

Art, Community, & Education



Symphony, Masterworks Chorus to Perform



Valley Concert Chorus Plans Program 'Of Cards and Counters'

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



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Lakota Souix Dancers visited Livermore schools last week. They performed at the Bankhead Theater on Friday. The photo was taken at Rancho Las Positas.

Tuskegee Airmen Fought Enemy And Racism

By Ron McNicoll
The African-American men and women who trained at the Tuskegee Institute during World War II fought two battles. One fight was against America's enemies abroad. The other was against an enemy at home: racism.
Two of the Tuskegee Airmen talked about their experiences on Nov. 10 at the Barbara Fracisco Mertes Center for the Arts at Las Positas College (LPC). The event was sponsored by Veterans First, an organization of 300 veterans on campus.
Lt. Col. Harold Hoskins and Lt. Le Roy Gillead are among the survivors of the men and women who underwent their World War II training at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.
Appearing on the program earlier in the morning was Maggie Gee, a former LLNL scientist who was one of the first two Chinese-American women in the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP).

The Tuskegee airmen were in a training program begun by the federal government in 1940, as the United States began moving closer to entry in World War II.
President Franklin Roosevelt wanted America to be prepared for war. Prominent black figures, such as A. Philip Randolph, who organized the Sleeping Car Porters Union in the 1930s, called on him to make sure that African Americans would be provided the opportunity to serve their country. Roosevelt's wife, Eleanor, was instrumental in convincing the President to create the program.
About 15,000 people, black and white, male and female, went through the program during the war years.
"These black pioneers proved themselves equal to white flyers. They disputed the notion that they were unsuited for the technical demands of flying, said LPC history Professor Stuart McDelderry in his introductory remarks.

In reviewing the war record of the Tuskegee fighter pilots (there were also bomber pilots and mechanics), McDelderry said they were able to give much worse than they got in air battles.
They were kept out of battle for two years, flying missions

(See AIRMEN, page 2)

Dublin, Livermore Told to Work Together on a Plan for Doolan Canyon

The cities of Livermore and Dublin, working in conjunction with Alameda County, were directed to create a plan for Doolan Canyon acceptable to all parties.
Doolan Canyon is situated between Livermore and Dublin. Livermore would like to retain the area as an open space buffer between the two cities. Dublin has received a proposal for

to 1990 units of senior housing by Pacific Union.
The three agencies will work through technical details at a staff level. At some point, the public will be brought into the process.
The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) vote to ask the parties to work together was unanimous. It followed a discussion of Livermore's application to be granted a sphere of

influence over the canyon.
The Dublin senior housing project is on hold while Livermore's request for a sphere of influence is being considered.
In a parallel effort, LAFCO will prepare a proposal to allow sphere of influence to be used as a way to protect open space. Currently, the agency's policy does not specifically include that option. However, Commissioner

Sblend Sblendorio, who made the motion, pointed out that other LAFCO agencies in the state have adopted such a policy.
Residents of the canyon asked that no matter how LAFCO decides, their requirements need to be taken into consideration. Their biggest concern is lack of water in the canyon.
In its application, Livermore did not propose to provide water

to the area. However, in a letter sent to LAFCO, Livermore said it would have the ability to provide water.
Alameda County Supervisor and LAFCO chairman Nate Miley commented, "There is no justification to support something that promotes urban sprawl." He suggested establishing a blue ribbon commission, if necessary,
(See DOOLAN, page 10)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Pictured admiring the crystal firebell are (from left) Deborah Grossman, Nancy and Gary Harrington and Jack Storms with his son

Crystal Bell Celebrates Firefighters

The dedication of a crystal fire bell last Saturday at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton was a cause for celebrating firefighters.
Gary and Nancy Harrington commissioned the optic crystal bell, known as the "Firehouse Crystal Bell" and donated it to the city through the Harrington Art Partnership.
The bell is situated in the lobby of the Firehouse Arts Center.
Nancy described how the bell

became a reality. She said that the couple visits art galleries during their travels. In Tahoe, they saw crystal glass art created by Jack Storms. They worked with Studio 7 in downtown Pleasanton to look at more of his work. "When we saw it, we just knew this was the person we wanted. During a discussion on what would be created, someone mentioned a fire bell. Everyone stopped. Jack said it has to be a bell, a firehouse bell."
It took nearly two years to

complete the 400 pound crystal bell. It contains more than 8000 pieces. It is mounted on a granite base weighing 4000 pounds. A motor turns the bell, reflecting the light in a rainbow of colors.
Nancy stated, "We want the firefighters to know we appreciate their dedication."
Storms said, "This is my greatest achievement. Yet, it doesn't adequately say what firefighters do for us."
Rick Bordley, Livermore
(See BELL, page 5)

Pleasanton Urged to Solve Schools' Capital Funds Gap

Pleasanton Urged to Solve Schools' Capital Funds Gap

With Pleasanton facing potentially 3,200 more new residential units Pleasanton school district will have to fund more facilities from whatever state bond allocations that voters might approve, plus use of local developer money.
The city is under a court ordered requirement to rezone land to accommodate the 3200 units. The court also invalidated the city's voter approved 29,000 unit housing cap.

The number of residential units is a real problem, Julie Testa and former councilmember Kay Ayala told school trustees at their meeting Nov. 8. Both were members of a district-appointed committee that met with consultant Lori Raineri, who issued a report on the district's cash-out refinancing of the district's two bond measures that supported school additions and refurbishing.
With the district owing \$27 million in debt to pay off its Measures A and B bonds, there
(PLEASANTON, page 5)

Hearing Set for Portola Academy Petition

By Patricia Koning
The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District will hold a public hearing on Tues., Dec. 13 on the Tri-Valley Learning Corporation's (TVLC) petition for Portola Academy, a K-8 public charter school. The petition was delivered to the District on Nov. 1 and formally submitted at the Nov. 15 Board of Education meeting.
The trustees will announce their decision to accept or deny the petition at the Jan. 10, 2012 Board meeting. Education Code

47605 mandates that the District hold the public hearing within 30 days of receiving the petition and must grant or deny the petition within 60 days. The Board can only reject the petition under strict guidelines. Written, factual findings must be presented as to the reason for the denial.
TVLC oversees the Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS), a K-8 charter school, and the Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory High School (LVCP). The Livermore School Board
(See ACADEMY, page 5)

Livermore Project to Test Prototype LED Streetlights

Chevron Energy Solutions Company will work with the City of Livermore on a demonstration project using LED lights. The lights are made by BridgeLux, a Livermore firm.
Chevron ES will also conduct an integrated energy assessment of city buildings and facilities to identify potential energy conservation measures that would save

the city money.
The agreement was approved by the city council on Monday. The cost of the assessment is capped at \$55,000. The fee would only be paid if the city did not proceed with suggested energy efficiency improvements.
Chevron ES, in cooperation with BridgeLux, will install up to 30 LED prototype street lights

in commercial/light industrial and residential areas. The project will be used to demonstrate efficiency, performance, operability and reliability of the LED lights. The prototypes will be monitored for a test period.
Alex Stankoski of Chevron ES said that the demonstration project will build on the city's reputation as a location for in-

novation. He added that the energy review will help the city to realize savings and work towards the goals of the climate action plan (CAP). "There is a synergy between efficiency and economic development."
Dale Kaye, Innovation Tri-Valley, noted that the BridgeLux demonstration project is an amazing opportunity to maintain

and enhance Livermore's reputation as an innovation hub. This is a public-private partnership that is aimed at helping a local business scale-up. "It would help promote Livermore as a place where companies want to come and stay. The project would help a Livermore company and others and enhances efforts in develop-
(See PROTOTYPE, page 4)

Livermore Names New City Manager

The Livermore City Council selected Marc Roberts to replace Linda Barton as Livermore City Manager.
Barton announced her retirement earlier this year after serving ten years as Livermore's City Manager. Roberts's first day as city manager will be January 3, 2012.
The council vote at the Monday meeting was unanimous. Councilmember Jeff Williams stated that during the four years he has served on the council, Roberts has been one of the most creative forces on city staff in figuring out ways to make the city work efficiently. "He is a worthy successor to the existing city manager."
From the audience, John Stein

raised the question as to whether the appointment should wait until the new council is seated. In addition, Stein pointed out that the city ordinance requires the city manager to live in Livermore, which Roberts does not.
However, city attorney John Pomidor explained that the state constitution prohibits residency requirements. Livermore's residency requirements were adopted in 1960, which predates the state's prohibition. The state code trumps the city ordinance.
Except for Stein, members of the public who addressed the council on the issue praised Roberts for what he has accomplished during the 24 years he has worked for the city, the last
(See CITY MANAGER, page 4)



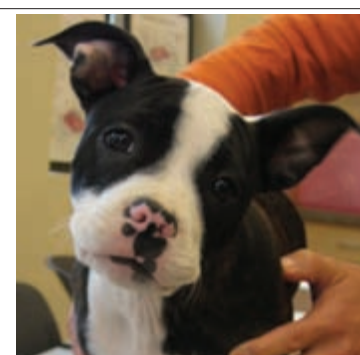
Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Pre-schoolers at Our Savior Lutheran School took part in the annual Veteran's Day service last Friday.

Abraham Verghese on Becoming A Doctor And a Writer

By Patricia Koning
The W. Somerset Maugham novel *Of Human Bondage* inspired Abraham Verghese to become a doctor. The AIDS patients he cared for in east Tennessee in the early 1980's inspired him to become a writer. In a witty and insightful talk at the Bankhead Theater last week, the doctor/writer/professor shared his thoughts on writing and medicine, the way geography shaped his destiny, and how some of his biggest setbacks led him to where he is today.
Verghese is professor for the Theory and Practice of Medicine at the Stanford University School
(See VERGHESE, page 2)

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PET OF THE WEEK
Meet Piper, sister of Paige and Phoebe. These three sisters are Boston Terrier mixes waiting for their forever homes. They are about three months old and absolutely love attention. Each of them are cuddle bugs and eager to please. 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 Melissa Bonnel

VERGHESE

(continued from page one)

of Medicine and senior associate chair of the Department of Internal Medicine. He's also the author of *My Own Country: A Doctor's Story* about caring for AIDS patients, the best-selling novel *Cutting for Stone*, and *The Tennis Partner: A Story of Friendship and Loss* about his friend and tennis partner's struggle with addiction.

The sold-out talk, the second in the 2011 Rae Dorrough Speaker's Series, drew people for many reasons. About a quarter of the attendees were book club members; there were also high school students, medical professionals, and a contingent from Stanford.

Verghease joked that growing up in a middle class Indian household was like growing up in a middle class Jewish family. "As a child, you quickly got the notion that you can become a doctor, a lawyer, an engineer, or a failure," he said.

As a young child, Verghease told his parents he wanted to become a doctor - more in response to his older brother's declared intention of becoming an engineer than personal ambition. "When the real calling to medicine came, it took me by surprise," he said.



Long-time Livermore residents Nancy Rodrigue and Jacky Poulsen will present a photographic journey along trails in the Tri-Valley at the Pleasanton Library on Sun., Nov. 20 at 2 p.m. Their recently published book, *Tri-Valley Trails: Hiking adventures in the greater Livermore, Amador and San Ramon Valleys*, features 67 hikes in ten different parks in the Tri-Valley area. Nancy and Jacky have hiked extensively throughout the Tri-Valley for many years. They wrote the book with one objective in mind: to introduce residents of the area to the many wonderful hiking opportunities the Tri-Valley has to offer. Their book, *Tri-Valley Trails*, will be available for purchase and signing after the talk. There is no admission charge. The Library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Information can be found at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us or 925/931-3400, ext. 7.

"It came because of a book, *Of Human Bondage* by W. Somerset Maugham."

Medicine is not a large part of the book. It details Philip Carey's struggle to become an artist and his tortured affair. Verghease said that one particular passage spoke to him. In a scene in which Philip is seeing his first patients as a medical student, "he saw humanity there in the rough, the artist's canvas, and he said to himself 'this is something I can do, this something where I can do good.'"

"Those words spoke to me personally. They seemed to imply that not everyone can be a brilliant artist or a great mathematician, not everyone has that God-given talent, but anybody with a basic curiosity about his fellow human beings, anybody with empathy and sympathy for the human condition, could be a great physician. That's what I took away from it," said Verghease. "That was the moment that I began what I see as my grand voyage in medicine. I always saw medicine as a romantic and passionate pursuit. That book seemed to affirm it."

He began his medical training in Ethiopia but had to leave the country when a civil war broke out. He joined his parents in the United States but was unable to continue medical school and instead worked as an orderly in New Jersey. "I look back on that time as the most wonderful medical education I ever had because I really learned what happened in the 23 hours and 59 minutes that the doctors are not in the room," he said. "I learned so much from my colleagues in nursing."

Verghease completed medical school at Madras Medical College in Chennai, India. He went into infectious disease because it seemed to be the one specialty that was all about the cure. "If you made an astute diagnosis on someone who had come back with fever and rash from the Congo, they would rise like Lazarus and walk out of there," he said. "It was so ironic that a deadly fatal illness (AIDS) should land on the laps of people like me. We were caught up in the idea of cure and here we were dealing with a fatal illness affecting people who were about our age who died. It was a tremendously humbling experience."

He went to Johnson City, Tenn. for his residency, a place

where no one expected to see many AIDS cases - the prediction was one HIV-infected patient every other year. It was six months before Verghease saw his first AIDS patient. It quickly became a monthly and then weekly event. "In what I thought was an extraordinarily short time, I accumulated a 100 people with HIV infection in a town of 50,000," he said. "I had the strong sense I was dealing with two diseases: the virus and the second disease that traveled with it, the metaphor for what it meant to have the virus, the shame, the secrecy."

To understand the prevalence of AIDS cases in a rural area, Verghease mapped where his AIDS patients had lived and found that all had left East Tennessee for urban centers like San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, and Miami and then returned home after they became sick. The only exceptions were patients who contracted HIV through blood transfusions.

"There I was, at the tail end of that voyage. The moment that I became a writer, I remember seeing this paradigm and wanting to tell it," he explained. "I wrote a scientific paper describing the phenominal migration. Even as I wrote it, I felt that the cold, unimaginative language of science didn't begin to capture the tragic nature of this voyage, the heartache, and my own grief at witnessing it again and again."

He originally intended to write a work of fiction about the experience, but found nonfiction more suitable for *My Own Country: A Doctor's Story*. "I was glad I wrote *Cutting for Stone* after I wrote the first book about AIDS in Tennessee because I think it took many more years of maturity as a physician and a writer to be able to populate that book with all the medical aphorisms and stories," he said. "I had great ambition for the book. I wanted it to maybe one day fall into the hands of a student like me and have it be a reason for them to say, I can't imagine working at anything else but medicine."

The next two Rae Dorrough speakers are Paul Alan Cox, director of the Institute for EthnoMedicine, on Feb. 22 and Bob Borchers, Jr., an entrepreneur, inventor, venture capitalist, and Livermore native, on May 16. For tickets and more information, visit www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

AIRMEN

(continued from page one)

behind friendly lines. Finally, bomber squadron commanders started asking for them. They performed so well that they were the preferred fighter escorts for the bombers that destroyed German installations in Eastern Europe.

Hopkins established a career in the Air Force. By the time he finished his Tuskegee training, the war was over. He remained in the service until a reduction in force in 1950. He was recalled in 1953 during the Korean War, and retired in 1991 as an operations officer at Travis Air Force Base near Sacramento.

Hopkins filled 30 different assignments in his career, and worked his way up to lieutenant colonel.

Contrasted to Hopkins' formal, deliberate speaking style, Gillead was a firebrand. He drew applause several times when talking about the reasons that the Tuskegee Airmen fought. It wasn't just for African Americans, but for all minorities and for women.

Looking back in U.S. history to the Jamestown colony, Gillead said that the English immigrants were not free people. They were escaping harsh oppression and poverty in England.

The early colonizers included indentured servants. The women were considered indentured servants, said Gillead.

Now, 400 years later, "women are still second class citizens and also Indians and blacks. That's more than half the (population). Don't just honor us, the Tuskegee Airmen. Honor the women. Until women are first class citizens, we can't hope to create a tomorrow of American ideals," said Gillead.

JAIL FOR REFUSAL TO SUPPORT BIAS

While stationed at another base, Gillead was ordered along with all other officers to sign a paper that would restrict some of the rights of blacks. All whites and some of the blacks signed it.

Despite being read the military act that prescribes death for disobeying orders, Gillead and a few other black officers refused to sign. They were placed in a compound with a fence around it.

A week later they were released. "Both for political rea-

sons, and legal insufficiency, they didn't prosecute us," said Gillead.

However, the action became part of the permanent record of those officers. That affected your advancement, he said.

In recent years, the Tuskegee Airmen have been honored at various institutions. One honor presented to Gillead in 2009 at UC Riverside surprised him. He received a free ticket to ride to the edge of space in a commercial flight to be undertaken by XCOR Aerospace, which is located in Southern California. He said he is looking forward to the ride.

Gillead and Hopkins received another nice gratuity, too. They were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for their service with the Tuskegee Airmen. Some 290 were present at a White House ceremony to receive it, along with 10 widows.

Gee, 88, is also a holder of the Congressional Gold Medal, for her service to the WASPs. She fell in love with flying as a child, when her parents took her down to the newly opened Oakland Airport in the 1930s to watch the planes take off.

Oakland was the airport used by Amelia Earhart, who became her hero, along with Charles Lindbergh, after his flight across the Atlantic Ocean in 1927.

The WASPs were not involved in combat. They trained the male pilots on instrument flying. The program lasted only two years. In 1944, toward the end of the war, men were returning from service.

Servicemen petitioned Congress to eliminate the WASPs, apparently because the men wanted those jobs for themselves, said Gee.

After her talk, Gee autographed copies of her book *"Sky High: The True Story of Maggie Gee."*

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3030 PICHO LINE DRIVE S. LIVERMORE Bed 5 Ba 4.5 3,776 [±] So.Ft. 0.23 [±] Acres Super Los Olivos! Gourmet kit, granite, big island, 2 butler's pantries, lg breakfast room, formal living & dining w/recessed lights & coffered ceiling. Built-ins! Brazilian cherry flrs upstairs. Big master w/travertine tiled bath. Stamped concrete patio. Views!	3545 CALLE ALEGRE COUNTRY FAIRE Bed 4 Ba 3 2,916 [±] So.Ft. 0.29 [±] Acres Wonderful remodeled and upgraded Trinity model in Original Country Fair! Perfect location, floorplan and amazing backyard including saline pool, spa, waterfalls and spillways. Downstairs bedroom and full bath, maple cabinetry, newer roof and windows.	2889 RUTHERFORD CT LIVERMORE Bed 4 Ba 3.5 3,504 [±] 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.	423 LASATA TRACY Bed 4 Ba 2.5 2,126 [±] So.Ft. 0.12 [±] Acres Immaculate Condition! Sellers have been transferred! Pride of Ownership, Newer floors, Cust paint, Spacious Kitchen/Family Room Combo, Stainless Appliances, Big Backyard with patio and lawn, Close to ACE Train, Walk to new shops and park.	1032 CORONADO WAY LIVERMORE Bed 3 Ba 2 1,148 [±] So.Ft. 0.14 [±] Acres Almost Better than New. Super Clean 3 Bedroom /2 Bath home on Mature Tree Lined Street. Tastefully Painted - Newly Refinished Hardwood Floors - New Stone Top - New Tile Counter-tops - New Lino Flooring - New Toilets. Close to Great Schools, Shopping.	2188 McLEAN PLACE S. LIVERMORE Bed 3 Ba 4.5 4,062 [±] 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.
1892 VIA DI SALERNO RUBY HILL Bed 5 Ba 3.5 4,200 [±] So.Ft. 0.71 [±] Acres Beautiful Italian style home featuring 5 bedrooms, 3/1 bathrooms, with gorgeous Brazilian Cherry floors and elaborate crown moldings. Enjoy the spacious +/- 31,268 sq ft (+/- 0.71 acres) with pool and privacy in the back!	8615 MINES ROAD LIVERMORE 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.	3728 VALLEY VIEW WAY AMBER RIDGE Bed 4 Ba 2 2,553 [±] 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!	42200 VARGAS RD FREMONT Bed 4 Ba 1 1,320 [±] So.Ft. 56 [±] Acres Dream Property, Estate style ranch home with 4 Bedrooms, A Large Barn and over 56 Acres of beautiful rolling hills and level land. Chance of a Lifetime.	533 STARLING AVE LIVERMORE Bed 3 Ba 2 1,328 [±] So.Ft. 0.15 [±] Acres Come see this 3 bedroom 2 bath Corner lot home, before its too late! It also has side yard access.	3322 EAST AVENUE LIVERMORE Bed 1 Ba 1 432 [±] So.Ft. 0.51 [±] Acres Great development opportunity on this half acre lot. Zoned RG-16 - up to 8 units possible.
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THE UWE MAERCZ TEAM 925.251.2568	CAROL CLINE 925.683.0488	COREY GREEN 925.583.2173	KRISTY AND COMPANY 925.251.2536	DAVID AZIMI 925.251.2580	UWE MAERCZ 925.360.8758

Blackhawk East 4105 Blackhawk Plaza Cir. Danville, CA 94506 925.648.5300	Blackhawk West 3880 Blackhawk Rd. Danville, CA 94526 925.736.6000	Danville 15 Railroad Ave. Danville, CA 94526 925.855.4000	Lafayette 3799 Mt. Diablo Blvd. Lafayette, CA 94549 925.385.2330	Livermore 1983 Second St. Livermore, CA 94550 925.667.2100	Montclair/ Piedmont 6116 La Salle Ave., Ste. 200 Oakland, CA 94611 510.339.4800	Orinda 89 Davis Rd., Ste. 100 Orinda, CA 94563 925.253.7000	Pleasanton 5075 Hopyard Rd Ste. 110 Pleasanton, CA 94588 925.251.2500	Walnut Creek 1700 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925.280.8500
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Students Are the Inventors in STEM Explorations

By Patricia Koning

What do you get when you combine a solar panel, a motor, materials like popsicle sticks, duct tape, cardboard, and hot glue, and creativity? Cars, mazes, boxes that open automatically, a pulley that lifts a small elevator, and lots of boats, among other contraptions.

On Monday night, parents of students in Regina Brinker's STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) Explorations classes got a peak into what their children have been learning this year. The students demonstrated to their families their solar-powered creations and wind turbine designs, the first two projects of the year.

Part of the national *Project Lead the Way* (pltw.org) engineering program, STEM Exploration classes are offered at Christensen Middle School and East Avenue Middle School for the first time this year. The classes are funded by donations from Chevron, LAM Research, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and Enhancing Education through Technology.

The STEM Exploration classes are unlike anything else currently offered at Christensen and East. The students don't just study STEM concepts – they put those concepts into practice by

envisioning, designing, and testing their own projects.

"Students in this class are really engaged and motivated," explained Brinker, who teaches two sections of STEM Exploration at Christensen. "I'm seeing a different side to many students." Ravi Prabhala teaches the program at East.

Last spring, students applied to take STEM Exploration as an elective. At Christensen, demand was very high and many interested students were also already involved in band, another elective, so the school's PTA funded a second section. Students in band and STEM Exploration take physical education at 7:45 am so they can take both electives. "I've never heard one complaint about having to get to school early," said Brinker.

Christensen and East are using PLTW's Gateway to Technology Program, which consists of six independent units focusing on design and modeling, automation and robotics, energy and the environment, flight and space, science of technology, and magic of electrons. STEM Explorations is intended to prepare students to enter the Green Engineering Academy at Livermore High School, which also uses PLTW, and the Biotechnology Pathway at Granada High School.

Students were drawn to the program for a variety of reasons. Seventh grader Chris Farrel wants to learn computer design and become a video game designer. Seventh grader Shannon Kay likes technology, plus Brinker is one of her favorite teachers. "Inventing stuff is fun," said seventh grader Gabe Martinez. "I'm really excited about the robotics unit."

For the solar panel projects, part of the energy and the environment unit, students were given minimal guidance: make something that moves using a solar panel and a motor. A number of students chose to make boats, which turned out to be pretty difficult. Getting the motor to spin a turbine was fairly straightforward, but getting the boat to move in a straight line proved elusive.

Kay, along with eighth graders Mariel Chiong and Stephanie Valdez, made what they described as a "Rube Goldberg-inspired contraption." Their solar-powered motor released a marble on top of a cardboard box, which could then go into three different chutes. At the end, the marble would raise a notebook, ring a bell, or land on a Halloween mat and make it scream.

The projects, while fun, are also rigorous. Before starting

their first project, the classes learned about what it means to be an engineer. "This is hard for a lot of kids," said Brinker. "Often there is no right or wrong answer and they have to figure things out on their own."

The students keep an engineering notebook and produce a written report with each project. The grade, said Brinker, is not based on if their contraption works but if they properly followed engineering design steps.

Later this school year, the STEM Exploration students will participate in the Applied Materials' Clean Tech Competition. Working in teams, they will design a solar-powered solution to a basic human need identified in the aftermath of a natural disaster. Participants will define a situation, explore the issue, and then present their unique clean tech solution to a panel of industry and education experts for judging.

The competition is open to Bay Area students, ages 13 to 18. Written solutions are due on Jan. 3 and judging begins on Jan. 24. Applied Materials will distribute over \$20,000 in cash awards for enrichment and education to winning teams. For more information, visit www.cleantechcompetition.org.



The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is holding a special series of its popular "Fun with Science" show at the Discovery Center.

Designed for children at the fifth grade level (though it can also be enjoyed by children younger and older), Fun with Science is intended to spark kids' interest in science through entertaining demonstrations and hands-on activities.

Space is limited; registration is required. Call (925) 423-3272. Children must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. The Discovery Center is located in an open area at the Laboratory. No badging is required.

925-423-3272 or superscience@llnl.gov

LOCATED AT LLNL OFF GREENVILLE RD. AT EASTGATE DRIVE IN LIVERMORE

The "Fun With Science" holiday show schedule is:
Saturday, Nov. 26 • 10:30am
Wednesday, Dec. 21 • 1pm
Thursday, Dec. 22 • 1pm
Watch the movie at:
<https://www.llnl.gov/images/education/funWithScience.mov>

World Walk to Wellness Plans Callippe Preserve Trail Hike

Community members are invited to join a free hike on Saturday, Nov. 19, on the trail that surrounds the 425-acre municipal Callippe Preserve Golf Course. This is the latest in a series of weekly walks with World Walk to Wellness.

Please note the change of date. This hike was originally scheduled for Nov. 25, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. On that date, a one-hour walk 'n' talk session will be held at Amador Valley Community Park, corner of Black Avenue and Santa Rita Road. To obtain free e-mail updates of walk locations, send a request to walks@WorldWalkToWellness.org.

