

VOLUME XLV, NUMBER 53

Your Local News Source Since 1963

SERVING LIVERMORE • PLEASANTON • SUNOL

STANDARD CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT US POSTAGE PAID INLAND PUBLISHING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2008



of pasing and an

Book Selected For 'Livermore **Reads Together'**

The Livermore Public Library's third annual "Livermore Reads Together" community-wide reading program will feature Michael Pollan's book In Defense of Food: The Myth of Nutrition and the Pleasures of Eating.

It is the first nonfiction book selected for the program.

Rosemary Dukelow, the organizer of the program, said of the book, "It is a short book filled with scientific research. It is fun and easy to read ..

The kick-off event for "Livermore Reads Together: In Defense of Food" will be held at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave., on Sunday, January 25, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Christine Wente, Fifth Generation Winegrower and Vice-President of Hospitality at Wente Vineyards, will speak on the Wente family's leadership role in sustainable agriculture, land use and related wine growing practices in the Livermore Valley. The Restaurant at Wente Vineyards' (See READS, page 2)



Loan Freeze Can Halt Freeway, School Projects

By Ron McNicoll

A freeze on \$4 billion worth of short-term loans to state-funded construction projects has the potential to delay freeway construction in the Valley, and pose a problem for the Pleasanton school district's high school expansions.

Housing and Community Department grants in Livermore, and trail development along an arroyo between Livermore and Pleasanton also could be affected. The freeze was enacted Dec. 17

on a unanimous vote by the threemember state Pooled Money Investment Board (PMIB). The board said it took action in order

to keep the \$4 billion in the state treasury, to help pay the state's operating fund bills. The state is due to run out of money in February or March, unless the Legislature and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger agree on a new budget.

PMIB really had no choice but to freeze loans, said a statement issued by state treasurer Bill Lockyer. He is chairman of PMIB. The other members are state controller John Chiang and state finance director Michael Genest.

PMIB is scheduled to meet in the first week in January, to determine whether the budget situation has improved through action by the Legislature and governor.

The PMIB freeze could halt Valley construction projects. When they are resumed, it might take more time to complete them. Their cost likely would rise. There could even be the need to rebid them, depending on how badly contractors would be affected by the delay.

Once a contractor moves out equipment, and has to move it back, that's an impact on cost, said Dennis Fay, executive director of the Alameda County Con-

gestion Management Agency (CMA). There other costs for the contractors, too. The total expense incurred could necessitate the rebidding, he said. That can be true of any project, not just highway construction.

WORK TO CLEAR TRAFFIC JAMS IMPACTED

If the freeze continues for any length of time, the most dramatic impacts on the Valley would be to freeway construction. Projects that are vulnerable are the installation of the southbound Interstate 680 permanent HOV lane, widening of eastbound Interstate 580 and creation of an HOV lane

there, and construction of the Isabel Avenue interchange at I-580.

The projects are designed to relieve traffic congestion. They represent years of hard work by local, state and federal officials in bringing them about.

Holding up the I-680 project on the Sunol grade could add significant cost to it, said Fay. CalTrans was able to save upwards of \$35 million on two segments of the project, because of the depressed construction market. Those savings could go away,

(See LOAN FREEZE, page 2)

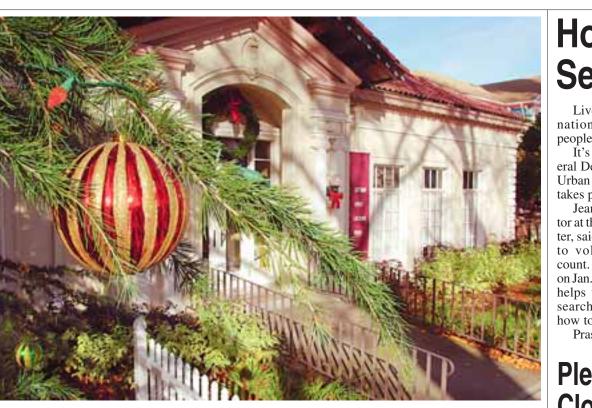


Photo - Doug Jorgensen The tree in front of the Museum on Main in Pleasanton glitters with holiday ornaments.

Council OKs New Cemetery Plots

The Pleasanton City Council last week approved a proposal to sell new burial sites in the city operated Pioneer Cemetery.

The city would create 200 twoperson plots and 200 niches. Plots would have double vaults installed. A loan of \$190,000 from the capital improvement budget will be used to prepare the new

Pleasanton residents would receive preference in purchasing the plots for the first six months. There would be a limit of two plots per family.

The vote was unanimous. However, the council asked for additional information before setting the cost of purchasing a plot. Among the information requested was how to pay for on-

going maintenance without impacting the general fund.

Cindy Councilmember McGovern was concerned about the maintenance cost. She wanted some mechanism built into the purchase price to provide funding for maintenance, which is estimated at \$85,000 per year. The money currently comes

Homeless Count Set For January

Livermore will take part in a national survey of homeless people on Jan. 27.

It's a requirement of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. The count takes place every two years.

Jean Prasher, executive director at the city's multi-service center, said that people are welcome to volunteer to conduct the count. Volunteers will be trained on Jan. 20 by UC Berkeley, which helps the center set up the research questions, and teaches how to ask the questions. Prasher can be reached at 960-

4590 for more information about volunteering.

Homeless people are encouraged to go on survey day to the sites where they obtain their services. There is a mathematical formula that extrapolates an estimate of the total homeless population from the number who show up on count day at the service centers. Among sites to be counted on survey day are the multi-service center, Open Heart Kitchen, and a food pantry.

The Hope van, which is really a large RV, will be at the service (See COUNT, page 5)

Pleasanton Hotel Restaurant **Closing Its Doors Jan. 1**

New Year's Eve will mark the final day of 2008 and the final day of operation for the Pleasanton Hotel restaurant.

The restaurant is closing down after twenty five and a half years at the site.

Bill and Vernie Laube own the restaurant. They purchased the business in April 1983.

Laube said that the economy has not helped. It has been a difficult business for some years, he said. However, that is not the primary reason the restaurant is closing. Laube said that he had

planned to retire at some point.

He has been in negotiations for a lease extension, but was unable to reach agreement with the landmark building's owner Sue Martinovich of Alamo. Laube said he had been hoping to extend the lease to allow for him to honor events already scheduled for the restaurant. However, he said that they received notice recently to vacate by Jan. 1, 2009. "It's a sad day," he declared.

A public auction is planned (See PLEASANTON, page 5)

Michael Rodrigues and Kristin Allen show off their new medals.

Acrobatic **Gymnasts** Take Silver in **World Games**

By Patricia Koning

Livermore can claim a number of outstanding athletes as its own: baseball pitcher Randy Johnson, football star Jack Trudeau, boxer Max Baer, and gymnasts Kristin Allen and Michael Rodrigues. If those last two names don't sound familiar, just wait. In October, Allen and Rodrigues were one hundredth of a point away from being the top mixed pair at the 2008 World Acro Championships held in Glasgow, Scotland.

"We're proud of how well we performed and were thrilled to be on the medal stand with two strong teams from Russia," said Rodrigues.

The pair weren't sure how they'd perform on the international stage—and neither was the rest of the acrobatic gymnastics world. The Worlds marked only the fourth time that Allen and Rodrigues had competed together. It was their first international competition.

In acrobatic gymnastics, pairs and groups work together for years to develop synergy in their routines. Typically, a pair will compete at several international meets to prepare for Worlds. Allen and Rodrigues paired up in October of 2007. They were sidelined from competition by injuries: first Rodrigues tore his Achilles tendon, then Allen fractured her knee.

Acrobatic gymnastics combines elements of artistic gymnastics, dance, and figure skating. The gymnasts perform in groups of two, three, or four. The routines are choreographed to music and uniquely costumed.

"This sport blends together elements from many popular televised sports. It involves (See MEDALS, page 2)

burial sites.

Zone 7 OKs \$1.5 Million To Be At Delta 'Table'

By Ron McNicoll

Zone 7 Water Agency directors have voted to spend \$1.5 million over two years to help finance a study by state water contractors aimed at establishing an environmentally sound water conveyance through the Delta.

Zone 7 is one of 29 state water agencies that participate in the state water plan, which moves water from northern California to the south. All members, including Zone 7, are south of the Delta.

Directors took the action at their Dec. 17 meeting. Director Bill Stevens cast the lone vote against it. He said there is no assurance that the expenditure for the study by the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BCDP) members would result in a Delta fix that would meet with approval of the state's voters.

Back in 1982, voters rejected a canal project that would have carried Sierra snow-melt run-off around the Delta, to avoid its lower quality water. If voters again put a conveyance on the ballot and strike it down, there would be no project. In Stevens' view, the \$1.5 million would go for nothing.

However, director Dale Myers said that Zone 7 has to take the risk of losing the money just to be at the discussion table in Sacramento to try to guide whatever plan may eventually be adopted.

Zone 7 already has invested much time in the person of one former staff member in the plan-

ning process so far, Karla Nemeth. She has since left the Zone 7 staff, and become the state under-secretary of resources liaison with the BDCP. That elevation is a reflection of her experience and knowledge that she showed while working for Zone 7 in state meetings about the plan.

Myers also took part in Bay Delta discussions when he was Zone 7 general manager, and later as a consultant to Zone 7. He dropped that task before he ran for the board to avoid any perception of a conflict of interest.

Building a new conveyance is seen as necessary to try to allow more water to be delivered to Zone 7 and the other agencies throughout the year. Now, because of lawsuits and court decisions pertaining to the Delta as habitat for endangered fish species, there are restrictions on when water can be conveyed.

U.S. ECONOMY HAS FALLOUT IN BOARD VOTE

The declining economy in the United States and California had its impact on a tie board vote at the meeting. By a 3-3 vote, directors failed to approve a staff request for \$29,500 for staff leadership training in North Carolina.

General manager Jill Duerig asked for the appropriation to send two top staff members to a special water management ex-(See ZONE 7, page 4)

(See CEMETERY, page 5)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Livermore's first Menorah was set in place in preparation for the dedication ceremony to be led by Mayor Marshall Kamena together with the local Jewish community. The Menorah, located near the flagpole, honors the Chabad Rabbis and his wife who were killed during the terrorists attack in Mumbai. Livermore's menorah joins a national and worldwide tradition of public Chanukah menorah displays and candle lighting ceremonies inspired by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson.

Foothill Club Focuses On World, Local Poverty By Ron McNicoll

A group of active, highly motivated Foothill High School students is reaching out to the Pleasanton community to put the spotlight on fighting poverty globally, as well as locally.

The ONE club at Foothill is one of many affiliates of the international organization ONE, which was begun by the Irish rock musician Bono.

The Pleasanton group was started by Foothill senior Brendan Lo and several of his friends more than two years ago. During the past year, with encouragement from the city council and Mayor Jennifer Hosterman, the club has grown to about 20 to 25 members. A recent boost came early in December when the city council passed a resolution recognizing the club.

One of the club's spokesmen, Kapil Gururanga, said the club wants to make the whole organization more visible to Pleasanton residents. One project along those lines will be a white ribbon week, which would put a visible sign to the focus on pov-

erty. The club looked into undertaking the project this year, after the council's resolution. However, the club found that its budget wasn't big enough to buy and install the many ribbons that

(See CLUB, page 5)

Inside	
	-

Art & Entertainment6	Roundup3			
Bulletin Board9	Short Notes8			
Classifieds7	Sports5			
Editorial4	Obituaries7			
Mailbox4				



PET OF THE WEEK

Bonjour! Paris says hello. Paris is a very young cat with a certain joie de vivre. She is playful and mischevious with just a hint of naughtiness. To visit Paris, come to Valley Humane Society's Kitty City, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Visit the web site www.valleyhumane.org or call 925.426.8656 for more info.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District donated four pallets of books to the Friends of the Livermore Library. These books, culled from the Granada High library, were delivered to John Hogan, president of the Friends of the Livermore Library, at their warehouse.T. J. Gilmartin of Livermore Rotary and Jim Shirley were instrumental in arranging this donation. The books will be sold at bargain prices at the Friends of the Livermore Library store, located in the Civic Center Library, and at satellite sites in the Starbucks on Airway Boulevard and in Panama Red on First Street in downtown Livermore. The proceeds from these sales underwrite a number of cultural events and programs at the Livermore Library. Pictured unpacking the boxes are (from left) Jesse Ortega, John Hogan and Jim Shirley.

MEDALS (continued from page one)

strength, balance, flexibility, artistry, elegance, and crazy tricks," explained Allen.

The pair feel that, in the end, the injuries may have helped their training because they were forced to work on only balance elements for several months. Those elements are the most difficult to master.

The gymnasts perform three routines in competition: balance; dynamic, which features flips and throws; and combined. In addition to perfect form on the poses, precision on dynamic elements, and artistic symmetry in dance moves, to earn top scores the gymnasts also need to engage with the audience.

Allen says this can be the toughest part, because it's easy to get very focused on the technical aspects of a routine. "I think we really connected with the audience in our combined routine in the finals," she recalled. "We got a really great response from the audience.'

The best way to understand acrobatic gymnastics, she says, is to see it for yourself. The pair's silver medal performance is on YouTube at www.youtube.com/ watch?v=v9IVAK4eqdI (or search for "Kristin Allen and Michael Rodrigues" and choose the video by Shadow Works).

The United States maintains a strong presence in acrobatic gymnastics. U.S. teams have been on the podium in the last four Worlds. Rodrigues earned a bronze medal in 2006.

"There was definitely buzz when we arrived in Glasgow," said Rodrigues. "Our training sessions drew a lot of attention.'

The extra attention didn't result in added pressure for the two Livermore athletes. "If anything, it made us feel like we belonged," said Allen.

The pair deliberately kept a low profile going into Worlds. They didn't post any videos from other meets on the Internet. "We wanted to be an unknown commodity," declared Rodrigues. "Plus our performances at those meets were not a good indicator, because we improved so much between competitions."

When they finished their final combined routine, Allen and Rodrigues knew they'd turned in an outstanding performance. Receiving their scores was an intense experience.

"First you wait through another routine. It's only two and a half minutes long. It felt like forever. The television cameras were on us the entire time, so while we were going through every possible emotion, we had to appear calm and confident," said Allen.

They were the last pair to compete. However, when the scores appeared, Rodrigues still wasn't sure where they stood. "I was trying to calculate the scores. Then people started telling us to raise our arms," he stated.

thing.' Acrobatic gymnastics is a not

LOAN FREEZE (continued from page one)

if there must be rebidding, he said.

In fact, the contractors themselves could go away, and leave California entirely, to do business in other states, said Fay. CalTrans has been told by contractors that the agency's public funds are their last, best hope right now for income. Private construction jobs have dried up, because of banks' reluctance to lend money in the national housing and financing crisis, said Fay. **PLEASANTON SCHOOLS**

AFFECTED

Also in the fallout range of the \$4 billion state freeze is the Pleasanton school district. Nothing currently under construction in the district's high school expansion plan would be affected by the freeze, said superintendent John Casey.

However, the district advanced itself money to purchase equipment for a home economics room and a fitness room at Amador Valley High School. State reimbursement for those would be slowed.

Also delayed would be an engineering technical education room at Foothill High School, and equipment for a multipur-

as well known in the United

States as it is across Europe.

Acro Team were treated like ce-

sports not contested in the Olym-

the competition.

ally fun."

pose room at Village High School. "That will be held up, until the money is released by the state," said Casey.

Total funds listed by the state as potentially affected are \$6.5 million. There is no breakdown by categories that would match the amounts to the specific projects on which the district is working.

LIVERMORE DISTRICT **DODGES PROBLEM**

The Livermore school district is in a better situation, said superintendent Brenda Miller. A long list of potential affected projects listed by PMIB has Livermore with a \$4.7 million project in the pipeline, and ready to start.

Miller said that the PMIB list's information is unclear and not accurate, if it is supposed to mean that the \$4.7 million will be frozen. In fact the money will not be frozen, because the district already has been authorized by the state education department to receive it. This was accomplished before PMIB met on Dec. 17. PMIB can't freeze those funds.

Further, the district will need only \$3.5 million of the authorized \$4.7 million to complete three scheduled projects. The \$3.5 million is the total that the district owes contractors, said Miller.

The three projects are

completion of the district administration building, the Livermore High School science building, and the Granada High School library media center. Although the PMIB list also includes about \$3 million for building an agricultural career technical education center at Livermore High School, the project was put on hold by the district. PMIB's listing of it is a moot point, said Miller.

TRAIL, HOUSING MONEY **ALSO ON LIST**

Among the funds held up by PMIB is money for construction of an arroyo trail from Livermore to Pleasanton. The \$762,000 project is being funded by money from Proposition 50. It is a joint project between the City of Livermore and the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District.

The trail is considered an important link in the Valleywide system. It feeds into the Iron Horse Trail, which goes north into Contra Costa County. Besides meeting a recreation need, it is expected to be a key for bicycle commuters.

