



## Find Out What's Happening

### Check Out Section A

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

# Gupta Chosen to Be New Dublin City Councilmember

By Ron McNicoll

Abe Gupta was chosen as the new Dublin City Councilmember, replacing Eric Swalwell, who resigned his seat to begin service in Congress on Jan. 3.

Gupta took over the seat immediately after his appointment at the Feb. 19 meeting. He thanked the council and said, "I don't

take lightly the function of city government."

The vote for Gupta was 3-1, with Councilmember Kevin Hart voting "no." Hart stated, "I was very impressed with Abe's presentation and application. I think he would make a good city councilmember, but I'm not sure I can support him at this time. I want to see someone

who brings something else to the council."

The council heard from 10 applicants, then voted in a first round, in which members each voted for two choices. Gupta was on the ballots of all four councilmembers.

Doreen Wehrenberg, a former planning commissioner who ran for the council

and finished third in November, was on the ballots of Hart and Biddle. Morgan King, who has served on two Dublin commissions, received a first round vote from Mayor Tim Sbranti. Philip Tucker, a retired Safeway executive, earned one from David Haubert.

The four surviving candidates each went through

a second round of questioning by the council, before Biddle made the motion to select Gupta. Biddle pointed out that all four of the current councilmembers chose Gupta as one of their two first-round votes, which meant that there was "no dissatisfaction with the candidate."

(See DUBLIN, page 10)

## Dublin Honors Tri-Valley Youth Court

The Tri-Valley Youth Court (TVYC) is being recognized as one of the 2012 City of Dublin's Organizations of the Year.

TVYC is a non-profit diversion program that offers teenage offenders of misdemeanor or lesser crimes referred from Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton and San Ramon Police Departments, the Juvenile Division of Alameda County Probation, and parents, an opportunity to learn from their mistakes, give back to the victims of their crimes and take responsibility for their actions. TVYC was created by the Center of Community Dispute Settlement (CCDS), a non-profit organization that offers neighborhood and day-of-court mediation.

Because of the success of the Tri-Valley Youth Court, CCDS started Community Youth Courts and opened two additional youth courts that serve the Hayward, Castro Valley, San Leandro, San Lorenzo and surrounding areas.

TVYC is currently working on plans with the local school districts to implement bullying and truancy programs.

Over the past five years, the Youth Court has processed 257 cases, assigned 5,302.5 hours of community service, 177 apologies, anger management classes, counseling (both family and individual), life choices and theft classes, drug and alcohol counseling, jail tours and other restitution using restorative justice principles. Over 100 youth volunteers serve as Advocates (attorneys), Court Clerks and Jurors with 30 adult volunteers serving as Judges, Court Attendants, Case Managers, Jury Mentors and Advocate Mentors.

The program has received grants from the Livermore Rotary Foundation, the Hindu Community and Cultural Center, the First Presbyterian Church of Livermore and State Farm Insurance, as well as personal donations generated from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory HOME Campaign.

The Youth Court has also served as a unique learning opportunity. Civics and Leadership classes from Village High School in Pleasanton and the Athenian High School in Danville have participated in the Youth Court as a way to actively learn about the United States Court System and Restorative Justice Principles. In addition, the Attorney General from the State of Victoria, Australia and his retinue visited the court as part of a tour through the United States and Canada to discuss Restorative Justice Principles with a view towards importing innovative new approaches to Victoria.

In an effort to ensure that the Youth Court is an effective tool in working with youth, participants who have successfully completed the program and their

(See COURT, page 5)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

As part of its "Drive to Thrive" program, the East Bay SPCA representatives visited local classrooms with supplies to make Valentines. One of the stops was at Mrs. Sullivan's second grade class at Hearst Elementary School in Pleasanton. Visitors to the class included a cat and a dog. In addition to making Valentines, the students learned about the SPCA. In the photo, students meet Reese, a 12-year-old deaf Husky.

## Pleasanton Schools Ponder Restoring Programs

By Ron McNicoll

The Pleasanton school board is scheduled to vote on a total of \$2.7 million in budget restorations when it meets on Feb. 26.

The board heard the proposals at its meeting Feb. 12. All of the restorations are for one time only, meaning that they sunset after one year. It would be up to the board to restore them for the following year.

Some \$1.9 million in positions would be continued for the current fiscal year. Another \$795,000 would be added in the new fiscal year, for a total of \$2.7 million. Those "additions" really are returns of positions that the district has eliminated since 2008, when the state budget crisis reached new depths.

The \$2.7 million will fund 36 full-time equivalent

(See PLEASANTON, page 5)

## Nobel Prize Winner Describes Process Of Aging and Disease

By Jeff Garberson

Nobel Prize-winning biologist Elizabeth Blackburn last week described a groundbreaking chain of research. It has led from curiosity about how cells divide in simple pond organisms

to one of today's most powerful lines of inquiry into how humans age and develop diseases like cancer, dementia and heart attacks.

Blackburn described the research and what is known of its ramifications for human

health to a large and appreciative audience at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore last week. Her talk was part of the Rae Dorrough speaker series.

Over nearly four decades, the research has revealed

the nature and function of the DNA caps called telomeres that protect the ends of human chromosomes and preserve their genetic integrity, generation after cell generation, until they waste away and allow the

chromosome ends to fray and deteriorate.

The research identified an enzyme, telomerase, whose normal function is to generate telomeres and thus helps maintain health, but in the

(See TALK, page 5)

## LVPAC Sues State Over Regional Theater

The Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) has filed suit against the California Department of Finance. The suit, filed in Sacramento Superior Court on January 23rd, seeks to compel the state to recognize pre-existing legal agreements between the non-profit arts organization, the City of Livermore, and the Livermore Redevelopment Agency; and to authorize the payment of approximately \$122 million in future tax increment funds to help finance LVPAC's Regional Theater project.

The Department of Finance, charged with winding down redevelopment agencies across the state, has ruled that the project is not a recognized obligation, even though the Livermore Successor Agency's Oversight Board has repeatedly advised otherwise. According to Len Alexander, LVPAC's Executive Director, "With

all its administrative remedies exhausted, LVPAC had no choice but to turn to the courts."

Alexander explained, "For the past six years, LVPAC and its Board of Directors have faithfully followed the redevelopment rules of the State of California in the development of this high profile project. We owe a fiduciary responsibility to our many financial contributors and will pursue every available avenue to bring the project to completion."

The suit states that, starting in 2005 and continuing through 2011, LVPAC entered into several binding legal agreements with the Livermore Redevelopment Agency and the City of Livermore for the development and construction of the theater, and that these agreements pre-date the legislature's actions to abolish

(See LAWSUIT, page 5)

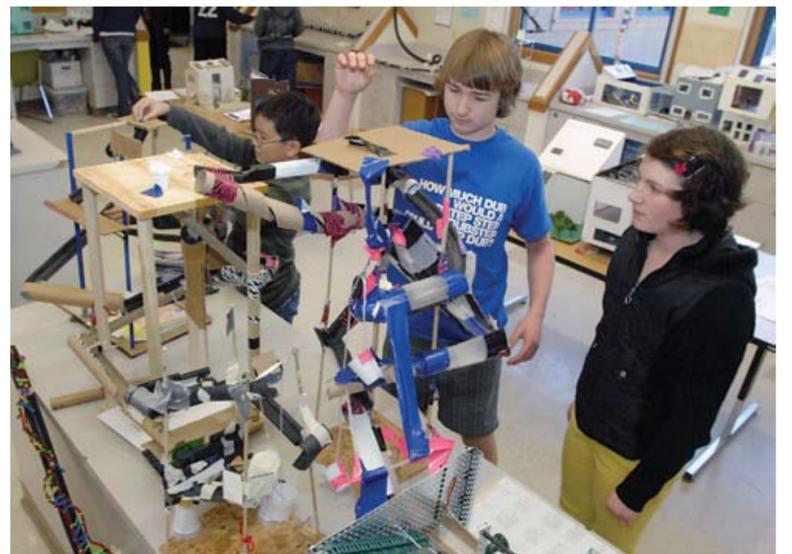


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Checking their project are Jaren Deitsch and Josephine Clements Cain. It is 'Rube Goldberg' machine.

