### Find Out What's Happening

### **Check Out Section A**

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



**Francis Slakey** 

### **Scientist-**Adventurer To Describe Physical and **Spiritual** Journeys

The first man to climb the highest peak on every continent and surf every ocean will speak next week about the exotic adventures he faced, including near escapes from death, and the personal transformation that he experienced in the

His talk will take place Wednesday night, Nov. 28, at 7:30 at Livermore's Bankhead Theater as part of the Rae Dorough Speaker Series.

The speaker, Francis Slakey, a physicist and professor at Georgetown University, undertook the extended climbing and surfing adventure to test his personal limits and break out of the confines of daily academic routine.

He was not the first to climb all the highest continental mountains, but the first to combine that feat with worldwide surfing.

Livermore's Jay Davis, who has worked extensively with Slakey on science policy issues, expects the Bankhead talk to be fascinating. One unusual feature is the challenge of preparing simultaneously for mountain climbing and surfing. The

(See SLAKEY, page 12)



### **RABBIT ADOPTION**

My name is Sugar Plum. I'm a baby girl. I'll fall asleep on your shoulder. Adopt me this holiday season and I'll bring laughter, happiness and love into your life for many years. To meet Sugar Plum stop by this Saturday from 12-3 pm at the Adoption Event at the Dublin Petco, 11976 Dublin Blvd. For more info, call 925-519-1723, or email ebrabbit@comcast.net. Visit www.eastbayrabbit.pet finder.com to see more pet profiles.

# Pleasanton's AP Scores Put **District on National Honor Roll**

The Pleasanton school district has been honored for its growth in the percentage of Advanced Placement (AP) students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP exams, while simultaneously increasing access to AP courses.

Pleasanton is one of 539 districts in 44 states and Canada to be placed on the third annual AP honor roll. Pleasanton has been on the honor roll all three years.

The honor roll is published by the College Board, to help recruit more students to higher education.

Pleasanton has increased participation by 8 percent since 2010, while adding 161 more students who received a score of 3 or more on the AP exams, which have a 1 to 5 grading scale.

Students may take AP classes without taking the exams. Some do so to gain a flavor of what a college class is like. If a student tests at 3 or higher score, the credits

which was founded in 1900 from that class may be ac- dents have choices. Offering cepted as a completed course by a college or university.

With enough AP credits in college, a student may want to complete a four-year curriculum in three years, or remain for four years and explore other classes in a field, said Pleasanton superintendent Parvin Ahmadi.

Ahmadi said, "We really believe in providing multiple opportunities for students, as they go through our schools. We want to make sure stusuch an array of AP courses allows students to make choices about what they are passionate about.

Some students and parents have been concerned that the rigor of AP classes, especially if a student were taking several of them, puts them under more stress. Ahmadi said that the district limits how many AP classes can be taken by a student.

Part of dealing with any potential stress problem is the need for the district to inform parents that the work is definitely college level and will be different from high school work. Ahmadi also cited peer pressure on some students, who might question why a friend is taking "only one" AP class, while others are signed up

Other Bay Area school districts on the AP honors list are San Ramon Valley, Palo Alto. Fremont and the Catholic Diocese of San



Photo - Doug Jorgensen The holidays are in full swing. Santa Claus dropped by during the Magical Holiday Evening in Pleasanton to hear what children wanted him to bring for Christmas.

# **AgPark Thriving in Sunol**

By Carol Graham

For the past six years, the Sunol Water Temple AgPark has fostered sustainable farming and public education while protecting natural resources in the Alameda

County Watershed.

"I loved the variety of experiences provided for the children, from tasting herbs, eating fabulous strawberries, harvesting tomatoes, and learning about soil and

water supply," said an Oakland field trip chaperone. "The pace was perfect, just what kids need - time to enjoy their senses and be in

nature." Sunol's AgPark was established in 2006 through a partnership between the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and SAGE (Sustainable Agriculture Education), a program that

{See AGPARK, page 10)

# Failure of **Measure B1 Has ACTC** Looking at **Options**

Alameda County Measure B1 narrowly missed the required two-thirds with a 66.53% vote in favor of the measure.

The uncertified count was 350,899 "yes" (66.53%) and 176,504 "no" (33.47%). It fell short by around 700 votes. Final results, with the official statement of vote, which gives a breakdown of the vote by precinct, is required by December 4th, four weeks after the election. The Alameda County Registrar of Voters indicated he planned to certify the vote before Thanksgiving.

The measure was placed on the ballot by the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC). During a meeting held Monday, staff was directed to engage in a recount process. Art Dao, ACTC general manager, said a recount is not automatic. Once the election is certified, there are five days during which a request for a recount can be submitted. The registrar would determine if there were enough irregular ballots that were not counted to warrant a recount.

> If the two-thirds thresh-(See OPTIONS, page 10)

# **Chamber CEO Moving** to Tri-Valley Innovation

Dale Kaye, Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce CEO, has announced plans to leave the post at the end of the year.

She will be hired by Tri-Valley Innovation to manage the organization.

Kaye notes, "I have worked on Innovation Tri-Valley for several years as a board member and have

been given the opportunity to lead this initiative by its board of directors. For some time, this Chamber has both led and been the infrastructure for Innovation Tri-Valley. To be a success, this regional organization must have a dedicated staff with laser like focus on its

objectives. With that focus, (See DALE KAYE, page 4)

# Youth Ranch Beginning to **Repower Bingo Games**

By Ron McNicoll

The Ranch Bingo, the major source of income for the Buenas Vidas Youth Ranch, was shut down for a few weeks, and it is taking awhile to bring it back up to speed.

Executive Director Amba Johnson has found much cooperation in plans to revitalize the Bingo Ranch. It became clear that community volunteers would have to staff the facility.

Johnson is putting out a

call to all interested parties to sign up to help out at the Bingo Ranch. People who are interested in volunteering may call Jennifer at the Buenas Vidas thrift store at 449-1177.

Buenas Vidas was founded in the 1970s by the Shattuck family of Livermore. It provided a rural location for a limited number of boys who needed a new direction in their lives.

> The boys worked with (See BINGO, page 10)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Foothill High School lost to California High School, 36 to 6 in the quarterfinals of the North Coast Section Division I football playoffs. The photo shows Foothill defenders trying to take the ball away. Meanwhile, Amador Valley High School advanced to the semifinals defeating San Ramon Valley 28-25. The fifth seeded Dons have won five straight games. They will face top seeded De La Salle on Friday at 7 p.m. Amador Valley rushed for 296 yards on the ground to boost the victory. Leading the way was Alejandro Apodaca, who had 20 carries for 161 yards and two touchdowns.

# Inside

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### PET OF THE WEEK

Éclair is a stunning 2 year old female black cat so ready for her forever home after having spent months at VHS. It took her some time to find her place in the world, but now that she has, we are sure she will make you very happy. While she is fine with dogs she is not too sure about cats- she's still experimenting there. Éclair along with all VHS black or mostly black cats will be free on Black Cat Friday (11/23) from 12pm-4pm at VHS. More information about the cats and the event is online at www.valleyhumane.org. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton and the phone number is 925-426-8656. Photo by Pat O'Loughlin



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty places a turkey in one of the storage

# **New Units to Be Used to Store Donated Food for Local Pantries**

Tri-Valley food pantries will have enough refrigeration and freezer storage to accommodate the more than 1,000 turkeys that are donated for the region's hungry this holiday season as the result of a new refrigeration/ storage unit that emerged as a collaboration of corporate, government, and local nonprofit agencies.

The City of Pleasanton broke ground in May on the Regional Food Storage Project that established three storage units (dry,

refrigerated, and freezer) accessible to participating pantries in the Tri-Valley. Having a storage facility to store perishable food has been an ongoing challenge for Tri-Valley pantries, that many times must turn away donations, particularly during the holidays.

The City of Pleasanton provided the located site for Heart Kitchen. Food panthe storage unit at its Operation Services Center.

To finance the storage units, \$116,000 was raised

through grants and donations from the Cities of Pleasanton and Livermore, Open Heart Kitchen, Safeway Inc, and Measure A funding through Alameda County Board of Supervisors Districts 1

The day-to-day operation of the three food storage units will be led by Open tries, including Tri-Valley Haven and Interfaith Sharing Pantry, will have access.

# Volunteers Sought for Pleasanton Festivities

The City of Pleasanton marching bands from either will once again host the Annual Hometown Holiday Celebration. It will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2012 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. along Main Street in downtown Pleasanton. The centerpiece of this free event is a community-based parade followed by the lighting of a holiday tree in front of the Museum on Main.

The parade always kicks off with one of Pleasanton's award-winning high school

Amador Valley High School or Foothill High School. The band is followed by dozens of holiday inspired entries including Pleasanton's own Balloon Platoon, the Pleasanton City Council, hundreds of Cub Scouts and Brownies, local car clubs and dog clubs, and much

Main Street will close to vehicular traffic at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 1.

The Hometown Holi-

day program relies on the support of the community to make the event a success and volunteers are still needed. Those interested in volunteering for the event are encouraged to visit www. hometownholiday.com.

In the event of rain, a parade cancellation telephone hotline will be implemented and updated each hour after 2:30 p.m. on parade day, December 1. The Cancellation Information Phone Line is (925) 931-5352.

# **Cities to Host Grant Application Workshops in December**

and Pleasanton will cosponsor two application workshops for the following fiscal year 2013-14 grant programs: City of Livermore Housing and Human Services Grants, City of Pleasanton Housing and Human Services Grants, and City of Pleasanton Community Grants - Youth / Civic

The workshops are designed for non-profit organizations that serve Tri-Valley residents. The grant programs offered by the two cities provide funding for a variety of human services, community development, housing, youth, and civic arts projects and programs in the Tri-Valley. Most of the grants are focused on activities that benefit lower income residents.

In the current fiscal year

The cities of Livermore (2012-13), the cities are collectively providing over \$1.4 million to projects and programs including: medical visits and health care access for the uninsured; child abuse prevention services; meals and supportive services for seniors; mental health care; substance abuse counseling; domestic violence and homeless shelters; rental assistance for job training participants; fair housing counseling and tenant-landlord services; housing rehabilitation for low income homeowners; community cultural events; art projects and programs; and many more.

City staff will discuss the application processes and distribute application packets at the workshops. Attendance at one of the scheduled workshops is mandatory in order to apply for City of Livermore funding and is strongly encouraged for the City of Pleasanton. Both workshops will be identical in format and content, and it is only necessary to attend one workshop.

The first workshop is slated for Tuesday, December 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Pleasanton City Council Chamber, located at 200 Old Bernal Avenue in Pleasanton.

A second workshop will be held on Thursday, December 6 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Livermore City Council Chamber, located at 3575 Pacific Avenue in Livermore.

To RSVP for attendance at one of the workshops, please contact Terry Snyder, City of Pleasanton, at (925) 931-5343, or email tsnyder@cityofpleas-antonca.





### East Pleasanton Workshop

The first community workshop will be held to hear ideas on land use, design, circulation and sustainability for the East Pleasanton planning area.

An East Pleasanton Specific Plan Task Force is currently preparing a recommendation for approximately 1,000-acres located generally east of Valley Avenue and Busch Road and north of Stanley Boulevard. Much of the area is comprised of what will become the Chain of Lakes when quarrying is

The workshop will be held on Thursday, November 29 at 6:30 at Mohr Elementary School in the Multi-Purpose Room, 3300 Dennis Drive.

More information about the process can be found on the city's website www. ci.pleasanton.ca.us

### Sandbags Available

The City of Pleasanton reminds local residents and businesses that free sandbags are available to those concerned about flooding. Residents can pick up free sandbags at the City of Pleasanton Service Center, located at 3333 Busch Road in Pleasanton. The sandbags can be picked up at anytime. They are located in the parking lot under a brown tarp. The sandbags are for Pleasanton residents only and are not available to contractors

seeking sandbags for work sites. City crews prepare in advance of the rainy season to clear culverts and drains, and residents are encouraged to clear leaves from neighborhood drains as a part of this effort. Operations Services crews spend six weeks implementing an annual leaf pick-up program in advance of the rainy season.

Those who see flooded areas should call the Operations Services Department between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at (925) 931-5500. Flooding should be reported to the Police Department at (925) 931-5100 on weekends, holidays and during the regular work week, Monday through Friday, between 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

### **Funds for Alternative Fuels Plan**

As part of the Obama Administration's energy strategy, the Energy Department announced that the Bay Area Air Quality Management District has been awarded a new project to help cut red tape and develop the infrastructure, training and regional planning needed to help meet the demand for alternative fuel cars and trucks, including vehicles that run on

natural gas, electricity and propane.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District will develop templates and best practices for permitting alternative fuel vehicle infrastructure and will work with fleet to implement petroleum reduction strategies.

### **EBRPD Head of Land Division**

Robert Nisbet has been selected as the new Assistant General Manager of the Land Division for the East Bay Regional Park District. He will replace Nancy Wenninger, who will retire at the end of November 2012.

Nisbet has over 20 years of professional management experience, most recently as general services director for Santa Barbara County in Southern California. Prior to his twelve-year tenure with the county, he was employed as the public works director for the City of Carpinteria, California, and before that as a project engineer for Martin, Northart and Spencer, Civil Engineers and Construction Managers.

Nisbet has a long history of public service, with experience in complex project management, real property negotiation, municipal budgeting, and strategic planning. Nisbet began working for the County of Santa Barbara in 2000 as a capital projects manager, before being promoted to assistant director of general services, and in 2005, general services

"Bob's varied local government experience makes him an excellent choice for the position," said General Manager Robert E. Doyle. "Bob has considerable experience working in both the public and private sectors as well as with nonprofits, community groups, and citizen advisory groups; and he has managed projects that included the creation of trails in the Los Padres National Forest."

Along with Nisbet's strong management skills, Doyle is also impressed with his keen understanding of California environmental regulations. "In his new role, Bob will lead projects and acquisitions that will literally shape the East Bay Regional Park District's future. I look forward to welcoming him to the team."

### Correction

A story in the Nov. 8 Independent about a mock election at Arroyo Seco School did not mention that one of the students wrote-in a third party candidate for President. As part of a civics lesson on voting, this is an option open to voters.

# **Pleasanton Police Begins Giving Tree**

The Christmas season is only provides to families quickly approaching and the Pleasanton Police Officers Association (PPOACD) is again giving back to the community of Pleasanton with its Annual Giving Tree Program.

The PPOACF wants to let residents know that it will be collecting gifts for local families in need of special care this upcoming Holiday season. The PPOACF not in need, but also to many senior citizens that are often overlooked. The PPOACF has re-

ceived the names of families and seniors within the community and are now seeking those interested in providing Christmas cheer to those in

Those interested in donating to a needy family or senior in Pleasanton, can pick up gift tags at the Pleasanton Police Department beginning November 29<sup>th</sup>. These tags list the gifts requested by those families and seniors in need.

Anyone with questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Officer Ryan Dawson, Officer Michael Rossillon or Dispatcher Betsy Jones at the Pleasanton Police Department at 925-

# Livermore Giving Tree at Police Dept.

The Livermore Police Department Citizen's Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA) and the Livermore Police Department will be conducting its annual "Holiday Giving Tree" again this year. The Giving Tree will be located in the lobby of the Livermore Police Department, at 1110 S. Livermore Avenue through Tuesday, December 14. The lobby is open 8:00 a.m.to 5:00 p.m.

Several Livermore families and seniors have been selected for the Holiday Giving Tree program. All are in need of some assistance to make this holiday season a little more special. Everyone selected has defined special needs that they have this holiday season. Those needs are then placed on tags and the tags are hung on the "Giving Tree."

Select a tag and purchase the item(s) on the tag. Bring the item(s) to the Police Station and place them in the large "chimney" box in the lobby with the tag attached.

CPAAA volunteers will then wrap all of the collected gifts and donations and they will be delivered to the families shortly before Christmas. There will also be a donation box placed at Lizzie Fountain during the Holiday Sights and Sounds Parade on December 1. People can drop a gift into the box with or without a tag from the 'Giving Tree.'

Any questions about the Giving Tree Program can be directed to Nicole Aguon, 925-371-4978.







27,000 homes by direct mail in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol.



Call (925) 243-8000 www.independentnews.



# **EDITORIAL**

Dale Kaye in New Role
Dale Kaye has made a difference during her nine years as CEO of the Livermore Valley Chamber of Commerce.

During that time, she has made the chamber an important part of the entire community. It was recognized as the fastest growing chamber of commerce in the state.

The Hispanic Business Council was established to teach members how to reach out to the Hispanic market and give Hispanic business owners more of a voice in the chamber and the community.

She added to the local economy by establishing the Livermore Valley Film Commission, which created over \$1 million in economic impact just over the last year.

Kaye reached out to other segments of the community to present speakers discussing innovation, education, and the importance of both. The luncheons have drawn large

Kaye will be managing Tri-Valley Innovation, where she has served as a board member. She states, "To be a success, this regional organization must have a dedicated staff with laser like focus on its objectives. With that focus, it has the potential to make a monumental difference in the way the entire Tri-Valley is perceived and to have a positive impact on its economic vitality.

While Kaye will definitely be missed in her role as CEO of the chamber, if she brings the same enthusiasm and ideas to Tri-Valley Innovation as she did to the Chamber, the area can indeed look forward to a growth in economic vitality.

# **Public Invited to Weigh In On County Solar Policy**

The Alameda County Planning Department will hold a community meeting to discuss proposed amendments to the general plan's East County area for development of Solar Energy Facilities (SEF).

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m., Nov. 29 at the county public works building, 4825 Gleason Drive, Dublin.

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors' Planning and Transportation Committee looked at a draft policy at its meeting on Sept. 12. It directed the planning staff to go back to the public again for comment before the committee sends a draft to the full board.

The two supervisors who comprise the committee, Scott Haggerty and Nate Miley, represent nearly all of the rural land in the county in their districts. The vast majority of it is in Haggerty's district.

One 14-acre solar installation is already in operation in the Altamont. Another on 140 acres is under construction. A third, which would have covered more than 3000 acres, or most of the prime agricultural land in the county, triggered the policy process now in mo-

The application for the major solar installation was withdrawn earlier this year. Haggerty and Miley declared at the Sept. 12 meeting that the policy should protect all of the prime agricultural land in the county.

Prime lands are flat, available for irrigation, and have good soil for crops. The Altamont looked attractive to the solar power industry because solar arrays also need flat land to track the sun, as well as water for cooling. The Altamont location is near a location to upload power to the electricity grid.

At previous public meetings, citizens asked that land mitigation requirements for all affected agricultural land be evaluated in the general plan amendment, not just prime land.

A recommendation of mitigation at 2:1, instead of the proposed 1:1 was also suggested. The state Office of Planning and Research (OPR) told county planners that only Davis requires a 2:1 ratio.

OPR also commented on a suggestion that solar facilities not be visible in view sheds from parks. OPR said that provision would be too restrictive, and would limit sites for solar facilities.

# **DALE KAYE**

(continued from page one) it has the potential to make

a monumental difference in the way the entire Tri-Valley positive impact on its economic vitality.

"Fortunately, Innovation Tri-Valley's goals dovetail elegantly into what the Chamber does and that gives me the opportunity to continue to work with the people and organizations I treasure, including the amazing staff at this Chamber."

Kaye has served as CEO chamber is very healthy and has a great team." During ated. She established a film concluded.

commission that is having a positive economic impact on the entire Tri-Valley.

We have honed the is perceived and to have a Education Committee to make business and education effective partners and created events that are almost consistently sell-outs. Our Leadership program has been greatly enhanced and more people than ever are signing up.

"It has been a pleasure working with all of you. This community has an amazing mix of wineries, scientists of the chamber for nine from two national labs, artyears. She states, "The ists, world renowned big businesses and unique small business. And of course, her nine years, a Hispanic cowboys. It could not be Business Council was cre-replicated anywhere," she

# THE **Independent**

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# Prop. 30 Holds Ground For Pleasanton Schools, But Future Gains Uncertain

ees expressed relief over passage of Proposition 30, because it means there won't be program cutbacks this

Because of its temporary sales tax and selected income tax increases, Prop. 30 raises \$6 billion more for the state budget this year. That will balance the state's books, said assistant superintendent Luz Cázares at the board's meeting on Nov. 13.

Some \$5 billion of the new revenue goes to fill in the money that would have been eliminated for schools, if Prop. 30 had not passed.

For Pleasanton, passage means that teachers won't be required to take four furlough days this school year. It also means that the districts' budget will have \$6 million above its 3 percent reserve, said Cázares.

However, it is not new money for the district, at least not this year, since it already had been promised by the state.

The taxes stay in effect next year. How much that will help school districts won't be known until Gov. Jerry Brown's new budget message in January. Even at that, Brown's final budget for the next fiscal year really won't be firm until the May

Even though there might be increased funding next year, the district must pay cost of living adjustment for teachers, said board vice president Jeff Bowser. Their

Pleasanton school trust- contracts call for salary increases for each year of experience, and for specified levels of postgraduate credits.

'We approved \$20 million in cuts the last several years. We restored programs on the backs of employees, to maintain programs at a minimum level. There are no additional funds besides the ones we have already. It's not true that things are rosy; it's just that they are not bad," said Bowser.

School districts face two potential finance problems, said Bowser. Gov. Jerry Brown has not let go of his idea to implement a weighted formula of district support that would give more money to needier districts. Also, Congress has been talking about sequestration, which would reduce federal funds on an equal basis, including those for education. The district relies on federal money for such things as special education and the reducedcost lunch program

### DISTRICT ĞEARS UP FOR COMMON CORE

The board also heard a one-hour presentation from staff about a continuing goal to prepare teachers and principals for the core curriculum, which is nationally based and will be used in 47 states beginning in 2014.

Reporting on sessions held for leaders of the effort in the district's elementary schools were kindergarten teacher Beth Patock and principal Ben Flobert,

both from Mohr Elementary School.

The idea behind the common core is for a paradigm shift that will put more emphasis on students using reason, logic and analysis in conducting a thorough investigation of topics.

The method involves four levels of questioning, from the most shallow, which is basic recall, to the deepest, which is "really deep thinking, focused on the work. We want to push teachers to increase the level of the thinking by students," said curriculum director Jane Golden.

Fobert provided a concrete example of the difference between the shallow end at level 1 and the deep end at level 4, by talking about two ways to compose a question for a test.