Leading the three-mile hike at Callippe Preserve will be expert trail guide Dolores Bengtson. Meet her at 9 a.m. in front of the golf course club house, 8500 Clubhouse Drive. The unpaved

trail has an elevation gain of several hundred feet in two places. There are restroom facilities at the clubhouse and midway through the hike.

"Those who take the walk can expect to see wonderful views of the golf course, as the trail actually goes around it," said Bengtson. "There are great views to the west and south – you will be seeing Pleasanton from a new angle. There are specimen valley and live oaks, with several nice places where the trail actually passes through oak woodland."

"The south trail is adjacent to land preserved as open space forever," she continued. "That land has many blue bird boxes on the fence, so we may see western bluebirds. Red-tail hawks are a common sight, soaring over the grasslands hunting for prey."

Participants should wear com-

fortable shoes, dress in layers, and bring along water. Allow about two hours for the hike.

"We are pleased that some people have accepted our invitation to 'walk 'n' talk together' almost every week," said W. Ron Sutton, founder of World Walk to Wellness and CEO of corporate sponsor ACCUSPLIT, maker of certified accurate pedometers and stopwatches. "Since January, we have explored 22 of our city's parks, along with several trail hikes in and around Pleasanton. The buddy system really works well to help us achieve our activity goals, so come give it a try, either on the trail hike or the shorter (one-hour) walks in local parks."

All World Walk to Wellness walks are free of charge (and require no reservations), but participants have the opportu-

nity to voluntarily contribute in any amount to Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation. To date, World Walk to Wellness has contributed over \$6,500 to PPIE, including matching funds provided by corporate sponsor ACCUSPLIT at Community of Wellness Festivals.

Please note that parking is limited at this city golf course. Carpooling with other walkers is encouraged. At the end of the walk, participants have the option of purchasing refreshments at the clubhouse.

If rains between now and Nov. 19 make the Callippe Preserve Trail too slippery with mud, the hike will be moved to the Marilyn Kane Trail, a paved, level trail beginning on West Lagoon Road (south off of Bernal Avenue, between Valley Avenue and Foothill Road).

Thanksgiving

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH

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Includes tax and gratuity

(Enjoy a Complimentary Glass of Wine with Each Adult Dinner)

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www.poppyridgegolf.com

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EDITORIAL

Transportation Improvements

The new Isabel Avenue Interchange/I-580 opened to traffic yesterday.

The long awaited interchange was completed six months ahead of schedule. It creates a new second access route to Las Positas College and local businesses and residences on the northside of I-580. It also improves the connection between State Route 84 and I-580 helping to relieve traffic congestion at the I-580/I-680 interchange.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena commented, "We could not be more pleased that this important milestone has been reached on this project."

It is just one of the transportation improvements that have been a strategic goal of the city for years. It's always a plus when one of the major goals has been completed for the betterment of both commuters and area residents.

CITY MANAGER

(continued from page one)

twelve as Community Development Director.

Councilmember-elect Stewart Gary pointed out that if it were a perfect world, the timing to hire a new city manager would be different. "The new council faces a two-year budget and the heavy lifting of BART. Roberts is a fabulous internal candidate. His institutional knowledge will allow the council to hit the ground running."

Bob Baltzer pointed out that Roberts had served with distinction under two long term mayors. His successes include the South Livermore Valley Specific Plan, downtown revitalization, outlet mall, and the one-stop permit center. "Everything the community loves about Livermore was accomplished under his direction."

Livermore Chamber executive director and board member of Tri-Valley Innovation Dale Kaye read a letter from Sblend Sblendorio that stated the appointment of Roberts as city manager would benefit the city.

Kaye added that the institutional knowledge Roberts brings is invaluable, making it possible to advance programs already underway. He understands innovation, which will bring in more jobs. She praised his work in helping to make the film commissions efforts a success, creating an economic impact of well over \$1 million.

PROTOTYPE

(continued from page one)

ing I-GATE and the Livermore Valley Open Campus."

John Mahoney, CEO of I-GATE said he is in full support of the program. It offers immediate opportunities for savings as the city has to do more with less. It also invest in a local business.

The city currently spends about \$2.2 million annually in energy costs. The Chevron ES audit will review building records, current energy use, site inspections and interviews with city staff.

MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

The Livermore Management Group has agreed to changes in its contract that will net the city a savings of \$730,000 over the three years of the contract. Livermore City Manager Linda Barton stated, "The management team really stepped up to the plate in a very difficult situation."

Under the contract, managers will receive no salary increase over the three years. By the end of the contract, they will be paying the full 8 percent PERS donation. A second tier for new hires was approved. "This is a very important contract," declared Barton.

Jeff Shafer, president of the Livermore Management Group, said, "I am really proud of our team. Management stepped up and responded when the city demonstrated there was a need."

Close Votes Marked Livermore Election

Final election results in Livermore show vice mayor John Marchand moving up to mayor and newcomers Laureen Turner and Stewart Gary elected to the city council.

Marchand's move to mayor opens up a council seat. The council traditionally has made an appointment to fill a vacancy. The estimated cost of a special election is \$250,000.

Mayor Marshall Kamena lost his bid to become a councilmember. He will be departing the council next month, after 10 consecutive years' service, and 10 previous years in the 1970's and 80's.

Kamena told The Independent that he thought that the results showed that people believed that it is time for a change. Elections in other venues have shown the same thing.

"The most likely person to change would be me, because of term limits as mayor. (Kamena was termed out as mayor. He ran for a seat on the council.)

The "new blood" idea pertains to the council race, said Kamena. Although Marchand is a council veteran, elected to the post in 2005, he was new to the position of mayor.

Kamena said that he thought some voters felt it was "a little too dangerous to eliminate John Marchand, because he has institutional memory, and is familiar with policies that have been in effect for awhile. I think it was good reasoning."

Asked what he will do after leaving the council, Kamena replied, "I have a ton of things on my plate. It's hard to choose. A producer for a comedy club has sent a script, and asked if I would consider traveling the comedy club circuit, weaving a story out of experiences as a retired mayor. I don't think I'll take him up on that."

More likely, Kamena will return to his optometry practice, which is run by one of his sons. He also wants to write a book about his experiences. Kamena thinks the book would fit in well with the strong interest in local history that many residents have shown.

In the run for mayor, Marchand received 7100 votes, or just under 48 percent of the of the

vote. Barbara Hickman collected 6798 votes, which was nearly 46 percent of the vote, and Minuete McKernan 912 votes, for approximately 6 percent.

Marchand said that the election was closer than he thought it would be. The BART to 580 issue played a role in that, he said.

Some people didn't understand that the original council vote for a downtown station and then an easterly one on Vasco Road was to protect the UGB, said Marchand.

Once the 9212 report was published, it was clear that the council could change its position to send BART along 580. It could select a more southerly end-of-the-line station, and not imperil the UGB. On a 3-2 vote, with Marchand in the majority, the council did voted to take that route.

However, not everyone even knew that the council had changed its position to endorse the 580 route, said Marchand. "I talked to a voter on the day before the election who didn't realize that the council had accepted the I-580 route. As a result, it was still a visceral issue with a lot of people," he said.

Since Livermore's history is to appoint replacements for council seats, Marchand was asked whether the two factions that faced off in the election would be a consideration.

Marchand said, "The important thing is not so much factions, but picking someone who is able to consider the issues and work in the best interests of the community."

"We'll start to work to heal the community. It was a very divisive election. I hope to keep both factions engaged, and continue an open dialogue with the community," said Marchand.

Hickman was asked by a reporter whether she might have won in a head-to-head contest against Marchand, if only the two of them had been on the ballot.

Hickman said, "I haven't given it a lot of thought. Probably it would have been closer. I know that much of what Minuete said, I agreed with, and much of what I said, she agreed with."

Hickman was endorsed by Keep BART on 580, which also backed Turner and Bobby Dale

Burger for the two available city council seats.

Friends of Livermore endorsed Marchand, Gary and Kamena.

McKernan received no endorsement from either faction, but was upbeat about her showing with 6 percent of the vote. A political science major at Dominican University in San Rafael, McKernan said, "I was really happy with the election. I came into this as an independent candidate, not aligned with the past."

"It was a good showing, with 6 percent of the vote. I didn't spend a lot of dollars. It was amazing for me, being new to running in an election."

McKernan said that the group endorsements provided much more exposure in the news media and more lawn signs.

TURNER LED FIELD IN COUNCIL RACE

In the race for the city council seats, Turner led the field with 7807 votes, almost 28 percent of the vote. In second place was Gary, with 7396 votes, or 26.5 percent of the total.

Burger received 6493 votes for a little over 23 percent, and Kamena 6204 votes, a little over 22 percent.

Turner said that the voters she talked to said they wanted someone different. More specifically, they said that Kamena had been in for so long that they wanted a fresh face and ideas.

Although the city council majority changed its BART focus away from favoring a downtown station and putting it instead on I-580, "many wanted someone who was involved with the initiative," said Turner, who signed the petition and circulated it.

Also, people didn't agree with the council backing the funding of the regional theater with general fund revenue, said Turner. She opposes such a general fund backup for the facility.

The guarantee is out of the council's hands now. However, if LVPAC were unable to sell its bonds, it might conceivably come back to the council, said Turner.

Gary attributed his victory to his "positive message of experience, leadership, proven fiscal control abilities, especially with the school district," where he has

been a trustee for three years.

"Voters also know my history in town, and that I have the ethics as someone who will do the best for Livermore," said Gary.

Burger said, "It was nice to see diverse election results. It seems people looked past name recognition, looking straight into the issues of the candidates, and voted based on what they stood for."

"Both sides ('I-580' and 'Friends') were well represented. Both sides got their message out," said Burger. He said that the majority of his money did not come from Keep BART on 580. The campaign was the result of his own work and donations from others.

Gary said that the Keep BART on 580 campaign had an impact on the election. "The change that will, and needs to come about is improved focus on listening," he said.

There also must be "fuller engagement of neighborhoods and on neighborhood-based issues. We need to make sure to connect services with the neighborhoods, and not just the city as a whole," said Gary.

THOUGHTS ON FILLING COUNCIL VACANCY

Turner, Marchand, Gary and holdover incumbent Doug Horner would be making the selection to replace Marchand on the council.

Turner said that with four councilmembers making an appointment, there will be a diversity of views on issues.

"In the last election, there was a perception about two sides, ('580' and 'Friends'). We should not have a two-sided council, so if we find someone not involved in the election or who has the appearance of neutrality, we can move forward together," said Turner.

"We all have the same outlook on the UGB. We don't have to find someone who believes all of what I believe. There are five people in the council. We will look for someone who sees the issues based on the best interests of the people," said Turner.

Gary said that he wants to wait until he is on the council, and the appointment issue is before it, before commenting.

MAILBOX

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

Note: An email is being circulated that reads, "From Barbara Hickman;" Subject: Letter to Mailbox. The following letter is for the Independent Mailbox."

The letter thanks supporters and criticizes The Independent's election coverage. However, the letter was never sent directly to The Independent.

When contacted, Barbara Hickman made it clear that she had not submitted the letter for publication. As a result, it is not being printed.

Asked whether Barbara knew where the letter had originated, she stated, "I have nothing to say about the letter, nothing at all."

ValleyCare Maternity Nurse Rod Meyer - Pleasanton A Proud Previous Spouse

A very moving "Celebration of Life" memorial service was recently held for a long tenured Labor & Delivery Nurse from ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. Joyce E. Meyer, RN had worked in the Maternal/Child Services Department from 1977 to recently. She succumbed to a short-term fatal illness. More than 100 ValleyCare nurses, physicians, support staff, family members, and friends joined in recognizing this nurse's life and outstanding service to our healthcare community. ValleyCare coworkers freely acknowledged their care partner who cheerfully delivered hundreds of babies in her 50+ years of nursing. This incredibly kind gesture is only one small indication of the pleasing and caring culture which was ever present in Joyce Meyer's "home away from home" - the Maternal/Child Services Unit in Pleasanton. Thank you ValleyCare caregivers for your service and for saying good-bye to Joyce.

Education & Enrichment Roberta Star Schryver, M.S.Ed. Junction Avenue K-8 School, LVJUSD

I am writing to share important information regarding the safe and supportive community of students, parents and teachers at Junction K-8. The experienced staff and teachers of Junction K-8 provide effective rigorous instruction to inspire all students to master the curriculum, resulting in a 29-point gain in the 2011 API. The students who accomplished this outstanding gain in API points are not only challenged by our rigorous curriculum, but are also receiving an enhanced educational experience with a variety of electives and extracurricular activities; leadership, music, dual immersion, and over 25 sports and clubs including drama, futsal, guitar, math counts, chess, cheerleading, and animation/film design.

Our supportive parent community works to provide events to strengthen the personal connections, communication, and activities between students, parents, and the school. Our amazing and enthusiastic parents assist with our arts appreciation program, dances, promote parent education events, family events, and provide volunteer support. The Junction K-8 staff, teachers, parents, and community partnerships are a united family, committed to providing a wide range of educational opportunities to assist students in finding success in learning and in life!

As the Thanksgiving season quickly approaches, it is with immense heartfelt gratitude that I take this opportunity to thank the parents, students, and business partners for their unwavering support and loyalty that allows us to provide a comprehensive system of learning and enrichment, in a safe and nurturing environment. It is my honor and privilege to have a small part in the tremendous student achievement occurring within the Junction K-8 family!

Marriage Outrage The Rev. Lucas Hergert Minister, Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore

Did Kim Kardashian's mar-

riage to Kris Humphries last 72 hours or 72 days? For decency's sake, no one should really care enough to know the answer.

Except, of course, the millions of Americans who are denied marriage licenses because of their orientation.

I have been a pastor in Livermore for nearly three years. Already I performed half a dozen commitment ceremonies for same-gender couples. Some of these gay and lesbian couples have been together for a decade or more. And yet, their relationships maintain the legal status of a second-class embarrassment.

Kim Kardashian's wedding, in contrast, is handled like a royal extravaganza. Don't be fooled: It's nothing more than a publicity burlesque. Its two-and-a-half month shelf life mocks meaningful relationships of all kinds.

Some religious leaders claim that same-gender marriage threatens traditional marriage. Really? I think sham celebrity weddings are doing plenty of damage, and few of my clergy colleagues ever mention those. Where's the outrage? The constitutional amendment? The Prop 8 1/2 opposing Hollywood-sponsored nuptials?

I can't wait for the day when I can officiate legal weddings for gay and lesbian couples. In the meantime, I am honored to officiate the ceremony of any serious, committed couple. These include sincere same-gender marriages and opposite-gender marriages. Or what I am coming to call "opposite-of-Kardashian" marriages.

BART or Zombie Apocalypse? Mike Delfino Livermore

Now that the election is over, residents of Livermore can finally get back to more important matters that pose far more of a threat to our everyday lives than BART. I am of course speaking of a zombie apocalypse.

Seriously folks... Ask yourself... What is more likely to happen in your lifetime? BART coming to Livermore or a zombie apocalypse? How long have we been clamoring, debating, spending money on, and of course arguing about BART coming to Livermore? This has gone on twice as long as one of our

recent Mayoral candidates has been alive, and at this point I'm not sure which one!!! How many millions have been spent that could have gone to schools, public safety, or anything that would bring results? As a businessman if I spent that kind of money with zero results, I would have been out of business long ago.

At what point do we as Livermore residents finally throw our collective hands in the air and accept the reality that BART is not coming to Livermore, be it downtown, on 580, or through my living room? They have made it very clear through their actions that they have no intention of coming here. Why do we keep spending all this energy on it? I contend that energy would be much better spent stocking up on food, water and blunt instruments to kill said zombies. If the zombie apocalypse never materializes before your death, fine, you have food to serve at the funeral, one that your family sure won't get to by taking BART.

Until BART demonstrates through ACTION that they're making progress on coming to Livermore, I for one will not spend one more minute worrying about it. There are more important things to worry about--like zombie apocalypses. Now where did I put that cricket bat?

Budget Information Rich Buckley Livermore

During the recent city election I realized how ignorant of city finances I had allowed myself to become. I had no idea of its size, none whatsoever. I discovered there seemed to be budget-ignorance among the political challengers as well as among us voters.

Why not put the budget online with a quarterly reviews? Anyone interested in participating in such an effort may find more information posted here: <http://tinyurl.com/3vj6ka6>

New Councilmember Ron Geren Livermore

With Livermore's recent election over, it is time to move forward for the betterment of Livermore. John Marchand's council seat will be vacant, presuming he prevails as the newly elected (More MAILBOX, page 10)

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PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

is no fresh funding that would be available to handle the debt and also build any facilities that may be needed. In fact, the current balance in the capital facilities fund is \$49,000, assistant superintendent Luz Cazares reported at the meeting.

"It's not very much. We did end with zero in the past couple of years," said Cazares. The low balance was expected, in light of the lack of money coming into the developer fee agreement fund, she said. Growth is at a snail's pace because of the recession.

The district has borrowed money from its Sycamore Fund, money set aside to fund technology needs, to help meet ongoing capital needs. More importantly, the district is paying off a \$27 million debt contracted by using certificates of participation notes. That debt has to be met.

Trustee Jeff Bowser mentioned at an earlier meeting that the state has been talking about going to voters for \$1 billion in school facilities money. The state can contribute up to 50 percent toward school construction. So far, though, there are no indica-

tions that the bond election will happen, or that voters would approve it.

Whatever the state scenario, the district must fund half of the construction. That would come from the developer fee, since established development is not supposed to pay for facilities for new development.

Bowser and others referred to the city-school district liaison committee as a place where the funding issues are discussed. However, Testa said that her talks with city officials show that the word isn't getting through to the city.

Testa took her comments to the city council meeting Tuesday. She repeated her school board remarks about the lack of money in the capital fund, and the district's and city's lack of a plan to deal with it.

At the school board meeting, Cazares acknowledged the district's debt is a serious problem. The staff is working on it. Board members also expressed confidence that solutions would be found.

Trustee Jamie Hintzke said the district should establish a debt

review committee for the continuing pay-off of the Measures B and A funding. However, trustee Joan Laursen and superintendent Parvin Ahmadi said that since the projects have already been built, there is no need for an oversight committee. Oversight committees are usually reserved for overseeing the construction, said Ahmadi.

Ahmadi said, "We can't have committees on everything. There would be not time for it. I think we have people doing a great job. We cut 26 percent of the district management team, and still do the same level of work."

Following Testa's remarks to the city council, Councilmember Cindy McGovern, a former school board trustee, asked city staff if there could be a discussion with regard to development impacts on the schools.

City Manager Nelson Fialho said there had been talks with the school district concerning the court ordered rezonings. He pointed out that with 27,500 units built, the 3200 units places the number of units just above the previous 29,000 unit housing cap. "There will be impacts."

ACADEMY

(continued from page one)

denied both the original and renewal petitions for LVCS and the petition for LVCP. The State of California granted the petition for both schools after they were also denied by the Alameda County Board of Education.

TVLC chief operating officer Bill Batchelor says he is prepared to submit the Portola Academy petition to the County and State if the Livermore School Board denies it. Even if the petition goes all the way to the State, he expects to open the school at the start of the 2012/13 school year.

TVLC intends to locate Portola Academy at the former Portola Elementary School site, current home of LVCP, which will move to a facility in North Livermore.

The school will serve 560 students in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade.

One goal of the school, says Batchelor, is to provide an alternative neighborhood school for the Portola community. If demand exceeds the number of available spaces for students, enrollment preference will be given to families living within the geographic boundaries of the former Portola Elementary School and Junction Avenue Middle School, the current boundaries of Junction Avenue K-8, and within a one-mile radius of the school site.

Portola Academy will target class sizes of 20:1 in transitional kindergarten through third grade

and no more than 26:1 in grades four through eight. The school will offer enrichment specialists in art, music, physical education, science, and Spanish. Portola Academy will have a longer school day, likely going from 8 am to 4 pm for first through eighth graders and an extended day kindergarten.

For more information on TVLC, visit <http://www.trivalleylearning.org>. The entire Portola Academy petition can be found on the agenda for the Nov. 15 meeting of the Livermore Board of Education. Go to <http://lvusd.ca.schoolloop.com/> and choose "Agenda & Meetings" under the School Board tab.

LARPD Approves Agreements With Tri-Valley Conservancy

Two agreements with Tri-Valley Conservancy regarding property near Sycamore Grove Park were authorized by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors at their meeting last week.

A Cooperative Funding Agreement will allow title transfer to LARPD for the 73-acre parcel previously known as the Bobba property. The property was purchased by the Conservancy in August 2009 with the intent to transfer it to LARPD and place a conservation easement on it.

Another agreement allows for an extension to the existing Right of Entry agreement, which allows District staff and consultants to enter the property for maintenance and inspection purposes to produce a Resource Management Plan (RMP). These

agreements allow LARPD to work toward obtaining the deed for the parcel, with the goal of using the land for a regional trail to connect to Del Valle Regional Park. District staff anticipates the RMP to be completed by spring 2012.

Once the title is transferred, LARPD would help with the funding, contributing \$150,000 to the final cost.

An informational report on results for the 2011 season of Camp Shelly at Lake Tahoe was presented to Directors.

General Manager Tim Barry explained that volunteers had stepped forward to help with marketing. "The camp was costing more than the district could afford. The volunteers have done a tremendous job." Campsite reservations increased by more than

23 percent over the 2010 season, including more weekday campsite bookings. These efforts have allowed Camp Shelly to break even instead of being subsidized \$32,000 by LARPD. "That is a big victory," declared Barry.

Director David Hutchinson stated that it sounds as if the boost would continue next year. With more revenue, improvements could be made to the property.

In other matters, Director Lauren Turner, who has been elected to the Livermore City Council, voiced her thanks for her time on the Board and said she looks forward to new challenges ahead.

There were three years left on her term. The LARPD board will determine how to fill her seat.

BELL

(continued from page one)

Pleasanton Fire Department captain, said, "The unveiling is an opportunity to remember the history of the department and the brave firefighters who worked here."

The Firehouse Arts Center encompasses the original Pleasanton fire station #1. Former and current firefighters talked about some of the history.

John Frudden, the first paid firefighter in Pleasanton, talked about the days up until 1996. He started working with the department in 1952. He said that his time with the department marked a change from all volunteer to the inclusion of additional paid firefighters. Service that had previously been provided to rural areas was canceled.

Frudden described how firefighters were called to a fire, using sirens placed around town. "We found that citizens were beating us to the fire, clogging the roads." The system was changed to radio call-out, which worked until there was a power failure. Now pagers are used.

Garreth Hilborn, a fire captain, talked about the era between 1966-76. He was the fifth paid firefighter hired by the city. His salary was \$493 a month. "I was really happy to get it. There were over 300 people who applied." It was a time when the Pleasanton department initiated many "firsts." It was the first department to purchase a custom diesel fire engine, the first to have a jaws of life, which was used all over the county, and it was the first to burn down an historic house. "That caused a lot of problems," he recalled.

Hilborn said a fire muster was held each year, growing in size to two days at the fairgrounds. "I am pleased to say that the Livermore department never beat us," he said.

Glenn Haendel, retired division chief, recalled some of the highlights of 1976-1986. There were three stations, with seven firefighters. One of the stations was a three bedroom house. There was a 1936 Ford pickup with a pump that was used to fight grass fires. The era included the building of Stoneridge Mall and start

of the Hacienda Business Park, necessitating additional facilities. In 1983, the first female fire inspector joined the department, signalling a change in the fire service.

Bordley declared, "1986 to 1996, what a decade. A new station was opened; BART came to Pleasanton; computers were first used by the fire service. The department helped in the Loma Preita earthquake and the Oakland hills fire. In 1996, paramedics were placed on every engine, one of the first departments in the county to do so.

He stated, "This is a job you love to do. We're living the dream. Not many people can say that. There is a lot of stress. There are things we do that we don't like. Practical jokes in the fire house are one way we deal with our stress."

Stewart Gary was involved in the consolidation of the Livermore and Pleasanton fire departments between 1996-2006. "It was a cataclysmic event. It took one and a half years of study. Without the support of George Withers and labor leaders, it wouldn't have happened. Over four years, two very proud cultures were merged into one

department." One event he believes signaled the success of the merger was when historic fire bells from each department were placed together at one site. "It was essential to show the merger. It is one of two sustaining mergers that took place in California."

Jim Miguel, the current fire chief, said that when he arrived he found an incredible organization, rich in history with the understanding of the need to move into the future. What the two cities gained with the merger was twice the department and the opportunity to address additional needs. Since 2006, 23 new employees have been hired, mostly firefighters and firefighter-paramedics.

Retired Poet Laureate Deborah Grossman wrote a poem for the bell. It is engraved on the sculpture base. "Firefighters rush to answer bell's call with strength to crumble danger's wall. Bravery beyond belief without fear, The clear vision that heroes hold so dear."

Also dedicated during the event was a firepole that had been part of the station when the station was in use.

HOLIDAY DECOR • FRAMED ART • GIFTS • WEARABLE ART

COUNTRY FOLK ART SHOW

NOVEMBER 19-20

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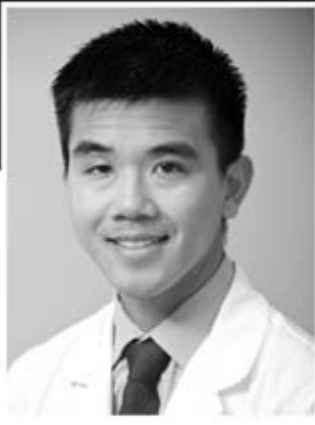
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Dr. Ramford Ng has joined the ValleyCare Medical Foundation specializing in cardiology and interventional cardiology. A native of Tracy, California, Dr. Ng completed his undergraduate studies at U.C. Berkeley and received his medical degree at U.C. San Diego School of Medicine in 2003. He completed his Internal Medicine residency and served as Medicine Chief Resident at California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) in San Francisco. Following residency, he completed both cardiology fellowship training and interventional cardiology subspecialty fellowship training at U.C. San Francisco. Dr. Ng remains involved in many bay area youth and service organizations and continues to serve on the clinical faculty at CPMC.

Dr. Ng's clinical interests include cardiovascular risk factor reduction, as well as coronary and peripheral artery disease risk assessment and treatment. He specializes in invasive diagnostic and therapeutic coronary and peripheral artery procedures.

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CAL STATE AUTOMOTIVE

SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Foothill High School flew past crosstown rival Amador Valley, 21 to 7 in EBAL play last Thursday. Pictured is Foothill's Jamirr Holland (25) heading downfield.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore High School defeated Granada 37 to 14 last Thursday in the EBAL finale. Pictured is Louie Hernandez (1) of Livermore being tackled by Justice Achaigua (25) of Granada.

West Coast Soccer

West Coast Wave U10G played incredibly in last weekend's State Cup Seeding games.

With 7 saves by Goal Keeper Jessica Carlson, and strong defensive play by Jovana Centeno, and Caitlyn Garrison, Wave ended the first game of the weekend with a scoreless tie against Sacramento United.

