



See Inside 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.

Compromise Urged on Water Fix; Others Ask Feds to End Project

By Ron McNicoll

The California Water Fix, which includes a proposal to build Twin Tunnels, is in the spotlight again, as a non-profit organization suggests an overall concept for compromise that might bring all parties together.

In addition, on December 2, a coalition of 10 environmental

groups wrote to President Obama's administration figures asking it to simply end the California Water Fix.

The compromise proposal, revealed Nov. 28, comes from the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC). The organization has expressed support in general for a plan to improve the Delta, but

has not endorsed one, said Center Director and Senior Fellow Ellen Hanak.

"We are not endorsing a specific engineering design. We are saying that the time is ripe for various groups to agree on a grand compromise. All parties would benefit from moving beyond the status quo," said Hanak.

Several suggestions stand out. The current plan's Twin Tunnels could be reduced to one tunnel. It would have more capacity than previous single tunnels, but less than the current total of two.

That would reduce the cost, not by one-half, because of economy of scale savings. Hanak said that

(See WATER, page 4)

Help Available to Meet Deadline to Sign Up for Health Plans

Axis Community Health has been receiving calls from Tri-Valley residents seeking information about open enrollment for Covered California health plans and Medi-Cal.

Alex Garcia, Community Relations Coordinator for Axis, states, "People have many questions about the future of the Affordable Care Act. It is important to remember that nothing has changed and that Covered CA is open for business as usual."

"Our certified enrollment counselors assist people in getting the best plans possible," says Garcia. "People renewing their plan or enrolling for the first time should call Axis. Appointments are free." Help navigating the application process is available by phone or in person.

Covered CA offers plans from private insurance companies for U.S. citizens and documented immigrants. Applicants cannot be denied coverage due to preexisting conditions. Eligible applicants can receive financial assistance to help

(See HEALTH, page 12)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Livermore-Amador Symphony and Cantabella Children's Chorus performed a selection of holiday favorites and seasonal music, while Valley Dance Theatre performed selections from their production of *The Nutcracker* at last Saturday's annual Family Concert at the Bankhead Theater. Following the performance, an "Instrument Petting Zoo" offered an opportunity for children to interact with the musicians and learn about their instruments.

Pleasanton Swearing In Held

Thorne, Brown and Pentin Take Office

Pleasanton Mayor Jerry Thorne and Councilmembers Karla Brown and Jerry Pentin officially returned to office following a swearing in ceremony Tuesday.

Brown and Pentin will be serving their second and final terms. Mayor Thorne was elected to his third term.

Brown was the leading voter getter in the November 8 election, collecting 20,337, a new record for a city councilmember. Thorne also topped 20,000 votes with 20,106. Pentin's total was 14,499.

Thorne began his remarks by thanking his opponent Julie Testa for being willing to step up and serve. He said to those who did not vote for him, "I will make every effort to be your mayor and hope to win your support in the future."

Thorne noted that he had come from a financially challenged background, raised by a single mother. "Here I am the mayor of the city ranked 4th best in the United States. The American dream is still alive. I hope to work to keep it alive for all the future."

He described the campaign as a roller coast with ups and downs that he was able to get through with the support of his wife and volunteers

(See PLEASANTON, page 5)

Special Needs Housing Proposals Moving Ahead

Sunflower Hill development plans in Livermore and Pleasanton are moving through the approval process with both expected to go before city councils in 2017.

Planning commissions in both Livermore and Pleasanton have recommended that the projects be approved.

In its application, Sunflower Hill envisions that the communities will provide housing, activities, security, dining options, as well as social experiences for those with special needs/developmental delays.

The Livermore Planning Commission endorsed the proposal from the developer MidPen to

build Sunflower Hill, a residential community for 44 individuals with special needs. Planned are a mix of 1 bedroom and studio apartments. The vote was 4-0. The Historic Preservation Committee (HPC) voted for approval, 5 to 0. One of the HPC commissioners called it the best example of re-use of an area around a historical element that she'd ever seen.

The home on the site was built in 1927 by Robert Schenone, the great grandson of Robert Livermore. It will be preserved.

The next step in the approval process would entail a city council review. That is anticipated to occur in 2017.

A community meeting was held in Livermore on November 17 to provide information about the Livermore plans. There were about 40 neighbors in attendance.

Some expressed support for the project and some raised issues. One question was over the size of the project, which some thought would be a community for 100 individuals.

Steve Riley, Livermore Principal Planner, said there were issues raised related to parking, traffic and the safety of residents who might want to cross First Street. He noted that few of the residents will drive. In addition, access to the site by car would be from First

Street, so it is unlikely those going to the site would park in adjacent neighborhoods.

Another issue related to the fact that neighbors had been told the

(See HOUSING, page 4)

Youth Ag Education Barn to Open at Fairgrounds in 2017

The Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton will have a new barn next year devoted to Agricultural Education for youths.

Young people who live in cities and towns who want to raise an animal to show at the Fair will be able to raise them at the barn.

On Nov. 22, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved allocation of \$541,000 to build the 80,000 square-foot facility. The money won't come from the county budget, but from a fund established in

(See BARN, page 5)

Donations of Bus Tickets Will Help People Over the Challenges of Getting Around

By Carol Graham

Jacky Poulsen likes to do something extra during the holiday season to help struggling and homeless neighbors.

"Usually it's something like collecting new socks or warm clothes for winter. Last year I wanted to do something different," said Poulsen, a volunteer with Partners for Change, a community-based program that helps those in the Tri-Valley achieve financial self-sufficiency. "I've come to appreciate the challenges of having neither a car nor the financial means to pay for public transportation, so I decided to do a small-scale bus ticket drive. My friends were so generous that we were able to donate about 500 bus

tickets (\$800). My friends were not only generous, but also grateful for the opportunity to do something that so directly helps people in need, and with zero overhead!"

Now in its second year, Poulsen is opening the bus ticket drive to the community.

"My hope is that the broader community will feel the same way," said Poulsen. "Since many homeless people do not have a car, transportation is a huge challenge for them. For example, getting a 'free' meal at Open Heart Kitchen actually costs \$4 in round-trip transportation. That's \$4 they often don't have. The same applies to getting to medical appointments."

The bus tickets are given out at the Open Heart Kitchen. Founded

in 1995, Open Heart Kitchen serves nutritious hot meals free of charge to the Tri-Valley's disadvantaged every weekday, rotating between locations in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin. The bus tickets will be given out during meals at the Asbury United Methodist Church in Livermore.

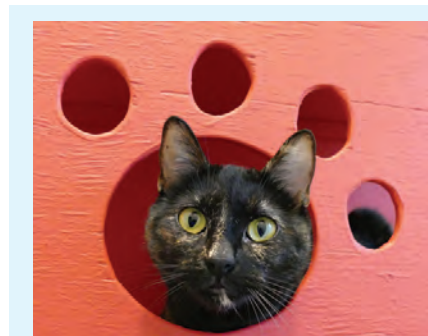
"Eight years ago I met a gentleman in Livermore who was homeless, but managing to maintain a job," said Teri Lambert, manager of Asbury's Shower and Laundry Program. "The effort on his part to be ready for work and get there each day touched me. I realized how easy it was for me to get a good night's sleep, make coffee, shower, and put on clothes that had

(See TICKETS, page 12)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Jacky Poulsen (left) with Christy Wegener, Director of Planning for LAVTA, work together on ticket donations.



PET OF THE WEEK

Jingle bells, jingle bells, Martina's ready to be on her way! She's hoping you'll pick her up and put her in your sleigh. A curious two-year-old tortoiseshell, Martina may just wrap her paws around your neck and kiss you all the way. Take Martina home for the holidays and beyond, at Valley Humane Society, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm. For more info visit valleyhumane.org or call (925) 426-8656. Photo - Valley Humane Society/G. Subramonian

INSIDE

MAIN SECTION	Sports	6
Classifieds.....	Obituaries.....	9
Editorial	SECTION A	
Mailbox	Art & Entertainment.....	8
Roundup.....	Bulletin Board.....	10
Short Notes	Milestones.....	12

SHORT NOTES

Night Hike and More

A Mercurial Night Hike will be led by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff on Sat., Dec. 10. Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 5:30 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road.

This will be a special night hike in honor of the planet Mercury. Mercury will be the farthest from the sun on Sunday evening, so participants can take advantage of the increased separation to observe Mercury with a telescope. Hikers may also see some early Geminid meteors. Canceled if raining; night hike if cloudy.

On Sun., Dec. 11 there will be a Winter Wander. Meet Ranger Amy Wollitzer at 1 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road.

The grass is green, the soil is fragrant and mistletoe can be seen in the oaks. Join this relaxed four-mile hike in search of the wonders of winter. Children are welcome, however the walk will be mostly on dirt trails, so strollers are not recommended. Canceled if raining heavily; will go if it's only sprinkling.

There is a \$7 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$3 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. There is an annual parking pass available that provides significant savings over the daily fee for regular park visitors. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

World Healing Day

December 31 is known as World Healing Day, and also World Peace Day. Unity of Tri-Valley church will participate in meditating for world healing and peace at 4:00 a.m. in the sanctuary at 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin.

Based on the quantum physics principle that thought can direct energy and thus create reality, the event is designed to synchronistically join millions of minds around the world in prayer, meditation, music, art, dance, poetry, readings, dialogue, and other ways to focus on and manifest lasting peace on Earth.

The theme this year is Many Hands Make Light Work.

Following the meditation at Unity of Tri-Valley, a breakfast potluck will be served. Those able to attend the potluck, are asked to contact Pam Boyer at 510-386-1113. All are welcome.

Dublin Grants Program

Community non-profit organizations are invited to apply for the City of Dublin's Fiscal Year 2017-18 Human Services Grants Program. The application period will be open from Thursday, December 1, 2016, through Sunday, January 8, 2017.

The City of Dublin Human Services Grants Program provides financial support to non-profit organizations that serve Dublin residents by addressing human service needs such as health care, homelessness, disabilities, and food and nutrition. Funding is recommended annually by the Human Services Commission and awarded by the Dublin City Council to organizations that best meet the community's needs in keeping with the Grants Program guidelines.

The Grants Program includes a competitive application process, mandatory participation in meetings and presentations, and strict financial reporting requirements. Visit the City of Dublin Grants Program webpage for more information <http://www.dublin.ca.gov/159/Community-Grants-Program>

SLFCU Dividend

Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union has announced that

its 83,000 members are sharing a \$10 million special dividend, which will be paid in addition to dividends already earned by members. The amount each member will receive will vary based on the dividends earned on all deposit accounts, including IRAs, for the past 12 months.

President/CEO Robert Chavez said, "SLFCU has weathered the tough economic times of the last several years and has built its reserves beyond the point of what's needed for adequate safety and soundness, so we're returning a portion of those reserves back to our members. The credit union already offers better than market average rates on loan and deposit products. When our reserves attain a level sufficient to ensure adequate safety and soundness, we provide a return to our member owners rather than returning profits to stockholders like a bank. Our strength and stability is largely due to our members' loyalty and fiscal responsibility."

Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union is New Mexico's largest credit union by asset size, and serves over 83,000 members with eight branches in the Albuquerque, New Mexico area and two in Livermore, California. SLFCU currently holds \$2.3 billion in assets and is consistently ranked among the top credit unions for total financial return to members by Callahan and Associates, Washington, D.C. (www.creditunions.com).

Dublin Launches New Registration System

The City of Dublin Parks and Community Services Department is in the process of transitioning to a new activity registration system which will go live in January 2017.

The system will offer new and improved features that will make finding and registering for activities and events easier. What does this mean for you? The new system will not carry over any existing customer account information. In order to be ready to register online for spring activities, you will need to create an account in advance. The 2017 Spring Activity Guide will be mailed to Dublin residents the first week of January.

To create an account: Go online to www.Dublin-RecGuide.com and click on the "Create an Account" button.

Fill out the form to create your new account.

Click "Save" at the bottom of the form. Make a note of login and password.

Starting January 3, register for spring classes in the new system.

To register for Fall/Winter Activity Guide classes, go to www.DublinRecGuide.com and click on the Fall/Winter Activity Guide image.

Holiday Coat Drive

Local insurance agency, Gene Morgan Insurance, is gearing up for the Holiday season by hosting a coat drive for families in need in the Tri-Valley. They are collecting new and gently used coats at the Livermore office located on 2020 4th Street. Coats for school-aged children are most in need.

Gene Morgan Insurance is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, and closed daily from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm for lunch. They will be accepting donations during regular business hours. The drive will end on 12/16/2016.

For questions regarding the coat drive, or to make arrangements to drop something off after hours, contact Michelle Morgan at (925) 447-2565 ext. 218 or michelle@genemorganinsurance.com.

Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Accepting Nomination for Community Service Awards

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for its 54th Annual Community Service Awards. Community members are encouraged to nominate deserving businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals for one of five awards: Business Philanthropy, Excellence in Business, Excellence in Service, Distinguished Individual and Green Service.

Honorees will be recognized at the Community Service Awards Event in March of 2017. The Community Service Awards began in 1963 to recognize good people doing great things in the community and since then hundreds of recipients have been honored.

Anyone may submit nominations for these awards. Nomination forms and information regarding the criteria for each award category are available on the Pleasanton Chamber website.

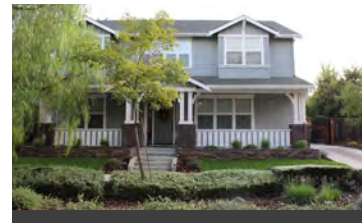
Nominations are due January 20, 2017. They may be submitted online, via email to susie@pleasanton.org, faxed to 925.846.9697 or mailed to the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, 777 Peters Avenue, Pleasanton, CA, 94566. Sponsorship opportunities are available for this event.

The Pleasanton Chamber presented seven Community Service Awards in March of 2016 Business Philanthropy Award: Fratel-

lone Family Chiropractic; Excellence in Business Award: Wealth Management Associates; Excellence in Service Award: Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation; Distinguished

Individual Service Award: Eleanor Flatley; Lifetime Achievement Award: Frank Capilla; Green Business Award: Pleasanton Corporate Commons / Hines.

NEW ON THE MARKET!



5673 Moreland Way, Livermore

6BD (two downstairs) / 4BA
3414 sq ft / -quarter acre lot
\$1,185,000
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



Linda Futral

Broker/Realtor

925.980.3561

linda@lindafultral.com

www.lindafultral.com

License #01257605



The International Award Winning
Cantabella Children's Chorus
presents
Let the Merry Bells Ring
2016 Winter Concert
Saturday, December 10
1:00 PM and 4:00 PM
Our Savior Lutheran Ministries
1385 S Livermore Ave, Livermore, CA
ADA Accessible

TICKETS
Adults \$22
Children under 18 admitted FREE
*Ticket Required. Up to 3 kids per adult.
www.cantabella.org/tickets
f /CantabellaChorus
PHONE: 925-292-2663
EMAIL: info@cantabella.org
Cantabella Children's Chorus is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit

LIVERMORE CALIFORNIA
THE CITY OF PLEASANTON
DUBLIN CALIFORNIA
sponsored in part by
THE CLOROX COMPANY

28 YEARS IN REAL ESTATE **MY JOB IS TO SELL HOMES**
Madeline Walker
RECOGNIZED ~ RESPECTED ~ RECOMMENDED

SENIORS REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST®
When you list your home with me, my services include:*

- LANDSCAPE/YARD CLEANUP
- HOUSE CLEANING/GENERAL CLEANUP
- GARAGE SALE/ESTATE SALE
- HAULING TO DONATION CENTERS
- HANDYMAN SERVICES/CONTRACTORS
- ROOF, TERMITE & HOME INSPECTIONS AS NEEDED

*Call for details

If you or someone you know is about to make a lifestyle change.
Call Madeline for a private consultation.
800-319-8991
homes@madelinewalker.com
REALTOR®, LIC. #00979099
www.madelinewalker.com

INTERO
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

VALLEY ROUNDUP

Swalwell Now Co-Chair

Rep. Eric Swalwell (CA-15) joined House senior leadership on Friday when House Democrats named him co-chair of the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee.

Swalwell, 36, is the youngest person to ever hold that post.

"I'm eager to take on this responsibility, in fulfillment of my promise to bring new ideas and energy to Washington. The real winners of today's contest are the people I represent in the East Bay who will benefit with their representative in senior leadership."

Swalwell was nominated to this post by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, who earlier had named him to the committee in November 2014 and had elevated him to vice chair in February 2016.

Baker Sworn In

Assemblywoman Catharine Baker (R-San Ramon) was sworn in Monday as the representative for the 16th Assembly District in the California Legislature. This is Baker's second term in office.

Baker stated, "Over the next two years, I will continue the work I began in my first term, focusing on real results, not partisan bickering, to achieve solutions that will help improve the quality of life for all Californians. Our district expects no less."

Her very first act will be to continue the practice she adopted in her first term, of declining both the state-issued vehicle and per diem perks for Members.

Baker notes that she focuses her efforts on improving the education system, transportation and water infrastructure, public safety and fiscal discipline, with an emphasis on bipartisan collaboration. In her first term, she had nine bipartisan bills signed by the Governor in each of these areas.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Assemblywoman Baker will host a Holiday Open House at Assembly District 16's San Ramon District Office in San Ramon on Tues., Dec. 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. The open house will be an opportunity for constituents of the 16th Assembly District to meet with Assemblywoman Baker before the start of the new legislative session and to share their thoughts and concerns regarding legislative and community issues. Assemblywoman Baker's office will be collecting new, unwrapped toys to benefit Toys for Tots programs in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. To RSVP for this free event, contact the District Office at 925-328-1515.

Green Infrastructure

The California Coastal Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, Save the Bay, San Francisco Estuary Partnership, East Bay Regional Park District and San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department are convening a regional leadership forum on multiple-benefit green infrastructure.

It will take place from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Fri., Dec. 9 at the Contemporary Jewish Museum, 736 Mission St., San Francisco.

National and regional green infrastructure experts, state and local policymakers, practitioners and community leaders will share case studies, discuss barriers and opportunities, and develop strategies for expanding implementation of equitable green infrastructure in the Bay Area.

The half-day event will begin with a Mayor's Breakfast highlighting innovative models around the Bay Area and sharing opportunities to further integrate green infrastructure into planning and development.

Green infrastructure is considered to be a critical strategy for adapting to the impacts of climate change, protecting air and water resources, creating mobility options, and improving social cohesion and public health. As the region plans to

accommodate a growing population, spokespersons believe that it is critical to re-envision the role of infrastructure to serve multiple functions and ensure equitable development.

For information, go to www.eventbrite.com/e/green-infrastructure-leadership-conversation-tickets-27845262931

DSRSD Hires Operations Manager

Dublin San Ramon Services District has hired Jeff Carson as its new operations manager. For the last four years, Carson was operations and maintenance manager for the City of Hayward's water pollution control facility. As DSRSD's senior executive responsible for wastewater, drinking water, and recycled water operations, Carson will oversee a \$14.3 million annual budget and 62 employees. He started with DSRSD today.

While with Hayward, Carson helped launch renewable energy and water recycling projects that brought state and national recognition to the city, including a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Green Power Leadership Award in 2015. The same year the facility was named Plant of the Year by the San Francisco Bay Section of the California Water Environment Association, the state's leading training and certification organization for the wastewater industry.

Carson holds bachelor's degrees in biology and environmental studies from California State University East Bay and professional certifications in wastewater treatment, laboratory analysis, environmental compliance, and water distribution.

DSRSD's former operations manager, Dan Gallagher, retired in May. A nationwide recruitment for the position attracted 25 applicants from across the country.

Disaster Relief Fund

Alameda County has reactivated its Disaster Relief Fund to enable its approximately 9,600 employees and people in the community to voluntarily donate funds to benefit the victims of the fire late Friday at a converted warehouse space in Oakland's Fruitvale neighborhood. At this time,

New Date, Location for Wine Auction

The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Foundation and The Wente Foundation for Arts Education have announced a new date and a new venue for the 23rd annual Livermore Valley Wine Auction, Wine Making a Difference.

After 22 years of being held in the spring, the event now take place in the fall, on September 23, 2017.

The event will be held at a new venue in 2017, the Wente Vineyards Event Center on Arroyo Road in the Livermore Valley. This new venue will accommodate more guests.

For additional information, go to <https://lvwf.org>

36 people are confirmed to have died in the fire.

Activation of the Disaster Relief Fund enables Alameda County employees and people in the community to contribute cash donations to help people affected by the three-alarm fire – the families of those killed and those recovering from their injuries. County employees may also have the option to donate up to 5 days of their accrued vacation time, compensatory time and/or holiday in-lieu time.

To make a donation to the Alameda County Disaster Relief Fund, go to <http://acgov.org/government/news/disaster.htm>. Information about the Disaster Relief Fund also can be found on ACGOV Cares (<http://acgovcares.org/>), a new website designed to engage County employees and residents about volunteerism and other opportunities to strengthen our communities.

Correction

A story about the "Queer Livermore" web site should have used the word "Transgender" for the meaning of the "T" in "LGBTQ."

RE/MAX Accord **Open Sat/Sun, 12/10 & 12/11, 1-4:30**

\$699,900



CalBRE # 01267853

Serving Livermore Since 1999

Ivy LoGerfo

925 998-5312 **6457 Tiffany Cmn., Liv.**

Stylish home offers sophisticated living! 3 bds, loft, 2.5 bths, 1,916 sqft, 4,994 sqft lot! Open floor plan! Formal dining & living rooms! Eat-in ktchn/family combo, SS appliances & granite! Location!!