## STEM Students Show Off Their Work

By Carol Graham

On the same day as the president delivered his State of the Union address, Feb. 12, students at Christensen Middle School in Livermore

held an open house displaying their science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) projects.

"As we were in STEM, President Obama was call-

ing for better job preparedness and STEM education," said teacher Regina Brinker. "We're right on target."

STEM Exploration class (See STEM, page 12)

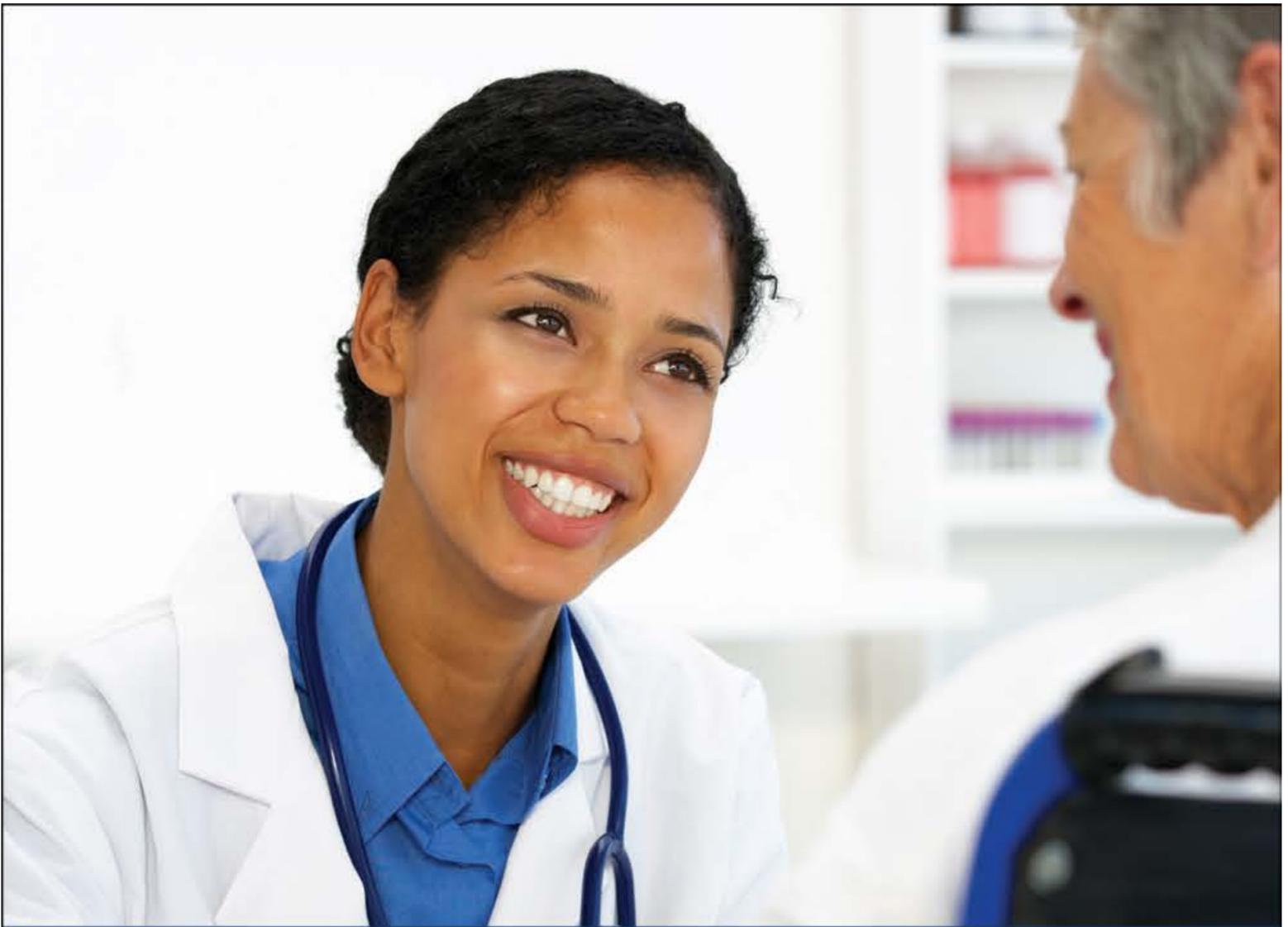
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### PET OF THE WEEK

Éclair is a regal young adult who is a sassy girl with a lot of spunk. She was rescued in 2012 with her three young kittens who were all adopted right away. Éclair prefers a luxurious life-style with sunny windows, no other kitties to bother her, and a warm lap to lay next too. She has lived with dogs before and can hold her own. For more information, call 925-426-8656 or go online to [www.valleyhumane.org](http://www.valleyhumane.org) or [www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety](http://www.facebook.com/ValleyHumaneSociety) to see other adoptable dogs and cats. Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Photo by David Smith



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**Fri. 2/22 • 10:00 AM**

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Reference Code: TI\_221

8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week. Se habla Español.



<sup>1</sup> Special election periods constitute periods outside of the usual IEP, AEP or MADP when an individual may elect a plan or change his/her current plan election.  
<sup>2</sup> Criteria for qualifying during SEP is determined by the plan at time of enrollment. Some restrictions may apply. Contact plan for more info.

CareMore (HMO & HMO SNP) is a coordinated care plan with a Medicare contract. The benefit information provided is a brief summary, not a complete description of benefits. Limitations, copayments, and restrictions may apply. Benefits, formulary, pharmacy network, premium and/or copayments/coinsurance may change on January 1 of each year. You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium. This information is available for free in other languages. Please contact Member Services at 1-800-499-2793; TDD/TTY users should call 711, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week (October 1 - February 14) and Monday - Friday (February 15 - September 30). Esta información también está disponible de forma gratuita en otros idiomas. Por favor llame al departamento de servicios para miembros al 1-800-499-2793 (los usuarios de TTY deben llamar al 711), de 8 a.m. a 8 p.m., 7 días a la semana de octubre 1 a febrero 14 y de 8 a.m. a 8 p.m. de lunes a viernes de febrero 15 a septiembre 30. For more information contact CareMore. A sales person will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call 1-800-499-2793; TTY users should call 711, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week (October 1 - February 14) and Monday - Friday (February 15 - September 30).



A fire gutted the family trailer.

## Community Comes Together to Raise Funds for Local Family

The community, private businesses and local agencies are banding together to help April Boag Martinez pick up the pieces after a devastating fire, which took place in her home on Monday, February 11, 2013.