West Coast then came out battling in game 2 with Jackie Parker immediately finding Monique Reil who put one in early on in the 1st half. Midfielder Lindsay Plant then broke through Marin's defense and netted one more for Wave. Reil scored twice more, with assists from Kaila Vasconez, and Ariel Conley. West Coast's strong defense and hard work from goalkeeper Jessa Lyons led to a scoreless 2nd half. West Coast walked away with a 4-0 shutout over Central Marin.

Sunday morning West Coast went up against Pleasanton Rage. The game started with Plant quickly scoring in the 1st half, and Garrison sneaking 1 in just before half time. West Coast went on to score 5 more goals in the 2nd half. Reil scored with an assist from Carlson, followed by a hat trick from Jessica Keaney, and a PK by Lyons. Excellent defense by Lyons, and Vasconez in the 2nd half brought West Coast one more shutout. Giving them a 7-0 win over Pleasanton Rage.

West Coast Soccer U11 girls had another excellent weekend of soccer. The team's success continued with a tie in the league and a win in the Norcal State Cup. The good results are based on excellent de-

fensive strength from Tyler Rene Enderlein, Lindsey Phillips, Kayli Lawsen, Francesca Hyde and Sierra Bettencourt. The midfield of Kate Wallace, Kelsi Green, Allyssa George and Abby Andrews provide strong support both to the defense and to Wrath's forwards, Haley Thompson, Kylie Karter and Abby Hoobing. The main goalkeeper is Anneliese Widman with back up from Kylie, Allyssa, and Kate.

Wrath's first game of the weekend was a strongly contested game away to unbeaten league leaders Walnut Creek. Walnut Creek started the day with a 100% home record so Wrath knew they would have to be on top form to have any sort of chance against an experienced Cyclones team. Both teams played well in the first half and created a number of chances but strong defending from both sides kept the game scoreless until a break from the Cyclones led to a goal and a home half time lead. Wrath showing their strength of character in the second half to pressure and push forward seeking the equalizer and had a strong penalty appeal turned down after Haley was felled by the Walnut Creek goalie. Anneliese made a number of good saves to keep Wrath in the game and with time running out, after a superb run and cross by Allyssa, the ball fell invitingly to a well placed Kylie who kept her cool to fire home the deserved tying goal.

On Sunday, Wrath's cup opposition was Ajax United Select. The game started at a fast pace with Ajax taking an early lead against the run of play. Wrath attacked strongly with good chances for Kylie, Hayley and Abby H and only the post stopped Wrath getting on level terms. In the second half with Kylie

taking over in goal from Allyssa Wrath continued to pressurize and drew level with a great goal from Abby A. Wrath grew in confidence and further goals were added by Abby A and Alyssa to give a 3-1 win.

West Coast Soccer Club's U16 Girls Kryptonite earned its 4th Championship Title this year when they competed in the Placer United Prestige Cup Tournament held Oct. 29th-30th at the Cherry Island Soccer Complex in Sacramento. The newly formed West Coast Soccer Club, based in Livermore, has several talented players coming from multiple surrounding communities to compete on teams that have seen much success during their first season, under Troy Dayak - Director of Coaching for West Coast Soccer. The Kryptonite shut-out both opponents on Saturday with a 1-0 win against California Northstars, Ebony Ezeji scoring the loan goal

with the assist coming from Amber Lennier. Kryptonite defeated a tough MVLA Thunder team as Aduarie Dayak had an individual moment weaving through several MVLA defenders and scoring the game winner securing a birth to the Championship as the only team in the bracket to win both games. The Kryptonite seemed to get stronger in each game. On Sunday, Kryptonite netted 3 goals beating the home tournament team, Placer United 3-1 and beating long time rival Santa Clara Sporting 3-1 during the championship game. Team Kryptonite added Pink socks to their uniforms to support breast cancer awareness month.

WCS Kryptonite also recently advance to the RAL Showcase as one of the top seeds. The winner of the RAL showcase will be crowned league champions and will get the



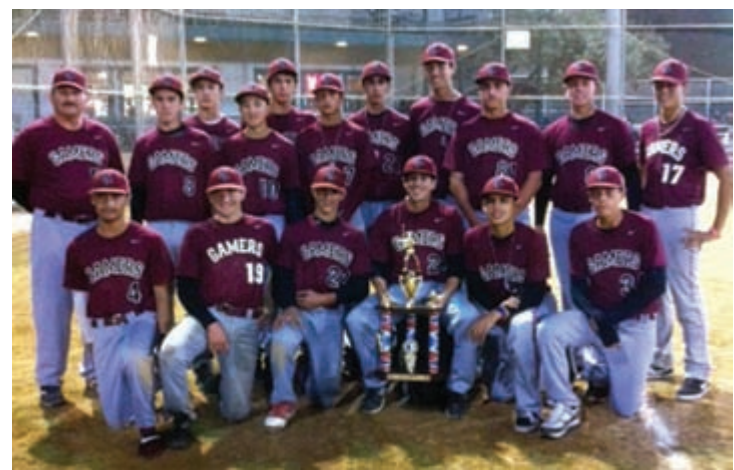
Runners representing Athenian Athletics participated in the second annual Race to the Flagpole. Pictured are (top row) Nico Falabella, Drew Falabella, Coach Rik Richardson, Eric Weber, Tom Wise, Nick Ward; (bottom row) Maxime Berenshteyn, Alec Wright, Eline Wise.



Livermore Fusion U-10 Girls were welcomed home from school on Friday with custom signs placed in their front yards, the eve before their departure to Sacramento to compete in the second round of NorCal State cup play Nov. 5th and 6th. Livermore Fusion Soccer Club joined Mustang of Danville and San Ramon Azuri in sending a team to the top bracket in each of the girls U-9 thru U-11 age groups. The Fusion U-12 girls ended up in a 3 way tie in their preliminary bracket with a 2 and 1 record, losing out for a top spot by virtue of tie breaking procedures. Were it not for the heartbreaking tie breaker, Fusion would have joined Mustang as the only clubs to send a representative to all four of the younger girls top brackets at State Cup.



Pictured are California Gymnastics Academy Level 5 team members (top row) Julieta Mendiola, Sabrina Kheirloomoom, Jasmyn Cheng, Alexandra McMillin, Lily Cuyler; (front row) Yasmine Diyab, and Daniela Mendiola.



The Sophomore Head First Gamers baseball team won the Twin Creeks 16U Veterans Day Classic Tournament on Sunday, November 6, 2011. The Sophomore Head First Gamers team is made up of young men from Castro Valley, Pleasanton, San Ramon, Danville, Livermore, Alameda, Fremont and Clovis. The Gamers won all four games, out-scoring their opponents 25 - 6. The Gamers displayed an terrific overall team effort throughout the tournament with excellent pitching, hitting and defense. JD McDonnell and Carl Cantwell were named Co-MVPs for their outstanding performance. The team is managed by George Athan. Pictured are (front row, left to right) Esias Ortiz, Max Reclus, Kevin Burt, Manager George Athan, Carlos Garcia and Tyler Staniford; (back row) Coach Jeff Hollar, JD McDonnell, Trevor Greenley, Adam Hollar, Jordan Ott, Isaac Cruz, Sam Cabral, Jonathan Freshman, Carl Cantwell, Austen Chauvin and Anthony Coleman. Players not in the picture: Weston Hatten, Xavier Iglesias, Gabe Tramble and Stone Godi.



The photo was taken at the Silver Dollar BMX track on Sunday afternoon. Riders from left to right; Alec Faught, Antonia Faught, Seth Brown, Damon Miller, Deegan Brown.

BMX Riders Come Home with Trophies

This past weekend, members of the FEI Racing BMX team from Livermore participated in the annual Nor-Cal BMX Gold Cup Challenge. This event consisted of three races at three different BMX tracks located in Northern California.

The first event was held Saturday morning at Red Rock BMX located in Red Bluff. The second event was Saturday night at Boomtown BMX located in Redding. The third event was held Sunday morning at the Silver Dollar BMX track located in Chico.

As a result of their efforts, the FEI Racing team finished 2nd overall in the team competition out of a field of 7 teams.

Team members and how they finished in the Challenge include the following:

Alec Faught competed in the 14-Novice class. He finished 2nd, 1st, and 1st and won the overall 14-Novice classification for the event.

Antonia Faught competed in the 12-Novice class. She finished 1st, 1st, and 1st and won the overall 12-Novice classification for the event.

Seth Brown competed in the 11-Novice class. He finished 3rd, 2nd, and 2nd and won the overall 11-Novice classification for the event.

Damon Miller competed in the 6-Novice class. He finished 1st, 1st, and 1st and won the overall 6-Novice classification for the event.

Deegan Brown competed in the 5 & Under Intermediate class. He finished 3rd, 5th, 5th.

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SPORTS NOTES



Kyle McClanahan scored a goal and defended well in Ballistic U13 United Premier 99's win over Union City.



The 12U Mavericks Girls' fastpitch softball team seized its fifth consecutive trophy of the 2011 season in the ASA Invitational tournament. The team played in the "A" division for this event held in Hayward, CA on November 5-6, 2011. The Mavericks battled in the cold and soggy conditions, taking third place overall. The offense excelled as the pitching and defense continued to keep the team in every game. The Mavericks are (first row from left) Katie Lucas, Tea Stephenson, Mallory Jones, Mia Niklewicz, Amber Rice; (back row from left) Coach John Niklewicz, Coach Pete Rocereto, Maggie Kilday, Shelby Rocereto, Natalie Waters, Robyn Dobson, Jamie Wittmer, Manager Greg Dobson, and Coach Tim Waters. Not pictured are Erica Espinosa and Jordan Maddox.

honor to represent Norcal in the new Champions League National tournament.

Pleasanton Ballistic

Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club (BUSC) U13 United Premier 99 started strong against the Union City Rebels connecting 11 consecutive passes from the opening kickoff. The Pleasanton team held the ball for long stretches of the game limiting Union City to just 5 shots on goal. Jacob Dremalas and Kyle McClanahan turned back an early Union City attack that. McClanahan stood up the Rebel attacker just outside the 18 while Dremalas came in and cleaned out the ball. In the 11th minute Ballistic scored their first goal after Garrett Howell was fouled 25 yards from goal. Kyle McClanahan hit a rocket of a free kick that deflected off of Youki Chiba who was positioned in the Union City goal. The ball found the back of the far post for the 1-0 lead.

Ballistic Keeper Blake Staniford, who only saw 2 shots in the first half, came up big in the 18th minute holding on to a high free kick that was destined to go just under his crossbar. With less than 30 seconds remaining in the first half Garrett Howell set up a corner kick on the right side that he then played short for Ryan Murray. Murray took a touch and then finished from 35 yards from a difficult angle placing the ball in the upper corner of the far post for a 2-0 half time lead.

In the second half, Ballistic came out firing and was rewarded in the 6th minute. Howell played a nice ball for winger Bryce Taylor. Taylor hopped over an attempted tackle and then played a diagonal through ball into the box for Youki Chiba to run on to. Chiba sent a perfect shot across the keeper finishing just inside the post for his 13th goal of the season. Kyle McClanahan made a deep run in the later stages of the game with Bryce Taylor finding the center back at the

top of the 18 with a looping cross. With his back to goal McClanahan attempted a bicycle kick that while wide of the goal entertained his teammates and fans.

Ballistic received solid defensive play all day from backs Nick Carreon, Jacob Guzman, Daniel Fergusson, McClanahan, and Dremalas. The strong effort along with excellent team possession shut down the Rebel attack. Ballistic leads the NorCal Gold League in goals scored with 45 while their record improves to 6 wins, 1 tie, 1 loss.

Pleasanton Rage

Pleasanton Rage U10 Black 1, Livermore Fusion SC 1: Lacy Becker scored a first-half goal to give the energized Pleasanton Rage Black a 1-0 lead. She nearly added another one against the Livermore Fusion. SC on Saturday. It appeared as though her goal, set up by a tremendous move and subsequent pass by teammate Samantha Lipsker, would be enough for a Rage victory in U10 Girls Bronze East league play. However, Livermore's Megan Garka spoiled things for the Rage. Garka, who scored the game-winning goal against the Rage on Oct. 23, used her speed to break free from a pair of defenders, then scored from inside the top of the box to tie the game at 1-1 with six minutes left.

Becker, Olivia Murphy, Sophia Shibley, Lydia O'Brien and Lipsker worked well in trying to mount a counterattack, but the Rage had to settle for the 1-1 tie. Defensively, Julia Damiani, Andrea Harding, Paige Oniki and Kelly Meyrath helped stop Livermore's offensive charges throughout the game. Amanda Dilger had two strong saves in the first half, then played well as a midfielder in the second half.

Murphy, in particular, was effective all game long in intercepting passes, beating the Fusion to the ball and getting the offense started. The Rage controlled the action for



West Coast U11 girls Wrath had winning weekend with a Norcal State Cup win and a tie with league leaders Walnut Creek. Pictured is Goalie Annielise Windman directing traffic while Kylie Karter checks to a loose ball with Kayli Lawsen in a perfect supporting position.



West Coast Soccer Kryptonite win its 4th Championship this year. Team Kryptonite earned the trophy and a pink Beast Cancer awareness Championship sweatshirt. The team also received a letter congratulating West Coast Soccer and the Kryptonite from Lotto Sports.

much of the first half, with Becker's goal adding the exclamation point just two minutes before half. The goal was set up by Lipsker, who beat a defender to the end line, then snuck past a pair of defenders to deliver a pass across the goal to Becker, who was at the back post. Becker then quickly punched the ball into the net before the Fusion goalie could react.

The ensuing Rage celebration was nearly repeated a minute later when Shibley and O'Brien gained control and got the ball to Becker. She chased down a ball, moved past a defender and punched a shot from 12 yards away that was only denied by a fantastic sprawling save by the Fusion goalie.

Mustang Pride 1, Pleasanton Rage Black 0: On Sunday, captain Sophia Shibley led a valiant Rage effort against U10 Bronze East champion Mustang Pride, which needed a last-minute, first-half goal by Lily Welsh to hold off pesky Pleasanton 1-0.

The Rage suffered the tough defeat despite allowing just one goal for the third consecutive game. Some aggressive goalkeeping by Pleasanton's Kelly Meyrath (in the first half) and Amanda Dilger, coupled with a stingy defense led by Shibley, Julia Damiani, Andrea Harding and Paige Oniki enabled the Rage to keep pace on the field with the Pride. Shibley's speed enabled her to beat many Pride players to the ball as she stopped trouble on defense and initiated offensive pushes from her midfield spot.

Still, Pleasanton wasn't able to cash in on hustling offensive play in the Rage's Lydia O'Brien, Olivia Murphy, Dilger, Lacy Becker and Samantha Lipsker. The Rage was only able to get two strong shots on goal. The Pride's Sabrina Amaral was the main reason why Pleasanton couldn't get many strong scoring chances as the stopper continually cleared up trouble on Mustang's side of the field.

The Rage, which also has a date in the NorCal State Cup Semifinals on Saturday in Bronze 2 Division play, wound up allowing just four goals - including two 1-0 defeats - while losing three heartbreaking games to three different Mustang teams in league play.

Pleasanton Rage Division 4 Under-8: Mountain Lions vs. Monkeys: The Mountain Lions put on another strong showing against a tough Monkeys team. Each of the players was able to score today in the season finale. Top Offensive Players: Macy Heckl, Gwen Buteau, Julia Buteau

- Mountain Lions: Top Defensive Players: Sophia Minniti, Sammie Manos, Jewels Smith - Mountain Lions

Under-10: Jitterbugs 0, Jewels 1: The Jitterbugs played a great game. They often controlled the ball but were unable to score. The tough defense kept the score low. Top Offensive Players: Kaylee Dillon, Shauna Chen, Stefani Deines, Kaela Lee - Jitterbugs; Top Defensive Players: Isabella Montiel, Gianna Varner, and Vanessa - Jitterbugs

Under-12: Bay Cats 2, Banshees 0: The Bay Cats Battled the Banshees in a rematch of game 2 this season. The Bay Cats demonstrated a strong balanced offense, scoring in each half while maintaining the opposition scoreless. Top Offensive Players: Lulu Castaneda, Ems Matei, Amira Nayyar - Bay Cats; Top Defensive Players: Lauralaur Dennen, Anna Pham, Andrea Zavala - Bay Cats

Livermore Fusion

Livermore Fusion SC Division-4 (Recreation-House)

U-10 Boys: Destroyers 4, Flying Tigers 3: Offense: Ty Marks, Jacob Dennett, Patrick Connolly (Destroyers); Aiden Montalvo, Andy Hankins, Kyle Johnson (Tigers); Defense: Edward Vilchis, James Duperly, Jacob Kilbane (Destroyers); Eric Riloma, Connor Hardesty, Jeremy Dyson (GK) (Tigers); Goals & Assists: Brett Olerich (3G), Jacob Moen (G) (Destroyers); Connor Hardesty (2G), Jason Knight (G) (Tigers)

Division-4 (Recreation/House)

U-12 Girls: Dynamite 1, Hotshots 0: Offense: Emily Turner, Cassandra Ward, Sarah Peters (Dynamite); Clara Martinez, Sierra Bolar (Hotshots); Defense: Kaitlyn Hemby, Maddie Lovdahl, Candance Rho (Dynamite); Amelia Sobrepena, Savannah Whitsock, Sierra Whitsock (Hotshots); Goals & Assists: Noelle Rizzo (G) (Dynamite)

Fireballs 2, KAOS 2: Offense: Emily Hewitt, Megan Brooking (Fireballs); Tammy Lee, Heather Woelk, Alyssa Wagner (KAOS); Defense: Shannon McNamara, Alexah Nava (Fireballs); Marie Linney, Tessa Mullins, Danielle Dejus (KAOS); Goals & Assists: Tyler Lee (G), Ally Brown (A), Madiyn Martin (G) (Fireballs); Riley Male (G), Heather Woelk (G) (KAOS)

Hot Shots 1, Chaos 0: The final game of the season for Hot Shots and Chaos was a hard fought battle. Chaos pummeled Hot Shots Goalkeeper, Amelia Sobrapena, over



Pictured is West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy Level 5 gymnast Lauren Swenson-Lennox.

and over, but could not get into the goal. The first half was scoreless and looked to be a tie until Hot Shots' Ciara Martinez planted one in the net. Offense: Ciara Martinez, Bridget Meyers (Hot Shots); Ashley Dordak, Brooke Powell, Claudia Meza (Chaos); Defense: Sierra, Amelia Sobrepena (Hot Shots); Amanda Craft, Arina van Schoonenberg, Jennifer Hernandez (Chaos); Goals & Assists: Ciara Martinez (G) (Hot Shots)

U-6 Girls: Sparkly Ladybugs vs The Soccer Bunnies: Offense: Anne Polanski, Sierra Bradford, Eliana Green (Ladybugs); Sarah Lovdahl, McKenzie Duffin (Bunnies); Defense: Savannah Battaion, Aniella Zullo, Maddison Colagross (Ladybugs); Riley Battate (Bunnies)

U-5 Girls: Rainbows vs Pink Ponies: Offense: Mea Neubauer, Dayne Palmer, Avery Fowler (Rainbows); Layla Sprayberry, Jessi Luna, Sydney Aguilar (Ponies); Defense: Manikua Ribabaiti, Madison Swansiger, Jessica Seburn (Rainbows); Kylie Hahlbeck, Ashlyn Silva, Camryn Hayden (Ponies)

U-10 Boys: Groundbreakers 2, Strikeforce 1: Team Strikeforce led 1-0 at the half, but the Groundbreakers fought hard to tie and then eventually scored the game winning goal in the final minutes of the second half. An all-around well-played game with excellent sportsmanship exhibited by both sides. Offense: Melvin Lopez, Mason Smith (Groundbreakers); Jeff Fairbanks, Jordan Scates, Max Higgins (Strikeforce); Defense: Blake Teixeira, Colby Smith (Groundbreakers); Jake Johnston, Tracie Addington, Max Higgins (Strikeforce); Goals & Assists: Melvin Lopez (G), Mason Smith (G) (Groundbreakers); Jeff Fairbanks (G) (Strikeforce)

U-9 Boys: Strikers 2, Jets 1: Offense: Emmanuel Sanchez, Isaac Lopez, Jonas Ricke (Strikers); Jimmy Aslin, Dylan Corker, Tony Ramirez (Jets); Defense: Colton Korhummel, Eric Halsa, Skyler Romero (Strikers); Luke Ellsworth, Hahir Morales (Jets)

U-7 Boys: Dragons vs Sharks: Offense: Shane Pollard, Dominic Peri (Dragons); Marcu Holunga, Jorge Hernandez (Sharks); Defense: Jacob Mordick, Kyle Denton (Dragons); Troy Rhodes, Christian Cordero (Sharks)

Skulls vs Firestorm: Offense: Jacob Dominguez, Brayden Vash, Marcos Valdez (Skulls); Ryan Martin, Luke Leary, Sawyer Bartlett (Firestorm); Defense: Marcus Bernal, Payten Bruan, Tyler Trudeau (Skulls);

(continued on page 9)

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SPORTS NOTES



The West Coast Wildfire U12G soccer team had a busy weekend playing league and Norcal State Cup games. In a league game against the DeAnza Force, the West Coast girls came ready to win. By the first half, Forward Meghan Giamona scored her first hat trick of the season. The Wildfire girls easily won 5-2. In another league game later in the weekend, the Wildfire girls took on top seeded Castro Valley. In a tough and physical battle that went to the wire, the West Coast girls battled back in the second half to a lead 3-2. With precision assists from Right Wing Sydney Schultz, Meghan Giamona claimed her second hat trick of the season, a standout accomplishment. Pictured is Meghan Giamona breaking free of a defender.



The Tri-Valley Soccer Club U13 Bayern Boys' team captured the Norcal Premier League Gold Division title November 12th at Creekside Park in San Ramon. Needing a win to clinch the title, Bayern dominated play against East Diablo to secure the league championship. The Tri-Valley Bayern team went undefeated throughout league play finishing with a perfect 8-0-0 record outscoring their opponents 29 to 4. The kids are all smiles after Coach Terry Wilson sprayed them with sparkling cider. Shown in photo, from left to right, are Ryan Marta, Parker Matsumoto, Ryan Brecher, Tim van der Waart van Gulik, Jung Haeng Kim, Matteo DeFina, Laith Anqud, Kyle Wright, Matthew Petrie, Chris Machi, Parker Lee, Teyler Johnson, Spencer Chamberlin, Nolan Thompson, Justin Lego and Lailinda Xu. Not shown: Brian Adams.



Livermore Fusion U9 girls Maroon went undefeated at Norcal State Cup play in Sacramento November 5th and 6th. Round 2 of State Seeding resulted in 2 draw games against Mustang Fusion (1-1) and Milpitas FC (2-2). Fusion came back with determination on Sunday and beat West Coast SC 2-1, grabbing a 2nd place finish in Flight B. Fusion found themselves against West Coast SC for a second time for their quarterfinal game and came away with a 2-1 win. Fusion is currently ranked 4th in state and will continue its pursuit of Norcal victory in Manteca November 19 and 20. The team has also had success in league play with a 7-1-0 record, currently holding the first place title. Livermore Fusion U9 Maroon are pictured during their match in the quarterfinals. They are (back row) Coach Matt Caution; (middle, left to right) April Phillips, Peyton Hall, Rebecca George, Athena Lewis, Kaleigh Castillo; and (front, left to right) Kassidy Brackett, Ainsley Gibbs, Lily Redell, Kayla Galo, Alivia Ganz, and Faith Rogers.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Thomas Knieriene of the Under-10 Livermore Fusion Cougars heads down field against the Destroyers. The Cougars won the match, 3 to 2.



The West Coast U9G Fury girls are on their way to the Norcal State Cup top 8 finals bracket. The Fury girls brought their all to Davis last weekend and came away with two critical wins over Milpitas and Mustang's top team. Goalie Haiden Arruda stopped everything fired at her in not allowing any goals against. The girls are now on their way to the State Cup final round to be held the weekend of November 19 - 20, in Manteca. Pictured is Mid-fielder Laura Gonzalez on a breakaway toward the goal.



Livermore Fusion under-10 Strikers pose with the trophy they won for capturing the league title over the weekend.



West Coast Soccer Wave U10 girls celebrate before heading to the Norcal State Cup quarterfinals against Inter Rage Academy Magic. In the intense Quarter Finals game, Magic was up 1 scoring with a PK in the first half. West Coast came back fighting in the 2nd half with Kara Kolte tapping the ball in the goal on an assist from Monique Reil. Goal keeper Jessica Carlson had her work cut out for her, and with 7 saves proved to be a great goalie. The game ended in a 1-1 tie, and went into a scoreless double overtime.



The "Renegades," Pleasanton Rage, U16, Division 4 soccer team celebrated after clinching first place in their division on November 12th. Their season record included 8 wins, 1 tie and 1 loss. Pictured are (front, left to right) Hannah Bagot, Tori Knuppe, Vanessa Harman, Lauren Fowler, Carly Krakauer; (middle row) Mackenzie Bullock, Rachel Buehler, Erin Walsh, Madison Lawer, Kelley Dixon, Malea Montalvo, Taylor Miller, Cassidy Holmes; and (back row) Coach Jake Krakauer, Jenna Coop, Juliana Herrera, Coach Robert Fowler, and Coach Garrett Holmes. Not pictured: Karah Paul.



Livermore Fusion "Aguas Caliente" ended an undefeated season in First Place in the Rec U19 Boys division. The team defeated San Ramon Nitro in their final match, 2-0. Jon Blea scored the winning goal in the 70th minute. Joey Martinez added an insurance goal 2 minutes later. Aguas Caliente finished with a perfect 12-0 record, scoring 63 goals in 12 games and giving up only 7. The photo was taken following the final game. Pictured are (front, center) Joey Martinez, (Second row, from left) Cristian Sierra, Jon Blea, Kyle Bird, Chase Martinez, Tyler Collier (Back row, from left) Coach Jacob Blea III and Coach Jacob Blea IV, JT Addington, Taylor Futral, Bobby Shull, Chris Henry, Jaxson Kovacs, Nate Preece, Eduardo Sanchez, and Coach Troy Martinez (Not present for the photo are Brandon Howard and Derek Jansen).



Livermore Smoke 14A fall softball team finished in first place with a 4 and 1 record in the final tournament of the season. Each of the girls contributed over the weekend to make it to the final championship game on Sunday. Sam Whalen, who deserved and was awarded MVP of the tournament, pitched another excellent game to help the team finish first in the H.A.R.D Girls Fastpitch tournament played in Hayward. Team includes Taylor Cole, Kiara Arias, Missy Nunes, Ashley Balestreri, Savanah Ruiz, Jackie Granados, Sam Whalen, Courtney Ganguet, Sue Vi, Alex Villazon and Lily Rebello. Coaches Gary Vignola, Andrew Sprecher, Toff Garcia and Randy Villazon.