IvyLoGerfo.com * Your Livermore Connection

Home For The Holidays

TVAR is sponsoring ALL my costs and adoption fee so for the right home, I go home for **FREE!** So come down to the Shelter at **4595 Gleason Drive, Dublin** and take me home for Christmas so I can start to THRIVE



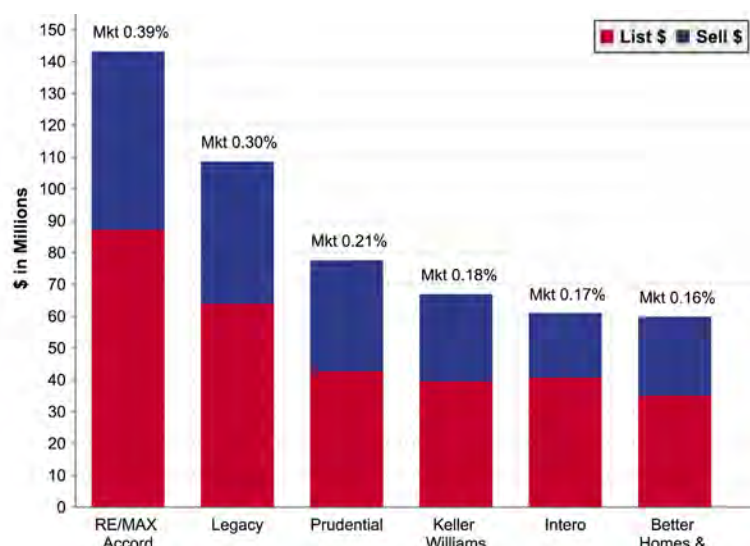
This promotion is effective for the month of December for animals at the East County Animal Shelter. Tri-Valley Animal Rescue is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

When RE/MAX® Takes Your Listing, We Take It Local To Global

Our Successful Agents Are Moving Sellers & Buyers Down The Street and Around The Planet

Search the World: global.remax.com

Market Share Totals - Total \$ Volume (Livermore Offices)



Nancy Balbutin-Collins
(925) 784-3755
NancyBalbutin.com
CalBRE#00880818



Ellen Bettencourt
(925) 899-0800
Bet10ct.com
CalBRE#00849855



Phil Cunha
(209) 518-0936
CunhaRealEstate.com
CalBRE#02014636



David Dreffs
(925) 895-3289
925Realty.com
CalBRE#01432357



Heidy Hurst
(925) 584-6377
HeidyHurstFirst.com
CalBRE#01280003



Judi Irwin
(925) 519-4922
JudIrwin.com
CalBRE#00860987



Lori Jefferis
(925) 980-4516
LoriJefferis.com
CalBRE#01368736



John Kurtzer
(925) 454-2418
Blog.Kurtzer.com
CalBRE#00647397



Natalie Kruger
(925) 580-5963
Natalie@krugergroup.com
CalBRE#01187582



Michele Lane
(408) 806-0340
MicheleLaneRealtor.com
CalBRE#01252457



Yvette Larson
(925) 667-0055
ExploreLivermore.com
CalBRE#01771056



Ivy LoGerfo
(925) 998-5312
IvyLoGerfo.com
CalBRE#01267853



Tom Lyons
(925) 216-1105
TomLyons.com
CalBRE#01111027



Sherry Nigg
(925) 640-0869
SherryNigg.com
CalBRE#01177147



Eleanor Pemper
(925) 519-9641
PemperProperties.com
CalBRE#00888359



John Raymundi
(925) 960-5555
John@JohnRaymundi.com
CalBRE#01109830



Diane Sass
(925) 699-9508
DianeSass.com
CalBRE#01202058



Rosa Sierra
(925) 487-4865
rosaSierra.com
CalBRE#01452722



Brad Slabaugh
(925) 997-4905
Tri-ValleyRealEstate.com
CalBRE#01347388



Paul Slichter
(925) 872-6814
Paul@remaxaccord.com
CalBRE#00630768



Larry D. Smith
(925) 216-1613
LarryS1@remax.net
CalBRE#00494661



Patti Smylie
(925) 487-2080
PattiSmylie.com
CalBRE#01387257



Lia Wendell
(925) 200-9901
LiaWendell.com
CalBRE#00758816



Carla Winter
(925) 371-6063
CarlaWinter.com
CalBRE#01175730

RE/MAX® Accord

1841 Fourth St, Suite E, Livermore, CA 94550
(925) 447-9000 | remaxaccord.com

EDITORIAL

Water Issue Won't Go Away

Water availability in California will continue to be an issue. Actions are underway at both the state and local levels to come up with a plan to better prepare for predicted longer and more severe droughts related to climate change.

Last week, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced its initial water allocation for 2017 at 20 percent of the requests by the 29 public agencies served by the State Water Project (SWP). It was noted that much of the recent rainfall was absorbed by the dry ground.

Zone 7 Water Agency, which provides water to the Tri-Valley, is one of the agencies that purchases water from DWR.

Taking one step to deal with water availability, the State issued a draft plan that would make water conservation a way of life.

The state is currently taking comments on the draft plan. It proposes such actions as a permanent ban on wasteful uses such as hosing down driveways.

On a local level, a Water Policy Roundtable involving Zone 7 along with water retailers and cities, has been looking into improved reliability through diversification of water supply, storage and facilities.

Figuring out how to share the water resources represents a challenge that must be met in order to sustain the economy, habitats for species, farms, and urban and suburban areas.

WATER

(continued from page one)

the state would have to run the numbers to determine the exact answer.

Building one somewhat larger tunnel instead of two smaller ones would also put a cap on how much upstream fresh water could go into the Delta, added Hanak.

Many environmentalists, fishers, and Central Valley resident whose jobs depend on irrigated agriculture and fishing don't like the California Water Fix, because it diverts the fresh water away from the Delta. Whether the single-pipe approach would make a difference in negotiations is unknown.

The current Twin Tunnels were put in the plan for a reason, said Erin Mellon, a spokesperson for the California Natural Resources Agency. The second tunnel would act as a back-up for maintenance and emergencies, such as an earthquake that might knock one tunnel out of commission.

Hanak said that PPIC has talked to engineers. "It is not clear that it (redundancy of two tunnels) offers as many benefits as they (the Fix) are suggesting."

PPIC also proposes new

approaches to saving species in the Delta. Population of Delta smelt has fallen greatly. That could be solved by breeding them in hatcheries, so their numbers increase, says PPIC. Then they could be released to the north Delta, where they could thrive.

The decline in Delta smelt population prompted a federal judge in 2007 to rule that the state had to manage the Delta habitat in such a way that the species would not be threatened. That resulted in additional restrictions for moving water in the Delta. The restrictions have interfered with water agencies' ability to take their allotment at certain times of the year, so they receive less water.

The salmon migration could be assisted by reconnecting flood plains to the rivers, and using them to produce food for salmon, said Hanak.

"Negotiation of this grand compromise will require stakeholders to embrace its broad contours before turning to its many details. If we fail again to find common ground, the political paralysis that has plagued the Delta for decades will continue. The many economic and envi-

ronmental benefits that the Delta provides to California will continue to decline," says the PPIC statement.

FEDS TOLD TO GET RID OF FIX

Ten organizations have asked President Obama's top environmental officials to terminate the California Water Fix plan.

The letter contains no new criticisms of the California Water Fix, rather it repeats past arguments against it. For example, the non-profit Restore the Delta (RTD) has said costs are higher than the state estimates, represents a threat to the Delta economy, and fails to accomplish ecosystem goals.

The new argument against the plan includes a plea to stop the California Water Fix now, so that President-elect Donald Trump's appointees to high office don't blame the Obama administration for its "obvious financial and environmental catastrophe," according to the letter.

Among the letter-signers are Sierra Club California, the Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of the River, and the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance.

The letter, dated Nov. 28, was sent to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker, U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, and California Natural Resources Secretary John Laird, who is Gov. Jerry Brown's leading administrator in regard to the California Water Fix.

California's two U.S. senators are at odds in dealing with state water in Congress.

On Monday, Sen. Di- anne Feinstein, D-Calif., and House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield, teamed up to add a rider to an end-of-year water infrastructure bill. Sen. Barbara Boxer claims that the provisions of the rider would override endangered species protections for native California fish for the purpose of sending water to San Joaquin Valley farmers. According to published reports, Feinstein's office explained that the legislation does not violate the Endangered Species Act, because it contains a "savings clause" that dictates that nothing in the provision shall violate the act.

A vote on the bill with the rider had not been taken before The Independent's deadline.

MAILBOX

(Opinions voiced in letters published in Mailbox are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Independent. The Independent

will not publish anonymous letters. All letters are required to have the names of the persons submitting them. Abusive letters may be rejected or edited. Frequent letter writers may have

publication of their letters delayed. Letters should be sent by email to editmail@compuserve.com)

Take a Stand

Sruti Bharat

As a Tri-Valley native, I'm anxious about the climate of fear fanned by the rhetoric and policies of our new administration. I'm particularly worried by the all the post-election hate violence close to our hometowns. In El Sobrante, a black man was killed in a classified hate crime murder. Letters threatening genocide have been sent to mosques in San Jose. In San Ramon and Danville, there have been three incidents of anti-black graffiti in the high schools.

In these troubling times, I'd like to see Tri-Valley city governments take a stand to oppose bigotry in every form, and treat every resident with the respect and dignity they deserve. We need our lawmakers to pass resolutions condemning bigotry, creating safe and welcoming spaces, and laws that advance equity and inclusion.

Right now, our communities need to know that the Tri-Valley will be a safe haven for them to live, work and raise their families.

Reply to Letter

Julie Quintal

Lucky Mr. Asahina never to have had the misfortune of having a special needs loved one. Ignorance is bliss as the saying goes. However Mr. Asahina, for your information, special needs people can also be a blessing in their attitudes towards life - Loving and happy and giving. Perhaps you should take a lesson from them.

Transportation

Systems
Jack Ellsworth
Livermore

I was interested by an article published regarding our city's transportation systems. The article provided some interesting statistics, but some of the underlying assumptions were confusing to me.

Why is it surprising that public school students would use the city's bike paths the most? I think it goes without saying that students would use the paths more than

those commuting to work. The only people that I can think of that would use the paths for commuting, which was the topic of the article, would be those riding to the labs and other facilities in town. Surely there are more people in our city than there are jobs, so it follows that most of us would need to drive outside of town to get to a place of work.

I am also surprised that there are not more people using the paths for recreational use. I agree that the paths are not well connected, but there does not seem to be much that can be done about that. I also agree that the paths need more light. Much more light. Livermore is home to many cyclists, but the state of our paths does not reflect that. Most weekends I see swarms of cyclists embarking or returning from the weekly ride, but I would be shocked to see one riding on any of the paths that cut across the residential areas. Only those wishing to damage their bikes would ride them. I strongly encourage any action to refurbish our dark, cracked paths.

I live in Springtown, and I would love to ride by bike to Livermore High School. My father bought me a map a few years back of the trails and bike paths distributed by the city, and I was glad to see that there was a planned route across 580 to the East of Springtown. I waited hoping that path would be completed and that I would be able to use it to attend school. I am now a senior and I have used a car to get to school for the past four years out of necessity. I am very grateful for circumstances that allow me to even complain about driving to school instead of biking. I would still love to be able to dust off my bike every morning and evening without worrying about being hit on one of the three ways across 580, none of which have designated bike lanes.

Livermore is a wonderful place to grow up, and I hope that those talking about our infrastructure will talk about how they will make our city better for those commuting out as well as those residing in.

Big Thank You

Open Heart Kitchen

Open Heart Kitchen (OHK) reports that \$23,000 was raised to feed the hungry of the Tri-Valley at the 2nd Annual Fundraiser featuring the Livermore Valley's best Cabernets held at McGrail Vineyards and Winery in Livermore on August 27th. This fun and meaningful event included tasting 15 of the Livermore Valley's best Cabernet Sauvignons and Sauvignon Blancs, followed by a tri-tip buffet dinner and dessert. The fun continued with prize drawings and dancing to the music of Lunafish.

Open Heart Kitchen feeds the hungry every weekday as an interfaith effort, and serves more than 351,000 meals annually. There is no qualifying process to receive meals. Meals can be eaten at OHK's multiple serving sites, or taken to go. OHK works in cooperation with more than a dozen local food pantries and various Tri-Valley non-profits with missions to promote nutrition and hunger relief.

Open Heart Kitchen gratefully acknowledges McGrail Vineyards and Winery, along with title sponsor PG&E, and sponsors Kaiser Permanente, the Beets Hospitality Group, and Robert Lee & Associates, LLP.

OHK also extends its many thanks to the wineries that participated in the event, including: Steven Kent, John Evan/BWH, McGrail, Nottingham, Occasio, 3 Steves, Murrrieta's Well, Wente, Concannon, Cedar Mountain, Bent Creek, Garre, Charles R Vineyards, Retzlaff, Wood Family

In addition, OHK extends its thanks to Gianni from Pura Vida and Sanctuary Ultra Lounge, and the band LunaFish.

Shops Closing

Wayne Tolman
Livermore

I was shocked to learn this weekend of the closing of ValleyCare Thrift Shop, 2nd Street, Livermore.

I have been a long-time resident of Livermore and found this Thrift Shop and its people, superb in their community service effort. Closing it will leave many

customers having to find other donation and purchase outlets, which will not be as good. The staff was always Great, including the Halloween Costumes and colored hairdos!

I now understand that Shepherd's Gate Thrift Shop on Railroad Avenue, has also been closed.

Community Leadership needs to consider options for all necessary public groups and maintain them.

Off Leash Dogs

Sally Esser
Livermore

I live between Almond Avenue Park and Sunken Gardens, and my family has owned two greyhounds (retired racers) over the past decade. While our first dog was friendly with nearly all other breeds, our current dog is more anxious and aggressive with non-greyhounds. We have always obeyed the leash law when walking our dogs, but many who use the paths and parks in our neighborhood do not.

The number of off-leash dogs has increased dramatically over the past ten years, and most are not sufficiently responsive to voice command. As a result, my family and I have to muzzle our own dog and go out of our way EVERY DAY to avoid encounters with off-leash dogs whose owners don't have them under control. We sometimes need to fend off dogs to protect our own because other owners (who believe their dogs are better trained than they actually are) make no attempt to leash or otherwise restrain their own dogs until it's too late. We now avoid Almond Avenue Park altogether, because so many use it as a dog park...which it is NOT. However, we still have to deal with off-leash dogs on the paths to and from the park. Others in my neighborhood have voiced similar concerns.

I have called the city and asked for increased patrols and/or signage in our neighborhood. Walking dogs off-leash is irresponsible, inconsiderate, and can be dangerous for the dogs and their owners.

HOUSING

(continued from page one)

entire property was historical in nature and could not be built upon. However, that is not the case. The historic home will be preserved. In addition, Sunflower Hill will be working with the Livermore Heritage Guild on public access to the heritage home. The upper floor will become an apartment for the on-site caretaker; the public will have access to the lower floor.

Sunflower Hill Livermore is designed to be similar to "supportive senior living." According to Sunflower Hill board president Susan Houghton, in Livermore alone, there are 900 individuals with special needs who need housing. They qualify, by definition, for affordable opportunities as most receive approximately \$900 per month via Social Security income.

Houghton pointed out in a recent letter, that the life journey for an individual with special needs is often the hardest after age 22. Fewer programs and activities exist. Sunflower Hill hopes to bridge this gap by offering both vocational and residential opportunities where "everyone" can make a difference.

Sunflower Hill will work with project partner, MidPen Housing, to obtain financing - including State of California Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, Alameda County funds and vouchers from the Livermore Housing Authority, which would help keep the rents affordable. MidPen and Sunflower Hill intend to apply for funding from the city's Housing Trust Fund. This fund uses

revenue generated from the Inclusionary Housing In-Lieu Fees.

Sunflower Hill is creating a separate Limited Liability Company (LLC) with Mid Pen for the Livermore property.

In Pleasanton, Sunflower Hill is working with Concentric Development on Irby Ranch - a residential project envisioned at the intersection of First and Nevada Streets, just north of downtown. Sunflower Hill is set to receive 1.3 acres of the 14 acre site from developer Mike Serpa as part of the developer's inclusionary housing requirement.

The Pleasanton Planning Commission approved the 93-unit development plan submitted, along with the Sunflower Hill concept. A community center, therapeutic pool and other outdoor amenities would complement approximately 19-20 affordable units. SAHA Housing is Sunflower Hill's affordable housing partner for this project and will provide on-site property management.

Several commissioners were reportedly reluctant to approve the housing part of the rezoning without a firm commitment that the project for special needs housing, to be managed by Sunflower Hill, would be built. Pleasanton will own the land to be used by Sunflower Hill. If the project were never completed, the land will be used for other purposes that will benefit the community, such as a public park.

The city council is expected to hear the proposal in early 2017.

THE Independent

(INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.)
PUBLISHER: Joan Kinney Seppala
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER: David T. Lowell (In Memoriam)
EDITOR: Janet Armantrout

THE INDEPENDENT (USPS 300) is published every Thursday by Inland Valley Publishing Company, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550, (925) 447-8700. Mailed at Periodical Postage Prices at the Livermore Post Office and additional entry office: Pleasanton, CA 94566-9998. THE INDEPENDENT is mailed upon request. Go to www.independentnews.com to sign up and for more information. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Independent, 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550.

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

www.independentnews.com

Public Invited to Comment on State Water Plan

California has released a draft plan that would make water conservation a way of life. The plan represents a shift from statewide conservation mandates to a set of standards applied based on local circumstances, including population, temperature, leaks, and types of commercial and industrial use. For example, communities in hotter and drier climate

zones will receive irrigation allowances that reflect evaporation levels. Key water conservation efforts include the following:

- Permanent bans on wasteful practices, such as hosing driveways and excessively watering lawns.
- Technical assistance and financial incentives for water suppliers to implement leak prevention, detec-

tion, and repair programs.

- Collecting information about innovative water conservation and water loss detection and control technologies.
- Requiring agricultural water suppliers to quantify water use in their service areas and describe measures to increase water use efficiency.
- Full compliance with water use targets for urban

water suppliers by 2025.

- Planning and preparing for continued and future drought and water shortages.

 In January, the State Water Board will consider whether it must extend its existing emergency water conservation regulations. For more information on the development of the draft plan, visit <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/conservation/>.

The State invites the public to submit comments on the draft plan: "Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life Implementing Executive Order B-37-16." Comments should be submitted to wue@water.ca.gov no later than December 19, 2016. Public comments will be posted at: <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/conservation/comments.cfm>.

wateruseefficiency/conservation/comments.cfm.



FREE Santa Pictures
Bring Your Camera!
Fri. Dec. 9 5-7 pm
Fri. Dec. 16 5-7 pm

FREE Pictures
with "Kate" Our Elf
on the Shelf!
Sat. Dec. 17, 4-6 pm

Cooleykatz Toys
1959 Second Street
(925) 245-1035

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

on his campaign. Thorne described serving as an elected as one of the most rewarding experiences he has had and would recommend it to anyone. "We have a great council in place and an opportunity

to do some great things for the city." Brown also thanked the voters and her campaign staff. She said that she believes her slow, smart growth viewpoint, a desire to continue to plan for a larger

library and work to save the hills resonated with voters.

She thanked Herb Ritter, the third candidate for council, and Julie Testa for taking the leap to run for office. "Pleasanton thrives when people get involved." She urged people to keep voicing their opinions, "We hear you. Good discussions are based on a variety of opinions, not just a single-minded group."

Brown added that over the next four years she will work on issues such as the limited water supply, traffic and schools. "I am interested in your thoughts and ideas for Pleasanton."

Pentin commented in attendance last Tuesday that not everyone is of the same mind set. "We all have the goal to make the city we

enjoy living in the best it can be."

He said that as a campaigner he is not easy to work with. He thanked those who worked on his campaign, convincing him that he needed to get out and campaign. Pentin particularly mentioned his wife and daughter.

"I have enjoyed many titles over the years - sergeant, brother, uncle and councilmember, but none are as important as dad. I strive each and every day to earn that title," he stated.

Pentin noted that his daughter Joy had worked on his campaign. "She believes in me and in this community." He said that seeing her made him think of his own dad, who passed at an early age.

Pentin dedicated his service to his dad and daughter. "I look forward to the next four years. They will be transformative for our city. I will do my best and work my hardest to represent all fairly and equally."

BARN

(continued from page one)

2010 by community benefit money paid by Mariposa LLC Energy Project. The firm located a gas-powered peaker plant in the Altamont, and agreed to establish the community benefit fund designed to help youth education and health programs in East County.

A previous expenditure of \$75,000 was designated by supervisors in 2012 to upgrade facilities and the septic system at Mountain House School.

Board President Scott Haggerty said that he was glad to provide kids who don't have places for 4-H animals a place at the fairgrounds, where they can raise and show the animals.

Angel Moore, marketing director for the Fair, said that construction is expected to get underway in January. The goal would be to have it finished in time for the Fair next year.

Also at the fairgrounds, the horse stables will be closed from now until May 1. Then they will be open during the fair racing season for six months, until the end of October.

The stables will be used to house race horses during the summertime northern California fair racing circuit. The stables had been open year-round. Golden Gate Fields, which had been financing the use of the stables to house and train race horses, terminated its fairgrounds agreement. The agreement was signed in 2008.

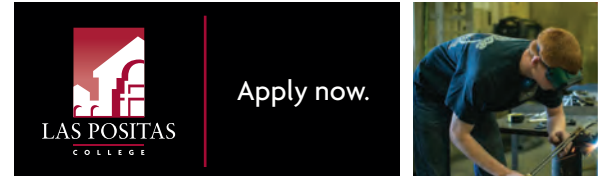
Golden Gate Fields officials said that they have expanded to 1500 stables at their facility near Berkeley. They no longer needed the 650 stalls at Pleasanton, said Moore. Pleasanton had been operating as an auxiliary for Golden Gate, she said.

SAVE. LEARN. TRANSFER. WORK.



LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

Classes begin January 17, 2017.
www.laspositascollege.edu

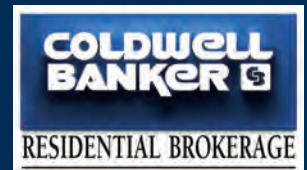


Terra mia
italian restaurant
4040 East Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550
Phone: (925) 456-3333
www.terramialivermore.com



Give the gift of gift certificates!
Available in any amount.

ColdwellBankerHomes.com



LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE™

Coldwell Banker is proud to have represented the Livermore Community for years.

AGENT OF THE WEEK



Sandy Rainsbarger
707-321-3043
CalBRE# 00640432

A true Real Estate Veteran with over 36+ years experience, Sandy has dedicated her career to happily serving her clients for all of their real estate needs. Sandy is a true professional who works hard to provide a satisfying and fun experience for her clients. Honesty and good communication are the cornerstones of all Sandy's dealings. A President's Club award recipient, Sandy consistently ranks amongst the top in her field. Coldwell Banker is proud to be affiliated with Sandy Rainsbarger.



TRACY \$850,000
19364 W Grant Line Rd
JUST LISTED ~ IN TRACY
4 BR 3.5 BA Stunning Remodeled Kit, Great Room w/FP, High Ceilings, Den, Lrg DR, Fresh Pnt Int/Ext & More
Nancy Terpening, CalBRE #00380392 925.570.4003



CASTRO VALLEY \$675,000
23218 Canyon Terrace Drive Sat/Sun 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
REMODELED TOWNHOME IN FIVE CANYONS!
4 BR 2.5 BA Immaculate Hm w/all bells & whistles! HOA amenities! Centrally loc to awd winning schools.
Lucy Lizarraga, CalBRE #01393413 925.847.2203



LIVERMORE \$555,000
1688 Bluebell Drive
PENDING IN 9 DAYS IN LIVERMORE!!
2 BR 2 BA 1 Story Beauty w/An Open & Spacious Fir Plan & Btfl Lndscpng w/Palm Trees in Frnt/Bk Yrds.
Sean Leggat, CalBRE #01280186 925.847.2216



TRACY \$645,000
1401 Biarritz St.
UPGRADED HM IN ELISSAGARAY RANCH!
5 BR 4.5 BA Gorgeous home, totally upgraded, gourmet kitchen, huge lot, sparkling pool, 2 patios.
Mary Anne Rozsa, CalBRE #00783003 925.847.2776



DUBLIN \$625,000
5501 De Marcus Blvd
TWO LEVEL CONDO IN DUBLIN
2 BR 2 BA Condo Features High Ceilings, Hardwood Floors, Neutral Paint, Granite Counters & More!
Romar De Claro, CalBRE #01341138 925.847.2315



PLEASANTON CALL FOR PRICING
3505 Villero Court
COMING SOON--STUNNING RUBY HILL HOME
5 BR 3.5 BA Features Almost 3800 SF, 24,000+ SF lot. Exceptional Custom Home w/Outstanding Upgrades!
Daisy Ng, CalBRE #01311067 925.872.6888



TRACY \$635,000
735 N Pergola Ct
A MUST SEE!! MOVE-IN READY!
4 BR 3 BA Loc on Cul-De-Sac features upgraded kit cabs, grnt enter, SS appliances, BD dwnstrs & More!
Barbara Clemons, CalBRE #01794889 408.933.8180

925.847.2200 | 5980 Stoneridge Drive, Ste 122

ColdwellBankerHomes.com

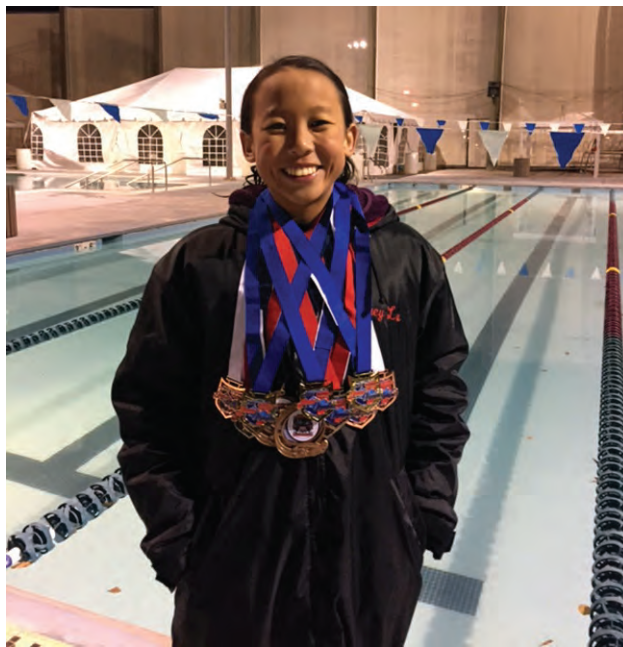
californiahome.me | f/cbcalifornia | cb_california | cbcalfornia | /coldwellbanker

©2016 Coldwell Banker. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company and Equal Housing Opportunity. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned by a Subsidiary of NRT LLC. This information was supplied by Seller and/or other sources. Broker has not and will not verify this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyers should investigate these issues to their own satisfaction. Real Estate Licensees affiliated with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage are independent Contractor Sales Associates and are not employees of NRT LLC. Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC or Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, CalBRE License #01908304.