The question was this: There are two schools. One has 35 students, and one has 72 students. They need to buy new lunch tables, with six students at a table. On the old test, they would ask how many tables would have to be ordered. The test-takers would use a pencil to fill in the bubble next to the multiple choice answer they think is correct.

On the new common core test, the question would take this form: Use words to describe a strategy that both schools can use to solve their problem. Test-takers would type the answer in a box on the computerized test. In the core curriculum, there will be no more multiplechoice standardized tests. The testing will take place

on computers Fobert talked about the "rhetorical question" that he put to kindergarten teachers at a study session. "I asked them to think about fourthgraders. What do you need to have happen in kindergarten to prepare kids to answer the question in fourth grade?"

"I could hear the wheels turning (in their heads). In the pattern 'ab', 'ab', the next letter is 'a', but why is it next? That's what we are talking about in higher order thinking," said Fobert.

Assistant superintendent Odie Douglas said, "Students are good at searching for information. We want to make sure they are researching information, and learn to question its validity and reliability. It's important they use multiple sources to confirm their answers or assumptions."

Douglas said this same method will be used with all students, since one of the standards in the common core curriculum is rigor. He quoted a teacher leader who said, "Although some students have difficulty reading, it does not mean they can't think at high academic levels.

Douglas added, "I thought that was profound. We have students who may have difficulty learning, but they can think. We may be able to push the thinking to assist them in achieving the academic achievement we expect of all our students."

(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.)

### **Nuclear Materials** Jo Ann Frisch

At the end of September, Livermore Lab announced that all weapons-usable-

quantities of plutonium and highly enriched uranium have been removed. Thereby enhancing safety and saving taxpayers \$40 million per year in security costs. However it also means security personnel has been laid-off and security measures have been scaled back.

While I celebrate the removal of this dangerous material. I am weary of what the future holds for the safety of our community. Livermore Lab is now proposing to bring plutonium bomb cores from Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico several times per year. Why, you may ask? They claim it is so the pits can undergo "diagnostic" testing using equipment located at the Lab. However, I believe it is because the Lab wants to maintain its status as a full scale nuclear weapons lab.

Why did they lay-off security and make such a big deal about how safe the facility will be if they were planning to bring material back? Why can't they move the diagnostic equipment at Livermore to Los Alamos where the pits already are, or to Pantex in Texas where they have already planned for them to go? Are you feeling safer now?

### **Phone Charges Robert Olness** Livermore

This letter concerns a problem with the AT&T GoPhone cell phone system. Paying a \$25 fee every 90 days, I maintain a bank account with GoPhone which is debited whenever I use the phone. Just recently, after several satisfactory years with GoPhone, I discovered that unauthorized third-party vendors have started tapping my account for services that I have not requested, some \$30 worth in the past few weeks (e.g., eventtexter, some email options).

How it works? They text my phone with offers to be charged to my account, stating that the charge will stand unless I decline. The time available to decline is perhaps a day or so. Failure to respond is taken as approval. Conveniently for the vendors, several of these charges occurred while I was out of the country with no cell phone service.

I found it hard to believe (appalling?) that AT&T would market a service that offers so little protection for the user. Fortunately, by calling AT&T, I have been able to reverse the unauthorized charges and establish a lock on my account that should prevent future abuse. If you are using GoPhone, you can check your account for unauthorized charges at att. com/db

### **BART Parking** Athena Lynch Livermore

Years ago, BART directors believed that providing parking for commuters was incongruent with their goal of getting people out of their cars. Some believed it was not sufficient to get people out of their cars for only part of their trip. They wanted people to walk, bike or take other transit to BART. Hopefully, their position has changed in recent years. I agree with Mat Steinberg and hope that as an endof-the-line station BART will provide an abundance of parking to keep as many people off as much of the road as possible.

### Peace Pat Hoenig Livermore

There is something there that we all must have known: Peace is the throne that we all should own.

For better or worse until the end could be a vicious circle and we wonder why it should end? Well, is a deep subject, but who knows when it will or if it will

Hope, love, charity, these three will be the hallmark of Jesus that will make us talk and feel free. All we need is global balance; not dollars, but sense for the diplomatic corps that will continue on for us from generation to generation.

She continues to write although she is sore, tired and worn. Sleepless nights discovered a thorn?

Tonight the date is November 4, 2012. Just seven more days til November 11 - Armistice Day. In the 11th month of the 11th day of the 11th hour we won World War I and at what an expense. Have we started another at the world's imbalance . . . Let us do not let it happen. Let us store the waste of the atomic age and save the aforementioned generations.

### **Election Praise** Doug Mann

Livermore

As another election cycle winds down, it seems fit to recognize how competently our elections are carried out in the Bay Area. As an Alameda County resident, I can't recall a single incident ever affecting our ability to vote, or the proper counting of those votes.

We regularly learn about people in other states standing in lines for hours because of poor planning by election officials. Even more sinister, some of this apparent deficiency in preparation is actually deliberate action, designed to suppress targeted populations who might inconveniently threaten the existing power structure. To us, these shenanigans seem like tales from far away places that could never happen here. How fortunate we are to live in a place where

democracy is so revered! To all the election workers who make every election in Alameda County efficient, fair and timely, you have my highest commendation. Your great work is too easily taken for granted, as you quietly make it possible for us to maintain our revered system of government, one vote at a time.

### Safety on Sidewalks Regina F. Leyva Livermore

Clearly Livermore needs more bicycle lanes, especially downtown. Skateboarding is not a crime, but it can be if you run a pedestrian down. Pedestrians should be safe on the sidewalk but their safety is being compromised. More and more casual bike riders and skateboarders are riding on the sidewalks because they have no place to ride.

Many are not educated on basic traffic laws and are unaware of pedestrian safety. Be it carefree or careless attitudes, many are not considering the consequences of injuring another human life when operating a moving vehicle especially on sidewalks. On Monday, I walked from the Civic Center Library along S. Livermore headed to Robecks. As I approached Seventh Street, two skateboarders tore past me so fast, it was frightening. Little did I know that behind me were two young men on bikes riding on the sidewalk. I was just recovering from the fear of being knocked down by the skateboarders when I got nicked on the heal of my foot by the lead bike rider who could not stop in time. Luckily he did not mow me down altogether. This is not okay. I had a few words with him about this, but clearly it was a waste of time. He thought he could control the situation and was surprised when circumstances he did not anticipate occurred and of course, I was in his way, and lucky for me it was not

Surely all this will dredge up many heated debates and defenses. Keep reading, and consider this, several years ago my mother who is now 81, was run over by a bicyclist going full speed down a public street. The bicyclist never stopped to see if my mother was dead or alive. Instead a neighbor picked her up and helped her. To this day, my mother still suffers from pain in her back and neck. Her injuries from the incident cost her in doctor bills and time lost from work. She still has a lump in her neck, which occurred after the accident and has never been resolved. My mother now 81 is still mobile and still loves her daily walks around town. I celebrate my mother's mobility and self-sufficiency in her elder years, but now I am worried that she will be a victim of inconsiderate vehicle operators. This includes cars that do not stop for pedestrians in the cross walks, skateboarders who will not slow down or stop altogether and bicyclists riding too fast on the sidewalks and rounding street corners

at full speed. Upcoming generations will continue to be more innovative about travel and globally conscious than past generations. Not hearing from them and considering them when planning travel routes is a big mistake. Along with giving respect and consideration to people who elect to use alternative forms of travel, should be the requirement to observe the same level of responsibility in street/pedestrian safety as traditional vehicle operators have. For now, we need an immediate awareness. With all the congestion downtown the only reasonable and immediate solution is for everyone to participate in cooperation. Let's all try acting on the brighter side of human nature and just for the heck of it, let's observe simple rules and acts of human caring that keep the fabric of our society in tact. We can all start by SLOW-ING DOWN! Let's do this as an act of free will so we do not need a police officer

on every corner.



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### Fri. 11/23 • 10:00 AM

CareMore Care Center-Pleasanton 4270 Rosewood Dr. Pleasanton

## Wed. 11/28 • 10:30 AM

Hickory Pit 3064 Pacific Ave. Livermore

### Mon. 11/26 • 1:00 PM

CareMore Care Center-Pleasanton 4270 Rosewood Dr. Pleasanton

## Thu. 11/29 • 10:00 AM

Coco's 7505 Dublin Blvd. Dublin

### Tue. 11/27 • 11:00 AM

Girasole Grill
3180 Santa Rita Rd.
Pleasanton

## Fri. 11/30 • 10:00 AM

CareMore Care Center-Pleasanton 4270 Rosewood Dr. Pleasanton

# 1-877-821-9102 (TTY users should call: 711)

Reference Code: NOVP PM

8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week (October 1 - February 14) and Monday - Friday (February 15 - September 30). Se habla Español.



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The Foothill High School varsity girls tennis team finished the season rankhed second in the EBAL. The team made it to the semiifinals of the North Coast Section playoffs on Nov. 10. The second-place league ranking gives Foothill a solid fifth-place ranking in the entire North Coast Section, which includes high schools from throughout Northern California. The team includes Genesis Aguila (not pictured), Sophia Angst, Valentina Bunnell, Karen Chang, Jessica Chen, Leeane Chen, C.C. Gerlach, Alexa Hanson, Catie Kim, Katarina McGaughy, Ariana Motavalli, Melissa Muller, Kelsey Ouyang, Allison Wong, and Alicia Yang. The team is led by coach Kendra Zierau and assistant coach Yvonne Hoppe.



Livermore Fusion U11 Girls Maroon team moved one step closer to clinching the League Championship on Saturday by beating first place Walnut Creek 6-2. Fusion came out strong and dominated from start to finish. Ten minutes into the game Defender Claire March sent a direct kick rocket into the goal giving Fusion the lead. Fusion would keep the pressure on as Sierra Street scored two, Drew Pagtakhan two and Lexi Borgna one. Pictured from left front are Gracie Dupuis, Dani Groth, Drew Pagtakhan, Sydney Keshmiry, Claire March, Top left, Lexi Borgna, Lilly Ackerman, Sierra Street, Coach Paul Nicholson, Isabella La Rosa, Kayla Lewis and Justynne Thomas (not pictured and missed - Mia Mendoza).

# Over 400 Compete in the Race to the Flagpole

encouraged awareness and

well as community pride."

a flag presentation by the

Veterans of Foreign Wars

and National Anthem song

by Livermore High senior

won the award for having the

most participants by a Liver-

more school and received a

cash donation of \$250. For

more information about the

Livermore Granada Boost-

ers visit www.livermore-

granadaboosters.org.

Livermore High school

Brooke Bistline.

The event also featured

The Livermore-Granada and ages. Our participants Boosters hosted the 3rd An- ranged in ages from 5 to nual "Race to the Flagpole" 86 years young. The event on Veterans Day weekend, November 10. The event appreciation for fitness, as drew over 400 runners whocompeted in the 5K, 10K, half marathon and one-mile fun runs through Independence, Sycamore Grove and Holdener parks.

Livermore's Adam Morrison won the half marathon in a time of 1:29:32. Sharon Adam of Cupertino was the top female runner with a time of 1:41:46.

Mendenhall's Matthew Reddick won the overall men's division in the 5K with a time of 19:40. Teresa Pena captured the 5K women's division in 23:03. Eric Horning was first in the 10K in the men's division with a time of 40:04. Tara Carreira had an impressive finish to win the women's 10K division in 40:47.

The event proceeds support the Livermore Granada Boosters scholarship program. For 64 years, the Boosters have honored varsity scholar athletes from both high schools at their annual May awards banquet. Substantial scholarships are awarded to young men and young women who exemplify athletic excellence and high academic achievement. The Boosters believe students who excel in academics, athletics, and community service become exemplary civic leaders. Since 1958, the Boosters have awarded more than \$211,000 in scholarships.

"We were very pleased with the turnout this year and the wonderful support from our community," said Race Director Mike Nagel, "Expanding the event to include the additional distances was based on the feedback we received from our past participants. It was great to see the wide range of abilities



Pictured are members of the California Gymnastics Academy's Level 4 Team who competed at the Nor-Cal Level 4 State Championship Meet held in Oroville, CA, November 17-18.

### West Coast Soccer

West Coast Soccer Wrath U12 girls played a U12 league game against Azuri. The team includes TylerRene Enderlein, Kaylie Lawsen, Kylie Karter, Kate Wallace, Anneliese Widmann . Kalea Bartolotto . Leila Anzo. Havley Thompson, Lindsey Philips, Abby Andrews, Abby Hoobing, Kelsi Green, Brianne Radliff, Francesca Hyde and Arvanna Shakoor.

Wrath played the last game of the league season against a well-organized Azuri Wrath started the game well, and pushed the Azuri defense continually. Azuri soaked up constant pressure from Wrath's midfield and strikers. The goal-keeper made several good saves before Kalea broke the deadlock, after a shot from Abby H. was partially saved and Kalea poached the goal on the rebound. Just before half-time Wrath added a second after Anneliese shot from outside the box and despite a good save, Kate was there to finish and put Wrath into a 2-0 lead.

In the second half, Wrath continued to press. A solid Wrath defense (Aryanna, Kayley, Lindsey, and Fran) minimized any chances for Azuri. Brianne remained in goal but took several of the free kicks to further threaten the Azuri goal. Paul rotated his midfilders and strikers throughout the second half (Tyler, Kylie, Kate, Abby A Abby H, Kalea, Hayley, Leila and Anneliese). Leila and Hayley had several shots saved. Kylie, Kate and Lindsey continued to help pressure the defence. Finally, after another corner, Tyler scored the third goal. Azuri never gave up and battled to the final whistle as all the girls tried to increase the score. Final score 3-0 for Wrath.

The West Coast Wicked (U15G) solidified second place in league play with a 1-0 victory over the Montclair Clippers' Red Rockets. The Wicked peppered the Montclair goal with shots by Carleigh Thurman, Misha Brewster, Adi Ruiz and Molly Scheid, just missing the target, hitting the post or being saved by the Red Rocket's keeper who had several diving saves. Shasta Grant also had multiple attempts and put away the game winning goal. Kalyn Ganz, Kate Chase and Nadia Ranagan, was instrumental in controlling the mid-field and feeding the ball forward to Shannon Holt and the rest of the front line. The Wicked defense, lead by keeper Jessie Cahill who had a few of her own diving saves, was solid the entire game. In the last few minutes, Red Rockets countered with several attacking drives only to be denied by Cameo Shubert, Jordan Volponi and Mackenzie Paulo. The Wicked's win was a team effort with many of the ladies playing multiple positions and stepping up to whatever

was asked of them. West Coast Karma U16 Girls, guided by Coach Vanessa Miskella and Bob Montano, ended their inaugural season with a record of 8 wins and 1 loss taking 1st place in league play. The girls went into their season never having played a game together

and outscored the opposition 31-1. Karma demonstrated a strong offense with leading goal scorer Daehsa Brown (6), along with forwards Hunter Wells (5), and Eli Mendoza (2). The midfielders were also successful in possessing, attacking, and scoring lead by Ashley McDaniel (4), Shayla Bannert (2). Breana Maitia-McIlhargie (2), Amanda Montano (1), Ariana Mancieri (1), Alessandra Rodriguez, and Gabby Parker. Karma's defense anchored by Rachel Esser, Gabriele Enzmann, Michelle Hagelston, Molly Stolz, and Rachel Braun shut down their opposition allowing only 1 goal all season while managing to score a few goals as well. Goalkeeper Amanda Valentine had an outstanding season in goal. Karma finished their season by placing second in their bracket for State Cup.

### CYO Basketball

St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) CYO 6th grade boys' basketball team 622, aka Fireballs, fell to Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) 626 on Sunday but not for lack of heart or effort. For CCOP, Parth Gupta was high scorer with 16 points. The Fireballs showed great teamwork and sports-manship right up till the end and Jack Molitoris scored 6 points, Ben Leggat scored 4, and Logan Finch scored 2. Jack Molitoris and Eric Valdez were the Fireballs' defensive standouts with the most rebounds.

### Pleasanton Rage

The Pleasanton Rage U9 Orange played a very competitive game against the Stockton Storm in the State Cup Finals. Rage had many attempts in the first half to score, but the Storm battled defensively against Rage to keep the score 0-0 after the first half.

Great defensive plays were made by Maggie Nostrand, Isabella Guerrero, and Caitlin Currie. Hayden Jolley played her best game as goalie, stopping shot after shot. Many great offensive plays were made by Olivia Martin, Olivia Soble, Maddie Benson, Avery Clark, and Sophia Minnite. Ashley Belshe had many great corner kicks and great shots throughout the game. Towards the end of the second half, one goal was made by the Stockton Storm to make the final score 1-0.

### California Gymnastics

California Gymnastics Academy's Level 4 Team competed at the Nor-Cal Level 4 State Championship Meet held in Oroville, CA, November 17-18. CGA's girls brought home a total of 9 Nor-Cal Championship titles

of 9 Nor-Cal Championship titles and 3 of the girls finished in the top 10 out of 356 gymnasts competing, regardless of age.

Delaney Watkins is the Nor-Cal Senior H Bars (9.4), Beam (9.575), Floor (9.55) and All-Around Champion (37.875).

Juliette Gosselin is the Nor-Cal Junior B Bars (9.6), Beam (9.575) and All-Around Champion (38.0). Juliette



Pictured is Kaylie Bartolotto of the West Coast Wrath U12 driving down the pitch.



Pictued is a West Coast Wicked U15 player setting up to play the ball in for another scoring oppertunity.



Livermore Aquacowboys swim team competed in the WCAB Zone 2 Last Chance B/A+ Meet hosted by the Walnut Creek Aquabears hosted the on November 16-18, 2012. The Livermore Aquacowboys swam away with many new best times. Representing the Livermore Aquacowboys were Faith Carroll (7), Annelyse Combitsis (8), Minhnha Kawamura (7), Jack Davis (7), Melinda Davis (10), Kylie Peters (10), John Coltrin (10). Taber DaCosta (9), Daniel Geissbuhler (10), Daiki Nishikawa (10), Wilson Schwegler (9), Amanda Butcher (12), Tori Carroll (12), Paige Chew (12), Katy Dabney (12), Julia Rocha (11), Megan Wilcox (12), Paige DaCosta (11), Chris Gonzalez(11), Matthew Hayes (12), Jared Tovera (11), Collin Trump (11), Hunter Woffinden (12), Emily Chong (13), Megan Fairbanks (14), Katelyn Johnson (13), Sofia Moufarrej (13), Victoria Moufarrej (14), Celine Nguyen (14), Sarah Swanson (14), Jared Brandley (14), Alex Gonzalez (14), Ben Rocha (13), Brandon Siu (13), Jenna Chew (15), Jessica Paul (16), Adrianna Rocha (16) and Kyle Chong (15). The swimmers faced rain and wind in Walnut Creek with 865 swimmers representing 29 teams with 5200 total entries over the three



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### **SPORTS** NOTES

(continued from page 6)

also placed 2nd on Vault (9375) and 3rd on Floor (9.45)

Mariah Murphy is the Nor-Cal Senior C Bars Champion with a score of 9.65. Mariah was 2ndon Vault (9.55), 3rd on Beam (9.025), 2nd on Floor (9.325) and placed 2nd All-Around with a score of 37.550.

Calli Renner is the Nor-Cal Junior F Bars Champion with a score of 9.65. Callis placed 2ndon Beam (9.375), 3rd on Floor (9.4) and was 3rdAll-Around (37.775). Chiao Chiao Hsia, Junior G, placed

3rd on Bars (9.2), 3rd Floor (9.15), and 4th All-Around (36.6). Jessica Drobick, Child A, placed 2nd All-Around with a 2nd place finish

on Bars (9.15), 3rd on Vault (9.2), 3rd on Beam (9.125).

Annie Holm, Child C, was 8th on Vault (9.125) and finished 10th All-Around (35.1).

### Girls Softball

PGSL Registration: 2013 Registration is now open for all divisions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League. All girls in grades K-12 living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play. Two ways to register: 1) Online - visit our website at www. pleasantonsoftball.org; 2) By check & postal mail - Download a registration form on the league website and mail to PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 94566. For more information or questions, email Christine Tanis at christine.t@pleasantonsoftball.org

PGSLPlayer Evaluations: Players Evaluations will be held December 8-9, 2012, for all players in grades 3-8. No prior experience required. Exact times and location are to be determined and will be published on the PGSL website (www.pleasantonsoftball. org) Remember to register by December 1, 2012 to avoid the late fee.

### LNLL Registration

Livermore National Little League registration will be held on Dec. 12th at Mountain Mikes Pizza on 1st Street in Livermore from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

### LHS Soccer Camp

Livermore High School Girls' Soccer Program invites boys and girls ages 6-14 to participate in a soccer camp on Saturday, December 1 2012 at the Livermore High School Football/Soccer Field. Price of camp is \$40 and includes a T-shirt.

This camp promotes soccer development through warm up and technical drills as well as fun games to increase skill and understanding of the game in an enjoyable and positive atmosphere. Camp will begin at 10:30a.m., end at 2:00p.m. and will be run by the Senior Varsity players with the support of the high school Varsity, JV, and Freshman

At 5:00p.m., the LHS Girls' Varsity Soccer team will play against Dublin High School. All participants are invited to return to LHS and cheer on the players that coached the camp.

Go to www.cowboyboosters.org for more information and participal tion forms.





Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore and Pleasanton launched the holiday shopping season with the annual Earlier Than the Bird events last Saturday. Rich Larrabee along with Bridget, Lilly and Elliott (at left) were on hand for the Pleasanton event. Above right, Angela Bruggeman and her daughter Mary admire ornaments at Main Street Designs in Livermore.

# Tri-Valley Bank to Hold Grand Opening at New Livermore Office

Livermore office at 1987 First Street on Monday, No-

Tri-Valley Bank will hold management team, includa grand opening for its new ing CEO Arnold Grisham and Senior Vice President and Regional Manager Brian vember 26. Branch staff, Kehoe, will be on hand to Board members and mem- host customers, shareholdbers of the bank's senior ers and the community. The event will run from 4 to 6 senior-level officers who p.m. and refreshments will be served.

office is distinctive from offices of many other banks,"

"Our Livermore branch said Kehoe. "We have three

have lived in this community at least 15 years and bring hoe. a stability of professional financial service experience that businesses need and appreciate," he said. "Our staff is also closely involved with key community organizations such as the Chamber, Livermore Downtown, Rotary Club,

profit groups," he added. "The key to our success has been about the relation-

the Convention and Visitors

Bureau and many local non-

ships and service we provide to our customers," said Ke-"We provide value to them as financial advisors, and we answer the phone when they call us!"