West Coast Wicked Under 14 girls team finished the fall league and Norcal State Cup seeding with two visits to play Union City Outlaws this past weekend. The Wicked came away with a two goal advantage over the Outlaws on both days to finish on a high before the high school season break starts. On Saturday Wicked had a 2 to 0 victory with both goals coming midfield general Nadia Ranagan, who scored the fastest goal of the season in 27 seconds and again in 50 minutes to secure victory for the girls. On Sunday the game ended 3 to 1 in favor of the Wicked, with Shasta Grant, Camryn Lipman and Misha Brewster hitting the back of the net. West Coast Wicked Under 14 girls team finished off their fall league with a 6 -1-1 record to take second place in league play. Pictured is Misha Brewster gaining position to win the loose ball and take it to the house for a beautiful goal. Misha said "goals start by winning the loose balls first"

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 FIRST STREET 443-SHOW	
BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG13) DLP THX	1:15	4:15	7:15 10:00
BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG13) DLP	12:15	3:15	6:15 9:15
HAPPY FEET TWO 3D (PG) DLP THX	11:30	1:50	4:10 6:45 9:10
HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) DLP	1:10	3:40	6:05 8:30
IMMORTALS (R) DLP	12:00	3:00	6:10 9:00
IMMORTALS 3D (R) DLP	12:50	4:10	7:00 9:50
JACK AND JILL (PG) DLP	12:10	2:30	4:50 7:10 9:20
J. EDGAR (R) DLP	12:25	3:30	6:35 9:35
PUSS IN BOOTS 3D (PG) DLP	12:20	2:40	5:00 7:15 9:35
PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) DLP	11:45	1:00	2:10 3:20
	4:25	5:40	6:40 8:00 9:05
TOWER HEIST (PG13) DLP	1:30	4:05	6:55 9:25
IN TIME (PG13) DLP	1:20	4:00	7:05 9:45
OPENS WEDNESDAY - THE MUPPETS, HUGO 3D, ARTHUR CHRISTMAS			

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SPORTS NOTES

6 rebounds, grabbing 2 turnovers, a steal and a blocked shot. Jessica Bennett also came to play defense as usual with her team high 7 rebounds, a blocked shot, 6 attempts and 2 points. Rounding out the scoring for the Flyers were center, Emma Zika, 4, and all 3 point guards, Big Maddy, Stewart Little and Katie Fournier, with a basket each.

SM/SC CYO 5th grade boys, The Gladiators, after an intense last period rally, were eventually beaten by CCOP, 31-19. Jack C. and Noah were high scorers for CCOP with six and eight points respectively. For the Gladiators, Connor Livingston was on his game and scored seven points, while Logan Finch was also ready for any shot, scoring six points for the team. The Gladiators did an excellent job defensively against this strong team, and Bradley Archer, Colton Morlan, and Logan Finch did an outstanding job rebounding and stealing.

It was thunderous comeback for the SM/SC 3rd grade girls team as they scored another victory with a 14-13 buzzer-beater against St. Joan. Erin Schrader showed up to play in her aggressive basketball style as she led her team with 10 points, shooting 71% from the field. Olivia Turner showed off her speed with an impressive defensive effort with 5 steals, 5 rebounds, 2 turnovers while putting up 8 attempts against a very tall St. Joan team. Alyah Anderson also came out big for the Thunder team with 5 attempts, 2 points, 3 steals, 3 rebounds and another 2 turnovers. Justine Locatelli put up 2 points, snagged 4 rebounds and grabbed 2 steals.

SM/SC 1st and 2nd grade boys Lightning took on the Warriors. All shot well. Playing well for the Lightning were Carter March, Owen Sommers and Brando Camacho. Lead-

ing the Warriors were Mason Rosa, Ethan Gunderson and Ryan Bond.

WCOGA Gymnastics

The West Coast Olympic Gymnastics Academy compulsory gymnasts qualified and competed in the NorCal Level 6 State Championships at Oroville Gymnastics Sports Academy on 11/5/11 and 11/6/11 and the NorCal Level 5 State Championships at San Mateo Gymnastics on 11/12/11.

Level 5: Lauren Swenson-Lennox - 3rd place beam, 4th place floor and 10th place all-around.

Level 6: Sara Lionag - 7th place beam, 9th place bars and 13 place all-around, Sara Ling - 5th place vault, 9th place floor and 14th place all-around, and Jasmine Saucelo 11th place beam and 11th place all-around.

Level 5 State qualifier, Corrine Jackson and level 6 State qualifier, Abigail McKeag were unable to attend.

California Gymnastics

California Gymnastics Academy's Level 5 girls competed at the NorCal Level 5 Championships held in San Mateo, on November 12 and 13.

Jasmyne Cheng is the 2011 NorCal Level 5 Sr A All-Around Champion, winning the Championship titles in Vault-9.575, Bars-9.725, Beam-9.70 and Floor-9.45. Jasmyne is ranked 3rd out of over 419 girls, regardless of age, winning a place on the NorCal Level 5 State team.

Alexandra McMillin is the 2011 NorCal Level 5 Child H All-Around Champion, winning the titles in both Bars-9.525 and Beam-9.875. Alexandra had the highest Beam score, regardless of age of over 419 girls, and placed second on Floor-9.325.

Lily Cuyler is the 2011 NorCal Level 5 JrA Beam Champion with a score of 9.775. Lily also placed second on Bars-9.5 and was second All-around with a score of 37.475.

Yasmine Diyah is the 2011 NorCal Level 5 Sr B State Beam Champion with a score of 9.525 and placed 5th All-Around.

Sabrina Kheirloom is the 2011 NorCal Level 5 JrC Beam Champion with a score of 9.5, placing 4th All-Around.

Bocce Kits for Rent

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

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

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

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

Bowling for Baseball

Livermore High School baseball is hosting a Bowling Tournament to raise money for the season. The cost is \$15 per person or

\$90 for a team of six. The tournament will be on December 3 from 6-8pm at the Granada Bowl. Those interested in participating, please contact David Perotti at dperotti@lvj.usd.k12.ca.us or 925-586-2811 or go to www.eteamz.com/LHScowboysbaseball for more info.

PGSL Registration

2012 Registration is now open for all divisions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League. All girls living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play. Two ways to register: 1) Online at www.pleasantonsoftball.org; 2) Mail-in: PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (download a registration form from our website). For more information or questions, email Christine Tanis at christine.t@pleasantonsoftball.org.

PGSL Player Evaluations and Tryouts:

Evaluations for grades 3-8 are scheduled for January 14-15, 2012. The times and locations are to be determined and will be published on the PGSL website (www.pleasantonsoftball.org). Remember to register by December 1, 2011 to avoid the late fee.

Livermore Girls Softball

Livermore Girls Softball registration is open for the 2012 Spring Season. Tryouts for 10U and Middle School will be held Dec 3. For more information go to www.livermoregirlssoftball.org.

Winter Water Polo

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's winter water polo session

begins November 28. LARPD has programs available for youth, ages 10-18 years old, looking to learn or play the world's most exciting aquatic game.

The 14 & Under LAZERS Water Polo Team practices November 28 through February 2 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 to 6:00pm. The cost is \$250. The 15 & Up LAZERS Boys Water Polo Team practices November 29 through February 2 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 to 8:00pm. The cost is \$250. All water polo sessions take place at the Robert Livermore Community Center Pool.

For more information or to register, call 925-373-5751, e-mail lazerswp@clubsaces.com or visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us. For more information about the LARPD LAZERS, visit lazerswp.clubsaces.com.

Bah Humbug 5K

The San Ramon Parks & Community Services will start the holidays with a healthy fun run or walk with its annual San Ramon Bah Humbug 5K Run & Walk, on Saturday, December 3. This very flat and fast 5K (3.1 miles) certified course will follow through the weekend-quiet and monitored streets of Bishop Ranch Business Park.

Bah Humbug proceeds will go directly back into the San Ramon Parks & Community Services programs.

Trophies will go to the top male and female finishers, and medals will be awarded three deep in designated age groups for both male and female participants (check application or Web site for age-groups). Costume awards will go to the "Most Grinch-Like," "Holiday Spirit" and "Group Theme." All participants who wear their holiday garb will receive a special "Bah Humbug" Tree Ornament.

5K Entry fees (postmarked before November 18, 2011) are \$35 for pre-registration, and \$30 per person for immediate family members of 3 or more (application and money must be submitted at the same time). The fee after Nov. 18 is \$40 for everyone.

Check-in and race day registration opens at 7:30 a.m., at Bishop Ranch II, 2694 Bishop Drive (corner of Camino Ramon & Bollinger Canyon Rd.), in San Ramon (East side of freeway 680). Both, the run and walk will begin at 9:00 a.m.

For more Bah Humbug 5K Run & Walk information and/or an application, contact Brad Morris at the San Ramon Parks & Community Services, 925-973-3367 or On Your Mark Events will provide timing and results of this event. To pre-register for this event, entrants can either download this application and send in with money or online, at Active.com

LNLL Registration

Livermore National Little League is still accepting early bird registration until Nov. 30, 2011 please visit the website www.eteamz.com/lnll for details. LNLL will have a final walk in registration on Tuesday, Dec 6 at Mt. Mike's Pizza, 1304 First St., Livermore, from 6:30-8:30pm. Please provide copy of birth cert & current proof of residency.

OBITUARIES

Lynn Russell Owens

"PAPA Owens"

June 5, 1944 - November 04, 2011

In loving memory of LRO who went home to be with the Lord at the age of 67. Lynn was born in Carlisle, Iowa. He joined the Navy right after graduating High School and served on the USS Coral Sea. He moved to Livermore, California in 1964.

He retired as a Division Chief after 32 years of service with the City of Livermore in the Fire Department. Lynn was an active member of Trinity Baptist Church for 35 years where he served as deacon and choir member. He donated his skills as Auctioneer each year to the Livermore Heritage Guild, Livermore Crisis Pregnancy Center and multiple other charitable organizations.

He was Livermore's first Cowboy Laureate and went on to perform his talent as Cowboy Poet, "Waddie O." He served as Chaplain for the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War and enjoyed reenacting.

Lynn loved his family, his church and community. Lynn was a man of integrity, honor and faith, a lover of and fighter for our country, our freedom, and our rights. His word was definitely stronger than oak, it was his bond. A quote from many of Lynn's friends and family: Lynn was, "One of the most loving people that I have ever met."

Lynn is survived by his loving sister Myrna Walker, devoted and loving wife, children and grandchildren, Linda Owens, son Tony and wife Holly, daughters, Michele Delgado and Annette James and husband Freddie, grandchildren, Daniel Delgado, Aaron Delgado, Candace James, Trae James and Ava Lynn Owens. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Come join the family in a Celebration of his life on Monday, Nov. 21 at 1:00 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church, 557 Olivina Ave, Livermore. Reception following.

Instead of flowers to honor Lynn, please send donation to: Save the Franklin Battlefield, P.O. Box 851, Franklin, TN 37065 or Livermore Heritage Guild, P.O. Box 916, Livermore, CA 94550 (to restore Livermore's Seagraves Fire Truck)

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Patricia Ann Stone

February 21, 1942 - November 2, 2011

Patricia Ann Stone is at rest after a long illness on Nov. 2, 2011. Pat is survived by her loving companion of 30 years, Len Gaudette. She was the beloved mother of Jennifer (Mike) Brennan of Martinez and Eric (Shir-

ley) Stone of Livermore; proud and loving grandmother of Brandon, Sierra and Rachelle Stone; and daughter of the late Lili Avila and her husband, the Late Jesse Avila.

Pat was born in Brady, West Virginia, a small coal mining town, on Feb. 21, 1942. She grew up in Berkeley, CA and graduated from Berkeley High School. Pat moved to Livermore in 1968 with her late husband, Pete, and lived there for 25 years while raising her family. Pat and Len are 8 year residents of Greenstone Mobile Home Park in Shingle Springs. Pat had many loves, including animals, children, nature, camping, swimming, country western music, dancing and home decorating. Pat enjoyed spending time with her friends.

Funeral Services have been held at Chapel of the Pines Funeral Home with interment at Westwood Hills Memorial Park, both in Placerville. Contributions in Pat's name may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or www.stjude.org. Friends may sign a guestbook and leave condolences at www.chapelofthepinesfunerals.com

Vivienne Vera Scheib

Vivienne Vera Scheib passed away on November 8, 2011 at Quail Garden in Livermore, California, at age 90. Vivienne was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Norman.

Vivienne was born in Chicago on February 11, 1921, where she met Norm while attending Teacher's College while Norm was in the U.S. Army.

After the war, Norman embarked on a successful career with the U.S. Veteran's Administration, while Vivienne, who had determined to dedicate her life to education, embarked on a long and very successful career in teaching.

Over time, Vivienne earned her Master's Degree from Cal State University, and received her Doctorate in Education from Brigham Young University.

Vivienne had a distinguished teaching career, including 30 years in the Sunol Glen School District, with a stint as Superintendent of Schools. Vivienne knew her heart was in the classroom, and not behind an administrator's desk, and returned to teaching. In 1981, Vivienne was named Alameda County Teacher of the Year.

Even though she eventually

retired from teaching, Vivienne remained active in Sunol Glen School activities such as the annual Melodrama fund-raiser. Vivienne remains well beloved by teachers and former students alike at Sunol Glen, where many years the school established the Vivienne Scheib Scholarship for deserving students seeking a college degree in Education.

Vivienne remained active well into her later years, belonging to two bridge groups, a group for the study of Presidents and their wives, and NARFE (National Association for Retired Federal Employees), where she would give monthly reports on advancements in the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's Disease.

Vivienne is survived by her son Gary and his wife Andrea, daughter Kristin Croeni and her husband Robert, grandchildren David, Valerie, and Audrey, and great grandchildren Lindsey, Caitlin, Victoria, Karissa, Amber, Kayla and Max.

The family would like to thank the entire staff at Quail Garden for their genuine loving care of Vivienne during her time there, enabling her to feel warm, safe, and loved until the very end. We are eternally grateful.

Remembrances in Vivienne's name may be sent to Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Avenue #100, Dublin, CA 94568-3024. Their kindness is also deeply appreciated.

Funeral Services were held on November 15. Interment followed at Memory Gardens Cemetery, Livermore, CA

Richard Edward Hessel

Pleasanton resident Richard Edward Hessel, Ph.D. March 1951 - November 2011. After a two year battle with cancer, longtime Pleasanton resident Dick Hessel gently passed away at his Pleasanton home at the age of 60. Dick was born in Cincinnati, Ohio to Otto and Ruth Hessel. After earning his Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati, Dick shared his love of engineering as a professor at the University of Cincinnati and Clarkson University, before moving into the private sector. Dick's career in the computer industry led him and his family to the Silicon Valley, where they settled in Pleasanton.

The beloved husband of Connie Hessel for over 30 years, Dick is survived by his wife and two daughters, Andrea Kline Simon, 28, wife of Paulo Kline Simon; Kendra Hessel, 19; brothers: Jim and Steve Hessel of Cincinnati; and his four cats. A true connoisseur of jazz music, the blues, and a lover of cats, Dick was also a weekly tennis player who will always be fondly remembered for his impressive beard and warm sense of humor.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to Hope Hospice, so that the less fortunate may share in the same degree of love and care that Dick received in his time of need. www.hopehospice.com

Arrangements by Callaghan

Mortuary.

Robert Farwell Stearns

Robert Farwell Stearns passed away peacefully on November 10, 2011. A Livermore resident since 1959, Bob was born December 5, 1925 in New Hampshire. His parents were Sidney Warren Stearns and Marion Cutter Stearns of the Valley Farm in Hancock, N.H. where Bob grew up.

Bob had a great passion for aviation and taught Aircraft Recognition to the Ground Observer Corps for the Army Air Force in WWII. He attended the University of New Hampshire, graduating in 1947 cum laude with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Bob spent his career as a mechanical engineer in the nuclear power industry, working for General Electric first in MA and NY, then moving to California in 1959 and working at Vallecitos Lab in Pleasanton. From 1969-1989, he worked for Bechtel Corp. in San Francisco.

Continuing his interest in aviation, Bob earned his private pilot rating while living in New York, and when he moved to Livermore, built his own, all wood, Piel Emeraude aircraft, which he flew out of the Livermore Airport for more than 35 years. He was a lifetime member of the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Bob was married to Jacqueline J. James from 1953 to 1979. They had one son, Glenn Robert, born in 1954, who now lives in Scotts Valley. In 1982, Bob reconnected with and married his college sweetheart, Marion Whitcomb, whose husband had died.

Actively supporting the Livermore community, Bob was a long time Board member for the Livermore-Amador Symphony Association, serving several years as president, while Marion played her violin in the orchestra. In addition Bob was active in the Unitarian Universalist Church and contributed much to the beauty of their grounds.

Bob is survived by his wife, Marion Stearns; son, Glenn R. Stearns; granddaughter, Katrina A. Slater; nieces, Diane Streeter, Bonnie Stearns, Donna Biggerstaff; nephew, Brian Stearns; and cousin, Ruth Hathaway. He was predeceased by his two brothers, Donald S. and William C. Stearns.

Bob was also much loved by the family he inherited when he married Marion: daughters, Hallie Whitcomb and Cherry Westerman; grandchildren, Erica and Michael Westerman.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 19, 11 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore, 1893 N. Vasco Rd.



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DOOLAN

(continued from page one)

to settle the different views of what will happen in the canyon. "In a separate process we should simultaneously look at an open space/buffer policy."

Supervisor Scott Haggerty noted that Livermore and Dublin have been able to work together. He added that he believes there is a lot of misunderstanding about what people want. He suggested that if a blue ribbon committee were created, it should include both cities, the developer (Pacific Union), residents of the canyon and the county. "A lot of things need to be worked through before LAFCO becomes involved."

Ayn Wieskamp, East Bay Regional Park District representative to LAFCO, said the district is concerned with open space for the public and trails. "People who actually live in the canyon, deserve water to service an agriculture setting."

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena said he believed Livermore could collaborate with Dublin to come up with a reasonable solution.

Dublin Mayor Tim Sbranti agreed. He said that Dublin had not yet started the environmental review for the proposed development. "I and the council would like to see an urban growth boundary in eastern Dublin. That would allay some of Livermore's concerns."

Katy Foulkes, special district member, said the senior housing is a wonderful concept. "However, I do believe in open space. I agree the cities need to work on this and come back."

Foulkes wondered why Livermore was applying for a sphere of influence change. She pointed out that DSRSD is released from the Dougherty Valley Settlement agreement if Livermore asks for a change in status in the canyon, including sphere of influence.

Livermore disagrees with that interpretation. The Dougherty Valley Settlement prohibits DSRSD from supplying water to Doolan Canyon. If Dublin first made the application to change the status of the canyon, the Dougherty Valley agreement would remain in place. In a report prepared by Livermore staff, it notes that the agreement should remain in place. Dublin took the first action relative to Doolan Canyon. The Dublin council voted to proceed with a study of a proposed development in the canyon. Livermore's action was in direct response to Dublin's action. Dublin, on the other hand, claims that it has not initiated a change in the status of Doolan Canyon, because it had not submitted a request for the change to LAFCO.

Currently, Doolan Canyon is located in unincorporated Alameda County. Urban growth boundaries in the county and Livermore prohibit development in the area without voter approval. Dublin does not have an urban growth boundary on its eastern side.

Mona Palacios, LAFCO executive officer, said that LAFCO law is ambiguous when it comes to granting sphere of influence for the purpose of open space and agriculture protection. "It does not explicitly eliminate using it as an open space tool. Sphere of influence is generally granted

for development or to provide service to an area. I am not sure under what basis Livermore would be granted a sphere of influence."

She pointed out that ABAG has included Doolan Canyon in the North Livermore priority conservation area. There was broad consensus that no development should occur in the area. Asked if the designation as a conservation area were enforceable, she replied that she didn't believe it would be.

Mayor Sbranti noted that the area is already protected open space under Measure D. It would remain protected unless there were an annexation with development.

Jobs, open space, the need for senior housing, and water for the canyon were among issues raised by members of the public who addressed the commission.

Union workers said that the proposed development would provide jobs. It would also make it possible for seniors to move out of the larger homes they occupy, opening up those homes for families to acquire.

Doolan Canyon residents pointed out that there is no public open space and very little agriculture. It is not a diverse ecological area. Water is a big issue. It has to be trucked in to meet their needs. Casie Patterson stated, "We are really, really thirsty for water. Livermore has tried to minimize the residents' concerns." In a letter submitted to LAFCO, signed by nine of the eleven landowners, Livermore's request to obtain a sphere of influence without a more concrete plan for water represents a "hostile take-over."

Attorney Peter MacDonald spoke for Acacia Partners, owners of the 1190 acres on which the senior housing would be built. He said that the area had long been associated with Dublin. Studies support placing it in Dublin. "Livermore's proposal is not compatible with Dublin's plan." The senior housing is needed by the wave of aging baby boomers. He asked LAFCO to table the premature request for sphere of influence and bring Livermore into a collaboration with Dublin to craft a plan that enhances the valley and quality of life for seniors.

Bruce Myers of Pacific Union called the area a valuable resource with a location close to BART, the freeway and amenities in the Bay Area that make it ideal for development. He said the resource should be used to meet the needs of the entire community.

Bob Baltzer, chairman of Friends of Livermore, said that Dublin's huge sprawl development would ruin a nearby pristine canyon. It is a jewel. There is rangeland, an equestrian facility, and EBRPD plans to expand southward. Dublin has the potential to ruin Doolan Canyon and could in turn open up more of Eastern Alameda County to piecemeal development.

Larry Tong, EBRPD inter-agency planner, said that the district's master plan identifies the Doolan area as a potential regional park with a trail system. Livermore's request for sphere of influence would help to implement the district's master plan.

Americans Using More Energy from Fossil Fuels

American energy use went back up in 2010 compared to 2009, when consumption was at a 12-year low. The United States used more fossil fuels in 2010 than in 2009, while renewable electricity remained approximately constant. The increase in wind power was offset by a modest decline in hydroelectricity. There also was a significant increase in biomass consumption, according to the most recent energy flow charts released by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Wind power jumped from .70 quadrillion BTU, or quads, in 2009 to .92 quads in 2010. (A BTU or British Thermal Unit is a unit of measurement for energy and is equivalent to about 1,055 kilojoules) Most of that energy is tied directly to electricity generation and thus helps decrease the use of coal for electricity production. Biomass energy consumption rose from 3.88 quads to 4.29 quads. That increase was driven by ethanol use as a transportation fuel and a feedstock for industrial production. (The apparent decline in geothermal energy use

is due to an accounting change by the Energy Information Administration.)

"We are still seeing the capacity additions from a wind energy boom come online," said A.J. Simon, an LLNL energy systems analyst who develops the flow charts using data provided by the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration. "And renewable fuel mandates are driving the consumption of ethanol by cars and trucks."

Energy use in the residential, commercial, industrial and transportation arenas all rose.

The majority of energy use in 2010 was used for electricity generation (39.49 quads), followed by transportation, industrial, residential and commercial consumption. "This is just a snapshot of how the energy system was used," Simon said. "Although it doesn't appear to change much from year-to-year, even small shifts can have big consequences for certain sectors of our economy."

As in previous years, coal was the major player in producing electricity, with nuclear and

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

Mayor. He and the council may hold an election to fill his seat or the council may appoint a person to that position.

If an appointment is made, it seems logical (if one ignores the politics) that one would appoint the next highest council seat vote getter, Bobby Burger, or even the Mayor's contender, Barbara Hickman. Regardless of the conflicting views of candidates, that would reflect the original voting wishes of the people of Livermore.

Ah, but then there's the politics. This was a contentious election with certainly differing views on the direction Livermore should be headed and election results strongly reflect that. There is an opportunity here to seat a council more completely reflective of those varied viewpoints while working together toward Livermore's future. On the other hand, if John Marchand and members of the council choose to go a political route and solidify their positions with an appointment least desired by the voters, they will have unnecessarily invited a divisiveness, which will not help in their and the public's quest to move forward. I think people fervently want to support the Mayor and the council. I implore them to make the choice that will set a very positive and optimistic tone for the future and how the entire council will conduct itself for the good of Livermore.

Roller Hockey Rink Kera Magoon Pleasanton

When my Husband and I purchased our home in the Val Vista area in Pleasanton in 2004, the main reasons were the Pleasanton community and the great Pleasanton schools. Also a big bonus for us was the outdoor Roller Hockey Rink at Val Vista Park, as we are huge Hockey enthusiasts and it's the ONLY rink anywhere around. At that time the City of Pleasanton ran Hockey Leagues at the rink and my Children all played in the league and My Husband was a Coach.

After a few years the city decided there was not enough participation and cancelled the Roller Hockey Leagues.

My husband and my children still enjoy going to the Roller Hockey Rink whenever possible

and playing a game of Roller Hockey with anyone who shows up.

Recently my family and some friends were playing a game of roller Hockey at the rink and were told by a group of Roller Derby girls that they had rented the HOCKEY Rink to practice roller derby on and my family would have to stop their game and leave the rink.

My fourteen year old Daughter was very upset she could not believe how unfair the situation was. She did some research and determined that the rink was managed by the Pleasanton Parks and Recreation Department and looked online to find the next Parks Board meeting.

My Husband and children attended the Board meeting and during public speaking he asked that the use of the Val Vista roller Hockey rink for non Hockey functions be discussed. When a speaker asks that something be discussed it is then supposed to be put on the agenda at the next month's meeting.

In the mean time the Parks and Recreation Department, rented out the ROLLER HOCKEY rink to the Derby girls six nights a week.

My Husband and children went to the Tennis Park They tried to rent a tennis court to play four squares on. The attendant said no he could not rent the tennis court for four squares because it had to be available to tennis players. Yet the city can rent the only roller Hockey rink to non hockey players?

At the next Parks and recreation Board meeting my Husband attended with our children and some neighborhood children (there were no Derby girls in attendance) the discussion of the roller hockey rink use had not been put on the agenda and even the board members were surprised.

So we had to wait a whole month for the next Board meeting and of course at this meeting 20 derby girls were in attendance.

The Board decided that it was completely fair that the Roller Hockey Rink was rented out 6 nights a week to non roller hockey players.

The majority of the Roller Derby Girls do not reside in Pleasanton they do not pay taxes or vote in Pleasanton.

Now thanks to the Pleasanton

Parks and recreation Department my children believe that all you need is money to do what you want and push people around.

It will be remembered when elections come around.

Protest and Funds Dave Pastor Pleasanton

Move-on.org is paying for TV advertisements, supported by George Soros, one of the world's richest men. ACORN is paying people to protest. Union support is everywhere. SEIU, Teachers, Long Shore men, and Nurses unions are present and accounted for. Economic "justice" (socialism) and "greed" (desire for power and money-not wealth) are the topics of the day. The media reported that the "Mother" OWS sent the Oakland OWS legal counsel \$20,000 for expected legal expenses from illegal public disruptions. Now we know who is encouraging and steering, if not running, OWS. They are just using the "99%" to do their dirty work.