SPORTS NOTES



Pictured (top and lower photo) are Pleasanton Seahawks team members.



Sydney Lu, age 12, of the Pleasanton Seahawks swim team swam 21 races in 3 days at the Winter Junior Olympics in Morgan Hill, bringing home multiple medals.



West Coast Kurse/Warriors took part in the West Coast Soccer Final Four College Showcase Tournament. On Saturday, the team held Santa Rosa ECNL to a 0-0 tie. Later that evening, under the lights, it was a West Coast player frenzy as teammates on either team Deanza Force and West Coast battled it out. Pictured is Arianna Moore demonstrating ball control.



The U17G Wildfire and other college recruiting age teams of West Coast Soccer Club competed in Livermore's first college showcase. The showcase coincided with the NCAA Women's Final Four tournament held at Avaya Stadium. Pictured are West Coast Wildfire team members (bottom row) Kate Wallace, Leila Anzo, Sara Shea, Tatian Elsea, Amanda Zeck, Tori Borgna, Regan Mah, Kayla Grisham, Megan Clifton; (top row) Coach Troy Dayak, Alyssa Tarabini, Rachel McCarthy, Briana Torres, Mayzin Kung, Brianne Radliff, MacKenzie Long, Savannah Seals, Krissy Keller, Sierra Martin, Isabella Barbero, and Tyarah Trias. The West Coast Kaos U14 girls and their Coach, Dave Mahabali, were invited to hold the American flag at the NCAA Women's Finals match at Avaya stadium.

Young Competitor Gains Skills in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu

By Carol Graham

When 13-year-old Milani Martir took the mat against a 14-year-old boy, she could tell his father and coach were anticipating an easy win. They soon learned better.

"The boy went to take her down, grabbing her legs and pushing her over," said Milani's mom, Dolores Lopez. "But she grabbed his neck and choked him until he tapped out. They underestimated her because she is a girl."

It is an example of the skill and confidence Milani has gained in four years of training in Brazilian jiu-jitsu, a martial art and combat sport that focuses on grappling and ground fighting. Jiu-jitsu promotes the concept that smaller, weaker people can successfully defend themselves against bigger, stronger assailants by using proper technique, leverage and, most notably, the ground and applying joint-locks and chokeholds to defeat opponents.

"Jiu-jitsu is a non-striking martial art that has become really popular in the past two years with children and teens due to the rise in popularity of MMA (mixed martial arts) fighting," said Lopez. "We initially wanted Milani to start training for self defense. Since most of the sport's techniques are perfected while being on your back, Milani would know how to defend herself if a man were to attack her."

For Milani, an 8th-grade student at St. Raymond School, jiu-jitsu is not just a sport, it's a way of life.

"It has taught me about hard work, not giving up, and pushing myself further than



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Milani Martir demonstrates the skills she has developed.

I mentally think I can go," said Milani. "It has given me so much confidence."

When she first started out, Milani thought about quitting because regularly losing matches was disheartening.

"Although the journey was hard and I thought about giving up at times, jiu-jitsu was something I couldn't walk away from," she said. She began to train harder, and her determination paid off. She has won numerous championships, traveling to tournaments as far away as Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

"Now she is one of the top girls her age in the sport," said Lopez. "She has had to fight teenage boys and has won. She's had to fight above her weight bracket and won. Milani had been very timid, and afraid to stand up for herself. Jiu-jitsu has helped her find her voice. She participates in class more, holds herself accountable for her



Milani with instructor Sensei Darlynsen Lira

actions, and stands up for her friends when they're being picked on."

Milani trains at Darcio Lira Jiu-Jitsu, at 1601 Railroad Avenue in Livermore, working to become a black belt. She encourages others to participate in the sport that has given her so much.

"Jiu-jitsu is very em-

powering. I've gained an extended family, and feel more confident about going off on my own when I leave for college to start my life," said Milani. "Jiu-jitsu has taught me to never be afraid of the unknown."

To learn more, visit www.darciolirajiuji.com, or call (925) 549-1590.

700 Give Thanks at Tri-Valley Turkey Burn

More than 700 adults and children enjoyed a healthy start to Thanksgiving Day at the Second Annual Tri-Valley Turkey Burn, a 5K walk and 10K family fun run at Pleasanton's Ken Mercer Sports Park and nearby Arroyo Mocho Trail.

The event, organized by Pleasanton North Rotary (PNR) and Accusplit, a Pleasanton-based pedometer manufacturer, raised more than \$11,000 for Rotary-sponsored youth services. It also collected about 800 non-perishable food items for the non-profit Open Heart Kitchen and winter coats that will be distributed to the needy by Tri-Valley Evening Rotary Club.

"The Turkey Burn was designed as a healthy way to start the holiday and to burn off calories before Thanksgiving dinner," said PNR Youth Exchange Chairman Kevin Greenlee. "We really had a lot of happy people at this event."

Greenlee led the organizing effort for the Turkey Burn with Ron Sutton, a PNR member and president of Accusplit. Proceeds will support PNR's international student exchange program, local student participation in District 5170 Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) summer camp, memorial scholarships and student of the month recognition awards.

The Turkey Burn also advanced Sutton's personal mission to promote wellness. He estimates that his pedometers, first introduced to the fitness market in 1977, have added millions of healthy years to the lives of their 100 million

users. He also founded the World Walk to Wellness program.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, participants were asked to describe what they are thankful for on bibs worn during the walk/run. Many said they were thankful for their families, children, parents, friends, and pets, but their messages also included thanks for the San Francisco Giants, living in Pleasanton, good health, democracy, coffee, my job, vacations, and nature as well as for "so much" and "just everything."

Club Sport of Pleasanton contributed colorful Turkey Burn bandanas worn by participants, water stations and the services of Sandie Hembroth, director Team Club Sport, who led participants in stretching exercises before the event.

Lee Denlinger was the honorary starter. As a PNR member, she spearheaded an effort in 2010 that persuaded Rotary International to add youth services as a fifth Avenue of Service that now helps guide the charitable work of its 1.2 million members in 200 countries around the world.

PNR members Jim Brice, Colleen Ewanich, and Mark Linsky worked with Greenlee and Sutton on the Turkey Burn organizing committee. Sponsors included Alain Pinel Realtors, Amador Valley Driving School, Body Balance, Characterz Cafe and Coffee Roasterz, Better Homes and Gardens Tri-Valley Realty, Big O Tires, Peets Coffee, State Farm Insurance and Vitality Bowls.

Pleasanton Rage Visit to Paraguay

Over Thanksgiving break, Pleasanton RAGE coach Walter Pratte led a group of 9 soccer players passionate about bringing their love of soccer to girls in Paraguay. Coach Walter, born and raised in Argentina, has played soccer his entire life. As a coach he wanted to bring some of his players' love of soccer to less fortunate girls in Paraguay where his uncle lives. The RAGE players gathered over 40 pairs of cleats and 400 jerseys and shorts to deliver to girls in Paraguay. The group visited a school during the day, interacting with students in Spanish and English and playing games. In the afternoon the RAGE players organized camps for over 40 girls who don't usually get to play organized soccer. Every girl attending the camp was outfitted by the RAGE players with jersey, shorts and cleats. Coach Pratte helped equip coaches with knowledge to set up a league and he and the girls will visit the group next year.

Pleasanton Seahawks

The Pleasanton Seahawks competed at the 2016 Pacific Swimming short course yard senior 2 swim meet in Walnut Creek. The Walnut Creek Aquabears hosted the meet on December 3-4, 2016. Representing the Pleasanton Seahawks: Claire Suen age 14 with 3 new best times, Emma Washam (14), Gwyneth Wong (14) 6 BT, Francois Moufarrej (14) 1BT, Alex Ren (14) 2BT, Andrew Wang (13) 2 BT, Elisabeth Balicanta (15) 3BT, Emily Claridge (15) 4 BT, Amber Fornoles (16), Marissa Lawrence (15) 2BT, Amanda Mobley (16), Paulina Umansky (15), Mattias Blanco (15) 1BT, Nathan Caparaz (16), Calvin Chui (15) 1BT, Do Hyun Eun (15) 5BT, Brian Li (15) 3BT, Aaron Lin (15) 3BT, Robert Mitu (15) 6BT, Robert Torres (15) 1BT, Justin Tsai (15) 1BT, Sofia Moufarrej (17) 4BT and Brandon Brown (17) 2BT.

JUNIOR OLYMPICS TRIALS AND FINALS
The 2016 Pacific Swimming Short Course Yard Junior Olympics

Trials and Finals meet was held on December 2-4. The 'Makos' swim team of Morgan Hill, CA hosted the meet at the Morgan Hill Aquatic Center. Representing the Pleasanton Seahawks swim team were Paige Bennett age 10 with 5 new best times, Sydney Goldstein (9), Kaitlin Lee (10) 5BT, Alexis Mesina (9) 3BT, Chloe Xu (10), Devyn Caples (10) 14 BT, Nabil Dandandeh (10), Dominick Wonosaputra (10) 9BT, Faith Carroll (11) 1BT, Aria Harris (11), Breuklynn Harris (11) 1BT, Olivia Kim (12) 10 BT, Sydney Lu (12) 11BT, Christina Tsai (12) 2BT, Emily Tsai (12) 6BT, Mica Wang (12) 4BT, Akshay Gupta (12), Ethan Wang (11) 9BT, Lauren Jhong (13), Claire Suen (14), Ryan Kobayashi (13) 3BT, Gregory Quach (13) 2BT and Andrew Wang (13) with one new best time.

Fusion Soccer

On November 11, under postcard-perfect soccer conditions, Fusion Soccer Club's Recreational Program took center stage for the seventh annual Fusion World Cup. The World Cup is a showcase for U7 through U10 Rec players. Rec coaches select the top three players from their teams to participate. The players are assigned to "countries," practice with a Premier coach, and square off against their peers under the lights at Robertson Park. Almost 300 players took part in this year's event, cheered on by their family members. Each player receives a game shirt as a keepsake. "What an amazing experience for my girls to play in the Fusion World Cup. The girls had so much fun and talked for days about it. They also could not stop talking about how much they loved coach Ben. Playing under the lights with all their friends and family watching and cheering for them is an experience they will never forget. The girls love the game of soccer and can't wait for the season to start up again," declared Erin Tenca. Jenelle Lopez stated, "This was my son Dylan's fourth season in Fusion's Rec league and his second World Cup invitation. Both times we were

very impressed with the professional coaching he received and opportunity to challenge his playing level. We believe the drills and endurance training were a good example of what he would receive playing on the Select or Premier teams. We also used this exhibition practice and game to help us determine if he's ready to play up to the next level of soccer next season. He's currently enrolled in the Winter Training session to keep progressing his skills and further help our decision to try out for Select or Premier."

College Showcase

West Coast Soccer Club capped up their 6th season by hosting a college showcase at Robertson Park in Livermore. Four of West Coast's recruiting age teams participated in the event - Wild U19, Katz U19, Wildfire U17, and Kurse U16. Teams from both northern and southern California competed in the showcase. College coaches from multiple universities were on hand. The weekend started Friday night with several West Coast players traveling to Avaya Stadium to watch the NCAA semi-finals match. On Saturday morning, the West Coast Final Four College Showcase kicked off with teams in the U15, U16, U17, and U19 age groups competing. Over 18 teams participated and over 20 college coaches came to watch. In the span of 48 hours, 36 matches were played. The event wrapped up Sunday afternoon, just in time for all players and families to head back to Avaya Stadium to watch the NCAA final match of the University of Southern California vs. the University of West Virginia.

Dublin Lineman Honored

Humboldt State football's Alex Cappa from Dublin was named to 2016 Conference Commissioner's Association (CCA) Super Region Three First Team All-Region selections Friday. He was named to Great Northwest Athletic Conference's first team.

Cappa repeated as D2CCA First Team All-Region choice and now advances to the All-America ballot.

Cappa was named the GNAC Offensive Lineman of the Year for the third consecutive season and was a unanimous All-GNAC First Team choice. He blocked for Ja'Quan Gardner (also selected to the All-Region team), the conference's top rusher, and protected quarterback Robert Webber, an All-GNAC Second Team pick. HSU finished the 2016 campaign with a 6-5 overall record to record its third consecutive winning season.

LGSA Registration

Livermore Girls Softball Association welcomes all Livermore girls aged 5-18 for the 2017 Spring Recreational season. No prior experience necessary. Online registration is open at www.lgsa.org. Visit the website or email info@lgsa.org for more information.

CYO Track and Field

St. Michael CYO Track and Field team will begin practices for the fall season on February 8th. Sign ups are January 9, 12, 17 & 19 at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Livermore. The team is open to all children from kindergarten through eighth grade who live in Livermore or attend St. Michael. Go to www.smiscrack.org for more information or contact Mandy Costello at mandy.costello@hotmail.com or 925-337-7344.

Training Camp

FTC Track Club is holding a winter break camp focused on improving speed, acceleration, jumping, and agility for youth athletes aged 7 to 18. Athletes focused on track and field and also athletes from other sports who want additional speed training and conditioning are all welcome. There are two separate sessions: 1) Dec 28 to 30th or 2) Jan 3 to 5, 2017. Visit www.ftctrackclub.com and look under tab Training Camps, or contact Coach Jorge Quero, jquero@ftctrackclub.com or (925) 209-7520.

Lab Recognized for Its Military Internship Programs

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has been honored with a Gold 2016 Optimas Award for Recruiting from Workforce Magazine, recognizing the Lab for excellence in its military internship programs.

The Optimas awards are given out annually in 10 categories. The recruiting award recognizes organizations that have developed and implemented an innovative and effective recruitment initiative that helped the organization source, attract and recruit job candidates.

The three programs the magazine highlighted for effective recruiting efforts at LLNL are the Military Academic Research Associates program (supported and funded by the NNSA NA-10 Military Academic Collaborations Program), the ROTC Internship Program and the Newly Commissioned Officer program, which combined have brought in more than 400 cadets and midshipmen since the late 1990s.

"The ROTC and Academy programs are different from anything else we do here in human resources,"

said LLNL's manager for Undergraduate & Graduate Internships Barry Goldman, who founded the programs. "The difference is the academy and ROTC cadets and midshipmen move on to a military career where their experience at LLNL might benefit them and their services. When they complete their service, they might return to LLNL with military experience in the sciences and engineering fields. While in the service, they may be involved in future collaborations with the Laboratory in a variety of national security areas. It's a win-win."

Each year, recruiters from Lawrence Livermore, as well as Los Alamos and Sandia national laboratories, visit the military academies -- the U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy -- giving briefings and talks to cadets and midshipmen.

The Military Academic Research Associates program, which started in 1996, brings an average of 25-30 cadets, midshipmen and faculty from the academies

to the Lab annually for a four- to six-week summer internship, where they are placed in a number of key areas, including global security, engineering and materials science. They also receive weekly lectures on the breadth of military work done at the Lab.

Since 2010, LLNL has been growing the ROTC intern program and over the most recent couple of years, LLNL has hosted an average of 15-16 cadets and midshipman from universities across the country. They stay for 12 weeks during the summer and support research at the Lab. The program is supported by LLNL's National Security Office.

George Sakaldasis, the Deputy Director for Military/Nuclear Affairs in that office said, "The ROTC program and our other military education efforts are providing a core of future military leaders who may one day be in the position of influencing the laboratory's programs for years to come."

The Newly Commissioned Officer program provides an opportunity for the newly commissioned officers to participate in LLNL programs and tech-

nologies. The participants also benefit from networking between the services and with LLNL's general summer student population. Two 2nd Lieutenants are

currently working at the Lab under the program.

LLNL is looking to place ROTC cadets and midshipmen for its summer 2017

program.

For more information or to apply for an internship, contact Barry Goldman at goldman1@llnl.gov.



26th Annual
**Live Drive-Through
Nativity**



Come discover the true meaning of Christmas!
Join us 7 - 9 pm
Friday - Sunday / December 16th - 18th

Drive through 6 scenes featuring live animals and actors, listen to the Christmas story on your car radio.



**Trinity
Church**

557 Olivina Ave - Livermore - 925-447-1848
www.trinitylivermore.org



PARTNERING WITH STANFORD HEALTH CARE



"We're creating a new kind of primary care right here in the community."

—Dr. William Sellman
Family Medicine, Alameda

Stanford | MEDICINE

Many local physicians across the Bay Area have partnered with Stanford Health Care. It's a collaborative relationship that lets your personal physician remain your personal physician while offering you and your family leading-edge personalized care. You'll have direct access to Stanford Medicine specialists, treatments and technology, as well as to resources like online health management. Welcome to the benefits of shared expertise right in your community.



There are now more than 300 local Stanford Medicine-affiliated physicians throughout the Bay Area. Find one near you at stanfordhealthcare.org or call 844-394-6907.

PRACTICES IN THE EAST BAY

Alameda
Alameda Family Physicians
Alameda Pediatric Associates

Berkeley
Ob/Gyn Partners for Health

Castro Valley
Bay Valley Medical Group

Danville
Bay Valley Medical Group

Hayward
Bay Valley Medical Group

Lafayette
Ob/Gyn Partners for Health

Livermore
ValleyCare Physicians Associates

Oakland
Associated Internal Medicine
East Bay Family Practice
North Oakland Family Practice
Ob/Gyn Partners for Health

Pinole
Alliance Medical Group

Pleasanton
Bay Valley Medical Group
Eena Duggal, Family Medicine
ValleyCare Physicians Associates

San Pablo
Alliance Medical Group

Walnut Creek
Associated Internal Medicine

The Last True Roller Derby Takes the Reader Back in History

Book Signing Planned for December 10

By Carol Graham

On his right hand, Larry D. Smith wears a heavy silver ring with the yin and yang symbol at its center. Yin and yang, in Chinese philosophy, acknowledges how opposing forces work together to complement one another.

Asked what the ring means to him, Smith gazes at the ring he's been wearing for more than four decades.

"Balance," he says. "If you can live a life where you have as much good as you do bad, I think you've done well."

Smith, who turns 72 on December 19, has reached a point in his life where he is ready to relive, reflect, reveal. His memoir, "The Last True Roller Derby," was published earlier this year. Smith will be hosting a book signing on Saturday, December 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at his RE/MAX real estate office, 1841 Fourth Street in Livermore.

"Once the book was released, I felt naked - literally like I'm walking around with no clothes on," says Smith. "I felt exposed, because I told everything like it was."

The Last 'True' Roller Derby captures a period in America's history, highlights Smith's career as an award-winning member for the International Roller Derby League, and relives the glory days - and turning point - of an iconic sport.

"What people know as roller derby now is more for show than a real sporting event," says Smith. "The roller derby as it used to be is relatively unknown anymore. However, it is such a vital part of American sporting history."

Roller derby, a contact sport, originated in the roller skating marathons of the 1930s. Two teams of five members each skate counter-clockwise around the banked-track, while a "jammer" for each team scores points by lapping members

of the opposing team. Team members attempt to hinder the opposing jammer while assisting their own jammer, simultaneously playing offense and defense. Professional roller derby quickly became popular, attracting huge audiences both live and, since 1948, on TV. Fans loved the fast pace, athleticism and fights.

Smith fell in love with roller derby after seeing Mickey Rooney in the 1950 movie, "The Fireball." He mowed lawns and raked leaves to raise money for his first pair of metal, clip-on roller skates. He dreamed of joining the roller derby as others might of joining the circus. Smith grew up in a family that struggled to make ends meet while traveling around the western U.S. in search of jobs, yet his family's vagabond lifestyle prepared Smith for joining the derby which traveled to more than 200 venues each year.

Smith and his teammates sold out every venue they played, including Madison Square Garden, the Chicago Coliseum, White Sox Park, the Montreal Forum, and the Cow Palace in San Francisco.

"I started my journey alongside Larry D. Smith and other roller derby greats," Tim Patten writes on the book's Facebook page. "The story is written so well, it snaps and crackles - propelling me on the road and behind scenes. This is a ticket to the original roller derby, a sport where men and women play by the same rules and star on millions of TVs across America."

However as with all things come natural cycles, and in the 1960s attendance began to decline. During the decade of notoriously kitschy promotions, organizers hoped to expand the sport's spectator base by developing scripted story lines. Instead of increasing the derby's appeal, it com-

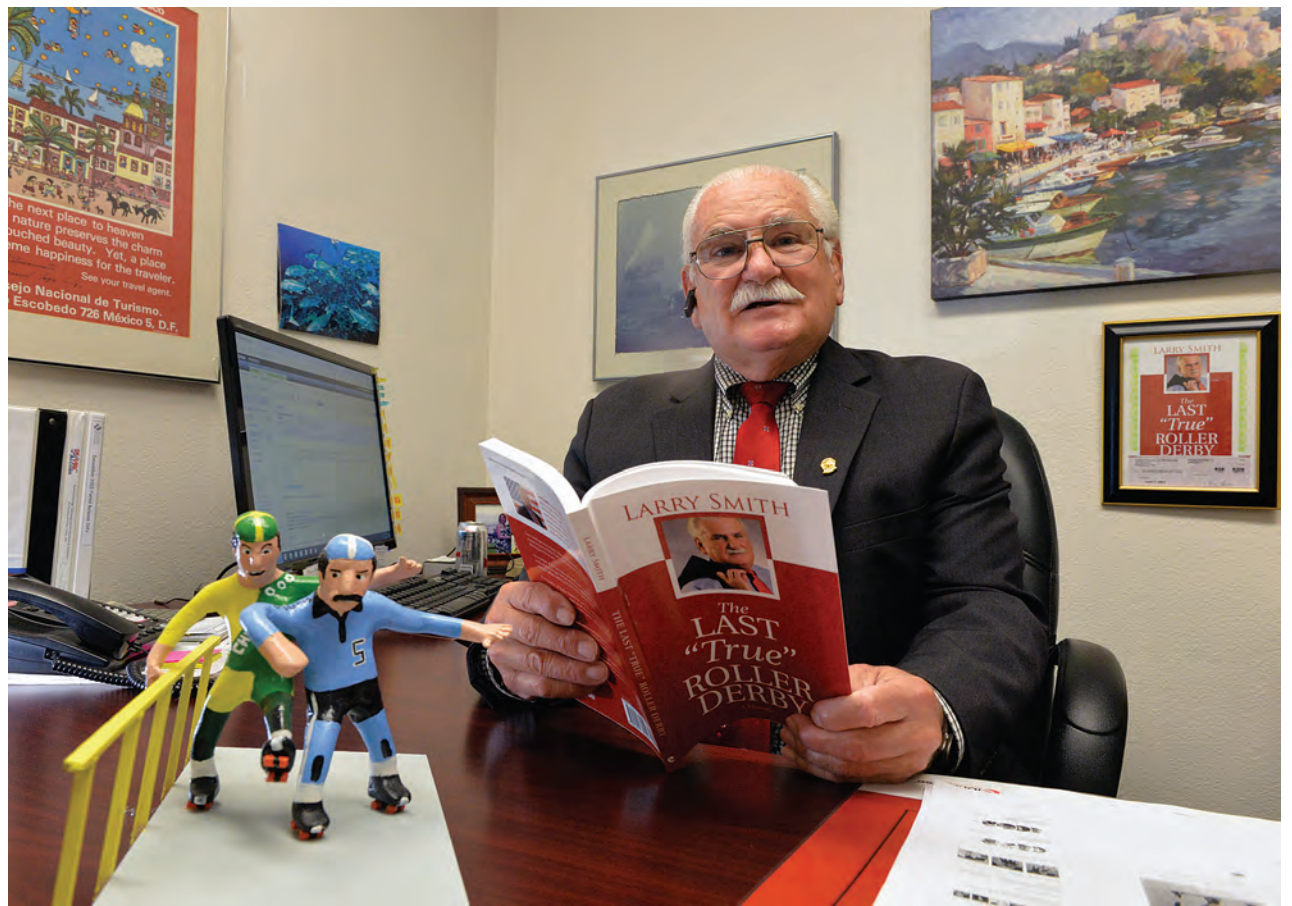


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Larry Smith talks about the book he has written about his days with Roller Derby.

pletely altered the sport.