In Livermore, PMIB lists \$1,175,548 in Proposition 46 funds for Housing and Community Development grants. There was also \$600,000 for Livermore in Proposition 1C funding. Sources were unavailable before the Independent's deadline to discuss those projects, and any potential loan-freeze impacts on them



READS (continued from page one)

philosophy of highlighting locally and estate grown ingredients throughout its menu will be explained as well. Following the discussion, there will be a Mini

Dukelow said that in the book Pollan advocates that people eat food, mostly vegetables. His message, Dukelow declared is, "We should do away with all nutri-

and event schedules will be available at all Livermore Public Library locations. Presentations during February will in- as their book choice for Februclude such topics and presenters ary. Book club kits, available for as school gardens, 4-H, Alden Lane Nursery, and the Pacific Coast Farmers Market. The National Food Laboratory in Livermore will present a program with the opposite view, "In defense of processed foods."

Bistro and Bookstore.

Book discussion clubs are invited to select In Defense of Food

Food Festival featuring local artisan producers with samples of their foods and products for sale. Winemaker Karl Wente will provide musical entertainment.

UC Berkeley Professor of Journalism and New York Times *Magazine* contributor Michael Pollan writes critically acclaimed, accessible books and articles on all aspects of food, ranging from the industrial food chain to co-evolution between plants and animals. In his bestselling book In Defense of Food, Pollan urges readers to adopt a food-based diet, as opposed to a nutrient-based one. He discusses the importance of savoring organic, locally-produced foods.

tional lists. If it is something your grandparents wouldn't recognize as food, don't eat it. Eat the apple. Don't look for apple flavored cereal."

The book selection included input from the public. "We look for different things each time. Generally, the idea is to read something that's popular with a subject we can build a program around. We looked at classic titles, as well as up and coming fiction authors that live around here," she explained. "The goal is to spur interest in a topic."

There will be book discussions and free events for children and adults during the month of February 2009. Copies of books

Also scheduled will be a music program featuring chefs who have formed the band. "Backburner Blues." There will be a teen chef cook-off held in conjunction with the Firehouse

2400 First Street | Downtown Livermore

check out, include copies of the book, discussion questions and tips for leading book discussions. Dukelow adds, "There may be a few prizes included in the kits."

Livermore Reads Together: In Defense of Food is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. For additional events check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us For more information contact Rosemary Dukelow at 925-373-5514.



- Indoor pools heated to 92°
- Instruction for all ages and abilities
- Small class size: 4 students per instructor
- Open year-round, 7 days a week with morning, afternoon & evening classes
- Safety is our priority: instructors are fully-trained & CPR certified



Eve Celebration

Come join us for an exclusive private New Year's Eve Party at The Wild Vine. Limited to the first 17 couples who sign up. Food . Party Favors . Glass of Wine with Dinner Champaign Toast . Live Music-Dance into the New Year! \$99 per person plus gratuity. Advance reservations required. Featuring White Crane Winery Winer.

FIRST COME FIRST SERVED. Sign up at www.WhiteCraneWinery.com



Saturday, January 24, 2009 . 6 p.m. Live Music & Dancing After Dinner at 8 p.m. YMCA Camp Arroyo, 5535 Arroyo Rd, Livermore Presented by While Grane Winery henefiling The Kide YMCA Camp Arroyo Outdoor School. Advance Reservations required. LIMITED SEATING. RESERVE NOW! www.WhiteCraneWinery.com

Big Fat Year End Kiss-Off Comedy Show XVI WILL DURST AND COMPANY COMEDY SHOW DEC 26 AT 7PM \$25/\$20/\$15 The Four Freshmen

Celebrate New Year's Eve SPECIAL LVPAC TOAST TO THE NEW YEAR DEC 31 AT 7PM \$95/\$80/\$70/\$60

Gleusteen-Ordronneau Duo DEL VALLE FINE ARTS IAN 9 AT 8PM \$29/\$24/\$19/\$11

Masked Marvels and Wondertales LVPAC PRESENTS FAMILY SERIES JAN 11 AT 2PM \$30/\$25/\$20/\$12

The Longevity of the Short Piece KEYBOARD CONVERSATIONS® WITH JEFFREY SIEGEL JAN 13 AT 8PM \$45/\$40/35/\$30/\$12

Tickets 925.373.6800 www.bankheadtheater.org 2008-09 Media Sponsors THE VALLEY TIMES 1017KKIQ Ori-Halloy Herald

VALLEY ROUNDUP

Oversight Committee Applicants Sought

The Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District is accepting applications for the Measure D Oversight Committee.

In November 2004, the Livermore electorate passed Measure D bringing funds into the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. Specific in the ballot language was the formation of an independent citizens' oversight committee to perform annual audits. This committee audits expenditures to assure the community that the money has been spent in the way intended by the voters.

The Committee will be composed of seven members appointed by the Board of Education. Committee members are required to live within the boundaries of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District. Employees of the LVJUSD are not eligible for membership on this committee. For the 2008-2009 school year, three new members of the committee are needed.

Applications for membership on the committee are available at the District Office, any school site or from the District website, www.livermoreschools.com. For further information, please contact the Business Services at (925) 606-3255.

Four Wheel Bob Interview

Bob Coomber, a wheelchair trekker who inspires people by challenging himself to climb high altitude mountains, will be featured on this week's Bay Area Vista, airing Sunday, December 28th, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., on NBC Bay Area.

Known as Four Wheel Bob, Coomber has not let illness stop him from doing what he loves. He has traveled throughout the nation hiking through rough terrains. Now he has a new goal of reaching one of the highest mountains in the world.

Fellows for Advancement of Science

Don Correll and Edward Moses of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory have been awarded the distinction of fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Selection as a fellow is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers. This year, 486 members have been awarded this honor by AAAS because of their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

New fellows will be presented with an official certificate and a gold or blue (representing science and engineering, respectively) rosette pin on Saturday, Feb. 14, at the AAAS Fellows Forum during the 2009 AAAS Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Correll is honored for his "long-standing recognition and distinguished contributions to science education, including communications and materials targeted toward students, teachers and the general public.'

Moses is recognized for his "distinguished scientific and engineering contributions leading to development and construction of the world's largest and most energetic laser system, the Na-

tional Ignition Facility."

Presidential Early Career Award

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) congratulated Bert Debusschere, a researcher at Sandia National Laboratory in Livermore and a Tracy resident, who received both the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers as well as the Department of Energy's Early Career Scientist Award.

The Presidential award was presented to Debusschere at a White House ceremony. It is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on outstanding scientists and engineers who are early in their independent research careers. Debusschere received a citation, a plaque and a guarantee of \$50,000 a year in funding for five years to advance his research.

Debusschere works at Sandia's Combustion Research Facility researching stochastic reaction networks. He has a broad expertise in the fields of fluid dynamics, turbulence, microfluidics, multiscale simulation, heat and mass transfer, spectral methods for probabilistic uncertainty quantification, and stochastic dynamical systems. Debusschere has been at Sandia since 2001.

In addition to the Presidential award, Debusschere also received the Department of Energy's Office of Science Early Career Scientist and Engineer Award.

Watershed Conservation Plan

There will be a combined scoping and community meeting to discuss the Alameda Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan. It will be held Jan. 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Regional Meeting Room, Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Dublin.

Staff presentations will address recent updates to the Alameda Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan and ways to participate in the environmental review process. The US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and the San Francisco Planning Department will receive comments to assist in determining the scope and focus of the joint Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report (EIS/ EIR).

The meeting will also provide an opportunity to review and comment on key habitat conservation planning issues. For information, call 415-554-3211 or go to mliapes@sfwater.org.

Maintenance for Senior Center

The Pleasanton Senior Center will close for five days in January 2009 for routine maintenance. The center will close from Monday, January 5 through Friday, January 9, and will re-open on Monday, January 12, 2009 for regularly scheduled programs

During the closure period, the Spectrum Community Services lunch program offered at the center each Monday through Friday will be available at the Veteran's Memorial Building, located at 301 Main Street.

Over the course of the week the senior center will be painted (interior areas), receive a deep cleaning, have the carpets cleaned, the lighting checked, and other routine maintenance.

LARPD Workshop Provides Information for Family Caregivers

The Senior Services department of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is coordinating a family caregivers' workshop, "Caregiving for Today and Tomorrow," to provide guidance to those who need it.

The conference, which will be held on Saturday, January, 24, is designed to assist family caregivers in developing coping strategies, discovering resources and planning for the future.

The full-day workshop will begin with a talk on "Alzheimer's and Related Dementias" by Katharine Vieira, a nurse practitioner from the Alzheimer's Disease Center at the University of California, Davis. All participants will then hear a panel discussion by a group of experts on "Matching the Right Kind of Care for Your Needs: The Continuum of Care."

The remainder of the morning will be separated into break-out sessions for attendees to select from

Morning break-out sessions are as follows:

• "What You Need to Know About Medicare Part D and HICAP," by Ada Schoch with the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP). The session will discuss the cost of Medicare prescription drug coverage, which drugs are covered, who can enroll in a drug plan and more. • "Managing Difficult Behav-

iors," by Micheal Pope with Alzheimer's Services of the East Bay. Those in attendance will learn the causes of difficult behaviors and effective techniques for coping.

• "Avoiding Caregiver Burnout," by Donna Shempp with the Family Caregiver Alliance. The session will teach about the signs of burnout and how caregivers can recharge their batteries.

Afternoon break-out sessions will feature the following:

• "Organizing Your Home for Caregiving and Planning for the Future," by Mike Battaglia of Caring Transitions and Julie Schnitter of Hope Hospice. The session will talk about the secrets to making daily life manageable and safer. Participants will learn

how to create an environment techniques derived from conducive to caregiving. The Advance Health Care Directive will also be discussed.

• "Depression, Compassion, Delirium and Dementia Amongst Seniors," by Theresa Cleaver with ValleyCare Health System-Legends. This session will discuss the differences among various conditions and when to seek further help.

•"Self-Care for the Caregiver," by Cait McWhir with Adult Day Services Network of Alameda County. McWhir, who is also a certified massage therapist, will go over getting re-energized and banishing stress and burnout. Some effective hands-on creative acupressure will also be discussed.

The family caregiver's workshop is \$25 per person, which includes breakfast and lunch. Participants will choose one morning and one afternoon break-out session at time of registering.

"Caregiving for Today and Tomorrow" will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Registration forms must be received by Tuesday, Jan. 6. For more information, visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us or call 925-373-5759 or 925-373-5760.



Join us at East Bay Fertility Center for a relaxing informal Fireside Chat

STOP BY ANYTIME BETWEEN THE HOURS OF SATURDAY, JAN. 10, 2009 • 1-3 P.M. TUESDAY, JAN. 13, 2009 + 5:30-7:00 P.M. SATURDAY, FEB. 7, 2009 · 1-3 P.M. TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 2009 · 5:30-7:00 P.M.

This is a unique opportunity to meet with fertility experts to discuss all aspects of infertility evaluation and treatment, including how acupuncture, nutrition and psychological services can enhance your chances for a successful pregnancy.



10% DISCOUNT WITH ATTENDANCE



BENEFITING VALLEYCARE'S EMERGENCY ROOM EXPANSION CAMPAIGN AND THE VALLEYCARE HEALTH LIBRARY AND RYAN COMER CANCER RESOURCE CENTER.



THANK YOU FOR MAKING CHRISTMAS TREE LANE A SUCCESS

SLEIGH BELLS SPONSORS

MICHAEL AND CAROL FABER FAMILY ROBERT AND CAROL MOLINARO HOWARD YOSHIOKA, M.D.

WHITE CHRISTMAS SPONSOR



JINGLE BELLS SPONSORS

Dr. Michael and Cindy Alper Boyd Brokerage Jan Brennan, Mass Mutual/GreatWest ClubSport Givens Electric Inc. Law Offices of Stephenson, Acquisto & Colman Tony and Shirley Macchiano Madden Charities, Inc. Mirrus Systems, Inc. Northern California Spine Institute Novus Health Systems, Inc. John & Linda Swift, Swift Lift Truck Service

FAB FRIENDS

Anderson Carpet and Linoleum Sales, Inc. Andiamo Solutions Peter Bailey Bay Area Security Specialists Gene and Patricia Broadman Roberta Cantua Patty L. Crohare Greg and Carolyn Ennis Ted and Gail Fairfield Bruce and Sharon Gach Helen Gaeckle Dick Hatfield and Sally Swanson Robert and Barbara Kaifer Dr. Andrew A. and Sue J. Knight Mr. And Mrs. Edward Lafranchi Barbara J. Lewis Livermore Country Pet Hospital, Brenda Mills DVM Lee and Susan MacLean Joe McGuinness Ken Mercer

CHRISTMAS JOY SPONSORS

HEALTH ADVOCATES TRI VALLEY INTERNET TIM AND JANEEN WEAVER THE PLEASANTON WEEKLY

David and Barbara Mertes Sharrell Michelotti Frank and Teresa Morgan John W. Noonan, Attorney at Law Paula Orvell Gary W. Peer, M.D. Laurel Place Tom and Patty Powers **Roadrunner Mailing Services** Lance and Kathy Ruckteschler John and Barbara Sarboraria Dr. Vandana B. Sharma Olga R. Shearer Patricia Stowers Carol G. Strom Jim and Jan Travis Tim and Janeen Weaver Western Medical Technical Services, Inc. Joyce Wilson Workflow One Gwen Yadon

For more information on the ValleyCare Foundation, please call 925-373-4560.

EDITORIALS

Happy Ending

The year is coming to a happy ending in Pleasanton because an important consensus has been reached regarding Measures PP and QQ.

The community fought hard over the two measures in the recent election. Each won voter approval. PP gained the most votes and thus would prevail in conflicts between the two.

Two weeks ago the City Council unanimously decided to adopt both measures, an action supported by both sides.

The issue here is preservation of an area that has come to be known as the southeastern hills. In addressing hill protections, the citizen-written Measure PP provides specific requirements. The council-written QQ set up a process to establish protections. Both mandate hill preservation as a topmost priority of the city.

In Kay Ayala's words, "The message is clear. Preservation of ridgelines is a major big-time issue.... I say let's move on and work together ...'

It will be considerably more possible to do that with both measures enacted side by side into city law. Pleasanton can face the new year knowing that peace a most meaningful peace — has come to one of its battlefields.

Student Poets Laureate

The Pleasanton poet laureate, Martha Meltzer, is establishing a poet laureate program in the Pleasanton schools.

Two have been named so far: Sarah Akenhead-York at Amador High and Athena Lathos at Foothill High.

If the city can have a poet laureate, so should the schools, reasoned Meltzer in organizing the program.

We want to encourage her. With their imagination and passion, students are a rich source for a program like this. Here's a way to stir a love of words, language and writing in young people.

ZONE 7 (continued from page one)

ecutives' school at the University of North Carolina for 11 days. She said it's important to train the next generation of leaders at Zone 7. The school is considered the best in the nation for

the subject. However, director Steve Kalthoff said that with people hurting in the economy, Zone 7 has to look at all of its expenditures, and try to cut back, so that water rates won't be raised too high in the future.

Myers sounded the same theme, declaring, "In different economic times, no problem."

Other directors suggested waiting two years or even five years, if it takes that long for the economy to be strong again.

already voted on, and died. Bringing it up at the next meeting would be too late to enroll the employees in the school, said Duerig.

DEVELOPERASKS ZONE 7 TO DELAY FEES **ON NEW HOMES**

The board also heard about the tough economy on another item. Pleasanton resident Don Babbitt, who is selling a handful of custom lots next to Pleasanton's Callippe Preserve golf course, spoke under matters initiated by the audience.

The board members were unable to comment on the item, because it was not on the advertised agenda. Babbitt asked Zone 7 to con-

Thinking Globally, Studying Locally

By Ron McNicoll

Globalization is having such an impact on the U.S. economy and foreign policy that Las Positas College (LPC) has initiated a course concerning it. The class was one of the few new ones given the green light at the beginning of the fall semester, at a time when the college has had to pay close attention to tightening its purse strings.

"Global Change," or Sociology 5 in the LPC catalogue, is taught by Sarah Thompson. She said the class has attracted a mixture of "business majors and savethe-world folks.

Two class members, John Schock and Joel Spooner, showed a 15-minute video and a slide presentation focused on genocide in Darfur. The program, held in the college's lecture hall/auditorium was open to all who wished to attend. That included about 20 people, mostly class members. There were also a few other students who were able to work the afternoon time into their calendars.

The presentation was split into two main topics. Slides showed data about Darfur, a western province of Sudan. There were wars before. The most recent one started in 2003. It has left 300,000 dead, and 2 million uprooted from their homes.

A cease-fire is in effect now. However, according to the presentation there is still fighting, with an Arabic paramilitary group, janjaweed ("devil on horseback") attacking the black citizens, with tacit support from

the Arab-dominated government in Khartoum, the Sudanese capital

Black people make up 52 percent of the population, and Arabs 39 percent, according to the class presentation. Arab herders pushed south because of drought. The two groups are fighting over water used by the black farmers. Some 400,000 Darfur residents have AIDS, which is the biggest death-dealing disease on the African conti-

nent. **VIDEO DOCUMENTS IGNORANCE ABOUT** DARFUR

The video portion of the class presentation comprised a "person on the street" interview with various LPC students, most of whom displayed how uninformed they are about what is going on in Darfur, and where the nation is located.