April Martinez is a jockey and horse trainer, who works on the Alameda County Fairgrounds, and also lives there in the R.V. South trailer park with her two young children. Martinez's living situation is now up in the air, however, as she and her children (ages 5 and 12) have lost everything but the clothes they were wearing that day.

The fire began in the bedroom of the family's 32-ft. trailer when Martinez's 5-year-old son started playing with matches. She was lying down in another room. She said the fire consumed the trailer within only a couple of minutes. She, her son (her 12-year-old daughter was not home at the time) and the dog were able to escape unharmed with only the clothes on their backs, and no shoes.

Several private businesses and local city and County agencies have stepped up to raise the funds to buy April Martinez and her family a new (gently used) trailer. Although many generous contributions have already been made, the effort still has quite a ways to go. If any member of the community wishes to donate to this cause, an account in the name of April Boag Martinez has been set up at the Fremont Bank-Pleasanton Branch, 6654 Koll Center Pkwy. Ste 345, Pleasanton.

For more information about the fund-raiser or the fire, please contact Frank Imhof of Imhof Tractor Services at (510) 377-9556.

## Plastic Bag Ban Showing Results

Instead of offering free paper or plastic, many stores throughout the Bay Area are now asking residents to pay 10 cents per paper bag, and not offering plastic as an option. New laws are cropping up in Bay Area cities and counties, prohibiting retailers from giving customers a free paper or plastic bag with their purchases, in an effort to reduce waste and litter. The bans are already succeeding, according to the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA).

"From a stormwater pollution prevention perspective, we applaud this move toward encouraging people

to bring their own bags," says BASMAA Executive Director Geoff Brosseau. "In a baseline survey of Bay Area litter conducted by BASMAA in 2012, single-use plastic grocery bags accounted for eight percent of litter in the region."

Plastic bags present unique cleanup problems. With exposure to sunlight and water, they break into smaller toxic pieces that entwine in vegetation, contaminate soil and water, and may be consumed by animals and birds. Removing these shreds of thin plastic is challenging and time-consuming. That's why reducing use of single-use

plastic grocery bags as a litter source can help. San Jose alone has already seen a reduction in plastic bag litter from 12 percent in 2010 to four percent in 2012.

Litter is a major cause of water pollution. It travels down storm drains and flows directly to local creeks, the Bay and the ocean. It degrades water quality and adversely affects fish, wildlife and aquatic habitats. That's why a State Stormwater Permit issued to municipalities in five Bay Area counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Solano) in 2009, required them to take actions to virtually eliminate

trash in stormwater runoff by 2022. By 2014, a 40 percent reduction in trash must be met. It is expected that these requirements will also be part of future stormwater permits issued to other Bay Area counties.

Last month state assemblyman Marc Levine (San Rafael) introduced AB 158. This bill calls for the ban of single-use plastic bags at the state level by 2015. The bill focuses on large retailers with 10,000 or more square feet and grocery stores with annual sales of \$2 million or more.

For more tips on preventing stormwater pollution, please visit BayWise.org

## Las Positas, Lab Seminar Series to Focus on Accelerator Mass Spectrometry

The next topic in the Science and Engineering Seminar Series at Las Positas College is "Accelerator Mass Spectrometry: Peeking at Particles for Human Health."

The talk builds on the series theme, Theory to Practice: How Science Gets Done. The series is a collaboration between the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Las Positas College.

The event will be held at 6 p.m. on Tues., March 5 in Building 2400 on the campus. Speaking will be Graham Bench, director for the Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry at the Lab and Ken Turteltaub, division leader of the Biosciences and Biotechnology Division at the Lab.

The presentation will include the description of an accelerator mass spectrometer (AMS) and how one would be used. Bench will introduce the audience to ways this versatile instrument helps researchers to

understand human health issues. AMS is a tool used to measure rare isotopes. Scientists use it to make new discoveries in fields such as chemotherapy, global warming, national security, archeology and art history.

Turteltaub will explain the important contributions that AMS has made in helping solve biological questions. Examples will include identifying mechanisms of cancer development, understanding absorption and dis-

tribution of micronutrients and cell dating.

The talk is open to the public. There is no admission charge. Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

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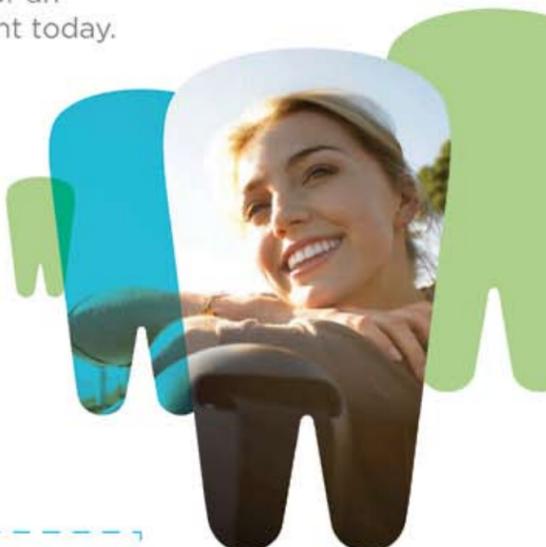




  
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# EDITORIAL

## Senior Center Turns 20

The Pleasanton Senior Center is marking its 20th year anniversary.

Over the years, it has not just been a place for seniors, but serves as a resource for the entire community.

Since opening in 1993, the Center has offered a wide array of classes, programs and services for mature adults. It also houses the Pleasanton Paratransit and RADD programs (Recreational Activities for the Developmentally Disabled) and the offices of the independent nonprofit Senior Support Program of the Tri-Valley.

Today, more than 1,000 patrons a week visit the center to access classes such as Zumba Gold, Fit for Fifty, Walking, Tai-Chi, Yoga, and Sittercise.

Coming soon is a the Pleasanton Peddlers program, a new bicycle club for mature adults. Other activities include book, computer and photo clubs, computer tutoring, knitting, brain fitness, community lectures and writing classes. There is a woodshop. The Peddlers Shoppe offers crafts created by seniors.

The Center has hosted community events ranging from the Mayor's Dinners and school fund-raisers to private weddings and birthday parties. Now it is ready to host its own birthday party -- something for the entire community to enjoy.

## Las Positas College Receives Accreditation

By Carol Graham

In a message sent to faculty and administration, Las Positas College President Kevin Walthers, Ph.D., commended his colleagues for their hard work ensuring accreditation for the college from The Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC).

"Accreditation confirms that we offer an appropriate curriculum for students," said Walthers. "It means that our students are eligible for federal financial aid and other benefits offered by the Department of Education."

Accreditation is a process of external quality review used by higher education to scrutinize colleges, universities, and educational programs for areas of development and quality assurance. It confers academic legitimacy to organizations, helping to solidify their institutions and programs in the national higher education community.

In the U.S., accreditation is carried out by private, nonprofit organizations designed for the purpose. However, it is used by the government as one of the tools implemented to help protect federal investment in institutions as well as assuring students and parents that the basic standards of quality are being met.

The federal government has relied on accreditation since 1952 with the reauthorization of the GI Bill for Korean War veterans. After the first GI Bill in 1944, the number of new institutions burgeoned, causing skepticism as to their quality. The federal government decided to rely on accreditation to assure academic legitimacy.