Tri-Valley Bank focuses on serving Livermore-area manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, service companies and contractors, as well as individual consumers. The bank has offices in Livermore and San Ramon, and serves customers throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

# **Stoneridge Mall Plans Activities**

SimonProperty Group, Inc. has announced that Stoneridge Shopping Center opened at midnight last night for "Black Friday."

"In response to feedback from our shoppers," said Carrie Williams, Director of Marketing & Business Development at Stoneridge, 'We have decided to open our doors at midnight to accommodate eager shoppers who want to get an early start on their holiday purchases."

Black Friday activities include:

Unwrap the Package Prize Giveaway: Enter for

the chance to win one of 10 prize packages to be given away a 6:00 a.m. Entries will be collected at Simon Guest Services from Midnight to 5:59 a.m. at 6:00 a.m., 10 winners will be drawn. Those 10 winners will then have the chance to open on of 10 wrapped packages to see what they've won. Packages will contain American Express® Simon Giftcards® ranging from \$50 to \$500. Entrants must be present to win.

Entertainment: includes a Dickens-era holiday brass group will kick off the shoprisers. Later in the day, the Dix Bruce Jazz Trio will entertain with holiday clas-Black Friday shoppers will be able to document

ping season for all early

their day of shopping with a Stoneridge-branded flipbook made just for them in the Grand Court. Keurig will be onsite in

Grand Court demonstrating their coffee makers and offering free samples to shoppers. Sampling will continue every Saturday and Sunday throughout the holiday season.

ValleyCare Thrift Shop

### END OF THE MONTH SALE

This Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. EVERYTHING IN THE STORE 1/2 OFF!

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# Las Positas College Vineyard and Winery; Students Get the Full Vino Deal

The stubby open sided diesel powered ATV bumps as it turns as it snorts as it growls as it climbs and descends all the terrain of the hillside vineyard of Las Positas College on Livemore's northern slopes. Stocky, enthusiastic David Everett is at the wheel of the ATV and of the college's Viticulture and Wine Technology program. His rubber boots are made for winemaking,

Climbing a rise, he points out the mature vines of Iberian grapes, and the newer grafted over plantings. "This is the only Alberiño vineyard in the Livermore Valley appellation," says David. He adds that Brett Caires of BoaVentura de Caires Winery wants all the college can grow. Brett blends it with Sauvignon Blanc for a "White Wine" that is excellent with turkey. Las Positas College vineyards also grow Iberian varieties Tempranillo, Graciano, and Touriga Nacional along with Rhône varieties Grenache, Mourvedre, Syrah, and Viognier and a bit of Sauvignon Blanc.

The ATV climbs a row; at the top, it looks like a roller coaster car headed for the Altamont, but David deftly turns and reverses down another row, and talks about the cover crops of native fescue and clover that were planted to nurture the vines and protect against erosion. They also planted California wildflowers at the perimeter. That should make quite a show in the spring. The weather isn't cold. "We want some cold weather to shock these vines into dormancy, so we can get in and prune,' says David.

He points to the row of rather fancy condos across the bordering street. "They charge a higher price for the condos that face our vinevard."

Students and David plant, graft, prune, feed, and otherwise nurture the crops. This Blacksmith Square, where

is an educational institution and the students learn. The vineyards and other parts of the enology program are part of a vast, impressive array of lecture halls and classrooms, laboratories, performance halls, playing fields, and more, that are a community asset. David proudly points them out.

He guides the ATV to the winery where the students and he make wine. There are retorts, an auto-titrator, a spectrophotometer, a spanger if a small amount of co2 is needed, and any other enology lab equipment available. The new stainless steel jacketed fermentation tanks use glycol to lower the temperature to 40 degrees, or lower, for temperaturecontrolled fermentation and cold stabilization. A woven stainless steel snake connects to the tanks and transports the juice to bins at the correct temperature for pre-fermentation and maceration.

That's a lot of technical talk, but a winemaker must have the science before applying the art. This is a complete winery, with an efficient bottling line. Students fill and cork the bottles, then spin on the foil. They can also use a computer-assisted label printer to design and make labels.

As to labels, before the winery can start selling the wine, it must receive approval from the Federal government. Such approval is termed "label approval," and is a key step in establishing a winery. Naming the winery might prove to be a problem, as Las Positas Vineyards is an established name for a Livermore Valley vineyard and winery. David estimates they are about a year away from being able to legally call the operation at the college a winery.

If they ever have a tasting room, it would be offcampus, at a site such as



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

### Instructor David Everett demonstrates the use of lab equipment in winemaking.

3 Steves Winery and John Christopher Cellars have tasting rooms. David says Concannon has offered to sell their wine, but he hasn't decided whether to recommend acceptance.

The Las Positas College winery uses fine grained French oak barrels, medium toasted, and toasted heads He pours out two samples from the barrels. The Tempranillo is a classic example of this wine that is the traditional everyday wine of Spain. It is rich and almost ready to bottle. The Graciano is also nice, but still a bit green, so won't be ready for a while. David says they will also have a Rioja Blend, honoring one of Spain's best grape growing regions. It's to be a blend of Tempranillo and Graciano, with just a touch of Grenacha (Granache in

In a nearby building, a classroom is used predominantly by the Viticulture and Wine Technology Program. At the back of the classroom, a sliding door provides access to a room with four analysis stations to allow the student to make any test available to a winery. One of the stations meets ADA (American with Disabilities Act). The room contains a stove and refrigerator for David's wine and food pairing classes. It is a popular

class for community members interested in improving their wine appreciation. It is a 1-unit class and open to those over age 21.

Occasio owner and winemaker John Kinney, and his associate winemaker Chris Sorenson, team-teach some classes at the college. John notes that David is a very busy man, and points out that Chris is soon to have his own brand, making the wine at Occasio.

David said that while he is very pleased that the college is to have an approved winery, he emphasized that this is an educational institution and it's all about the

students. They learn to grow grapes, make wine, and, of course, market the wine, because no matter how good it is, if you don't sell it, you're done. Soon they will have a government approved winery and label, and perhaps a tasting room, to complete that part of it.

The Viticulture and Winery Technology program offers 17 courses from planting to pests to clones to cultivars to everything a student needs to become somebody in the wine industry. To view the courses and more information, go to www. laspositascollege.edu/viticulture/courses.html.

### Apps Challenge 2012

Alameda County invites everyone - the civic-minded, the technologically-savvy and everyone in between - to participate in the Alameda County Apps Challenge 2012, a unique day-long event that will challenge residents to harness the power of technology and open government to create web and mobile applications that benefit the community. Alameda County Apps Challenge 2012 will be held 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday December 8, 2012, at the Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Avenue, Castro Valley, just two blocks from

"Got Code?" is the theme of the event, the first Alameda County-sponsored marathon of technology collaboration known in some circles as a "hackathon," "hack day," "hack fest," or "code fest." With such events sweeping the nation, participants have even been branded a "Peace Corps for Geeks" who see the Appcreating marathons as a way to "engage in a new kind of public

A Grand Prize of \$3,000 will be awarded for the most creative and practical application or concept created at the Apps Challenge. A 2nd Place Prize of \$1,500 and a 3rd Place Prize of \$500 will be offered as well. Possible objectives of an Apps Challenge entry could be to improve civic engagement, and promote digital education and literacy.

Alameda County's event seeks to bring a new local spin on a "hackathon" phenomenon that has a foothold in mostly urban centers. Organizers hope bringing the Apps Challenge to Castro Valley will tap the enthusiasm of tech-savvy communities at the County's south and eastern edges - many on the doorstep to Silicon Valley – and motivate residents to showcase their own ideas or collaborate with others to create software apps or concepts that address unique community needs.

Âlameda County Apps Challenge 2012 is an offshoot of the Alameda County Data Sharing Initiative, in which a robust online data portal has been set up at http://data.acgov.org to provide the public with easy-to-access links to public information about

County government.

Available information includes complete records of 2012 crime reports taken by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, data about restaurant inspections and information about local parks and transit districts, and much more.

The new project marks the latest step in Alameda County's commitment to government transparency and public participation.

The cost to participate in the Alameda County Apps Challenge is \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students and seniors. Government employees can participate for free. To register go to: http://code. acgov.org.

For more about the Alameda County Apps Challenge 2012, go to http://code.acgov.org. For information about the Alameda County Data Sharing Initiative, go to http://data.acgov.org.

### Cards for Troops

Congressman Jerry McNerney (D-Stockton) will hold the sixth annual "Holiday Cards for Our Troops" program. Last year, the office collected more than 9.000 cards from the community with personal messages of gratitude to men and women in uniform. Congressman Mc-Nerney invites people to submit cards to his office through Dec. 5, 2012 to be distributed to troops at home and overseas.

The men and women who have served our country deserve our support every day, but especially during the holidays. I encourage everyone to give a little something back to them by sending a personal card through my Holiday Cards for Our Troops program," said Rep. McNerney.

The cards will be sent to troops stationed overseas in packages organized by East Bay Blue Star Moms, Pleasanton Military Families, Support our Troops of Lodi, American Red Cross, U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs, and Summerset Veterans Club. Cards will also be sent to veterans at Bay Area VA Hospitals, Camp Parks, Walter

Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD.

Cards should remain unaddressed and envelopes un-

Card Guidelines:

• Be sure to sign the card • Use salutations such as "Dear Service Member." Cards addressed to specific individuals cannot be delivered through this

program.
• Do not include inserts such as photographs.

McNerney's Pleasanton office is at 5776 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Suite 175; (925) 737-0727.

### Holiday Hill Hike

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff will lead a Holiday Hill Hike on Sat., Nov. 24. Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 2 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Rd.

To burn off some of those holiday calories or escape Black Friday shopping, join this ranger-led program. Come out to Sycamore Grove for a hike to the Valley View overlook. Much of this hike will be on unpaved trails, so if it has been raining recently, prepare to get muddy.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs unless

pants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

Make a Difference

other fees are specified. Partici-

The Winemaker's Pour House is hosting a "Make a Difference This Holiday Sea-

The Livermore Homeless efuge is in need of twenty sets of thermal underwear for its guests. Help by coming in and choosing an ornament on the Christmas Tree on Dec. 2, 2012. Each ornament will contain a name and size for thermal underwear. Return the thermal underwear with the ornament on or before Dec 18, 2012 and receive a \$5 gift card to be used on the next visit to the

Winemaker's Pour House. Only 28 ornaments are available. There will be a donation jar available as well. Live Music will be by The Mc-Coustic Duo.

Make a Difference This Holiday Season Party is on Dec. 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. at 2241 First St., Livermore. Information at 215-2656 or www.winemakerspourhouse.com

More about the Livermore Homeless Refuge can be found at www.livermorehomelessref-

### Funds for Wheels

Caltrans is awarding nearly 18 million to 105 public transit projects across California under the Job Access & Reverse Commute and New Freedom programs.

The projects are designed to help low-income people and those with disabilities to access employment and employmentrelated activities such as job training and job interviews more easily. This includes transporting people to employment opportunities in suburban areas and city centers.

The Livermore Amador Valley Transportation Authority received \$150,000 to fund operation of Wheels Route 14.

### Elder Abuse Case

The Pleasanton Police Department has ended a several month long investigation into an elder abuse case reported by Alameda County Adult Protective Services. The victim, an 82 year old Pleasanton resident and property owner, was being defrauded by the suspects, Mat-thew Messier W/M/36 of Pleasanton, and Elizabeth Regalado W/F/30, his wife, by placing the victim's entire estate into a trust controlled by the suspects.

Messier is a former Police Commander who was employed by the Pinole Police Department when this incident was first reported. The investigation revealed he used his position of authority to gain the trust of the victim. He was arrested at his home for the following charges, grand theft and 3 counts of attempted grand theft, 4 counts of elder abuse, forgery, 2 counts of registering a fraudulent document, criminal conspiracy, and practicing law without a license. Regalado was charged with one count of criminal conspiracy.

A complaint was filed by the Alameda County District Attornev's office and two warrants were obtained for Messier and Regalado's arrest. Messier was arrested on November 16, 2012 and booked into Santa Rita Jail on the above charges. Messier's wife, Elizabeth Regalado is still outstanding.

Anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of Elizabeth Regalado or information that may be relevant to this investigation, call 931-5100 and reference Case 12-26567.





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TOM HANKS & HALLE BERRY CLOUD ATLAS FRI-SUN: 1:15 7:30

THE PERKS of being a WALLFLOWER 5:00 | PLEASE CALL FOR MON-THURS SHOW TIMES

# Pleasanton Launches Survey of Parks and Recreation Use and Needs

The City of Pleasanton has begun the process of the development and preparation of a comprehensive Plan. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is intended to be a tool to help the city

plan for the changing scope provide strategies for parks, of recreational activities. As such it will summarize themes, trends and com-Parks and Recreation Master munity priorities, assess available resources, review existing and anticipated demographic conditions and

recreation programs and open space needs.

To facilitate this process the City is soliciting the input of City residents through a random telephone survey. Network Ltd., a consumer

research firm, on behalf of the City will begin calling residents on Monday, November 26, 2012 to obtain a broad sense of the community's needs and knowledge of the City's facilities and

Additional information regarding the Parks and Recreation Master Plan can be downloaded at http://www. ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/ recreation/prmpoverview.

For questions regarding the telephone survey, please contact Susan Andrade-Wax, Community Services Director, at (925) 931-5340 or sandrade-wax@cityofpleasantonca.gov

was published in the College

poetry magazine. Edna's

pen name was "Melody."

After Van passed away in

1981, she increasingly called

herself Melody, until, when

she moved to Livermore to

be near daughter Sharon, her

Livermore friends thought

that was her real name. Edna

also enjoyed her church

life at the Trinity Baptist

Church in Concord where

she and daughter Sharon

were baptized on the same

daughter and son-in-law Sha-

ron VanNoy Gach and Bruce

Gach, son Robert Bruce

VanNoy, daughter and son-

in-law Carmen Kay Kappos

and Stephen Kappos; also

by granddaughter Jessica

Rose Penny (Sharon); and

grandchildren (from Bruce

Gach) Jill Kristin Davis

and her children Westen

and Autumn, and grandson

Blair and wife Rose, and

their children Aiden and

Rylan Gach. She is also

survived by over 25 nieces

and nephews and numerous

grandnieces and nephews all

those concerned to know

she had very little pain from

her illness, just discomfort.

The family would also like

to thank all the well-wishers

who visited and wrote dur-

ing Edna's illness, and to

especially thank her devoted

caregivers, Jessica Juba,

of two years, and, Martha

memorial service. In lieu

of flowers please send dona-

tions to Melody's favorite

charity the Alameda County

Food Bank (7900 Edge-

wood, Oakland, CA 94621),

Hope Hospice (6377 Clark

Ave., Dublin, CA 94568),

Arrangements by Cal-

John was a longtime resi-

He was born in Agana,

Guam and came to Liver-

more in 1947. He attended

grade school in Livermore

and graduated from Liver-

John will be missed by all

or a charity of choice.

John Perez Aflague

Mar. 14, 1941-Nov. 2, 2012

laghan Mortuary.

dent of Livermore

more High School.

who loved him dearly.

There will be a private

The family would like

over the nation.

Tafur.

Edna is survived by

day in 1969.

# OBITUARIES

John L. Martin

John Martin, 73, of Livermore, California passed away unexpectedly on October 16, 2012. John was born in San Francisco on November 26, 1938. He moved to Oroville where he went to school and met his wife of 51 years, Linda. After serving in the United States Army, John embarked on his 35 year career at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. At the time of his retirement John was a Superintendent in Defense Technologies, Engineering

John thoroughly appreciated his retirement years. He enjoyed hiking and gardening and developed an interest in photography. John spent much his time travelling and enjoying time with family.

John is survived by his wife Linda, son Brad Martin, daughter in law Becky, daughter Michelle Long, son in law Mark, and son Charles Martin. He was adored by his grandchildren Trevor and Cami Long, Allison, Erik, Ryan and Carolyn Martin, all of Livermore.

John will be remembered for his devotion to family, integrity, quiet strength and kind smile

A private family service was held at Memory Gardens, Livermore on October 25, 2012.

Patricia Ann Abbley

Jan. 28, 1938 - Nov. 10, 2012 Patricia, 74, passed away on Saturday, November 10, 2012. She was currently retired but worked as a waitress for



many vears, most recently at Railr o a d Café in Livermore. Patricia enjoyed

reading, playing bingo but mostly spending time with her two grandchildren.

She is survived by her son, David, daughter-in-law, Diane, and grandchildren, Brittany and Tyle,r as well as family in Michigan.

Patricia loved life and will be dearly missed by her family and many close

An open house memorial will be held on Wednesday, November 28 at Railroad Café 833 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore, CA beginning at 5:00 p.m. through 7:00

In Lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to Bruns House, 2849 Miranda Avenue, Alamo, CA 94507 www.HospiceEastBay.org

### Rose Viale Gallagher

July 15, 1936 - Nov. 11, 2012 Rose, a native Livermore resident, passed away peace-



by her loving family on Sunday, November 11, 2012 after hard fought battle

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Angie Apolinar, Branch Director

with lung cancer. She was 76. Rose was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother and a friend to many. She was born at St. Paul's hospital in Livermore to Frank and Adelia Viale. She graduated from Livermore High School in 1954 and then attended City College in San Francisco. Rose worked at the Lawrence Livermore Lab until her marriage to Charles (Skip) in 1963. The couple moved to Ohio, where their children were born, before returning to Livermore in 1971. She loved to travel, read historical novels, and eat great food.

Her life was spent in service to her beliefs. She was the director for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Livermore for more than 30 years. She received deep happiness in helping to guide people on their spiritual journey. She will be missed by all those whose lives she touched.

She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Charles; children Julie Gallagher (Robert Stear) and Michael (Maite) Gallagher and her cherished granddaughters Amanda Gallagher-Stear and Alexandra Gallagher. She also leaves behind a sister, Marie (Robert) Bidinoist, nephews Frank Motta and Tom (Cindy) Motta and cousin Carla (Forrest) Lewis.

A Celebration of Life mass was celebrated on Nov. 16 at St. Charles Borromeo. Donations may be made in her name to the Cancer Research Institute at www. firstgiving.com/fundraiser/ RoseVialeGallagher or to the Social Concerns Ministry at St. Charles Borromeo at 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore.

### Gertrude (Gerty) Strong Neef Dec. 16, 1930-Nov. 15, 2012

Resident of Livermore

Gertrude was born to Ortha and Charlotte Strong in Ithaca, New York. She was



Cornell University, which she attended in the College of Home Economics. There she earned both her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. She was very involved in 4-H and as a college student won awards in frozen foods. She met her future husband on a "blind date" to a fraternity formal dance. Bill says that the moment he laid eyes on her he knew she was the woman he could marry. They wed in 1952, living in Speedway, Indiana while Bill engineered aircraft jet

She was the mother of James, an engineer in California's Silicon Valley, Steven, an architectural engineer in Livermore, CA, and Janet, licensed teaching pastor in Scottsdale, AZ. She was deeply involved in the care and education of her children and supported their extracurricular activities as Boy Scout den mother, Girl Scout Leader and Little League Baseball

scorekeeper. As a leader of the Presbyterian youth group she enjoyed supervising their

FD#1825

many activities, too. She was a member of the Del Valle Home Economists and was very skilled in the art of embroidery, enjoying the weekly meetings of a longrunning stitchery group. She also was enamored of miniatures, each year spending days to set up a Dept. 56 Christmas Village display for the residents of Heritage Estates. A great fan of baseball, she was extremely knowledgeable about the game and the players for the A's, the Giants, and the AZ Diamondbacks.

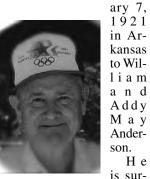
Gerty was a world traveler and appreciated all the cultures she encountered. Travels included Africa, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, French Polynesia, Central and South America, and most of Europe. She left a legacy of photos and commentary of all of her trips. In her appreciation of different world cultures, she was an exchange mother to Luki, Lilian and Haroldo from Quezaltenango, Guatemala and Stefen from Bremen,

Germany. Gertrude is survived by her husband, Bill Neef, and her three children: Jim Neef (Paula), Steve Neef (Ludy), and Janet Neef Morel (Rob), eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren, all of whom delighted her. All who knew Gerty found her to be friendly, intelligent, and full of energy and life. She has been regarded by many to have been the perfect wife and mother.

Family and friends are invited to attend a memorial service on November 28, 3:00 pm, First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

### James Layton Anderson

James Layton Anderson (Jim), 91-year-old Livermore resident for 56 years, passed away November 13, 2012 due to heart complications. He was born Febru-



Не

is survived by his wife of 70 vears. Treva Anderson and his three children, Evelyn Johnson of Oregon, James (Sonny) Anderson and Elizabeth Weight of California, and his brother, Kenneth Anderson of Arkansas. He is also survived by 9 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, 2 step great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild, and many nieces and nephews in various states. James was predeceased by his 2 sisters and 3 brothers, Mary Elizabeth Anderson, Julie Cowan, Walter Anderson, Tom Anderson, and Bobby Anderson all of Arkansas.

James was a welder by trade and enjoyed bowling, working with horses, and gardening. He was a wonderful, strong, hard-working man that loved his family and was an inspiration to them all. He will be dearly missed by family, co-workers, and friends.

Memorial service will be held at Callaghan Mor-

tuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore, CA, Saturday, November 24 at 11:00 a.m.

### Nicholas James Chakakis

Nicholas James Chakakis was born on December 6, 1923 in Hanna, Wyoming. He was the son of Greek immigrants James and Athena (Kotsifakis) Tsakakis Nick graduated from Reliance High School in Reliance, Wyoming in 1940.

He was a veteran of World War II serving as a Chief Petty Officer in the US Navy assigned to the Atlantic theater from 1943-1946. In 1948 he received his BS degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Wyoming, and worked briefly in the coal mining industry. He was then called back to service in the Korean War from 1951-1952.

In 1954 he married Clara Mazanakis, his wife of 59 years and in 1956 they moved to Livermore, California when Nick took a position as an Electrical Engineer with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; he worked for 32 years at the Lab until his retirement in 1987. In 1972, he gained scientific notoriety as the engineer in charge of an archeological project under the direction of Dr. Luis Alvarez in conjunction with the University of California, Berkeley. This joint Egyptian-American project hoped to identify undiscovered burial chambers in the Chephfren pyramid in Giza, and was one of the first to utilize computers for archeological exploration.