Asked about Darfur's location, four got it right by saying Africa. Six others said they didn't know. One guessed Asia.

The next question was tougher. "Do you know what has been going on in Darfur for the past six or eight years?" All but one student said they did not. That one student said "killing people." He said he pays some attention to what goes on in the news, and "watches CNN once in a while."

The answers became more knowledgeable when students were asked whether they "know much about the situation in Africa.'

One student said that

Swaziland has the "highest death rate in the world." That's true, when it comes specifically to AIDS deaths. A woman knew about the Rwanda genocide and AIDS deaths.

A man said he heard about the genocide in Darfur. He had "heard about China and oil." He said, "It's unfortunate we deal with who finances the situation in general.'

The student who mentioned China's oil purchases was talking about the fact, presented in the slide show, that China buys 83 percent of Darfur's oil. The Chinese built a pipeline to the Red Sea to transport the oil conveniently. Japan buys 8 percent, and European Union nations have 3 percent. The student's reference to the United States dealing with China implies the criticism from human rights advocates, who say the United States should not trade with China until it quits imprisoning dissidents who speak out for more liberty. STUDENTS TALK ABOUT

FOREIGN POLICY

As to what should be the United States foreign policy concerning Darfur and other potential globalization issues, one man interviewed in the video said that as Americans "we can't isolate ourselves. We preach democracy, but we support military dictatorships.'

One woman said, "There is a huge responsibility. Our generation is going back to the 1960s and '90s. It's peace and love, if that's what we want. We can go to countries and help them."

One woman spoke about the lack of informed students. She said that the news media should share some blame for ignorance about Darfur. "It's unfortunate the media covers the pop culture around us. Their opinion is that we care more about Britney Spears than about the people in Africa," she said.

Students who can tear themselves away from Britney Spears coverage will learn, as the LPC students did in doing their project, that Sudan is one of the largest places for illegal arms trafficking. It also has "over 10,000 men and women in the sex trade or as slaves in camps run by the janjaweed.'

News-savvy students will also learn that conditions in refugee camps are shabby, with little sanitary control over water and waste problems. Death threats against the men in camps are constant. Women have to go out for daily water and food outside the camp, where they risk assault and rape from the janjaweed.

If students have a chance to see the video — there is talk of posting it on LPC's web page, or perhaps on My Face - they will also learn that savedarfur.org is one of the primary organizations formed to funnel aid to Darfur. The organization also provides information to the public about the situation in Darfur.

Thompson told the Independent she thought the students did a fine job on the presentation. She looks forward to a second semester of probing the impacts of globalization even further.

MTC Taking Comments on Draft Transportation Plan

After nearly two years of dialogue and technical analysis, Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) last week released a Draft Transportation 2035 Plan: Change in Motion for public review and comment. According to the vision statement, the plan "will transform not only the way we invest in transportation, but also the very way the Bay Area travels.'

The draft document is called the Bay Area's transportation blueprint for investing \$226 billion in projected revenue expected to flow to the region over the next 25 years.

Ideas such as pricing excess capacity on highways (HOT lanes), a brand-new Transportation Climate Action Campaign to target greenhouse gases, a major public transit expansion program, a multipronged Freeway Performance Initiative to maximize throughput on existing highways, and an overall emphasis on measurable performance improvements are components of this plan. The commission has set aside \$400 million to implement a five vear climate change campaign that focuses on individual actions, public-private partnerships and incentives and grants for innovative climate strategies. Other funding includes \$1.6 billion for freeways, \$3.7 billion for HOT lanes, \$2.2 billion for livable communities, \$1 billion for a regional bicycle network and \$400 million for lifeline transportation programs.

gestion, highway fatalities, and greenhouse gas emissions. On the downside, most of transportation funding is derived from the federal and state excise taxes on gas. If less fuel were purchased, fewer dollars would be available for future improvements. New funding mechanisms will have to be developed.

The plan is based on three Es. economy, environment and equity. The goals include improved conditions of existing assets and reduction in collisions and fatalities as well as a reduction in delays. A reduction in vehicle travel and emissions are the goals under environment. Equity goals are intended to improve affectability and to create livable communities.

Land use changes are part of a planning initiative called FO-CUS, which promotes future growth in areas near transit and within comminutes that surround the San Francisco Bay. From a land use and mobility perspective, an aging population would argue for a great emphasis on smaller homes, low maintenance housing arrangements and a heavier reliance on transit and ride sharing.

Road and Airway Blvd.; construct bicycle/pedestrian roadway in the right-of-way between Dublin/Pleasanton BART station and Dougherty Road; construct bus lane on Dougherty Road; improve I-680/Bernal interchange; build a 4-lane road connecting Dublin Blvd. and North Canyons Parkway; improve I-580/First Street interchange; reconstruct I-580/Greenville Road interchange; implement bicycle and pedestrian programs in the county.

In addition these projects are included: construct an eastbound truck climbing lane over the Altamont; widen Highway 84 from 2 to 4 lanes from Pigeon Pass to Stanley Blvd., and from 2 to 6 lanes from Stanley Blvd. to Jack London Blvd.; acquire right-of-way for ACE rail service between Stockton and Niles Junction; complete track improvements; acquire right-of way along I-580 to accommodate rail transit; reconstruct the I-580/ Fallon Road and I-580/Hacienda Drive interchanges; improve I-580/Isabel interchange including streetscape and bicycle/pedestrian improvements; extend Jack London to El Charro; construct a two lane gap closure on Las Positas Road from Arroyo Vista to west of Vasco Road; provide enhanced rapid bus transit; prepare a supplemental project study report to widen Route 894 from Pigeon Pass to I-680; construct a westbound auxiliary lane

on I-580 from First to Isabel; build westbound off-ramp to connect I-580 to Dublin/Pleasanton BART station to provide transit access.

Transportation 2035 Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area and its companion Draft Environmental Impact Report are availonline at http:// able www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/ 2035_plan/index.htm.

Written comments on the Draft EIR must be received by 4 p.m. on Monday, February 2, 2009, at 101 Eighth St., Oakland, CA 94607, Attn: Ashley Nguyen, Planning Section; faxed to MTC, Attn: Ashley Nguyen, at 510.817.5848; or sent via e-mail to anguyen@mtc.ca.gov.Draft Transportation 2035 Plan.

Written comments on the Draft Plan must be received by 4 p.m. Monday, March 2, 2009. Additional comments can be made before the Commission at its public meetings prior to adoption of the plan, expected March 25, 2009. Written comments must be submitted to MTC via mail (at 101 Eighth St., Oakland, CA 94607, Attn: Public Informavia e-mail to tion); info@mtc.ca.gov or faxed to MTC at 510.817.5848, Attn: Public Information. Attend a Public Hearing A public hearing is set for January 28 at 10 a.m. during the MTC meeting at the Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter Lawrence D. Dahms Auditorium, 101 Eighth Street, Oakland.

However, Duerig said the economy might not be better in two to five years. "That's too long (to wait) for succession training.

Stevens said, "Jill, as general manager, made a decision for staff (education). It bothers me that we are telling her how to do her job."

Stevens made a motion, seconded by Dick Quigley, to approve the allocation. Chairwoman Sarah Palmer joined them. Kalthoff, Myers and John Greci voted "no." Director Sandy Figuers was not present for the vote, but was expected to arrive late. Palmer suggested that the matter be brought up when Figuers arrived. However, Myers pointed out that the matter was

sider delaying the flood control and water connection fees on homes that would be built on lots he is trying to sell. A new law, AB 2604, allows postponement of the fees for one year, and an extension for another year. That way, the new homeowner can defer paying fees until after obtaining a certificate of occupancy.

Babbitt said that it could enable homeowners to put the fees into their mortgage payments. He told the board, "Help me sell my lots." Babbitt said he has been meeting with Pleasanton city government, the school district and DSRSD about the possibility of invoking AB 2604 for him.

Gas price increases could result in the reduction of the number of vehicle miles traveled with beneficial impacts on con-

Projects in Alameda County include the following:

Build auxiliary lanes on I-580 between Vasco Road and First Street and modify the I-580/ Vasco Road interchange; construct Isabel/I-580 interchange; widen I-580 from Tassajara Road to Greenville Road for HOV and auxiliary lanes; construct new West Dublin/Pleasanton BART station; improve Vasco Road safety; construct auxiliary lanes on I-580 between Santa Rita

McNerney Asks Reconsideration Of Closure of Livermore VA Site

MAILBOX

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

Thank You **Marilyn Fung Operation Christmas Child** East Bay Area Coordinator

Operation Christmas Child-East Bay would like to thank the many people who helped exceed our goal by 14 percent with a total of 21,719 shoebox gifts. Over 100 volunteers served at various collection locations during the eight-day collection period, November 17-24.

Each shoebox gift is specially prepared, carefully packed, and now making its long journey to the hands of a child in a faraway land in one of more than 90 countries. We pray that these gifts will truly bring the joy,

love and hope of Christmas to all the children overseas.

We salute our dedicated, faithful, hardworking and joyful volunteers who made this season a great success.

Thank you for giving this precious gift of hope and love. May God richly bless you and Merry Christmas.

Real Discovery Albert J. Rothman Livermore

I discovered a real prize for those who like Korean food: Jun's Korea House in Livermore, 2570 Old First St. 454-1244.

I used to go to one in Pleasanton on Santa Rita Rd. I think its name is Royal Tofu. I would continue to recommend it.

However, Jun's is even better, and in our town. Prices are reasonable and the Soft Tofu bowls (soup-like) are excellent. I often get one to bring home, when I'm hungry, as I usually am after a hike.

As is usual for Korean fare, the pickle plates (Kimchee) served

Publisher: Joan Kinney Seppala ™Independent Associate Publisher: David T. Lowell Editor: Janet Armantrout (INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.) Sales Manager: Jessica Scherer The Independent is published every Thursday at 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550 (Mailing address: PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551) The Independent is delivered by the United States Post Office. Advertising rates and subscription rates may be obtained by calling (925) 447-8700 during regular business hours. • Fax: (925) 447-0212 E-MAIL: editmail@compuserve.com

with the food are delicious to my taste. Of course, they have Korean BBQ and traditional Korean favorites.

The only drawback, and it is minor, is that parking in front of the small restaurant is limited, although one can park nearby. They would do better in a more central place, but they tell me that the rents are too high for them. In the meantime if more patrons discover this gem, perhaps they would be able to afford moving.

They are gracious, helpful, and especially the food is souper (pun intended).

My only reluctance to telling you about this place is that I may not be able to get a seat there when and if the crowd finds it, but I would like to see Jun's thrive.

Local Bookstores **Celia Menczel** Walnut Creek

Kudos to Pat Koning and the Independent for the article," Still shopping for Christmas? Try a local bookstore." Many years ago, when Livermore lost its book store, I opened a small one. I didn't want to live in a town where there wasn't a bookstore. Unfortunately, I failed, as have several others since.

Valley residents should help the independent bookstores they

now enjoy (Firehouse Books in Livermore and Towne Center Books in Pleasanton) because bookstores are important contributors to the culture of a place and books are the best gifts, whether to oneself or to friends and family.

Thank You Sue Evans Pleasanton

It was a very foggy and damp morning the day of our Hike for Open Heart Kitchen. I thought it was a shame the girls would not be able to see the beautiful view of our valley during the hike. Mother Nature had other plans and the beautiful sea of clouds below us completely burned off and we had some great views and a fun hike.

Words cannot express the gratitude I feel to everyone who opened their hearts and wallets for Open Heart Kitchen. Phoebe Brown, her team members from the Rage under 15 team and I had an overwhelming response. We more than exceeded our goal of \$2500 and with the \$2500 match from the Rage organization, our grand total was \$6250. We truly could not have done it without those of you who gave so generously. Together, we really did make a difference. A joyous holiday to all.

Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) has sent a letter to General Eric Shinseki, Presidentelect Obama's nominee to serve as Secretary of Veterans Affairs, asking him to revisit the decision made to close the Livermore VA Hospital.

McNerney is a member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

In a 2007 decision, then-VA Secretary Jim Nicholson called for closing what remained of the Livermore VA Hospital, including the 120-bed nursing home and some clinical services. A new outpatient clinic would be built in a more centrally located site in the East Bay.

In particular, the letter encourages Gen. Shinseki to explore the idea of using Livermore as a site for expanded PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) and major depression treatment. McNerney describes the facility's serene and picturesque setting as ideal for treatment of such disorders. A study found that one in five U.S. troops is suffering from major depression or post-traumatic stress as a result of serving in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The letter points out that the decision was made to begin closing the Livermore VA through the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) process. The decision was made in spite of the fact that the Livermore VA serves more than 100,000 local veterans and is situated less than fifteen miles from Parks Reserve Forces Training Area (Camp Parks).

Camp Parks serves the training needs of more than 20,000 Army Reserve and California National Guard soldiers. The National Guard also has pending plans to expand its presence at Camp Parks. Many of these soldiers and their families have permanently settled in the region and find the Livermore campus to be a convenient and necessary resource upon their return to civilian life.

In FY2006, the Livermore VAMC served 11,433 inpatients and outpatients, had 55,973 outpatient encounters, 470 nursing home admissions, and racked up 35,831 bed days of care.

The letter predicts that the number of veterans seeking care in California will continue to climb and there is a clear need for an increase in veterans' services in the area, not a reduction, especially for those with PTSD.

McNerney states that he recently invited Congressman Bob Filner, the Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to visit the Livermore site . After speaking with a group of local veterans who told us they were being forced to take a 90 mile bus ride to the Palo Alto VA facility for health services, he agreed Livermore should keep its doors open.

CLUB

(continued from page one) would be displayed around town. Instead, it may come later in the club's history.

Gururanga said that although the club is comprised of Foothill students, anyone can start their own group, or just affiliate directly with ONE, through the organization's web site. The address is www.ONE.org.

Both global and local poverty are important to the Foothill club. Members have volunteered their time at and donated money to Open Heart Kitchen. They work at a Dublin church one day each week, helping out in the kitchen, and taking on whatever is needed. They've also donated proceeds from their noontime food sales at school.

(Open Heart Kitchen's community plea for donations so it can continue to feed low-income people in the Valley has reached a big audience. So far, enough money has been sent in to carry the program into February. The goal is to obtain funding through June 30, the end of its fiscal year.)

NOTA'GO-TO-**COLLEGE' CLUB**

One thing that Gururangu likes about the Foothill ONE club is that everyone is genuinely focused on ending poverty.

"It's not a go-to-college type of club, in which, if I join the club, I can list it as community service, and it will get me into college. It's not like that. We are working to spread awareness of poverty. It's enjoyable, because others around you are interested in doing the same thing," said Gururangu.

Another club stalwart, Rahul Krishnakumar, stated, "Poverty is not an issue being focused on at schools. There are no courses dedicated to it, no events targeting it. We (at Foothill) have some events that target HIV and other worldwide disease awareness, but nothing dealing with poverty."

Krishnakumar added that the city's recognition of the club, and some personal conversations with Mayor Hosterman have been very helpful. "It was fortunate that the mayor had high school kids of her own, who were involved in some of these types of activities. They've been to foreign counties, and helped others, in India and Mexico," said Krishnakumar.

POVERTY KILLS EVERY 3 SECONDS

Lo came up with the idea to start the Foothill club after going to a talk in San Francisco

tion to help make Cynthia's

when he was a sophomore. "What motivated me was learning that every three seconds, a person dies because he or she lives in poverty," he said.

Lo is hoping that a local restaurant can provide the club some space for community outreach in the form of a video night, which would show the ONE organization's videos. It would underscore the international work the group does in such areas as economic development, mother-child health services, trade, agriculture and food.

Many celebrities have joined ONE, such as George Clooney, Oprah Winfrey, Brad Pitt and Cameron Diaz. They have helped draw attention to the organization.

ONE also undertakes nonpartisan lobbying work, asking Congress and the president to do more to fight poverty on the global level. The organization works with dozens of established poverty-fighting groups worldwide in an effort to better coordinate a solution to the problems.

"The goal is to raise awareness, and let people know there are ways to think globally, and work locally," said Lo.

Make-A-Wish, LARPD Make Dream a Reality

High school student Cynthia Reves celebrated her Ouincera on Saturday, Nov. 29, at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Although this Spanish coming-of-age ceremony is typically held for a girl's 15th birthday, Cynthia turned 16 this year. Currently near the end of her treatments for leukemia, Cynthia was not well enough a year ago to hold the celebration.

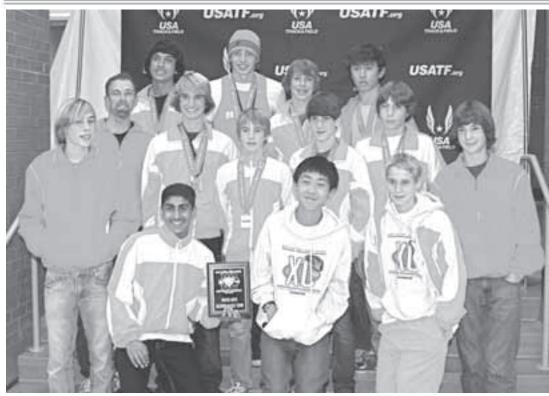
The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District worked with the Make-A-Wish Founda-

dream of a big party come true. The Foundation and the Reyes family contacted LARPD over the summer and began the process of planning her special day. LARPD donated rental space and time in the contemporary Cresta Blanca Ballroom at the Community Center to hold the Quinceara. Make-A-Wish coordinated with Cynthia and the Reyes family to pick out a dress, provide catering and even bring in a traditional Mariachi band for the

event.