"I fell in love with the derby when I was a teenager, I was able to be part of it, and then made the conscious decision that I couldn't do it anymore - it was too embarrassing," says Smith. "It was the hardest thing to walk away from something you love like that."

Smith retired from the derby in the early '70s, then began his real estate career and raised two children, Jacqueline and Charles, rarely talking about his storied days in the roller derby. However, he knew he wanted to preserve the memory of what the sport had been -- and what it may be again. The early years of the 21st century has seen a resurgence in the popularity of classic roller derby with a focus on

athleticism instead of manufactured theatricality. In fact, roller derby is one of eight sports that have been under consideration for inclusion in the 2020 Olympic Games.

Today, Smith lives with his life partner Diana Sass in Pleasanton. He looks forward to the times they take their motor home out on the road to revisit some of the places that will forever be a part of his roller derby past.

Of the 5,000 copies of The Last 'True' Roller Derby initially printed, Smith says only 150 remain. Visitors to the book signing may bring in their own copies or purchase a copy from him.

Although his career in roller derby is over, Smith continues to teach others about the sport that was so important to him and to

hundreds of thousands of spectators.

"Getting the book published was such a release," says Smith. "I feel like I did my part in keeping it alive."

To learn more or purchase the book, visit www.thelasttruerollerderby.com, or bookstore.iuniverse.com/Products/SKU-000976576/The-Last-True-Roller-Derby.aspx.

RETZLAFF Estate Wines
Reserve Our Lovely Grounds for Your Special Celebration or Wedding
(925) 447-8941
1356 S. Livermore Ave.
Open 7 days a week
12-4:30pm



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Members of the Cantabella Children's Chorus performed selections during the family concert held at the Bankhead Theater. The chorus will perform, "Let the Merry Bells Ring," concerts Sat., Dec. 10 at 1 p.m. Featuring the Training Choirs, with selections by Performing Choirs; and at 4 p.m. Featuring all Performing Choirs. The performance will take place at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 S. Livermore Ave. Adults are \$22, children under 18 admitted free (ticket required, up to 3 children per adult). To purchase tickets, go to www.cantabella.org/tickets. For information, email info@cantabella.org.

WHAT SWEETER MUSIC
A Service of Lessons and Carols
By John Leavitt
Followed by a traditional time of Carol singing, Anthems and Seasonal Solos
SUNDAY
DECEMBER 18, 2016
4:00-pm ~ SANCTUARY
FPC Sanctuary Choir,
Celebration Chimes, Orchestra
FREE!
First Presbyterian Church Livermore
2020 Fifth Street, Livermore
925-447-2078 | www.fpcl.us

Activities and Programs in your Regional Parks
East Bay Regional Park District
www.ebparks.org
Healthy Parks Healthy People
Regional in Nature Activity Guide
Look inside for this Activity Guide
Inside:
9th Annual MLK Jr. Day of Service • page 14
Pole Walking & Pole Hiking • page 4
Monarch Butterfly Walks at Ardenwood • page 5
Birdwalks • page 9
Great Backyard Bird Count • page 13
Preparing for Climate Change
9th Annual Day of Service
at Martin Luther King Jr. Shoreline
Monarch Butterfly Walks at Ardenwood
Great Backyard Bird Count at Shadow Cliffs
Plus many other activities for kids and families in your East Bay Regional Parks!

TRAVEL BUG
SANDALS VACATIONS
(925) 447-4300
In Downtown Livermore
2269 Third Street
travelbuglivermore.com

La La Land & Jackie coming soon!
60th ANNIVERSARY PARTY
December 11th
5:30 - 8:30
Tickets on Sale Now!
Vine Cinema & Alehouse
1722 First Street - Livermore www.VineCinema.com

Early Oscar Favorite to WIN Best Picture!
MANCHESTER BY THE SEA
Fri - Sun: 12:30 3:30 6:30 9:05
Jake Gyllenhaal, Amy Adams & Michael Shannon
NOCTURNAL ANIMALS
Fri - Sat: 1:00 4:15 7:00 9:10

\$59
Exam, X-Ray, Cleaning
Cash Patients Only
\$500
OFF Invisalign®
New Patients Only
Dr. Alpa Dalal DDS
Dalal Dental Care
For a lifetime of smiles!
1987 Santa Rita, Suite F, Pleasanton
925.660.7676 | www.DalalDental.com

ROGUE ONE
A STAR WARS STORY
OPENS DEC. 15TH
LIVERMORE 13 CINEMA
www.cinemawest.com
TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE
RESERVE YOUR SEATS TODAY AND AVOID THE LINES!

Donate your old car, truck, RV or Boat. It's fast, easy & you get a tax deduction!
Tri-Valley Conservancy
Call 1-888-686-4483 or visit www.trivalleyconservancy.org
Donations help preserve land for future generations.
Tri-Valley Conservancy | 925.449.8706

OBITUARIES

Kenneth Raymond Farnam

Our beloved Kenneth Raymond Farnam passed away peacefully on October 25, 2016 in the arms of his loving wife Janice at the age of 55.

Kenny attended St. Michael's School and Granada High School. He enjoyed hunting and fishing with his dad and became quite the skilled fisherman.

Kenny met his wife Janice in 1996 and they were married for 21 years. In 1997 they moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado where he began his career as Labor foreman. In May 2006 they moved back to Livermore to be closer to family.

Kenny had a calming effect on the family and was an honest, sincere, hardworking and compassionate man. He enjoyed spending time with Janice, his grandkids and their 3 dogs. They enjoyed camping, fishing and traveling to visit grandkids in different states. His biggest thrill was teaching and watching his grandkids catch fish. He was very proud of all of them.

Janice's sister Linda had this to say about Kenny; "she feels lucky to have known Kenny as her brother-in-law who she always thought was a perfect match for her sister Janice. Kenny was one of the kindest and most thoughtful people she knew and a true fighter through all his hardships in life. You never once doubted his love for Janice and kids and all the grandkids who adored him so much. He was a true animal lover and a fisherman. Janice and Kenny were true soul mates and our hearts' break for her and the family for the huge hole he will leave in so many people's hearts."

Kenny was a survivor and his survival after his cardiac arrest gave him a deep gratitude and love for people. The true testament of what a great guy Kenny truly was, was on how many of us wanted to be there for him when he had his heart surgeries, and suffered cardiac arrest in 2012 and survived by a true miracle, and then again in the past week."

He was proceeded in death by his parents, Rosemarie Weiss and Lawrence Farnam, and his daughter Alicia Marie Farnam. He is survived by his loving wife Janice Farnam, his younger brother, Kirk Farnam and his wife Maria, his step-mother, Maxine Farnam and her family, mother-in-law, Cristina Clarke; Janice's sisters, Mildred, Sandra, Edna and Linda, and their families; also their children, Amy and her husband Lloyd, Kimberly, and son Marc. And, let's not forget their 13 grandchildren: Anthony, Anecia, Alejandro, Alani, Izavel, Alonzo, Breanna, Elizabeth, Gabriella, Britney, Anissa, Paula and Alessio.

The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to ValleyCare Medical Center's doctors and nurses who cared for Kenny during his final moments with exceptional care and love. Kenny will be missed greatly by all, but we know that he is now at peace.

Richard A. Gubera, Sr.
Sept. 25, 1934 - Nov. 27, 2016
Resident of Livermore

Richard A. Gubera, Sr. passed away at home on Sunday, November 27th. A



5, 2016.

Ed "Fast Eddie" Burrow

Louis Edward Burrow passed away on November 12, 2016. He was born on July 3, 1969, in Livermore, CA. He resided in Livermore most of his life and moved to Tracy, CA 12 years ago.

He attended grade school at Christensen Elementary, middle school at East Avenue Middle School, and graduated from Livermore High School in 1988.

Ed was a devoted husband, father, son, brother, and friend. Ed loved life and was loved by many. His biggest passion was his '68 Nova which he loved to race at drag strips around the area. His other hobbies included golf, fishing, bowling, and coaching his daughter's softball team.

Ed is survived by his wife Kerri, daughter Taryn, parents Louis and Julie Burrow, sister and brother-in-law Karen and Ken Honour, and many other family members. Ed was laid to rest at Park View Cemetery in Manteca on November 17, 2016.

Mervin (Merv) John Frydendal

Resident of Livermore, California

May 23, 1926 - Nov. 29, 2016

Merv passed peacefully on Nov. 29, 2016. He was born and raised in Livermore and graduated from Livermore High School in 1944. He then enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served two years in Japan.

After coming home to Livermore, he met his wife-to-be, Sue. They were married on October 29, 1948 in Livermore. They spent the next four years in the Monterey Bay Area where Merv was working in the Fire Department at the U.S. Naval School. In 1952 Merv and Sue moved back to Livermore. He worked as a machinist in the Materials Fabrication Division at LLNL for thirty years. He enjoyed retirement for thirty two years.

Merv was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Life Member of V.F.W. Post 7265 and Masonic Lodge No. 218, Aahmes Shriners, Foresters Lodge, and Sirs 101. For many years Merv enjoyed working with his buddies on the football "Chain Gang" for Granada High School. Merv loved to play Golf, go hunting, fishing, and camping, taking care of his vineyard and working in his shop., but most of all he loved helping his friends and neighbors.

Merv is survived by his loving wife of sixty eight years, Sue. Devoted sons John and Jim (Kati), grandchildren Kyle (Anja), Emily Stoffel (Chris), and one great-granddaughter, Lana

Richard A. Gubera, Sr.
Sept. 25, 1934 - Nov. 27, 2016
Resident of Livermore

Richard A. Gubera, Sr. passed away at home on Sunday, November 27th. A

James Stoffel. He is also survived by his brother Cornelius Frydendal (Peggy) of Livermore, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Merv has touched many lives and his generous, loving spirit will be missed by all who knew him. Friends and family are invited to a Memorial Service on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 - 2:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church, Livermore, Ca. reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Callaghan Mortuary (925)-447-2942

Florine, (Faye) Melendez

July 19, 1939 - Dec. 4, 2016
Livermore, CA

Our dear Mom passed away peacefully surrounded by her family. She was loving, courageous and brave throughout her battle with cancer.

Mom is survived by her husband, Luis Melendez Sr.; children: Mark Vegotsky, Jessica (Jeff) Ceremony, Arturo Melendez Jr. and Robyn Kimura (predeceased); by her grandchildren, Erin (Godson) Ryder, Haley Ceremony and Rachel Kimura; by her brother, Bruce (Carol) Rifkin, and nieces, Danielle and Loren.

A private memorial will be held on Dec. 11, 2016, from 12:00 - 4:00pm at her home in Livermore, CA.

Dorothy Elizabeth Billings

Feb. 16, 1925 - Nov. 29, 2016

Dorothy was born in Memphis, Tennessee in 1925 to Marie and James O'Linger. She married her high-school sweetheart Roy Billings in 1946. Dorothy was a very successful businesswoman working as a private secretary for a CEO of a major manufacturing corporation while Roy was overseas serving

our country in World War II. After working for some years, Dorothy devoted her time to being a wonderful wife, mother, and friend to anyone who had the pleasure of knowing her.

She and Roy moved to Saratoga in 1961. She immediately became part of the community doing endless volunteer work as a member of the Children's Home Society and serving as president. She was a member of Summit League, a longtime member and head of the Altar Guild at Saint Andrews Church, and also a member of Town Club of San Jose. She loved to golf and play tennis with her friends. Dorothy and Roy belonged to La Rinconada and Monterey Peninsula Country Clubs. Dorothy also enjoyed creating unforgettable memories by

traveling all over the world with Roy. Dorothy and Roy recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary.

Dorothy, more commonly called "Dee Bee" by her grandchildren, leaves behind an amazing and loving family of her sons; Michael, Steven and Dennis Billings as well as her three daughter-in-laws, Carolyn, Terry and Dena Billings. Her grandchildren, Cole and Amy, Clay and America, Samantha and Cyle, Grant, Chase, Tayler and Austin as well as her two great grandchildren Bauer and Farrah. She also leaves a sister, Rose Marie Houston of Las Vegas and was predeceased by her brother James O'Linger.

To say that "Dee Bee" will be missed would be an understatement. She carries a legacy and grace with her that the family will forever cherish and carry on for all the years to come.

Memorial service will be held December 14, 2016 at Saint Andrews Episcopal Church in Saratoga at 10:00 A.M. Reception to follow at La Rinconada Country Club from 12:00 to 2:00. 14595 Clearview Dr. Los Gatos, Ca. 95032. Private Internment.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to, Saint Andrew Church, 13601 Saratoga Ave, Saratoga, CA 95070 or a charity of choice.

Susan Gilbert

Susan Gilbert "Susie" Beloved Mother, Grandmother, Daughter, Sister and friend born on August 30, 1962, passed on Wednesday November 23, 2016.

Susie lived in Livermore her whole life and loved everything about the small town. She graduated from

Livermore High School in 1980 and worked as a hairdresser in Livermore for over 35 years. In the 90's she had a salon called The City Limits downtown where countless friends and memories were made. She was a superstar, lived a fast, fun and exciting life and never missed a chance to help her children when they needed her. She loved being "Susie," telling jokes, being the center of attention and lifting others up around her. There was a light that shined every time she walked into the room.

Susie is survived by her daughter Summer Elmore 35, her son Mathew Elmore 27, daughter-in-law Mackenzie Ryder 23, grandson Raymond Valdivia 15, granddaughter Lillianna Valdivia 12, grandson Wyatt Elmore 19 months, mother Rosario Regino-Bailey, brother Arthur Bailey, sister Victoria Capron, brother Chuck Lashley and so many friends that will miss her beautiful presence.

A memorial will be held on Sunday, December 11th 2016 at 1pm. The address is 10444 Tesla Rd., Livermore, CA 94551. We welcome everyone who wishes to celebrate her life.

Sandra Jane Barsanti (Early)

Jan. 30, 1940 - Nov. 22, 2016
Lived in Pleasanton, CA

Sandra (Sandy) Barsanti passed away quietly in her home with her partner of 21 plus years, Jack White, at her side. In the days preceding, Sandy's family was constantly by her side as she fought a brief battle with Leukemia.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Sandy moved around a lot as the daughter of a career Army father. In her late teens the family settled in the Bay Area. She graduated from Oakland High School, then moved to San Francisco where she attended City College.

Sandy became a wife, mother, grandmother and friend to many. She always desired to help others. This prompted her to return to school to become a nurse. She specialized in psychiatric nursing and made a career.

In her free time Sandy enjoyed cooking and hosting family and friends for dinners. She also enjoyed baking, especially during the holidays with her grandchildren. Sandy took pride in her home and her lovely yard. She also loved her Yorkies Casey and Max who preceded her.

Sandy experienced a rich life of travel. She visited South America, Africa, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Russia, the Czech Republic, Australia, and New Zealand just to name a few. She also spent a great amount of time traveling in the United States.

Sandy took her love of travel and her desire to help others and embraced teaching English as a second language in China during most of the 90's.

She is survived by her children, Jacqueline Barsanti Roush, Kenneth Barsanti, Markus Barsanti; Son-in-law Bill Roush, daughter-in-law Karen Barsanti; Partner of Markus, Antonio Cabral; and, her very much loved grandchildren Bailey, Taylor, Katie, Ryan and Nathan. She is also survived by her brother Steve Early, niece Stephanie as well as Roy Barsanti, her ex-husband and long time friend.

Mary Jane McDonough Laster Woods

Some lights cannot be dimmed. It is with profound sadness that we mourn the passing and celebrate the life of Mary Jane McDonough



Laster Woods. Mary Jane passed away at age 52 on December

1, 2016, after a brave and valiant 4-year battle with breast cancer.

An amazing mother, wife, sister, daughter, aunt and friend. The middle child in a family of 8 children -- all with big personalities -- hers was the brightest of all.

Born in Seattle, WA, in 1964 and raised in Palo Alto, CA, Mary Jane was an outstanding athlete at Palo Alto High School, excelling in swimming and soccer. She went on to play soccer at Saint Mary's College of California, earning All-American honors and helping them win the 1984 NAIA National title by scoring a goal in the championship game.

As a beloved kindergarten teacher at Palmer School for Boys & Girls in Walnut Creek, her engaging way and positive energy and attitude quickly made her a favorite teacher for many students.

Her life became complete when she met the love of her life Joseph Woods in 1991. Mary Jane and Joe enjoyed a wonderful fulfilling union -- committed partners in love and life. They established their loving home in Livermore, CA, and brought forth two amazing daughters -- the couple's greatest legacy. Beautiful inside and out, they followed their Mama's leadership and are both enjoying successful college swimming careers.

Mary Jane leaves behind her loving husband Joseph Woods, daughters Maggie Woods and Katie Woods, sisters (and best friends) Jamie Rohrbacher (Rod), Kate Wood (Jeff), brothers Kevin Laster (Sherry), Michael Laster (Sharon), Matthew Laster (Beth), Thomas Laster (Emily), Daniel Laster (Alison), many nieces, nephews and cousins who loved her dearly, her numerous close friends, and her beloved dog Abby. She was predeceased by her parents Betsy and Jim Laster (Palo Alto, CA).

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested a donation in her name to Hope Hospice (hopehospice.com) or send to Hope Hospice at 6377 Clark Avenue, Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568-3024

Mary Jane never asked "why me?" but rather, "why not me?" She is our hero.

ValleyCare Thrift Shop
STORE CLOSING
12/20/16
12/9 through 12/15
EVERYTHING IN THE STORE
75% OFF!
1911 Second Street, Livermore

Obituary/ Memoriam Policies
Obituaries are published in The Independent at no charge. There is a small charge for photographs in the obituaries.
Memoriam ads can also be placed in The Independent when families want to honor the memories of their loved ones. There is a charge for memoriam ads, based on the size of the ad.
Please send an email to editmail@compuserve.com for more information

Reed Plumbing Company
Livermore, CA
(925) 371-5671
davidreed@dareedplumbing.com
LIC #601931

A Non-Attorney Alternative Paralegal Services
• Divorce • Deeds
• Probate • Living Trust
CALL NOW!
(925) 577-4736
www.atlasdp.com
Atlas Document Preparation Services
120 Spring St, PLS
I am not an attorney. I can only provide self-help service at your specific direction. Reg Alameda County #96. Charlotte R Hargrave LDA

GRAHAM-HITCH MORTUARY
Complete Burial & Cremation
Services with Dignity, Quality & Value
ADVANCE PLANNING MADE EASY
Call for a FREE Consultation
IN-HOME VISITS AVAILABLE
4167 First Street, Pleasanton | (925) 846-5624
www.grahamhitch.com



Deanna Moser



Teri Benoit



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Holidays in the Vineyards, held over the weekend at Livermore Valley wineries, was a time to sip wine, sample goodies, shop, listen to music and just enjoy the ambiance of wine country. The event is hosted each year by members of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association.

VALLEY TAKES ON A HOLIDAY GLOW



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Dublin held its annual tree lighting ceremony last Thursday. The colorful outdoor tree attracted young and old alike. The tree inside city hall sports a green, shamrock theme. In addition to being entertained, those in attendance welcome a visit from Santa Claus.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Crowds descended on downtown Livermore to view the annual Holiday Parade followed by the tree lighting ceremony. Bands and colorful floats, along with a special visitor from the North Pole, marched down First Street.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Deacon Dave's House of the Dove 34th Annual Christmas Display opened last Friday with a colorful Christmas Procession down Hillcrest Ave. There are reportedly over 500,000 lights this year. The display, 352 Hillcrest Avenue, Livermore, will be on view through January 1: Sunday-Thursday 6 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 6 to 10 p.m. Christmas Eve and Christmas Night, 6 to 10 p.m. and Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, 6 to 9 p.m., closed if there is heavy rain and or strong winds.

Now Consumers Can Try Technology Before Buying It

By Carol Graham

With smart-home technology evolving at warp speed, two top companies have partnered to create a hands-on shopping experience that makes learning about, choosing and using new products a breeze.

Lowe's in Livermore has joined with b8ta, a Bay Area-based retail store designed for trying and buying new tech, to offer an innovative store-within-a-store called SmartSpot.

"Connected home products were designed to provide convenience and make our lives easier," stated b8ta co-founder and CMO Phillip Raub. "However, for years the presentation of these products has been confusing and difficult for customers to experience firsthand. With SmartSpot, we're breaking

down those barriers in a retail setting, and providing a space where customers can learn about connected products in a hands-on environment."

At SmartSpot, located just inside Lowe's entrance, customers can explore and compare dozens of state-of-the-art devices, like the Ring Doorbell, which allows smartphone users to see and speak with visitors at their front door from any location, and the Nest Learning Thermostat, which adapts to users' lives and the seasons to save both energy and money.

"I'm partial to Nest products, as Nest will always be part of b8ta's DNA," said Raub. "However, the one product I enjoy most is the Click and Grow. We have one in our kitchen, and every day my daughter is excited

to see the progress of her strawberries or pick basil for dinner."

Following its November 15 grand opening, SmartSpot provides a one-stop holiday-shopping venue.

"The great thing is that there are items across price points and suited to all age groups," said Ruth Crowley, Lowe's vice president of Customer Experience Design. "The Roomba is getting great coverage now. The Key Tile is a fantastic stocking stuffer with serious functionality. One of the other popular items is the iLuv shower speaker."

Added Raub, "Traditionally, it would have been taboo to give someone a thermostat or a vacuum for Christmas. However, with the emergence of tech- (See TECHNOLOGY, page 12)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A new feature at Lowe's in Livermore offers a hands-on opportunity to try out new electronics. Pictured discussing b8ta are (left) Melanie Campbell, sales representative b8ta, and Chantal Lamers, home editor at Sunset Magazine.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION
PLACING LEGAL NOTICES
Call 925-243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524433

The following person(s) doing business as: Ballou Family Backflow, 64 Cameo Dr, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
1) Jeffrey Alyn Ballou 2) Yvonne Marie Ballou, 64 Cameo Dr, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by Married Couple
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Jeffrey A. Ballou
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 10, 2016. Expires November 10, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4030. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524298

The following person(s) doing business as: Stop-N-Wash Coin Laundry, 1344 Railroad Ave, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

Highland Laundry Inc, 47000 Warm Springs Blvd #114, Fremont, CA 94539

This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on March 11, 2011.

Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: John Martin, President
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 7, 2016. Expires November 7, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4031. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524128

The following person(s) doing business as: Na Hoku - Hawaii's Finest Jewelers Since 1924, 2113 Stoneridge Mall, Space B-205, Upper Level, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Na Hoku, Inc., 3049 Ualena St, 12th Floor, Honolulu, HI 96819

This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on March 21, 2006.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Linda L. Flanagan, Secretary
This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda on November 2, 2016. Expires November 2, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4032. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524453

The following person(s) doing business as: Relaunch Now, 3477 Torlano Place, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
(1) Patricia Recupero, 3477 Torlano Place, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (2) Kimberly Richardson, 4582 Gatetree Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94566

This business is conducted by a General partnership
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Kimberly Richardson, General Partner
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 10, 2016. Expires November 10, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4033. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524062

The following person(s) doing business as: The DNA Geek, 5853 Wilma Court, Liver-

more, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Leah Larkin, 5853 Wilma Court, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an Individual
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Leah Larkin
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 1, 2016. Expires November 1, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4034. Published November 17, 24, December 1, 8, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524449

The following person(s) doing business as: A+ Quality Construction, 7254 Elba Court, Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
A+ Quality Inc., 7254 Elba Court, Dublin, CA 94568
This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Ioan Pascut, President
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 10, 2016. Ex-

pires November 10, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4035. Published November 24, December 1, 8, 15, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524643

The following person(s) doing business as: 9ROUND Livermore, 1490 N. Vasco Road, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Pomaika'i Management, LLC, 3787 Crow Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94582
This business is conducted by a Limited liability company
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Jason Wong, Chief Executive Officer
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 16, 2016. Expires November 16, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4036. Published December 1, 8, 15, 22, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524973

The following person(s) doing business as: Huaxing Arts Group San Francisco, 6620 Owens Drive, Suite B, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):

US Chinese Dance Association, 6620 Owens Drive, Suite B, Pleasanton, CA 94588

This business is conducted by a Corporation
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Xiaopei Gelb, President
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 28, 2016. Expires November 28, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4037. Published December 1, 8, 15, 22, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 525032

The following person(s) doing business as: Sport Clips Haircuts, 7012 Amador Plaza Rd., Dublin, CA 94568, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
RSB Services, LLC, 2745 Kellogg Loop, Livermore, CA 94550
This business is conducted by a Limited liability company
The registrant began to transact business using the fictitious business name(s) listed above on May 3, 2010.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Robyn Barraza, President
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 29, 2016. Expires November 29, 2021.

The Independent Legal No. 4038. Published December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524661

The following person(s) doing business as: Tails R Waggin Mobile Pet Grooming, 1051 Redondo Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
1) Darlene Riley Cloud 2) Ralph Unger Cloud, 1051 Redondo Way, Livermore, CA 94550

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 524948

The following person(s) doing business as: Wine Country Business Services, 837 Mayview Way, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Elizabeth A. Benstead, 837

Mayview Way, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an Individual
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Elizabeth A. Benstead
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 28, 2016. Expires November 28, 2021. The Independent Legal No. 4040. Published December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 525115

The following person(s) doing business as: Snakebite Embroidery, 890 South G St, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s):
Casey Cunningham, 890 South G St, Livermore, CA 94550
This business is conducted by an Individual
The registrant has not yet begun to transact business using the fictitious business name listed above.
Signature of Registrant(s) :s/: Casey Cunningham
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on December 1, 2016. Expires December 1, 2021. The Independent Legal No.

LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

www.independentnews.com



4041. Published December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2016.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER BECOMING A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Zone 7 Water Agency (Zone 7) will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., at 100 North Canyons Pkwy, Livermore, California, to receive comments from the public before deciding to become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin, which lies beneath the cities of Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, and a portion of San Ramon.

Zone 7 is a public agency that supplies treated and untreated water for approximately 245,215 residents in the Tri-Valley area of eastern Alameda County. A new state law known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires that GSAs be created to sustainably manage certain groundwater basins, including the Livermore Valley Groundwater Basin. SGMA also designated Zone 7 as the exclusive GSA for groundwater basins within its service area. For more information on SGMA, please see <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/>.

Public comments will be received during the public hearing on December 21, 2016. Zone 7's Board of Di-

rectors may decide whether to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency immediately after the public hearing closes. For more information about Zone 7 or to learn about its water management efforts, visit www.zone7water.com or call (925) 454-5000.

The Independent Legal No. 4042. Published December 8, 15, 2016.

ANIMALS

2) CATS/ DOGS
ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at (925)426-8656



Adopt a new best friend TVAR
Tri-Valley Animal Rescue

Our current weekly adoption events include:

Saturdays - Dogs & Puppies at Farmer's Market in Pleasanton. The location is Delucchi Park, 4501 First St. Hours: 10:00am to 1:00pm.

Saturdays & Sundays - Kittens at Dublin PetSmart, 6960 Amador Plaza Rd. Hours: 11am to 3pm.

Visit our website, WWW.TVAR.ORG, to see adoptable animals, volunteer opportunities, and how to donate.

Follow TRI-VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

FERAL CAT FOUNDATION
Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livemore 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.

SERVICES

PIANO LESSONS
Given by teacher with over 30 years experience & BA in music.
If interested, please call (925)449-6622

EMPLOYMENT

65) HELP WANTED
IT
Callidus Software Inc. provider of enterprise incentive management solutions, has openings in Dublin, CA for Sr. Consultant (SC03): Conduct requirement gathering sessions with clients; design and implement compensation plans; Technical Operations Engineer (TOE01): Manage and Monitor CallidusCloud's SaaS product. Position involves on-shift support during weekend, on rotation-basis.
Mail resume & ref job code to:
Callidus Software Inc.
Attn: Frances Bracy
4140 Dublin Blvd.
Ste 400
Dublin, CA 94568

JAVA DEVELOPER
Design & develop Java/J2EE from end-to-end & SDLC. Translate Business requirements into system interface design services oriented Architecture. Configure, build & test app or Technical Architecture components. Design/implementation using UML/Eclipse, JSP, Servlets, Struts, Spring, Spring Security & Hibernate. Job Location: Pleasanton, CA & unanticipated client sites throughout USA. Requirements: MS Engineering+6 months of exp. or BS Engineering+5 yrs exp.
Contact: Kreeyaa
5115 Johnson Dr.
Pleasanton, CA 94588

BE WARY of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send money or fees. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

TO PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE OR CLASSIFIED AD IN THE INDEPENDENT, Call (925)243-8000

MERCHANDISE

1115) ESTATE/ GARAGE/ YARD SALES
GARAGE SALE
Saturday, 12/10
9:00AM - 12:00 Noon
Assorted household items, Small microwave, Baker's rack, etc
1523 Yukon Place
Livermore 94550

118) FREE SECTION

Free Pine & Oak Wood
You cut & haul it
Lots of Pine cones, too
Please call
(408)897-3156

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.




Cable Installers Wanted!

Immediate openings for Cable Installers
No experience necessary, we will train.
\$500 Bonus for no experience
\$2500 Bonus with sufficient experience
Benefits - Health, Dental, Vision, 401K
Company vehicle with gas card provided
Bring current DMW report to interview.
Call (916) 215-9309 to apply.
Open Interviews Mon-Fri 9am-3pm
1920 Mark Ct. #190, Concord, CA



 Daniel Alpher REALTOR® 925.548.6500 daniel@apr.com daniel.apr.com	 Sally Blaze REALTOR® 925.998.1284 sblaze@apr.com sblaze.apr.com
 Lynn Borley REALTOR® 925.487.3371 lynnb@apr.com lynnb.apr.com	 Tracey Esling REALTOR® 925.366.8275 tesling@apr.com tesling.apr.com
 Leslie Faught REALTOR® 925.784.7979 leslie@apr.com LeslieFaught.com	 Linda Futral Broker Associate 925.980.3561 linda@apr.com LindaFutral.com
 Dan Gamache REALTOR® 925.918.0332 dangamache@apr.com TriValleyHomeSearch.com	 Kat Gaskins REALTOR® 925.963.7940 kgaskins@apr.com KatGaskins.com
 Gail Henneberry REALTOR® 925.980.1900 ghenneberry@apr.com ghenneberry.apr.com	 Leigh Anne Hoffman REALTOR® 925.918.2912 hoffmanhomesales@gmail.com lhoffman.apr.com
 Gina Huggins Broker Associate 925.640.3762 ghuggins@apr.com ghuggins.apr.com	 Colton King REALTOR® 925.980.6209 cking@apr.com cking.apr.com
 Kelly King REALTOR® 510.714.7231 lkking@apr.com lkking.apr.com	 Blaise Lofland Real Estate Group 925.846.6500 blofland@blaiselofland.com blaiselofland.com
 Sara Lovett REALTOR® 925.518.8177 slovett@apr.com slovett.apr.com	 Jo Ann Luisi REALTOR® 925.321.6104 jluisi@apr.com JoAnnLuisi.com
 Miranda Mattos REALTOR® 925.336.7653 miranda@apr.com miranda.apr.com	 Lily McClanahan REALTOR® 925.209.9328 lilym@apr.com lilymc.apr.com
 Tim McGuire REALTOR® 925.463.SOLD tmcguire@apr.com TimMcGuire.net	 Kris Moxley REALTOR® 925.519.9080 kmoxley.apr.com Moxleyteam.com
 Tyler Moxley Broker Associate 925.518.1083 tmoxley.apr.com Moxleyteam.com	 Maureen Nokes Broker Associate 925.577.2700 mnokes@apr.com mnokes.apr.com
 Kim Ott REALTOR® 510.220.0703 kim@kimott.com KimOtt.com	 Justin Ramos REALTOR® 510.673.7004 jramos@apr.com jramos.apr.com
 Amanda Pereira REALTOR® 925.518.2887 apereira@apr.com apereira.apr.com	 Linda Traurig REALTOR® 925.621.4073 ltraurig@apr.com ltraurig.apr.com
 Judy Turner REALTOR® 925.518.3115 jturner@apr.com jturner.apr.com	 Robin Young REALTOR® 510.757.5901 ryoung@apr.com ryoung.apr.com



Professionals Choice Real Estate Directory

Local guide to the Valley's Leading Real Estate Professionals & Services

 Mike Fracisco (925) 998-8131 Residential • Commercial • Property Mgmt Fracisco Realty & Investments www.MikeFracisco.com CalBRE #01378428	 Top Producing Livermore Realtor since 1999 www.IvyLoGerfo.com (925) 998-5312 Ivy REALTY CalBRE#01267853
 Cindy Williams REALTOR®, CRS & GRI (925) 918-2045	 Gene Williams REALTOR® (510) 390-0325 www.WilliamsReGroup.com Over Two Decades of Experience!
 Sande Utterback (925) 487-0524 www.SANDEEJ.COM Specializing in Livermore's Finest Homes	 SABRINA BASCOM (925) 337-0194 sabrina.bascom@bhgrivally.com Cal BRE#01848451
 Gail Henderson BROKER ASSOCIATE, MPA COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL (925) 980-5648 www.gailhenderson.com Cal BRE #01709171	 DONNA GARRISON 925.980.0273
 SUSAN SCHALL 925.519.8226 Search Tri-Valley Homes for Sale at FabulousProperties.net Venture Sotheby's	 TEAM EVANS Excellence in Real Estate Craig & Rebecca Evans CalBRE: #01971528 #01498025 TeamEvansRealEstate.com 925.784.2870
 Pam Cole Realtor® CalBRE#01291147 925-337-2461 Pam@PamCole4Homes.com YourHomeTeamValuation.com	 Vickie Harris Realtor® CRS CalBRE#01072497 925-200-6767 Vickie@VickieHarris.com
 Cindy Greci (925) 784-1243 www.GreciGroup.com	 Dominic Greci (925) 525-0864
 KRISTY PEIXOTO AND COMPANY Estates, Ranches & Land Realtors (925) 251-2536 kpeixoto@rockcliff.com Estatesandranches.com CalBRE #01256255	 Linda Newton REALTOR®, GRI, SRES (925) 216-2015 Linda.Newton@bhghome.com BHGHome.com/LindaNewton CalBRE# 01312631
 Marina Guevorkian REALTOR, e-PRO FIVE STAR Real Estate Agent Reward 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 (925) 640-8824 SellingLivermore.com CalBRE #01390611	 MICHELLE ELLIOTT Mortgage Banker National Achiever 925-212-6907 michelle.d.elliott@chase.com homeloans.chase.com/michelle.d.elliott NMLS ID: 694685
 Debi Zentner Loan Officer of the Year 925-200-6381 debidivmg.com NMLS 241540	 Monique Caires Loan Officer 925-336-0202 monique@divmg.com NMLS 344058
 Wanda Thompson 925.858.9128 411 So L St, Suite E, Livermore BRE#00983781 / NMLS#244633	 Brett D. Caires BOAVENTURA REAL ESTATE SERVICES 925.449.5888 brettdcaires@gmail.com LIC#00958328

To Place Your Ad, Call Your Account Representative At (925) 243-8001

INTERESTED IN A CAREER?
Are you a highly motivated individual who would entertain a NEW CAREER in REAL ESTATE or are you an EXPERIENCED REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL that is looking for an innovative company to help you take your business to the next level?
Alain Pinel Realtors is just that, a team.



Don Faught
Vice President & Managing Broker
925.251.1111
dfaught@apr.com

HEALTH

(continued from page one)

cover the cost of plans and services. Open enrollment ends on January 31. For coverage starting January 1, enroll by December 15. Plans purchased during the current open enrollment period will be honored through the end of 2017.

Axis counselors also assist people in enrolling in Medi-Cal or renewing Medi-Cal coverage. To qualify, an individual must meet income and other eligibility requirements. For individuals, an income of less than \$16,394 qualifies; for a family of four an income of less than \$33,534 qualifies.

In-person assistance at Axis is free and available in English and Spanish during business hours Monday through Friday, as well as some evenings and Saturdays, at locations in Livermore and Pleasanton. To make an appointment, call Axis at (925) 462-1755.

Axis offers Covered CA information sessions at local libraries as follows:

- Information Table at Dublin Library: 3rd Monday of the month through the end of January, 1:00-4:00pm, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin
- Information Table at Pleasanton Library: 1st Friday of the month through the end of January, 10:00am – 1:00pm, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton
- Covered CA & Medi-Cal Basics Presentation: January 9, 7:00 – 8:00 pm, Pleasanton Public Library – 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton
- Covered CA & Medi-Cal Basics Presentation: January 12, 7:00 – 8:00 pm, Livermore Public Library – Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Ave, Livermore

“Axis is here to help everyone get covered,” says Garcia. “Give us a ring so we can help you.”

TECHNOLOGY

(continued from page 10)

nology, these products are desired Christmas gifts this holiday season.”

SmartSpot will be open during Lowe's normal hours, with knowledgeable staff on hand to help customers discover new products, see how they work, and learn how to install them.

“Customers really like to see all of the items displayed together - showing full home solutions, providing a curated assortment across categories, and simplifying the selection process,” said Crowley. “Most customers research smart home items weeks in advance. Our SmartSpot allows them the opportunity to touch and interact with the products, as all are out of package in live display. It's helped reduce the intimidation people feel.”

SmartSpot in Livermore is one of only three in California; the other two are located in Burbank and Aliso Viejo. Because Livermore

is home to two national laboratories, it's recognized as an innovation hub that is considered the ideal location to debut the SmartSpot collaboration between Lowe's and b8ta.

“We are seeing a great response to the entire space,” said Raub. “In particular, we've seen a lot of interest in a few categories: home security - cameras and locks; energy conservation - thermostats and lighting; and home automation - voice-activated devices.”

“b8ta is excited to provide manufacturers the ability to easily on-board their products into Lowe's stores, and customers at Lowe's are able to engage with a wider and more-relevant assortment of smart home products than ever before.”

Crowley agreed.

“As a leader in the home improvement space for decades, Lowe's continues to evolve and innovate to anticipate and meet the needs of our customers,” she said. “Our objective is to continuously elevate the customer experience and to help our customers love where they

live. SmartSpot supports both objectives.”

To learn more, visit www.b8ta.com, and www.lowes.com. Lowe's is located at 4255 First Street.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT TERRA MIA RING IN THE NEW YEAR DEC. 31ST, WITH US!

SPECIAL 4-COURSE DINNER MENU 4:00-9:00PM

Make Your Reservations Now!

Those who dine with us at our last seating between 7pm-9pm are invited to ring in the New Year with us! Complimentary party favors, music, dancing and a prosecco toast along with traditional cotechino and lentils at midnight!

**Music and dancing
featuring DJ Dave Brown
from 10:30 until...**



INFO & RSVP, CALL 925-456-3333

**Terra Mia Ristorante Italiano
4040 East Avenue, Livermore
terramialivermore.com**

TICKETS

(continued from page one)

been washed in my machine - and still I complained about getting to work. I made a personal decision to get to know those in my community who were facing challenges and figure out ways to help. Transportation is a basic need in our society - getting to work, the store and the services in town.”

Wheels bus tickets typically cost \$2 each, or a sheet of ten for \$16. However, Christy Wegener, Director of Planning and Operations for the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, said, “Wheels is excited to partner

with Jacky and provide a 50% match to the number of tickets she purchases with this year's funds.”

Donations can be made in any denomination, in one of two ways: sending a check marked “Bus Tickets” in the memo line; or purchasing tickets to drop off at Asbury. Bus tickets can be purchased at Safeway, Lucky, city hall, senior centers, or at the Wheels Administrative Offices at 1362 Rutan Drive in Livermore.

“We are trying to do as much as possible before Christmas, but donations

will be happily accepted any time,” said Poulsen. “To receive a receipt for the donation, include an email address, but please be patient as it may take a while to process the donations and send out receipts.”

“My experience from last year and already again this year, is that people love donating bus tickets,” she added. “They often want to help but don't know how. This is so easy and is such a great way to give.”

To learn more, visit www.asburylive.org. Asbury United Methodist Church is located at 4743 East Avenue.

Janice Pementel (925) 997-1387
Specializing In Deceased Stock Removal—Large & Small
Transportation To UC Davis And To Crematories
Service the Tri-Valley & Beyond Since 1930

VICTORINE
OLIVE OIL

Extra Virgin Olive Oil
from Our Livermore Family Farm
and Select California Producers Only!

*Give a Gift
from Your Home Town
this Holiday Season!*

**Olive Oil & Balsamic Boxed Sets
Custom Gift Baskets
Olive Oil Skincare
Unique Houseware**

Blacksmith Square
21 South Livermore Ave. #101
Shipping: victorinevalley.com 925/454-8777
Open Daily 11-5 • Dec 1-23

A Livermore Family Farm Since 2001 • From Our Farm to Your Table, Come Taste the Difference

//
Alain Pinel Realtors®

HOME STARTS HERE



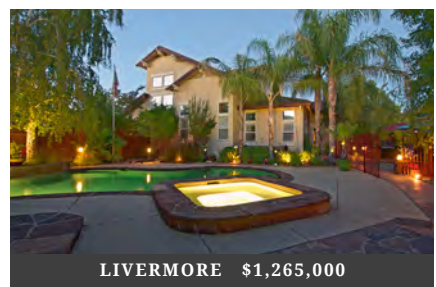
FREMONT \$7,299,000
600 Monticello Terrace | 6bd/8.5+ba
Kelly King | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$1,899,000
2157 Cameron Circle | 4bd/3.5ba
Julia Murtagh | 925.251.1111
OPEN SUNDAY 1:00-4:00



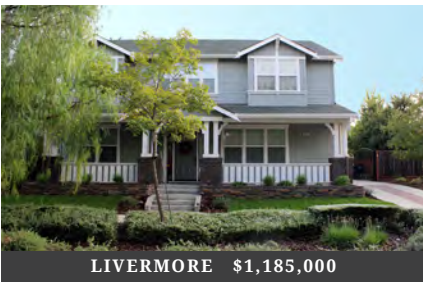
LIVERMORE \$1,274,950
2480 Cowan Way | 5bd/4.5ba
Jo Ann Luisi | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$1,265,000
509 Alden Lane | 4bd/3.5ba
Linda Futral | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



ALAMEDA \$1,188,000
1519 Mozart Street | 3bd/3.5ba
Izabella Lipetski | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$1,185,000
5673 Moreland Way | 6bd/4ba
Linda Futral | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$995,000
4092 Graham Street | 4bd/3ba
Kris Moxley | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$965,000
2958 Lethbridge Court | 4bd/2.5ba
Maureen Nokes | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



PLEASANTON \$949,000
4455 Entrada Drive | 3bd/2ba
Blaise Lofland | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



PLEASANTON \$875,000
4703 Augustine Street | 3bd/2.5ba
Tyler Moxley | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT



LIVERMORE \$679,950
1060 Andalucia Street | 4bd/2ba
Maureen Nokes | 925.251.1111
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-4:00



LIVERMORE \$525,000
1460 Olivina Avenue | 4bd/2ba
Karen Crowson | 925.251.1111
BY APPOINTMENT

APR.COM

Over 30 Offices Serving The San Francisco Bay Area 866.468.0111

ALAIN PINEL
REALTORS

LUXURY
PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL®



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Ravenswood historic site will be decked out for the holidays.

Yuletide Festivities Planned at Ravenswood

The annual Ravenswood Victorian Yuletide festivities will take place on Sun., Dec. 11 from noon to 4 p.m.

Admission and parking are free.

Progress League members declare, "All are invited to this free event. We just want people to come and enjoy themselves in an historic setting."

There will be holiday music, a dance performance, and an opportunity to purchase gifts in the gift shop. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be on hand to hear Christmas wishes.

The historic site will be decked out in holiday finery.

Hosting the event will be the Ravenswood Progress League and Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.



David Benoit

Program Features Music of 'A Charlie Brown Christmas'

The music of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" featuring five-time Grammy Award-nominated pianist David Benoit will be a highlight of the holiday season at the Bankhead Theater in December. Accompanied by his quartet and the chorus of Livermore's William Mendenhall Middle School, Benoit and special guest jazz vocalist Sara

Gazarek bring to life the music from the Charlie Brown television specials. Benoit combines the classic works of original Peanuts composer Vince Guaraldi with his own compositions into a holiday celebration.

Student tickets for the performance of "A Charlie

(continued on page 2)



Gear Featuring Historic Lightbulb Benefits Firefighters Foundation

The Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation is offering lightbulb shirts.

The Foundation is working in partnership with KarmaLaunch, an industry leader in promotional merchandise geared specifically for non-profit organizations. Released is the newest holiday Livermore Centennial Bulb apparel, which will be available exclusively through the online store provided by Karma Launch.

The Livermore Centennial Bulb has been continuously burning since 1901 and is the Oldest Burning Light Bulb in the world, as ver-

(continued on page 4)



The final three performances of Livermore High School production of John Cariani's "Almost, Maine" are set for December 8, 9 and 10. Cariani sets his play "on a cold, clear, and moonless night in the middle of winter, where all is not quite what it seems in this remote, mythical town. As the northern lights hover in the star-filled sky above, the residents of Almost find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and hilarious ways." Performances are at the LHS Theater, 600 Maple Street, Livermore, with curtain time at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 reserved. They can be purchased at the LHS Cowboy Webstore or at the door.

CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

(continued from front page)

"Brown Christmas" at 7:30 p.m. on December 19, 2016 are just \$16 with adult tickets ranging from \$35 to \$60.

David Benoit soared onto the jazz charts in the mid-1980s with his creative interpretation of the familiar "Linus and Lucy" theme song, a tribute to his lifelong passion for the music Guaraldi wrote for the original Charlie Brown television specials. Benoit has described this music as "happy jazz." The familiar melodies bring to life the comic strip characters Charles Schultz introduced in 1950. Benoit went on to compose music for later Peanuts specials over a span of 10 years and, among his more than two dozen albums of jazz music, has released two chart-topping CDs of Peanuts-themed music, including the all-star tribute "40 Years: A Charlie Brown Christmas" and his most recent "Believe," a collaboration with jazz vocalist Jane Monheit.

