtright. "Homecoming weekend, the barbeque and reunion, is a great way to reconnect with old friends and memories, and discover the changes over the years."

Reunion starts at 4:00 p.m. at Alden Lane on Saturday, October 22. For more information about the reunion, contact Jacquie Williams Courtright at Jacquie@aldenlane.com or 925 447-0280.

Alumni barbeque starts at 5:00 p.m. at the Alumni Plaza on the Granada campus. For more information about the alumni barbeque, contact Steve Goodman at Steve-goodman@gmail.com

For information about the Granada homecoming game on October 21, visit the Granada High website <http://www.granadahigh.com/>

Croce Elementary Turns 20

Leo R. Croce Elementary School celebrates a milestone as it turns 20 this month. The school was named after former Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District Superintendent (1973-1989), Leo R. Croce, who will attend the event.

Croce graduated from the University of California at Berkeley (UCB) in 1947. He also received his teaching and administrative credentials and his master's degree from UCB. Mr. Croce began his teaching career in the Oakland (California) Unified School district in July, 1948. During his 24 years in that district he served as teacher, counselor, coach, vice-principal, principal and as an Area Superintendent. On July 1, 1973, Croce was appointed Superintendent of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, where he served for 16 years. This was the longest tenure of any superintendent in the history of the school district. Croce retired on June 30, 1989 marking 40 years in public education. In appreciation of the honor of

dedicating the school in his name, Croce and his family established a perpetual scholarship fund. This fund awards a college scholarship each year to an outstanding student who attended Croce School and graduated from a Livermore School District high school.

While celebrating 20 years of service, Croce will also kickoff its commitment to reading. The celebration begins at 8:45 a.m. on the Croce playground with a dance performance to a song title *Gotta Keep Reading*. The celebration will end with small cakes for the students (donated at cost by *Nothing Bundt Cakes*). The schools' commitment to reading will continue with their PTA sponsored Scholastic Book Fair October 17-21.

Former principals, teachers, students and parents are invited to join in the celebration. Information about the event is posted on the Croce website: croce@schoolloop.com or you may call the school office at (925) 606-4706.



For the fourth consecutive year, the Las Positas College Speech Team, the Talk Hawks, soar above tournament competition to capture the First Place Team Sweepstakes Award for Community Colleges. Talk Hawk award-winning students are (from left) Lex Newman, Scott Ault, Weston Toste, Shea Wigton, Alexandra Penn, Sarah Kellner, Salim Razawi and Adam Neylan.

Talk Hawks Keep Winning

For the fourth consecutive year, the Las Positas College Speech Team, the Talk Hawks, soared above tournament competition to capture the First Place Team Sweepstakes Award for Community Colleges. The Talk Hawks also won Second Place overall in Individual Events and Debate, ahead of teams from two- and four-year colleges and universities including the University of California, Berkeley. Las Positas College student Salim Razawi finished as Top Speaker for the tournament which featured 18 teams and was held Oct. 7-9 at Santa Rosa Junior College.

"I'm incredibly proud of this group of students," said Las Positas College Director of Forensics Tim Heisler. "There were schools with much larger teams and entries at this competition, and yet our squad still managed to come out on top."

Heisler expressed appreciation to American Equipment Rental of Redwood City for its donation of the Talk Hawks' tournament entry fee. "Because of the drastic cuts colleges have experienced, we will require generous contributions like this to enable our program to continue at this high level," he said. Organizations and individuals who would like to support the Talk Hawks are encouraged to contact

the Las Positas College Foundation at (925) 424-1010.

The Talk Hawks have a history of state, national and international awards in forensics including debate, public speaking, oral interpretation of literature and Readers Theater. In 2009, the Talk Hawks brought home the Second Place Sweepstakes Award from the International Forensics Association's Speech and Debate Tournament held in Montreal, Canada. It is their goal once again to attend this prestigious tournament scheduled in March 2012 in Rome, Italy.

Following are the Talk Hawks award winners from the Santa Rosa tournament:

Salim Razawi of Dublin, Top Speaker of the Tournament, 1st Place - Prose Interpretation, Open Division, 2nd Place - Duo Interpretation, Open Division, 2nd Place - Communication Analysis,

Open Division, 3rd Place - Poetry Interpretation, Open Division

Shea Wigton of San Ramon, 1st Place - Prose Interpretation, Novice Division; Weston Toste of Livermore, 1st Place - Persuasive Speaking, Open Division; Sarah Kellner of Brentwood, 1st Place - Speech to Entertain, Novice Division, 1st Place - Poetry Interpretation, Novice Division; Lex Newman of Pleasanton, 3rd Place - Poetry Interpretation, Novice Division

Adam Neylan of Tracy, 1st Place - Programmed Oral Interpretation, Open Division; 2nd Place - Duo Interpretation, Open Division; 3rd Place - Speech to Entertain, Open Division; Finalist - Prose Interpretation, Open Division. Scott Ault of Pleasanton, Finalist - Informative Speaking, Novice Division; Alexandra Penn of San Ramon, 3rd Place - Communication Analysis, Open Division.

Foothill Band Brings Home Trophies

The Foothill High School band in Pleasanton, under the direction of Josh Butterfield, competed in its first parade and field show competitions of the season at the Cupertino High School Tournament of Bands recently. Continuing an award winning tradition, Foothill came home with the following first place trophies in their division (AAAA): band field performance, percussion field performance, color guard field performance, band parade performance and color guard parade performance.