The District often partners with various organizations to give back to the community, and was happy to be able to offer use of the Ballroom for Cynthia and her family, who are Livermore residents. The hope is that this special day has given Cynthia something to look forward to during a challenging time for both her and the Reyes family. On Saturday, 150 of Cynthia's family and friends celebrated the occasion.

SPORTS NOTES



Pictured are members of the Pleasanton Heat Cross Country team which placed second in both the Youth Boys and Youth Girls division at the Junior Olympic National Championships held Dec. 13 in Richmond, Virginia. Starting with the team member holding the plaque and moving left to right: Raj Sing, Brendon Chui, Jacob Schlachte, Kohlden Hochhaus, Tyler Sorensen, Nolan Petersen, Sean Aylward, Ryan Kinney, Nick Trebes, Coach Kevin McCarthy, Theo Carter, Parker Dueul, Connor McCarthy, and Aidan Goltra.

Soccer State Cup

The Livermore Elite Fury U13 girls advanced to the championship game of the Bronze 2 division of NorCal State Cup with a 3-0 win against the Milpitas Fire.

Livermore opened the game with a strong offensive attack behind the excellent midfield play of Elise Falgout. The Fury drove deep into Fire territory several times as Rebekah Johnson and Alison Pierson attempted shots. In the 14th minute, Jenna Hatch beat the goalie on the right wing after taking a pass from Kaitlyn Bulhoes for a 1-0 lead. The Fire managed to counter into the Livermore zone. However, Morgan Brandt stopped an attack with a nice clear and Falgout hustled back deep in the box to clear a ball just yards from the goal. Defender Skyler also played well to stop the Fire's speedy forwards. With a minute left in the half, Brittany Ahrbeck crossed to Ryley Landreth who was tripped in the box. Falgout then converted the free kick with a well-placed shot beyond the goalie's reach for 2-0.

Milpitas began the second half as the aggessor with a number of long runs into the Fury box. Each time, the Livermore defense limited the Fire from taking open shots, led by Amanda Fairclough and Alyssa Stevenson. Fury keeper Emily Kalantar also made a nice play by coming out and challenging the Fire to force a shot early and wide. In the midfield, Erin Winegarner won a couple of one-on-one battles to gain possession. Livermore com-pleted its scoring and victory with a minute remaining when Elyse Codiroli drove hard down the right wing to create a scoring opportunity and Ahrbeck picked up the loose ball and drove towards the all and drove towards the goal from the far right and calmly pushed the ball by the Fire goalie.

Lacrosse Registration

Livermore Phantom lacrosse Club Reg-istration is now open for Livermore Phantom Lacrosse Spring 2009 season. Accepting both experienced and beginner girls and boys ages 8 through 14 (U15). Whether a returning player or brand new to the game of lacrosse this is an opportunity to become part of the fastest growing and most unique youth sport the nation. The season begins in January and continues through mid-May. For more information on the Phantom Lacrosse experience and detailed instructions on registration requirements, please visit www.phantomlacrosse.org or contact Bob Mezeul at 925-425-9901

2009 Registration is open for all divi-

sions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Soft-ball League. All girls living in Pleasanton

, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play PGSL softball. Two ways to register: 1) Online at

www.pleasantonsoftball.org; 2) Mail-in:

PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA

94566 (download a registration form from our website). Registration deadline is Janu-

ary 1, 2009. A late fee will be added to any registration submitted after January 1. For

more information, please email the league at pgsl@pleasantonsoftball.org.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park

District is offering soccer play under the lights at Robertson Park on Tuesday nights.

LARPD's Women's Soccer League is a recreational outdoor league that encourages

players of all abilities to get out and play the

game. Whether new to soccer, have a distant

Women's Soccer

levels. The main goal is to have fun playing

the game. Registration for the winter season is open now and due by Jan. 2. Spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so early registration is recommended to guarantee space. The league is open to women age 18 and older. The winter season runs through January and February, and the fee to participate is \$34.

To register, stop by LARPD's Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, to fill out a registration packet. A packet can also be downloaded from the LARPD Web site at www.larpd.dst.ca.us to drop off or mail in. For more information, call 925-960-6407.

Indoor Soccer Camp

The sport of *football*, commonly referred to as soccer by Americans, has gained increasing amounts of attention over the years. Coming from an athletic background and

now raising children in the Livermore com-munity, founders of Cabernet Indoor Sports understand the principals this sport can bring to those who participate. Opening in Livermore in early November, Cabernet Indoor Sports is a 47,000 square foot indoor soccer

facility with state-of-the-art turf and walls. Brian Farber, professional indoor soccer player for the PASL Stockton Cougars and outdoor player for the MLS Houston Dynamo and former USL Minnesota Thunder, has been brought on as Director of Coaching. "Soccer has helped me grow into the person I am today. I've been fortunate to be around coaches who represented what it takes to be

successful in soccer as well as life with helping me achieve my goals. I hope to share this passion for the game and influence those along the way," Farber.

Farber will have his opportunity along with Cabernet Indoor Sports who will be introducing their first winter camp running this December 29 though January 2. Farber along with a staff of professional players, will be coaching novice players all the way to experienced elite players for a weeklong camp focused on improving individual soccer skills as well as broader skills such as teamwork and sportsmanship.

Cabernet will be holding camps periodi-cally throughout the year as well as developing classes and training programs that are intended to build a well-rounded player in both athletic and personal arenas. The facility includes three fields, meet

ing rooms, mezzanine viewing, a sports lounge and ice-cold beverages.

For information, contact Farber at farber@cabernetsports.com, 208-660-2604 or go to www.cabernetindoorsports.com

Umpires Sought

The Livermore Pleasanton Umpires As-sociation is seeking individuals interested in umpiring girls fastpitch and adult slowpitch softball games in the Livermore, Pleasanton area. Training will be provided. The first Livermore Pleasanton Umpires meeting will be held on January 11th at 12 noon at the Livermore Community Center located at 4444 East Avenue in Livermore, or contact Henry Suico at (510) 701-2762 or email at hsuico@comcast.net



CEMETERY (continued from page one)

from the general fund. "The cost came as a shock to me. I'd like to see a plan for maintenance that doesn't pull money from the general fund. I don't think residents should have to pay to maintain the area," she stated.

McGovern also wanted more data on what other cemeteries are charging for plots. "If we don't have a long term plan, I'm concerned the cemetery will become a long term liability for the city," McGovern said.

Councilmember Matt Sullivan wanted to delay a decision on the matter until after the council had a look at the upcoming operating budget and capital improvement program. "The economy is in terrible shape. It's know a lot of people would like this. If we do move forward, we need to look at a revenue plan for maintenance."

Both he and Councilmember Jerry Thorne agreed that the cost of setting up the new burial sites is recoverable. They said it makes them feel better about the proposal

Currently, the cemetery is maintained at what is called a pioneer condition, which means there is no irrigation. The staff proposal suggests using funds from the sale of the plots to install an irrigation system sometime in the future.

Jim Wolfe, who is retiring from his post as director of Parks and Community Services, said that ing list, 42 of them are Pleasanton residents. There has also been interest in keeping the area green year-round, he told the council.

The estimated cost of an irrigation system is \$1 million. He said in response to McGovern's concerns about maintenance that the funds raised from the sale of the plots could be used for ongoing maintenance rather than for installation of an irrigation system.

He estimated that 50 sites and 50 niches would be sold in the first year, then an average of 25 each through 2015. "They could be sold out sooner," Wolfe stated.

Sullivan pointed out that the revenue stream is finite. It will run out at sometime. The money

time to say that while it's wonderful to build big projects, we need to take a time out and look at our future fiscal planning. I

the idea for providing more plots for purchase arose from requests from members of the public. He said there are 54 names on a wait-

PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

for January 14 to sell the contents of the building.

Reportedly, Martinovich plans to renovate the restaurant portion of the building with the idea of establishing a restaurant that might appeal to a younger crowd.

Brian Dolan, Community Development Director for the City of Pleasanton, said that while the owner has been gathering information about various options, she has not yet presented a plan. "It's not clear whether the plan is to spruce up the building or to do something more substantial. I'm sure we will know more when

COUNT (continued from page one)

center that day. It delivers firstaid services to low-income people, and screens them for possible referral to AXIS, which delivers more sophisticated health care.

The Hope van has been in use since 2000. Last year, it served 173 clients.

The homeless population does not consist entirely of people who are seen sleeping outdoors or in shelters. It also includes people staying with friends or relatives, or temporarily in a hotel.

Livermore has the highest number of homeless families in Alameda County, said Prasher. "We have our share of single individuals, too. We are seeing a lot of veterans, many of them suffering from post traumatic stress disorder.'

Grants that go to homeless services are based on the homeless survey. "It's incumbent on us to conduct the best count we can. We know we have homeless. If our number are accurate, hopefully we will receive more funding," said Prasher.

a plan is submitted," he stated.

The Pleasanton Hotel, formerly the Farmer's Hotel, was built by one of Pleasanton's early settlers, John Kottinger, in approximately 1864. After it burned to the ground on March 18, 1898 it was rebuilt. It again suffered a minor fire in 1915. For many years the hotel has been a restaurant only with offices upstairs. The restaurant has been the site of many special gatherings. The balcony is named for "Mr. Parade," Ed Kinney, who announced many parades from the vantage point.

A haunting supposedly took place on the second floor. Some claim to feel a "cold spot" in the upstairs corridor where a violent act may have occurred many years ago.

Laude indicated that the planned New Year's Eve dinnerdance festivities would be held on schedule.

As REALTORS*, our profession is more than just providing homes to families. It's about making neighbors, building communities and helping people create memories.

In the last four years, Bay East members have provided dictionaries or atlases to more than 20,600 local schoolchildren through the Dictionary Project with the goal of creating good writers and active readers. It is one of many community projects and organizations that **REALTORS*** are involved in.

BAYEASI

will have to come out of the general fund. He was looking for a PGSL Registration funding source, such as an endowment, that would avoid having to tap the general fund.

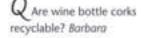
The city purchased the cemetery from the Oddfellows, who no longer wanted to operate it. The city spent \$180,000 over the past three years to maintain and upgrade the cemetery.

Howard Neely, one of the members of an ad hoc committee that looked into the city to take over the cemetery, was pleased with the idea of new plots being made available. He said he believes there are areas where more burial sites could be made available.









A Wine bottle corks made from Cork Oak trees (natural corks) are recyclable-but petroleum-based corks (plastic corks) are not. Here are your recycling options:

· WM curbside customers can place natural corks in:

1) Recycling carts-for transfer to facilities to be recycled into new consumer products and 2) Green Waste carts-for transport to facilities to decompose into compost. (Fact: Plastic corks are ONLY accepted in Garbage carts.) Take natural wine bottle corks to these Livermore wineries:

Wente Vineyards

5565 Tesla Road (925) 456-2305 5050 Arroyo Road (925) 456-2405

Murrieta's Well

3005 Mines Road (925) 456-2390 **Tamás Estates**

5489 Tesla Road (925) 456-2380 Source: RecorkAmerica.com



own # Thomas Marine 3.6.4



promote food scrap recycling when guests help with holiday dinner cleanup? Luonn

A. You can help your cleanup crew recycle food scraps with two simple steps:

items accepted in WM Green Waste curbside carts:

· food-soiled paper: plates, napkins, towels, take-out containers, pizza boxes, paper grocery bags & newspaper

- · spoiled, moldy food.

2) Provide WM Kitchen Pail or other container for transporting

Send your questions today! AskKathleen@wm.com

U.S. MAIL: Ask Kathleen Waste Management 6175 Southfront Road Livermore, CA 94551

1) Post this list of food scrap

- · anything that is or was edible
- baked goods, pasta, rice
- · coffee grounds, filters,
- tea bags · dairy products

used as WM Kitchen Pail liners

· fruits, vegetables, peels, pits

· meat, fish, poultry

food waste to Green Waste cart.

Popular Duo in Return Engagement

Del Valle Fine Arts presents *Kai Gleusteen & Catherine Ordronneau* on violin and piano in the Bankhead Theater on Friday, January 9 at p.m.

The program includes the Sonatensatz (Scherzo from the F.A.E Sonata), Brahms; Fantasy for Violin and Piano, Schubert; and Sonata No. 1 in D minor, Saint-Saëns.

This Canadian/French duo currently based in Barcelona was an audience favorite when they performed in Livermore in 2004.

They have established themselves as one of the most important duos in the interpretation of sonatas for violin and piano. According to the Calgary Herald, "Both performers are exceptional musicians. Elegant, they played with intensity and unmistakable commitment to the music, searching out the most exquisite ways to shape and phrase melodies.." Tickets are \$29, \$24 and \$19.

Tickets are \$29, \$24 and \$19. Children and students through high school are admitted free. Day of concert tickets for college



The box office and theater are located at 2400 First Street in Livermore or go to www.livermoreperformingarts.org. More information is available at 925-447-2752 or www.delvallefinearts.org and www.gleusteen.com.



San Pierstorff

Wine and Words' Features Two Poets

Livermore Poet Laureate Connie Post will host a session in a continuing Livermore Poetry Series at the Martinelli Conference and Event Center.

The next session of "Wine and Words" will be Sun., Jan. 4 from 2 to 4 p.m. Featured poets are Julia Levine and Sam Pierstorff.

The featured readers begin at 2 p.m.. An open mic will take place following a short break (one poem per reader- 40 lines or less).

Levine's poetry collections include, Ditch-tender, Ask, —winner of the Tampa Review Prize—, and Practicing for Heaven, which won the 1998 Anhinga Prize for Poetry, as well as a bronze medal from Foreword magazine. She has received numerous awards and grants in poetry, including the Discovery/the Nation Award for Emerging New writers, the Pablo Neruda Prize in poetry, as well as multiple Pushcart Prize nominations. Her poems have been published in many journals, including Ploughshares, The Southern Poetry Review, Prairie Schooner, and the Crab Orchard Poetry Review. She received her Ph.D. from University of California at Berkeley in clinical psychology. She lives and works in Davis.

Pierstorff is a professor of English at Modesto Junior College and the Editor-in-Chief of Quercus Review, a national journal of poetry and fiction. He has published more than 150 poems in numerous journals throughout the U.S. and recently concluded his 4-year tenure as the City of Modesto's Poet Laureate. He is an active slam poet as well, hosting CA's largest invitational poetry slam, "The ILL LIST," and Central California's best monthly poetry slam, "SLaM on RyE." He received his Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from California State University at Long Beach, and his chapbook, The Albatross Lives, was nominated for two Pushcart Prizes. His fiction is currently being represented by the Andrea Brown Literary Agency.

Willy Claflin and Maynard the Moose on Amador Stage

The City of Pleasanton Civic Arts will host the third in its SaturYAY! series of entertainment for children and their parents on Saturday, January 10, 2009, with storyteller Willy Claflin and his sidekick, Maynard the Moose.

The 11:00 a.m. matinee will take place at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton.

Parents' Choice Gold Award winner Willy Claflin grew up an introverted boy in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, spending his days dreaming and wandering through the woods. By high school, he became an extroverted rock and roll singer and learned hundreds of folk songs. He was known to be "fast on a guitar" and given to playing pranks.

At Harvard University in the

early 1960s, Claflin studied American and French Literature and performed music and comedy in the Boston-Cambridge folk music scene. After a year of reading French classics in Paris, he studied in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he collected a cappella ballads.

Later that decade, Claflin became a teacher who was known for his creative curriculum. His puppets, Maynard Moose, Boring Beaver, Socklops, Dr. Al, and Gorf became part of his classroom persona and he found them to be excellent teaching assistants.

Claflin returned to performing in the 1980s, having collected a wealth of stories and ballads. He launched Maynard Moose in his own recording career and crisscrossed the country from Maine to Hawaii as a storytelling per-



Willy Claflin and his sidekick, Maynard the Moose.

former and master teacher. He relocated to San Francisco, Calif. in 1984. Claflin has released nine recordings and has won several Parent's Choice Awards, National Parenting Publications Gold Awards and Storytelling World Awards. He has performed at regional festivals nationwide and at the International Storytelling Festival in Cape Clear, Ireland. He continues to perform in concert venues and schools.

Tickets to the Willy Claflin show are Adults: \$10, \$14 and \$18 and Child: \$6, \$10 and \$14. They may be purchased online at www.civicartstickets.org up to three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office. The box office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and for two hours prior to each performance.

'East Meets West' Theme of Library Gallery Exhibit

"East Meets West," the third annual art exhibition of that theme, will offer viewers an opportunity to explore cultural influences. The opening reception is set for Saturday, January 3, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Art Gallery in the Livermore Civic Center Library.

Organizer Lily Xu brings together works from a group of eight, most of whom are award winning international artists. The opening reception will feature fare sponsored by local restaurants and wineries. The exhibition is on display January 2 through January 31.