"Colleges are evaluated every six years and provide a midterm report that follows up on any recommendations given," said Walthers. "When I arrived in 2011 we were just starting on the report and frankly, behind in the process. We set up a tight schedule and made assignments to ensure we met the deadline. It took a lot of faculty and staff members to make it happen."

The college responded to and fully met six previous recommendations. "The most important step we took was to hire a person to expand our research capacity. We needed to ensure our research continued," said Walthers.

Other improvements include establishing a written code of professional ethics for all college personnel, and having the library and learning support services embed information technology study skills in highly enrolled courses, along with having librarians engage in continuous dialogue with instructional faculty and counselors to support student success.

Accreditation review is ongoing. The initial earning of accreditation is not entry to indefinite accredited status. Standards must be met and reviewed regularly. The full midterm report is scheduled to be posted on [www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu).

"We have a full accreditation visit coming in 2015 and we will be ready. Accreditation is not something that happens every three years; it is a reflection of what we do every day," said Walthers. "The report is a chance for us to tell the community that we are accountable. We welcome that opportunity."

## BART Looks at Raises in Its Fares, Parking Fees

BART is considering raising fares over the next few years at slightly less than the cost of living adjustments provided by government sources.

Directors also are considering increasing the parking fees at its lots, based on fluctuating rider demand.

The current fee at East Bay stations is \$1 during applicable hours. In the West Bay, parking fees range from \$1 to \$3.

Directors held a hearing on the proposals on Feb. 14. No action was taken. Directors could act as soon as the next meeting, Feb. 26, or

## McNerney, Garamendi Call for Cost-Benefit Study of New Delta Proposal

By Ron McNicoll

Congressmen Jerry McNerney, John Garamendi, and four other Bay Area congressional members have written a letter to Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and Acting Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank urging them to prepare a cost-benefit analysis of two plans that have been proposed to fix problems in the Delta.

All six congressional members represent parts of the Delta, and have heard agricultural, labor and business constituencies say they oppose a plan made in July by Gov. Jerry Brown.

Brown said last July that he intends to seek the Legislature's approval for a plan to build 35-mile-long twin tunnels under the Delta that would cost \$14 billion. The project would provide the capacity to move as much as 9,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water at peak times.

At Zone 7 Water Agency, the Valley's water wholesaler, Brown's announcement was greeted with support by general manager Jill Duerig last summer. She said Brown's idea amounted to an endorsement of years of deliberation by the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) stakeholders, including federal and state agency officials and environmentalists.

However, the plan did not go over well with farmers and water agencies in

the Delta. They said the big tunnels would ruin the area even more than it has been. It would further deplete salmon fisheries and protected animal and plant species. It would also hurt Delta and much of Central Valley agriculture's ability to obtain enough water.

In January, a group of environmentalists, business representatives and water agencies countered with a scaled-down version of the tunnels. Only one tunnel would be built. It would have the capacity to deliver 3000 cfs of water.

Advocates said that the tunnel would be much cheaper and quicker to build than Brown's twin tunnels. The savings could go to the rest of the plan, which would create more water storage closer to the areas that need it, restore fish and plant habitat, and fortify levees, which face more challenge as climate change raises the threat of more severe Delta floods.

One of the six congressional members in the Feb. 13 joint press release appeared to imply possible support for the alternative plan. Congresswoman Doris Matsui, whose district includes Sacramento, said that she has long "advocated for an incremental approach that begins with a 3000 cfs intake project. I believe that approach, along with

other measures, should be studied." Matsui definitely joined the call for a cost-benefit study.

McNerney, who used to represent Pleasanton and Dublin, did not comment on whether he supports the alternative plan, but made it clear he opposes Brown's proposal, as he has since it was announced.

The important thing is to study both plans from a cost-benefit perspective, said McNerney's spokesperson, Lauren Smith. Brown's plan is being studied. If the state and federal officials ignore providing a cost analysis for the alternative plan, it would be "foolhardy, when we are talking about spending billions of taxpayers' dollars."

Rep. John Garamendi, who formerly represented Livermore, said, "The narrow focus of the state's current BDCP cost-benefit analysis reminds me of the Ford 'Model T,' which could be painted any color that a customer wanted -- so long as it was black. If you don't look at an adequate range of options, how can you say you've picked the best one? You can't."

Restore The Delta (RTD), which is based in Stockton, opposes both plans. The organization says on its web page that there already has been too much fresh water diversion from the Delta. That has adversely

affected the Delta Smelt, and other threatened species. Either plan will simply take more fresh water from the Delta, making way for more salt-water intrusion into the Delta from San Francisco Bay.

RTD executive director Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla, was quoted on the organization's web page as saying that essentially both tunnel plans are designed to benefit farmers in Westlands Irrigation District, in the southern part of the Central Valley. They say the area is 1 percent of the state's population, and 2 percent of the state's economy.

The organization says that BDCP estimates a cost of \$23 billion for Brown's two tunnels and habitat restoration.

The board of Zone 7, which supplies agricultural users and urban customers in the Tri-Valley, was scheduled to hear a report at its meeting Feb. 20, after The Independent's deadline.

Assistant General Manager Kurt Arends said in his written report to the board that BDCP has proposed alternatives for 3000, 6000, and 9000 cfs environmental impacts. General manager Jill Duerig said that she is not aware whether BDCP is studying costs for all alternatives. A BDCP spokesperson was not available as of The Independent's deadline.

## MAILBOX

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

### Redirect Mission Tom O'Neill Livermore

"Livermore is a town with the soul of a college." This can certainly be said by reason of the outstanding rise of Las Positas College. But it can also be said by reason of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia - Livermore.

In the twenty years I've followed Livermore local politics, there's never been a time when scientists from our labs have not been involved in our community's educational, cultural, and economic development.

These same working scientists (the non-managerial ones at least) have of course little input on the budgeting of projects at the labs where they work. Yet I am sure they bring the same civic virtue to their day jobs that they bring to their work on behalf of the local community.

Unfortunately, the great tasks of national security, like shifting ground in seismic epochs, have moved on from concerns for sharply defined nuclear supremacy to the issues of global climate change, decreasing biological diversity (the web of life is being rent with apertures), and a world population that continues to grow even as its individual members make ever greater demands on resources that continue to deplete.

The current budgets of our labs all but ignore these urgent issues even as they persist in a preoccupation with nuclear weaponry that subverts all our concern for nuclear non-proliferation. To the private and guarded misgivings of some of our hardworking scientists, it is time that we, their fellow citizens, here in Livermore add our own strong voices on behalf of redirecting the immense intellectual capital lodged here in a manner that addresses realistically the matters that threaten our national security.

### The Diet of Lent Lucas Nelson Livermore

Wednesday, Feb. 13, marked the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period before Easter, when Christians would abstain from meat and dairy products in remembrance of Jesus' 40 days of fasting before launching his ministry.

Devout Christians who observe meatless Lent help reduce their risk of chronic disease, as well as environmental degradation and animal abuse. Dozens of medical reports have linked consumption of animal products with elevated risk of heart failure, stroke, cancer, and other killer diseases. A 2007 U.N. report named meat production as the largest source of greenhouse gases and water pollution. Undercover investigations have documented farm animals being beaten, caged, crowded, deprived, mutilated, and shocked.