Nick was an avid pinochle player, dabbled in winemaking, and was a 65-year member of the Order of Elks

fraternal organization. Nick passed away on November 15, 2012. He was preceded in death by his wife, who died in January this year. He is survived by his four daughters: Athena, Mary, Christine and Antonia and their families that include seven grandchildren, and three great grandchil-

dren. He was much loved. Memorial services will be held Friday November 23, 2012 at 7 pm at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Resurrection, 20104 Center Street, Castro Valley, CA. Funeral services to follow the next day Saturday, November 24, 2012 at 11:00AM at the church. Memorial donations can be made to the Greek Orthodox Church of the Resurrection.

Arrangements are by Callaghan Mortuary.

### Edna D. "Melody" Van Noy

June 30, 1925 – Sept. 27, 2012 Mother, Grandmother and Great-



grandmother. Edna "Melody" Van N o y passed away on September 27, 2012, at

age 87. She was born on June 30, 1925 and raised in and around rural Madison, Georgia. She moved to Chicago with her mother (Winnie Lee West Duke Miller), step-father (John Miller, a So. Pacific Railroadman) and 2 of her 3 sisters when

she was 16. From there the family moved west, first to Keddie, California, in the mountainous northeastern part of the state, and from there to Oakland. This was during WWII, where Papa John continued to work with the railroad, Winnie ran a boarding house, and Edna, just a teenager, worked in several jobs for the war effort. One such job involved welding bomb encasements for American aircraft.

World War II also resulted in Edna meeting Claron "Van" Van Noy at the end of the war. Van a former rancher and farmer from Central Oregon, had enlisted in the US Navy the day after Pearl Harbor was attacked. He fought bravely in several famous battles which proved to be turning points in the Pacific Theater of World War II. Both Edna and Van came from families that had roots deep in American History, with some playing decisive roles in The Revolutionary War, and others having been involved in different areas of historical importance. One of Edna's direct ancestors surveyed much of North Carolina, for example.

Both Edna and Van were deeply patriotic. They married on April 19, 1946. They also loved to have a good time. Photographs from the post-war years show a happy-go-lucky, care-free couple. They enjoyed a lively social life together. They also adapted to domestic life with Van teaching Edna how to drive and cook, and Edna at the same time proudly completing her high school education, which had been interrupted by the war effort, at Alameda High in 1951. Edna and Van also purchased their home in Concord in 1951, where their three children, Sharon, Bruce and Carmen, were raised. She enjoyed spending time with her sister Norma, who also settled with her family in Concord, and they raised their children together. Edna worked at various clerical positions throughout the years, including at the Concord Police Station, phone operator of the Oakland Tribune, and others. She loved to paint and write

Edna had great respect for our educational systems. She learned to paint in a college night-school class, and she went on to receive an AA degree from Diablo Valley College in 1981. At DVC she took a course from a famous co-author of the book "Born to Win," Dorothy Jongeward, and was very proud of this. Edna

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said the plan is to go back to the voters. Under what conditions is a policy decision to be made by the board. The ACTC Board will meet December 6. Dao said the issue is not on the agenda. However, he expects that the matter would be raised.

Among decisions to be made is what plan to present to voters, whether to include a sunset clause and the amount of the tax.

It could be an entirely new plan, a revised plan, or the current plan, said Dao. The current half-cent sales tax could be extended. However, that would not provide adequate resources to address the needs identified in the county, he added. The State Legislature would have to approve a bill allowing an increase in the tax to the full cent. Currently, the county's sales tax is at the maximum allowed. The sales tax will go up by a quarter of a center in January to fund the provisions in Proposition 30, which was approved by California voters in November.

"Perpetuity is on the table

hold were not reached, Dao for discussion," according to Dao.

> If it had been approved B1 would have provided an estimated \$7.7 billion over the next thirty years for transit, local streets and roads, highway efficiency, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, and sustainable land use and transportation linkages. The BART extension to Livermore was slated

to receive \$400 million. Dao pointed out that the BART funding is not the only project in the Tri-Valley that won't be funded. These include operating funds to run buses, for cities to repair streets, transportation for the elderly and those with disabilities, trails, and widening of route 84 from Pigeon Pass to I-680.

ACTC will continue to collect the current sales tax through 2022. There is some funding for street repair that will go to cities, but it won't be doubled as it would have been if B1 were approved. The funds collected will go towards projects on the list approved as part of the extension of the tax.

He declined to speculate

on why the measure failed. Once the vote is certified, an outside analyst will look at the data and report to

In the meantime, environmental work on the BART extension down I-580 to Livermore near the Isabel/I-580 interchange will begin. The funds are from MTC.

The BART extension is estimated to cost in the range of \$800 million to \$1.2 billion. About \$100 million in regional MTC funds from bridge tolls is designated for this project.

There is another potential \$660 million that has been set aside by MTC to fund a project in either east or north county. According to Dawn Argula, Chief of Staff for Supervisor Scott Haggerty, the Livermore BART extension must compete and meet the eligibility requirements attached to this funding source. "However, currently, it appears that there is no other regional project currently on the horizon (or "queued up") that would qualify for this funding source in the North or East Bay counties."

A completed EIR will further define the details of the BART to Livermore project, strengthening its position and eligibility for funding in a future county-wide transportation Measure.

All fourteen city councils in the county, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, and many business, labor and environmental groups supported the measure as a way to provide congestion relief and stable local funding for transportation. Opponents objected to the fact that the tax would have become permanent. Others opposed the increase from a half-cent to a full

The turnout in Alameda County was 74.30% of registered voters, with 602,479 of the 810,836 voting. Of that total, 333,449 voted by mail; 269,030 went to the polls on election day.

A map on the Registrar of Voters website indicates that with the exception of one small corner of Dublin, the measure failed to pass in Livermore, Pleasanton, or Dublin.

### MARCHAND COMMENTS

With no Livermore precincts mustering enough votes for the necessary twothirds "yes" votes to pass Measure B1, Livermore Mayor John Marchand said that the vote might indicate that Livermore does not want the BART extension.

On the other hand, it could be that voters were put off by the tax extension's permanence, which would have meant that the doubling of the half-cent tax to a full cent would have continued indefinitely.

Marchand said that he intends to raise those possibilities at the city council meeting Nov. 26. "We need to engage the public, and find out why they didn't support Measure B1, and whether it was the perpetuity of the tax," said Marchand.

'I'm astonished that with the amount of benefit that would have been provided to Livermore, (city voters) did not support measure B1. This is the first time capital funding was identified to bring BART to Livermore, said Marchand.

Misinformation about

Creek Watershed Center,

a permanent center next to

the Water Temple to provide

hands-on environmental

education for schoolchil-

dren, service-learning and

job training for youth, and

volunteer and stewardship

opportunities for community

the BART extension was a problem, said Marchand. Thirty percent of the voters I talked to before the election still thought that the BART station would be downtown. The council resolved that after the last election by voting for the Isabel and Greenville stations along I-580," said Marchand.

Marchand also talked about Pleasanton officials, who had no stake in where Livermore's BART station would be located. The candidates elected were opposed to B1, and mentioned the lack of a sunset for the tax as the reason.

Marchand said it was ironic that B1 passed in many Oakland and Berkeley precincts, where some backers of funding for bike lanes, pedestrians and AC Transit had wanted to cut Livermore BART out of Measure B1, so that their projects would have more funding.

Some precincts in Livermore did not even show a 50 percent "yes" vote. Marchand said that his look at the county's precinct results map showed one Livermore precinct at 38 percent support.

promotes multifunctional food provision, economic development and resource conservation. SAGE's mission is to develop urban edge agriculture and engage diverse populations. Adopted from European models, AgParks both sustain and

"The Sunol AgPark enhances the local area in several ways," said SAGE President Sibella Kraus. farmers grow a wonderful array of organic fruits and vegetables, including, melons, peppers, squash, corn and herbs. Soon, fresh eggs

"The AgPark is also the only education farm in the Tri-Valley, I believe," Kraus added. "Its field trips for elementary school students and service-learning programs for middle and high school students are a terrific

Bay students have participated in SAGE's Farming in the Watershed field trips and

"I think the farm is important because healthy food is important," said one 4th grader. "If you eat breakfast, lunch and dinner, it comes from the dirt."

the opportunity to experience a working organic farm, engage with farmers, and enjoy the Water Temple, a 1910 pavilion modeled after the ancient Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, Italy where much of the water that supplied Rome converged.

Inside the temple, water originally from the Pleasanton well fields and Arroyo de la Laguna flowed into a white-tiled cistern before plunging into a deeper water channel carrying water from the filter galleries to the Niles Aqueduct. The roof covering the cistern has paintings depicting Indian sels. The temple is open to the public Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Currently, the 18-acre AgPark is home to five small-scale organic farming enterprises including the Terra Bella Family Farm that produces heirloom tomatoes, specialty melons, and rare varieties of peppers offered at farmers markets and sold to local restaurants.

SAGE pays all expenses for field trips to the Ag-Park for 4th - 6th graders from low income elementary

schools," said Kraus. SAGE is collaborating with the SF utilities commis-

sion to develop the Alameda

members.

'SAGE welcomes the engagement of the Tri-Valley community as program participants, volunteers and donors," said Kraus. Those interested can visit www. sagecenter.org.

# Pleasanton to Update City's Cultural Plan

The Pleasanton City Council approved an agreement with the The Cultural Planning Group to update the city's cultural plan.

A 14-member ad hoc steering committee will be established to guide the update. Councilmember Cindy McGovern urged staff to make sure all areas of the arts are represented on the

the role the city plays in providing cultural services and facilities independently, as well as in cooperation with private and nonprofit

The update will summarize themes, trends and community priorities, assess resources, review existing and anticipated demographstrategies for cultural planning and program needs.

The council approved spending up to \$77,480 for the planning effort.

### ARROYO **MOCHO TRAIL**

The council approved using Measure B Bicycle and Pedestrian funds to pave segments of the Arroyo Mocho Trail. Money will also be used to relocate the Valley Avenue bicycle and pedestrian trail.

Measure B contains more than \$1 million in available funding. The funds have accumulated over the last several years to pay for Pleasanton's share of the Alamo Canal I-580 undercrossing. However, federal funds were used to pay for completion of the undercrossing, reducing Pleasanton's share of the cost. Staff stated that in order too comply with Measure B's "timely use of funds" requirement, the money needs to be reallocated to new projects.

Segments of the Arroyo Mocho Trail to be paved include portions east and west of Santa Rita Road.

# AGPARK (continued from page one)

contain urban areas.

"For local customers, the will also be offered.

BINGO

guidance.

(continued from page one)

animals at the ranch. The

work and rural atmosphere

helped to settle them down,

while counselors provided

changed a few years ago.

The youth ranch board want-

ed to continue the mission

of helping people within the

tnat neips nurture giris wno

have been victims of sexual

abuse and human trafficking.

Johnson was hired to set up

ates a thrift store at 116

N. Livermore Ave. That is

doing well, said Johnson.

However, the big revenue

stream was coming from

the Bingo Ranch, which

attracted many players, and

was available for other non-

profits to hold fund-raisers.

The youth ranch oper-

A client group was found

rural atmosphere.

the new program.

Funding for boys' ranches

community resource.' More than 2,000 East

in-school programs.

Field trips give students

The city shut down the

Bingo Ranch, because it was

not in compliance with some

city ordinances, said Mayor

John Marchand. Police chief

Steve Sweeney, Marchand,

and Johnson worked togeth-

er to bring all elements of the

Bingo Ranch operation into

ordinance imposed on jack-

pots was one difficulty.. The

state limit is \$500. Other

charity bingo games in the

area pay \$500 jackpots. As

a result the Bingo Ranch

lost customers in a dramatic

way. Johnson estimated that

patronage shrunk tenfold.

There was a loss of \$35,000

teers helped to run the Bingo

Ranch, Buenas Vidas was

paying some supervisors.

That stopped. Johnson said

Although some volun-

The \$250 limit the city

compliance.

that she has deferred her own pay until the Bingo Ranch is totally on its feet again.

maidens carrying water ves-

The first step back to a financially productive Bingo Ranch involved the effort by Marchand and Sweeney to put the operation in compliance with the city

Then Bill Batchelor, CEO of the Livermore Valley Charter School, volunteered to bring in some of his staff to organize the volunteer staffing. It will be up to Johnson and the Buenas Vidas Ranch board to find volunteers. The charter school will provide the necessary volunteer coordination.

The charter school is familiar with the Bingo Ranch. The group conducted fund-raisers there in the past. Now they will be using the facility two nights each week. Buenas Vidas will be using it for four evenings. The facility is closed on Thursdays for other activ-

charter school to come in and help, said Johnson. The charter school stepped up because "they recognized the impact of the girls ranch mission. School representatives said, 'We have kids. We know about children. We want to make sure that what happens to these children is good," said Johnson.

Two people also came

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** 

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 471468

The following person(s) do-

ing business as: Polished

Crete, 1306 Stealth St, Liver-

more, CA 94551, is hereby

registered by the following

Bay Area Concretes, Inc,

1306 Stealth St, Livermore,

This business is conducted

The registrant began to

transact business under the

fictitious business name(s)

:s/: Jonathan D. Vasquez

owner(s):

CA 94551

C.O.O.

by a Corporation

listed above on N/A.

Signature of Registrants

This statement was filed

with the County Clerk of

Alameda on October 31

2012. Expires October 31,

The Independent Legal No.

3339. Published November

15, 22, 29, December 6,

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** 

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 470603

The following person(s) do-

ing business as: Salon on

Fourth, 1952 Fourth St.,

Livermore, CA 94550, is

hereby registered by the

Rebecca Day, 1952 Fourth

This business is conducted

The registrant began to trans-

act business under the ficti-

tious business name(s) listed

Signature of Registrants

:s/: Rebecca Day, Owner

This statement was filed

with the County Clerk of Al-

ameda on October 9, 2012.

St., Livermore, CA 94550

following owner(s):

by an Individual

above on 9/1/2012.

# www.independentnews.com

Expires October 9, 2017

The Independent Legal No.

3344. Published November

22, 29, December 6, 13,

NOTICE of INVITING BIDS

NOTICE is hereby given

that sealed bids will be ac-

cepted in the office of the

Alameda County Behavioral

Health Care Services, 1900

Embarcadero Cove, Suite

205, Oakland, CA INFOR-

MATIONAL MEETING/BID-

**DERS' CONFERENCES** 

South County-RFP BHCS

#13-03, Early Periodic

Screening, Diagnosis, and

Treatment (EPSDT) Expan-

sion, Monday, December

10, 2012 at 3:00 PM, City

of Fremont, 39155 Liberty

Street, Pacific Room, Suite

H800, Fremont, CA and

North County-Tuesday,

December 11, 2012 at 3:00

PM. Behavioral Health Care

Services, 1900 Embarcadero

Cove, Suite 205, Wildcat

Canyon Room, Oakland, CA

Responses Due by 2:00

pm on January 4, 2013

County Contact: Zandra

Washington, (510) 383-2872

or via email: zwashington@

acbhcs.org Attendance at

the conference meetings

is not required. The RFP

is available via the GSA

website— www.acgov.org

under Current Contracting

THE INDEPENDENT Legal

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** 

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 471733

The following person(s) do-

ing business as: A Graceful

Touch, 7667 Amador Valley

Opportunities

CNS-2410412#

1/22/12

No. 3345







### VISA

# EGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

### **LEGAL NOTICES** FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 470838

The following person(s) doing business as: Crystal Main tenance, 5750 Sonoma Dr. Suite C, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Crystal Maintenance Inc. 5750 Sonoma Dr. Suite C, Pleasanton, CA 94566 This business is conducted by a Corporation

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above in 2008. Signature of Registrants

:s/: Mauricio Diaz. President This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 16, 2012. Expires October 16,

The Independent Legal No. 3327. Published November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2012.

### **FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 470609

The following person(s) doing business as: Alta Vista Dental, 3183 Independence Dr., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the Ivleta Spunde, DDS, Inc, 270 Summerford Cir, San Ramon,

CA 94583 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/: Ivleta Spunde, Director,

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 10, 2012. Expires October 10,

The Independent Legal No. 3328. Published November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2012.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 471548

The following person(s) doing business as: Two Men and a Truck, 4749 Bennett Drive #C, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Ziepke Inc, 2986 Blumen Avenue, Brentwood, CA 94513

This business is conducted The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.

Signature of Registrants :s/: Brent E. Larson, Presi-This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 2,

2012. Expires November The Independent Legal No.

3333. Published November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2012 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 470923-24 The following person(s) doing business as: (1)PowR Entertainment (2) DJPowR, 363 Clarke Ave, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Charles D. Harding, 363 Clarke Ave, Livermore, CA 94551

This business is conducted by an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the ficti-

> above on 9/24/2012. Signature of Registrants :s/: Charles D. Harding This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 17, 2012. Expires October 17

tious business name(s) listed

The Independent Legal No. 3334. Published November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2012

### **FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 471611

The following person(s) doing business as: Picazo Vinevards, 5600 Greenville Rd., Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the

McGrail Vineyards and Winery, LLC, 5600 Greenville Rd., Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by a Limited liability com-

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants :s/: James McGrail - Managing Member, McGrail Vineyards and Winery, LLC

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 5 2012. Expires November The Independent Legal No. 3335. Published November

8, 15, 22, 29, 2012.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 470593 The following person(s) doing business as: Artisan Marshmallows, 260 N. L Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Kim Elaine Faulkner, 714 Canterbury Ave, 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 10/15/2007. Signature of Registrants

:s/: Kim E. Faulkner. Owner This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 9, 2012. Expires October 9, 2017. The Independent Legal No. 3336. Published November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2012.

### **FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 471288

The following person(s) doing business as: ELLA, 1141 Catalina Dr. #123. Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following

Robert P. Legg, 2927 Danielle Lane, 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 N/A. Signature of Registrants :s/: Robert P. Legg, Owner This statement was filed

The Independent Legal No. 3337. Published November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2012.

with the County Clerk of

Alameda on October 26.

2012. Expires October 26.

It was a natural for the

forward, and said they would help with grants. "Livermore is amazing. I've never been anywhere like this. People are so generous about helping and serving," said Johnson.

committee. The plan will focus on

organizations. In 1998, the council ap-

proved a cultural plan. The plan was instrumental in the creation of the Firehouse Arts Center, According to staff, since the first plan was implemented, the scope of cultural art programming has continued to expand.

ic conditions, and provide

The Independent Legal No. Blvd. Suite B. Dublin. CA

Amador Valley Blvd, Suite A, Dublin, CA 94568 This business is conducted by a Limited Liability com-

94568, is hereby registered

Kemprud & Co., LLC, 7667

by the following owner(s):

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants :s/: Edmund Kemprud - Mem-

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 8, 2012. Expires November 8, 2017. The Independent Legal No

22, 29, December 6, 13, FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 471422

3346. Published November

The following person(s) doing business as: Swarovski , 3276 Paragon Outlets Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Swarovski Retail Ventures Ltd, One Kenney Drive, Cranston, RI 02920 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/: Edward J. Capobianco, Corporate Secretary for Swarovski Retail Ventures

This statement was filed

with the County Clerk of

Alameda on October 31,

2012. Expires October 31,

at (925)426-8656

3347. Published November 22, 29, December 6, 13, **FICTITIOUS BUSINESS** 

### NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 471047 The following person(s) doing

business as: Wilsons Leather, 3010 Paragon Outlets Drive, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): A M Retail Group, Inc., 7401 loone Ave N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

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 Randon Q. Roland, Sr.

VP/CFO This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on October 19. 2012. Expires October 19

The Independent Legal No. 3348. Published November 22, 29, December 6, 13,

### ANIMALS 2) CATS/ DOGS

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT,

for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society

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

FELV. altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats & ranch cats for adoption.









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

### **EMPLOYMENT**

### 56) ADULT CARE

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> TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD Call (925)243-8000

### **MERCHANDISE**

115) ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES

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Colleen St. Livermore. Follow signs from Stanley Blvd & Wall St. Held by LAS Guild

118) FREE SECTION 127) LOST/ FOUND

### LOST DOG in area of

North K Street & Chestnut Street Livermore on 11/14/12 Small Breed/Male 13 pounds Long, thin body / Fox like. Long legs Long tail curls up when walking. Long neck. Small head & ears. Lower teeth underbite. Blonde / Sandy in color

Purple collar - Rabies Tag / Veterinarian Not neutered PLEASE CALL (925)447-5441

### LOST Red Poinsettia Clip Earring

Friday 12/16. If found, please call (925)447-1762

### **NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### 155) NOTICES

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

### **REAL ESTATE** Inland Valley Publishing Co.

### Client Code:04126-00001 Re: Legal Notice for Classified Ads

The Federal Fair Housing Act. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state law prohibit advertisements for housing and employment that contain any preference, limitation or discrimination based on protected classes. including race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin. IVPC does not knowingly accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law.

# **Open Positions - Curtis Instruments** Livermore Engineering Center

### Sr. Test Engineer

5+ years exp. Labview or C exp. pref. Write code for test SW. Hardware background a plus. Design and develop electronics HW and SW for production testing of embedded microprocessor based power electronics systems

### **PCB** Designer

5+ years exp. PADS exp. pref. Independently design dense double-sided or multi-layer printed circuit assemblies.

### **Data Analyst**

Proficient in MS Office, with demonstrated advanced skills in Excel. Exp. in using ERP systems, Crystal Reports, Bl Impromptu or similar software. Generate reports in Excel with data imported from ERP system.

### **Design Verification** Engineer

1-2 years of exp. Able to interpret HW design schematics. Perform verification tests, develop test cases and complete reports.

### Software Engineer

5-10 years exp. Knowledge of source code control systems. Design, code, and debug real-time embedded software/firmware for new product development and sustaining projects.



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### **EYE CARE**





# BUSINESS NEWS

### **Build-A-Bear**

Build-A-Bear Workshop®, the interactive entertainment retailer of customized stuffed animals, has opened its newly designed store at Stoneridge Shopping Center. The store is the second of six that the company will open this year in select markets across the United States.

Build-A-Bear Workshop has spent the last two years creating the newly imagined store design that merges the hands-on bear-making experience with innovative technology that is central to how kids play today. The updated store allows Guests of all ages to personalize the bear-making process and offers them a different experience each time they visit a Build-A-Bear

Guests who visit the new stores will see noticeable changes to the company's trademarked stuffed animal-making experience including an interactive storefront, Choose Me station where guests meet all the furry characters; Love Me station; Hear Me station; Stuff Me station, Fluff Me station, Dress Me station and Name Me Station.