The art, ranging from the works of international photographer Zhiping Zhang to the oils of diplomat-daughter and worldtraveler Amy Leung to the monoprints of South American native Edmee Keele, is as varied as the artists themselves.

Lily Xu, artist and organizer, states, "Livermore is a place where different artists can showcase their unique cultures and perspectives. I am a firm believer in the positive impact the arts have on our community." Xu, who was born in China, works mostly with watercolors on rice paper, creating primarily abstract landscape and still-life works that include or refer to traditional Asian images, such as orchids, cherry blossoms, peonies and bamboo.

Xu's work contrasts interestingly to the atmospheric photographs of Walter Davies and the abstract figurative paintings of Linda Ryan (representing the North American continent), and plays up the differences in culture but shows traces of Western influences as well. New to this year's exhibition is cork artist, Carolyn Peoples Castaldi, who combines her passion for wine and her artistic abilities to transform wine corks into a uniquely urbane art form. All of the artists currently reside in the Tri-Valley region.

Xu's vision is to use the East Meets West art partnership to



'Summer Soul" by Lily Xu

develop programs and exhibiting opportunities for artists from different cultural backgrounds, and provide exhibitions and events that are entertaining and educational. "We want to promote harmony and connect with the artists from Livermore's broad creative community and beyond," says Xu. "This will be our third annual month-long exhibition. This year, we are fortunate to have food and wine sponsored locally by Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, China Village, Canton Village, New Empire Buffet restaurants, and John Christopher Cellars, and Retzlaff wineries."

The artists also comprise many of the area's workers behind the scene in the arts. Xu has been involved in helping to organize or help with many local art exhibitions, events, and cultural arts causes; Davies has been involved in the arts from vocal ensembles to chairing the City of Livermore Arts Commissions; Ryan has organized many art exhibits and events, such as ArtWalk as well as sitting as an Arts Commissioner and running the Bothwell Arts Center; Keele has organized art shows for years through LAA, which include Art in the Vineyards, the Wente Es-tate Vineyards Exhibition Program, and many shows at Tenuta Vineyards; and Bettie Goosman has helped with the Livermore Art Association for years.

The library is located at 1188 So. Livermore Avenue. There is no admission charge to attend the reception.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Recital, the public is invited to a recital of piano music presented by Jordan Even on Friday evening, January 2. He will present the recital at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary of Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 So. Livermore Ave (Livermore). Included will be music by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt, Scriabin and Barber. Jordan Even is a senior at Valparaiso University (Valparaiso, IN), majoring in piano performance.

Seventh Annual Youth Music Festi-val, City of Pleasanton Civic Arts will hold auditions on Wednesday and Thursday, January 14 and 15, 2009, between 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. All auditions will take place at the Amador Theater, located on the AmadorValley High School campus at 1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. Solo vocalists, instrumentalists, and vocal and instrumental ensembles, ages 18 and under, are welcome to audition. Rock bands are not included in the Festival. Audition appointments are required and may be made by calling (925) 931-3481. Performance date is Friday, February 20, 2009, at 8:00 p.m. at the Amador Theater. Auditions for the chorus Soli Deo Gloria will be held by appointment prior to the first rehearsal, January 5th. Tenors and basses are especially welcome. The upcoming concert program, "Chamber Secrets," in-cludes works by Bach, Haydn, Monteverdi, and Buxtehude. Rehearsals are held Monday nights in Alameda and directed by Allen

Simon. Concerts will be held in Palo Alto and Alameda. Please call 888-SDG-SONG (888-734-7664) or email auditions@sdgloria.org for an appointment. For more info, visit: www.sdgloria.org

Livermore's Got Talent 2009 Auditions, applications accepted now through Jan. 3, 2009. Auditions at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore. \$25.00 application fee. Sponsored by NBC Bay Area, the Rotary Clubs of Livermore, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, and Waste Management, Inc. All proceeds go to the Rotary community grants program. www.LivermoresGotTalent.com; auditions@livermoresgottalent.com Maurie Louis, Public Relations Director.

The Wild Vine, Trish Fenton is the featured artist for the month of January at the Wild Vine Gallery. Fenton

www.livermoreperformingarts.org The Power of Flight, Thurs., Jan. 15, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Livermore Speakers Series features Morton Grosser, who helped design and build components for three human powered airplanes. \$30 and \$40. 925-373-6800, or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Irvin Mayfield and the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra All Stars, Friday, January 16, at 8 p.m., spirited, swinging, 6-piece band steeped in the tradition of New Orleans jazz, blues, swing and spirituals. Tickets \$55/ \$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org The Underpants, Role Players Ensemble, Danvile, Jan. 16-Feb. 7.

www.danvilletheatre.com. Children's Film Festival Review, the best award-winning short films for nies. His memoir "The Dream" is the story of his road to success. No admission charge. No registration required.

ScrapArts Music, five musicians play over 140 instruments fashioned from industrial scrap. Jan. 23, 8 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Civic Arts Presents, tickets 931-3444, or online at caboxoffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

caboxoffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. Guys and Dolls, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse), Mainstage Musical, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Jan. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, Feb. 1, 6, 7, 8. Fri. and Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. 925-373-6800, or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Crab Feed, Sat., Jan. 24, Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore. Cocktails 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Music by the "Singing DJ." \$35 per person by advance dale only. No ticket sales at the door. 455-8829.

Admission is \$5, free to students with valid ID. The Martinelli Center is located at 3585 Greenville Road, Livermore.

For further information, contact Connie Post at Connie@poetrypost.com for further information or go to www.poetrypost.com.

Pleasanton Students Recognized for Work in the Arts

The Pleasanton PTA Council held its sixth annual Reflections Arts Recognition Program on Monday, December 1, at Harvest Park Middle School.

The Reflections Program, sponsored by the National PTA, is an arts recognition and achievement program for students. It provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by this year's theme, "Wow.."

Students, from kindergarten through 12th grade, entered their work in six categories: musical composition, literature, photography and visual arts, film/video production and dance choreography. More than 350 young artists from eight Pleasanton schools submitted entries for this year's program to their local PTA or PTSA sponsored program. The participating schools were Alisal Elementary PTA, Fairlands Elementary PTA, Hearst Elementary PTA, Mohr Elementary PTA, Walnut Grove Elementary PTA, Vintage Hills Elementary PTA, Harvest Park Middle School PTA and Amador Valley High School PTSA.

Reflections Committees at each of these schools identified students in each category and age level to represent their school at the Council level. Over 65 entries were submitted to Pleasanton PTA Council for recognition and were presented with certificates at the December 1st Recognition program.

Of these, nineteen students were chosen to represent Pleasanton PTA Council on January 20, 2009 at the next level, Peralta District PTA, which encompasses all of Alameda County. Students selected were the following:

Literature: Rachel Pettey, Fairlands, primary division; Katie Lin, Vintage Hills, intermediate; Kara Carlstrom, Harvest Park, middle/jr.; Joshua Martin, Amador Valley, senior; Photography: Austin Larson, Hearst, primary; Shawn O'Hare, Walnut Grove, intermediate; Sakshi Agarwal, Harvest Park, middle/

jr.; Catherine Wang, Amador Valley, senior;

Visual Arts: Tiffany Rhee, Hearst, primary; Sung-Wook Hwang, intermediate; Rachel Kim, Harvest Park, middle/jr.; Katie Kilduff, Amador Valley, senior;

Musical Composition: Brendan Hwang, Hearst, primary; Karthik Suresh, Alisal, intermediate; Shreya Mages, Harvest Park, middle/jr.; Film/video production: Jonah Kane, Vintage Hills, intermediate; Daniel Huang, Harvest Park, middle/jr.; Dance choreography: Rachana Doraiswamy, Fairlands, intermediate; and Krishnapriya Somasekharan, Amador Valley, senior.

The evening was made possible with support from Greenbriar Homes Communities.

LIVERMORE	CIN	EM/	AS	2490 Fir 443	st Street -SHOW
VALKYRIE (PG13) DLP	10:20*	1:20	4:00	6:45	9:45
MARLEY & ME (PG) DLP	10:05*	11:00*	12:40	1:40	3:15
	4:25	6:40	7:20	9.15	9:55
DOUBT (PG13) DLP	10:50*	1:30	4:25	7:05	9:30
BEDTIME STORIES (PG) DLP 10:40			12:05	1:00	2:30
3:50	4:50	6:30	7:30	9.00	9:40
THE CURIOUS CASE OF B	BENJAM	IN BUTT	ON (PG	13) DLP	
12:00	12:45	3:30	4:15	7:00	8:00
SEVEN POUNDS (PG13) DU	2 10:10°	12:50	4:10	7:00	9:50
THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX (G) DLP			10:00*	12:10	2:20
				4:30	6:40
YES MAN (PG13) DLP	11:55	2:25	4:40	7:10	9:35
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL (PG13) DLP 10:55* 1:2					
			4:05	7:15	9:45
FOUR CHRISTMASES (PG1	(3) DLP	2:55	5:10	7:30	9:55
BOLT 3D (PG) DLP	10:15*	12:35			
TWILIGHT (PG13) DLP					8:50
*Friday-Thursday Times All	other time	es: DAILY	()		

will display her expressive and alluring females. She uses collage to create texture and color in her pieces. Reception is Thursday, January 8, from 7-9 p.m. at the Wild Vine Art Gallery and Wine Lounge, 2187 First St. Livermore

St., Livermore Big Fat Year End Kiss Off XVI, Fri., Dec. 26, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. An evening with Will Durst. \$25/\$15. 925-373-6800 or online at www.livermoreperformingarts.org. The Four Freshmen Celebrate New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31, 7 p.m., gala New Year's Eve party complete with champagne and dessert. Tickets \$95/\$80/\$70/\$60. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org Wine and Words, poetry reading hosted by Livermore Poet Laureate Connie Post, Sun., Jan. 4, 2 to 4 p.m. Guest readers followed by open mic. \$5 admission. www.poetrypost.com.

admission. www.poetrypost.com. Kai Gleusteen and Catherine Ordronneau, violin-piano duo, Jan. 9, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org. Movies at Old St. Raymond's, Jan. 10, 2 to 4 p.m. \$3. 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. 452-2100.

Willy Clafin, Parents' Choice Gold Award winning storyteller. Jan. 10, 11 a.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. Civic Arts Presents, tickets 931-3444, caboxoffice@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. Masked Marvels & Wondertales, Sun., Jan. 11, 2 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. LVPAC Presents Michael Cooper's one-man show. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org Keyboard Conversations@, Concerts with Lively Commentary, Jeffrey Siegel, Pianist, Tuesday, January 13, at 8 p.m. Program: "The Longevity of the Short Piece;" Tickets \$45/ \$40/\$35/\$30/\$12 students. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, children from the California Independent Film Festival's 11 year history will be shown Sat., January 17 in San Ramon, will be held at the Front Row Theater at Dougherty Station Community Center on Saturdays at from 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$8.00 all ages. Tickets can be purchased on-line at www.sanramonpeformingarts.com by phone at (925) 973-ARTS, or the night of the show, 1 hour prior to

Winter concert - Lorin Rowan, Jan. 17, 7 p.m. Heritage Center, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. \$10/\$5. 452-2100.

Stanford Woodwind Quintet, Jan. 17, 8 p.m. Del Valle Fine Arts concert, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. 925-373-6800, www.livermoreperformingarts.org.
Gurbaksh Chahal, "The Dream," Sunday, Jan. 18, 2 p.m. Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. Entrepreneur dropped out of school to form his first company, becoming a multimillionaire at 18. His second company, BlueLithium was named one of the top 100 private compa-





Real Estate Market update available at www.Livermorehomes.com





OBITUARIES

Evelyn Bankhead Leaves a Legacy Of **Community Activism**

Evelyn Lillian Bankhead passed away on December 21, 2008 of congestive heart failure at the age of 91. She was born in San Francisco on April 28, 1917.

Evelyn attended San Francisco State University where she earned her teaching credentials and developed her passion for playing tennis. She student taught at a one room school in Half Moon Bay, then taught at Fifth Street School in Livermore, even teaching dance. There were 64 students in her classroom.

In 1941, she married Armand Robert Bankhead. They had six children. Evelyn was preceded in death by her son Armand Robert "Bob" Jr. (Laurie) and her daughter-in-law Debbie Jean (Mike). She is survived by her son Jack (Ann) of Hornitos, CA, son Mike of Payette, ID, son Paul (Joyce) of Heron, MT, daughter Nancy of Livermore, CA. and son Malcolm (Maureen) of Livermore, as well as 21 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Evelyn was active in the arts until recent years as a founding member of the Livermore Cultural Arts Council and as president of many organizations. She served both the Livermore Lithophiles, the Gem and Mineral Society, and the Livermore Concert Association as a caring president. Evelyn also participated in many activities within these organizations.

In 2007, the Bankhead Theater was named in her honor Evelyn thoroughly enjoyed attending performances such as Bernadette Peters at the Opening Gala and the Smothers Brothers in October 2008.

She was the PTA president at Inman School. She entered her collection for many years at the Alameda County Fair in the Gem and Mineral Building. Her collections included Indian artifacts, purple glass, shells, geodes, and crystals. Evelyn lived on a sheep ranch and spent her time as a sheep and cattle producer. She dearly loved animals.

Sports also occupied a huge part of Evelyn's life. She played tennis until she was 80 and always rooted for her home teams the SF 49ers and the SF Giants, win or lose. She also enjoyed the pony races at the Alameda County Fair and playing bingo and was able to "bingo" many times.

Evelyn always made friends and never an enemy. She always

had the company of a pet by her side. She especially adored her beloved Boston Terrier, Jigs. Evelyn lived life to the fullest. She still had her long red hair until she passed.

Vigil is scheduled for Sun., Jan. 4 from 4 to 9 p.m. with rosary at 7 p.m. at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore. Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Mon., Jan. 5 at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. A reception will follow (location to be announced).

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in Evelyn's name be made to either the ValleyCare Health System or the Bankhead Theater.

Mary J. Stuard

Mary J. Stuard, long time resident of Castro Valley and Pleasanton, died at home from natural causes on Sunday, December 14, 2008. She was born February 26, 1928.

Mary is survived by her daughter, Nancy Wentz, stepsons Paul R. Mielke, Jr., Malcom Stuard, Douglas Stuard, and Alan Stuard, and sisters Margaret Berre of Seattle and Estelle Brown of Florida.

Bay Area residents will remember Mary from over 30 years of teaching in the Castro Valley Unified School District and from her extensive charity work with Eden Youth Center, Emergency Shelter Program, and the Bay Area United Way. She most recently served as the Director of the North American Indian Department for the International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons, organizing numerous scholarships for needy youth.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will take place at 2 pm, January 17, at Faith Lutheran Church, 20080 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley, CA 94546 In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to the Alameda County Community Food Bank, ATTN: Development Department, P O Box 2599, Oakland, CA 94614

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Mary Norwood Eickmeyer

Mary Norwood Eickmeyer passed away at her home in Livermore on December 13, 2008 at the age of 69.

Mary was born in England, Arkansas in August 1939 to James and Martha Norwood. Mary later moved to Livermore in 1953 with her family at the age of 14. Mary graduated from Livermore High School and then went on to complete the Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN) program at the Fairmont Hospital in Alameda County.

Mary loved to travel, going to Maui annually for the last 30 years, with a group of friends.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband Earl Eickmeyer in 1994, and brothers Jeffery L. Norwood in 2005 and David R. Norwood in 1991.

Mary is survived by brothers James R. Norwood of Cameron Park, Gary W. (Rose) Norwood of Tracy, Jimmy R. (Anna) Norwood of Shingle Springs and Roger D. (Suzanne) Norwood of Arkansas, stepsons Mike and Tom Eickmeyer of Arizona and by many nieces and nephews, all of whom were very dear to her.

A memorial service for family and friends was held December 22, at Trinity Baptist Church in Livermore.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Michael Frederick Read

Livermore resident Michael Frederick Read passed away on December 13, 2008 at the age of 49. Michael was a beloved Father, who loved scuba diving and traveling. He was born March 1959.

Michael is survived by his wife Mary Kulla, M.D, sons Ben and Adam, his father Robert (Rita) Read of WA, mother Myra Read of WA, brother David (Cathi) Read of WA, sister Fay (Bruce) Kagan of Los Angeles, nephews Ezra and Jonah Kagan, aunt Sallie Kate Read of San Francisco and uncle Frank Read of New York

Funeral services were held Dec. 22 in Livermore. Burial was at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Livermore

In lieu of flowers the family respectfully requests memorials in Michael's name may be made to Valley Montessori School -

Classical Clocks & Antiques

Signature of Registrant:

pires November 20, 2013.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 418602

the following owner (s):

94566

by:an Individual

names listed.

Signature of Registrant:

/s/:Marcy Schmidt

December 5, 2013.

RONALD ANTHONY

RAVETTO

Case No. VP08421203

To all heirs, beneficiaries,

creditors, contingent credi

tors, and persons who may

otherwise be interested in the

of:RONALD ANTHONY

A PETITION FOR PROBATE

has been filed by:LIGIA

RAVETTO in the Superior

Court of California, County of

THE PETITION for Probate re-

quests that LIGIA RAVETTO be

appointed as personal repre-

sentative to administer the es-

THE PETITION requests au-

thority to administer the estate

under the independent Ad-

ministration of Estates Act.

tate of the decedent.

will or estate, or

RAVETTO

AI AMEDA.