Lent offers a superb opportunity to honor Jesus's powerful message of compassion and love by adopting a meat-free diet for Lent and beyond. It's the diet mandated in Genesis I-29 and observed in the Garden of Eden.

Every supermarket of-

fers a rich array of meat and dairy alternatives, as well as the more traditional vegetables, fruits, and grains. Entering "vegetarian" in your favorite search engine provides lots of meat replacement products, recipes, and transition tips.

### 30 Years Jo Ann Frisch Livermore

Tri-Valley CAREs celebrates its 30th anniversary this year! I joined the group in 1988, and am presently serving on the Board of Directors. We have grown from a small group of Livermore residents in 1983 to over 5,000 members now.

Through dedicated advocacy: we have spoken truth to power and stopped the creation of new nuclear weapons; made sure community members have had a voice in decisions that impact their lives; demanded cleanup of nuclear wastes in our air, soil, and water; and worked toward a conversion of Livermore Lab to a nuclear weapons-free "green" lab.

We invite you to join us as we seek a peaceful and equitable society for our children and ourselves. With your help we can win new victories in our 30th anniversary year. Look for various events coming up in 2013 on our website at [www.trivalleycares.org](http://www.trivalleycares.org).

### Portola Academy Alan Heckman Livermore

The political defeat of the Portola Academy Charter School is a heavy blow to the City of Livermore. The facts are clear. Sheila Jordan, the Alameda County Superintendent of Schools, evaluated the petition and recommended to the Alameda School Board to approve Portola Academy.

The other schools in the area, Junction K-8 and Marilyn Elementary, have been recognized as failures by both the Federal and State Governments. Both Junction and Marilyn are under the status of "Program Improvement" -- a Federal No Child Left Behind term which means "failing," schools where children are being left behind. Both Junction and Marilyn are listed in the year 2013-14 Open Enrollment Schools List -- the California State Government list of the 1,000 worst schools

from which children need to escape and to enroll in another school. Unlike the Charter schools, teachers at Junction and Marilyn are forbidden under their collective bargaining agreement of being evaluated in even the smallest part by their own students' ability to demonstrate whether and at what level they have learned anything. There is no strong force for improvement.

Livermore is a great city with the Lab, the wineries, the revitalized downtown, and the new outlet stores. We have the world's fastest rodeo, the longest burning light bulb in history, and our very own atomic element. It is a shame that existing local political forces are in a position to stop improvement to our schools, Livermore's greatest weakness and our greatest need for improvement.

### Plastic Bag Ban Michael E. Delfino Owner/Chief Instructor, United Studios of Self Defense-Livermore

I would like to counter Mr. Walter Harvey's letter from the 02-14-13 edition about how the ban on plastic bags is not necessary.

Recycling: While recycling is nice, the truth is that recycling items actually has a larger carbon footprint in most cases than simply throwing it in the trash. Consider that the recycling requires extra trips for the trucks, separation of various materials, and then of course the process of recycling the item, it's far more harmful to the environment.

Landfill reduction: A quick Google Image search shows landfills FILLED with plastic bags. While you may be correct about the size of a flattened trash bag, the landfills do not take the time to do this with the tens of thousands of bags that go through their facilities every week, as it's simply not practical to do so.

Litter/wildlife effect: In the Pacific Ocean there are two patches of garbage floating around, which combined account for a bigger land mass than that of Texas! In these two patches, it is estimated that over 80% of the garbage is plastic. While the ecological effects of these is difficult to study and highly debated, there is no question that these masses disrupt sea life in these two regions. In addition, during

(More MAILBOX, page 20)

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## PLEASANTON

(continued from page one)

lent positions. Those jobs include two custodial positions, a technology lead trainer, and 4.5 full-time equivalent vice principals among the elementary and middle schools.

The \$2.7 million comes from several sources. One is this year's leftover employee concessions funds, since employees did not ask for the concessions money back after Prop. 30 passed. Pleasanton Partners in Education (PPIE) has raised funds, as has Pleasanton Schools Educational Enrichment (PSEE). The district's general fund, which now shows a surplus above the minimum requirement of

3 percent, also enables the restorations.

Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi and several board members said that many in the public appear to think that Prop. 30 brings new money to schools. It does not, they emphasized. It merely allows districts to keep in this second half of the 2012-13 fiscal year what they had planned originally, instead of sending out pink slips in March for mid-year layoffs.

### SHIFT IN HANDLING READING COACHING

One new proposal in the budget is a reorganization of how the district teaches reading. In the past, the district

relied on reading specialists, a separate category first established by the Miller-Unruh Reading Disabilities Act in 1965. However, the funding from the state for the specialists radically changed years ago. Most districts no longer use that model, said assistant superintendent of educational services Odie Douglas.

Now the district will build a team of three reading instruction coaches who will work with teachers to show them how to handle many of the necessary tasks required to teach reading.

There will still be some separate work with individuals or small groups that are

pulled out of class for additional instruction. However, the main idea is to greatly reduce time out of class for students.

Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi said that the district must change the model. The district had nine reading specialist positions. There was a 150 point gap between the best and worst performers on the API scores.

"Looking next door to Livermore, they have 30 percent of students on free and reduced lunches. They are doing an excellent job. They don't have any reading specialists," said Ahmadi.

Ahmadi told The Independent later that her comments were no criticism of Pleasanton's reading specialists. She would like to retain them, too, if the budget would allow it. The proposed change to coaches, which has been adopted by many districts, will have the advantage of keeping students in the classroom for instruction as much as possible, she said.

Also proposed are two instructional coaches in math and one in technology. Ahmadi underscored the importance of math for 21st century learning. She said that most teachers, especially in elementary schools, don't receive enough training. Further, with more reliance on technology, teachers need instruction in tech that goes far beyond how to use an i-pad.

### READING CHANGE DRAWS COMMENTS

During the public forum, Michelle Verkuilen, a former reading specialist, said that the shift to reading instructional coaches from reading specialists will take too much time away from teaching students. It's better for the trained reading specialists to work directly with the children, she said, and asked the board to find ways to keep them.

Trustee Joan Laursen offered two views. She said that she is concerned about changing the model from reading specialists to literacy coaches. "I'm not sure how it will work. Many people liked the model we had before. There were reading specialists who pulled kids out (of class), worked with them one on one, but it took the students away from the instructional day. We still had kids who were not reading-proficient," said Laursen.

"Based on best practices, you are bringing a new way to teach. It is uncomfortable for us to think of this change. We haven't experienced it yet. You guys (on staff) have, and we listen to you," said Laursen.

Laursen wants the district to see whether more money could become available from the state budget, and see if more literacy help can be obtained using the funds.

### CUTTING CLASS SIZES DISCUSSED

Class Size Reduction (CSR) was the other major topic in the conversation about staffing. Ahmadi said that it takes \$325,000 for the district to add one class level of class size reduction, which would cut classes from the current 30 students per teacher to 25.

Pleasanton at one time provided a 20-1 ratio in k-3 and in 9th grade English and math. Next year's state budget for education is uncertain now, but if the picture brightens, it might be possible to have CSR next year, but perhaps only for first grade, said Ahmadi.

In response to a question from board vice president Valerie Arkin about savings from concessions by the administration, Ahmadi replied, "Our management team worked hard to give concessions every year (for the past three years), but that is not the conversation we

are having right now."