We are very happy that Build-A-Bear Workshop has selected Stoneridge Shopping Center as the site of one of its newly designed store," said Michael Short, general manager, Stoneridge Shopping Center. "Build-A-Bear Workshop and Simon Property Group have had a strong relationship for many years. We are thrilled to welcome them to Stoneridge Shopping Center."

### **Comcast Appointment**

Comcast has named Henry "Hank" Fore as Regional Senior Vice President for California. Fore will report to Steve White, President of Comcast's West Division, and will oversee Comcast's video, high-speed Internet and telephone operations in both the Bay Area and Central California, serving more than 2.2 million customers and managing more than 5,500 employees.

Based in the company's Livermore office, Fore replaces Curt Henninger who accepted a new position with Comcast's corporate office in Philadelphia. Fore most recently served as Regional Senior Vice President of Comcast's Oregon/Southwest Washington Region, where he held management responsibilities for 600,000 customers and 2,000 employees. Under Fore's leadership, the Oregon region was named the company's "West Division Region of the Year" two years in a row, ranked as one of the top four regions nationally, and received the highest employee survey scores in the company.

Fore's appointment marks his return to California as he was previously based in Oakland as Area Vice President for Comcast's East Bay Area. During his tenure in the East Bay from 2005 - 2009, Fore delivered strong technical operations metrics. His East Bay employees voted Comcast as one of the Top 5 "Best Places to Work" for three consecutive years in a market-wide survey run by The San Francisco Business Times, East Bay Business Times and the Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal.

Fore is a West Point graduate and began his distinguished career with the United States Armed Forces, holding numerous positions. Ultimately he achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army before deciding to retire to pursue a career in the private sector, serving as an executive in technology roles at Times Mirror and International Network Services. Prior to joining Comcast, Fore served as a Regional Vice President at Lucent Technologies, where he oversaw technical support services.

A licensed pilot and a flight instructor, Fore earned a bachelor's degree in Engineering from West Point and a master's degree in Computer Science and Engineering from the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California.

### Mary Kay Business

Leslie Poage King of Livermore is among working for Mary Kay business. She recently achieved the status of Independent Sales Director. Mary Kay Independent Sales Directors build successful businesses with the income potential, freedom and flexibility that accompany an entrepreneurial business opportunity.

"Leslie's extraordinary vision and enthusiasm has enabled her to achieve the position of Independent Sales Director," said Darrell Overcash, president of Mary Kay Inc. U.S. "We are always thrilled to be able to recognize this kind of achievement which comes from hard work, professionalism and determina-

In preparation for the next phase of her business, King was invited to attend a business and leadership development seminar in Dallas, home of the Mary Kay Inc. world headquarters. There she will receive information and education regarding business management, marketing strategies, sales techniques and personal development.

### Pak Mail

Pak Mail of Livermore is offering residents the option to give to charity while also saving money on their holiday shipping. Through December 31, residents who bring donations of non-perishable foods for the Alameda County Community Food Bank or used cell phones for the national Cell Phones for Soldiers will receive 10% off their UPS or FedEx shipping at Pak Mail, on Isabel Avenue and Jack London Boulevard.

Donations to the food bank will help serve 49,000 people each week countywide, according to the organization. Used cell phones are shipped to Cell Phones for Soldiers, which recycles the phones and uses funds to purchase calling cards for troops overseas.

### KoKo FitClub

Koko FitClub encourages people to toss out the bathroom scale and focus their attention on a far better way to measure

and manage their health. Koko FitCheck is described as a medical-grade, body composition measurement technology that quickly and effortlessly analyzes and tracks each Koko member's level of lean muscle. Workouts are customized, based on each individual member's goals and fitness level.

Once members complete their 30 minute workouts, Koko tracks their body composition changes along with their exercise progress in their online personal health and fitness portal, MyKokoFitclub.com.

Local Koko FitClub owner Aman Sandhu says FitCheck is just what his members are looking for. "They see the incredible transformations in their bodies from regular strength training - the inches are coming off and their clothes fit differently.'

To learn more about Koko FitClub, visit dublin.kokofitclub.

# **Audit Finds Park District Is in Solid Financial Condition**

reation and Park District (LARPD) is in very solid financial condition.

That was the comment made during the LARPD board meeting last week by Maze & Associates following the annual audit of the district finances. LARPD received an "unqualified" opinion, which in accounting terminology is the best opinion the District can receive.

General Manager Tim Barry pointed out that the district has no unfunded liabilities or guarantees to fund benefits in the future. "That makes us unique for a public agency," he stated. The funding is in place for retirement benefits for the next fourteen years.

The board approved renewal of a contract with the City of Livermore to provide

The Livermore Area Rec- the district with planning and engineering services. The contract is for the next two years.

LARPD has contracted with the City since 2004 for planning and engineering services. Barry called the relationship a great example of two agencies working together to get the "most bang for the public's buck."

Directors also authorized LARPD to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District to collaboratively apply for 21st Century Grant Funding through the California Department of Education. If received, the funding would be used to open LARPDstaffed Believes programs at Joe Michell K-8 School and Jackson Avenue Elementary School.

The Believes program,

already in place at Junction Avenue K-8 School and Marylin Avenue Elementary School, provides educational enrichment to low-income families in coordination with the District's Extended Student Services (ESS) schoolaged childcare program. This funding would help fill the gap left by State grant funds the District lost for the ESS program last summer.

The Believes program extends the school day with a focus on academics. There would be no cost to the district to provide the program if the state grant funds were received. No amount was listed regarding how much money is being requested.

General Manager Tim Barry also swore in President Beth Wilson and Director Bob Coomber, who are beginning new terms in office. Director Steve Goodman, who was absent, will be sworn in at a later date. Wilson and Goodman faced no opposition in the November election. Coomber was elected to complete two years of the term vacated when Laureen Turner was elected to the city council.

Other information provided to the board includes the following:

The LARPD Foundation donated almost \$5,000 to provide park rangers with a Trikke stand-up, threewheeled vehicle to help them patrol parks and assist

 Sycamore Grove Park calendars for 2013 are on sale now at the Robert Livermore Community Center or through forms on the LAR-PD website at www.larpd. dst.ca.us. Calendars are \$10 each or \$6 with purchase of an annual parking pass to

 Aquatics Supervisor Sharon Grant recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Bay Area Public Pool Operators Association for her contributions to the field.

• The District is nearing

completion on expansion of the Community Garden at the Robert Livermore Community Center. The garden is expanding from 46 plots to 70 plots. New spaces will become available in the spring to those on the waiting list.



# **SLAKEY**

combination requires an unusual range of training, "a little like being both a ballet dancer and a weight lifter," Davis explains.

On a personal basis, Davis recalls being surprised, after spending so many hours with Slakey on an arms control project, to learn that he was just coming to the end of his climbing-surfing effort. There had been no indication that he had even been involved in such an extended challenge. "He just seemed like a normal physicist!" Davis says.

Slakey recounted his experiences in a best selling book published earlier this year, To The Last Breath: A Memoir Of Going To Ex-

The book opens with what Washingtonian magazine calls "one of the most terrifying moments in nonfiction this year," as (Slakey) dangles 2,000 feet above Yosemite Valley on the face of El Capitan in the middle of the night and realizes his gear is failing.

That is only one of the close encounters with death

during expeditions that took him all over the world, including exotic places like Mt. Everest, the Antarctic and the Indonesian jungle.

Along the way, he confirmed the power of some of the analytical abilities that he had learned as a scientist, but also encountered phenomena that he could not readily explain.

Introverted and self-absorbed since childhood, perhaps because of the early death of his mother, he met inspirational people whose lives taught him to care more for others. He found himself trying to right wrongs, unexpectedly motivated toward political activism.

In short, what began as a quest for achievement became a journey of spiritual and emotional growth. A review published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science describes it as a "personal transition from physics lecturer to someone who teaches students to use science to make policy and improve people's lives."

Motivated by his experi-

ences, Slakey set up the Program on Science in the Public Interest at Georgetown. The program "promotes direct dialogue with the government, industry, and the community on critical scientific issues and helps to develop the next generation of citizen scientists," according to its website.

Today, Slakey is active in areas where science and public policy intersect. At Georgetown, he is Upjohn Lecturer on Physics and Public Policy. He is also Associate Director of Public Affairs at the American Physical Society, again with a combined focus of policy and science.

He has published more than 50 articles for major newspapers and magazines including the New York Times, Washington Post and Scientific American. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a MacArthur Scholar and a Lemelson Research Associate of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets may be purchased at the box office or online at www.bankheadtheater.org





# A BIG IDEA just got better.

AS INTEREST CONTINUES TO GROW, new homes and additional floor plans — are now available at Stoneridge Creek, the new retirement community under construction in Pleasanton. It's easy to see why so many have already secured their future at California's latest Continuing Life\* community. Live without the worries and hassles of landscaping, home maintenance and housekeeping. Instead, enjoy convenient amenities such as restaurant dining, a state-of-the-art fitness center, open-air pool, performing arts theatre, plus walking and cycling trails. Choose from more than 20 floor plans, including spacious single-story homes all with access to long-term care, which is included, if ever needed.

Attend an upcoming event in your area to learn more. To RSVP, call 1-800-984-4279 today, or visit StoneridgeCreek.com.









5698 Stoneridge Dr. ~ Pleasanton ~ StoneridgeCreek.com ~ 1-800-984-4279 ng Life Communities Pleasanton LLC, dba Stoneridge Creek Pleasanton, has received authorization to accept deposits from the California Department of Social Service

# THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A

# Christmas Opera 'Amahl and the Night Visitors' To Be Presented by Livermore Valley Opera

For the first time, Livermore Valley Opera, in collaboration with First Presbyterian Church of Livermore, presents the long-standing Christmas season favorite Amahl and the Night Visitors, a oneact opera by Gian Carlo Menotti.

Performed in English, this story of a crippled boy and his mother who are visited by the three kings on their way to Bethlehem, offers a unique opportunity for holiday family entertainment.

Performances are Sat., Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore. Tickets at \$12-\$25 can be purchased at www.livermorevalleyopera. com and at the door.

"We are very excited about bringing this special chamber opera production to the Tri-Valley," says Raquel Holt, LVO Board member. "This opera is so delightful with a heartwarming story that is perfect for families."

Amahl was originally written for television and was commissioned by NBC and first performed by the NBC Opera Theatre December 24, 1951 when it was broadcast live as the debut production of the Hallmark Hall of Fame. Menotti wrote Amahl with the stage in mind even though it was intended for television and asked his friend and fellow composer

Samuel Barber to complete the orchestrations. Upon completion of the first rehearsal prior to the premiere, NBC's Symphony conductor Arturo Toscanini told Menotti that the opera was the best he had ever done.

Amahl became an annual Christmas special that appeared on or around Christmas Eve through most of the 1960s and 1970s, until it went to cable television in the early 1980s.

Though the performance of Amahl will be the first for LVO, it is the fourth for director and producer Sylvia Amorino who collaborated with LVO's Artistic Director Alexander Katsman for her opera company Solo Opera from 2001 to 2003.

"When Alex Katsman asked me to direct and produce Amahl for LVO with him this December, I said, 'Count me in!'" says Amorino. "I can't imagine working with anyone else. When Alexander plays and conducts, his heart and soul is shared with everyone. This is especially true in the Amahl opera. Every time I heard him conduct the opening bars of the opera, it would bring tears to my eyes. It is heartwarming music and he conducts it very well. Like Alexander, I am dedicated and passionate about my directing and take it very seriously. I think we make



Jonathan Telander and Sophie Morgan (pictured) perform the role of Amahl. Michelle Rice plays Amahl's mother.

a great operatic team."

Amorino says that because the chamber opera is in English and under an hour, it is the perfect piece for children and families. And, because the main character Amahl is a young boy, children can identify with his role.

The opera typically stars a young boy soprano as Amahl, but for LVO's production, the part is double-casted due to the back-to-back performances in one day. Jonathan Telander, who already has an extensive opera career at the age of 11, recently performed as Gherardino in the Stockton Opera Association's production of Gianni Schicchi. Sophie Morgan, a local singer and eighth-grader from Livermore will share the role with Telander. Morgan, who most recently performed in LVO's production of La bohéme, is also a member of Livermore's award-winning Cantabella Children's Chorus.

Other cast members include soprano Michelle Rice as Amahl's mother who has performed in a number of LVO productions including Roméo et Juliette, and solo performances at LVO's annual Opera in the Vineyard. The cast of shepherds, members of First Presbyterian Church of Livermore's own choir, will be led by choral director Janet Holmes, who will also provide piano accompaniment for the opera.

With the opera's Christmastime appeal, young singers and heart-warming story, Amahl makes for a great family holiday experience says director Amorino.

"Amahl is a wonderful way to introduce children to opera. This is LVO's opportunity to create a new generation of opera lovers. And, with a story of a mother, a boy, a star, the Three Wise Men, and a miracle, you couldn't ask for a more meaningful way to start the holiday season!"



Teen improv troupe takes time out to pose for group photo.

# 'Holiday Shorts: A Long Winter's Tale' at Firehouse

Creatures of Impulse, the City of Pleasanton's teen improv troupe, will perform a fourth season of their popular holiday-themed improv show, "Holiday Shorts: A Long Winter's Tale," in three performances this month at the Firehouse Arts Center.

Performances are scheduled on Thursday, November 29 and Friday, November 30 at 7:30pm. A free preview show is also scheduled for Tuesday, November 27th at 7:30pm. The Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

Local troupe Creatures of Impulse will perform "short-form" improvisational games and scenes in the first act of Holiday Shorts. During intermission the audience will vote on which one of those scenes or games is performed as an improvised holiday "play" in the second act.

"I can't wait for this show. There is such great energy created among the performers and audience members

with 'Holiday Shorts' each year. At intermission, it is so fun to watch both the audience and the performers wait with this collective nervous energy to hear which game or scene is voted into an improvised play. I really think this is the new holiday tradition at the Firehouse Arts Center," says Creatures of Impulse Director Mark Duncanson.

The 26-member troupe recently performed their popular improvised teen horror show, "Nightmare," at the Firehouse Arts Center and will soon begin puppet-making workshops this month for the spring tour of their brand new show "Puppets of Impulse." The new show is an improvised teen puppet musical scheduled to close the big Chicago Teen Comedy Festival in Chicago, Illinois in May 2013.

For more information on Creatures of Impulse Improv Troupe or Holiday Shorts: A Long Winter's Tale contact Mark Duncanson at 925-931-4828 or mduncanson@ cityofpleasantonca.gov

General admission tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Student tickets are \$5 in advance, \$8 at the door. Tickets can be purchased online at www.firehousearts. org, by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. Box Office hours are Wednesday - Friday 12:00 noon-6:00pm and Saturdays 10:00am-4:00pm, and two hours prior to the performance. Free parking.

# Valley Concert Chorale Presents "Holiday Songs of Joy"

Award-winning Cantabella Children's Chorus also to perform

Begin the holiday season with a multitude of carols and audience sing-along by attending the Valley Concert Chorale's annual holiday concerts. Joining the Chorale is the Tri-Valley's own Cantabella Children's Chorus, which will perform additional holiday selections.

There will be two performances of "Holiday Songs of Joy." The first is 3 p.m. Sun., Dec. 2 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton: the second, 7:30 p.m. Sat., Dec. 15 at the First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore.

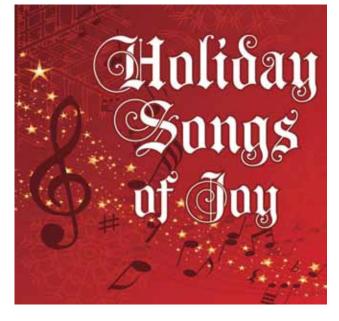
'The Chorale's annual holiday performances of familiar and traditional carols are guaranteed to fill your spirit with the joy of the season," says John Emory Bush, Artistic Director and Conductor of the Chorale. "The Cantabella Children's Chorus will perform songs of its own as well as sing with the Chorale. And, there is always the audience singalong of familiar holiday songs. No one will leave without a smile on their face."

Featured songs include Conrad Susa's medley of traditional carols entitled "A Christmas Garland," and a variety of carols from countries around the world such as Estonia, Germany and South Africa.

Two choirs from the Cantabella Children's Chorus will perform, one at each of the holiday performances. For the December 2 performance, Cantabella's Honors Choir will perform Seven Joys of Christmas, arr. by K. Mechem, Op. 25b, and on December 15, the Cantabella Chamber Choir will perform Veni Emmanuel by Zoltan Kodaly, and Hiru Eguberri Kanta (Three Christmas Songs) by Javier Busto. Both performances will be directed by Eileen Chang, who helped the chorus bring home two silver medals from The World Choir Games this past summer.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. High school and college students \$10 with valid student ID. Children under 12 are free. 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.

More information about the Valley Concert Chorale is available at www.valleyconcertchorale.org, or by calling (925) 866-4003.



### Special Day Set to Find Homes for Black Cats

Visit Valley Humane Society (VHS) Friday, November 23, for Black Cat Friday and adopt any black Adoption fees will also be reduced on other styles of cats.

of superstition to contend with, black cats are often the last to find homes. Yet black cats are always fashionable, or mostly black cat fee-free. they never fade, and with their vibrant personalities, it's easy to find one that fits With thousands of years a particular lifestyle. VHS

carries all sizes. Doors open at 12 noon, and the event runs until 4 pm (or while "supplies" last). Standard adoption criteria apply. VHS is located at 3670Nevada Street in Pleasanton.

VHS rescues and re-

habilitates companion animals, champions responsible caretaking, shares pets' soothing affections with people in need of comfort, and supports and preserves existing pet-guardian relationships.

# Performing Groups Work Together to Offer a Sampler of Classical Music

A rich tradition of classical music groups has developed throughout the years in the Tri-Valley. A new cooperative effort is underway to expand awareness of their music. Four resident companies of the Bankhead Theater have been bringing classical symphonic works, opera and chamber music to the community for a collective 130 years. They are offering a chance to hear one production of each company at a deeply discounted price.

The Livermore-Amador Symphony was founded 50 years ago; Del Valle Fine Arts was established over 30 years ago to bring chamber music to the community; Livermore Valley Opera just celebrated its 25th anniversary and the Pacific Chamber Symphony will commemorate its 25th year in 2013. These organizations have their own boards, often with some common members. and are now actively pursuing how to work together to introduce the classics to a new audience. Since all groups perform at the Bankhead Theater, conflicting schedules are a thing of the past. However, the audience of one company may not be fully aware of what the other companies are presenting.

To this end, the four classical groups are rolling out a program to encourage a wider recognition of their performances. Purchased separately, a mid-range single ticket for one performance from each of the groups would cost \$154. This special offer allows the chance to buy a ticket sampler, one performance from each company, for only \$92 per person, a sav-



ings of 40%. The groups encourage patrons who are already attending many performances to use this offer as a holiday gift for others.

To order the Classical Music Sampler for \$92, call the Bankhead Theater at 925.373.6800, or visit the ticket office at 2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore, Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.





These 11 performances listed below are included in their offer:

 DEL VALLE FINE ARTS: Chiara String Quartet | February 16th, 8:00 p.m.; Archetti Baroque Ensemble | March 23rd, 8:00 p.m.; The Debussy Trio I April 27th, 8:00 p.m.

 LIVERMORE-AMADOR SYMPHONY: Celebrating 50 Seasons I

December 1st, 8:00 p.m.; Vienna Bonbon and Russian Drama | February 23rd, 8:00 p.m.; Guest Conductor Potpourri | April 6th, 8:00 p.m.; Ode to a Joyous 50th Season | May 18th, 8:00 p.m.

• LIVERMORE VAL-LEY OPERA: La Traviata by Verdi March 9 & 16 8:00 p.m., March 10 & 17 2:00 p.m.

• PACIFIC CHAMBER SYMPHONY: Handel's Messiah | November 30th, 8:00 p.m.; Mike Marshall, Mandolin | March 3rd, 7:00 p.m.; Works for Chorus and Orchestra | May 11th, 8:00

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. To purchase tickets call 925-373-6800 or visit www.bankheadtheater.org.





Bring a student to the Pacific Chamber Symphony Friday, November 30th at Bankhead Theater, Livermore (925) 373-6800

> 50% OFF ADULT TICKET With a student ticket purchase

Students: \$7 / Adults: \$50, \$42, \$35



Opens its 25th Season and 6th Season at Bankhead Theater

# Soloists Set for the Pacific Chamber Symphony's "Messiah"

The Pacific Chamber Symphony directed by Lawrence Kohl, will once again present "Messiah," the well known work by G.F. Handel, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. This year's performance will be on Friday, November 30. This will be the 5th consecutive year for what has become a holiday tradition in Livermore.

The Pacific Chamber Symphony Chorus and the Las Positas College Chamber Chorus, both under the direction of Rob Lappa, will join the orchestra for this concert. As an encore to the performance, the audience will be asked to join the orchestra and chorus in a reprise of the famous "Hallelujah" chorus.

Maestro Kohl has engaged a lineup of soloists for the concert; soprano Christine Brandes, alto Elsbeth M. Franks, tenor Christopher Bengochea and baritone Daniel Cilli.

Noted for her radiant, crystalline voice and superb musicianship, soprano Christine Brandes brings her artistry to a repertoire ranging from 17th century to newly composed works. She has performed at many of the world's most distinguished festivals and concert series in programs spanning from recitals and chamber music to oratorio and opera.

She has sung for opera houses in San Francisco, Seattle, Washington, Houston, Minnesota, San Diego, New York City Opera, Philadelphia, Glimmerglass, Portland and Arizona, and with orchestras in Cleveland, Chicago, New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, Atlanta, Detroit, Seattle and Minnesota.

British-born alto Elspeth Franks is known for her unusually wide vocal range and engaging stage presence. One of the West Coast's busiest singers, she performs many roles throughout the mezzo, alto and soprano repertoires.

Recent engagements



have included: "Chandos Anthems" with the California Bach Society, and performances with the Philharmonia Baroque Chorale and the San Francisco Opera. Elspeth resides in San Francisco with the world's two most wonderful cats, Pizzicato and Magnificat.

Tenor Christopher Bengochea has delighted audiences with his unique combination of vocal and dramatic interpretations in performances ranging from oratorio to opera.