We also know now why the city government officials allow these protests to go on despite the lawlessness, health issues, and disruption to the daily lives of the rest of citizens. They know where their campaign contributions come from.

Flu Shots Sue Compton CEO, Axis Community Health

A letter in the Nov. 10 edition pointed out the importance of seniors receiving flu shots. Axis Community Health's services are used by and available to everyone in our community. We were glad to be able to offer a limited number (230) free public health flu shots, supplied by Alameda County, and focused our efforts on reaching the Tri-Valley's most vulnerable residents—children, pregnant women, the elderly and people with chronic diseases. We have purchased additional supplies to ensure all residents have access to this important preventive health care. If anyone is in need of a flu shot, please call us at 462-1755 to make an appointment at either our Pleasanton or Livermore location. For those who are not currently patients at Axis, we provide flu shots at our cost (\$20).

Voters Thanked Chief Stu Livermore

I am honored to serve Livermore as a new member of the City Council. I would like to thank the many supporters and volunteers who made financial contributions and worked countless hours behind the scenes on my campaign team during the election season.

I think that it is healthy that we had a good discourse in this election. Now, as we move forward, all involved need to strive to do a better job listening to and respecting various viewpoints. I hope that we all will put the election stress behind us and focus on achieving what's best for Livermore in the future.

I appreciate all of the support that has enabled me to pursue my goal of serving Livermore in a new and exciting way. Everyone's involvement illustrates what makes Livermore such a wonderfully vibrant community and special place to live and work!

Thanks to Outgoing Officials Dick Ryon Livermore

Congratulations to John Marchand for his election as Livermore's new mayor, and to new councilmembers Stewart Gary and Lauren Turner. Thanks for your willingness to serve, taking time away from other personal and worthy pursuits.

Thanks to Marshall Kamena for his years of service to the citizens of Livermore as mayor and councilmember, and likewise to Marj Leider and Jeff Williams for their service as councilmembers. The city is a better place because of the policies and programs you have implemented. The groundwork you have done for future projects bodes well for the future of our fine city.

Thanks to the good efforts of the unsuccessful candidates, we had a lively debate of the issues facing our city. With the election over, let's pull together where we agree, continue the debate where there is disagreement, then move forward together.

Keeping Track of Issues of Interest

Residents who want to follow a particular issue, should make sure contact information is available.

An example of what can happen concerns Livermore resident and union leader John Nunes who heard reports this summer that the Walmart and Target stores in the city may have gone above the amount of floor space that the city set in 2007 as a limit for non-taxable items.

Most non-taxable items in California are food. Nunes, who is a representative of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 5, knew that the city adopted its superstore ordinance in 2007 in response to a Walmart application for a superstore in Livermore. At the time, the size of the store concerned Nunes and others. As a negotiator for the food workers, he was worried that other stores would close.

Jobs that might evaporate in Livermore would be union jobs.

The ordinance in 2007 put a limit of 5 percent of total area on stores. Since Walmart would not be able to build anywhere near the size grocery area it was seeking, the application for the superstore was withdrawn.

This summer, after hearing reports about "growing" areas of groceries in the Walmart store on Livermore's First Street and the Target store, Nunes' union hired an expert to go into the stores and measure the grocery areas. Nunes asked the city to double check the figures when it appeared the dimensions were above the allowed 5 percent.

Nunes then learned that the city had changed the superstore ordinance in 2010 to allow 10 percent of floor space or 10,000 square feet whichever is the lower number for non-taxable items. The 10,000 square foot cap was inserted so that any store that wants a very large expansion would not be able to go over 10,000 square feet, said Kamena.

Nunes was surprised. He thought that since he participated in bringing the 2007 ordinance about, he would have been notified about the city council's update of the zoning ordinance.

The council made the change at its May 24, 2010 meeting. Mayor Marshall Kamena said when asked that no one appeared at a public hearing to comment on the proposed change.

Both Kamena and planning staff members told The Independent that there was no real concern about a threat to neighborhood supermarkets.

A PW market in Springtown was having trouble, and eventually closed, but planning staff attributed that to internal problems with the PW chain, not competition from big box stores' grocery departments.

Pleasanton considered a superstore ordinance when Walmart was looking at building a superstore there. However, that consideration went away after Walmart dropped its plan.

Dublin adopted a superstore ordinance in May 2008, after a suggestion by Mayor Tim

Sbranti, who was a council member then. There was no superstore proposal before the council. The Dublin ordinance bans superstores, which it defines as a store with a gross area of more than 170,000 square feet, and devoting at least 10 percent of the total sales floor area to non-taxable merchandise.

Sales floor area means only the interior building area devoted to sale of merchandise. It does not include offices, restrooms, storage areas, garden areas or automobile service areas.

Alameda County's superstore ordinance does not totally prohibit superstores, said planner Lou Andrade. However, they do require a conditional use permit. The superstore definition covers a store that has more than 100,000 square feet of total sales floor area and has more than 10 percent of that area engaged in selling non-taxable merchandise.

The county requires the applicant to conduct an economic review to determine how the store would affect neighborhood shopping centers. The applicant must pay all costs of the study.

KEEPING INFORMED CAN USE A SIGN-UP

Nunes assumed that because he participated very much in the 2007 ordinance, he would have been notified about the proposed change.

Livermore's policy is to rely on two things when it comes to notification. One is a legal ad,

which is published in the newspaper that wins the contract for the city's legal. In this case, it is the Valley Times. The other notification route is for people to sign up with the planning department for planning commission notices, and the city clerk's office for city council agendas that include the topics in which they are interested.

The city then will send such notices to people, either via e-mail or regular post. In Livermore, the city clerk goes through the list, and calls everyone on it to see whether they want to continue for another year, said city clerk Susan Neer.

In Pleasanton, people may have their names on a list, but they are automatically dropped at the end of the year, unless they take the initiative to call the city and ask to be continued, said city clerk Karen Diaz.

Both cities must send out notices at least 10 days before a hearing. In addition, both cities post their agendas and packets on their web pages.

As to the survey that Nunes requested, the city performed it on Aug. 18 at Target, which applied for the ordinance change last year. Both were below the 10 percent allowed.

Nunes said that the figures found by the union's audit were different from the city's, although they apparently did meet the new requirement.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES
Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 457083

The following person(s) doing business as: Neera Natural, 2468 Armstrong St., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Supreme Joy Distributors, Inc., 2468 Armstrong St., Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Anita Thompson, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 10, 2011. Expires October 10, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3100. Published October 27, November 3, 10, 17, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 456458

The following person(s) doing business as: Cover Pro, 1312 Pagan Cmn, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Robert J. Miller, 1312 Pagan Cmn, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 3/1/2001. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Robert Miller. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on September 23, 2011. Expires September 23, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3101. Published October 27, November 3, 10, 17, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 456867

The following person(s) doing business as: Leslie Marie body and skin care, 280 Division Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Leslie Braga, 1602 Calle Santa Anna, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/29/1998. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Leslie Braga, Owner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 4, 2011. Expires October 4, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3102. Published October 27, November 3, 10, 17, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 456868-869

The following person(s) doing business as: (1) Positive Things (2) Just Breathe Day Spa, 280 Division Street, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Leslie Braga, 1602 Calle Santa Anna, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Leslie Braga. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 4, 2011. Expires October 4, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3103. Published October 27, November 3, 10, 17, 2011.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Date of Filing Application: **October 27, 2011**
To Whom It May Concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are:
SPANKYS DOG HOUSE, LLC
The Applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at:
174 SOUTH K ST

LIVERMORE, CA 94550-4511
Type of license(s) Applied for:
40 - ON-SALE BEER
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
1515 Clay St. Ste 2208
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 622-4970
The Independent Legal No. 3105. Published November 3, 10, 17, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 457434

The following person(s) doing business as: Aahmes Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Temple Corporation, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore, CA 94551. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 8/1/11. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Wayne Green, Gen. Partner/Secretary. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 19, 2011. Expires October 19, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3108. Published November 10, 17, 24, December 1, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 458024

The following person(s) doing business as: (1)Prie Winery (2)Prie Cellars (3)Prie Vineyards, 3022 Verdala Dr, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): One Varia LLC, 3022 Verdala Dr, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Lisa Gash, Member. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 4, 2011. Expires November 4, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3110. Published November 10, 17, 24, December 1, 2011.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

State of California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Department of Transportation
Sealed bids for the following project will be received by the Department of Transportation, 1727 30th St, MS #43, Sacramento, CA 95816 until 2:00pm on 01/18/2012 at which time they will be publicly opened and read in Room 0100. Bids are required for the entire contract. Bid documents may be ordered by calling (916) 654-4490 or by fax (916) 654-7028. For information visit http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/weekly_ads/index.php

Contract No. 04-0120M4: This project has a mandatory pre-bid meeting. In Alameda County In Oakland From 1.6 Km West Of The Toll Plaza To 0.3 Km West Of The Toll Plaza. Construct Bridges And Roadway, And Electrical System. The Contractor must have either a Class A license or a combination of Class C licenses which constitutes a majority of the work. 04-Ala-80-1.6/2.7 * 1450 Working Days * DVBE participation incentive up to \$250,000 * Estimate: \$45,100,000. The Independent Legal No. 3111. Published November 10, 17, 2011.

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NO. 662411

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):
GADIEL SERRANO, and DOES 1 through 20

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

PHILIP BRIGGS

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond

within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in a proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit group at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelp-california.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. **¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.**

Tien 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en lacorte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services (www.lawhelp-california.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. **AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.**

Sealed bids for the following project will be received by the Department of Transportation, 1727 30th St, MS #43, Sacramento, CA 95816 until 2:00pm on 01/18/2012 at which time they will be publicly opened and read in Room 0100. Bids are required for the entire contract. Bid documents may be ordered by calling (916) 654-4490 or by fax (916) 654-7028. For information visit http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/weekly_ads/index.php

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

State of California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Department of Transportation
Sealed bids for the following project will be received by the

the court is:
(El nombre y direccion de la corte es):
STANISLAUS COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
801 10th Street, 4th Floor
Modesto, California 95354

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:
(El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
GARY C. NELSON, ESQ.
#122821
LAW OFFICE OF GARY C. NELSON
421 13th Street
Modesto, CA 95354
(209)524-9200
(209)524-9300 fax

DATE: (Fecha): FEB 17, 2011
Clerk (Secretario)
Karime J. Martinez
By /s/:
Deputy (Adjunto)
Karime J. Martinez

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 458279

The following person(s) doing business as: J & L Import Export Company, 6444 Forget Me Not Cmn, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1)Li-Hsia Nieh Wu, 6444 Forget Me Not Cmn, Livermore, CA 94551 (2)Zhi Jian Xue, 17 Redwood Ct, Santa Rosa, CA 95409. This business is conducted by Co-partners. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/1/2011. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Li-Hsia Nieh Wu, Co-partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 14, 2011. Expires November 14, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3117. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2011.

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS

Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 NETWORKING/SOUTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE RFO #900848 for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Wednesday, November 30, 2011, 2:00 p.m. - Alameda County Social Services, 24100 Amador Street, California Poppy Rooms 225-226, Hayward, CA NETWORKING/NORTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE RFO #900848 for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Thursday, December 01, 2011, 10:00 a.m. - General Services Agency, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Room 906, 9th Floor, Oakland, CA Responses Due by 2:00 pm on December 28, 2011 County Contact: Ann Marie Romero (510) 208-9742 or via email: AnnMarie.Romero@acgov.org Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org. 11/17/11 CNS-2207347# THE INDEPENDENT Legal No. 3118

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS
ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at 925.426.8656
Adopt a new best friend: TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, dogs and cats are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: PetSmart in Dublin noon to 4 and the Pet Food Express in Livermore 1 to 4. Sundays, cats are at PetSmart in Dublin 1 to 4, and PetCo in San Ramon 11 to 3. TVAR at (925) 803-7043 website at www.tvar.org

Department of Transportation, 1727 30th St, MS #43, Sacramento, CA 95816 until 2:00pm on 12/13/2011 at which time they will be publicly opened and read in Room 0100. Bids are required for the entire contract. Bid documents may be ordered by calling (916) 654-4490 or by fax (916) 654-7028. For information visit http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/oe/weekly_ads/index.php

Contract No. 04-2E2404: In Alameda County At Various Locations. Treat Bridge Decks With Methacrylate And Replace Joint Seals. The Contractor must have either a Class A license or any combination of the following Class C licenses which constitutes a majority of the work: C-8, C-61D06, 04-Ala-80,84,580-Var * 60 Working Days * 5% DVBE Requirement * Estimate: \$260,000. The Independent Legal No. 3116. Published November 17, 24, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 458279

The following person(s) doing business as: J & L Import Export Company, 6444 Forget Me Not Cmn, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1)Li-Hsia Nieh Wu, 6444 Forget Me Not Cmn, Livermore, CA 94551 (2)Zhi Jian Xue, 17 Redwood Ct, Santa Rosa, CA 95409. This business is conducted by Co-partners. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/1/2011. Signature of Registrants: /s/: Li-Hsia Nieh Wu, Co-partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 14, 2011. Expires November 14, 2016. The Independent Legal No. 3117. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2011.

NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS

Notice is hereby given that sealed competitive bids will be accepted in the office of the GSA-Purchasing Department, County of Alameda, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907, Oakland, CA 94612 NETWORKING/SOUTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE RFO #900848 for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Wednesday, November 30, 2011, 2:00 p.m. - Alameda County Social Services, 24100 Amador Street, California Poppy Rooms 225-226, Hayward, CA NETWORKING/NORTH COUNTY BIDDERS CONFERENCE RFO #900848 for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Thursday, December 01, 2011, 10:00 a.m. - General Services Agency, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Room 906, 9th Floor, Oakland, CA Responses Due by 2:00 pm on December 28, 2011 County Contact: Ann Marie Romero (510) 208-9742 or via email: AnnMarie.Romero@acgov.org Attendance at Networking Conference is Non-mandatory. Specifications regarding the above may be obtained at the Alameda County Current Contracting Opportunities Internet website at www.acgov.org. 11/17/11 CNS-2207347# THE INDEPENDENT Legal No. 3118

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS
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LHS Green Solutions Class Enters 'Power a Bright Future' Contest

Livermore High School (LHS) Green Solutions Engineering Academy Teacher, Mike Waltz, has entered his program in the "Power a Bright Future" Competition sponsored by Clorox.

The Clorox Company, for the third year, is sponsoring the Power A Bright Future program. The program offers students more chances to play, create and explore. Clorox will award four

\$25,000 grants and one \$50,000 grant to help fund programs in schools that are vital for educational development. Schools are nominated for the chance to win up to \$50,000. Voting began October 24 and will continue through December 9. Vote once each day at <http://www.powerabrightfuture.com/gallery/detail/?nid=937>.

The LHS Green Solutions

Engineering Academy is a three year California Partnership Academy (CPA) which incorporates integrated academic and career technical education, business partnerships, mentoring, and internships. "Students take courses in a cohort, with a small cadre of partner teachers who collaborate and integrate curriculum. Half of the students in the academy are at-risk when they enter the acad-

emy. Our program helps close the achievement gap by giving these students a home inside our school, providing academic support, teaching real world job skills and providing field trips and other motivational activities. Our academy's career focus is Green Engineering - renewable energy, energy efficiency, and recycling technology which are increasingly important to our economic and environmental future" said Waltz.

The State requires all CPA grant programs to obtain 100% matching funds from industry partners. This year's target is \$71,000. To survive, the LHS program must meet this challenge. If the \$50,000 from Clorox becomes a reality for the LHS program, \$25,000 will go to construct an outdoor solar and wind lab, where students design, install, and maintain renewable energy systems; \$15,000 will go towards creation of new courses and labs for engineering physics, architecture, and civil engineering; and \$10,000 will hire tutors for an after school program for at risk students.

In a separate Clorox competition, Granada High School (GHS) Video Productions teacher, Keith Pickering, has entered to win \$50,000 to continue work that began with a donation from a local web-broadcast studio. GHS has some of what is needed to move ahead with their plan to bring the school news to a global level including high student interest, a skilled and enthusiastic Video Production teacher, a supportive administration and community,

and much of the equipment. Still needed are backdrops, sets, and additional equipment to sustain this program and allow students to broadcast GHS school news around the world.

A \$50,000 grant would allow GHS to complete the transformation of a classroom into a Broadcast Studio. Students would improve their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills while they develop news stories, interview staff, students and community members, and make commercials about clubs and electives. By broadcasting news reports on-line, the entire com-

munity will have an exclusive peek into this fantastic school.

Livermore High School has applied for the "Explore" category while Granada High School has applied for the "Create" category therefore the two high schools are not in competition with each other for votes. The winners are based on votes from the public so it is important to show your support of these exciting opportunities by voting once each day, for each high school, at the website or by texting clorox5374 to 44144 (LHS), or clorox2766 to 44144 (GHS). Voting continues through December 9.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Competitors take off at the start of the Livermore-Granada Boosters 2nd annual "Race to the Flagpole" held on Veteran's Day weekend, Saturday, November 12, 2011. Proceeds will support the Livermore-Granada scholarship program. Since 1958, the Boosters have awarded more than \$199,000 in scholarships.

SHORT NOTES

Search for Newts

Naturalist Eric Nicholas will lead a hike through Augustin Bernal Park in search of newts on Sat., Nov. 19.

The program is good for families with children ages 4-12. Participants will learn all about the wonderful world of newts—their habits, what they eat, and what is trying to eat them. Dress with the weather in mind, boots and rain gear might be wise.

Fee is \$3 residents/\$5 non-residents. Visit www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/recreation to register online, or call 925.931.5340.

Holiday Book Sale

Friends of the Dublin Library will host a holiday book sale on Sat., Dec. 3 from noon to 3 p.m.

It will be held at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza.

A selection of hardcover books in excellent condition, ideal for gift giving will be available including children's books, holiday books, gourmet cookbooks, collections, gift books, games, and more.

For information, contact the library at (925) 828-1315.

Nature Programs

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff are offering a Fall Compass Course on Sat., Nov. 19.

Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 2 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 5049 Arroyo Rd.

Once the rains begin and the grass grows, it can be a great time to explore the unseen side of Sycamore Grove Park. Learn the basics of navigation while exploring hidden parts of the park. Join this adventure, and bring your own compass - if you have one - to learn how to use it better. There will also be compasses to borrow during the program. Wear sturdy hiking shoes.

Turkey Time is the topic for the Sun., Nov. 20 program.

Meet Ranger Amy Wolitzer at 2 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 5049 Arroyo Rd.

Gobble, gobble - turkeys aren't just on the table, they're in our parks, too. Join this program to learn about wild turkeys and hopefully find some to watch. This will be an easy, slow wander of less than a mile and will be great fun for both kids and adults. At the end of the walk, make

a fun Thanksgiving craft.

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

Make Decorations

Livermore Public Library presents the following programs to create holiday decorations:

Friday, November 18, 3-4 p.m., at the Rincon Library: a surprise craft awaits you to celebrate the holidays! Come join in the fun! The Rincon Library is located at 725 Rincon Avenue in Livermore, next to the May Nissen Pool.

Wednesday, November 23, 10:30-12 noon, at the Civic Center Library, in the Storytime Room: Amelia Escutia from Livermore's own Café Art will help your children paint their own ceramic holiday decorations! The Civic Center Library is located at 1188 South Livermore Avenue in Livermore, adjacent to Police Headquarters.

These events are open to the public and free of charge.

For more information, please contact the Youth Services Desk at (925) 373-5504, or the Rincon Library at (925) 373-5540, or visit the Library's website: www.livermorelibrary.net.

Holiday Decorations

Hacienda Business Park in Pleasanton will be installing its annual holiday decorations this Friday, November 18, 2011. The installation will be done by long-standing Pleasanton business, T. Marshall Electric, who has performed this work for Hacienda for well over a decade. The installations will begin at approximately 4:30 am and will be conducted throughout the day, weather permitting.

"We look forward to helping welcome the holiday season to Pleasanton," said James Paxson, Hacienda's general manager. "Hacienda always enjoys adding a festive touch to the community at this time of year."

Farmers Group News

Bob Herzog of Pleasanton, Agent for Farmers Group, Inc.(r), has achieved the company's highest award to district managers and agents for "outstanding overall perfor-

mance." Herzog joins a select group of fellow achievers as a member of the 2011 prestigious Presidents Council.

Farmers President of Distribution Mhayse Samalya announced the selection of Herzog at Farmers' Los Angeles-based home office. Presidents Council members were honored at a conference held recently.

Herzog represents Farmers' member companies in automobiles, homeowners, specialty, life, financial products and business insurance.

Kenneth White, Farmers Insurance agent in Pleasanton, has completed the Career Agents Course at the University of Farmers training facility in Agoura Hills, California.

The University of Farmers training facility in Grand Rapids, Michigan was officially dedicated in September 2011, while the training facility located in Agoura Hills, California, was dedicated in November 2006. Farmers CEO Robert Woudstra noted that the University is national in scope, and offers training to Farmers' 15,000 agents and their staff, 500 district managers and 10,000 claims staff year round.

Scholarship Success

The Livermore Public Library invites local high school students and parents to attend an informational scholarship fair, "Scholarship Success!" Information on how to take advantage of available local and federal college financing will be provided. This free event will take place Wednesday, November 30, 2011, from 7:00pm to 8:00 pm in the Storytime Room of the Civic Center Library.

Experts will be on hand to answer questions and provide tips for success with scholarship applications, where to search for scholarships, online scholarship resources, how to fill out the applications, and other key strategies that could help make your dreams of a college education come true. Louise Gill, a college advisor, will begin the program with a brief presentation, followed by the opportunity to speak with representatives from a variety of local scholarship organizations and gather local scholarship applications. No registration is required.

For information, please call Sandy at 925-373-5500 ext. 5583, or visit www.livermorelibrary.net.

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Art, Community, & Education



Symphony, Masterworks Chorus to Perform

The Livermore Amador Symphony (LAS) will launch its 49th season with a Dec. 3 performance at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore.

Joining LAS will be the new group of performers, the Pacific Masterworks Chorus.

Dr. Arthur Barnes will direct three pieces, Wagner's "Reinzi, Der Letzte Der Tribunen," Beethoven's "Choral Fantasy," and Sibelius's "Second Symphony." The concert begins at 8 p.m. There will be a prelude talk at 7 p.m.

Richard Wagner's opera "Rien-

zi" tells the dramatic story of a medieval populist figure, Cola de Rienzi, who succeeds initially in defeating a repressive nobility and raising the power of the people; only to have the populace turn against him and burn down the capitol where he takes his last stand.

While the opera itself has lost its popularity due to its length and difficulty in staging, the overture remains well recognized for its potpourri of melodies taken from the operatic themes. It opens with a slow, soothing movement, an-

nounced by trumpet calls. Strings enter with Rienzi's Prayer for the People, which is taken up by other orchestra members. Further themes and counter themes are taken up into a jaunty rhythm. A vigorous coda based on the battle hymn brings the overture to an end.

Central to the evening's program is Beethoven's "Choral Fantasy" with its rare synthesis of instrumental forces-solo piano, chorus and orchestra. This fusion of different forms and genres marks it as being unusual for its time. It evokes feelings of both

love and strength that are echoed in Beethoven's ninth symphony both in text and musical theme. Beethoven presented it as, "A fantasy for piano terminating by degrees with the intervention of the orchestra and finale by the chorus."

When the Fantasy premiered, it shared the same program with Beethoven's fifth and sixth symphonies in a four hour concert performed in freezing weather conditions. It had been put together in a hurry and was under-rehearsed. The relations between composer

and orchestra were strained. The piece fell apart in the middle, so had to be restarted.

The Pacific Masterworks Chorus, led by director Greg Lyne, is made up of a group of accomplished musicians with experience in a variety of repertoire.

Danielle Naler, the pianist, who was the intended soloist for this performance is unable to perform due to pregnancy. Ben Malkevitch of San Francisco has agreed to replace her.

The final work, with its wide
(continued on page 5)

Valley Concert Chorale Plans Program 'Of Carols and Candlelight'

Get in the holiday mood with a strong dose of carols, a touch of candlelight and audience sing-along by attending the Valley Concert Chorale's (VCC) annual holiday concerts. VCC will offer audiences a delightfully unique musical experience for the holidays. Joining the Chorale is the Las Positas College Chamber Choir and the Cantabella Children's Chorus. Guest harpist Daniel Levitan will accompany the singers.

There will be two performances of the program, "Of Carols and Candlelight." The first is Sat., Dec. 3 at 8 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. On Sun., Dec. 4, there will be a 3 p.m. performance at the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore.

"Fun, light and joyful music of carols is what we'll offer audiences to kick off the holiday season," says John Emory Bush, Artistic Director of the Valley Concert Chorale. "What makes this year's holiday concerts extra special is the collaboration with the Las Positas College Chamber Choir and Cantabella Children's Chorus. It's a great opportunity to experience the talent and artistry of the region's best-known choruses all at once."

The Las Positas College Chamber Choir, under the direction of Rob Lappa, will join VCC in singing a variety of carols, with the women of the Chamber Choir joining VCC's women in singing Rutter's "Dancing Day." Accompanying the women will be

(continued on page 4)



Group photo of Valley Concert Chorale.

Holiday Production of 'Sleeping Beauty' Set

Pleasanton's Civic Arts Stage Company will present the classic fairy tale, *Sleeping Beauty*, December 9-18, 2011 at the Amador Theater.

The show, performed in the lighthearted British "panto" style, will take place on December 9, 10, 16 and 17, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. and on December 10, 11, 17 and 18, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.

The Amador Theater is located at 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.

According to Director Rebecca Ennals, this version of the *Sleeping Beauty* story carries the messages "beauty comes from within" and "parents need to allow their children some freedom."

Princess Beauty is given beauty and brains at birth, but not manners, since the fairy responsible for dispensing manners must use her gift to counteract the spell of the evil Belladonna. Beauty grows up spoiled and sheltered with overprotective parents. Finally, Beauty meets an interesting and non-traditional Prince, who teaches her that beauty is on the inside – and inspires her to want to see the world outside the kingdom. The classic tale, portrayed in the comedic "panto" style is filled with music, dance and magic and is designed to be fun for the whole family.

"Every year, our holiday panto inspires kids to dance in the aisles, and often those same kids come back and audition the next year,"



Pictured are Quincy Kumfert, Claire Wagner, and Peyton Cook as Fairies and Rae Kerton as Little Suds (front, center) in the Civic Arts Stage Company production of "Sleeping Beauty." Photo by Aaron Zwiefel

said Ennals. "We're starting to create a real holiday tradition for these kids and parents, one that is

unique to Pleasanton."