Joining Benoit as his special guest will be Sara Gazarek. With three CD's before she was 30, Gazarek has been hailed by The Los Angeles Times as "the next important jazz singer." A Seattle native, Gazarek only discovered her passion when she joined the



Sara Gazarek

jazz choir in high school, and ended her senior year winning the first ever Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation Vocal Soloist Award. While a student at the University of Southern California, she helped develop the JazzReach program working with inner-city

elementary school children and sharing her love for jazz music. She now serves on the USC faculty, leading the award-winning vocal jazz ensemble. In addition to his quartet, Benoit's "A Charlie Brown Christmas" traditionally includes the participation of local choral

groups and, at the Bankhead Theater, he and Gazarek will be accompanied by the William Mendenhall Middle School chorus.

Benoit has built an extensive career as a composer, pianist and arranger and was acknowledged by American Smooth Jazz Awards for Lifetime Achievement in 2010. In addition to his success in the jazz world, Benoit has also earned critical acclaim in classical music, where he has served as conductor for a wide range of symphonies including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Asia America Symphony Orchestra and the London Symphony Orchestra. Active in the world of music education and outreach, Benoit earned the Excellence in Music Education Award from the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets may be purchased at the box office, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800. The ticket office is open Tuesday through Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. On performance days the ticket office is open from two hours before to 30 minutes after the scheduled start of each show.

Jeff Bordes and Friends to Present Annual Holiday Concert at the Firehouse



Jeff Bordes (pictured at left) & Friends returns to the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton for the big annual Holiday Concert on Saturday, December 10, at 8 p.m. This year's theme is 'A New Orleans Christmas,' and will again feature a host of special guest artists. The event is currently sold out. Reserved seating tickets are \$15, \$20, \$25. Advance purchase at www.firehousearts.org, by calling the Box Office at 925-931-4848, or in person from the Firehouse Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue in Pleasanton.

Bay Area jazz trumpeter and Pleasanton native Jeff Bordes needs no introduction to jazz fans. A 1997 graduate of the famed jazz incubator Berklee College of Music in Boston, Bordes has been playing since a

very young age, and changing the face of jazz. Career highlights include live performances and recording projects with such greats as Branford Marsalis, Alex Acuna, Richie Cole, Tom Petty, Stevie Nicks, Sheryl Crow, and recently John Mellencamp. He has done performance tours of the US and internationally with a number of groups, includ-

ing Bill Berry Big Band and the great Dizzy Gillespie.

In addition to his performance work, Jeff is passionate about spreading the word of Jazz as a featured clinician in schools and music festivals throughout the world, as well as teaching privately. He also writes articles on jazz for numerous music publications, including All About Jazz

and Trumpet Player Online. And if that's not enough, Bordes also composes scores for film and commercials, including contributing to the soundtrack of the award-winning documentary "De Colores."

A 'sell-out' each year, the show is back, showcasing holiday favorites with "a taste of New Orleans and the soul of the Blues."



Timothy Schmit

'Leap of Faith' Tour Added to Bankhead Programs

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center has added Timothy B. Schmit's "Leap of Faith" tour to the LVPAC Presents schedule for January 2017. Best known for his role as bassist in the hit bands Poco and The Eagles, Schmit has also forged a successful career as a solo artist. His music provides a mix of rock, country, Americana, R&B and even a touch of reggae. Playing songs off "Leap of Faith," his sixth solo album, and other hits from his long career, Timothy B. Schmit will appear for one performance only at the Bankhead Theater on Friday, January 20, 2017 at 8 p.m.

Schmit's tour kicks off in California after he returns from the Kennedy Center Honors celebration in Washington D.C. next month. Each year, Kennedy Center pays tribute to the lifetime artistic achievements honorees have made to art and culture over the course of their careers. The Eagles were cited for their "ambitiously themed albums which epically merged the American West and rock and roll, paving the way for unconventional music makers and artists to come."

A native of Oakland, Schmit tried out several instruments before taking up the guitar. He played and sang in a number of bands, but his career really began to grow in the early 1970s when he joined Poco and helped pioneer its fusion of country, rock and folk music. Schmit joined The Eagles in 1977 as they went on tour for their mega-hit album "Hotel California." On what turned out to be their final album, "The Long Run," he co-wrote and sang lead on the hit single "I Can't Tell You Why." Over the years, Schmit has collaborated with a diverse range of artists,

including Richard Marx, Bob Seger, Steely Dan, Diana Krall and the Blind Boys of Alabama.

According to Schmit, "Leap of Faith" is an expression of where he is in time. From the jaunty opening track "My Hat" and the soaring harmonies and heartfelt reflections of "This Waltz," to the profound love expressed in "It's Alright," the entire album demonstrates his broad musical range and versatility. Schmit's performance it will include songs off the new album, as well as other hits from across his long and varied career.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in downtown Livermore. Tickets for performances can be purchased at the box office, Tues.-Sat. noon to 6 p.m., on-line at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800.

L I V E R M O R E
— arts —
B A N K H E A D T H E A T E R



The NUTCRACKER
VALLEY DANCE THEATRE

Sat DEC 10
through
Sun DEC 18

A Holiday Favorite for the whole family for over 35 years.

Celtic Christmas
CONCERT & GATHERING
At the Bothwell

David Benoit
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
SARA GAZAREK
Mon DEC 19 7:30pm

Celtic Christmas
CONCERT & GATHERING
GABE DUFFIN'S FAMILY-FRIENDLY CELEBRATION
Sun DEC 11 6pm

An Irish Christmas
HOLIDAY TRADITIONS FROM THE EMERALD ISLE
Thu DEC 22 7:30pm

The Four Freshmen
NEW YEAR'S EVE
Sat DEC 31 8pm
Includes Sparkling Wine & Dessert after the show

925.373.6800 LVPAC.org
2400 First Street, Downtown Livermore

An Irish Christmas Features Music and Dance



"An Irish Christmas" returns to the Bankhead Theater in December with an exhibition of Christmas magic from the Emerald Isle. The show brings

traditional songs, dances, and lively storytelling. From "Carol of the Bells" to ancient Irish hymns and melodies, "An Irish Christmas" is a unique and unfor-

gettable experience that The Village News says, "leaves everyone with the urge to grab their loved ones and dance down the aisles." Appearing in the produc-



Katherine Trimble (above) will sign as part of An Irish Christmas; Irish dancers will perform.

tion will be San Jose-based mezzo soprano Katherine Trimble, who has sung with Opera San Jose and was the inaugural recipient

(continued on page 7)



Music part of gala festivities.

Annual Celtic Christmas Concert and Gathering Set at the Bothwell

Michael Mullen Returns to Play the Celtic Christmas Concert

Since 2009, the Bothwell Arts Center has hosted the Annual Celtic Christmas Concert and Gathering, a spirited community celebration filled with music, food and laughter. The Concert and Gathering will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 11.

The event is produced by Gabriel "Gabe" Duffin, a folksinger who hails from Belfast, Ireland. Duffin's band, "Pog Mo Thoin," features musicians from around the Bay Area. Known for their rich Irish

ballads and lively Irish folk tunes, the band will follow their leader and throw in an unexpected rock song while serving up, with a Celtic flair, many Christmas favorites.

This year features the return of Michael Mullen, noted Celtic fiddle expert who is known widely for his "Mad Fiddler" exploits on stage with Celtic Rock touring band, Tempest. Also returning is guest vocalist Erin Ruth.

The family-friendly celebration has become a local tradition, an opportunity to meet and mingle

with friends both old and new before the Holiday whirl begins. Cider and tea are offered for free. Wine, beer and Irish Whiskey are available for purchase.

Duffin conceived of the Celtic Christmas Concert and Gathering as a fundraiser for the Bothwell Arts Center.

The Bothwell Arts Center is located at 2466 8th Street in Livermore. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. To purchase tickets, go to www.bankheadtheater.org, call 373-6800 or go to the Bankhead Theater ticket office, 2400 First Street, Livermore.

Vine Cinema to Celebrate 60th Anniversary

The Vine Cinema will be celebrating its 60th anniversary with events on Dec. 11 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The first ever film screened at the Vine will be shown that night, along with a remembrance of the past 60 years of operations. Focus will be on the past seven years of operations in which the Vine Cinema became an Alehouse and added beer, wine and food to the menu.

The Vine first opened on December 26, 1956. A small Jack Lemmon and June Allyson film called "You Can't Run Away From It" was the first motion picture shown that day. Originally a one screen theatre with a tiny lobby, the Vine Cinema was California's most modern theatre for its time featuring Cinemascope, Vista-Vision, Superscope and "Directional Sound."

The Vine Cinema split into two auditoriums and expanded its lobby in the mid 1970's.

The Vine went through little structural changes in the 90's, but changed from second-run films to first-run films in 1992, with *Batman Returns* starring Michael Keaton and Danny DeVito as its first "new" first-run film. This angered some

people as the ticket prices jumped from \$2.50 to \$6.50.

In 2000, the Vine Center was sold and remodeled by its current owners and operators. The Vine went through an extensive remodel in 2001-2003, with the marquee being the single biggest change. What was once two run down and broken marquees on both First and South "O" streets, became a brand new double sided marquee on First Street.

The lobby went through big changes as well in 2002, as the concession stand doubled in length, the bathrooms were completely remodeled, and the box office was changed. This remodel started a five year run of prosperity from 2002 to 2007 where the Vine Cinema was a flourishing two screen family oriented first-run theatre, posting record attendance marks.

Competition hit the Livermore market in December of 2006, as a new 10 screen theatre (later to change to 13 screens) opened just .4 miles from the Vine. Because of the close proximity, studios would not let both cinemas play the same blockbuster films. As a result, over time the Vine started getting shut

out from playing the money making films.

In August of 2009 the Vine Cinema decided to make a change to Independent films. These smaller films often shown in theatres in Berkeley and San Francisco were not being shown in the Tri-Valley.

Just a month later in September of 2009, after a 10 month process, the Vine Cinema got its beer and wine license – a very difficult feat for a movie theatre in California. The "Alehouse" was then added to the name to show that beer, wine and food were now available. Further renovations took place in the lobby, including adding the draft beer tower where eight "craft" beers are served daily. Along with the physical changes, the Vine Cinema & Alehouse was going through other changes; adding live, major sporting events where people could watch a crystal clear NFL game on a giant 30 foot screen – the largest sporting screen in the Bay Area.

Other features were added the following year in 2010 like classics nights, wine nights, and Oscar & Super bowl parties.

Finally, in December of 2012, at the height of a major change in the motion picture industry, the Vine Cinema played its last 35mm film and went digital. Top of the line Christie digital theatre projectors were installed in the projection booth, marking the end of 35mm presentation at the Vine. This change ushered in a new era of crystal clear digital presentations, and assured that the Vine Cinema & Alehouse was going to stay around for another 50 years.!

LIGHTBULB GEAR

(continued from front page)

ified by the Guinness Book of World Records. The Centennial Bulb attracts visitors from all around the world to Fire Station #6 at 4550 East Avenue in Livermore. A visit to the station was the only way to get a piece of the history that the Centennial Bulb offers. However, through

the partnership between the Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation and Karma Launch, gear is available to those fans of the Bulb who are unable to make it to the firehouse. The latest offering features the Bulb prominently displayed with our LPFF

logo on a newly redesigned background. Using Karma Launch's capabilities, high quality cotton t-shirts and sweatshirts in choice of multiple colors and styles are available.

The Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters Foundation is a 501c(3) non-profit

foundation that provides support for injured and fallen firefighters, police officers, first responders, and their families, as well as numerous local, state and national charities. All of the proceeds from the sale of merchandise go to support the mission. Karma Launch

has also included a donation link within the online store, allowing anyone to make a tax-deductible donation to help support the work.

The link can be found at <https://www.karmalaunch.com/LPFF/holiday>.

Order shirts soon; the offer ends on December 12th.

Three Seniors Honored by Community of Character

Three high school seniors have been selected by the Community of Character Collaborative as recipients of the 2016 Juanita Haugen Memorial Scholarship. Applicants were required to explain how their actions have reflected any or all of the six characteristics adopted by the Pleasanton Unified School District, City of Pleasanton, the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and other faith and organizations: compassion, honesty, respect, responsibility, integrity, and self-discipline. These values are often represented through their service and community involvement.

The scholarship was created to honor the memory of Juanita Haugen, founder of the coalition, who died in 2007 due to cancer. Haugen was a former president not only of the local school board, but also of the California School Boards Association. Students from each of the Pleasanton high schools' graduating classes are eligible to apply for one of the annual awards.

Recipients from the Class of 2017, are Mikayla Tran from Foothill High School, daughter of Anh and Diane Tran, Joshua Ott from Amador Valley High School, son of David Ott and Laura Melchionne, and Lauren Ho-Tseung of Amador Valley High School, daughter of Lars and Kristen Ho-Tseung.

An award will also be presented to a recipient from Village High School at their commencement ceremony at the end of the year.

Mikayla Tran is a senior at Foothill High School. She is proud of both her Vietnamese and Caucasian roots. Her father was a refugee from the Vietnam war at age 11 and came to the United States. Mikayla says that she tries to spread



Pictured are Laura Melchionne, Joshua Ott, and Mikayla Tran.

joy and positivity to those around her and loves to give a helping hand when she sees someone in need. She believes that "a community of character is one that places an emphasis on connecting with everyone's inner humanity and desire to help one another." She worked hard to implement gender-free homecoming nominations called Falcon Royalty to make her school more accepting and inclusive to all, where all individuals are welcome and all voices are heard. She has volunteered at many activities, is president of the Interact Club and Area 3 director, a four year varsity track athlete and helped organize the annual Fall Leadership Conference for nearly 4,000 high school Interact members. Other volunteer activities include Tri-Valley Turkey Burn, Toys for Tots and the Interact projects to aid Syrian Refugees and breaking the stigma towards mental health. She hopes to encourage youth empowerment and inspire others to make a difference within their community.

Joshua Ott is a senior at Amador Valley High School. He is the founder and president of the Space and Astronomy club where

he wrote several grants to purchase Amador's first high powered telescope. The club will be using the telescope at upcoming stargazing nights for the community. He is the student representative on the PUSD board attending school board meetings and providing student input. He has served on the Student Inter-School Action Council, Local Control Advisory committee and Calendar Committee. He was accepted to the Stanford Institute of Medicine Research Summer program where he worked with a group of high school students to perform research relating to Parkinson's disease and helped design a prototype to aid patients with Parkinson's disease. Joshua placed second in the Alameda County Science and Engineering fair for mechanical engineering. He is also the publicist for the Engineering Club and pitches for the Amador Valley Varsity baseball team. Joshua umpired for the Pleasanton Foothill Little League for four years. He is pursuing a private pilot's license and has already logged 20 hours in a Cessna. Flying has furthered his interest in engineering. Joshua's dream is to become an astronaut;

he believes that in order to be successful, one must be motivated to learn and help others along the way.

Lauren Ho-Tseung is a senior at Amador Valley High School where she currently serves as a student leader. Lauren was selected to participate in Leadership her sophomore year, served as class president as a junior and is currently serving as ASB President. One of her biggest accomplishments has been coordinating the LINK Program for freshmen. The program is designed to help freshmen make the transition to high school. Lauren was involved in planning the freshman orientation and monthly lessons to help students feel confident and connected. Outside of school, Lauren works at the Meadowlark Dairy and volunteers as a softball coach, running clinics for younger girls. Lauren says her parents modeled a clear value system emphasizing kindness to others and following the golden rule. She grew up watching her parents spend their free time helping others through volunteer service and has followed their example. Last year, Lauren had an idea to combine her love for softball with her

desire to help others. She thought about collecting used softball equipment to share with girls in need. After meeting a volunteer with the Tulancingo Sister City Organization, Lauren learned of an orphanage in Mexico that was in desperate need of shoes for the kids there. Lauren modified her project and successfully collected hundreds of pairs of shoes, filling dozens of suitcases which were then provided to children in Tulancingo, Mexico. As a student leader, Lauren strives to demonstrate compassion for others, both at school and beyond.

Mikayla, Joshua and Lauren will be honored at the Annual Luncheon / Fund Raiser, which also honors other community members for their service.

Nominations may be made by anyone who would like to honor someone who gives for the benefit of others, nomination forms will be on the Community of Character website (www.CommunityOfCharacter.org). The Annual Spring luncheon is open to the community. The 2017 luncheon will be held in May at the Veterans' Memorial Building.

For more information about how individuals, organizations, and businesses can become involved in the Community of Character Collaborative, visit their website.

Donations may be made to the scholarship account. These funds are used to increase the number of awards as well as the amount of the scholarship.

Livermore
SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

@ Swirl on the Square in Livermore

O. HENRY'S
The Gift of the Magi
and other stories

Holiday classics read by
Livermore Shakespeare Festival artists

December 14th & 21st
at 5:30 & 7:30PM

Buy Your Tickets Today!
www.LivermoreShakes.org
or (925) 443-BARD

Dining Chez Luis Mel at Murrieta's Well

by Laura Ness

It was a fitting occasion to wrap up the harvest season, Occasio's Year End & Holiday dinner, held at the recently reopened Murrieta's Well facility. The historic structure and grounds had been closed for what seemed like an eternity for those who have always found it one of their favorite Livermore Valley Wine Country destinations. Now, it is open daily by appointment only, Wednesday through Sunday, from 11 am, providing Club members exclusive access to the covered Club Lounge area, and a variety of tasting options that include excellent fare from the newly installed on site catering kitchen. Appointments are required for the Club Lounge, which is Members Only, where members can buy bottles and order off the menu.

Appointments are also required for the Tasting Experience, which can take place in the tasting room or on the Patio: tastings are \$25 pp, complimentary for Club members. Limited seating is also available in the Barrel Room, when available, also by appointment only. The entire facility is available for private parties and dinners, again, for members only.

Many guests of the Occasio dinner had not been back to the property since its official reopening in midsummer: they will be even more pleasantly surprised when they return to take in the changes during the daylight hours. The expansive grassy spots with comfy Adirondack chairs to take in the view are worth a return visit, to sample some of the new wines that Winemaker Robbie Meyer is putting forth, including his creamy, voluptuous Chardonnay.

Most guests did, how-

ever, immediately notice the significantly expanded parking area just as you cross the bridge. Vines were sacrificed for the sake of accommodating more visitors, but not to worry, they've been replaced elsewhere on the extensive vineyard property.

The Barrel Room has been enhanced to offer more seating, or room for a band and dancing. For the Occasio dinner, Tumbledown House, a San Francisco based band that had caught John Kinney's fancy, really delivered on the Speakeasy sound that he hopes to make a part of his new Sidewinder Lounge project, which will feature Occasio's new line of vermouths. When it opens, the Lounge will be housed in the former Thomas Coyne space on Research Drive.

The "Sidewinder Spirits" name just received trademark approval, greenlighting the "dark side" project Kinney and his talented co-chemist, Dave Hendrickson, have been perfecting in their spare time. Kinney says he utilized the services of a former Gallo trademark attorney, now retired, to secure the approval.

The name "Sidewinder" refers to both a type of rattlesnake and a pocket watch. If all goes according to plan, the Lounge will offer tastes of the special vermouth designed to echo the flavors of Cresta Blanca's award-winning formula that made it into the gin-based martini CIA agent Felix Leiter serves Bond into Ian Fleming's book, "Diamonds are Forever."

Kinney surmises that Fleming might have seen ads for Cresta Blanca after its vermouth became part of the Great American Martini contest winner on September 29, 1953, at Ricky's Townhouse in San Francisco. The winning recipe



John Kinney discusses wine and food.

was 3 parts London Dry Gin, 1 part Cresta Blanca Triple-Dry White Vermouth, stirred, with a twist of lemon.

This was essentially the recipe served up at the Occasio dinner, using Sidewinder vermouth instead. Kinney says we will never know for sure what the Cresta Blanca formula was. However, the Occasio rendition, wrought by Occasio's winemaker, Dave Hendrickson, delivers a smooth, slightly floral but at the same time pleasingly fruit-accented beverage, with notes of orange peel, coriander, lavender, lemon and a hint of green.

Incidentally, the word "vermouth" comes from the German word for wormwood, which was the primary ingredient in vermouth until its poisonous properties caused it to be banned from use for over 75 years. With its recent re-introduction, wormwood is once again being pressed into service in craft beverages, including the absinthe

made by local distiller, Mike Eckert of Artisan Spirits.

For those not imbibing the James Bond martini, dinner in the former home of Louis and Marie Mel, who called the place La Bocage, kicked off with glasses of the just released 2015 Occasio Chardonnay, accompanied by a wealth of passed appetizers that delivered sumptuous bites of flavor including crab cakes on radish slices, pear and Asiago pizza, duck confit on waffle crackers and pork belly with jicama slaw.

Kinney reminded us that the Mels had planted the thirty acres surrounding the house over a century ago. These very vineyards had been the source of the cultivars that today populate many of California's most important vineyard lands.

Dinner began with a first course of creamy polenta topped with a rich wild mushroom Bolognese, kicked up by some piquant micro greens. The dish included a very nicely done

potatoes and smothered in sauce au poivre, neatly herded into tasteful submission by the stalwart (and just released to Club only) 2013 Heritage Cabernet Sauvignon. From two of the best vineyard sources in the Livermore Valley, this Cabernet was recently awarded 93 points by Jim Gordon of Wine Enthusiast, who made it a Cellar Selection in the December issue of the magazine.

Kinney considers this the finest rendition of Heritage Cabernet since he began making wine 9 years ago. Half clone 4 Cabernet Sauvignon from Ghilmetti, and half clone seven from Thatcher Bay, it was blended with just enough Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Petit Verdot to create a rich and complex effort that does Livermore more than proud.

The grande finale was the salted caramel chocolate tart, served with smoked cran-cherry chutney and Dulce de Leche Chantilly, sweetly set off by the lush dark velvet and suede gloves of the 2011 Occasio Opportunity Port.

At every course, the friendly and well-informed Murrieta's Well waitstaff delivered the dishes in harmonic accord, refilling wine glasses without hesitation. Their timing was excellent and faultless: no mean feat for a wine dinner for close to 100 people, with five or six glasses per person at each table. They did it all by going up and down the stairs countless times: there is an elevator, but most preferred the legwork.

If this dinner was any indication of the quality of food and service you can expect at Murrieta's Well, you are in for a treat. Some things really are worth waiting for: the revamp of this historic icon was indeed one of them.

Staged Reading of O'Neill's 'Dynamo' Set

The Eugene O'Neill Foundation in Danville begins the New Year with a Playwrights' Theater presentation of Eugene O'Neill's play, *Dynamo*. The staged reading is planned for Saturday, January 7 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 8 at 2:00 p.m. at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Avenue in downtown Danville.

Tickets for the presentation are available online at www.eugeneoneill.org, or by phone at (925) 820-1818.

When thinking about the plays of Eugene O'Neill, the only American playwright to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, it is usually his most popular plays that come to mind – *A Long Day's Journey into Night*, *The Iceman Cometh*, or *A Touch of the Poet*.

All these later works by the playwright were written while he and his wife Carlotta lived at Tao House in the Danville hills from 1937-1944.

"Many of O'Neill's earlier plays deserve attention because they help us to see how the writer grew and made changes to American drama that literally changed theater in America," says Eric Fraisher Hayes, manager of artistic programs for the O'Neill Foundation.

"*Dynamo* is an excellent follow up to *The Emperor Jones*, which the Eugene O'Neill Foundation produced in September at the O'Neill National Historic Site in Danville. In *Dynamo*, O'Neill utilizes multiple expressionistic devices to help the audience delve deeper into the truths of the characters," says director Hayes.