This Basque American tenor began his musical career as a pianist then moved into the study of



opera during his time at Montana State University and later the University of Montana. After becoming an award winner at the Northwest Regional Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and winning third prize at the International Societa Concertistica Vocal Competition in Santa Margherita-Ligure, Italy, he decided to pursue singing exclusively.

He was a resident artist at Opera San Jose during the years 2005-2008.

Richard Scheinin of
The Mercury News said,
"to hear Bengochea expand
into big, lusty high notes
— Verdi specials — were



thrilling . . . Bengochea could be the tenor the company has been waiting for."

Baritone Daniel Cilli holds vocal performance degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music and Stetson University, and has studied Lieder at the Franz Schubert Institute of Baden bei Wien, Austria.

Cilli was a principal baritone at Opera San José for 2006-2010. He has performed with Des Moines Metro Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Central City Opera, Utah Opera, San Francisco Lyric Opera, West Bay Opera and Amarillo Opera. In concert



Pictured, from left, are Daniel Cilli, Elspeth Franks, Christopher Bengochea, and Christine Brandes.

he has performed at Aspen Music Festival, Utah Symphony, Tanglewood Music Festival, San Juan Symphony, South Valley Symphony, University of California Santa Cruz, and at Lawrence University.

The concert will be at 8:00 on Friday, November 30, at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Tickets are \$50/\$42/\$35, \$7 students, and are available at the Bankhead Theater Box Office, 2400 First Street, Livermore, by phone at (925) 373-6100, or online at livermoreperformingarts. org.



# Tapestry to Perform A Musical Potpourri of Yuletide Wishes

Tapestry, the Bay Area's only combined vocal and handbell ensemble, present, "Dear Santa, A Musical Potpourri of Yuletide Wishes."

Performances will Friday, November 30 at Walnut Creek United Methodist Church, 1543 Sunnyvale Ave. in Walnut Creek and Saturday, December 1 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton. Concerts begin at 7 PM and are free to the public.

Tapestry will be singing and ringing music to please listeners of all ages as they usher in the Christmas season. The dynamic and much loved group, which entertains to raise donations for local, national, and global charities, raised \$4000 for Open Heart Kitchen through their holiday 2011 and spring 2012 concert performances. This season, Tapestry's concerts are in support of The Alzheimer's Association of the East Bay. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

For more information about Tapestry and their holiday concert season, visit their website at www.TapestryRingersandSingers.org or call Susana Taylor, 925-768-8025.

(Tapestray is pictured at left.)

# A Taste of the Tri-Valley: Inaugural Wine & Food Festival

### by Laura Ness

Rain showers, downpours, breaks of sun, brooding clouds, a parking lot filled with the brilliance of autumn leaves and rainbows around the bend: such is a Saturday in November. Despite all, the Tri Valley Wine & Food Festival at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton brought in a good gathering of wineries, brew pubs and food purveyors to keep a modest crowd of 200 or so imbibers intrigued, entertained and educated, if not satiated.

The pours were generous, the music energizing and the vibe celebratory,

### Search Underway for Historic **Photos**

Pleasanton art patrons, Nancy and Gary Harrington, have created a historical mural of Pleasanton's pioneer founders. They have been unable to find any photos or pictures of three of the founders: Walter Briggs/ Meadowlark Dairy; Tom Orloff/Orloff Dairy; Con Nevin/Hop Farming Company. They have searched the Pleasanton Museum on Main, met with local historian, Charles Huff, visited/ spoken with the historical societies of both Livermore and Dublin.

The Harringtons are asking for help in locating pictures of these three historical figures. Anyone who has lived in the area for many years and who might have in their family albums any pictures of any of these three men, please contact them at nancyrh1@sbcglobal.net or call 925-846-9757.

as many wineries in the Livermore Valley region, including Concannon, Garre, Crooked Vine, Fenestra, Las Positas, La Rochelle, McGrail, Rodrigue Molyneaux and Steven Kent shared the spotlight with those from Santa Clara (Guglielmo) and the Santa Cruz Mountains (Poetic Cellars and Roudon-Smith).

There was literally a "Wall of Wente," with everything from the bestselling Wente Riva Ranch Chardonnay to entwine to Murrietta's Well and of course, Tamas Estates. It was fun to see all the new screwtops from the latter, including their everpopular Double Decker red and the serviceable, refreshing Pinot Grigio. The 2009 Nebbiolo shows some real tangy promise. The Sorrento is certainly a wine aimed squarely at the millennial palate, with its lush and slightly sweet middle, owing to gobs of ripe Viognier and Chardonnay fruit.

Newcomers Bill and Sandy Thomson of Harris Tesla, poured their lovely Cabernets for the first time ever in a public setting, and got a rousing reception for their 2007 and 2008 estate grown wines from the vineyard that surrounds their Livermore home. They sell fruit to Rhonda Wood of Wood Family, who produces a Thomson Ranch designate Cabernet from the property, as well as to Collin Cranor of Nottingham Cellars, and to a handful of others in the area, including the The Wine Group.

Women loved the 2007 Harris Tesla Cabernet, while men preferred the woodier, heat packing 2008, prompting Julie from Winemaker's Pourhouse to admit this did not surprise her, since the 2009 was far oakier: "I guess men like more wood!" This seemed particularly appropriate, since there was a golf show going on concurrently next door. Quite a few golf shoppers made the transition through the food truck court to imbibe in the simple pleasures of the grape and the hop. Several beer vendors, including Half Moon Bay Brewing and Schubros of San Ramon, also plied their wares.

Entrants received a logo'd glass, 12 tasting tickets good for food and wine, along with a plate and bamboo spork, a combo of fork and spoon, with which to indulge in the various delicious delights, which included a truly tasty Greek salad by Café Main in Pleasanton. It was the right amount of everything, including tangy feta cheese and olives: yum! Downright delicious with the Nottingham Chardonnay.

I was impressed by the flavors of roasted chicken and pepper crostini, (nice with Crooked Vine 2008 Syrah). My husband, Greg, enjoyed the seared Ahi tuna with aioli on pita chips, both prepared on site by Jeffrey's Catering of Pleasanton (jeffreysfinecatering.com). The people were incredibly friendly and polite, totally efficient. Looking for a caterer for an upcoming party? They should be on your list.

Truly the lamb chops from Pleasanton's Baci Bistro were the bomb, especially when paired with the 2009 La Rochelle Sleepy Hollow Pinot Noir from the Santa Lucia Highlands, or with the 2009 Guglielmo Barbera (Santa Clara Valley), alive with dancing fruit and plenty of

acid to cut the fattiness of the lamb.

People kept saying how well the Pourhouse's turkey chile complimented the "Il Segreto" blend of Barbera and Zin being poured by Rodrigue Molyneaux, while the Poetic Cellars "Mirage," a rose of Syrah from Livermore vineyards, really excited those looking for the perfect Thanksgiving wine. Winemaker Katy Lovell still owns vineyards in Livermore off Tesla and Vasco, from which she sources the majority of her fruit, including the wellbuilt, cherry-cigar filled 2007 Minstrel Vineyard Merlot, and the intense, brambly, plummy 2006 Reserve Syrah.

Concannon Vineyard was right next to Monterey Bay Chocolate Company, which was fitting, as their

Petite Sirah and Crimson and Clover blend of Petite Sirah and Zin, are natural companions to anything chocolate. I particularly enjoyed the Concannon Chardonnay, as it has that right amount of lively citrus and happy stonefruit flavors that keeps this beverage from going down the common rathole of melted butter in a bottle. No, Concannon winemaker Julian Halasz has more class than to turn a delightful grape into something resembling oak-chip tea.

Speaking of tea, there was also a tea vendor providing Chai samples and selling organic teas of all permutations and persuasions. I don't generally mix tea with wine, so cannot comment on their prolific offerings. Similarly, I did not indulge in the wine

grape ice cream, but I watched as my friend Jim enjoyed every last slushy looking bit of purpleness.

The band, Sandor Y Mecanica, from Santa Clara University, really kept a nice Latin jazz beat going, and except for the numbers where the blaring, nearly deafening horns came to life, made a pleasant backdrop to an informal social gathering with a decidedly upbeat, casual block party feel.

Hats off to Geoffrey Sarabia-Mason, VP of Tourism and Sales Development for the Tri-Valley Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and his enthusiastic team, for pulling off a successful first effort. Looking forward to the next iteration of this event next year.

# **Dublin Begins Holiday Festivities With** Annual Tree Lighting on November 29

The City of Dublin is offering a variety of seasonl activities and events to celebrate the Holidays.

The 29th annual Holiday Tree Lighting will be held 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Thurs., Nov. 29 at Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Plaza (in the plaza area near the fountain). The **Dublin Unified School Dis**trict Children's Choir will provide entertainment along with the lively sounds of the Dublin High School Jazz Band. Refreshments will be served after the performance. Be on the lookout for a very special visit from Santa Claus. Admission is

A Holiday Faire will be held from noon to 6 p.m. at the Heritage Park and Museums. Make traditional holiday crafts, shop for unique, handcrafted items, and listen to holiday favorites performed by the Merrie Old Christmas Carolers. Old-Fashioned St. Nick will arrive by jingle bell wagon at noon to start the festivities. Mulled wine, hot cider. pretzels and streusel will be available for purchase. Admission is free; a \$5 wristband ia needed for craft making and a wagon ride.

Breakfast with Santa will be held Sat., Dec. 1 at the Shannon Community Center, 11600 Shannon Avenue. Families are invited to enjoy a hot pancake breakfast served with sausage, fruit, coffee, juice. Santa Claus is the special guest. Photos with Santa will also be available for a donation benefitting the Dublin High School Irish Guard and Band. Cost is \$10.00 for Dublin Resi-

dents and \$12.00 for Non Residents. Registration is required. Seating times are: 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. and

A Holiday Tea will be served at 1 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 15 at the Heritage Park and Museums. The event will be held in the Sunday School Barn. Lunch will begin with scones, lemon curd and a hot pot of tea followed by finger sandwiches, cheese and an indulgent dessert. Following tea, there will be a tour the Kolb House, decorated for "A Farm Christmas Morning." Seating is limited, so please make reservations early. Cost is \$25 per person.

For more information please contact the Parks and Community Services Department at 556-4500.

# Do You Remember? By Anne Homan Livermore City Historian

### Pumpkin Pie First?

Susan Ivy Graham loved sweets and, according to her granddaughter, Frances Nissen Prevost, she "insisted upon eating dessert as a first course in order to have an empty stomach to completely enjoy the feast." Frances owned Susan's original cookbook—the majority of its entries are cake.

Susan Ivy Graham came with her husband, Robert W. Graham, to Laddsville, California in 1869. Laddsville was the earliest incarnation of Livermore: the hamlet was centered around the intersection of Old First Street and Junction Avenue. The Grahams built and operated a general merchandise store there. By 1870 Robert Graham had become Livermore's first postmaster. On the 1880 census Graham gave his occupation as the town of Livermore's Justice of the Peace. City clerk Elmer G. Still noted that Graham had been appointed Justice of the Peace in 1878 and held that position until his death in 1887. The Amador-Livermore Valley Historical Society holds several of his court docket books in their Pleasanton museum.

Deciding to become a mortician, Graham gave up his store and attended a special school in San Francisco, passed required tests, and received a license. His first "undertaking a specialty" local newspaper ads are extant from 1884. Susan was definitely an active partner in the firm of Graham Mortuary, which was located on First Street and later on the northwest corner of Second and South L. Perhaps like the early Schweer Mortuary at 706 Main Street in Pleasanton, the Graham Mortuary had a large glass window in front to display the embalmed bodies in their coffins, the custom of the time. The Livermore Grahams were not related to the Pleasanton Grahams, even though they were both in the undertaking business.

The Graham family home, a white clapboard, was at the southeast corner of Sixth and South K. Susan Ivy and Robert Graham had married in San Francisco in 1864, when he was 31 and she was 17. All but three of their children died before the age of five. Little Katy, Roberta, Mary, and Winnie are buried at Roselawn Cemetery with their parents. On a Friday evening in late November 1887, as Judge Graham and another man were driving out of Roselawn Cemetery, one of their spring wagon's wheels sank into a hole, causing the seat to tip over. Graham was thrown out and suffered a badly bruised hip. Unfortunately, he also had internal injuries not at first apparent, and he died five days later.

Susan Graham was 40 years old and eight months pregnant. She still had her older daughter and nine-





Pictured are (at left) Susan Ivy Graham; (at right) twins Susan and Robert Graham (Photos from collection of Rae Terry)

year-old twins to support. After the stillborn birth of her last child, she followed in her husband's footsteps to become an undertaker and receive an embalmer's license—the first woman in California to achieve these goals, according to her granddaughter and a Herald article at the time of her retirement. The Echo noted in November 1890 that she was taking lessons in the art of embalming from a "leading" firm of San Francisco undertakers. She was "now prepared to preserve bodies for any length of time." In September 1894 in addition to the "funeral car" she had recently acquired, she purchased "an equally elegant white hearse for use at the funerals of children." Both of these vehicles were pulled by horses.

Her granddaughter described her: "Although not tall, Susan made a striking figure with her auburn hair and sweeping long black skirts, a gold lapel watch pinned to her blouse. She was said to be the first matron locally to have trouser pockets sewn in her skirts, convenience prevailing over femininity." On call day and night, she was a familiar figure in Livermore and on byways outside of town in her one-seater buggy drawn by a roan horse. After a broken hip left her with a noticeable limp, she carried a black walking stick with her initials on its gold knob. Jim Elliott remembered that his uncle's funeral in Livermore in 1911 was handled by "the lady mortician with a limp."

Needing connection with a livery stable to conduct her business, she first took Louis Schaffer and then Arthur Fiedler as partners. John C. Reimers' Fashion Stable later bought Fiedler's business, and Graham sold out to Reimers when she retired in 1917 after falling ill with cancer. Reimers built an elaborate stucco mortuary at the site of the old Graham mortuary on L Street. Later, Leo Callaghan bought Reimers Mortuary. The Herald commented on her retirement, "Mrs.

Graham could tell of many curious and grisly experiences during her long years of service, especially in the early days, but undertakers never discuss their experiences and many thrilling stories are lost to the world."

When she died in 1919 at age 72, outliving her husband by 30 years, she was survived by two daughters—Hazzie, who married farmer William H. Galway, and Susan, who married into Livermore's Nissen clan. Graham Nissen was named for his grandparents. Susan's twin brother, Robert, had died at age 22 of injuries resulting from a bicycle accident.

One of Frances Prevost's favorite keepsakes is a Graham Mortuary sales sheet with a cake recipe hastily scribbled on the back by her grandmother. Surely, Susan I. Graham would approve of eating pumpkin pie garnished with a generous dollop of whipped cream before tackling the turkey.

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

# Local Collectors Go Wild with "Animal Attractions" at Museum on Main

Animal lovers of the Tri-Valley will be sharing their collections with the public in Museum on Main's fourth *Treasures of the Tri-Valley* showcase: *Animal Attractions*.

The exhibit features selected treasures from the troves of nine local collectors. It includes displays devoted to elephants, eagles, Scotch terriers, cats, pigs, bison, and other members of the animal kingdom.

Animal-themed objects on display range from small pendants and figurines in glass and metal, to household wares and framed prints, to a painted crosscut saw blade and a chair carved from solid wood.

An associated display is devoted to the Great Livermore Pet Rock Napping of 1976, and includes the victim, the original ransom note, and examples of the story's coverage in the Bay Area press. *Treasures of the Tri-Valley: Animal Attractions* is scheduled to run through January 20, 2013.

Museum on Main is located at 603 Main Street, Pleasanton. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m.

There is no admission fee, but donations are always appreciated.

For further information contact 925.462-2766 or curator@museumonmain.org

# Yesterday into Today

# The Newport Folk Festival: July 1968 By Sarah Bobson

Janis Joplin's tribute performer at the *Monterey* International Pop Festival: 45 Years Later this past September reminded me of July 1968 when I saw the real Janis, live at the Newport Folk Festival in Rhode Island.

Still fired up from the Columbia University protests earlier that year, I now felt a part of the tribe that created its own rules, its own ways of dressing and behaving, and its own music. Although I was not familiar with Janis, I heard she was a phenomenal singer, someone bigger than life, a force of nature, so when I heard she was performing, I wanted to go. The question was: How would I get there? I didn't have a car. Chris, my boyfriend at the time, was in Niger with the Peace Corps. He had joined in order to obtain a military deferment. I approached Rodney, his buddy, who was still around, a sitting duck waiting for his own invitation from Uncle Sam. Rodney preferred country-western music, but when I told him about the festival, he agreed to drive and, more to the point, act in Chris's absence as my chaperon.

We hopped into Rodney's creaky 1955 Oldsmobile early Saturday afternoon the 27th expecting to traverse the approximately 170 miles from New York City to Newport in three to four hours. We figured we would arrive at the festival in plenty of time to see Janis, and perhaps even catch an act or two before her. We headed out on the Westside Highway. We pushed through the normal congestion, connected to I-95 somewhere in the Bronx, and then, following a map, breezed through a series of back roads. I thought to myself: Everything is going great.

Then it happened: The traffic began to slow. As we inched our way, we talked and sang with the music on the radio to pass the time. After an hour and a half, I could see we weren't getting anywhere. I got out of the car and telescoped the bumper-tobumper long lines snaking the country road ahead. I

asked someone how far it was to the ferry. "About a mile, man," he said. "Groovy," I replied, and turned to Rodney. "At this rate, we'll never get to the festival. Why don't we leave the car on the side of the road and walk to the ferry? We can pick up the car on the way back.' To my great surprise, he agreed. So we hopped out, locked up, and took off, not questioning how we would get back late at night (would we walk, find a ride), or even whether the car would still be there.

We trudged over grassy mounds, and then boarded the ferry, the only two hoofing it on foot. I turned to look at the gridlock trail we left behind and reassured myself we made the right decision.

Once off the boat, we squeezed and shuffled our way along with the hordes across a field, supposedly toward the stage, which I couldn't see anywhere. We continued to move en masse as the light dark-

ened into dusk. Suddenly, people began to applaud and cat whistle. Startled, I followed their gaze to this tiny, distant vision in billowing red that moved across what I figured must be the stage. The vision took off the red, flung it theatrically to the ground, and then, clad in something short and black, began to wail in a pointed twang the lyrics to "Piece of My Heart." The crowd erupted. This must be Janis, I thought. I turned to the man standing next to me to confirm this, but when I saw a look of absolute rapture on his face, I didn't bother. I don't remember all of the songs, but the one that sent the men in the crowd into an absolute frenzy was "Ball and Chain." Janis sang with the intensity of a runaway locomotive, charging her guts into every note. I had never heard anything like

Then it was all over. We had come for the happening, and it had happened.

Now it was time to leave. We made our way back to the car, which miraculously, or perhaps not so miraculously, given the times, was just where we

had left it. After that, I became a devoted fan of the girl from the place in Texas I had never heard of, the girl with bad skin and frizzy hair who wanted to break free from the white middleclass values she was born into in order to express her intense feelings. Janis Joplin has been hailed as not only the greatest female singer of the 60s but also one of the two or three greatest singers of the 20th century. Her star, which began to ascend at the Monterey International Pop Festival that Summer of Love in 1967 when she appeared with her psychedelic, acid-rock band, Big Brother and the Holding Company, seemed destined to continue to rise. She played the Fillmore West, Woodstock, the Hollywood Bowl, and a host of other

venues across the country. She appeared three times on the Dick Cavett Show, and her picture ran on the covers of Time, Newsweek, and Rolling Stone. Then she overdosed and died in a hotel room in Los Angeles on October 4, 1970, at the age of 27.

I've often wondered what would have happened if she hadn't died so young. Would she have married and had a family, which she had said she wanted according to her sister Laura Joplin in Love, Janis, despite the fact that she was bisexual and fiercely independent? Would the extraordinary singer have continued to defy musical categories, blending her own mix of blues, soul, and rock? How would Janis have entered middle age and her senior years? Somehow, I just can't imagine her as a member of AARP. And, I don't want to. I want to remember her as that electrifying original, the woman who dressed flamboyantly in funky clothes, wore masses of rings and gypsy bracelets and strings of beads, and adorned her wild hair with ostrich feathers; the woman who spoke with a Texas drawl and belted out her soul in song.

# Livermore Valley Wineries Plan Special Events for Thanksgiving Weekend

Livermore Valley wineries will be open the day after Thanksgiving, as well as during the weekend.

Cedar Mountain Winery will open noon to 4 p.m. on Fri., Nov. 23. The tasting room will be filled with holiday gifts and ideas. Wine tasting fee is \$5. 7000 Tesla Rd., Livermore. www.cedarmountainwinery.com

Occasio Winery will release the 2010 vintage Cabernet Sauvignon. The tasting room will open Nov. 23-25, noon to 5 p.m. each day. Wine tasting fee is \$5. 2245B South Vasco Road, Livermore, www.occasiowinery.com

Eagle Ridge Vineyard is celebrating "No More Turkey Friday" on Fri. Nov. 23rd. Instead of fighting the malls, head out to Eagle Ridge & enjoy the food/ wine pairing of Clam Chowder and Pinot Grigio. See the early arrivals for holi-

day shopping and enjoy a relaxing day with family and friends. 30% off a case of wine and complimentary tasting. Open 12-4:30 Friday, Saturday, & Sunday. 10017 Tesla Rd., Livermore. 447-4328.

Crooked Vine Winery will be open Fri., Nov. 23 from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for wine tasting (fee \$5). 4948 Tesla Rd., Livermore. www. crookedvine.com.

Wente Vineyards Estate Winery & Tasting Room will offer a holiday preview Nov. 23-25, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. New holiday merchandise, wine tasting featured. 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. www.wentevineyards.com

Thomas Coyne Winery will host its fall open house Nov. 23, 24 and 25 from noon to 5 p.m. Five new wines will be released including the first Sparkling

Wine methode champenoise. New releases: 2011 Viognier, California, 2011 GRUV, California, 2010 Zinfandel, Livermore, 2011 Sparkling Wine, 2007 Port, California. A selection of fine fruits and cheeses will be served. 51 East Vallecitos Road, Livermore. www. thomascoynewinery.com

Fenestra Winery presents a Prelude to Christmas with Pizza, Port and Puffs,

Nov. 23-25, noon to 5 p.m. each day. Event features Ken's Wood Fired Pizza, new releases of Tawny and '09 Souzao ports, and a mobile cigar lounge. Shop for unique gifts from local artisans. \$5 for Fanatics, \$15 others. 83 Vallecitos Road, Livermore. www. fenestrawinery.com.