In addition to Ennals, Music Director Debra Knox and Choreog-

rapher Katie O'Bryon also return from last year's Civic Arts Stage Company's production of *The*

Princess and the Pea, as do Costume Designer Thalia Cronander and Set and Lighting Designer Steve Mannshardt.

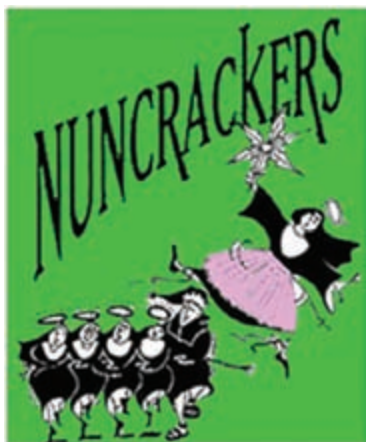
Professional actors appearing in *Sleeping Beauty* include Paula Wujek and Charles Orlando (the Queen and King), who return from their roles as the Queen and Rata-touille in *The Princess and the Pea* last year. Newcomers Sebastian Romeo and Max Venuti play *Belladonna* and *Prince Revoir*.

The professional actors are complemented by the largest Civic Arts Stage Company cast to date. Jennifer Meredith, who played *Cinderella* in 2009, returns as *Beauty*, sharing the role with Lacey Smith, who was a *Courtier* in *Cinderella* and a *Maid* in *The Princess and the Pea*. Many other members of the youth ensemble have participated in previous productions and are joined this season by many newcomers.

Tickets are Adult: \$10, \$15, \$18; Child and Senior: \$6, \$9 and \$12. Group discounts are available. Tickets may be purchased on-line at www.firehousearts.org up to three hours prior to the performance, 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.



Nun-crackers: The Nonsense Christmas Musical will be performed Dec. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 at the Studio Theatre in Pleasanton.

The Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre is staging the musical with book, music and lyrics by Dan Goggin.

Nun-crackers: The Nonsense Christmas Musical is the first "TV Special" taped by the sisters in their convent basement studio for

Cable Access. It stars the nuns you love plus Father Virgil and some of Mt. Saint Helen's most talented students. It features all new songs including: "Twelve Days Prior to Christmas," "Santa Ain't Comin' To Our House," "We Three Kings of Orient Are Us," and "It's Better to Give Than To Receive." This show is filled with "Nunsense" humor, some of your favorite carols, a "Secret Santa," and an uproarious take on Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Ballet*. *Nun-crackers* will make you laugh and maybe tug at your heartstrings. It's the perfect way to insure your holiday season is merry and bright.

Director/Choreographer is Todd Aragon, Musical Director Carey Litchford, producer Kathleen Breedveld, and lighting is by David Lam.

The cast includes Reverend

Mother-Peggy Coleman, Sister Mary Paul (Amnesia)-Joan Evans, Sister Robert Anne-Suzanne Henry, Sister Hubert-Shari Oret, Sister Mary Leo-Shawna James, Father Virgil-Brian Fitzmaurice. Mount St. Helen's Students: John-Luke Darga, Louise-Christine Curullo, Billy-Colin Fitzmaurice, Maria-Emily Joy Kessel, Gail-Rayley Farnam, Kara-Camille Zaug, Heather-Rachel Malmrose, Nathan-Niles Moy

Performances are 8 p.m. Fridays/Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, December 2-18, 2011. (12 performances over 3 weekends) at the TVRT Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$22 for seniors, \$20 for students, and a substantial discount for groups purchasing 20 or more tickets. A

processing fee will be added to the price of each ticket. Tickets may be purchased on-line: www.trivalleyrep.org (click on TICKETS), by phone at 925-462-2121, or in

person by visiting our ticket office at 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 307 in Pleasanton on Wednesdays or Fridays between 11:00am and 3:00pm.

Nun-crackers: Christmas Musical Features Those Entertaining Nuns

Pleasanton Concert Band Performs Holiday Concert at Firehouse

The Pleasanton Community Concert Band, under the direction of Bob Williams, will perform its annual Holiday Concert, Sunday, December 4, 2011, 2:00-3:00 p.m. at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

From "Remember Pearl Harbor" to "Chanukah Is Here" to "The Sounds of Christmas" the concert will feature these and many more selections of music from the holiday season.

The concert is free, although donations are appreciated. The Firehouse Arts Center doors will open at 1:40 PM. For more information call 925-846-5897 or go to the Pleasanton Community Concert Band web-site: pleasantonband.org



Pacific Chamber Symphony



Featured soloists will be Aimee Puentas (soprano) and Sonia Gariaeff (alto), together with returning favorites Thomas Glenn (tenor), and Torlef Borsting (baritone).

'The Messiah' to Be Performed at the Bankhead Theater

The Pacific Chamber Symphony will usher in the holiday season Dec. 2 at Livermore's Bankhead Theater with the joyful oratorio *The Messiah*, composed in 1742 by Georg Friedrich Handel. The monumental work took Handel 24 days to create and is still one of the most popular choral works in all of Western music.

Pacific Chamber Symphony founder and musical director Lawrence Kohl will conduct the orchestra as they perform together with the Pacific Chamber Chorus and four guest soloists.

The Messiah illuminates scripture from both the Old and New Testaments to give audiences the feel of what it might have been like to have a messiah in their midst. Unlike the elaborate plots and settings of opera, *The Messiah's*

considerable power comes from its celebration of the sacred. "It's miraculous," says Kohl, adding that its expression of optimism and joy are so profound he finds new insights each time he presents the work.

When first performed in Dublin and London, audiences found *The Messiah* too religious for secular theater and not religious enough for a church setting. Today, however, it is a holiday favorite in many lands.

Through the years, Kohl notes, *The Messiah* has had numerous interpretations to show off the talents of specific artists or meet the practical demands of particular productions. But, he says, the Livermore performance will come close to the original Dublin and London productions, which also

utilized a chamber-sized orchestra and chorus appropriate for an intimate space.

Featured soloists will be Aimee Puentas (soprano) and Sonia Gariaeff (alto); together with returning favorites Thomas Glenn (tenor), and Torlef Borsting (baritone). All are acclaimed artists whose voices, Kohl notes, are well suited to this "most marvelous work."

Pacific Chamber Symphony is a 30-member professional orchestra founded 20 years ago that performs in Lafayette and Livermore. This year, *The Messiah* will make its only Symphony performance in Livermore. Robert Lappa will direct the Pacific Chamber Chorus.

Lappa maintains that Handel and *The Messiah* set the stage for what was to happen in opera and oratorios for the next 200 years.

Handel was a contemporary of Bach, but in contrast to the complexity of Bach's music, Handel evinces mastery through simplicity. (As Kohl analogizes, *The Messiah* is not unlike Einstein's elegant formula $E=MC^2$.) Even Mozart acknowledged Handel's stunningly effective style, saying, "He strikes like thunder."

Not everyone has been so impressed by *The Messiah*. Charles Jennens, who wrote *The Messiah's* original text, said of Handel's 24-day turnaround (admittedly a modest feat considering God's six-day creation of the universe): "He murdered my manuscript."

The audience, of course, remains the best judge.

The concert begins at 8 p.m. Tickets for the performance are \$39/\$34/\$29 (\$7 for students). They can be purchased at 925-373-6800, online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org, or at the Bankhead Theater Box Office at 2400 First Street, Livermore. For more information on the Pacific Chamber Symphony visit www.pacificchambersymphony.org.

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A Charlie Brown Christmas with David Benoit

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Pacific Chamber Symphony

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Pianist Performs 'A Charlie Brown Christmas'

The holiday season at the Bankhead Theater officially opens on November 30th with the beloved music of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" featuring five-time Grammy Award-nominated pianist David Benoit, accompanied by his quartet and the Cantabella Children's Chorus.

The feel-good jazz of these holiday songs and arrangements were made famous by the Charlie Brown television specials. Benoit combines the classic works of original Peanuts composer Vince Guaraldi with his own compositions into a holiday celebration for the whole family.

Student tickets for the performance of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. are just \$14 with adult tickets ranging from \$34 to \$51.

Benoit soared onto the jazz charts in the mid-1980s with his creative interpretation of the familiar "Linus and Lucy" theme, a tribute to his lifelong passion for the music Guaraldi wrote for the

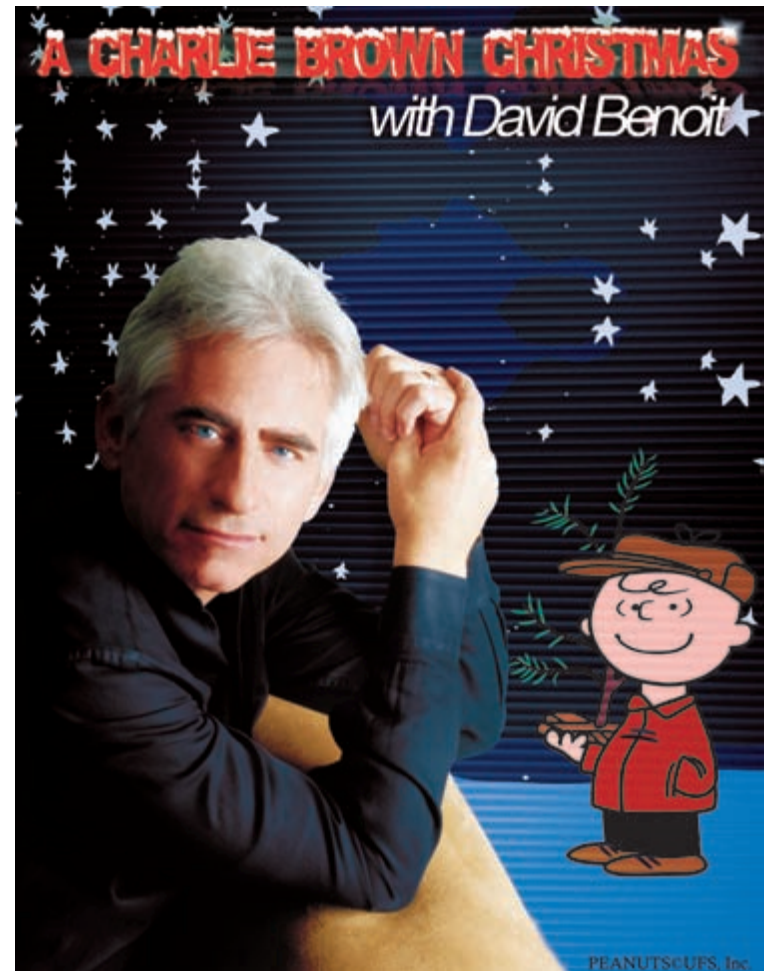
original Charlie Brown television specials. Benoit has described this music as "happy jazz" – sparkling, sophisticated and fun. The familiar melodies bring to life the comic strip characters Charles Schultz introduced in 1950, which became some of the most recognizable and beloved cartoon images in the world. Benoit went on to compose music for later Peanuts specials over a span of 10 years and, among his more than 23 albums of jazz music, has released two chart-topping CDs of Peanuts-themed music, including the all-star tribute "40 Years: A Charlie Brown Christmas."

Considered a world-class ambassador of smooth jazz, Benoit has built an extensive career as a composer, pianist and arranger and was acknowledged by American Smooth Jazz Awards for Lifetime Achievement in 2010. In addition to his success in the jazz world, Benoit has also earned critical acclaim in classical music, where he serves as conductor for the Asia America Symphony Orchestra

and has been a guest conductor for top orchestras including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the London Symphony and the San Francisco Symphony. Among his many credits, Benoit has written film scores and music for pop and jazz performers, and recently toured with pianist Jon Nakamatsu performing a two piano version of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." Active in the world of music education and outreach, Benoit earned the Excellence in Music Education Award from the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation.

Benoit's "A Charlie Brown Christmas" has traditionally included the participation of local choral groups. At the Bankhead Theater he will be accompanied by the Cantabella Children's Chorus. Founded by artistic director Bee Chow in 1992, the Cantabella Children's Chorus features singers in fourth to eighth grade. Chow also trains and directs a choral group for younger students and a Chamber Choir for older singers. The Cantabella Children's Chorus has performed with Livermore Valley Opera and other local groups and was awarded top honors at the prestigious Golden Gate International Children's and Youth Choral Festival in 2009.

The Bankhead Theater's expanded schedule for this holiday season includes the return of two local favorites, Handel's Messiah performed by the Pacific Chamber Symphony on December 2nd and Valley Dance Theatre's enchanting production of The Nutcracker for eight matinee and evening performances over two weekends. On December 19th, the incandescent sounds of Chanticleer's famous



"orchestra of voices" return in the beloved holiday tradition, A Chanticleer Christmas, and legendary country music band Restless Heart blends songs of the season with their classic hits in a heartwarming Christmas show on December 23rd.

LVPAC Presents at the Bankhead Theater showcases world class performers in music, dance and other performing arts throughout the year. Following David Benoit, the LVPAC Presents Jazz Series features an intimate evening with British Jazz Award winner, Stacey Kent. Known for her light and elegant vocal styling, Kent has captivated audiences around the

world with her interpretations of songs from classic to contemporary. She will share the sensuous and lyrical melodies of her latest release, Raconte-Moi (Tell Me), with audiences at the Bankhead Theater in a single concert appearance on Wednesday, December 14, 2011.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. The ticket office is open Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. On performance days the ticket office remains open through intermission. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org.



The musicians of Our Savior Lutheran Ministries will present a concert of Advent and Christmas music, "Joy to the World," at 4:00 pm on Sunday, December 4. The church is located at 1385 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore. The choirs, handbell groups, instrumentalists and contemporary ensemble will perform sacred music that includes traditional carols, a bit of jazz, and contemporary Christian music. The audience will also be invited to sing along on several carols. The concert is free. An opportunity to take our "joy to the world" will include a door offering for assistance to victims of the recent earthquake in Turkey. The concert will be followed by a reception with samples of Christmas treats from around the world. Pictured are Norman Back and Laura Schildbach, two of Our Savior's instrumentalists.

CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT

(continued from front page)

well-known bay area harpist Dan Levitan.

"Because we are performing "Dancing Day," which requires a harp accompaniment, which according to Dan is the most difficult harp part in the repertoire, I needed the very best and Dan is the best I know. Dan is an incredible, virtuosic harpist and a great collaborator."

Levitan will also accompany the Cantabella Children's Chorus as they perform selections from Britten's "Ceremony of Carols," under the direction of Eileen Chang. Additional songs include "Carol of the Bells" and "Deck

the Halls."

Finally, the traditional audience sing-along of carols will round out the musical experience and provide an extra dose of holiday spirit.

"The audience sing-along has always been very popular with our audiences over the years," says VCC Board President Dave Brunswick. "It's obvious that the audience is getting in the spirit of the season as we sing the carols. You can see it in their faces and makes the experience extra special for us singers."

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. High school and college students \$10 with

valid student ID. Advance tickets may be ordered by visiting the Chorale's website at www.valleyconcertchorale.org, or by calling the Chorale's information number at (925) 866-4003 to order tickets. Tickets may also be purchased through Brown Paper Tickets online at www.brownpapertickets.com and at Towne Center Books in Pleasanton.

For more information about the Valley Concert Chorale performances, ticket purchases and auditions, visit www.valleyconcertchorale.org or call the general information line at (925) 866-4003.

Young Artists Chosen to Perform in Liszt Festival

The Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton presents a day long Liszt Festival on November 20, 2011, from 2 to 9:30 p.m. Talented local young pianists from the Tri-Valley area will be featured in the Young Artist Recital that opens the event.

Auditions were held Monday and Tuesday November 7 and 8, and the winners are: Phedora Layanto from San Ramon, age 8, a student of Katalin Kincses from Livermore; Arie Chen from Pleasanton, age 12, and Roland Huang from Pleasanton, age 14,

both students of Yu-Ting Chen from Pleasanton; Brian Lee from Livermore, age 16, and Jacob Campbell from Livermore, age 15, both students of Mary Beth Cheney from Livermore; Joshua Hart from Livermore, age 13, a student of Tamriko Siphshvili; Carol Yao from Pleasanton, age 15, and Connie Chen from Pleasanton, age 16, both students of Dr. William Wellborn from the San Francisco Conservatory; Karen Ding from Pleasanton, age 16, a student of Zita Sandor, from Dublin; and Jonathan Li from Pleasanton, age

16, a student of Christine Yu from San Ramon.

The young artists will perform favorite works by Liszt such as Liebestraum, Consolations, Un Sospiro, Rigoletto, Sonetto del Petrarca 104, the Transcendental Etude *Feux Follets* and the Mephisto Waltz.

The adjudicators were Ellen Wassermann, Professor of Piano at California State East Bay, concert pianist Deborah Lorenz from Livermore, and Dominique Piana, the curator of the classical series at the Firehouse. Mary

Beth Cheney helped organize the auditions as the liaison from the Alameda East branch of MTAC (the Music Teachers Association of California).

Last year, young pianists successfully auditioned for and performed in the Schumann Festival, and with the feedback received, it appears that this beginning tradition must be continued. For next year, it is projected that the theme will be Russian music, which co-

incides with the requirements for the Music Teachers' Association of California yearly convention.

Liszt Festival admission is \$30 to \$40 for the whole day; individual events are \$10 for 2, 3:30 and 5 p.m. events and \$12 to \$24 for the 8 p.m. presentation.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.firehousearts.org by phone at (925) 931-4848 or the Firehouse Arts Center box office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Brigade Prepares to Assemble and Distribute Thanksgiving Baskets

The Tri-Valley Basket Brigade is a Thanksgiving food drive that allows food donors to connect personally with a family in need. On Brigade Day, participants bring food and clothing items and gather together as a group to create beautiful Thanksgiving baskets. Once the baskets are assembled, participants have the opportunity to deliver a basket personally to a Bay Area family in need. Bags containing food, clothing and personal products are also compiled and delivered to the homeless.

There are several ways to become involved or help the Basket Brigade. Volunteers who wish to assemble and deliver baskets on Saturday, November 19, "Brigade Day," must sign up on the website at www.trivalleybasketbrigade.com. All volunteers are asked to bring approximately \$20 in food items with them to the Brigade. Donations are also being accepted, including food items needed for baskets as well as personal care products and blankets. Needed items are specified on the Brigade website where donors sign up. Cash donations are also accepted by check or PayPal.

Inspired by their participation in Southern California Basket Brigades, Reese Ramos and Katherine Havener established the Tri-Valley Basket Brigade after moving to the Tri-Valley area in 2007. Both saw an opportunity to bring the Brigade to the Tri-Valley and give back to their new community. Ramos and Havener enjoy working with other community members to make baskets, as well as making personal connections with families in need. The Brigade has been a favorite family community service event since that first year.

"Brigade Day," Saturday, November 19, is being held at Valley Montessori School, on N. Livermore Avenue, in Livermore. The group has targeted a goal of 100 baskets for families in need and 50 care packages for the homeless.



Pictured are the Pacific Masterworks Chorus (above), Greg Lyne (lower left) and Arthur Barnes.

CONCERT

(continued from front page)

horizons and love of epic poetry, is a natural transition from Beethoven's grandiose Fantasy with its text of love and strength. Like Beethoven, Sibelius is said to have written music that was outside the mainstream. He asserted that his work was closely connected with life in contrast to other music of his time. His music was influenced by his love of his homeland, its geography, Finnish legends, and resistance to outside influence from Russia and Sweden. His Symphony #2 is characterized by shifting moods and changing depth in sound. In turn, mysterious and forlorn, then grand and powerful.

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

Tickets are adult \$28, \$25, \$22; senior \$26, \$23, \$20 and youth \$10. They may be purchased by contacting the Bankhead Theater box office at (925) 373-6800 or 2400 First Street, Livermore or on-line at www.livermoreperformingarts.org



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Figurehead Gallery Grand Opening This Friday

By Patricia Koning

The Figurehead Gallery, the newest addition to Livermore's thriving arts scene, will celebrate its grand opening on Friday, Nov. 25 from 6 to 9 pm. Located upstairs in the Old Theater Mall on Second Street, the gallery's first show will feature the work of northern California artists and photographers Erin Kathleen Donohue, Angela Johal, David Johnson, Suzanne Lovejoy Johnson, Goran Konjevod, Josh Latkin, Gerald Ratto, Linda Ryan, Deborah Mills Thackrey, and Tom Thackrey.

For owners Ken and Victoria Whyte Ball, the opening of the gallery, which had a sneak preview during ArtWalk, is both exciting and still a little surprising. "We really weren't planning to start a gallery," explains Ken. "However, when I came across this space, it seemed like something we had to do."

Ken was looking for commercial space for his business, Ken Ball Design Illustration. On April 17, he had just mailed his taxes at the Livermore Post Office and was heading to Way Up Art and Frame to cheer himself up with some new art supplies.

He saw that the space was available and took a look inside. There was the work space he needed, plus an open gallery space with high ceilings, and – the deal-clincher – a darkroom. "It was serendipity," says Victoria. "When I heard there was a darkroom, there was no question we wanted it. How many places have that?"

Photography is a passion and a calling for both Victoria and Ken. Both are professional photographers (among other trades – both are graphic designers, Ken is a painter, and Victoria is a musician) and Victoria's father was photographer Don White. Last year they published *Photography at the California School of Fine Arts: 1945-1954, the Golden Decade*, highlighting the work of 32 photographers, including Don White, who studied under Ansel Adams, Minor White, Edward Weston, Dorothea Lange, and others.

They envision the Figurehead Gallery as more than just a gallery and office for Ken Ball Design Illustration. During non-gallery hours, the space can be rented for classes; origami and drawing will begin in January. The darkroom may be available for classes or for photography professionals. They have a large format Epson printer that uses archival pigments, which can be used to create limited-edition prints and other specialty work.

"There are so many possibilities," says Ken. "I think the gallery will metamorphose into what it needs to become." The couple also envisions film screenings, using the high wall of the gallery. That would be appropriate, as the back wall of Figurehead Gallery may have been the screening wall when the entire building was a theater many years ago.

The opening show will be on display until Feb. 25, 2012. Ken and Victoria plan to change shows every two or three months and feature local and Northern California artists. The second show, beginning in late February, may be of the *Golden Decade* photographers. That show ran last fall at the Smith Andersen North Gallery in San Anselmo.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from noon to 6 pm, Saturday from noon to 5 pm, and by appointment. For more information call 925-337-1719, email ball@figureheadgallery.com, or visit figurehead-gallery.com. The Figurehead Gallery is located at 2222 Second Street, Suite 20 and 21 in the Old Theater Mall.

Giving Tree Program Sponsored by Pleasanton Police Officers Assoc.

The Pleasanton Police Officers Association is again giving back to the community with its annual Giving Tree Program. The association will be collecting gifts for families in the community who are in need of special care this upcoming holiday season. The Pleasanton Police Officer's Charitable Foundation not only provides to families in need, but to the many senior citizens who are often overlooked.

Names of families and seniors in the community were provided to the association, which is now seeking those interested in providing Christmas cheer to those in need. Those interested in donating to a family in Pleasanton may pick up gift tags at the Pleasanton Police Department on November 29 listing the gifts requested by the families.

If there are questions or concerns, they may be addressed to Officer Ryan Dawson or POACF president Kurt Schlehuder at the Pleasanton Police Department, 4833 Bernal Ave., 931-5100.



Music & Dance of Egypt Set

Experience the traditional dance and music of Egypt as the Hala Dance Troupe comes to the Pleasanton Public Library on Saturday, November 19 beginning at 2:00 pm. This award-winning dance company, which has been featured throughout the Bay Area and Egypt, will perform a variety of Egyptian folkloric and oriental dances.

The origin of the name "belly dance" comes from the French "Dance du ventre", which translates as "dance of the stomach". The type and style of dancing now known as belly dance can be traced back through history more than 6,000 years from Mesopotamia, to North Africa, Rome, Spain and India.

This performance is another of the library's ongoing Dance & Sing Around the World programs, celebrating the many cultures which make up the Pleasanton community. These free programs are open to all ages, and no registration is required.

For information on this and other family events, visit the library website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/library/programs-and-events.html or call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 ext. 8.

Tri-Valley Haven Looking for Volunteers

Tri-Valley Haven is in need of volunteers to help with programs during the holiday season. Last

Tree Lighting in Danville

The 35th annual Lighting of the Old Oak Tree will take place on Friday, November 25, 2011 (the day after Thanksgiving), from 5:15-8:30 p.m. along Diablo Road near the Old Oak Tree.

The festivities begin at 5:15 with a gathering at the Old Oak Tree for holiday refreshments, and sing-along with the San Ramon Valley High School Chorus under the direction of Ken Abrams. Stay for the ceremonial lighting of the tree by Father Christmas and Snow Angel at 6:15 - then follow Father Christmas and the Snow Angel in a merry parade down Prospect and Hartz Avenues. The festivities continue throughout downtown Danville with holiday music, entertainment and refreshments located at various boutiques and restaurants.

Please contact Martha Levison, Event Coordinator for the Danville Area Chamber of Commerce, at 925-837-4400 x14 for more information.

year over 900 local families signed up with Tri-Valley Haven to receive a holiday food basket and gifts. On the second day of registration for this year's distribution, more than 250 families registered. Volunteers are needed on Dec. 6, 7, and 9 to help sort gifts and food to prepare for distribution to the families in need.

In addition, the Haven needs volunteers on Dec. 2 and 3 in Dublin to help make, bake and decorate gingerbread cookies for its annual

cookie fund-raiser. Cookies are sold in advance. The funds raised support the Haven's shelter, food pantry, counseling, rape crisis center, and education programs.

All volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. Corporate and community groups are welcome. Shifts for both programs fill quickly. Interested persons are encouraged to contact Fay at 449-5845 to secure a space. For more information about the Haven visit www.trivalleyhaven.org.

Giving Tree in Livermore Police Department Lobby

The Livermore Giving Tree has been set up on the lobby of the Livermore Police Department, 1110 S. Livermore Avenue.

The Giving Tree program collects and delivers gifts to selected children in Livermore who need a little joy this holiday season.

Those interested in helping may select a tag from the tree and bring a new unwrapped gift, with the tag attached, back to the lobby and place it in the chimney. The Livermore Police Department and the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPPAA) take care of the rest. Please include gift receipts with any clothing. Gift cards are always welcome.

The lobby is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. It will be staffed by CPPAA members on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 10 and 11 to accept gifts.

To arrange a sponsorship or for more information, please call the Livermore Police Department Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association at 371-4976.

A Terrific American Theatrical Tragedy

By Susan Steinberg

Arthur Miller is America's great contribution to the ancient tradition of theatrical tragedy. Not that he wrote, like Sophocles or Shakespeare, about the downfall of mighty rulers. Instead he focused on the American Everyman as the tragic hero of the Modern Age.

The worn-down salesman Willy Loman becomes an important figure, to whom "attention must be paid." Joe Keller, a prosperous factory owner, seems, in contrast, the model of success, until the price of that success becomes clear. His story is the heart of Miller's classic "All My Sons," currently in a great new production at Las Positas College.