Service · Sales · Repairs

Come see our large collection of

new & used Grandfather clocks!

Largest selection of antique clocks in

the Tri-Valles:

1086 East Stanley Blvd., Livermore

(925) 449-2127

Tues. - Sat. 10 am - 6 pm

Scholarship Fund, 1273 N Livermore Ave., Livermore, CA 94551.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

John Arthur Skeets

Pleasanton resident John Skeets passed away peacefully on December 19, 2008 with his family by his side. He was born January 2, 1938.

He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Gaelyn Skeets, his son Dean Skeets, step-children Jason, Angelina and Eric Stewart, and siblings Dorothy Vermillion (George Vermillion), Karen McCarter (Bob McCarter), Gerry Ronk, and James Skeets.

He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy for 4 years and was an avid supporter of various charities including The Yosemite Fund, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and ASPCA. He was easily inspired by nature and often spoke of his 54 year streak of visiting Yosemite. He was best known for his charisma, gregariousness, compassionate generosity, and for "going all out" at Christmas. He was a talented poker player and a natural skier.

As store manager of a Lucky grocery store, John made and maintained many life-long friendships that truly enriched his life. He passionately stood for what he believed in, and his optimistic idealism could expose the underlying goodness of even the most difficult situations. He leaves those close to him a genuine appreciation of his life.

Friends and family are invited to attend John's service on Friday, December 26, 1 p.m. at Graham-Hitch, 4167 First St. Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes that memorial contributions be made to the following organizations: Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Suite 100, Dublin, CA, 94568 or The Yosemite Fund at www.yosemitefund.org.

Amador Marches Home with Awards

The Amador Marching Band and Colorguard won 6th place in the Western Band Association (WBA) 5A Championships and 6th Place in the WBA Grand Championships, Combined Classes (4A and 5A). These competitions took place Saturday and Sunday, November 22 and 23, at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, California.

The Marching Dons received the highest score of their 2008 season, a 90.3, in the Grand Championship Competition. Twenty-nine marching bands from all of California participated in Preliminary Championship events on November 22, where the Class 4A and Class 5A champions were named and awards were presented to all participating bands. The top fifteen of those 29 bands, in order of composite score, advanced to the Grand Championship on Sunday.

Senior band and colorguard members are especially recognized during the championship events. Parents presented their student with a yellow rose, worn on their uniform, a special dinner is prepared and served to the senior, and the band director, Mr. Jonathan Grantham, acknowledges the contributions of each senior with a personal tribute.

The 2008 Amador field show is entitled "Heroes, Gods and Mythical Creatures" inspired by three stories of Greek mythology: Medusa; Poseidon and the Sirens; and Prometheus. These tales are interpreted in the original music, drill and choreography.

The music is an original composition of John Meehan. The percussion is arranged by Casey Brohard and Nate Bourg. Drill design is by Jay Murphy, and the Colorguard is choreographed by Jason Davis.

The Director of the Amador Valley Marching Band and Colorguard is Jonathan Grantham. The Drum Majors are Allison Gehl (senior), Ben Donlon (junior) and Kathy Yuh (sophomore); the Guard Captains are Rachel Silva (senior), Vivienne Chen (junior) and Caitlin Stueve (junior).

The AVHS Marching Band and Colorguard appeared in the Pleasanton Holiday Parade on December 4th, and then on January 1, 2009 goes to London in march the 2009 London New Year's Day Parade.

Calendar Highlights Beauty of Sycamore Grove Park

In 2009, you won't actually have to be in Sycamore Grove Park to catch a glimpse of its beauty. Something new about the park can be seen each month of the year without ever having to visit the park.

The LARPD Park Ranger staff has produced a glossy printed 12month calendar for 2009 featuring both the wildlife and the natural scenic beauty of Livermore's open space park, Sycamore Grove.

This is the first year ever that LARPD Rangers have put together a calendar for the public. Photographs in the calendar were taken by park rangers and visitors. The calendar also highlights select LARPD events throughout the year.

Proceeds from calendar sales will help fund interpretive signs for the park's new native plant gardens. Calendars are on sale now for \$8, or for \$6 when purchased with a Sycamore Grove parking pass. They can be purchased by phone at 925-373-5700 or by mail and in person at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. Order forms and a preview of the calendar are available online at www.larpd.dst.ca.us.



EGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS Dr., Livermore Ca

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION PLACING LEGAL NOTICES CONTACT BARBARA @ 925 243-8000

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 417628

The following person (s) doing business as:NewBranch Services 1725 Shattuck Ave #302. Berkelev Ca 94709 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Mark Giorgi, 1725 Shattuck Ave #302, Berkeley Ca 94709 This business is conducted by:an Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on November 3, 2008. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Mark Giorgi This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 5, 2008. Expires November 5, 2013, The Independent Legal No. 2412. Publish , December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 417768

The following person (s) do ing business as:PYT Construction, 7357 Joshua Circle, Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Peter Theodorou, 7357 Joshua Circle, Pleasanton Ca 94588 This business is conducted by:a Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed Signature of Registrant: /s/:Peter Theodorou This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 10, 2008. Expires November 10, 2013. The Independent Legal No.2414 . Publish December 4. 11. 18. 25. 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 417674

The following person (s) doing business as:ihype.com 4420 Rosewood Dr. #2550, Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): ihype.com, 4420 Rosewood #2550, Pleasanton Ca 94588 This business is conducted by:a Corporation Registrant has not vet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Behnam Behrouzi This statement was filed with

ne County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2008. Expires November 6, 2013. The Independent Legal No.2415 . Publish December 4, 11, 18, 25. 2008.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 417679 The following person (s) do ing business as:Dotnext Inc. 4420 Rosewood Dr. #2550 Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Dotnext Inc., 4420 Rosewood Dr. #2550, Pleasanton Ca 94588 This business is conducted by:a Corporation Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name o names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Behnam Behrouzi This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2008. Expires November 6, 2013.

The Independent Legal No.2416 . Publish December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2008. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 417677 The following person (s) do ing business as:Leapfish Inc. 4420 Rosewood Dr. #2550 Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Leapfish Inc., 4420 Rosewood Dr. #2550, Pleasanton Ca 94588 This business is conducted by:a Corporation The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed

above on August 1, 2008. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Behnam Behrouzi This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2008. Expires November 6, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2417. Publish December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2008. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 417678

The following person (s) do

ing business as:Brahus Real Estate, 4420 Rosewood Dr #2550. Pleasanton Ca 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Dotnext Inc., 4420 Rosewood Dr. #2550, Pleasanton Ca 94588 This business is conducted by:a Corporation The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed

above on September 1. 2008 Signature of Registrant: /s/:Behnam Behrouzi This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 6, 2008. Expires November 6, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2418. Publish December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2008. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418065 The following person (s) doing business as:Talk The 'TIC Publishers, 1811 Paseo Laguna Seco, Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Erik James Van Slooten, 1811 Paseo Laguna Seco, Livermore Ca 94551 This business is conducted by:an Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Erik J. Van Slooten This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 19, 2008. Expires November 19, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2421. Publish December 11, 18, 25, 2008, January 1,

2009. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418296

The following person (s) doing business as: OBSYS Group, 2302 Meadowlark Dr., Pleas anton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jeffery J. Gurule, 2302 Meadowlark Dr., Pleasanton Ca 94566 This business is conducted by:an Individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Jeff Gurule This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 25, 2008. Ex pires November 25, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2422. Publish December 11,

> 25, 2008, January 1, 2009 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418556-418558 The following person (s) do

ing business as:1)Lucky Buck Casino, 2)Lucky Buck Card Club, 3)Lucky Buck Card Room, 1620 Railroad Ave.. Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Dale Chesley Common, 969

18,

94551 This business is conducted by:a Individual The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name (s) listed above on October 1, 1997. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Dale C. Common This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

on December 4, 2008. Expires December 4, 2013. The Independent Legal No 2423. Publish December 11 18, 25, 2008, January 1, 2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 418092 The following person (s) doing business as:Delightful Whimsy, 3955 Vineyard Ave #41. Pleasanton Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Teresa Maria Cruz Carns 3955 Vineyard Ave #41, Pleasanton CA 94577 This business is conducted by:an Individual Registrant has not vet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Teresa Maria Cruz Carns This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 20. 2008. Expires November 20, 2013. The Independent Legal No. 2424, Publish December 25 25, 2008, January 1, 8, 2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418265

The following person (s) doing business as:Eagle Tinting, 1414 Portola Ave., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Luz Estella Neira Doran, 1075 D Street, Havward CA 94541 This business is conducted by:an Individual Registrant has not vet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed.. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Luz Estella Neira Doran This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on November 25, 2008. Expires November 25, 2013. The Independent Legal No 2425. Publish December 11, 18, 25, 2008, January 1, 2009.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 418077 The following person (s) do-

ing business as:Back in the Dav Mx. 1728 Knoll Ct., Livermore Ca 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner

Stephanie A. Mendenhall 1728 Knoll Ct., Livermore Ca 94551

cause why the court should not grant the authority. by:an Individual The registrant began to trans-A HEARING on the petition will act business under the fictitious business name (s) listed be held in this court as folabove on October 10, 2008. lows

JANUARY 5, 2009 at 1:30PM in Dept. 707 at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, /s/:Stephanie A. Mendenhall This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda COUNTY OF ALAMEDA, 5672 STONERIDGE DRIVE. on November 20, 2008. Ex-PLEASANTON CA 94588 The Independent Legal No IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-2426 Publish December 25 ing of the petition, you should 25, 2008, January 1, 8, 2009 appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in per-The following person (s) doson or by your attorney. IFYOU ARE A CREDITOR or a ing business as:The Fine Wood Box, 3575 Bernal Avcontingent creditor of the enue Apt. D. Pleasanton Ca decendent, you must file your 94566 is hereby registered by claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal repre-Marcy Schmidt, 3575 Bernal sentative appointed by the Avenue Apt. D, Pleasanton Ca court within four months from the date of first issuance of let-This business is conducted ters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time Registrant has not yet begun for filing claims will not expire to transact business under the before four months from the fictitious business name or hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the es-This statement was filed with tate, you may file with the court the County Clerk of Alameda a Request for Special Notice on December 5, 2008. Expires (form DE-154) of the filing of an Inventory and appraisal of The Independent Legal No. estate assets or of any peti-2427. Publish December 25, tion or account as provided 25, 2008, January 1, 8, 2009 in Probate Code section 1250. NOTICE OF PETITION TO A Request for Special No-ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: tice form is available from the court clerk

Ronald W. Marblestone, Esg Branson, Brinkop, Griffith & Strong 643 Bair Island Rd. Ste 400 Redwood City, Ca 94063 650 365-7710 The Independent #2419 Publish December 11, 18, 25,

2008, January 1, 2009 NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES Date of Filing Application: November 18. 2008 To Whom It May Concern: The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are:

NIKKIDEMA LLC The Applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic bev-

erages at (This authority will allow the 2235 1st Street personal representative to Livermore, CA 94550-4545 take many actions without ob-For the following type of license(s):47 - ON SALE GENtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important ERAL EATING PLACE actions, however, the per-Department of Alcoholic sonal representative will be Beverage Control required to give notice to in-1515 Clay St. Ste. 2208 terested persons unless they Oakland, CA 94612 have waived notice or con-(510) 622-4970 sented to the proposed ac-The Independent Legal No. tion.) The independent ad-2420 ministration authority will be Publish December 11, 18, 25, granted unless an interested 2008. person files an objection to the

www.independentnews.com ANIMALS 1) CATS/DOGS ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Vallev Humane Society at 925 426-8656 Adopt a new best friend: TVAR. the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue offers animals for adoption everv Saturdav and Sundav. excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, both dogs and cats are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only Petsmart in Dublin from noon to 4 and the Pet Food Express in Livermore from 1 to 4. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and PetCo in San Ramon from 11:00 to 3:00. For more information, call TVAR at (925) 803-7043 or visit our website at www.tvar.org. LOST OR FOUND AN ANI-MAL? Free Section. Call Barbara 243-8000 to place an ad AUTOS/BOATS/RV/S/TRUCKS 9) AUTOS WANTED DONATE VEHICLE: RECEIVE \$1000 Grocery Coupon. Your Choice. Noahs Arc - Support No Kill Shelters, Advance Veterinary Treatments. Free Towing, IRS Tax Deductible, Non-Runners. 1-866-912-GIVE. (CAL*SCAN) DONATE YOUR CAR: Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research & Support! Free Vacation Package. Fast, Easy & Tax Deductible. Call 1-800-252-0615. (CAL*SCAN) SELLYOUR USED CAR HERE. Call Barbara at 925-243-8000 0R www.independentnews.com Pay by Credit Card for any Classified or Display ads **EMPLOYMENT**

56) ADULT CARE CAREGIVERS NEEDED for elder care. Light housekeeping errands transportation meal prep personal care Please fax resume 925 371-8118 60) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY 100% RECESSION PROOF! Do You Earn \$800 in a Day? Your Own Local Vending Route Includes 25 Machines and Candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC 1-888-625-2405

(CAL*SCAN)

BEWARY of out of area com **CLASSIFIEDS** panies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before ********* you send any money or fees Reaches over Read and understand anv contracts before you sign 45.893 Homes Shop around for rates. and over 3,225 68)HEALTHCARE Local Businesses CAREGIVER mailed 1-on-1 home care for elderly. CNA or Home Delivery in experienced l ivermore Must Drive. Good Pay. CALL 935-9506 Pleasanton & Sunol Call Barbara 71) HELP WANTED 925 243-8000 INTERNET SALES 90)SERVICES MANAGERS Experience preferred Need Extra Cash ? but will train the Start part-time with Primerica right person High-income potential on a Plenty of leads part-time basis. Call and ask for Michael Magnan at: and great hours FOF 209-969-4042 or Call 925 456 1239 866-202-5829 TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED MERCHANDISE AD 118) FREE/GIVEAWAY call Barbara 925 243-8000 or go on-line at GOT OLD JUNK www.independentnews.com FREE/GIVEAWAY SECTION Also available pay by Credit Call 925 243-8000 Barbara Card for Classified and Dis-GIVEAWAY play Ads. **FUTON BED** 72) HELP WANTED/DRIVERS Wooden Arms. Lift up Coffee Table DRIVER - CDL Training \$0 Call 925 454-0311 down, financing by Central Refrigerated. Drive for Central 121)GARAGE/FLEA MARearn up to \$40K/year. Owner KET/YARD SALES Operators average \$60k/Year Rain or Shine! Call Barbara 1-800-587-0029 x4779 925-243-8000 or go to www.CentralDrivingJobs.net (CAL*SCAN) www.independentnews.com before 8am Tuesdays DRIVERS-ASAP! Sign-On Boto get your ad in for the nus. 35-41 cpm. Earn over next edition. \$1000 weekly, Excellent Ben-125)HOUSEHOLD GOODS efits. Need CDL-A & 3 months recent OTR. 1-877-258-8782. QUEEN SIZED www.MeltonTruck.com 3 - N- 1 BEDROOM SET (CAL*SCAN) 3 Sided Mirror / Lighting / 10 Drawers Built-in DRIVER - WEST COAST RE-GIONAL NEW HIRING AREA Bottom & Top Cabinet Space. Very Nice, New \$700 Newest equipment on the OBO Gone By Jan 5, road. Competitive Pay. Run the 925 339-2244 Western 11 States On Site - Full Service maintenance Shop. Place your household items Reasonable Home Time here for sale. Call Western Express - 22 yrs old 925 243-8000 or go on-line Good MVR, EOE, CDL-A, 1yr OTR. Call Edna Todav! 1-866www.independentnews.com 863-4112. (CAL*SCÁN) 127) LOST/FOUND 85)HELPWANTED SALES LOST or FOUND AN ITEM TRAVEL-WORK-PARTY-FREE SECTION PLAY. 50 States. National com-Call Barbara 925 243-8000 pany now hiring 18+ sharp NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS guys & gals to work & travel entire USA. 2wks paid training, 151)ANNOUNCEMENTS transportation & lodging fur nished. Paid daily. Returns guaranteed. Call Today Start **Axis Health Center**

VISA

Today. 1-8 (CAL*SCAN) 1-888-741-2190. TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD call Barbara 925 243-8000 or go on-line at www.independentnews.com

4361 Railroad Ave., Pleasan ton. Serves Valley residents with emphasis on those with low income. The center has general medical services, family planning, well baby, prenatal and maternity programs, social services, blood pressure checks, WIC food supplement programs, premarital

NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS GA www.independentnews.com

blood test, sports/camp physi-ADVERTISE EFFECTIVELY! cals, TB screening, free trans-Reach over 3 million Califor Professionals Choice portation available. 925 462nians in 140 community news-1755 papers. Cost \$1,550 for a 3.75"x2" display ad Super 155) NOTICES **Real Estate Directory** value! Call (916) 288-6010; "NOTICETO READERS: Cali-(916) 288-6019, www.Cal-SCAN.com fornia law requires that con-Local guide to the Valley's Leading tractors taking jobs that total (CAL*SCAN) \$500 or more (labor and/or Real Estate Professionals & Services Looking for a cost efficient materials) be licensed by the way to get out a NEWS RELEASE? The California Contractors State License Board. State law also requires Press Release Service is the that contractors include their Fracisco Realty only service with 500 current license numbers on all adver-UU Real Estate Specialist daily, weekly and college & Investments tising. Check your contractor's newspaper contacts in LoGerfo status at www.cslb.ca.gov or Residential + Commercial + Property Mgmt California. Questions call (916) 288-6010. 925-998-5312 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unli-(925) 998-8131 censed persons taking jobs www.lvyLoGerfo.com www.CaliforniaPressRelease Mike Fracisco less than \$500 must state in B www.FraciscoRealty.com Service.com (CAL*SCAN) their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Con-180)CLEANING SERVICES GENE WILLIAMS Sandee Utterback tractors State License Board." gage Consultant, REALTOR BEAUTY CLEAN SERVICES (510) 390-0325 **REAL ESTATE** (888) 823-8315 Available Holiday Bikini CINDY WILLIAMS The Federal Fair Housing Act, Rates WWW.SANDEEU.COM WILLIAMS CRE. GRI - REALTON Give With A Cheerful Heart Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of Prodential (825) 243-0900 1964, and state law prohibit Excellent References www.williamsteam.net advertisements for housing 925 606-1273 spechalloing in Livermone's Finest Hon Over Three Decembra of Experi and employment that contain 183)HOME SERVICES any preference, limitation or SUE GRIFFIN, Renitor LENA PAIVA discrimination based on pro Groom Affordable tected classes, including race, Hard Working & Always Full Service Masonry, Reliable,NoJobtooSmall, GRI, REALTOR , NOTARY color, religion, sex, handicap, Prodectial (925) 443-3282 Wirkman familial status or national ori-Specializing in Fireplace gin. IVPC does not knowingly (925) 980-4489 Repair, Custom Brick Sue.Griffinia comcast.net accept any advertisements that are in violation of the law Work & Repair. www.SueGriffin/itmywindermere.com WWW.LENAPAIVA.COM Masonry Design, 157)APT/CONDOS/HOUSE/ Free Estimates.Serving Gail Henderson BOBBIE GREGORY TOWNHOUSE/RENTAL the entire Bay Area GRI, SRES GOT A HOUSE FOR RENT? Let since 1990. (925) 980-5648 the 49,119+ households that 925.249.6832 (Protected Call: (650) 492-0749 read the Independent find out or (209) 533-2274, www.gailhenderson.com about it. . To place an ad go to bobbie.gregory@prurealty.com Mention this ad & get J. Wenterly www.independentnews.com 20% off.LIC # 900043 4 Setting the Golden Rule of Service Excellence! or call Barbara at 925 243-8000 SHERRY FAUX GRUSHES BILL GROTH www.GrothMortgage.com (925) 980-3938 Vintage ROOFING Stunday Whend (925) 989-2227 RPM HOMETOWN GMAC Community Presence, Reputation, Experience WWW.SHERRYFAUX.COM **Residential - Commercial - Industrial** All Types of Roofing LIST AND SELL RAY GILMORE Serving the Tri-Valley Since 1980 FOR 3.9%! (925) 447-2207 CAN 411817 (925) 373-0489 MEREDITH Ray@ RayGilmore.com Automotive Sales 925-447-4200 www.RayGilmore.com WWW.LISTINGMYHOME.COM **People Wanted** Marina Guevorkian Tanya M. Bostic We need 10 people who want to make **RE/MAX** Accord **REALTOR**^{*}/Notary Public 100K in the next 12 months. (925) 640-8824 Experienced preferred but will train mguevorkian@yahoo.com (408) 966-3190www.SellingLivermore.com the right people. \$6,000 guarantee Perfect partnership for every ne tanya.bostic@brabusrealestate.com for the 1st 90 days for training. To Place Your Ad, Call Your Call or apply online. 925-294-7700. www.livermorea 160)BOAT/RV and RETAIL BUSINESS DIRECTORY LOOKING FOR RETAIL OR STORAGE SPACE? Great Location Off Hwy 580 AUTOMOTIVE ROOFING HEALTH On Kitty Hawk Road For Details Email: Pmatharu@lagmail.net RYAN'S AUTOMOTIVE 163) HOMES/TOWNHOUSE **ROOFING** SERVICE" FOR SALE Repair . Service . Tires . Trucks / Autos **VALLEVCARE** Call Barbara 925 243-8000 to All Makes & Models HEALTH place your ad SVSTEM. 22 NEW LOCATION! 165) HOUSE/ROOMS/RENT-Visit Us At ALSTO SHARE **1931 First Street, Livermore** LICENSED & BONDED RENTYOUR EMPTY LIVING



SHORT NOTES

Del Arroyo 4-H

On December 13, the Del Arroyo 4-H Club, along with all other Alameda County 4-H clubs, Dublin High School Leadership Club, Livermore High School FFA, and Interact and Leadership clubs helped spread some holiday cheer by volunteering and donating at the Children to Children Christmas party in Livermore.

The Christmas party catered to over 900 children who are underprivileged.

The Christmas party is only one of many volunteer projects that Del Ar-royo 4-H undertakes during the holiday season. The 4-Hers also go caroling at the Veterans Hospital and the Hacienda Convalescent Home, to spread some Christmas cheer

Winter Hill Hike

There will be a Winter Hill Hike on Sat., Dec. 27, hosted by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff

Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 10 a.m. at the Wetmore Road entrance to Sy-camore Grove Park. The hike will be through the back of Sycamore Grove Park. This hike goes rain or shine. Please wear comfortable hiking shoes and be prepared for mud if it has rained

during the days prior to the hike. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more informa-

APS Fellows

Two Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) researchers - Andrew MacKinnon and Per Söderlind -have been named 2008 Fellows of the American Physical Society (APS).

MacKinnon was honored for "pio-neering experimental studies of interactions of intense laser pulses with matter and in particular, the physics and applications of short pulse laser driven proton beams." He has been at the Lab since 1999. MacKinnon's research involved de-

veloping diagnostics of the interaction of intense short pulse lasers with matter and the production of mega-electron volt proton beams using ultra-intense laser pulses. MacKinnon said these proton beams are particularly interest-ing because they can be used to probe plasmas or create extreme states of matter. Applications of these proton beams are being actively pursued by

research groups around the world. Söderlind was honored for "important contributions in electronic-structure theory for transition and actinide metals, particularly plutonium." He has been at the Lab since 1994.

His first scientific publication, on plutonium and the light actinides, appeared in the APS journal, Physical Review B in 1990. Earlier this year, Söderlind received an LLNL award for his classified work on plutonium.

This year, 225 new fellows were elected to the APS. Less than half of a percent of the APS members are fellows. It is a distinct honor because the evaluation process, conducted by the fellowship committees of individual divisions, topical groups and forums, relies on nomination and recommendation by one's professional peers.

Forest Home Volunteers

Forest Home Farms will have a docent training session for new volunteers on Thursday, January 15, 2009 from 9am-12pm. The meeting will be held in the Boone House Apt. B at Forest Home Farms. The address is 19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583. This training is open to the public and is for anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer at the farm. Those who attend are not required to volunteer.

There are four different areas for

"generous support and commitment to our school community through your efforts in coordinating the 'Shopping Spree' event for Frederiksen Elemen-

tary School students." "Once again, your support provides a tremendous example of how a community group can assist with the many need of our children to make a difference in their lives" praises Dublin School Superintendent Stephen Hanke.

The Dublin shopping event followed the September/October Livermore program which served over 550 in-need children.

Assistance League of Amador Valley has over 80 members who volunteer over 9,000 hours yearly in the Tri-Valley area. For more information go the website, to www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org or call 925-461-6401.

Writing Workshop

A Writing Workshop will be held Sat., Jan. 10 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Dublin Library.

The free writing workshop will feature Bay Area writer, Teresa Burns Gunther of Lakeshore Writers. Burns Gunther holds an MFA in creative writing from Saint Mary's College of California. Her fiction and nonfiction have appeared in numerous literary journals. Her workshops are designed to motivate, inspire and support all writers.

Her workshop is an introduction to the Amherst Artists and Writers method employed by Lakeshore Writers, an AWA affiliate. The afternoon includes a timed writing exercise. Writers will have the opportunity to share their work aloud and receive precise, positive feedback. For more information about Teresa and Lakeshore Writers, go to www.lakeshorewriters.net.

This program is funded by the Dublin Friends of the Library. The Dublin Library is wheelchair accessible and an ASL interpreter will be made available with seven days notice. This program suitable for all ages. For further information, check the library's website at www.aclibrary.org or con-tact the library at (925) 803-7275. Dublin Library is a branch of the Alameda County Library and is located at 200 Civic Plaza in Dublin.

Birthright Honored

On Friday, September 19, 2008, USA Birthright was presented the *President's Volunteer Service Award* in Washington, DC. This award was pre-sented by the *President's Council on Civic Participation* to honor all Birthright Volunteers across the United States. Birthright, an emergency preg-nancy service, assists women facing an unplanned pregnancy. The group's motto states, "It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth, and the right of every child to be born."

The accompanying letter signed by President Bush states (in part): "Congratulations on receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. Through service to others, you demonstrate the out-standing character of America and help strengthen our Country. I congratulate you and all Americans who have answered this call and have earned a Gold Award from the President's Council." Birthright of Atlanta was the first

center opened in the USA in 1969 and continues to flourish. The USA National Office is based in Atlanta, along with the 24/7 crisis line (1-800-550-4900). Birthright International in Toronto, Ontario celebrates its 40th anniversary in October of this year. The USA Office and Atlanta Office will hold a banquet in April of 2009 to launch their 40th year.

Court Volunteers

Adults volunteers needed from Tri



SPACE By Advertising with The

Independent reaching over

168)LAND FOR SALE/OUT OF STATE

COLORADO FORECLOSURE 40 ACRES \$29,900. Outstanding Views. Access to BLM Canyon Rec Land. Financing. Call 1-866-696-5263x4843. (CAL*SCAN)

MONTANA LAND New Acreage Available - 20 Acres near Round Up 2/ Road & Utilities - \$69,900. -40 Acres w/ New Cabin near Winnett \$89,900, Approved by TV hunter Celebrity TRED BARTA! Excellent area for horses, hunting and ranching. Financing available. Western Skies Land Co. 877-229-7840 www.WesternSkiesLand.com (CAL*SCAN)

20 ACRE RANCHES, Near Booming El Paso, Texas. (#1 Growth State!) \$15,900. \$200/ down, \$159/month. Roads Views. Owner Financing. Free Maps/Pictures. No Credit Checks, 1-800-343-9444, (10%/209 mths) (CAL*SCAN)

SERVICES

176) BUSINESS SERVICES

A BEST-KEPT CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING SECRET! A 25word classified ad costs \$550 is placed in 240 community newspapers and reaches 6 million Californians! Call for more information (916) 288-6010; (916) 288-6019 www.Cal-SCAN.com (CAL*SCAN)

NEED TO SELL YOUR CAR, HOUSEHOLD & MISC. ITEMS

Reach over 49,118 homes & businesses with The Independent newspaper plus many more online.

The Independent mails your classified ads into homes & businesses,

Submit your ad at ndependentnews.com or call Barbara at (925) 243-8000.

volunteers to choose from: Grandpa leads tours and activities, Grandmaleads tours and activities. Garden- explains concepts of organic gardening and aids children in gardening chores, and Canning- presents a canning demonstration and leads activities.

Volunteer Description: Docents lead hands-on activities that teach the agricultural history of the San Ramon Valley and Forest Home Farms. It is a very rewarding experience to see how much the children enjoy learning and to be able to answer their questions. Education docents need to attend a two-hour training session twice per year. Volunteer commitment is 2 times per month minimum, and each tour lasts 3 hours. Volunteers must be available on

weekday mornings and be fingerprinted through the San Ramon Police Dept. Fieldtrips run Monday thru Friday, 9am-12pm during the school year with a short break in winter. Spring fieldtrips for 2009 begin February 3. For more information contact Stephanie Herscu at (925) 973-3282 or sherscu@sanramon.ca.gov.

Rummage Sale Spaces

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is planning for its annual rummage sale. For \$35, sellers can rent a 10-foot-

by-10-foot space with an 8-foot table to showcase unwanted treasures. Items brought to the Rummage Sale must be of garage sale variety and in working condition (no food, vehicles, vehicle parts, large furniture or new commercial items). Space for sellers is limited, and tables sell out quickly each year so early registration is encouraged.

The LARPD Rummage Sale will be held from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Jan. 31, at the Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Interested sellers can find the registration form online at www.larpd.dst.ca.us or in person at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. The registration deadline is Monday, Jan. 26, for any spaces still available. For more information, call 925-373-5700.

Assistance League

The Dublin Unified School District honored Assistance League of Amador Valley members Carol Sum, Donna Westphalen and Judy Vollgraf on Tuesday, December 9. They were honored for their work in providing school clothes for under-served children in Dublin.

Operation School Bell, a national program, provided school clothing to 40 children in the Dublin School District. Sum, Westphalen and Vollgraf worked in conjunction with the Dublin Mervyn's, inviting each child to come to the store to pick out \$75 worth of school clothes. Each child was also given a \$25 shoe voucher to be used at Payless Shoe Source.

Ms. Holly Scroggins, Frederiksen Elementary School Principal, saw first-hand the results of the children coming to school with their new outfits. The Certificate of Appreciation highlights Assistance League of Amador Valley's

Vallev Youth Court. TVYC is a vouth driven justice program for first time offenders. The court meets the first Tuesday evening of each month at the Gale/Schenone courthouse in Pleasanton from 5:30 - 7:45 pm. For more information, visit our website at ww.trivalleyyouthcourt.com or call Tonya at (925) 337-7175.

Teen Volunteers Needed for new Tri Valley Youth Court (TVYC) to serve as Advocates (youth attorneys) and jurors. Advocates prepare and present the case for the Defendant. Jurors are needed one evening per month - the first Tuesday from 5:30 pm 8:00 pm at the Gale/Schenone courthouse in Pleasanton. TVYC is a vouth driven adjunct to the traditional juvenile justice system for first time teen offenders. For more information, visit website our www.trivalleyyouthcourt.com or call Tonya at (925) 337-7175

Shot Clinic

Axis Community Health has scheduled free immunization clinics for children on January 10, February 7, and March 7, 2009 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. The clinics will take place at Axis' Pleasanton Clinic only, 4361 Railroad Avenue, between Main and First Streets in downtown Pleasanton.

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

Immunizations by appointment are also available at (925) 462-1755.

Child Care Programs

Child Care Links provides free workshops to employers in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

Workshop facilitators will provide valuable information on important issues to parents at their work site. Workshops are available on a variety of topics and can be tailored to the needs of employees. The length of each workshop can range from 45 minutes to 2 hours. Workshops can be during the lunch hour, or at another time arranged by the employer. Child Care Links can also provide a series of workshops.

Training Topics include: Choosing Child Care, Parenting Skills, Child De-velopment, and Work/Family Balance.

A Child Care Links facilitator will present the curriculum, related handouts, resource materials and answer questions. Child Care Links' staff is available during business hours to answer further questions, provide free child care referrals and community resources.

Employers or employees are encouraged to call for further information on this free service. For more information contact Shauna Brown at (925) 249-3925. There is no charge for this service.



Sights of the Season

Photos - Doug Jorgensen Many houses are all decked out with sights and sounds of the season. The top photo was taken of a home on College Avenue in Livermore. In the lower photo, a group of musicians gathered in downtown Livermore to entertain shoppers. This is the second year they have gotten together. They accept donations for the Alameda County Food Bank. Last year, they collected over \$300.





Photo - Doug Jorgensen In the photo at right, the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District offers an annual program of "Santa Visits" to Livermore residents. For many families, this has become a special holiday tradition. The Amaral family of Livermore has been participating in LARPD's "Santa Visits" for nearly 15 years. Cheryl Amaral and her husband, Scott, started signing up for Santa Visits when their son, Lydell, was just a toddler. Although their son is now 15, the Amarals' daughter, Avalon, is 9 years old and still experiences the magic of Santa Visits.

PPIE Student Grants Awarded

Pleasanton Partnerships in Education (PPIE) Foundation announced the latest round of PPIE Student Grants. Twenty one Pleasanton Unified School District students have been selected to receive funding for their Student Grant projects.

The PPIE Student Grant program, now in its nineteenth year, promotes positive learning experiences inside and outside the classroom, and supports co-curricular and extra curricular student activities and projects. General guidelines require each application to be student authored, to have a teacher sponsor and the site principal's approval. To better support student interests, two grant cycles are offered, the first in the fall semester and the second in the spring semester.

PPIE Foundation also offers Education Grants for Pleasanton Unified School District employees to fund projects that are student-focused, that promote creativity and innovative thinking, and that offer expanded learning opportunities to students. Applications are available on the PPIE Foundation website, www.ppie.org. Grant requests are accepted in amounts up to \$2500.00.