Dynamo focuses on Ruben Light who feels betrayed by his religion and his family. He searches to make sense of the world, and strikes upon the belief that electricity is really the god that governs his life. Light sees the awesome power of the *Dynamo* as a replacement for all that he has lost in life.

"O'Neill's dramatic tale of a desperately seeking young man is a powerful, and seldom produced, gem." *Dynamo* is part 'Days of Our Lives,' part 'Hollywood Squares' and part Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*," says director Hayes.

Dynamo was first produced in 1929 at the Provincetown Playhouse in Greenwich Village. It came at a time when Eugene O'Neill had already gained notable recognition.

By 1929, he had already received three Pulitzer Prizes for his early works -- *Beyond the Horizon* (1920), *Anna Christie* (1922), and *Strange Interlude* (1928).

Dynamo is a component of the annual Playwrights' Theater series by the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, with staged readings in January and May of O'Neill's early plays, and works by playwrights influenced by O'Neill.

The Eugene O'Neill Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that works closely with the National Park Service in coordinating educational, community and performance programs at the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site in Danville and at locations in downtown Danville. Information on the programs of the Foundation is available at www.eugeneoneill.org.

Pleasanton to Unveil New Work of Art

The installation and unveiling of a new public art piece in Pleasanton will take place Friday, December 9 at 10 a.m. in Civic Park, located at 100 Main St. The piece, by Guillermo Wagner Granizo, entitled *Self-Portrait*, is the only one completed and was donated to the city by his family to complement Pleasanton Centennial, another Granizo tile mosaic, also on display at Civic Park.

Bay area born artist Guillermo Wagner Granizo (1923 – 1995), was drafted in World War II and dispatched to Utah Beach in Normandy, France. Having survived a near death experience, it took four years in the hospital for Granizo to recover. It has been said that he never forgot that day on the beach, and from that moment on, his creativity flourished. Granizo was a world traveler who lived for an extended period of time in Mexico and southern America and whose work can be seen in the San Francisco Academy of Sciences, the S.F. International Airport, and from Portugal to Pleasanton, to name a few.

In 1995, the city of Pleasanton unveiled another public art piece by Granizo, *Pleasanton Centennial*, as part of the city's centennial anniversary. Mr. Granizo passed away 10 days after the completion of the stelae—three rectangular columns, which align to form a single tile mosaic representation of Pleasanton's heritage. Upon Granizo's death, his family inherited his art collection and recently donated *Self-Portrait*, the only self portrait of the artist ever done.

The unveiling will coincide with the filming of a nationally broadcast television show, "Strange Inheritance," which airs on Fox Business News Channel. To learn more about the City of Pleasanton's public art collection or Guillermo Wagner Granizo, visit www.publicartarchive.org/pleasanton or www.gwgproductions.com

IRISH CHRISTMAS

(continued from page 3)

of the Irene Dalis Memorial Award at San Jose State University. Tickets are available for the single performance at the Bankhead Theater on Thursday evening, December 22, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

"An Irish Christmas" is produced by Kerry Irish Productions, an Irish-owned company based in Los Angeles that promotes and celebrates Irish culture and its rich traditions through the medium of dance. They incorporate often forgotten Irish customs and strive to forge new paths between old and new Irish dance styles. As with all their shows, "An Irish Christmas" represents the best of modern Ireland while also introducing audiences to the beauty, passion and uniqueness of their history.

Authentic Irish traditions and customs are woven into the show including butter making, shoemaking, and brush dances with brooms. One of the most lively is "Dancing on the Half Door," a custom that highlights the importance of the half door in Irish social life. Mounted without a latch in the top of the frame, the half door admitted light and kept animals out, while fostering conversation and community interaction. On social occasions, the half door would be laid on the floor so dancers could show off their most intricate steps on its limited dimensions. Sometimes the door was even soaped to make the dances more challenging.

The music of Ireland, from soothing ballads to vigorous dance tunes, is

performed on traditional instruments during "An Irish Christmas." These include the bodhran, a frame drum whose history stretches back to the 14th century, and the uilleann pipes, a cousin of the more common Scottish bagpipes with a wider tonal range, which have gained increasing popularity with folk musicians.

Mezzo-soprano Katherine Trimble received her Master's degree in vocal performance from San Jose State University last year and was praised by The San Jose Mercury News for her "agile performance" as Lilas Pastia in Opera San Jose's recent production of Bizet's "Carmen." Among her many other awards, Trimble was the first recipient of the Irene Dalis

Memorial Award from San Jose State University, given in honor of Opera San Jose's late founder. Trimble finds "An Irish Christmas" to be the ideal union of her classical music education and love of her heritage's music and dance.

Leading the Kerry Dance Troupe in "An Irish Christmas" will be principal dancer Scott Doherty, the 2009 men's world champion of Irish dance. Doherty has performed worldwide on tour with Riverdance, Michael Flatley's *Lord of the Dance*, and Gaelforce Dance, as well as created and produced his own Irish dance productions.

Tickets can be purchased at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore, online at www.bankheadtheater.org or by calling 373-6800.

Community Giving Tree to Benefit East Bay SPCA

La PanotiQ Bakery Cafe in downtown Livermore will bring a holiday tradition that takes place in other locations in the Bay Area - a Community Giving Tree

La PanotiQ are French Bakery Cafes in the Bay Area. Jeanne Rives, Marketing Manager of La Tartine Group, notes, "We wanted to start a new tradition in our five cafes to help local organizations. In Livermore, we will partner with the East Bay SPCA on our Community Giving Tree."

East Bay SPCA is committed to the welfare of cats and dogs in the communities we serve. It strives to eliminate animal cruelty, neglect and overpopulation by providing programs and education that support people and companion animals. The East Bay SPCA is opposed to the euthanasia of healthy, adoptable animals.

The tree is decorated with 100 tags, each one representing a gift. Rives says, "A meaningful gift can be as simple as providing shelter animals with all of the comforts of home: beds, toys, blankets, and so much more."

To participate, head over to La PanotiQ Bakery and choose an ornament on the tree in the front of the store. Make sure to stop by the counter and check off the ornament number with the staff so they can keep track of which wishes are being fulfilled.

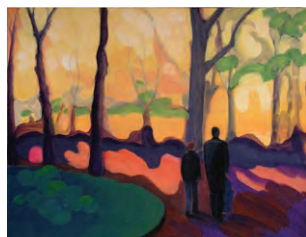
Guests will shop for the item on the tag and return the gift to the cafe at 2470 First St., #270, Livermore.

They have until 20th of December to return gifts.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT



Downtown Bothwell Studios will be the site of a holiday celebration and art sale on December 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. A diverse group of artists each have working spaces at the studio. There are many small paintings and novelty items that will be available for that special someone. The Bothwell Downtown Studios is located at 62 South L Street, Livermore. There is parking available and we will have some goodies to share. Pictured are examples of work that can be found at the Bothwell Downtown Studios.



are 12-4:30 Fri.-Sun.; open by appt. at 510-304-0914.

Urbanscapes: Gritty, invitational exhibit featuring established Bay Area artists at the Harrington Gallery through December 14. Installation includes works in watercolor, collage, photography, oils, ceramic, and mixed media. Artists: Karen Frey, Robert Huberman, Catherine Mackey, Jill McLennan, Andy Ruble, William Salit, Beth Waldman. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Donations appreciated.

Color, Line, Content, a show by the artists of Show & Tell, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Drysdale Properties, 1983 Second Street, Livermore. The group includes painters; photographers; sculptors; printmakers; artists who draw, etch or create collages; artists who tool leather or make jewelry and wearable art; and others. The public may view the show weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. through Dec. 30. For information about the show, or to schedule a showing during non-business hours, contact Cher Wollard at cherw@cherw.com or 925-784-4679. For information about Show & Tell, contact Miller at danne_miller@att.net.

Special Art Exhibit at Firehouse Arts Center: Through December 17: Abstract Bay Area cityscapes is the theme of collage artist Belinda Lima's vibrant works, depicting the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz, and other iconic locations. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12:00-5:00 p.m.; Saturday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Donations appreciated.

Tri-Valley Traveling Artists showing of paintings and photographs from recent travels at the Livermore Civic Center Library Gallery, December 1-30. Artists reception will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 10 at the Library, 1188 So. Livermore Avenue. For information, call 373-5500.

California Watercolor Association 47th National Exhibition. January 14 to February 25, 2017, Harrington Gallery, Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. Opening reception, 1-3 p.m. Sat., Jan. 14.

of Commerce at 777 Peters Street, Pleasanton; Sallman, Yang, & Alameda CPA's at 4900 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton; US Bank at 749 Main Street, Pleasanton; Edward Jones at 6601 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin; and The Bagel Street Café at 6762 Bernal Avenue Pleasanton. If interested in becoming a member of the Pleasanton Art League or for information regarding the Public Art Circuit, call John Trimmingham at (510) 877-8154.

Bryce Beecher's "Natural Influences" art exhibit hangs at Cuda Ridge Winery through December 31st, 2016. 2400 Arroyo Road in Livermore. Regular winery hours

. Eighty works by accomplished national artists will be on view. www.firehousearts.org

MEETINGS/CLASSES

Show and Tell, Artists are invited to a monthly function at the Bothwell Arts Center, called "Show & Tell. 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 Eighth St., Livermore. Artists bring finished or unfinished work to show and if desired, receive a critique from the group. Refreshments are brought by some of the artists, and a donation of \$5.00 is desired although not mandatory. Contact for this event is D'Anne Miller at danne_miller@att.net, or Linda Ryan at LRyan@Livermore-performingarts.org

ACC/Art Critique & Coffee, Discuss and share work with Professional Artists in sketching, painting, exhibiting and marketing your work. ACC members currently working on exhibiting theme works, under the Inspiration of "The Artist's Edge /The Edge of Art & Chosen Pathways." Meets and Critiques Friday mornings in Pleasanton. PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

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 e-mail Barbara Stanton for more info about the workshop, 925-373-9638 - microangelo@earthlink.net.

PPL/Pleasanton Poetry League, now meeting the 1st Thursday and 3rd Wednesday of each month 7:00 at The Corner Bakery Cafe in Pleasanton. Join us as we challenge ourselves to poetically relay our thoughts, emotions and experiences through poetry. Become a member & share your work - Contact PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com for more info on Theme Challenges, Membership & Opportunities.

Ukulele Circle, Meetings held the last Saturday from 12 noon-1 p.m. at Galina's Music Studio located at 1756 First St., Livermore. Confirm participation by calling (925) 960-1194 or via the website at www.GalinasMusicStudio.com. Beginners are welcome. Bring some music to share with the group. Ukuleles are

available for purchase. Small \$10 fee to cover meeting costs.

MUSIC/CONCERTS

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

Chris Bradley's Jazz Band appears regularly at: The Castle Rock Restaurant in Livermore/on Portola Avenue-- the 2nd Tuesday each month from 7:30-9:30--Dance floor, full bar, small cover.

Jeff Bordes & Friends returns to the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton for the big annual Holiday Concert on Saturday, December 10, at 8 p.m. This year's theme is 'A New Orleans Christmas,' and will again feature a host of special guest artists. CURRENTLY SOLD OUT. Reserved seating tickets are \$15, \$20, \$25. Advance purchase at www.firehousearts.org, by calling the Box Office at 925-931-4848, or in person from the Firehouse Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue in 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.

Pleasanton Library Presents the CoolTones Big Band, 2 to 3 p.m. Sun., Dec. 11. Free. 931-3400 ext. 4. 400 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton.

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

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

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

Rhapsody and Rhythm: The Ger-shwin Experience, 8 p.m. Jan. 7. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Happy Birthday Elvis starring Jim Anderson, 2 p.m. Jan. 8. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848, www.firehousearts.org.

The Sweet Remains, soulful folk sounds, 8 p.m. January 14. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. www.firehousearts.org or 931-4848.

Timothy B. Schmit - Live in

Concert, Legendary Eagle and Member of Poco. 8 p.m. Jan. 20. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

ON THE STAGE

Silent Sky, The story of Henrietta Swan Leavitt, an American astronomer who discovered the relation between light and stars. Dec. 2-11, Fri./Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. www.laspositascollege.edu

Almost, Maine, fall play. Livermore High School. All performances are at 8pm on December 8, 9, and 10, 2016. Tickets are \$10 reserved and can be purchased at the LHS Cowboy Webstore or at the door.

Getting to Know: The Sound of Music: Family musical theater performed by local youth. December 9 through 18. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.; matinees Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. All performances at the Amador Theater in Pleasanton, 1155 Santa Rita Road. Presented by Civic Arts Stage Company in partnership with Bay Area Children's Theater. Reserved seating tickets: \$12, \$15, \$18; Child or Senior: \$7, \$10, \$13. Tickets available at www.firehousearts.org, 925-931-4848, or at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.

Holiday Celebration, Wednesday, December 14th and 21st, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Livermore Shakespeare Festival artists will offer a staged reading of a holiday classic. Whirl on the Square, downtown Livermore. livermoreshakes.org/

Playwrights' Theater, Eugene O'Neill's play, Dynamo, staged reading Jan. 7 at 8 p.m. and Jan. 8 at 2 p.m. Museum of San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave., Danville. Tickets at www.eugeneoneill.org or 820-1818.

Jesus Christ Superstar, Tri-Valley Repertory Theater production, weekends Jan. 14-29, 2017. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 373-6800 or www.bankheadtheater.org.

Anything Goes, Pacific Coast Repertory Theatre, Jan. 28-Feb. 12. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848, www.firehousearts.org.

COMEDY

Free Comedy Show every Thursday

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

at Sanctuary from 7:30-9pm in the Skylight Room at Sanctuary, 2369 First St. in Livermore.

Will Durst, the Big Fat Year-End Kiss-Off, starring Will Durst & Friends, 8 p.m. Dec. 28. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. 931-4848, www.firehousearts.org.

Tom Papa, 8 p.m. Jan. 27. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

MOVIES

The Classic Film Series, Pleasanton Library will feature a range of genres. "On the Islands," themed films will be shown the first Thursday of each month through June 2017. 6:30 p.m. at the Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue. Free admission. Everyone is welcome to attend. Some films are mature in content and may not be suitable for children. For more information or assistance, please contact the Pleasanton Public Library at (925) 931-3400, extension 4. Visit www.pleasantonlibrary.org for a list of films and more information.

DANCE

The Cobbler's Gift, presented by Anastasis Ballet Company in collaboration with Radiance School of Ballet at the Dublin Center for Performing Arts and Education, 8151 Village Parkway, Dublin. Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 10 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12-\$22 www.anastasisballet.org

The Nutcracker 2016, Valley Dance Theatre accompanied by the Valley Dance Theatre Pit Orchestra. Dec. 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

CHORAL

Traditional Carols with a Twist! Valley Concert Chorale, 7 p.m. Dec. 10, Lynnewood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton; reception immediately following; 3 p.m. Dec. 11, First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore. www.valleyconcertchorale or 866-4003.

Cantabella Children's Chorus, The international award winning Cantabella Children's Chorus presents their 2016 Winter Concert - Let the Merry Bells Ring. Sat., Dec. 10, 1 to 3 p.m. The program features many of favorite holiday songs sung by



Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Association invites the community to a traditional Mexican Christmas celebration at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18th at the Veteran's Memorial Building, 301 Main St. Pleasanton. Students from Valley View Elementary and Pleasanton Middle School participate in this special program through music and carols. The Posada reenacts the journey of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter in Bethlehem. After the program traditional snacks and refreshments will be served. Call Jorge 925-989-6882 or go to www.ptasca.org for information.

Cantabella's Training Choirs joined by members of Cantabella's Performing Choirs. Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. www.cantabella.org/tickets. Adults \$22; Children under 18 free with ticket (Limit 3 per adult). robin@cantabella.org or (925) 963-6351.

Cantabella Children's Chorus, The international award winning Cantabella Children's Chorus presents their Winter Concert 2016 - Let the Merry Bells Ring. Dec. 10, 4 to 6 p.m. p.m. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1385 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. http://www.cantabella.org/tickets Adults \$22 Children under 18 free with ticket (3 per adult). Information robin@cantabella.org or (925) 963-6351.

OPERA

25th Anniversary Celebration, Livermore Valley Opera, 5 p.m. January 28 at The Club at Ruby Hill. Concert of music including your favorite arias. Following the concert, three course dinner. Live auction

and a two surprising raffle items. www.livermorevalleyopera.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Hagemann Ranch Open House.

Tours of the 140+ year old ranch and free, family friendly seasonal activities. The last Sunday of each month, 1-4 PM. Go to www.livermorehistory.com for the monthly program. 455 Olivina Ave., Livermore.

Political Issues Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, and reads books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich

at 872-7923, for further questions **We're Talkin' Books! Club** is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Nancy Tingstrom Turner at ntingstr@yahoo.com.

Storied Nights: An Evening of Spoken Word. 2nd Thursday of each month. Features local authors reading their work 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Peet's Coffee and Tea, 152 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Sponsored by LVPAC and Peet's. Information go to http://facebook.com/StoriedNights

Victorian Yuletide. Ravenswood Historic Site, Dec. 11. Music, tours of the site, and more. Free admis-

sion. 2647 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. www.larpd.org

An Evening with Booker T. Washington: Tuesday, January 17th, 7pm. Ed Kinney Speakers Series. All events are general seating at the Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566. Tickets are \$15 General Admission, \$10 Seniors (65+) / Students (with valid ID), \$7 Members. Tickets may be purchased online at www.museumonmain.org at Museum on Main during regular operating hours or by phoning the museum at (925) 462-2766.

Ross Stein, Rae Dorough Speaker Series, Scientist: "Earthquakes; Prediction & Consequences." 7:30 p.m. Jan. 24. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. www.bankheadtheater.org or 373-6800.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival

Reading of Classic 'The Gift of the Magi' to Take Place at Swirl on the Square

The Gift of the Magi, O. Henry's classic short story about the spirit of giving will be brought to life on December 14th and 21st when artists from Livermore Shakespeare Festival present a reading of the story and other holiday short stories. Associate Artist Michael Wayne Rice directs a cast of Livermore Shakespeare Festival actors including Lindsey Marie Schmeltzer and Tim Ackerman. Rice and Schmeltzer both appeared in LSF's production of The Tempest last summer at Wente Vineyards.

The readings will take place at Swirl on the Square in downtown Livermore, to the festive accompaniment of a glass of wine or other beverage and a tapas sampler plate. There will be four performances in total, with showings at 5:30PM and 7:30PM on both December 14th and 21st.

Livermore Shakespeare Festival Producing Artistic Director, Lisa Tromovitch

states, "The stories we'll read this year celebrate giving something unusual and unexpected that ends up having great meaning. They are not religious stories though the characters give their gifts on Christmas. Their personal journeys to find meaningful gifts are journeys many people make this time of year within the context of many religions. The stories have a local feel and the characters make momentous decisions to profound effect. Each is tinged with a sweetness and a sadness that somehow

feels right to me this time of year."

Swirl on the Square is located at 21 S. Livermore Ave., in downtown Livermore, CA. The first reading will begin at 5:30 pm, the second at 7:30pm on December 14th and 21st. Tickets are \$38 and include the performance, a glass of wine or other beverage and a tapas sampler plate. Pre-sale ticket purchases are required as seating is limited. Tickets are available at LivermoreShakes.org or by calling (925) 443-BARD.



Sue Evans Photography is again sponsoring her annual desktop Tri-Valley calendar for 2017, with a portion of the proceeds donated to Open Heart Kitchen in Livermore. Calendars are 4" X 6" with each month featuring a beautiful image from nature taken in the valley. The calendars come in a clear plastic case, which opens and serves as the stand. They are packaged in a clear sleeve. The calendars are available at Studio 7 in Pleasanton for \$13.00 or at a substantial discount when 6 or more are purchased directly through Sue Evans. Contact Sue through her website www.PhotographyBySueEvans.com or call 925-989-4113.



Classical Clocks & Antiques
SERVICE • SALES • REPAIRS

Come see our large collection of new & used Grandfather clocks!
Largest selection of antique clocks in the Tri-Valley.

1082 East Stanley Blvd, Livermore
(925) 449-2127
Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10am-6pm

Writers Invited to Take Part in 'Get Inside Your Reader's Brain' Workshop

Physicist, science writer, and novelist Ransom Stephens, Ph.D., will be the guest speaker for the California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch at its Sun., Dec. 17 meeting to be held at the Four Points by Sheraton, 5115 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. The meeting begins at 2 p.m.

Stephen presents the topic, "Get Inside Your Reader's Brain: The Neuroscience of How to Make

Readers Laugh and Cry."

Stephens has written hundreds of articles on subjects ranging from neuroscience to quantum physics to parenting teenagers. His new book, *The Left Brain Speaks but the Right Brain Laughs* (Viva Editions, 2016), is an accurate irreverent look at neuroscience for a lay-audience with emphasis on innovation in art, science, and life. His first novel, *The God Patent*

(47North, 2010), was "the first debut novel to emerge from the new paradigm of online publishing" according to the San Francisco Chronicle. His second novel, *The Sensory Deception* (47North, 2013), is a mind-blowing, globe-trotting ride that will take readers from cut-throat Silicon Valley boardrooms to the pirate ships off the Somali coast to the devastated rain forests of the Amazon all to ask the question: what is a human life worth compared to that of an entire planet?

He builds his novels on accurate, digestible science to investigate complex social issues like the science-religion culture war, environmentalism and technology, plutocracy and anarchy. Ransom has given thousands of speeches across the US, Europe, and Asia and has developed a reputation for making complex topics accessible and funny. For more information, visit www.ransomstephens.com.

The CWC Tri-Valley Branch invites writers of all genres and experience levels to its monthly meetings. The meeting will be Saturday, December 17, 2016, 2:00-4:00 p.m. (check-in at 1:30). The cost for CWC Members is \$12, non-members, \$17. Anyone interested in the program or the organization may attend with no obligation to join. Reservations suggested by email to reservations@trivalleywriters.org no later than Wednesday, December 15, 2016.

For more information about California Writers Club Tri-Valley Branch, contact Patricia Boyle at president@trivalleywriters.org or visit www.trivalleywriters.org.

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.)

Christmas Nativity Display, featuring nativity scenes from around the world. Sun., Dec. 11, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Sponsored by Italian Catholic Federation. All are welcome.

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA, Dec. 14, 12:30 p.m. lunch in Dublin, RSVP by Dec. 12 to Janet, 443-3317. Dec. 15, 5 p.m. happy hour in Dublin, RSVP by Dec. 13 to Mary, 705-7337. Dec. 18, 1 p.m. lunch in Livermore, RSVP by Dec. 15 to Marilyn, 583-5829. Dec. 31, 1 p.m. celebrate early in San Ramon, RSVP by Dec. 28 to Gloria, 846-8320.

BSA Troop 900 Christmas Tree Lot - The troop's annual fund raiser is a Christmas Tree Lot located at the corner of Hillcrest and East Ave. is open 9AM-9PM on weekends, 5PM-9PM Monday-Friday. Three types of 6'-7' trees are available ranging in price from \$42-\$64. Tree stands and mistletoe are available, too. Help support Troop 900 by purchasing a tree at their Christmas Tree Lot this year.

Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society, meeting 7:30 p.m. Mon., Dec. 12. Guest speaker will be Janice M. Sellers with the topic, *Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust: What's Buried in Cemetery Records*. This class will focus on identifying the cemeteries in family members are buried and then on how to obtain and use their records to further research. Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton. No charge. Visitors welcome. For additional information contact: Marilyn Glass & Diane Wiedel, Program Chairs, email: program@L-AGS.org

Livermore Community Blood Drive: Friday, December 16, 1-7 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue. Every single day, Bay Area hospitals need over 300 units of blood to keep sick and injured patients alive. Come donate, bring a friend or family member to the drive and give the gift of life. Register at www.redcrossblood.org and use ASBURY925 as the Sponsor Code, or call Thomas Petty at 925-980-8164 for more information.