After reviewing this show (a personal favorite) many times, I was particularly impressed by Jeremy Hamm's outstanding staging and lighting, as well as the cast's emotional commitment to each character. Director Wesley Morgan wisely chose age-appropriate actors for adult roles, almost never believably portrayed by students. Veteran professionals Tim Ackerman and Chris Macomber are unforgettable as Joe and Kate Keller, the all-American couple whose house is truly built on sand.

A "little man," like Miller's own father, ashamed that he has had only one year of night school education, Joe clings to only one source of pride: he has built a strong business, provided well for his family, and established a profitable legacy for his two sons, a monument to his lifetime of hard work.

Suddenly all is at risk when his partner calls to report finding a small crack in the cylinder heads their factory is producing for WWII's famous P-40 planes. Under the frenzied pressure of military rush order demands, any missed shipping deadline would mean ruin. Panic-stricken, the fearful Joe makes a split-second decision to save his little world. He instructs his partner to cover the cracks and ship the cylinders, with disastrous results: 21 planes crash.

An investigation results in criminal charges against both men, but Joe, who remained at home that day, denies any responsibility, leaving his partner, next-door neighbor, and dear friend to bear the guilt and serve

a long prison sentence, reviled by his children, who sever all contact with him.

His daughter Ann was formerly engaged to Joe's son Larry, a pilot presumed dead in the Pacific. Despite conflicting emotions, she returns to the Keller house at the invitation of Larry's brother Chris, who has always loved her. Sure of Larry's death, she has been waiting lonely years for Chris to overcome his scruples and ask her to marry him.

Joe, exonerated by a jury, has returned to re-establish his business, his reputation, and his place in the neighborhood. Ann's arrival is both disturbing and promising – possibly a chance to make amends to her family and heal troubling old wounds. He offers to give her father a job when he is paroled, as well as one for her brother George (now a lawyer who might re-open the case). It soothes his conscience to think of this as benevolence, when it is really his nervous apprehension at work.

The opening scene is a beautifully detailed setting of suburban comfort and tranquility: a spacious home, lush lawn with garden chairs, and the cheerful chirping of birds. A fiercely realistic thunderstorm quickly destroys that mood, prefiguring the dramatic tempest that will soon engulf the family. Lightning suddenly topples Larry's memorial tree, Miller's symbolic representation of the angry gods descending to judge and punish guilty mortals.

By the next day, all is peaceful again, the ominous portent seemingly forgotten. Joe is relaxing with friendly neighbors in a perfect Norman Rockwell setting, but nothing is as it seems, and no one is really at peace.

George, finally convinced by his father, suddenly arrives to accuse Joe of lying and destroying his father's life. Chris, his former best friend, is outraged, Joe tries to bluster, but it is Kate who finally calms him, wooing him with the motherly love he still remembers so fondly, admitting, "I never felt at home anywhere but here."

Kate is trying to protect Joe, but also her own fragile mental balance. Frantically insisting that Larry is still alive, she tries desperately to prevent Chris and Ann's marriage, which she sees as a final nail in Larry's coffin. Chris Macomber is like a coiled



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Rehearsing for the upcoming production of "All My Sons" at Las Positas College are (from left) Adam Turk, Tim Ackerman, and Brennan Pryor.

spring of unbearable tension, revealed in her every grimace; even her decisive snapping of string beans is masterful acting, as well as her fierce commands to Joe and Chris: "Believe with me! Believe with me!"

Son Chris has returned from the War shaken by the loss of the men under his command, and feels a responsibility to make their deaths meaningful, but he sees that profiteers grew rich during the War, while upright men lost out on business opportunities. He deeply respects his father as a man of integrity.

When a desperate Ann reveals the truth about Larry's death, the psychological thunderstorm breaks out at last: Kate's fragile emotional shelter is shattered and Chris turns on his father with horrified fury, even physically pummeling his fallen idol when Joe tries frantically to defend himself with the excuse, "I only did it for you." It is a climax straight out of Greek tragedy.

No one in the opening night audience was left unmoved by the passions of this riveting quartet, with "good son" (Brennan Pryor) unexpectedly exploding, "sweet girl!" Ann (Jasmine Richard) fight-

ing for her love, and Chris Macomber screaming to the heavens, "God does not let a son be killed by his father!"

But Joe HAS killed his son, along with all the other pilots. As he grimly remarks, "They were all my sons." Tim Ackerman, in his finest role, completely inhabits every aspect of Joe Keller, from the affable to the anguished, and is painfully believable as the broken creature weeping in moral agony. Like Oedipus, he has finally acknowledged his guilt, and is ready

to tear his eyes out in contrition. It is a tragic moment, but also a holy one, as cathartic as those in Greek tragedy.

Don't miss this incredible drama on its final weekend: 8:30 PM on November 18 and 19, and 2:30 November 20 in the Mertes Performing Arts Center, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. Advance tickets at 800-838-3006, or www.brownpapertickets.com, or at the door are a bargain at \$2 general, \$8 students and seniors.

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ART & ENTERTAINMENT



Elegant Pink Flamingo by Jennie McGregor

Reception for Photographers at Prudential

Three award-winning Livermore photographers will be honored Saturday, Nov. 19, with a wine reception at Prudential California Realty, 1790 First Street, Livermore.

The reception, set for 5-7 p.m., is open to the public.

The unique photographic work of Jennifer McGregor and Lisa and Ron Rigge is on display at the realty through Dec. 28.

McGregor specializes in macro photography of the natural world. Lisa Rigge's hand-colored photographs capture the etheric beauty of ordinary interiors, while Ron Rigge's stunning landscapes portray the colors and textures of California and the West.

The public is also welcome to view the show during weekdays, 9-6 p.m., or by appointment with Cher Wollard at 925-824-4824 or cherw@cherw.com.

ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

Firehouse Arts Center's Harrington Gallery, 2010 traveling exhibit of the National Watercolor Society October 26-December 10, 2011, 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton. Admission is \$5. A companion exhibit, "Five Palettes," features works by five California Watercolor Association artists. Harrington Gallery hours are Wednesday-Friday 12:00 noon-5:00 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., for one hour prior to each Firehouse Arts Center performance. Call (925) 931-4849 for more information or visit the Firehouse Arts Center website, www.firehousearts.org.

Charlotte Severin, watercolors painted from life en plein air and still life displayed the Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Nov. 1 to 30, 5565 Tesla Road, Livermore. The public is invited to attend. There is no admission charge.

Livermore Art Association (LAA) Gallery exhibiting Angela Johal's colorful collages during the month of November. Johal's latest work draws from pop culture, consumerism and the sea of images and choices that tend to leave one void. The LAA Gallery, is open 11:30-4:00 Wed-Sun, and is located in the historic Carnegie Building at 2155 3rd St. Livermore. For more info call the Gallery 925-449-9927.

Collage Collection, Livermore Art Association exhibit, Dec. 1 to 30, Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Open for viewing during regular library hours.

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Livermore Art Association and Pleasanton Art League, dessert and social, Mon., Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m. Cultural Arts Building, 4455 Black Ave., Livermore. Bring art to share.

'Tis the Season to SING!, ages 7 to 11 invited to join ABC Music Store & Academy's Holiday Choir. Wednesdays,

November 30th - December 21st 7 p.m. (45 minutes). Caroling performance on December 21st at 7:45 in front of ABC Music. Fee of \$60 (includes all materials). For more information and to sign up, please contact the instructor Kim Luty luty@tunes@gmail.com, or call ABC Music Store at 925-443-1244.

Tuesday Afternoon Art Classes for Grades K - 5 in Livermore, includes introduction to history of art. Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30/5 p.m. Some materials included in fee. Ongoing. thomasin_d@hotmail.com; (925) 216-7231; <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com>

Art Classes for teens and adults, Livermore Saturdays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Mondays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Some materials included. Please email instructor a materials list to purchase supplies. Watercolor, oil paints, charcoal, pastel, colored pencil, collage, printmaking. Classes also introduce the History of Art to students. thomasin_d@hotmail.com; (925) 216-7231; <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com>.

LARPD Friday morning Art Classes for Homeschoolers 4-10 years, Livermore, Fridays 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Some materials included. Please email instructor for a materials list to purchase supplies. thomasin_d@hotmail.com; (925) 216-7231; <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com>.

Holiday Themed Classes, choice of Pumpkin-Santa-Trees-Snowman-Angel, choose from Stained Glass, Mosaic Tiles or Fused Glass methods. Class is 3 hours. \$60-75. Thurs. 11-2p, Fri. 5-8p, Sat. 2-5p, Sun. 12-3p. Art Glass Studio, 174 South L St., Livermore. For more information contact Roberta Jones at: 925-447-1962 www.artglassstudio.weebly.com

Beginning Stained Glass, start and finish a small stained glass window (14" x 14") using cutting and manufacturing skills. Learn how to use basic glass tools. Limited to 8 students. Additional studio hours are

available at a daily, weekly or monthly rate. Tools and supplies are \$174. Does not include glass. 5 week class, 2.5 hours each. Wed. 10-7p, Thurs.-Sat. 10-9p, Sun 10-4p. Classes are ongoing. Art Glass Studio, 174 South L St., Livermore. For more information contact Roberta Jones at: 925-447-1962 www.artglassstudio.weebly.com

WINERY EVENTS

Ruby Hill Winery, Sip -N- Shop, Thurs., Nov. 17, 6:30 to 9 p.m. 400 Vineyard Ave., Pleasanton. www.rubyhillwinery.net. Artisans and merchants will share their designs--custom and high end jewelry, beauty items, Christmas Items, wine themed accessories and furniture, yummy treats and more. No charge to attend.

Winemaker's Dinner, Murrieta's Well, Sat., Nov. 19, 6:30 p.m. Gourmet four-course dinner featuring estate blends from Murrieta's Well. Meet co-founders Philip Wente and Sergio Traverso. Cost for Silver Spur members is \$95. All guests are \$105. 3005 Mines Road, Livermore. Space is limited, reservations call 925-456-2395.

Cuda Ridge Wines 3rd Annual "Salute to Harvest" is November 19 and 20 from 12:00 - 4:30 each day at the winery. Cuda Ridge wines paired with Thanksgiving style appetizers. The food pairing is an Artisan style toasted Ciabatta bread with a slice of oven roasted turkey breast dredged in a savory turkey gravy covered with Italian stuffing and served on the side a fresh cranberry relish. AndysCandy will also have samples of Milk and Dark Chocolate Toffee's to pair with the wines. The winery is decorated with handmade Holiday wreaths by "Micki's Design." There is a \$5.00 tasting fee, and \$10.00 for the Reserve flight. Cuda Ridge Wines is located at 5385 East Avenue, Livermore. For more information call 510-304-0914 or go to www.CudaRidgeWines.com.

Holiday Preview, Murrieta's Well, 3005 Mines Rd., Livermore. Friday through Sunday, November 25-27, 2011, 11 am to 4:30 pm. New holiday merchandise, holiday favorites, and gifts for friends and family.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

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

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

Montrose, presented by Guitar Player Magazine, Thurs., Nov. 17 and Fri., Nov. 18, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton.

Al Stewart, Nov. 18, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Men of Worth, Sat., Nov. 19, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Robert Cray Band, blues, 5th anniversary Bankhead gala, Nov. 19, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Simon & Garfunkel Tribute, Nov. 18, 8 p.m. Livermore High School Theater, 600 Maple St., Livermore. ABC Music Store and Academy benefit Livermore school music programs. Advanced Ticket Sales ABC Music, 2156 First St., Downtown Livermore or call 925-443-1244

Liszt Festival, four concerts, Nov. 20, 2 to 9 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 2:00 p.m. Young Artist Recital; 3:30 p.m. William Wellborn in a lecture-recital; 5:00 p.m. Ensemble concert; 8:00 p.m. Solo Recital by award-winning Hungarian pianist Peter Toth. Tickets for the entire schedule of

events are adult \$30, \$35 and \$40; child and student: \$20; senior; \$35. Tickets to individual concerts are \$10 each. www.firehousearts.org, (925) 931-4848.

Music Department Recital, Las Positas College, Wed., Nov. 30, 12:30 p.m. Mertes Center for the Performing Arts, on the Las Positas Campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Ticket prices are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students & seniors. www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006.

A Charlie Brown Christmas with David Benoit, jazz, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Asbury Christmas Concert - Asbury United Methodist Church will hold its 15th Annual Christmas Concert at 7 p.m. on Sunday Dec. 4, 2011 in its Sanctuary at 4743 East Ave. in Livermore. All of Asbury's vocal choirs, the Asbury Band, First Watch, and the Asbury Ringers bell choir will be performing. Asbury's pipe organ will also be part of the evening's musical offerings. The concert is open to the public. A free will offering can be made at the door. There will be a punch and cookie reception immediately following in the new Fellowship Hall. For more information call Jean Braun at 449-4168, the church office at 447-1950 or e-mail: JoanneP@asburylive.org

Pacific Chamber Symphony, Handel's Messiah, Fri., Dec. 2, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Livermore Amador Symphony, concert Sat., Dec. 3, 8 p.m. works by Beethoven, Wagner and Sibelius performed with the Pacific Masterworks Chorus. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Pleasanton Community Concert Band, holiday concert Sun., Dec. 4, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org. No admission charge.

Don Edwards, country and western, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Jeff Bordes and Friends Featuring Zakiya Hooker, Sat., Dec. 10, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Stacey Kent, jazz, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Jazz Night Concert - vocal and instrumental, Las Positas College, Fri., Dec. 16, 8 p.m. Mertes Center for the Performing Arts, on the Las Positas Campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Ticket prices are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students & seniors. www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006.

San Ramon Symphonic Band, Dec. 16, 7 p.m. "Winter Wonderland," Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

A Cash Country Christmas James Garner's Holiday Tribute to Johnny Cash, Sat., Dec. 17, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

A Chanticleer Christmas, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Restless Heart Christmas, country and western, Dec. 23, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

New Year's Eve: Flash Cadillac, Dec. 31, 8 p.m. LVPAC Presents, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

ON THE STAGE

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead by Tom Stoppard, October 28 - November 19, Role Players Ensemble, 8 p.m. Th., Fri., Sat., 2 p.m. Sun. Village Theatre, 233 Front St. Danville, www.ci.danville.ca.us

Servant of Two Masters, classic Italian Comedy with a modern twist by Carlo Goldoni, adapted by Oded Gross and Tracy Young. Ohlone College Fall Theatre Production November 17-19, 8 p.m. Fast-paced comedy and preposterous situations as Truffaldino, the deceptively zany servant serves two masters, four lovers and a psychotic cook, outwitting them all. Smith Center at Ohlone College, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont. Tickets \$10-\$15. 510.659.6031 or <http://www.smithcenter.com/>

All My Sons, by Arthur Miller, Las Positas College fall production. Performance are November 18, 19, 8:30 p.m. and Nov. 20 at 2 p.m. in the Mertes Center for the Performing Arts, on the Las Positas Campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Ticket prices are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students & seniors. Advance purchase tickets will be available on-line at www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Home For The Holidays- A Musical Review, Dec. 3-17, 7:30 p.m. Fri. and Sat., 2 p.m. Sat. and Sun. presented by San Ramon Community Theater & the San Ramon Arts Foundation. Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

Nuncrackers: The Nonsense Christmas Musical, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre Studio Theatre presentation. Dec. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18. www.trivalleyrep.com.

Sleeping Beauty, Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company school concert series, Dec. 14-15, 9:30 and 11 a.m., Dec. 2021, 9:30 a.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Sleeping Beauty, Pleasanton Civic Arts, Dec. 9, 10, 11 and 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 2 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Rudolph the Ugly Duckling and other cracked-up Holiday Tales presented by Bay Area Children's Theater, Dec. 19-22, 11 a.m., 2 and 4:30 p.m. Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

COMEDY

Night at the Improv, November 18 - 19, 8 p.m. Tickets \$10. Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon. www.sanramon.ca.gov

Holiday Shorts: a Long Winter's Tale, interactive holiday improv show led by Creatures of Impulse, Thurs., Dec. 1 and Fri., Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Big Fat Kiss Off XIX, Friday, December 30, 2011, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

DANCE

Holiday Classics, Sun., Dec. 4, 1 and 5 p.m. Presented by Livermore School of Dance Jazz Division. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Dance Concert, Las Positas College, Sat., Dec. 10, 8 p.m. Mertes Center for the Performing Arts, on the Las Positas Campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Ticket prices are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students & seniors. www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006.

The Nutcracker, Valley Dance Theatre's annual production of this holiday classic

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

performed in seven shows from Dec. 10-18 at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

Auditions for the 31st annual Sunol Repertory Theatre Melodrama. Auditions will be held in the Sunol Glen Cafeteria, 11601 Main St., Sunol. Singing tryout date is Tues., Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. Please bring a music selection. Acting tryout date is Thurs., Dec. 8th at 7 p.m. If selected rehearsal dates are Tues. & Thurs. 7-9 p.m. January through March. Performance dates are Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m. March 9-March 24. Information, contact Barbara Egbert, 862-0729.

MOVIES

Classic films at the Pleasanton Library. Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Public Library present the series. Theme this year is "Three Great Directors." Admission is free. The series is hosted by Candace Klaschus, Professor of Media Studies at Las Positas College. Klaschus offers a brief talk about each film prior to the screening. The three great film directors featured in this year's series are Howard Hawkes, John Ford and Alfred Hitchcock. Refreshments are served. A complete list of the "Three Great Directors" 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, holiday concerts featuring Harpist Dan Levitan. Selections will include carols from Jackson-Berkey's 21st Century Carols, and Arma Lucis, Rathbone's An A Capella Christmas, Cecelia McDonall's Ave Maris Stella, Winter Wonderland and other light music. December 3, 2011-8 pm, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton; and Sunday, December 4, 2011-3 pm, First Presbyterian Church, Corner of 4th and L Streets, Livermore. www.valley-concertchorale.org

Choir Concert, Sun., Las Positas College, Dec. 4, 3 p.m. Mertes Center for the Performing Arts, on the Las Positas Campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Ticket prices are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students & seniors. www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006.

Pacific Masterworks Chorus, fall concert, Dec. 7 at John Knox Presbyterian Church in Dublin; and program Dec. 16 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton. www.pacificmasterworkschorus.org/

Valley Concert Chorale, Annual Sing-It-Yourself Messiah, Friday, December 9, 2011-7:30 pm, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton: annual holiday event. Join friends and neighbors in singing Part I of Handel's great choral

masterpiece. www.valleyconcertchorale.org

Pacific Masterworks Chorus Presents Christmas in the South West, Fri., Dec. 16, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Cantabella Children's Chorus Annual Winter Concerts. *A Ceremony of Carols*, Saturday, December 10, 2011, at 2:00 P.M. featuring the performing choirs, and at 4:15 P.M. featuring the training choirs and the performing choirs. First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. Children aged kindergarten through high school will perform choral music accompanied by chamber musicians. The title of the concert refers to Benjamin Britten's choral work, which will be performed in its entirety at the 2:00 concert, and in part at the 4:15 concert. Repertoire also includes pieces sung in French, Latin and Hebrew, and melodies from other international traditions. Audience participation. Tickets at the door: adults \$15, children 10 and under \$10; in advance on-line: adults \$12, children 10 and under \$8, at Cantabella.org.

OPERA

Broadcast from the Met, Dublin Regal Hacienda Cinema. 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 on-line 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

Correction: The California Writers Club Tri-Valley branch seminar registration price for nonmembers was incorrectly listed as \$95 on November 3. The correct price is \$99.

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. 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,

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th

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

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

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.

Holiday Market, Dublin Heritage Park & Museums, Donlon Way, Dec. 3, 2 to 7 p.m. crafts, holiday goodies, entertainment, hot soups and cider. 2:00 pm an Old Fashioned St. Nick arrives by jingle bell wagon pulled by a vintage tractor. Children can make gifts and ornaments in the 1870 Sunday School Barn. Live preformation by the Merrie Old Christmas Carolers at 3:30. Stroll the grounds and shop for unique handcrafted items including, decorations, toys, soaps and more. www.ci.dublin.ca.us

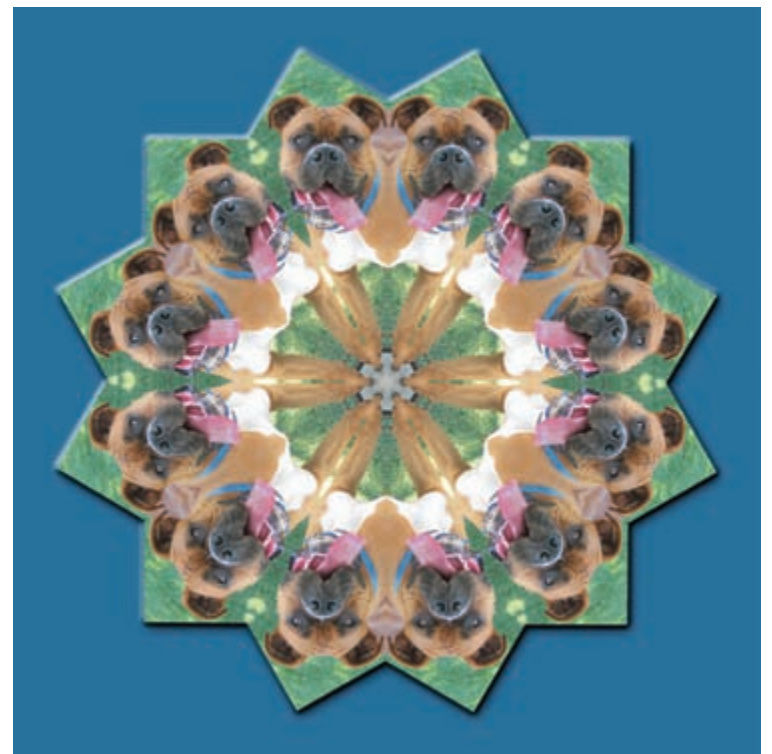
Campus Speech Tournament, Las Positas College, Fri., Dec. 2, 1 to 5 p.m. Mertes Center for the Performing Arts, on the Las Positas Campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Ticket prices are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students & seniors. www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006.

Holiday Sights & Sounds Parade and Tree Lighting, Dec. 3, begins at 6 p.m. in downtown Livermore. Hosted by Livermore Downtown Inc. No admission charge. [/www.livermoredowntown.com](http://www.livermoredowntown.com)

Holidays in the Vineyards, Sat. and Sun., Dec. 3 and 4, noon to 5 p.m. at participating wineries. Presented by Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association. No admission charge. However, tasting fees may apply. Arts and crafts, holiday music, special wines, activities and more. www.lvwine.org

Stories and Speeches, Las Positas College, Thurs., Dec. 8, 7 p.m. Mertes Center for the Performing Arts, on the Las Positas Campus, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Ticket prices are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students & seniors. www.brownpapertickets.com with the venue of Las Positas College, or call 1-800-838-3006.

Ravenswood Victorian Yuletide, Sun., Dec. 11, noon to 4 p.m. Music, entertainment, carriage ride, food, crafts, and more. Ravenswood Historic Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Free admission.



Kaleidoscope sample is one of animal related art that will be available.

Valley Humane Society to Benefit from Event at Blacksmith Square

Blacksmith Square Merchants have teamed up with the Tri-Valley Humane Society for a day of fund-raising on Sat., November 19.

The Tri-Valley Humane Society is an animal welfare organization advocating responsible pet ownership. Start at 7 a.m. at Artistic Edge with Little Valley Winery Mimosas and see the Estate Bee Keeper and engage in "honey tasting" or visit Victorine Valley Farms for hot cider and learn how to make Olive Oil Dog Biscuits. At noon, bring a pet for a picture taking opportunity, see animal art created by local artists that will be for sale, and sip some wine from John Christopher Cellars or enjoy the "Adopt a Dog" Flight at Swirl on the side featuring "Tate Dog Wines" from Livermore Valley.

Artistic Edge, John Christopher Cellars, Little Valley Winery, Sand Scribbles, Swirl, Victorine Valley Farms and the animal artists will be donating a portion of sales proceeds to the Tri-Valley Humane Society throughout the day.

Blacksmith Square is on the corner of N Livermore Ave and Railroad Avenue in Livermore.



Pictured are "Faeries Frost" necklace by Rhonda Chase (above), and a hand-cast metal pendant by Diana Carey, which will be available at the trunk show.

LAA Gallery Holds Winter Trunk Show

The Livermore Art Association (LAA) Gallery at Carnegie Park kicks off the holiday shopping season with a Winter Trunk show on Friday, November 18 from 5:30-8:00 pm. Seven local artists will bring in extended lines of their jewelry and clothing accessory collections. Shoppers can nibble on wine and appetizers and try on original creations.

Caryne Mount hand-dyes silk

scarves and makes tote bags from upholstery samples. Rhonda Chase has won many awards with her intricate wire wrapping. Diana Carey hand-casts her own metal pendants. Michele Buckett and Christine McCall make necklaces and earrings from precious and semi-precious stones. Jennie McGregor makes pendants from her macro flower photography collection, and weaves scarves from

recycled saris. Angela Johal offers retro bracelets made from colorful buttons.

The Gallery is located in the historic Carnegie Building at 2155 Third Street, Livermore. The public is welcome to attend and admission is free. Combine this with dinner downtown for a very enjoyable evening. Support your local artists! For more information call the Gallery at 925-449-9927.

More than fifty years ago in March 1961, the Marnel Development Company filed articles of incorporation for Palm City Association, a development of 550 acres in the Coachella Valley in Riverside County. It was the first retirement community in California. A little more than a year later, after the promising growth of Palm City, on 8 June 1962 the Marnel Development Company broke ground for a second retirement community for “active adults” on 1,000 acres northeast of Livermore. The site of this new development, called Springtown, was a treeless valley northeast of the city; the area had been annexed to Livermore in May.

The California Water Service, which supplied the city of Livermore, refused to provide water to the leapfrog development of Springtown—it was a considerable distance from its existing pipes. The city, in cooperation with the Marnel Development Company, started its own water system, Livermore Municipal Water. Marnel paid for a water storage tank off Dalton Road and for a water main from that tank site to the intersection of First Street and Mines Road. At that point, the new main was connected to Zone 7’s water pipeline; thus, Springtown, unlike the older part of Livermore, receives its water entirely from Zone 7.

Home ownership in Springtown was limited to people 50

years of age or older, and the builders claimed to have designed the homes with the special needs of senior citizens in mind. Children under 18 could visit but not reside permanently in the community.

The June 1962 groundbreaking ceremony marked the beginning of construction of Springtown’s nine-hole golf course, which meanders through the development. Photographers captured the moment with Livermore Chamber of Commerce president A.L. Clement, Mayor Manuel Medeiros, and Marnel president Nels Severin holding a shovel full of golf balls.