Concessions from administrators, classified employees and teachers were a big part of the savings for the district over the past three years that enabled the board to make fewer program cuts than it otherwise would have. Negotiations with the teachers and classified employees unions and administrators still lie ahead. Their past concessions do not carry over automatically into the coming fiscal year.

One bright note for next had to do with information from deputy superintendent of business Luz Cázares, in a report on the state budget. She said that it looks as if the district will pick up an additional \$276,000, because of block grants that stem from the governor's budget. That money is above and beyond the numbers that Proposition 30 merely replaced this year.

### FORUM KEYED TO HISPANIC FAMILIES

The board also heard Ahmadi report that the district held its first college informational forum for Spanish-speaking parents and students. More than 100 attended, and heard panelists, including Cázares, talk about their life experiences in pursuing education.

Ahmadi read from an e-mail sent by a parent who attended the event. It was written in Spanish, and translated for Ahmadi by Rosa Torre, a parent liaison at Valley View elementary school.

The writer said the panel "reinforced my purpose to keep supporting my children in their studies, and that my sacrifices will be worth it. I could see myself reflected in many of the experiences of the speakers."

"I will fight together with my children so they will become someone in life. It will be worth the effort."

## TALK

(continued from page one)

case of certain genetic disturbances can become overactive and lead to cancer.

Telomere research is now conducted all over the world, but Blackburn was its acknowledged pioneer. She and two colleagues were awarded the 2009 Nobel Prize for their achievements.

Blackburn carried out her early research at Yale, then moved to the University of California at Berkeley. Today she serves as Morris Hertzstein Endowed Chair in Biology and Physiology at UC San Francisco.

Much of the groundbreaking work was conducted using single celled, pond dwelling organisms called Tetrahymena, which have large numbers of rod-shaped chromosomes that are convenient for study.

Over nearly four decades, the researchers demonstrated that the telomeres continue to protect the integrity of cell genetics through many generations, that the telomeres are generated by the action of an enzyme which they called telomerase, and that human telomere activity differs from that of Tetrahymena in important ways with implications for human aging and health.

In particular, the protective function of Tetrahymena telomeres appears to remain no matter how many times cells divide, while it diminishes in humans. In other words, human cell senescence, or aging, seems to be built in.

As Blackburn and her colleagues discovered, the telomeres seem to get a little shorter each time a cell divides. There is little observable health effect for perhaps 50 generations, after which the cells seem to receive a signal to stop dividing, Blackburn said.

People with the shortest telomeres tend to be older and have higher rates of specific diseases like cancer and heart disease, according to several studies. Conversely, those with the lowest rates of

such diseases tend to have longer telomeres.

Perhaps most striking in Blackburn's presentation was the range of observations confirming the association of shortened telomeres with different diseases and with aging itself.

As one example of several that she cited, a study published last year of nearly 2000 elderly people, aged 66 to 101, found that shortened telomeres are associated with higher rates of dementia and death. The principal investigator, Lawrence Honig of Columbia University, also reported that, on average, the men in the study had shorter telomeres than women of the same chronological age, indicating that they were about four years older biologically than those women.

Other studies have found shortened telomeres suggesting more rapid aging in mothers experiencing long-term stress through caring for chronically sick children; victims of extended child abuse; sufferers from depression and post-traumatic stress disorder; and even babies born of distressed mothers.

Currently, a large study involving telomeres and health is being carried out by Kaiser Permanente and UCSF under the support of the National Institutes of Health.

Data on the genomes and telomere lengths of more than 100,000 study participants have been entered in a database for the use of researchers trying to determine causes of health outcomes. The database will have many uses – aiding efforts to correlate heredity and drug response, for example – but it is also creating the largest telomere/health database in existence, according to Kaiser Permanente.

Shortened telomeres are not the only health issue, according to Blackburn. Telomeres that are twice as long as normal, typically because of a genetic disorder, are associated with abnormal cell division, meaning cancer, she said.

When a member of the audience asked whether a

drug might be developed to increase telomerase activity and improve the health of the sick or elderly, Blackburn noted that even if a drug of that description were available, it would be very risky to administer a medicine whose effect might be to cause cancer rather than improve health.

She compared the health effects of telomerase, the enzyme that produces telomeres, as "a knife's edge," meaning that too much can lead to overactive cell division and cancer while too little can mean shortened telomeres and increased likelihood of illness.

In any case, telomere research today is still focused on statistical group trends, not the development of specific medicines, she said.

Still, the fact that telomerase plays a role in healthy cell division but can also trigger cancer makes it an inviting target for cancer research studies.

While Blackburn discouraged hopes for a simple remedy like a pill to "cure" telomere shortening, she did suggest a pathway toward basic telomere health. This is to undertake the sorts of activities and lifestyle choices that are recommended by medical societies and health clinics the world over: exercise, maintaining a healthy weight and diet, reducing stress and avoiding health-damaging activities like smoking and heavy drinking.

She added education and even attitude to the list of factors that seem to help preserve telomere length.

She cited studies of British civil servants in which those with university degrees tended to have longer telomeres than did those who had not finished secondary school. Then she brought a chuckle from the Bankhead crowd when she said that excess negativity and cynicism appear to be associated with shortened telomeres.

Not moderate cynicism, however, she said, pointing out that as a scientist, she felt it was only proper to be a skeptic.

## COURT

(continued from page one)

parents are contacted by an adult volunteer to answer anonymous survey questions regarding their experience. One hundred percent of parents who responded to the survey said that they would recommend TVYC to a friend who was in a similar situation and 90% noticed an improvement in their child's attitude after the Youth Court experience. All of the participants who answered the survey said that they thought the program was useful and 100% said that they would recommend the program to a friend who was in a similar circumstance.

For more information about the Tri-Valley Youth Court, visit [www.communityyouthcourts.com](http://www.communityyouthcourts.com) or contact Tonya Clenney at (925) 337-7175 [tonyaclenney@communityyouthcourts.com](mailto:tonyaclenney@communityyouthcourts.com)

## LAWSUIT

(continued from page one)

ish all local redevelopment agencies. The Regional Theater project is fully entitled and received a building permit in March of 2011.

The Regional Theater, which would attract audiences from across the Bay Area, has long been seen as a major catalyst for the continued growth and development of downtown Livermore; and, as such, has been supported by several city councils as well as numerous community leaders. LVPAC has invested more than 9 million dollars in the development of the project, which has been derailed due to the Department of Finance's actions.

LVPAC owns and op-

erates the Bankhead Theater, the forerunner to the larger theater. Since the Bankhead opened in 2007, more than 400,000 people, including more than 80,000 students, have attended over 1,000 performances and public events. According to conservative estimates, the theater delivers, to the local economy, an annual economic impact of more than three million dollars.

LVPAC is being represented by Cox, Castle & Nicholson, LLP, a law firm with offices in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Orange County specializing in real estate and redevelopment law, including litigation.