PPIE Foundation Student Grant Awards:

Multicultural Oil Paintings Art Pro-

New Year's Eve Labyrinth Walk Scheduled

On New Year's Eve, Wednesday, December 31st, First Presbyterian Church of Livermore at 4th and L Streets will be hosting its 4th annual labyrinth walk in the courtyard. The walk will take place between 8 p.m. and midnight.

This walk is open to the public and is an opportunity to say good-bye to the old year and welcome the New Year with peace and intention.

First Presbyterian's courtyard labyrinth is an 11-circuit, Chartres-style labyrinth and measures 42 feet in diameter. On New Year's Eve it will be decorated with luminarias. During the evening, there will be music. Hot cider and coffee will be available. At the same time, the indoor canvas labyrinth will be available in the sanctuary, also with light and music.

There will be a Harmony Walk at 11:45 pm using hand bells on the labyrinth in a way that ushers in the New Year musically and joyfully.

For moreinformation contact Judy Hughes, MFT, labyrinth facilitator, 925-485-2524 or the church office, 925-447-2078.

gram, Remy Allen, Valley View Elementary School, \$225; materials & supplies to support an oil painting art program focusing on the different cultures at school & in the community. Mu Alpha Theta (Math Club), Chris-

tine Chang & Christine Wu, Foothill High School, \$250; materials & books to support effort to better prepare math students for mathematical competitions.

Alzheimer's Awareness Club, Lucy Chen, Foothill High School, \$400; materials to assist in raising awareness of the impact and severity of Alzheimer's Disease.

AVHS Geometry Bee, William Chen, Amador Valley High School, \$250; funding to support Geometry Bee including qualifiers from both our high schools and our 3 middle schools. Cricket Club Equipment, Abhiraj Chowdhury, Foothill High School,

\$200; funding for equipment for newly formed Cricket Club.

Kathleen Education Project, Ken Huang, Foothill High School, \$100; seed money to launch project focused on providing an opportunity for education to women in Uganda. Asset Builders - Pass It On!, Annie

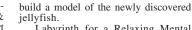
Johnson, Foothill High School, \$250; funding for promotional materials to help promote the 40 Developmental Assets to students, supporting positive decision-making with less chance to get involved in risk behaviors.

Key Club Fall Rally North & District Convention, Sally Kim, Foothill High School, \$250; funding to provide general support for the club, promoting the value of community service. Academy Recognition Project,

Erika Lee, Foothill High School, \$375; funding for pedometers and materials to support health and physical awareness for elementary school students.

Foothill High School Robotics Vex Team, Timothy Lee, Foothill High School, \$500; support for Vex Robotics supplies and competition while pro-moting math and science.

Tiburonia Granrojo Jellyfish Model, Caitlin MacGregor, Harvest Park Middle School, \$80; materials to



Labyrinth for a Relaxing Mental State, Matt Martin, Harvest Park Middle School, \$500; materials to build an octagonal labyrinth (part of the school garden) to serve as a meditation and relaxing area for students / faculty to renew their mental state. Foothill High School Science Olym-

piad Team, Jenny Mei, Foothill High School, \$500; support for reference books, supplies, and registration fees for annual regional science Olympiad

Team competition. Foothill High School Orchestra String Masters Classes, Alison Muller, Foothill High School, \$500; funding to provide classroom visits offering instruction from professional musicians.

Bear Bulletin Camera, Ellen Olson, Alisal Elementary, \$200; funding to provide a camera for pictures for the articles in the school newspaper. Multicultural Dance Costumes,

Celeste Sadler, Valley View Elementary, \$150; funding to provide cos-tumes for multicultural dance at the multicultural fair.

Golden Gate Park- Steinhart Aquarium, Kristina Silva, Horizon High School, \$500; funding to provide for a field trip (transportation and admis-sion fees) for the students and their children.

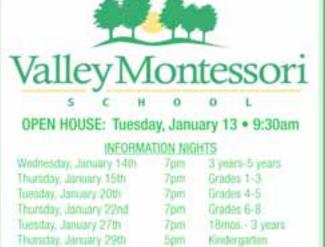
Hart Robotics Team, Kyle Smith, Hart Middle School, \$500; robotics set and equipment and competition registration fees for newly formed club. Hollywood at Hart (H.A.H.), Brian

Soto, Hart Middle School, \$500; funding to provide equipment (movie edi-tor, cameras, lighting equipment) for newly formed movie making club.

The Husky Howler, Kyle Wiest, Hart Middle School, \$300; funding to provide a camera for pictures for the articles in the school newspaper. Ultimate Frisbee Club, Daniel

Zakaria, Foothill High School, \$250; funding to provide equipment for stu-dent based club competing in various scrimmages, tournaments & jambo-





Toddler © Primary © Elementary © Middle School

Serving Tri-Valley families for over 30 years

1273 N. Livermore Avenue, Livermore, CA

BOARD ETIN

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

Ohlone Audubon meets 7:30 pm on Tuesday, January 6 at Eden Church, 21455 Birch St., Hayward. The church is on the orner of Grove Way and Birch. From Mission Blvd. turn right onto Grove Way (approx. 7/10 mile north of "A" St.) Steve Shunk will present a program on Acorn & Nuttalls Woodpeckers: Living together in California's Oak Woodlands. Shunk has just written the Peterson Guide to Wood Wood-peckers of North America. Refreshments. For info call 510-507-3383. Volunteer Drivers needed, The Senior

Volunteer Drivers needed, The Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley is look-ing for Volunteer Drivers to transport seniors to their medical appointments. The Senior Transportation Program supplements exist-ing public and paratransit services by provid-ing rides via volunteer drivers. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license, a registered vehicle and carry personal automobile liabil-ity insurance. Please contact Jennifer Cullen for more information at (925) 931-5387 or email: ja.cullen@yahoo.com Diabetes Self-Management Classes,

free, from the Alameda County Public Health Diabetes Program, 7 week series, 2 hour classes. New classes starting January 2009. Please call 510-383-5185 for more informa-

Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA., general meeting 1:30 p.m. Tues., Jan. 6 at the Dublin Library. Pirate Gift Exchange luncheon in Castro Valley, Jan. 4, 1 p.m., RSVP to Margaret, 510-782-1819 by Dec. 29. Fish fry in Dublin, 5 p.m. Jan. 9, RSVP to Hilda, 398-8808 by Jan. 7.

Tri-Valley Republican Women Fed-erated will begin its 2009 speaker series on Thursday, January 8, with Tom Del Beccaro, one of the most strategic thinkers and charismatic personalities of the California Re-publican Party. Del Beccaro, the state-wide Vice Chairman, is a frequent political com-mentator on TV and radio. He is the author of the book The New Conservative Paradigm and editor of the webzine PoliticalVanguard.com. La Vite Restaurant in Pleasanton, 6:30pm. Reservations re-quired. Call Jan at 925-846-5944 by Sunday, January 4

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Dec. 27, 23 miles Fuddrucker's to Borges Ranch, meet 10 a.m. at Willows Shopping Center in Concord, Mike Smith, 628-4333. Sun., Dec. 28, 20 miles Iron Horse Trail from Dublin to Danville, meet 10 a.m. at Livermore Cyclery in Dublin, Bob Heady, 980-7989. Wed., Dec. 31, 20 miles out to Del Valle Reservoir, meet 10 a.m. at shopping center on Pacific Ave., Livermore Bill Goodwin, 487-0521. Thurs., Jan. 1, 30 miles annual ride to top of Mt. Diablo, meet 9 a.m. at Danville Railroad Museum, Bob

Hislop, 890-6300. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring

Modern Woman Support Group, Call Dr. Gallagher at 925-556-3464 for information about the group and to reserve a spot. Meets 2x a month Saturday mornings. Begins in late January

Tri-Valley YMCA Leadership Acad-emy opening January 5, 2009, located on Hart, Harvest Park and Pleasanton Middle school campuses. Academy activities in-clude: Homework Time, Club Activities, Service Learning Projects, Team Building Games, Leadership Frojects, Tealri Bultung Games, Leadership Training, Public Speak-ing Opportunities, Interpersonal Communi-cation Skills Development. Weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. Fees vary based on attendance plan. Space is limited. For more information or registration, please contact: Kris Farro, Pro-gram Director (925) 475-6110

kfarro@ymcaeastbay.org East Bay Women's Network (EBWN), meets Jan 7th, The Englander Restaurant, 101 Parrott Street, San Leandro,,11:15 am to 1:30 pm Start the new year with another networking event. Meeting cost is \$25 for guests, \$15 for members Membership to join EBWN is \$90 for twelve months For more information contact: Gail Chadbourne Bark Busters Home Dog Training Email: eastbayhills@barkbusters.com Phone: 510 228-8973

Crab Feed, Sat., Jan. 24, 6 p.m. White Crane Winery, Livermore. Benefit for the Kids YMCA Camp Arroyo outdoor school. \$40 per person. Live music and dancing after dinner. For reservations, go to ww.WhiteCraneWinery.com. Livermore Lunch Bunch Toastmas-

ters Open House, Jan. 26, noon to 2 p.m. at the Livermore Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Open to all. Drop in. Information

www.livermoretoastmasters.org. Questions? call Jill 209-914-8449 or Cindy 449-2125.

Recruitment Grant Available, \$500 for woman student pursuing a career in education. Eligibility requirements: gradu-ate of a high school in Livermore, Pleasanton or Dublin, full-time student of upper division or graduate standing as of fall 2009; must have a good GPA. Deadline for applications is March 20, 2009. The grant is awarded by the local chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honor society for women educators. To receive an application form, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Kathy Brooks, 1581 Oslo Ct., Livermore, CA 94550.

Christmas Tree Recycling, Youth groups representing the Livermore Boy Scouts of America Troops #903, # 924, #931and #939 have announced plans for their 33ⁿ Annual Christmas Tree Recycling event, scheduled to take place on Saturday, January 3, 2009. For a small donation (\$5 for green trees or \$10 for flocked/oversized trees), scouts representing these four troops will pickup your tree at the curbside of your home for disposal and recycling. Residents and/or

Janice Pementel "Thanks Dad" Cell (925) 997-1387 Specializing In Dead Stock Removal Large & Small

businesses interested in this program can make a reservation online at www.scoutgreen.org or by calling 925-373-7815. Reservations for pickup must be made on or before December 28, 2008.

RELIGION The Light Shines Through Our Darkness, Eucharistic retreat with Fr. Ed Shea, O.F.M. on Thursday, January 8, 2009 at 7:00-9:00 pm at St. Charles Borromeo Catho-lic Church, 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore. Fr. Ed's evening will be one of looking at what or who is the light in our darkness and how we can open ourselves up to let that light shine in and through us. This will be done though stories, song and celebration of the Eucharist. Following the celebration a time of fellowship will follow. A \$5.00 free will donation is suggested to go towards charity. For more information contact Julie at upcatholic@aol.com or 447-4549 ext 114.

"Science of the Bible," St. Michael's/ St. Charles' Monday Night Bible Study Group a spiritually invigorating and soul lifting session January 5–Feb 23, 2009. This study will consist of viewing several of the National Geographic Channel's videos on such topics as Jesus the Preacher & Jesus the Healer. The evening will be broken down into discussions of what was seen, how that affects us, and what it means to our lives. All are invited to attend evenings from 7:30 - 9:15 pm at St. Charles, in the Pope John XXIII Room, 1315 Lomitas Ave., Livermore. This Bible Study is open to all denominations and people interested in this topic. For more information contact Julie at upcatholic@aol.com or 447-4549 ext 114. **Dealing with loss**, of loved one, ses-

sions second and fourth Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Dates are Jan. 8 and 22, Feb. 12 and 26 and March 12 and 26. Meetings open to all regardless of religious orientation. Call Mary at 846-5377 with questions

Calvary Chapel Livermore, "Unequivocally teaching for today the whole counsel of God's Word" Sunday Services 10:30 am and 6:00 pm 545 N. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - www.calvarylivermore.org

Burning Bowl Service - Releasing the

old, making space for the new. Tuesday, Dec. 30, 7 p.m. at Tri-Valley Church's Gathering , 7567 Amador Valley Blvd., #120, in. (925) 829-2733; Dublin.

www.trivalleyunity.com. **Tri-Valley Unity Church**, "Ringing out the Old, Bringing in the New" is Rev. Steve Maynard's talk that will explore how every completion is a new beginning. Join us Sunday, Dec. 28, at the Radisson, 6680 Regional St., Dublin, at 10 a.m. Ongoing classes and groups as well. All are welcome. (925) 829-2733; www.trivalleyunity.com

(925) 455-8021 www.valleymontessorischool.com Fully Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) & the American Montessori Society (AMS)





Arthur

Leader in Ballroom Dancing

Since 1912

Single & Couples Welcome

Beginning to Advanced

Call for a FREE PRIVATE LESSON

1947 2nd Street, Livermore

(925) 456-5556

www.ArthurMurray.com

www.DanceLivermore.com

Murray

Celebrating literature and the age-old pastime of gathering around food, drink and ideas.

2369 First St, Livermore CA 94550 . (925) 449-FIRE www.bistrobooks.com



JOIN US ON NEW

YEAR'S EVE FOR OUR

WINE WEDNESDAY

\$5 WINE

Selected wines by the glass

\$1 TAPAS

Every Wed. 4pm-Closing

\$8 LUNCH



DID YOU KNOW?

Axis offers the Tri-Valley's only outpatient drug and alcohol recovery program for teens. Our accredited program serves several hundred teens from Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin each year. For more information or to donate to Axis Community Health online, please visit www.axishealth.org.

Axis Community Health ... Here when you need us.

PAGE 10 - The Independent, DECEMBER 25, 2008



Members of the Granada High School junior varsity basketball team are (front, left to right) Kyle Phillips, Rett Cortez, and Ricky Gonzales; (middle) Eddie Horn, Matt Epps, Dom Palino, Jared McCallister and Camryn Harris; (back) Dillon Graber, Matthew Lonsinger, Jonathan Stewart, Leon Harris, Richie McWilliams, and Kyle VanSchaack.

These Boys Play Basketball and Santa

By Patricia Koning

The members of the junior varsity basketball team at Granada High School are playing more than ball this holiday season-they are also playing Santa to a family from Portola Elementary School. This is the second year that the team has adopted a family for the holidays. Last year they provided gifts for a family from Marilyn Avenue Elementary School.

Lynette Lonsinger, a parent of one of the players, started the project last year after hearing about needy families at her church, Our Saviors Lutheran.

"I think it was good for the boys to see how fortunate they are," explained Lonsinger. "And they felt so good last year. They experienced how wonderful it is to give back. They talked about it for a long time afterwards."

After the team received the wish list from the family, they divided it up and went shopping for clothes, shoes, blankets, housewares, toys, and other items. One evening after practice, they gathered to assemble and wrap the gifts. Last weekend they delivered the gifts to the family's home.

"It felt really good to see how happy the kids were when we brought the gifts," says Granada sophomore Matt Epps, who plays guard. "This was also a great team building experience because everyone feels good af-ter they do a good deed."

As the saying goes, it's better to give than to receive, but that is more than just a nice sentiment.

published in the March 21, 2008 issue of the journal Science.

Dom Palino, also a sophomore and guard on the Granada junior varsity basketball team, says he liked seeing the smile on the kids' faces. Members of the team say this is a tradition they

plan to continue through the rest of their high school basketball careers, and probably beyond.

That teambuilding seems to be paying off for the basketball players-they finished third at the Irvington High School tournament earlier this month.

Every year St. Michael's School and the Knights of Columbus join together in the spirit of gift giving for needy families. During the season of Advent, students at the school participate in the Guardian Angel Project. Children from each class provide Christmas gifts for several families in need during the Christmas Season. The gifts were recently presented to the Knights of Columbus, who then provide a Christmas tree and food, and distribute these



Open Heart Kitchen is the another recipient of community successful service project. On Sunday, November 30, Phoebe Brown, Courtney Stonesifer, and members of their Pleasanton Rage U15 Premier soccer team joined forces with photographer/fitness professional Sue Evans to hike the Pleasanton Ridge for the Kitchen. Together they raised over \$3,750.00, with RAGE adding another \$2,500 to match the original goal, the local charity, which is struggling financially to total donation of over \$6,250. continue feeding hundreds of (photo by Sue Evans) needy people, will receive a

Perfect Presentations begin with CJ's!



gifts to the less fortunate Zandarski, Molly Gandolfo, families in Livermore. Pictured preparing the gifts are (from left) Isabel Noriega, Jenna

Michael Marcotte, Brian Abboud, David Gomez, and Will Jauregito.



A study by Harvard Business School professor Michael Norton, Elizabeth Dunn, a professor at the University of British Columbia, and her graduate student Lara Aknin found that spending even small amounts of money to help others results in considerable gains in happiness. The study, "Spending Money on Others Produces Happiness", was

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING SERVICES FOR BUSY INDIVIDUALS House Cleaning • Power Washing • Carpet Cleaning • Porter Service Window Cleaning - We provide all equipment and supplies Insured PI/PD Workers Comp CALL FOR PRICING! Ceaning Weekly . Bi-weekly . Monthly . Ix Basis Homes Since 1990 Serving Tri-Valley Area (925) 485-3280

www.cjscleaningservices.com



A tradition of excellence since 1971.