Other Livermore Valley wineries will be open regular tasting hours.

# **ART & ENTERTAINMENT**



Works by artist Maryann Kot, "Celebrating Reality," will feature paintings in oil. watercolor, and colored pencil. The show is open Nov. 20 through Jan. 20. 2013 at the Prudential CA Realty, 1780 First St., Livermore. A reception with the artist will be held 5 to 7 p.m. on Tues., Dec. 4. For office hours contact Cher Wollard 925-824-4824 cherw@cherw.com. Pictured is "Red Pears with Crock.'

### ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

Pleasanton Art Walks, meet at 9 a.m. in the parking lot next to City Hall, 200 Old Bernal Avenue (adjacent to the public library). Guest leaders Nancy and Gary Harrington, will lead the walk on Dec. 8. World Walk to Wellness hosts Saturday morning walks for all who are interested. Contact walks@worldwalktowellness.org to receive (free) weekly e-mails of walk locations.

Livermore Art Association Fall Show, Nov. 1-30, Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. On view during regular hours. www. LivermoreArtAssociation.com.

Golden Decade Photographers, the Legacy of Ansel Adams and Minor White, Figurehead Gallery exhibition, Oct. 31-Dec. 1. 2222 2nd St., Suite 21, Livermore. 337-1799.

Seasons of the Valley by Bettie Goosman, An exhibit of large oil paintings and gicle'es depicting the "Seasons of the Valley" currently on display through November at the Purple Orchid Resort and Spa, 4549 Cross Rd., Livermore. Art can be viewed every day from 8am to 6pm except when an event is being hosted. For more information call (925)606-8855.

Man at Nature: Using and Leaving, exhibit Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Nov. 7-Dec. 15. www. firehouseasts org.

firehousearts.org.

Artist Norma Webb oil paintings at
Wente Vineyards Estate Winery, 5565
Tesla Road, Livermore for the month of
November.

Body of Movement Art Exhibit by Linda Ryan at Cuda Ridge Wines through Jan. 6, 2013. The winery is located at 5385 East Avenue in Livermore. Regular Winery Hours: 12-4;30 Fri-Sun; Available by appt. at 510.304.0914.

Collage Collection, Livermore Library show hosted by Livermore Art Association. Dec. 1-30. On view during regular library hours. 1188 So. Livermore Ave.

### MEETINGS/CLASSES

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

Classes, colored pencil basics and beyond taught by Maryann Kot. Starting MOn., Jan. 7 9:30 a.m. to noon or 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Jan. 8 for five weeks. Bothwell Arts Center 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Sign up at Way Up Art and Frame, Livermore. 925-443 3388. Space is limited.

Art Critique & Coffee Hangs at Coffee Ali, Friday at 10 a.m. sharing latest work and a gentle critique to fine tune work. Original paintings from a group of Local Professional and Emerging artists, with a New Theme, create New Works each month. Grab a cup of coffee and pull up a chair to hear what we have to say and enjoy Original Fine Art. For more information Google: Poetry on Canvas Pleasanton or call Claudette 510 543-4776.

ABC Music Store & Academy's 2nd Annual Holiday Children's Choir, learn the basics of singing while making music and having fun in a group. For children ages 7-11; meets Wednesdays at 7:15pm at ABC Music Store beginning November 28. Caroling down First St. and performance on December 20. Cost is \$75. For more info and to sign up, call ABC Music 925-443-1244 or email the instructor, Kim Luty: lutytunes@gmail.com

Livermore Art Classes, Artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst offers art instruction to children and adults. Classes cover painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, collage, animation and construction. For further information please call (925) 216-7231 email thomasin d@hotmail.com or visit http://childrensartclassesprojects. blogspot.com

Pleasanton Poetry League, Catch the Wave and Play with Poetic Journaling lead by local Artist/Poet Claudette McDermott. E-Mail interest to Poetry-OnCanvas@Mac.Com. Meetings at local locations. All Poetry enthusiasts

welcome. Get on the PPL mailing list: PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

Piano lessons, Private and small group piano lessons available for beginning students. Lessons include playing practice, theory, expression and an introduction to various types of music and composers. Private classes are \$15 per half hour and group lessons are \$12 per student per half hour (up to 4 students). For more information please call (925) 216-7231 email thomasin d@hotmail.com or visit http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogsoot.com/.

Young Artists' Studio has openings in its school year art classes for youngsters in grades 2 through high school and beyond. Classes will begin in October. All kinds of drawing and painting as well as printmaking and sculpture are offered in our large and well equipped home studio. Peggy Frank has been providing art experiences for valley youth for over 30 years. Contact her by email at frank.a@comcast.net or by phone at (925) 443-8755.

### WINERY EVENTS

Thomas Coyne Winery Fall Open House, Nov. 23, 24 and 25, noon to 5 p.m. at 51 E. Vallecitos Road Livermore. Release of five new wines, including the first Sparkling Wine, "méthode champenoise." A selection of fine fruits and cheeses will be served. Ginger will be there with samples of flavored Goat Cheese. The goat cheese will be available for sale. Bring a picnic and enjoy the view.

Wine Pairing Dinner at Terra Mia Restaurant, Livermore, flavors of Calabria paired with great wine selections from Livermore Valley wineries of Steven Kent and La Rochelle. Thurs., Dec. 2, 6 p.m. Reservations recommended, call the restaurant, 456-3333, www.terramiarestaurant.com. \$100 per person (tax and gratuity included). 4040 East Ave., Livermore.

The Winemaker's Pour House, Be Happy At "Happy Hour" with Livermore Valley Wine. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fr. 4 to 6 p.m. Buy a glass of Livermore Valley Wine or Flight and order a flatbread for half price. Take the wine puzzle challenge. Ask the wait staff for the wine puzzle. Information call (925) 215-2656 or visit www.winemakerspourhouse.com.

Holidays in the Vineyards, Livermore Valley Wine Country celebrates the season, December 1 and 2, noon to 4:30 p.m. each day. There is no ticket required to attend. However, tasting fees may apply and vary by winery. Guests are encouraged to bring unwrapped toys or monetary donations for Toys for Tots. Information at Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association, www.l.wine.org.

Charles R Vineyards celebrates Holiday in the Vineyards on December 1st & 2nd, Enjoy a full-flight tasting of award-winning wines in a comfortable, friendly environment. Savor homemade, 3-Bean Supper Soup and roast s'mores at the new fire pit. Local artisans will showcase their custom designed jewelry and works of art throughout the weekend, while holiday carolers set the tone on Saturday.

Special holiday gift packs, autographed bottles, and case discounts are available. Noon — 5 p.m., Dec. 1st & 2nd, 8195 Crane Ridge Rd., Livermore, www.CharlesRVineyards.com.

Cedar Mountain Winery, Holidays in the Vineyards, Dec. 1 and 2, noon to 5 p.m. weekend of Holiday Cheer. Cup of complimentary Hot Mulled Wine. B.Y.O.B (Bottle your own Port!) Dec 2nd Only: Earl has created a special "Port Blend" for this event only; bring clean 375 ml wine bottle, fill, and cork and label it for only \$10 per bottle; 750 ml bottle for \$20; empty bottles available for additional \$1. Guests are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy to benefit the "Toys for Tots Foundation." 7000 Tesla Rd., Livermore.

Gingerbread Class & Wine Tasting, Wente Vineyards Vineyard Tasting Room, 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Dec. 5, 7 to 9 p.m. Build gingerbread house, taste wine paired with holiday treats. Tack holiday sweater contest. Reservations required. www.wentevineyards.com/

Wine Pairing Dinner at Terra Mia Restaurant, flavors of Calabria paired with wine selections from Livermore Valley wineries of Steven Kent and La Rochelle. Thursday, December 6, 2012, 6-8.30pm. Reservations recommended, please call restaurant 925.456.3333 - www.terramiarestaurant.com. \$100.00 per person (tax and gratuity included). Terra Mia Restaurant, 4040 East Ave., Livermore.

Wood Family Vineyards will be sampling five wines at Gene's Fine Foods in Pleasanton on Sat., Dec. 8 from 2 - 5 p.m.. Gene's Fine Foods has placed a new order of Wood Family Vineyards wines just in time for the holidays. A sampling will be available on December 8th. The Wine Steward in Pleasanton is also carrying a new supply of Wood Family Vineyards. www. woodfamilyvineyards.com

### MUSIC/CONCERTS

Music every Saturday in the tasting room from 12 to 4; open every day if the gate is open and for sure on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 11 to 5. Red Feather Winery, 5700 Greenville Rd., Livermore. Information at 449–1871 or www.redfeatherwinery.com

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

Authentic New Orleans Style/Danceable Dixieland Traditional Jazz now at Sunol Jazz Cafe`. Comfort food served up with Smokin' Hot Jazz every 1st and 3rd Wednesday Mission Gold Jazz Band. Dinner orders begin at 6 pm; music from 7:30.

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.

Tribute to the Songs of Johnny Cash featuring James Garner, Nov. 24, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts. org.

Livermore-Pleasanton Youth Outreach Symphony, Benefit Concert for Oakland Children Hospital, November 24, 2012, 7 PM, at First Presbyterian Church Livermore, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. Selections featuring Dmitri Shostakovich's Waltz No. 2, Nicholas Rimsky-Korsakov's Procession of the Nobles, Andrew Lloyd Webber's The Phantom of the Opera, and Robert Schumann's Piano Concerto. The admission is free. www.lpyos.org

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy Holiday Show, Nov. 25, 7 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, Albion Rd., San Ramon; sanramonperformingarts.com. 973-3343.

Yuri Liberzon, Classical Guitarist, Nov. 25, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www. firehousearts.org.

Music Department Recital, Nov. 28, 12:30 p.m. showcasing Las Positas music student performances, free admission. Las Positas College Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Further information at 424-1100 or www. laspositascollege.edu/performingarts

Pacific Chamber Symphony, Fri., Nov. 30, 8 p.m. Handel: Messiah with soloists and the PCS Chorus and grand finale Hallelujah Sing-along. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Ohlone College Chops Big Band, conducted by Ken Crowell, Fri., Nov. 30, 8 p.m., 18-piece big band performs collection of tunes including Gershwin's "Summertime," Porter's "Just One of Those Things," and "It's You Or No One" arranged by Rob Lussier, among others. Smith Center at Ohlone College, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont. Smith Center Box Office: (510) 659-6031 or www. smithcenter.com.

Livermore-Amador Symphony, 50th anniversary season, Dec. 1, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Tapestry, combined vocal and handbell ensemble, "Dear Santa, A Musical Potpourri of Yuletide Wishes." Saturday, December 1 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton. 7 PM and are free to the public. Donations accepted. Visit www. TapestryRingersandSingers.org or call Susana Taylor, 925-768-8025.

Jazz Night Concert, Sat., Dec. 1, 8 p.m. Las Positas College presents vocal and instrumental jazz standards. Las Positas College Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006. Further information at 424-1100 or www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts

Pleasanton Community Concert Band, "A Holiday Rhapsody." Sun., December 2, Holiday Concert, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org.

Jeff Bordes and Friends holiday musical show, Dec. 8, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org

James P. Connelly with Katsy Chappel, Comedy@Firehouse Arts, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www. firehousearts.org Tingstad & Rumbel Holiday Show, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www. firehousearts.org.

Broadway Star Jeri Sager, Presents A Very Jeri Christmas, Dec. 16, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts. org.

Annual Winter Band Concert, Amador Valley High School, Thurs., Dec. 18, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

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

San Ramon Symphonic Band Holiday Concert, Dec. 21, 7 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, Albion Rd., San Ramon; sanramonperformingarts.com. 973-3343.

Willie K's Hawaiian Christmas, Dec. 21, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater. org or 373-6800.

Moscow Boys Choir Christmas, Dec. 22, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

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

### ON THE STAGE

All My Sons, Douglas Morrisson Theatre closes its "Family Portraits" 2012 season with Arthur Miller's 1947 classic. Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third Street, in Hayward. November 15, 2012 – December 9, 2012; Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 PM; Saturday December 1, 2012 at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM. Sundays at 2:00 PM. \$10 preview, \$20 Sat. matinee; \$28 Thurs., Fri., Sat. eve., Sun. matinee. (510) 881-6777; www.dmtonline.org

Christmas Carol, Nov. 30-Dec. 15, San Ramon Community Theatre presents Bah Humbug! Scrooge's Christmas Carol, Front Row Theater, Dougherty Station Community Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon; sanramonperformingarts.com. 973-3343.

Puss in Boots, Civic Arts stage Company, Dec. 7-16, Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Fri. 7:30 p.m., Sat. 2 and 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. www.firehousearts.org

Bay Area Children's Theatre presents Pinkalicious, Dec. 23, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. musical, Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, Albion Rd., San Ramon; sanramonperformingarts.com. 973-3343.

### COMEDY

Creatures of Impulse, the City of Pleasanton's teen improv troupe, presents 4th season of 'Holiday Shorts: A Long Winter's Tale', the popular Holiday-themed improv show in three unique performances Thursday, Nov 29 and Friday, Nov 30 at 7:30pm. Free preview show: Tuesday, Nov 27, 7:30pm. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. General admission tickets \$5, \$10 advance; \$8, \$15 at the door. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-

# **ART & ENTERTAINMENT**

4848, or at the Box Office at the center. Free parking.

Comedy@ Firehouse Arts, James P. Connolly, headliner, Katsy Chappell opener, Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 7:30 pm. Firehouse Arts Center is located at 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton. For tickets, call 931-4848 or go to www.firehousearts.org

Big Fat Kiss Off XX, Will Durst and Company, Dec. 28, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www. bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Smuin Ballet Christmas, Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 24, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800

Handel's Messiah Ballet performed by Anastasis Ballet Company Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. Grand Theatre, 715 Central Ave., Tracy. For more information, please visit www. anastasisballet.org or contact info@ anastasisballet.org. Tickets at \$15-\$25 may be purchased at www.atthegrand. org or 209-831-6858.

The Nutcracker, Valley Dance Theatre presents seasonal favorite features classic choreography paired with Tchaikovsky's score performed live by the Livermore-Amador Symphony. Dec. 8, 9, 15, 16 at 2 p.m. Dec. 8, 14, 15, 16 at 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

### **AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS**

Auditions, 2013 Sunol Repertory Theatre production, "Murder in the House of Horrors." Auditions Thurs., Dec. 6, 7 p.m. in the Sunol Glen School Auditorium 11601 Main St., Sunol. Directed by Lynn Kozma and produced by Kathy Morris. A Who Done it Murder Mystery Play. Rehearsals are Tues. & Thurs. 7-9pm. Performances Fri. & Sat. 8pm March 2 to 23. For more information call Sandi @ 925.862.9006

Forever Plaid, auditions, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre production. Auditions Sat., Dec. 1, 3 p.m., call backs (by invitation only) Sat., Dec. 8. 1020 Serpentine Lane, Suite 101, Pleasanton. Prepare 32 bars up tempo 50's pop: accompanist provided, no tapes, no a cappella. All roles open, no pay, no AEA. PErformances will be at the Village Theatre in Danville March 22-30 To sign up for an auditoin slot email kbreedveld@trivalleyrep.com. For questions, please contact the producer at (925) 899-3451

Open auditions, for Tri-Valley Haven's Production of Eve Ensler's The Vagina Monologues. The show will be performed at the Mertes Center for the Arts at Las Positas College on Friday and Saturday, March 1st and 2nd 2013. Experienced and inexperienced actresses of all ages and ethnic backgrounds are welcome (women only please, transgender females welcome). Auditions will be held on Wed., December 12 and Fri., December 14, 2012 from 5 - 9 pm at the Coffee Ali in Pleasanton. Please contact Christine to schedule an audition at (925) 667-2707 or Christine@trivallevhaven. org. Please bring a current photo and

prepare a1-2 minute monologue (not from The Vagina Monologues please) to present to the Director. For more information, please contact Christine at Christine@trivalleyhaven.org or (925) 667-2707

2013 Livermore Valley Wine Country Photo Contest, enter for a change to win a one-year membership to Livermore Valley Wine Country (that means complimentary tastings for two at more than 40 wineries!), 2 tickets to Barrel Tasting Weekend (March 23 & 24, 2013) with a one-night stay at Hawthorn Suites (March 23, 2013). For entry information and entry form, go to the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association website at www.lvwine.org

Classic Film Series, "Make 'em Laugh," hosted by Candy Klaschus, film historian and coordinator of the Humanities Program at Las Positas College: presented by Las Positas College and the Pleasanton Library, Thurs., Dec. 6. 7 p.m. The Lady Eve. Free admission. www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/ lihrary

### CHORAL

**Ohlone College Community Chorale** presents Holiday Prelude directed by Darryl Guzman, Dec. 1, 3 p.m. Centerville Presbyterian Church, 4360 Central Ave, Fremont. Concert featuring Courtney's "A Musicological Journey through the Twelve Days of Christmas, Leavitt's "Missa Festiva," and more. \$5-\$10 at Smith Center Box Office: 510-659-6031 or www.smithcenter.

Valley Concert Chorale, Holiday Songs of Joy: The Chorale's annual holiday performances of familiar and traditional carols. Cantabella Children's Chorus joins the Chorale. Sun., Dec. 2, 3 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton; and Sat., Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 4th & L Streets, Livermore. Tickets are \$20 advance, \$25 at the door. High school and college students \$10 with valid student ID. Children 12 and under are free, www.vallevconcertchorale.org or (925) 866-4003.

Pacific Masterworks Chorus, Winter Concert, December 8, 7:30 p.m. Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore, Buy tickets online. purchase at the door, or contact Tickets@PacificMasterworksChorus.org Las Positas College choir, orchestra

and wind ensemble perform choruses from Handel's Messiah and other seasonal favorites. Thurs., Dec. 13, 7:30 p.m. Las Positas College Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore, Advance tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006. Further information at 424-1100 or www.laspositascollege. edu/performingarts

Sing-It-Yourself Messiah, Valley Concert Chorale, join in singing Part I of Handel's great masterpiece, including the Hallelujah Chorus. Fri., Dec. 14, 7.30 n m Trinity Lutheran Church 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets are \$10 each, www.valleyconcertchorale.org or (925) 866-4003.

Cantabella Children's Chorus, winter holiday concert, Counting the Joys of Christmas, Saturday, December 15 at 1:00 and 3:30 P.M. at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore. For the 21st year in a row, this musical celebration of the season will feature children aged kindergarten through high school performing choral music accompanied by professional chamber musicians and fine harpist, Dan Levitan. Repertoire includes traditional carols sung in English, French, Latin and Spanish, as well as not so familiar gems in Basque, Hebrew and by composers such as Leonard Bernstein, Zoltan Kodaly and R. Vaughan Williams. Audience participation. Tickets are \$8-\$20. For information and ticket purchase, go to Cantabella.org/tickets.

Amahl and the Night Visitors, Saturday, December 8, 2 and 5 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth St., Livermore, Tickets \$12-\$25, purchase at www.livermorevallevopera.com and at the door

Metropolitan Opera Schedule, screening at Regal Hacienda Cinema in Dublin: The Tempest, Nov. 28, 6:30 p.m.; La Clemenza di Tito, Dec. 1, 9:55 a.m., Dec. 19, 6:30 p.m.; Un Ballo in Maschera, Dec. 8, 9:55 a.m., Jan. 9, 6:30 p.m.; Aida, Dec. 15, 9:55 a.m., Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m.; Les Troyens, Jan. 5, 9 a.m., Jan. 23, 6:30 p.m.; Maria Stuarda, Jan. 19, 9:55 a.m., Feb. 6, 6:30 p.m.; Rigoletto, Feb. 16, 9:55 a.m., March 6, 6:30 p.m.; Parsifal, March 2, 9 a.m., March 20, 6:30 p.m.; Francesca da Rimini, March 16, 9 a.m. April 3, 6:30 p.m.; Giulio Cesare, April 27, 9 a.m., May 15, 6:30 p.m.

Central Ave., Tracy. Classical ballet and excerpts from the Messiah are paired for a holiday performance. For more information, please visit www.anastasisballet. org or contact info@anastasisballet.org. Tickets at \$15-\$25 may be purchased at www.atthegrand.org or 209-831-6858. MISCELLANEOUS Fall 2012 lecture series, Congregation

Anastasis Ballet Company will perform Handel's

Messiah Ballet on Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 2 at 2 p.m.

The performance will be at the Grand Theatre, 715

Beth Emek: Dec. 5 scholar Ken Cohen who will trace the creation of Tel-Aviv in the early 20th century. Admission is \$10. All lectures will begin at 7:30 pm. Congregation Beth Emek is located at 3400 Nevada Court in Pleasanton. For more information: 510.318.6453. The series is sponsored by Congregation Beth Emek and the Jewish Federation of the East Bay.

Small Business Saturday, Nov. 24, downtown Livermore. www.livermoredowntown.com

Francis Slakey, scientist, author, adventurer, Rae Dorough Speaker Series, Nov. 28, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore, 2400 First St., Livermore, www.bankheadtheater. org or 373-6800.

Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony, Thurs., Nov. 29, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Dublin Civic Center. St. Bart's Dickens Faire, Saturday,

Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 2, at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore. Costumed actors will present excerpts from Dickens' A Christmas Carol: craft "shoppes" will line a Victorian London street in the parish hall. Tea will be served with scones and pasties. Faire hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 pm Saturday, Dec. 1, and from 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2. Donations are recommended. Parking is free. Proceeds will support Saint Bartholomew's Church and its outreach programs. (925) 447-3289 or www.saintbartslivermore.com.

Holidays on the Farm, Saturdays, December 1 & 8 at Forest Home Farms Historic Park, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd. in San Ramon from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on both Saturdays. Admission is free. Two of Santa's reindeer will make a special visit. Enjoy entertainment, tractor rides, Victorian ornament making, sheep herding demos, tours of the farm & Glass

House Museum, and special vendors. For info call (925) 973-3284

Holiday Faire, Dec. 1, noon to 6 p.m. caroling at 3:30 p.m., Heritage Park and Museums, corner of Donlon Way and Dublin Blvd., Dublin. Old fashioned St. Nick, old fashioned ornaments in school barn, Kolb House decorated for "A Farm Christmas Morning." Unique handcrafted items available for purchase, as well as holiday foods. Free admission. \$5 wristband for craft making and tractor ride. 452-2101.