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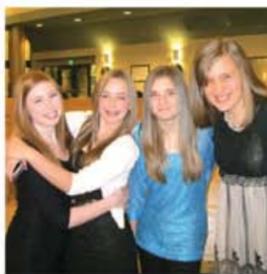
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# SPORTS NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

**Amador Valley High School girls varsity soccer team lost 2 to 1 to Freedom High in the opening round of the North Coast Section Division 1 playoffs.**



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

**Foothill High School girls varsity soccer team moved on to the second round of the North Coast Section playoffs with a 2 to 1 victory over Washington last Wednesday. On Friday, Foothill was eliminated as they lost 1 to 0 to Monte Vista.**



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

**Dublin High School varsity boys basketball team continued its winning ways with a 77 to 56 victory over Dougherty Valley in Diablo Foothill League action. Dublin leads the league with an 11-1 record.**



**Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) CYO 6th grade boys captured 1st place in Tri-Valley National Division, 2012-2013 season. The players pulled together, with masterful last second timing, to best St Isidore 6th graders at their home gym. The final score was 29 to 26. Pictured left to right are Coach Bret Wilbur, Drake Wilbur, Logan Miller, Trent Howell, Payton Henry, Cooper Eastman, Tyler Sensiba, Satchel Petty, Jake Benson, Coach Martin Miller, Wilmer Lin, and Nate Huey.**



**The U11G Livermore Fusion Maroon team were finalists in the Norcal State Cup tournament. Fusion clinched the spot in the championship game after a hard fought battle in Saturday's semi-final round against the BOCA Capital Athletic Soccer Academy. The game went into double overtime and then penalty kicks, where the Fusion girls dominated. Goalie, Lilly Ackerman, successfully saved all shots attempted by the Boca girls. Justynne Thomas, Kayla Lewis and Drew Pagtakhan scored their penalty kicks to secure the win. Following Saturday's victory, the girls battled fiercely against their opponent, Placer United, but fell short by one goal in the championship game on Sunday. It has been a very successful season for the Fusion girls, who clinched first place in their division back in December. Standing with their trophy and medals are: Lexi Borgna, Lilly Ackerman, Bella La Rosa, Coach Paul Nicholson, Sierra Street, Gracie Dupuis, and Kayla Lewis in back, Justynne Thomas, Drew Pagtakhan, Sydney Keshmiry, Mia Mendoza, Claire March, and Dani Groth in front.**



**Pictured are members of the girls U9 Futsal team (from front left) Francesca Aureus, Mackenzie Davis, Asst. Coach Mike Sanders, Madison Cheung, Kate Vander Ende, Amita Grewal, Kate Sander, and Coach Marc Davis. Not pictured are season-long invaluable team members Sima Sadaghiani and Madison Violich.**

## State Cup Champs

The West Coast Wildfire U13 girls closed their season with one final win and the Norcal Premier Championship Cup. In their State Cup final match, the Wildfire faced one of the league's toughest teams, the North Bay Elite Barcelona. Within the first five minutes, Barcelona scored their one and only goal off a backdoor clean up shot. For the next 60 minutes, the Wildfire battled back to create a scoring opportunity. This opportunity came late in the second half with a perfectly placed penalty shot just outside the reach of the Barcelona goalie from Wildfire forward Meghan Giamona. After two golden goal halves and still no winner, the match headed to a penalty kick shoot out. After six penalty kicks, Wildfire goalkeeper Claire Abele was able to fire off the winning shot.

### Wrath Fall Just Short

West Coast Soccer Wrath U-12 girls battled for the State Cup title. The Wrath players laced up their boots and stepped on the pitch for a chance to become State champs. The game was very well played by the Wrath, who moved the ball around getting numerous shots and striking the post and crossing bar. They were unable to score, losing 1-0. The players executed and fought hard playing very composed and confident. The Wrath players have been together for just 2 seasons. To reach the Sliver two Norcal Championship game was another highlight in their young history. Other accomplishments by this team in 2011 include Norcal fall league Champions, Shamrock Tournament Champions, and playing up an age to reach the finals in the La Copa Classic. In 2012 Wrath continued its rapid growth and development. In 2012 the Wrath was semi finalist in the Juventus Coppa D'Oro, Magic Cup Summer Classic, and Soccer by the Bay, all gold level tournaments. The Wrath players then headed south to the prestigious Albion Cup. They reached the semis and advanced on penalty kicks. In the final, the game again came down to penalty kicks. The result was a dramatic Championship victory.

## Players Selected for National Teams

West Coast Soccer Club players Megan Amick, Sydney Lunt, and Sydney Shultz have been selected to play on national teams including the Olympic Development Program, the U.S. club id2 National Identification and Development Program.

U15 player Megan Amick was selected to participate in the 2013 US Youth Soccer National Development Camp. Megan traveled to Phoenix, AZ from January 29-February 3, where she represented West Coast Soccer in the U15 US National Team training pool. "I am excited to be named to the ODP Championship team that will be going to Bettye Wilson Sports Complex in Las Vegas, Nevada and thrilled to have been selected to the National team pool in my age group," said Megan Amick.

U15 player Sydney Lunt spent four days in Arizona as part of US Club Soccer's National Identification id2 program. US Club Soccer's id2 National Identification and Development Program provides an opportunity for the country's elite youth soccer players to be identified and developed, while also being scouted for inclusion in U.S. Soccer's National Team programs. The top players in the country were brought to Grande Sports World in Casa Grande, Ariz., for four days of high-level training. The camp included a total of 56 girls born in 1998 and 1999 representing 19 different states. Sydney also plays for Norcal's PDP state team that traveled to Las Vegas on Jan 18th- 21st to compete in the

Las Vegas Showcase. Since Sydney's return home from competition she has also been selected to train and play with the San Jose Earthquakes U15 Academy team, which is a true testament to her abilities.

"I was so excited to be selected for the second straight year to the id2 National training program; my training at West Coast Soccer has helped me compete at the highest level against the best players in the country," commented Sydney Lunt.

U13 West Coast Soccer player Sydney Schultz was selected for both the PDP state pool and the top 18 that represented Cal North at the ODP Championships in Las Vegas in January. Sydney is one of the top scorers as a Forward for the West Coast Wildfire.

Multiple West Coast Soccer players currently play on the State ODP & PDP teams. Several WCS players are also currently on the Regional, id2, and US Market training squads. For more information about West Coast Soccer go to [www.westcoastsoccerclub.com](http://www.westcoastsoccerclub.com)

## Jr. Football Signup

Livermore Junior Football League is registering players for the 2013 season.

LJFL is founded under the principle that every Livermore child who wants to play football or cheer should have the opportunity.

Due to its success over its six-year existence and the support of LARPD and the high school football programs, LJFL is expanding to all children aged 7 through 14 (as of September 1, 2013.) Football participants will learn the fundamentals of contact football in a safe and positive environment and play regardless of talent level or ability. Cheer participants will learn the fundamentals, cheer at games and compete locally. All games will be played in Livermore at the high schools. All practices will take place in Livermore. The season begins on August 1 and concludes in early November. Online registration is open at [www.LJFL.org](http://www.LJFL.org).

There is an early registration discount of \$50.00 for football and \$25 for cheer. Registration cost increases after April 30. Each player pays a \$35 refundable volunteer fee. Sibling discounts apply. With the help of local businesses and residents, LJFL has a limited number of scholarships for needy families. Applications are available at [www.LJFL.org](http://www.LJFL.org) and must be submitted by April 30.

Anyone interested in coaching is invited to go to [www.LJFL.org](http://www.LJFL.org) and register by filling out an application to start the process. LJFL provides training for all coaches no experience necessary.

Registration will close when the league reaches 16 teams. No players are ever cut. All players play the entire game on offense or defense. Players are not limited to a few plays per game. Everyone plays the entire game.