Crab Feed, The Livermore High School Alumni Assoc. is having its 5th Annual Fundraising Crab Feed on Sat. March 18, 2017 in celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Livermore High School. 6-10pm at the RLCC. Ticket prices: \$55.00/person. See www.livermorehighalumni.com for current information or call Ray: 925-548-8817

Dress a Girl Around the World, an invitation to make simple dresses for girls in third world countries. Next Sew-Fest is Sat., January 21, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Augustine Hall, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Help is needed sewing, ironing, cutting. Bring sewing machine or serger, iron, ironing board, scissors, along with helping hands. (Those planning to stay all day should bring a bag lunch.) Always accepting cheerful cotton fabric donations. Those who can't make the

Sew-Fest but would like to sew, arrange for kits that can be sews at home. Questions? Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or suzbeck@yahoo.com

Meals on Wheels Volunteers are needed to deliver fresh meals to home-bound seniors in Livermore or Pleasanton one day per week, Monday-Friday between 10am-12pm. For more information, please call (925)483-1989.

Armchair Travelers, at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center on Thurs., Dec. 8, 2016 at 1:30 pm. Richard Finn will present a slideshow entitled "England, Scotland & Wales." Richard Finn will share stories and photographs from the trip he took with his daughter in May of this year. Adults are invited to this free program on the second Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. For additional information please call 925-373-5500.

Grief Workshop - Stepping Stones on Your Grief Journey. Join us bi-monthly. St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr. Pleasanton; Second and Fourth Thursday evenings at 7:30pm, Dec. 8, 22, Jan. 12, 26 and Feb. 9, 23. No pre-registration is necessary. These sessions are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation. Call Eleanor Flatley at 925-846-8708 for more information.

Grants Available, Rotarian Foundation of Livermore is now accepting applications for 2017 community grants. Grant applicants are limited to organizations serving youth in Livermore. The Livermore Rotarian Foundation now partners with the Livermore Valley Education Foundation. Grant applications can be found online at www.rotarianfoundationlivermore.org. Deadline for submitting applications is December 9, 2016. Contact Marty Plone for additional information on grant criteria and the application process (925) 443-2629

Learn Scottish country dancing in Livermore: lively reels and jigs and graceful strathspeys that are the traditional social dance of Scotland. Classes are Mondays 8:00 to 9:30 pm at the Livermore Veteran's Hall, 522 South L Street, Livermore. No prior dance experience required. Call Margaret Ward at (925) 449-5932 or Sheena MacQueen at (925) 447-1833 for more information. Youth class (ages 8 and up): contact Sheena MacQueen (925)447-1833 for info.

Rotary Club of Livermore Valley invites interested individuals to attend its morning meeting. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 7am in Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill at the Las Positas Golf Course, 915 Club House Drive, Livermore. Anyone who would like to give back to the community is invited to meet with club members and community leaders who work or live in the Livermore area for fun and fellowship while raising money to help local schools and various organizations. For more information, go to www.livermorevalleyrotary.org/ or contact Fred Quarterman at 925-337-5342 or Deb Tacker at 925-447-1135.

Del Valle Folk Dancers: beginning and experienced dancers are welcome. Balkan, Israeli and other world dances, easy line and circle dances, no partners required, casual dress. \$3 per session (first time free). Tuesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Bothwell Arts Center (West end), 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Information:

George Pavel (925) 447-8020 or george.pavel@gmail.com

Square dancing for all ages 8 years and up Thursdays from 7:00-8:30pm at Del Valle High, 2253 5th Street, Livermore. Families and friends welcome. September classes free to new dancers. Questions? Margaret 925-447-6980 or mmiller1435@gmail.com

Writing Club for Young Adults, age 13 through 21 will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on December 15, 2016. Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore. The club is free and no registration is required. Led by published Young Adult author, J.L. Powers. For more information, visit Teen Space page on the library's website: www.livermorelibrary.net, or contact Teen Services Librarian Jennifer Mosel at 925-373-5576.

Volunteer Drivers Needed: to transport seniors to medical appointments. Volunteers chose when they want to drive, where and when, via email. All that is needed is a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle, automobile liability insurance, and have a clear DMV record. Contact Jennifer Cullen for information at 931-5387 or jucullen@ssptv.org. Funding for this program is provided by Alameda County Transportation Commission Measure BB funds.

Italian Catholic Federation, meets 3rd Friday of the month, 6 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Anyone who loves all things Italian is invited to meet to celebrate the Italian heritage with monthly dinner meetings and holding charitable events. The group supports Children's Hospital research, college scholarships and other charities. For information, contact Judy Welbeloved, president, 462-2487.

ClutterLess Self Help Support Group, nonprofit, peer-based, self-help, support group for people with difficulty discarding unwanted possessions. Cluttering is a psychological issue, not an organizing issue. New meeting location: Parkway, 100 Valley Avenue (main entrance), 2nd Floor Activity Room, Pleasanton. Mondays except some holidays 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Come or call a volunteer at (925)289-5356 or 925-922-1467. More information at: www.clutterlesseastbay.org

Tri-Valley Stargazers Astronomy Club. Feed your wonder about the Night Sky and the Cosmos by joining us on the 3rd Friday of the Month for our club meeting. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. talk starts at 7:30 pm. For more info visit us @ <http://www.trivalleystargazers.org/>

Ravenswood Historical Site, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Docents in 1890s costumes give free guided tours beginning at noon, on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Each tour includes the 1885 Cottage and the 1891 Main House, and the beautifully landscaped grounds. For information on the Ravenswood Progress League (RPL) or the volunteer Docent Program, please call the Docent Coordinator at (925) 443-0238.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a social group of retired men who join together to better enjoy their leisure time. Activities include golf, bridge, photography, travel, fishing, biking, wine tasting, and technology. The Tri-Valley Branch serves men



Forty-five Albertson's/Pepsico volunteers helped to sort and bag food for the Tri-Valley Haven Holiday Program. Tri-Valley Haven serves over 800 families during the holidays, providing food and gifts in the Tri-Valley for those who would otherwise go without. The the Albertson's/Pepsico volunteers helped fill nearly a thousand bags of food. Harvest Park Middle School in Pleasanton conducted a canned food drive for the event. Tri-Valley Haven strives to eliminate hunger and create homes safe from abuse. www.trivalleyhaven.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

living in Pleasanton, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon. The group meets for lunch on the first Thursday of each month at the San Ramon Golf Club, 9430 Fircrest Lane, San Ramon. Please read more about the Tri-Valley SIR at www.trivalleyeir.org and the Statewide SIR at www.sirinc.org/. For information or to attend a meeting, call Carl Churilo, 925-967-8177.

Tri-Valley Haven provides crisis stabilization counseling for those experiencing difficulties related to domestic violence, abusive situations, sexual assault or other challenging emotional issues. We provide assistance with individual therapy and/or group support. Please call to schedule an appointment: 925 449-5845 (Counseling Intake)

Sons in Retirement (SIR) is a group for retired men who seek activities to enhance their retirement. Monthly meetings feature lunch and an interesting speaker. Men have the opportunity to learn about and join activities such as hiking, bridge, investment, bowling, bocce ball and wood carving. There is also a neat group of guys to get to know. SIR Branch #121 meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the DoubleTree Hotel, Las Flores Road (near Bluebell Drive), Livermore, at 11:30. Any retired man is welcome to drop by to learn about your opportunities. For more information check our website: branch121.sirinc2.org or email Neal Cavanaugh at nealcavanaugh@att.net (put "SIR" in the subject line).

Pleasanton Lions Club welcomes visitors to come experience a great time while making a difference in our community & beyond. Dinner meetings every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. Check the website for meeting location: Pleasanton.www.pleasantonlionsclub.org

Assistance League® of Amador Valley invites all visitors to join this dedicated 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.

Operation: SAM "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 nonprofit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued morale support of deployed troops. For information or donations, visit www.operationssam.org, email operationssam@comcast.net or call 925-443-7620.

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) Pleasanton, meets Wednesdays 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton (not affiliated with the church). Information at www.dbsalliance.org/ pleasanton or contact chapter leader, Al Pereira, 462-6415.

Bereaved Mother's Network of the Tri-Valley meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Livermore Civic Center Library, Small Conference Room. The aim of the network is to allow bereaved mothers to make connections with, share resources, and support other mothers who have been through the worst experience of their lives, losing a child. For more information, contact katiestrube@comcast.net.

comcast.net.

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

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.tamayoc@cril-online.org. Services are free.

DBE Daughters of the British Empire, John McLaren's Roses of Britain Chapter in the Tri-Valley meets at 11:00 a.m. on the 3rd Thursday of every month at Castlewood Country Club. DBE was founded in 1909 and is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization made up of women of British or British Commonwealth heritage and ancestry with a focus on charity and fellowship. Those interested in helping with "the cause," enjoying social activities, and forming long-lasting friendships, contact Edith Caponigro at 925-998-3500 or Jenny Whitehouse at 925-484-1273 for additional information.

Pleasanton Military Families is a Pleasanton based support group for those who have a loved one serving in the Military. The group gathers at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to share concerns, fears, and to celebrate the joys that are experienced. There is no better support than being surrounded by others who know what you are going through. Three times per year, the group collect supplies and sends care packages to the troops. Contact PMFSG.ca@gmail.com for the location of the next meeting.

Livermore Military Families, a support group for families in Livermore who have a loved one serving in the Military, is intended to be a safe place for family members to come and share their experiences and concerns with others who understand what they are going through. All family members are welcome to attend meetings. Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Livermore Veterans Memorial Building, 522 South L Street from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Tami Jenkins, 925-784-5014 or email livermoremilitaryfamilies@yahoo.com.

RELIGION

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 8:30 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. 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 or www.uucil.org

Congregation Beth Emek, Center for Jewish Learning, Prayer and Community in the Tri-Valley. 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055. Rabbi Dr. Laurence Milder, www.bethemek.org.

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 9:30 a.m. Hispanic service starts at 2 p.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. 9 a.m. worship (semiformal); 10:30 a.m. adult Bible study/Sunday school. For information, call 925-447-1246.

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

Calvary Tri-Valley, Sunday Services at 243 Scott Street, Livermore, 10:00am. www.calvalrylivermore.org or 925-447-4357.

Granada Baptist Church, 945 Concannon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 447-3428.

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.livermoreadsa.org/ All are welcome.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Adult Sunday school 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church (Pre-K-5th grade) 11:15 a.m., Nursery to age 3, Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Senior Adult Ministries meet every other month. For ministry information call (925) 846-8650

Trinity Church, 557 Olivina Ave. Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m., and Sunday School and Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday night there is adult Bible study, and youth activities at 6:30 p.m. 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.

St. Innocent Orthodox Church, 5860 Las Positas Rd., Livermore. Sunday Liturgy at 10 a.m. For details, go to www.stinnocent.net or call Fr. John Karcher at (831) 278-1916.

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, (925) 447-3289. www.saintbartsLivermore.com. Service Schedule: 8:00 a.m. Contemplative Eucharist; 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study (check web-site); 10:20 Sunday School (Godly Play); 10:30: Sung Eucharist with choir, child care provided.

Little Brown Church, United Church of Christ 141 Killcare 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 a.m. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcomed. www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org (925) 829-4793.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 486 S. J Street, Livermore. Sunday worship at 9:00 am, followed by Bible Study/Sunday School at 10:20 am. For more information, visit www.goodshepherd-livermore.org or call (950) 371-6200.

Bethel Family Christian Center, 501 North P Street, Livermore. Pastors are Don & Debra Qualls. Weekly ministries: Sunday 10 a.m. - Teaching Sessions; Sunday 10:25 a.m. - Holy Grounds Fellowship; Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m. - Elementary aged children go to Kid's Church following worship, nursery available; Wednesday 7 p.m. - Back to the Point Bible Study; all ages; Friday 7 p.m. - Celebrate Recovery; in the dining hall; 925-449-4848.

Valley Bible Church, Pleasanton, 7106 Johnson Drive, Services at 9:00 and 11:00. Interpretation for the deaf at 9:00. 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org

Valley Bible Church, Livermore, meets at 10:00 am Sunday at 6751 Southfront Road, Suite 6749, Livermore. Phone 925-227-1301. www.thecrossing.org.

Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore. Worship Services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. www.cedargrove.org or call 447-2351.

Chabad of the Tri-Valley, 784 Palomino Dr., Pleasanton. 846-0700. www.jewishtrivalley.com. Rabbi Raleigh Resnick.

Well Community Outreach Center ministry provides meats, canned and dry goods, toiletries, and school supplies (only available prior to the start of the school year). Those with an immediate need or who would like to donate nonperishable food items, call the office at (925) 479-1414 to begin the process. Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., and Thursday 4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Pick up by appointment only. The Outreach Center will be open every 4th Saturday to distribute bags from Fresh and Easy Market and Sprouts. This will be on a first come first serve basis

between 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 2333 Nissen Drive, Livermore.

Lynnwood United Methodist Church, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton offers a friendly congregation where all are welcome, no matter where they are on their faith journey. Sunday worship is at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. with childcare and Sunday school at 10:30am. First Sundays of the month are informal with guitar. Children's choir is at 11:40-12:10. "Come As You Are" is an informal service every Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer minister. www.lynnwood.org, 925 846-0221.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints--Livermore Stake, Sunday services--1501 Hillcrest Ave: Springtown Ward 9:00 am; 1st Ward 11:00 am; 4th Ward 1:00 pm. 950 Mocho St.: 3rd Ward 9:00 am; 2nd Ward 11:00 am; Mocho Branch (Spanish) 12:20 pm. 8203 Village Parkway, Dublin: Tri-Valley Young Single Adult Ward 1:30 pm.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints: Pleasanton 1st Ward: Sunday at 1 p.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Pleasanton 2nd Ward: Sunday 1 p.m. at 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 3rd Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 3574 Vineyard Ave. Pleasanton 4th Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz. Dublin 1st Ward: Sunday 9:30 a.m., 8203 Village Parkway.

John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Rd., Dublin. Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for ages 3-18 during worship. Adult education Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Jr. High youth group Sundays 4:00-6:10 p.m. High school youth group Sundays 5:50-8:00 p.m. www.jkpcdublin.org (925)828-1846.

Livermore Quakers: Unprogrammed worship, Sundays at 6 pm, 1886 College Ave. (United Christian Church). www.LivermoreQuakers.com

St. Francis of Assisi, 193 Contractors St., Livermore. Sunday School (all ages) - 8:30 am. Communion - 9:30 AM. 925-906-9561 stfrancisanglican.church.

Center for Spiritual Living Livermore Valley - People from all faith traditions, cultures, races and sexual orientations welcome. Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. Youth and teen programs offered as well. All are welcome. Meeting place 1617 2nd St., 2nd Floor, Livermore. For more information contact revharriet1@yahoo.com or visit us at <http://cslvighthouse.org>.

St. Matthews Baptist Church, 851 Rincon Ave., Livermore. www.smbclive.com or 443.3686. Dr. Allen S. Turner. Worship services 8 and 11 a.m., Sunday family Bible school, 9:30 p.m., Bible study and youth ministry, Wednesday 7 p.m. Feed the homeless, Saturday 11 a.m. Prayer, 6 p.m. weekdays.

Tri-Valley Church of Christ, gives away clothing and other items every Monday 10-12. Donations are also accepted on Mondays between 10-12. 4418 E. Avenue, Livermore.

Christ Church (a nondenominational evangelical church formerly meeting in Pleasanton), Now meeting at Arroyo Mocho Elementary School, 1040 Florence Rd., Livermore. Worship service at 9:00 a.m.; Educational Classes for all ages at 11:00 a.m. visit: www.christchurch-trivalley.org or call 925.846.0665.

Unity of Tri-Valley - 7567 Amador

Valley Blvd., Suite 108, Dublin. 10:00 am Sunday service. Rev. Micah Murdock, minister. All are welcome. Children's program available. Ongoing groups and activities. www.trivalleyunity.org (925.829.2733).

GraceWay Church will worship at 10 a.m. Sundays at Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Rd. until new home is refurbished and updated. Services include band-led worship music, as well as choir anthems. Sunday School for infants, preschoolers and elementary through high school students. www.gracewayfaith.org 846-4436 for information.

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) for women of all ages and life stages. Meets Thursday mornings, 9:30 - 11:30 am; through May 11, 2017. St. Charles Parish, Borromeo Hall, 1315 Lomitas Avenue, Livermore. For WINGS speaker presentations and events: stcharleslivermore.org, click on "Upcoming Events" and "WINGS". Questions: Donna Leach 925-443-6815 or Phyllis Clearwater 925-337-4299

SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENTS

Festival of Lessons and Carols, Friday, December 16th at 7:30 pm, the Music Ministry of St. Raymond Catholic Church is offering a Festival of Lessons and Carols, similar in style to the nearly 100 year old tradition offered at King's College, Cambridge on Christmas Eve. The audience is encouraged to participate in the singing of a variety of carols in preparation for the Christmas season. Following this presentation of Scripture readings and carols, the various choirs of the Music Ministry will perform a concert of sacred Christmas music. Suggested donation: \$10 for adults. Students 18 and under are free. Proceeds to benefit the St. Raymond Music Ministry. In addition to donations for admission, the St. Raymond parish is also accepting donations of canned and dry goods to help the needy and homeless through their outreach programs. St. Raymond Catholic Church is located at 11555 Shannon Avenue in Dublin.

GraceWay Church will celebrate the Advent season with a special telling of the Christmas story on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. The "God with Us" Nativity play features the GraceWay kids and youth acting out the story of the birth of Jesus with the adult choir music interspersed. The church meets at Alisal Elementary School, 1454 Santa Rita Road. The Christmas Eve service designed for the entire family starts at 4 p.m. on Dec. 24 at Alisal School. For more information, go to www.gracewaylife.org or call (925) 846-4436.

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Livermore is hosting "The Gift of You" an Evening of Advent Prayer. It is a time for Christians to gather and focus on what this Advent season means in our lives amidst the chaos of the holiday season. Joseph Hebert, musician and speaker, will guide those n attendance through an evening of prayer, scriptures, and stories weaving the gift of song throughout. The opportunity to pray together is on Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00 pm in St. Charles' sanctuary and it ends with refreshments and fellowship in the Hall. For more information about this, contact Margaret Riley at 925-447-4549 ext 116 or margaret@stcharlesborromeo.org

Milestones

Lab Researchers Earn Awards Among the Top 100 Industrial Inventions

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory researchers have garnered three awards among the top 100 industrial inventions worldwide for 2015.

The trade journal R&D Magazine announced the winners of its annual awards, sometimes called the “Oscars of invention,” last Thursday at the Gaylord Convention Center in Washington, D.C. With this year’s results, the Laboratory has now captured a total of 158 R&D awards since 1978.

This year’s winners are the GLO Transparent Ceramic Scintillator, a technology that provides much faster imaging of metal parts; the Polyelectrolyte Enabled Liftoff (PEEL) technology, a method of fabricating freestanding polymer films; and for a suite of computational tools that help businesses develop carbon capture technology.

One of LLNL’s three R&D 100 awards – for the PEEL technology – received internal “seed money” from the Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) Program. This funding enables the undertaking of high-risk, potentially high-payoff projects at the forefront of science and technology.

“This recognition in the R&D 100 competition is a great tribute to the innovative spirit of our scientists and engineers,” said LLNL Director Bill Goldstein. “Teaming with industrial collaborators is an important element in ensuring that technologies developed here will be of benefit to the nation.”

The newly developed

GLO (Gadolinium Lutetium Oxide) Transparent Ceramic Scintillator dramatically increases high-energy, or mega-electron-volt, radiography throughput by providing seven times faster imaging than glass scintillators and decreases the X-ray dose required to obtain detailed imagery.

Mega-electron-volt radiography is the most effective method for looking inside large, high-density cast metal parts like power plant turbines and complex metal assemblies such as jet engines, as well as for identifying defects in welds, for example, during shipbuilding.

In addition, it can be used to nondestructively image the 3D volume of complex objects.

Developed for the Laboratory’s Weapons and Complex Integration Directorate, the scintillator was produced in collaboration with industrial partners Nanocerox of Ann Arbor, Michigan; Technology Assessment and Transfer of Millersville, Maryland, and American Isostatic Presses of Columbus, Ohio.

Known as the Polyelectrolyte Enabled Liftoff (PEEL) technology, this advance is a robust, scalable method of fabricating freestanding polymer films that are larger, stronger and thinner than conventional methods can produce.

PEEL is used at the Laboratory’s National Ignition Facility for the daily fabrication of membranes as thin as 30 nanometers that serve as compliant, load-bearing elements for laser targets.

With the new PEEL pro-

cess, very thin films can be directly delaminated from their deposition substrates over very large areas. PEEL eliminates the need for often-used sacrificial interlayers, which can negatively impact the properties of the final freestanding film, and are difficult to scale in quantity and size. PEEL allows, for the first time, the remarkable properties of polymers such as PVF to be exploited in vanishingly thin films.

Because the process is easily scalable in size and manufacturing quantity, it could eventually be applied to sensing, catalysis, filtration and wound-healing applications. The work was done in collaboration with San Diego-based General Atomics.

Now in its fourth generation, the Carbon Capture Simulation Initiative (CCSI) toolkit consists of a suite of computational tools and models to accelerate the development of carbon capture technology for manufacturers and businesses.

Launched in 2011, the CCSI’s objectives are to develop, demonstrate and deploy advanced computational tools and validated multi-scale, multi-physics models. Its mission is to reduce the risk and time required to develop and scale up new carbon capture and related chemical process technologies.

It has been developed by four national labs – LLNL, Lawrence Berkeley, Los Alamos and Pacific Northwest and five universities – Carnegie Mellon, West Virginia, Princeton, Boston and the University of Texas at Austin.



The Robotics Team from Our Savior Lutheran School attended the FIRST LEGO Robotics Qualifying Tournament at Intel on November 5 and won the Project Award for its research on land mine detection by rats. Our Savior’s rookie team was comprised of 5th-6th graders: Dereck B., Rio S., Jacob M., William A. and Jacob S.

Kua Body Studios Open in Pleasanton

Kua Body Studios will be located in downtown Pleasanton, 5555 Peters Street, #210; (925) 405.5828. Traditional Thai Massage (Nuad Thai / Nuad Boran)

What is known in the West as Thai massage is not massage at all, but rather an ancient energy-based healing system that combines acupressure, reflexology, and assisted yoga postures. Traditional Thai massage uses no oils or lotions. The recipient remains clothed during a treatment. There is constant body contact between the practitioner and client, but rather than rubbing on muscles, the body is compressed, pulled, stretched and rocked in order to clear energy blockages and relieve tension. The practitioner uses thumbs, palms, forearms, elbows, knees and feet to create a dance of movement on the body of the recipient.

Nuad Boran (known in various forms as Thai massage, Thai Yoga Massage) began to evolve in Thailand over 2,000 years ago. The Thai system focuses on circulation of vital energy in major pathways called sen. Identifying features of traditional Thai massage are integrated yoga postures that are performed on the client. Through assisted yoga, the body is stretched in ways that are difficult to attain through individual exercise and yoga practice.

AVOID PROBATE!

REVOCABLE LIVING TRUSTS

Package Includes:

- Revocable Trust
- Advance Healthcare Directive

- Pour-Over Will
- Financial Power of Attorney

Individual—**\$599** Couple—**\$699**

We Also Update Trusts!

HELPFUL • COMPASSIONATE • AFFORDABLE

7000-A Village Pkwy, Dublin | (925) 479-9600 | www.CaDocPreparers.com

We are not attorneys. We can only provide self help services at your specific direction. California Document Preparers is not a law firm and cannot represent customers, select legal forms, or give advice on rights or law. Prices do not include court costs, LDA #30 Alameda County.