The grand opening several months later in January 1963 of the entire 1,000-acre complex lasted four days over New Year’s weekend. Two- and three-bedroom houses were priced from \$14,250. Free champagne and soft drinks were served each day from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Music was provided by a trio each afternoon. The official opening moment came when the 40-foot

fountain was turned on in the lagoon. Today, the fountain no longer is in use, and most of the residents call the lagoon the “duck pond”—many ducks and Canada geese are in residence there.

In October 1964 Sproul Homes took over the development from Marnel and began its own section of homes no longer reserved for seniors. In the new family tract, air-conditioned homes sold in the \$16,950 to \$25,900 range; all came with two baths; one of the models had a sunken living room. By 1967, as houses in the retirement community were sold and bought by new owners, the age requirement had become a non-issue. Although the original developer noted an age restriction in his sales brochures, it was never officially included in the Springtown Homeowner’s Association bylaws. Realtors revealed that they had never enforced the age ruling. Palm City had dropped any restrictions by 1964.

Several weeks ago I visited

the original buildings on Larkspur Drive, just a left turn off Bluebell Drive as you come in from Interstate 580; Rebecca Mathers, the office manager for the Springtown Association, kindly gave me a guided tour of the remaining community holdings. The smallest pool has been filled in, but the other two remain for Springtown residents to enjoy on hot summer days. The croquet and shuffle courts built near the pools are gone. There is still a building with locker rooms for those who are using the pool. The largest building houses the meeting hall. The facility, which can seat approximately 400, has a stage, a kitchen, dressing rooms, and rest rooms, can be rented by the general public. It is clean and freshly painted. Rebecca said that all the windows and blinds in the buildings had been replaced two years ago. The street-facing structures are attractive with their porticos held up by brick columns and the landscaping of green grass and palm trees.

The arts and crafts building

has undergone the most changes during the years. It now houses the office and snack bar for the golf course, a music store, and the office for the Springtown Association. Rebecca brought out the original blue prints, and we looked at the plans for this building. It included a photography room with a dark room, a sewing room, a room for people who wanted to work on jewelry or leather, a ceramics room with kilns, and an art room. Another building houses the social rooms, with a main room nicely decorated with stuffed furniture and two smaller rooms, one with poker tables and one with smaller tables where we interrupted five ladies who come regularly to work on fine needlework. They said that they were the remnants of an adult ed class that was once held here.

The golf course is now run by a private company called Sycamore Golf. Golfers can play nine holes or eighteen holes by using different tee-boxes when they go around the course again. Although no parks had been planned for the development in addition to the golf fairway, now there are two parks: Marlin Pound and Ralph Wattenburger. No schools exist in the original Springtown—the closest are east of the area off Scenic Drive. Today, Rebecca counts 505 homes in Springtown.

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

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



SPRINGTOWN

Thanksgiving Turkey Trot: Wines for Feasting

by Laura Ness

It’s time to line up the liquid part of your holiday menu, and some of your local wineries are happy to help make suggestions. A few of them, including Retzlaff, Occasio, Nottingham, Les Chenes and Rodrigue Molyneaux, are offering a white (or pink) and a red they have chosen to complement your Thanksgiving dinner. These wines will be specially priced for one day only, Saturday, November 19, so come join your fellow wine lovers in a “Turkey Trot” through the vineyards.

Retzlaff is offering their new, and very limited, 2009 Chardonnay at \$20 and their spunky 2010 Cabernet Rose at \$15.00 per bottle. Both are perfect with that turkey or ham. They will also have a local honey tasting on November 19th: score some of that bee juice and

give that ham a glaze the pig would be proud of.

McGrail would like to spice up the menu with the 2010 McGrail Family Rose, originally priced at \$19, for 20% off on Nov 19th only, which makes an easy drinking price of \$15.20. Heather says it’s a great pair with turkey and cranberry sauce, because the berry tartness really compliments the Roses fruit forward essence. For those Cab lovers who will drink it with everything, including bacon and eggs, she’s offering the 2007 McGrail Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon “Graduate,” originally priced at \$38, for 20% off, making your price \$30.40. This “honor student” was barrel aged for 4 years and its mellow tannins will pair nicely with stuffing and roasted turkey. Maybe throw a few roasted peppers and some bacon

in that stuffing to really make the Cabernet perform.

Occasio has two delightful options for broadening your guest’s wine experience. The 2010 Pinot Gris (\$18), which is zippy and drily refreshing and the 2009 Sotte Voce (\$30), which will make everyone mutter something similar to “Oh, Wow!” with that first unbelievably rich and delicious sip. This is a wine that can march right through desert, including pecan pumpkin pie with ginger graham cracker crust. Have you ever tried this? Basically make a pumpkin pie with a graham crust like you would a cheesecake, then top it with pecans, brown sugar and a little apricot brandy before you bake. Occasio is offering 10% off purchases of 4 bottles or more.

Nottingham Cellars has selected the 2010 Viognier and 2010

Ralph’s Red blend, as the perfect match ups for your turkey feast. 25% off on cases, mix and match. Ralph’s is sure to make friends with everyone who takes a sip. This easy drinking red is one of winemaker Collin’s most popular wines.

Les Chenes knows you have enough decisions to make – brined or not? Deep fried? Kosher? sweet potatoes or yams (do both)? brussels sprouts roasted or steamed? etc., etc., so their wine recs are straightforward: 2009 Estate Rousanne and the 2008 Estate Syrah: 15% off a four pack. Enjoy them paired with Candice’s Pineapple Chutney Blanc and Cranberry Chutney Rouge, both a turkey’s best friend.

Rodrigue Molyneaux would like to add a little French class to your table with their deliciously

made 2010 Chateau Molyneaux Pinot Blanc, a lovely little gamin of a wine that will soar through a rich dinner with ease. Add a little intrigue with 2009 Le Mystere, a roguishly charming blend of... well, if I told you, then it wouldn’t be a mystery! Priced at 15% off if you buy both, good November 19th only, so trot on over there and stock up.

SIP N’ SHOP AT RUBY HILL, Thurs, Nov 17, 6:30pm til 9pm

Enjoy a glass of wine and get a jump on holiday shopping at Ruby Hill Winery’s Sip -N- Shop, where artisans and merchants of all kinds will share their designs, including custom and high-end jewelry, beauty items, Christmas gifts, wine-themed accessories and furniture, yummy treats and more! No charge to attend. 10% off all Ruby

Milestones

Community

President of Real Estate Alliance of Livermore Selected

J. Rockcliff Realtors announced that veteran Realtor Joel Engel, vice president and manager of the company's Livermore office, has been elected president of the Real Estate Alliance of Livermore for the 2012 calendar year.

The purpose of the Real Estate Alliance of Livermore is to promote and facilitate real estate transactions in the Tri-Valley area. The group is also active in the continuing education of the real estate community and in working with local nonprofit organizations which aid needy families. The Alliance is open to real estate professionals as well as affiliated service

providers in areas such as lending, staging, title and escrow.

"Joel has been an industry leader for more than two decades," said Robin Dickson, executive vice president of J. Rockcliff Realtors. "He brings an unrivaled portfolio of both real estate and management skills to the table, as well as a deep knowledge of the Tri-Valley market. His enthusiasm and exceptional skills make him more than capable of taking the helm and leading the organization toward great things. I commend the Alliance for making an excellent decision and it is a pleasure to congratulate Joel on his position."

Engel has been ranked among the top 1% of area agents for the past 10 years, the highest level of achievement for the Bay East Board of Realtors. He is past president of the Valley Marketing Association, and has worked with Dutra Realty and Prudential California Realty. He enjoys serving as a mentor and counselor to new agents.

Engel is a long time resident of the Tri-Valley area and is also a Fine Homes International Certified Specialist. His wife Cindy Engel is a third generation Tri-Valley native and is a top producing J. Rockcliff real estate sales professional.

Kriens Joins Coldwell Banker Residential

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage announced that Lori Kriens has joined the company as a sales associate in its Livermore office. In her new position, Kriens will specialize in residential sales in the Tri-Valley area.

"Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage has been rapidly growing in the Tri-Valley region and we need high caliber agents to help us meet the increasing needs of our clients," said Mike Riley, manager of the company's Livermore office. "Lori is bright, energetic,

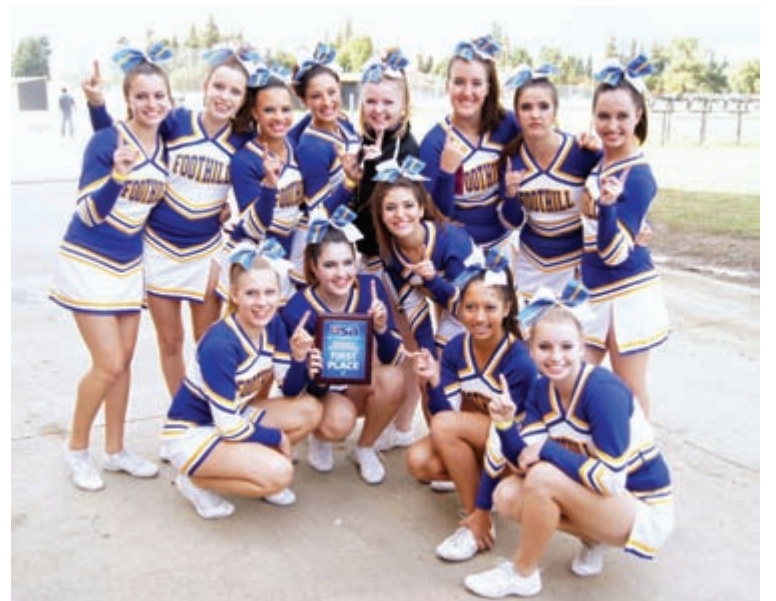
and works tremendously hard to meet and exceed the expectations of homebuyers and sellers. We welcome her to Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage."

Kriens brings more than 20 years of managerial experience to Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, having worked with Nordstrom, LM Scofield Corporation and Pier One Imports.

An active member of her community, Kriens spends her free time volunteering for The Bankhead Theater, Open Heart

Kitchen's food bank, the Junior League of Alameda County, and Maria Shriver's Women's Business Conference. She was also actively involved in Livermore's Independent Film Festival.

Kriens rounded out her body of experience with the recent completion of an intensive training program through Allied & Kaplan, which emphasizes the principles of real estate sales and management. She earned her bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in marketing from Sacramento State University.



Foothill High School's JV competition cheer squad took 1st place in a field of seven teams in the JV Show Cheer-Novice division as they presented their 2011-12 routine at the first USA Regional competition November 6 at Washington High School in Fremont. After months of hard work and practice, the team performed intricate stunts and tumbling to the delight of their fans and audience. Foothill's group stunt team took second place in a field of three teams in the high school group stunt-intermediate category. A second group stunt team and the Varsity competition team were unable to compete due to injuries. The JV team is coached by Karen Maurice. The group stunt team is coached by Megan Moore. Kim DeJoy is the head coach for Foothill's nationally-ranked cheer squads and is assisted by Cheryl Holy. The JV squad includes: Haley Bean, Zoe Cristobal, Mitsu Dill, Sarah Downey, Kelsey Emery, Michelle French, Rikki Holman, Emily Palange (Team Captain), Jordan Robinson, Taylor Sanchez, Jessica Smilovitz, Sabrina Stermer, Brittany Trevor, and Natalie Wright. The group stunt team includes: Camille Hamlin, Caressa DeRossett, Hayley Jefferies, Emily Palange and Gabbie Scalise.

WINES . . .

Hill Winery Merchandise—this night only! 925-931-9463

CUDA RIDGE SALUTES HARVEST, NOV 19, 20

The men in purple at Cuda Ridge are holding their 3rd Annual Salute to Harvest food and wine pairing, Saturday and Sunday Nov 19th and 20th. Come enjoy Cuda Ridge Wines paired with Smokey Jim's "Thanksgiving on a Crostini". Andy's Candy will be offering Chocolate Toffee for sampling and purchase. Special wine discounts include 10% off purchase of 6 or more bottles and 15% off case. \$5 tasting fee and \$10 for Reserve flight. Information at www.CudaRidgeWines.com

FENESTRA HOLIDAY TASTING, NOV. 19, 20

Fenestra Winery will feature the foods of the holidays, especially Thanksgiving, during its Holiday Wine Tasting on Nov. 19 and 20 from noon to 5 p.m. each day. Highlighted will be new wines for the holidays, gift items, and the seasonal release of the Belgian chocolate truffles filled with Fenestra Port. There is a \$10 charge for this event. www.fenestrawinery.com

HARVEST WINDING DOWN

Drawn out just about describes this 2011 harvest. Patience was

a virtue, especially regarding Bordeaux grapes. They really took their time, but everyone I've spoken to thinks the fruit is overall really great looking, if a bit lower in sugars, which won't be a bad thing. Csaba Szakal of En Garde announces that he's quit his day job to become a full time winemaker. He's excited about the fruit he got from Ghielmetti, saying it looks great and he was pleased with the quality, and commented that overall, harvest was kind to him. He's also tickled that his 2007 Cabernet Reserve received the highest score (94) from the Men in this year's Cabernet Shootout, which several Livermore wineries entered. This

was the same score as the Cyrus which Csaba has been admiring and enjoying throughout the years.

Lots of folks have been experiencing slow to start and slow to complete fermentations, due to the chilly weather. Trying to ferment in November isn't exactly what most yeast had in mind: they prefer to hibernate in the cold.

LIPSTICK WINNER ANNOUNCED

Monica Raposa of Brentwood was the lucky winner of the Up Town Girls "Lipstick Ladies" gift basket worth over \$400. She'll

be enjoying gift certificates, hair products, mustards, chocolates and all manner of edible and enjoyable goodies assembled by the great gals at Up Town in Livermore, along with the wineries who participated in the First Annual Lipstick Wine Tour. When informed of her good fortune, Monica, who dropped off her entry at Retzlaff, remarked, "Thank you so much! I'm so excited because I never win anything!"

Well, Monica, we hope this is the beginning of a long winning streak for you and yours. You can now say that you got lucky in Livermore.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Annual Holiday Boutique. 9:00 - 3:00 Saturday, November 19 at Livermore-Pleasanton Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore. The ladies of Emblem Club #413 will be hosting their Holiday Boutique with lots of handmade and handcrafted decorations and gift items. The snack bar will be open for a quick lunch, and there will be a table with lots of homemade baked goodies for sale. Free admission.

Donlon Elementary in Pleasanton is holding its annual Holiday Boutique & Bake Sale fund-raiser on Friday, December 2 from 2:30-6:30 p.m. at the school, and is currently taking applications for hand-craft vendors. The event takes place on a school day so we can take advantage of the huge parent foot traffic we have on campus in the afternoon. Table prices are \$25 for half table (5.75') and \$50 for full table (11.5'). Because of space limitations, we cannot accept applications from commercial or 'home party' vendors. All table fees and bake sale proceeds go directly to Donlon's Parent-Faculty Club, which supports school-wide activities and classroom enrichment. For a vendor application or more information, please email donlonboutique2011@gmail.com.

Christmas Boutique. Dec. 3rd Veteran's Hall, 5th and South L Streets, Livermore, Ca. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Refreshments available. Hosted by Unit 287 Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association. Funds help troops stationed overseas and/or a veterans's project in Livermore. Vendors interested in participating, contact Polly, 925-447-5986.

Holiday Book Sale. Friends of the Dublin Library on Sat., Dec. 3 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin. A great selection of beautiful hardcover books in excellent condition, ideal for gift giving will be offered. They include children's books, holiday books, gourmet cookbooks, collections, gift books, games, and more. Dublin Library (925) 828-1315

Try Winter Vegetable Gardening. Garden of Grace Learning Series, Session 1. Saturday, Dec. 3, 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at Garden of Grace behind the Asbury Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. Rain or shine. Session will cover indoor seed starting, winter crop selection, crop protection, weather issues. Class taught by Mark S. Brunell, Alameda County Master Gardener and Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Univ. of the Pacific. No cost. www.asburygardenofgrace.org or msbrunell@hotmail.com

FIRST Lego League is holding its annual robotics tournament in Livermore on December 3rd from 9:00-4:00 at Our Savior Lutheran School, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue. Come watch the fun as 12 student robotics teams from the all over the Bay Area, including 5 Livermore teams, put their Lego-based robots into head-to-head competition. FIRST Lego League's mission is to help students find the fun and excitement in science and technology through friendly competition. The League is open to children ages 9-14.

Country Folk Art Shows. Sat. and Sun., Nov. 19 and 20, Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission price is \$7, please see website for more information: www.countryfolkart.com and discount coupon

M.L. Hummel Club. San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, meets second Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. at member's home. Guests always welcome. Topics include sharing of Hummel figurine news and information. For information, contact Joan Mumma, club secretary, 447-5164 or www.mumma.org/hummel/

Armchair Travelers, a monthly program, will take place at the Livermore Civic Center Library on Thurs., Dec. 8, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Carol Wilson will show digital photographs of her five-week adventure in India. Carol traveled to India as part of the UC Davis Study Abroad program, and visited New Delhi and Pondicherry during her stay. Adults are invited to this free program on the second Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. For additional information

please call 925 373-5500.

San Ramon Valley Newcomers Club, invites new & long-time residents to its monthly luncheon on Dec. 15 at Bridges Golf Club Restaurant, 9055 S. Gale Ridge Rd., San Ramon. 11:30 to 2 p.m. Cost is \$30. Annual Christmas luncheon includes a gift exchange. Call Grace, 828-8554, for information & reservations.

Would you like help with your resume? The Pleasanton Public Library is offering free consultations with an experienced Employment Recruiter. Sign up at the Reference Desk for a 20 minute consultation. Receive help with resume writing, find employment web sites, learn how to search for a job on the web, and get help with on-line applications. The Pleasanton Library has extensive support material available. For appointments call the Reference Desk at 925/931-3400. Library programs are free and open to everyone. 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

Tri-Valley Vegetarian Society, Giving Thanks potluck, Sat., Nov. 19, 1 to 4 p.m. San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery St., San Ramon. Presentations by two leaders in the San Francisco Bay Area Animal Welfare and Wellness Community and also learn how to make a quick and easy Cranberry Apple Orange Mint Relish. Each person is to bring a Vegetarian (plant-based and non-dairy items are greatly preferred) or Raw/Living Foods appetizer, entree or dessert to feed 5 persons. There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 per person help cover the costs of rent, beverages and utensils. Those who do not wish to bring a dish, the suggested total donation is \$12.00 per person to help cover the cost of the catered food. Children are welcome and eat for free. To RSVP or receive more information, call 925-989-1811 or email Lisa Books-Williams at Lisa@ThriveHolistic.com or LisaBooksW@Hotmail.com

GNON's (Girls Night Out Networking) Tri-Valley Chapter, holiday party. Special Holiday Menu and Drinks, raffle prizes, surprises, specials and awards New unwrapped toys will be collected for the Toys for Tots program. Tuesday, December 6, 5:00 - 8:30 p.m. TGI Fridays (GNON's official caterer) 3999 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton (925) 225-1995. Cost is \$10/pp for members and \$15/pp for nonmembers. Visit www.gnontrivalley.com or call (925) 487-4748. Please RSVP by December 2nd at gnoners@gmail.com

Overeaters Anonymous, all welcome to meetings on Saturdays 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. 12-step, self-help support group for compulsive overeaters. High school room of the Tot Green Building at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1892 North Vasco Rd., Livermore. Nora, 447-1676.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Nov. 19, 25/35 miles Heather Farm in Walnut Creek to Danville and Alamo, meet 9:30 a.m., Kathy Kane, kathymkane@gmail.com. Sun., Nov. 20, 30 miles to Livermore, meet 10 a.m. at Sycamore Park & Ride, Julie Hampton, 510-685-7102. Wed., Nov. 23, 34 miles San Ramon to Walnut Creek, meet 10 a.m. at Central Park, Peter Rathmann, 336-0973. Thurs., Nov. 24, 28 miles parts of Pleasant Hill, Martinez and north Concord/Clyde, meet 9 a.m. at Pleasant Hill BART, Gary Hsueh, 510-334-1976. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

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

Tri-Valley Democratic Club meeting Mon., Nov. 21, 7 p.m. at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. The program will be "Taxing Wall St. transactions, a discussion with Oakland Port Commissioner Michael Lighty the director of public policy for the California Nurses Association/National Nurses United. Refreshments, public welcome.

Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment (Tri-Valley CARES) mission is to promote peace, justice and a healthy environment. All are welcome at monthly meeting at the Livermore Civic Center Library Thursday, November 17 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. For more information call Tri-Valley CARES at (925) 443-7148 or visit http://trivalleycares.org.

Tuff Girl challenge- Diva Duo Transformation Challenge. Begins on Monday, November 14 and ends on Wednesday, December 14. Win \$300 cash, a free boot camp, a glamour haircut or new make-over. Visit www.tuffgirl.com for more information.

Tri-Valley Basket Brigade, Saturday November 19 at 10 a.m. Please join the Tri-Valley Basket Brigade for a Thanksgiving food drive. On Brigade Day, participants bring food and clothing items to create Thanksgiving baskets for families in need. Bags containing food, clothing and personal products are assembled & delivered to the homeless, too. Meet at Valley Montessori School, 1273 N. Livermore Ave, Livermore. For more information or to sign up, please visit www.trivalleybasketbrigade.com or contact Katherine at 925-922-7615

Pleasantonians 4 Peace, Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, Nov. 23 between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets. www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., Birthday lunch in San Ramon, Nov. 20, noon. RSVP by Nov. 13 to Marsha, 830-8483. Brunch buffet breakfast in Livermore, Nov. 27, 10:45 a.m. RSVP by Nov. 25 to Hilda, 292-2000. Lunch in Pleasanton, Nov. 30, noon. RSVP by Nov. 27 to Marge, 828-5124. Annual Christmas Party, Dec. 4, 5 p.m. Reply by Nov. 25 to Ruby, 462-9636.

Boy Scout Troop 934 is offering recycling of home and office inkjet and toner cartridges to help the Pleasanton community protect and conserve natural resources. Instead of throwing away used inkjet and toner cartridges, drop them off at U.S. Bank, 749 Main Street, Pleasanton, or arrange for a pick at your local business by contacting the scouts at recycle@bstroop934.com.

Love A Doll Club meets on the second Thursday morning of each month. Come share the love, knowledge and collection of dolls and doll related items. For more detailed information, call 925-447-5149.

Operation: S.A.M. "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004 and is dedicated to the continued support of our deployed troops. Preparation of comfort packages takes place every other week - all year long. Providing morale support for those deployed. All information provided is confidential and is not shared for security purposes. To submit a name and address, inquire about donations or helping, please visit www.operationsam.org, email operationsam@comcast.net or call 925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

VFW Post 7265, Livermore, invites Veterans of Foreign Wars, all military branches, to join the group. Any age veteran welcome to meetings held 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7 p.m. (2000 hours), 522 South L St., Livermore. Camaraderie, support, connections, advocacy, distinction and community service. Information, contact Vice Commander Virgil Stanger at 455-5039 or go to www.vfwweb.com.org/ca/post7265.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter, meets 9:30 a.m. first Saturday of the month from September to May at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. DAR is a women's service organization. Members are descended from a patriot of the American Revolution and are dedicated to patriotism, preservation of American history, and securing America's future through education. Contact Maris at 443-3087 or mhl3frog@yahoo.com.

Toastmasters - Livermore Lunch Bunch meets Mondays at noon, conference room, 2157 First St., Livermore. Learn to develop communication and leadership skills in a supportive environment that fosters self-confidence and personal growth. www.livermoretoastmasters.org.

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

Livermore Military Families, a support

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

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

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

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

RELIGION

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

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

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

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

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

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

Trinity, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday school or Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday

nights there is adult Bible study at 6:45 and NRG and Re.Gen for youth, and children's choir for kids. Child care during all events. 447-1848. www.trinitylivermore.org.

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

Thanksgiving Day Service, Tri-Valley residents are invited to join members of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, in the church's 88th consecutive Thanksgiving Day service held in Livermore. Worship hour features a 15-minute period for members to share their stories of gratitude for the year's blessings. Communal singing begins the service, followed by readings from The Bible and Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, a book written by Christian Science founder, Mary Baker Eddy. Biblical verses will be read from the books of Psalms, Deuteronomy, Jeremiah, Zephaniah, Matthew, Second Corinthians, First and Third John, and Revelation. Residents of all ages are invited to attend. A childcare room with experienced attendants is available adjacent to the auditorium for children too young to enjoy the service. 11 a.m.-noon on Thursday, Nov. 24. First Church of Christ, Scientist, 263 South "N" Street (corner of Third), Livermore; 925-447-2946, www.christiansciencechurchlivermore.com.


Women's Christmas Tea, Saturday, December 3, 2:00-4:00 pm, Cross Winds Church, 6444 Sierra Court in Dublin. \$15 covers the afternoon of fellowship, fun and a light lunch. Come and join us amidst the busyness of the holiday season to enjoy some girl time. For information on registering or to be a hostess for a table of eight, contact Samantha Leggat, 925-560-3822 or email sleggat@crosswindchurch.org.

Eckankar, "The Art of Graceful Living," is the theme of the next ECK Worship Service, Sunday, November 20 at 11:00 AM. The service is held once a month on the third Sunday at the Four Points Sheridan, 5115 Hopyard Road (about 2 blocks south of the I-580 Hopyard exit). For further information, contact http://eck-ca.org/ by computer, or call Kathy at (925) 944-0118.

Community HU* Chant is the theme of a non-denominational prayer activity Wednesday, November 23 at 7:30 PM. The Community HU is held once a month each 4th Wednesday at The Heritage Estates, 2nd Floor Activity Room at 900 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore. For further information, contact http://eck-ca.org/ by computer, or call Kathy at (925) 944-0118.

Advent Class on Angels, The Rev. Debbie Low-Skinner will offer a three-week Christian Education class called "Angels in the Bible and in Everyday Life." Topics include what are angels, who are the archangels, what kind of angels make up the angelic hierarchy, where are angels mentioned in the Holy Bible, and are angels still around today. Classes are open to everyone. They are Sundays, December 4, 11, and 18 at 12:00-12:45 pm in the Rector's Office at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore; (925) 447-3289, www.saintbartslivermore.com.

Spiritual Envy, Michael Krasny will talk about "Spiritual Envy" Wed Nov 30, 7:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. One of NPR's most popular interviewers, award-winning broadcaster Michael Krasny, author of Spiritual Envy: An Agnostic's Quest, brings us a thought provoking exploration of belief - and lack of belief. He challenges us to engage in a conversation about God, human responsibility, the nature of evil and even paranormal theories. For information, 510-318-6453 or visit www.jfed.org/bookfestival. Cost: \$10.



THE NEPTUNE SOCIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

 2177 Las Positas Court, Ste. K, Livermore CA 94551

 (925) 454-1974

 www.neptune-society.com

 Angie Apolinar, Branch Director
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