Home for the Holidays, Dec. 1, noon to 4 p.m. downtown Livermore, carriage rides, snow in Lizzie Fountain, www. livermoredowntown.com

Pleasanton Hometown Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremonies, parade 5 p.m. on Main Street followed by the lighting of a holiday tree in front of the Museum on Main. www. ci.pleasanton.ca.us/

Ravenswood Victorian Yuletide, Sun., Dec. 9, noon to 4 p.m. Music, entertainment, carriage ride, food, crafts, and more. Ravenswood Historic Site. 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Free admission. Docent tours.

Celtic Christmas Concert and Gathering, Sun., Dec. 9, 6 to 9 p.m. Music by Pog Mo Thain and special guest, Michael Mullen. Bring a potluck dish to share. \$15 at the door, children 12 and under free. Benefitting the Bothwell Arts Center. 447-ARTS, www.

bankheadtheater.org.

Journey to Living Bethlehem, Dec. 13-17, Thurs.-Mon. Walk through a 30,000 sq replica of the village of Bethlehem over 2000 years ago to remember the true meaning of Christmas. Interactive live theatre production. The production is interfaith, free to the public, 6:30 to 9 p.m. repeats every thirty minutes. The event is adjacent to St. Michael's School, corner of Third and Church St. Livermore. journeytolivingbethlehem@ gmail.com 510-377-9711

Stories and speeches, Las Positas College forensics program. Fri., Dec 14, 7 p.m. Suggested donation \$10. Las Positas College Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Advance tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006. Further information at 424-1100 or www.laspositascollege. edu/performingarts

Holiday Tea. Sat., Dec. 15, 1 p.m. Heritage Park and Museums, corner of Donlon Way and Dublin Blvd., Dublin. \$25 per person. 452-2101.







Sierra Brower, Au.D. Audiologist/Hearing Aid Specialist

Jacque Pedraza Hearing Aid Specialist

Are You Hearing And Understanding The Sounds of Life?

### HEARING SERVICES

Pleasanton 4460 Black Ave. #F 484-3507

Livermore 1524 Holmes St. #D 960-0391

www.pleasantonhearingservices.com

# Milestones Community

### Work in Technology Transfer Earns Recognition

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory researchers and the Lab's economic development director have been tapped by the Federal Laboratory Consortium to receive three regional awards for technology transfer,

This year's awards were presented Sept. 6 during the FLC's three-day Far West/Mid-Continent regional meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in San Antonio, Texas.

Started in 1974, the consortium assists the U.S. public and private sectors in utilizing technologies developed by federal government research laboratories.

LLNL shared in awards for the development of a new breast cancer diagnostic system, the commercialization of a transmission electron microscope, and the work of an innovation center that assists small firms in

advancing transportation or renewable energy technologies.

A new medical technology, dubbed the "Intelliprobe optical breast cancer diagnostic system," can provide immediate cancer diagnoses and has been developed by scientists from the Russian Federal Nuclear Center, a Livermore-based company, BioTelligent Inc., and LLNL. The "Intelliprobe" system may eliminate or substantially reduce the need for biopsies, tissue sample analysis by doctors, and the time for patients to obtain their medical results.

In clinical tests on 165 volunteer patients in Russia, the system provided immediate diagnoses at accuracy levels that rival surgical biopsies and other conventional procedures in detecting cancerous cells. The system was tested in Nizhny Novgorod Regional Oncology Center.

Three LLNL employees Alexander Rubenchik, a physicist; Paris Althouse, the program manager; and Annemarie Meike, a business development executive – worked on the Intelliprobe project. One of the Lab's two partners, the Russian Federal Nuclear Center, is located in Sarov (formerly called Arzamas-16), about 230 miles east of Moscow.

An instrument - called the dynamic transmission electron microscope, or DTEM – that has been developed by LLNL scientists provides never-before-seen details of material processes in 15-nanosecond (billionth of a second) single-shot exposures. This breakthrough allows material samples to be viewed under extreme conditions to see what happens at the micro- and nanostructural level when materials are subjected to extreme temperatures, high pressures and reactive chemicals.

The DTEM technology, which has been licensed to a Belmont, Calif.-based company, Integrated Dynamic Electron Solutions (IDES), won an FLC award as an example of an "outstanding commercialization success.

In developing the DTEM, LLNL solved the problem of integrating pulsed lasers into a transmission electron microscope and, through the use of a weak lens coupling system, operating the machine with one million times the electron beam current it was originally designed to use.

LLNL condensed matter physicists Thomas La-Grange and Bryan Reed have led the DTEM development efforts. Ida Shum, a business development executive in the Lab's Industrial Partnerships Office, has overseen the commercialization work.

2013 Tri-Valley calendar to benefit Open Heart Kitchen-Sue Evans Photography has again created a unique desktop calendar which highlights the beauty of the valley and is donating a portion of the proceeds to Open Heart Kitchen. The calendars are available at Studio 7 in Pleasanton and directly through Sue Evans. For further information contact Sue Evans at 925-989-4113 or sueevansphotography@comcast.net.



The Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory presented a drama, "The Mystery of Daniel Hand," Nov. 8-10. The play was directed by John Warren. Pictured in a closing moment in the play are Closing moment in the play. Shannon (Julie De Simone) and Jeremy (Noor Gill). Photo - John Kina

### Lab Researchers Receive Grants

The Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and Office of Science (SC) announced that 46 research grants totaling \$14 million have been awarded as part of the Joint Program in High Energy Density Laboratory Plasmas (HEDLP). Contemporary advances in laser, particle beam and pulsed power technologies have made possible the creation of increasingly high energy density states in the laboratory. Studies of such states of matter are providing insights into fields ranging from astrophysics to fusion energy.

A total of 147 project proposals were received in response to the solicitation. The evaluation process, which included a rigorous peer review by outside experts, led to the selection of 37 projects for funding.

Local projects receiving grants include the following:

Diverging supernova explosion experiments on NIF: Tomasz Plewa, Florida State University (\$135,000)

Electronic structure of warm dense matter via multicenter Green's function technique: Duane Johnson, AMES National Laboratory (\$192,000) and Brian Wilson, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (\$180,000)

Fast ignition high energy density science: Pravesh Patel, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (\$1,800,000)

Isochoric heating of reduced mass targets: creating star-like plasmas in the laboratory: Kramer Akli, Ohio State University (\$147,000) and Scott Wilks, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (\$92,000)

Measuring magnetic fields in collisionless shock experiments on NIF: Hye-Sook Park, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (\$145,000)

Scaled Eagle Nebula experiments on NIF: Marc Pound, University of Maryland (\$47,000) and Jave Kane. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (\$225,000)

XAFS study of electron-ion equilibration in warm dense matter: Yuan Ping, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (\$300,000)

# **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.)

Holiday boutique, Saturday, December 1, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. featuring handmade crafts by local artisans, delicious food, fun arts and crafts free make and takes for kids and adults, music and all day raffles. First 50 people get a prize. Livermore Valley Charter School fund-raising, 2451 Portola Avenue, Livermore,

Holiday Boutique, Sat., Dec. 1, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Mendenhall Middle School, 1701 El Padro Dr., Livermore. Local artisans featured. Vendors are still needed Contact J.Meyer @ JSTANGL@lvjusd. k12 ca us

Holiday Book Sale, Sat., Dec. 1, noon to 3 p.m. Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza. Dublin Selection of hardcover books in excellent condition, ideal for gift giving; children's books, holiday books, gourmet cookbooks, gift books, and more. Information, call the Dublin Library (925)

Annual Holiday Boutique, Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association Unit 287 will present the event on Dec. 8, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Veterans Building, 522 South "L" St., Livermore. 8 ft. tables available for rent at \$25, call Polly 447-5986. Proceeds go to help service men and women who are overseas, along with veterans at home who are always in need of help. Snack bar run by veterans attend ing classes at Las Positas College

Holidays on the Farm Saturdays December 1 & 8 at Forest Home Farms Historic Park, 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd. in San Ramon from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on both Saturdays. Free admission. Two of Santa's reindeer will make a special visit! Enjoy entertainment, tractor rides, Victorian ornament making, sheep herding demos, tours of the farm & Glass House Museum, and special vendors. For info call (925) 973-3284.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., Lunch in San Ramon, Nov. 28, noon, RSVP by Nov. 25 to Marsha, 830-8483

Livermore LetsBellyDance. Friday November 30, 7 p.m. at the Dance Valley Theater, 2nd Street Livermore. Classes open to all adults, no need to pre-book \$15 at the door. Please come prepared to dance bare foot or wearing ballet shoes. www.LetsBellyDanceUSA.com, or contact Sara direct on 925 456 4404 or at LetsBellyDance@Hotmail.com

Drop in computer tutoring, Need help with downloading E-Books from the library to your E-Reader, sending E-mail attachments, social networking, blogging, general internet questions: Pleasanton Library offers assistant Thurs, 6 to 8 p.m. Ask at the Reference Desk or call 925-931-3400 (press 7 for Ref. Desk). Library programs are free and open to everyone. No registration required. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 for information.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Nov. 24, 34 miles Dublin High School to Pleasanton, Collier Canyon through Windemere and back, meet 10 a.m., Julie Hampton, 389-6738 and Dick Ward, 510-685-7103. Sat., Nov. 24, 60 miles up Mines Rd., meet 9 a.m. at old Nob Hill parking lot in Livermore, Brahim Satoutah. 963-7024. Sun., Nov. 25, 55

miles Sann Ramon/Danville to Lake Del Valle via Collier Canyon, meet 9:30 a.m. (rain cancels), Alberto Lanzas and Gail Blanco, 510-825-9581 or 872-1001. Wed., Nov. 28, 27 miles from Heather Farm to Concord and Martinez, meet 9 a.m., Dick Ward, 389-6738. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details. on where to meet and what to bring.

Senior Support Program of the **Tri-Valley** is looking for Volunteer Drivers to transport seniors to their medical appointments. The Senior Transportation Program supplements existing public and paratransit services by providing rides via volunteer drivers. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle, carry automobile liability insurance, and have a clear DMV record. Please contact Jennifer Cullen for more information at (925) 931-5387 or email: jcullen@ssptv. org. Funding for this program is provided by Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) and Measure B Funds.

GNON's having A Toy Drive, New unwrapped toys will be collected for the Toys for Tots program at the holiday party on Thurs., Dec. 6, 5 p.m. . Girasole Grill Restaurant, 3180 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Cost is \$10/pp for members and \$15/ pp for non-members. RSVP: To gnoners@ gmail.com by December 4.

Love-A-Doll Club meets on the second Thursday morning of each month. Share the love, knowledge and collection of dolls and doll related items. For more detailed information, call 925-447-5149.

Pleasantonians for Peace. Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month Nov 28 between 5 - 6 at the corners of First and Neal Streets Call Cathe Norman at (925) 462-7495: Matt Sullivan at mjs7882@gmail.com; or www. Pleasantonians4Peace.org

Healing Touch for Tri-Valley Veterans, December 8. Available time slots: 9:00 a.m., 10:15 a.m., or 11:30 a.m. Free Healing Touch sessions for active, inactive, combat or retired Veterans from any military branch. Healing Touch Program is endorsed by the American Holistic Nurses Association. Advance reservation required as space is limited. Sessions held at Las Positas College, Veterans First Center, Building 1000, Livermore. Student status is not required. For more information or to schedule a session, please call 925-352-8917

Writing Club, young adults, ages 12-21, are invited to join The Writing Club at the Livermore Public Library for fun-filled evenings of writing with author J.L. Powers. This free event will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on the following Monday, December 17, 2012 in the Small Conference Room of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. For more information, please visit TEEN SPACE on the library's website: www. livermorelibrary.net, or contact Jennifer at 925-373-5500, extension 5576.

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

Free computer training classes will be offered at the Livermore Library during November. Searching the Internet on Monday, November 26, 2012 from 1:00 -3:00 PM. Classes are hands on, first come first served and take place in Community Meeting Room B. For further information call 373-5505. The library is located at 1188 So. Livermore Ave.

Soroptimist Pleasanton Dublin is accepting applications for Soroptimist Awards. Applications are due by Dec. 2, 2012 Violet Richardson Award: Available to young woman between the ages of 14 & 17 who volunteer in the community or School Women's Opportunity Award: Since 1972. Soroptimist has been helping women reclaim their dreams through the Women's Opportunity Awards program. This program provides cash grants to women who are working to better their lives through additional skills training and education. For more information or to complete an application visit: www.si-pleasantondublin.org. Please mail applications to: Soroptimist International Pleasanton Dublin; P.O. Box 51, Pleasanton, CA 94566

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

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), Tri-Valley Parent Resource and Support Group is a twice-a-month parent support group for parents with children to age 18 diagnosed with or suspected of having bipolar or other mood disorders. It meets First and third Tuesdays of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m at Pathways To Wellness, 5674 Stoneridge Dr., Suite #114, Pleasanton. The group is drop-in, no registration required and is free. Suzi Glorioso by phone: (925) 443-1797 or by e-mail: glorios4@comcast net

Beginners Internet and e-mail classes, Free classes for absolute beginners who have never clicked a mouse or surfed the net. Learn the basics in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Pleasanton Library Tuesday and Thursday mornings; four one-hour classes in each series. Registration is required, as space is limited. Ask at the Reference Desk or call 925-931-3400, extension 7. Library programs are free and open to everyone. Call Merry Luskin at 925/931-3400 for information.

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

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. It is dedicated to the continued support of 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.

Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community for as long as they are willing and able to do so. CRIL maintains

offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore to provide information and referrals and provide community education at senior centers and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550 and can be reached by phone at (925) 371-1531. by FAX at (925) 373-5034 or by e-mail at abril.tamayo@cril-online.org. All services are free

Livermore Lioness Club welcomes new members at their regular monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month, at 6:30 pm. Participating in the many activities of the group is a great way to meet local people. The Lioness is a service club, sponsored by the Livermore Lions Club, that helps many worthy causes in our community. Lioness's main focus are women, children and family issues, in addition to helping the blind. For information please call 925-443-4543.

ValleyCare Auxiliary, Volunteers needed. Nine different areas of volunteer service available in both Pleasanton and Livermore, Floor service, information desks, office, the library, gift and thrift shops. For more information, please call 734-3368

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel, 10:30 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program. For more information www.fpcl.us or 925-447-2078

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

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

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information

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

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

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 447-6282.

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

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. worship (semiformal); 9:45 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school; 11 a.m. worship (informal). For information, call 925-447-1246.

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

Calvary Chapel Livermore, Sunday

Services 10:30 a.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.

**Únited Christian Church**, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worships 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 Concannon 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.

The deaf community is invited to worship at First Presbyterian Church in Livermore, where ASL translation will be provided every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The church is located on the corner of 4th and I streets

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.

Centerpointe Church, 3410 Cornerstone Court, Pleasanton. Services: 9 a.m. blended with choir and band. Childcare offered for infants through age 6 and children start in the worship service. 10:40 a.m. (new time) contemporary worship led by a band. Sunday school for children and middle-schoolers. www.centerpointechurch.org 925-846-4436

St. Innocent Orthodox Church. 1040 Florence Rd. Livermore, Sunday service at 10 a m. For details please see our website at www.stinnocent.net or call Fr. Leo Arrowsmith at 456-0845.

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

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church 678 Enos Way, Livermore, Sunday services with Rev. Joyce Parry Moore - Rector. 8:00 am Contemplative Eucharist with Taize music, 9:15 am Godly Play and Adult Bible Study 10.30 am Sung Fucharist with choir: child-care available. Youth Group

every Sunday from 4:00pm to 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall and youth room; yough oriented programs "Rite 13" and "Journey to Adulthood."www.saintbartslivermore. com/ for more information.

St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church (1928 Book of Common Prayer), 193 Contractors Avenue, Livermore, Sunday services: 8:45 a.m. (Low Mass) and 10 a.m. (High Mass with Sunday School). Other Holy Days as announced. For information, call msg. center at 925/906-9561.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ at 4481 East Avenue, Livermore, worship service 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Sundays, all are welcome. 925-447-4333 (a.m. to 12:00

Unity of Tri-Valley Church, 9875 Dublin Canyon Rd., Castro Valley. More room for all the new classes, small groups, new children's and teen programs, and Sunday services (at 10 a m.) All are welcome. Rev. Harriet Hawkins minister (925) 829-2733 www.trivalleyunity.com Check out Unity of Tri Valley on Facebook.

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

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

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. worship service. Bible Study/Sunday School 10:20. Bible Basics Class, which explores the main teachings of the Bible, meets at 7:00 Sunday night. Call 371-6200 or email pmjrmueller@gmail.com for more info.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, 4481 East Avenue, Livermore; 447-433.3 www. trivalleychurch.org. Update on classes for The Story 9:00 a.m. to 10:00a.m.. Worship Service 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Lynnewood United Methodist Church 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Sunday worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am with childcare and Sunday school at 10:30 am. Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer minister All are welcome. www.lynnewood.org, 925 846-0221

Clothing Drive - sponsored by Unity of Tri-Valley Church. Donations to go to Operation Dignity (veterans) and Wardrobe for Opportunity (job seekers). Collection dates Nov. 25 at the church, 9875 Dublin Canyon Rd., Castro Valley, before or after 10:00 a.m. service. Best to call for additional drop-off places and times: Michele or Ray Day, 925-829-1239, raymickday@ comcast.net.

Christmas Nativity Display, St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Dec. 2 after 9 and 11 a.m. and 4 and 6:30 p.m. Masses, Sponsored by the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 285 & CCOP Diversity Committee.

Light of the World, concert celebrating the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Fri., Dec. 14 starting at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) adult choir, teen choir, children's choir, cherub choir, Filipino choir, Spanish choir, cantors and instrumentalists. Food and good cheer follow. All are invited to attend. A free will offering will help defray concert expenses. For information, call 474-2776 or email misullivan@ catholicsofpleasanton.org.

# Milestones Community

# Community



The Harvest Park cheer team opened up their competition season by qualifying for Jr. Nationals. Sunday, Nov. 11, theHarvest Park cheer team competed in a USA Regional competition at Sonoma State University. They took 2nd place and qualified for USA Jr. Nationals in Disneyland March 1st and 2nd, 2013. Pictured are (back row) coach Jessica Becker, Mckenna Shaffer, Sophia Herzfeldt, Audrey Morse, Loren Curry, Allison Mercer, Julia Oltman, Hannah Macsata, Claire Fuller; (middle row) Kate Cole, Savannah Fried, Jessica Lawer, Kaitlyn Letourneau, Emma Clopton, Allyson Murphy; (front row) Sierra Picone, Emily Mercer, Mckenzie Fields, Dina Parks, Taisa Hrynewycz, Sarah Shackelford, and Kayla Fulmer. Their next competition is December 8th at Merrill West High School in Tracy.

# LPFD Battalion Chief Retires

Battalion Chief-Training Officer Chris Johnson of the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department (LPFD) retired on November 16, 2012. Chris began his fire service career as a firefighter in 1982 with the Orange County Fire Department in Southern California. He joined the Livermore Fire Department in February 1985 and

was promoted to Captain in 1996 and Battalion Chief-Training Officer in 2011.

During his career with LPFD, Chris has been involved in Public Education, Training, and Suppression Committees. He represented the Fire Department as member of the Alameda County Training Officers Association, Bay Area Regional Transit and COL Safety Committees.

Chris and his wife have three children and are the grandparents of two granddaughters and a soon to be born grandson.

The traditional last roll call was held on Friday, November 16 in front of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Headquarters in Pleasanton.

### Hope Hospice Names New CEO

Victoria A. Emmons, MPA, CFRE, of Pleasanton has been named chief executive officer of Hope Hospice in Dublin, according to David Karlsson, CPA, president of the Hope Hospice Board of Directors.

Emmons has held leadership positions in the health care field for more than 25 years. Most recently, she served as vice-president of development and communications at Hospice of the Valley in San José and is the former chief executive officer of Community Health Partnership, Inc., a nonprofit consortium of community health centers that serve the ethnically diverse populations of California's Silicon Valley. Emmons was formerly vice president of public affairs & marketing at Regional Medical Center of San Jose, vice-president of corporate & community health at El Camino Hospital in Mountain View, and executive director of the Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation in Fremont.

A Pleasanton resident since 1999, Emmons earned a Master of Public Administration degree in Healthcare from the University of San Francisco and served as adjunct faculty at USF and San José State University. Emmons was named Rotarian of the Year at the Rotary Club of Los Altos and won a first place Pinnacle Award for excellence in publications. She is a past winner of the YWCA's TWIN awards for women leaders and the Silver Fox Award for excellence in management and leadership.

For more information, call 1-800-HOSPICE or visit www.hopehospice.com.

## Foothill High School - Falcon Royales' Return a Big Success

The Pleasanton Hilton on Saturday, Nov. 3 was the site of Foothill High School's first Falcon Royale gala in over six years. The event raised over \$110,000 for both academic and athletic programs.

The event was co-sponsored by the Foothill Academic & Activities Booster Club and the Foothill Athletic Boosters for the benefit of all Foothill students.

The booster groups held a teaser event, Denim &

Diamonds, in the spring, which proved there was enough support to re-launch the annual Falcon Royale event.

"I just want to say how impressed and appreciative I am regarding (the) efforts toward what I perceive as nothing short of a huge success with Falcon Royale. Pleasanton resident and business owner Joe O'Loughlin said, "It's one thing to 'carry the torch' and continue on a tradition or an-

nual event, but to resurrect/ re-invent an enormous fundraising endeavor without a blueprint to follow is quite an undertaking."

The booster groups have raised \$165,000 in 2012 with the help of community sponsors: Heart of the Valley Pediatric Cardiology, Hilton at the Club, E\*Trade Financial, Olympic Orthodontics, DeBernardi Development, Better Homes & Gardens Realtor Cindy Gee and Alain Pinel Realtor Julia

Murtagh, plus donations made by local and Bay Area businesses and families.

The 2012 Falcon Royale kicked off with an online auction three weeks before the live event. The live event featured an elegant dinner, casino games and dancing, along with silent and live auction items. Some of the most sought-after items were a package for a VIP courtside experience to this year's Foothill vs. Amador basketball game and desserts

created by Foothill students.

Event co-chairs Donna Truex and Brenda McFarlane were delighted by the support and results.

"I personally had a great time seeing old friends and making new (friends) and generally seeing the smiles on the faces of everyone who took the time to support our kids," parent Katrina Edwards said. "This can be nothing but a huge step in the right direction. Here's to 2013."



The cake, created by an FHS Freshman student, fetched an \$700 during the live auction. Photo courtesy of Katrina Edwards.