For additional information, interested parents should visit: [www.LJFL.org](http://www.LJFL.org). President and Vice-President of LJFL are Rico Richardson and Matt Archer.

## Help Granada LL

For anyone who has ever been involved with Granada Little League here in Livermore, whether as a board member, coach, umpire, volunteer, parent or player, we need your help. We are looking for any information you may have, including pictures, stories, or documents, that may help us capture the history of Granada Little League that started back in 1967. If you have any information to share, please send it to [glhistory@comcast.net](mailto:glhistory@comcast.net), along with your contact information. Thanks so much for your help.

## Futsal League

In the Tri-Valley Futsal League Girls U9 Division, the Blazing Jaguars won the championship game 5-4 and finished the season with 5 wins and 2 losses.

In the championship game against San Ramon Azuri, they played very well as a team. Mackenzie Davis displayed great tenacity, and led the scoring with 3 goals, including the game winner with a minute to play. Amita Grewal was strong in the goal, scored one, and was outstanding everywhere she played. Kate Sanders drove the offense, scoring one goal and assisting on several others. Francesca Aureus was also formidable in the goal, and displayed great passing skills and court awareness.

Madison Cheung played exceptionally well on defense, especially in the final minutes, ensuring a win for the Jaguars. Kate Vander Ende's energy, attitude, and speed created many opportunities and drove the entire team to play at a higher level and bring home the championship.

## PGSL Registration

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

Note: All players will be notified of team placement within the next three to four weeks. However, extra time is allowed for the Seniors Division (grades 9-12), to allow for High School team placement in Feb. 2013.

## Players Sign On to Play at Colleges

A group of nine West Coast Soccer players signed this week with college programs. Director of West Coast Soc-

cer Troy Dayak expects more of his players to make commitments soon.

The current list includes two players going to local Div. I program Sacramento State University. They are defender Rachel Leonard of Livermore and forward Adaurie Dayak from Tracy. Others making commitments were Regan Smithers of Modesto heading to California State University-Long Beach; Creighton University signed West Coast U17 Kryptonite player and captain Grace Cabri from Tracy Ca; Livermore native Brooke Rittmann will be flying high signing with Air Force Academy in Colorado; Holy Names University signed Taylor Lennier from Tracy Ca; while twin sister Amber Lennier is heading to Corban University in Oregon; Dominican University picked up Stephanie Pawek from Tracy; and University of Pacific in Stockton Ca signed local Stockton resident Ebony Ezeji.

"West Coast Soccer is very excited and proud of our college bound players, to have such quality individuals and outstanding soccer players is unique in itself. We expect to have more signings in the very near future," said Dayak.

All 9 players currently play for West Coast Soccer's flag ship team the U17 Kryptonite coached by Dayak, who has been coaching many of the players since they were 5 or 6 years old. This group has had success in winning 23 championship titles including several League Championships a State Cup, 2 visits to the National Championship and winning the National title in 2011.

## Soccer Tryouts

West Coast Soccer tryouts - Competitive soccer tryouts for U14 girls and boys are Saturday, 2/23, 4:30 - 6:00 pm at Robertson Park turf fields. Open tryouts for all other ages welcome. Visit [www.westcoastsoccerclub.com](http://www.westcoastsoccerclub.com) for more information and to pre-register.

## Mt. Diablo Hikes

Save Mount Diablo special events include the following: Summit Eagle Peak Hike, 10 a.m.



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## Donations Sought for 'Gloves 4 Troops'

Livermore American Little League (LALL) would like to take the opportunity this year to be able to pay forward the love of the game by sending used adult baseball and softball gloves, balls and gear to help support troops serving overseas. The program is called Gloves 4 Troops.

LALL learned of an operation of a Minor League Baseball Player who collects these items and sends them to troops in Afghanistan. His operation will have to go on hold as he begins Spring Training on February 23. LALL would like to pick up the slack and send donations on behalf of the board, players and families of LALL. Many troops overseas played Little League growing up, some in this community.

Bring donations to Opening Day on Feb 23. There will be a special station set up to receive donations.

Opening day will be 9 a.m. through 1 p.m. at Robert Livermore Park, corner of East Avenue and Loyola Avenue, Livermore.

Information can be found at [Gloves4Troops.com](http://Gloves4Troops.com),

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# SPORTS NOTES



Pictured are the West Coast Wildfire U13 Norcal Premier State Cup Champions (bottom row) Mimi Freeman, Amanda Zeck, Chloe Brickwedel, Jennifer Gibson, Keili Prenton, Madison Stewart; (middle row) Coach Troy Dayak, Sierra Martin, Tori Diehl, Claire Abele, Isabella Barbero, Kaitlynn Funsch, Sydney Schultz, and Coach Marlon Fernandez; (top row) Paola Samaniego, Kira Karter, the cup, Meghan Giamona, Lauryn Souza, and Kylie Martinez.



Pictured are West Coast Soccer Wrath U-12 team members Tyler Rene Enderlein, Kaylie Lawsen, Kylie Karter, Kate Wallace, Anneliese Widmann, Kalea Bartolotto, Leila Anzo, Hayley Thompson, Lindsey Phillips, Abby Andrews, Abby Hoobing, Brianne Radloff, Fran Hyde, and Savannah Seals; not pictured Arryanna Shokoor. Coaches are Paul Giamona, Todd Lawsen, and DOC Troy Dayak.

## LARPD Tells Dates for World Series in Livermore

The newly-created Little League Intermediate 50/70 Baseball Division World Series will play its inaugural tournament in Livermore, July 30 to Aug. 5, at Max Baer Park, home of Granada Little League.

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District General Manager Tim Barry announced the dates at last week's LARPD board meeting. He commented, "It is a big endeavor. ESPN will televise the championship game. The fields are being improved for the series."

Granada Little League, will host in August 2013 the first World Series in the newest division of play.

The World Series Tournament Director will be California District 57 Administrator Dave Wetmore.

District 57, which encompasses the Tri-Valley, will automatically qualify a team to play in the series, according to Barry.

Actions taken by the board included approving revisions to the Code of Ethics Section of the board policy Manual.

The board agreed on wording that states, "Board members should endeavor at all times to comply with both the letter and intent of the laws and policies affecting the operations of government; be independent, impartial and fair; use the office and resources of

the district solely for the benefit of the district and not for personal gain; avoid conflicts of interest; and maintain the confidentiality of information."

Board members Bob Coomber and David Hutchinson worked as a subcommittee with staff to revise the ethics section.

Steve Goodman, who proposed making changes, said, "I like the process. The two board members were somewhat in disagreement about what should be done. Working with staff, they were able to reach a compromise. That's the way government should work."

## NOTES

(continued from page 6)

to 2 p.m. on Sat., Feb. 23. Morning trek to summit Eagle Peak, in Mt. Diablo State Park. After a short 1/2 mile warm-up, the route will lead up a single track trail traversing the steep chaparral covered hillside. On clear days the view can stretch from the Farallon Islands to the Sierra Nevada. This trek is challenging, so is recommended for experienced hikers only. Elevation gain is 1,800 ft. in just 2 miles of trail. The 6+ mile outing should be done by 2, so bring a snack. Bring plenty of water, sun protection, wear boots and a hat. Heavy rain cancels. Details: R.S.V.P. required (925) 947-3535.

Hike Leader Workshop, 6 to 8 p.m. on Tues., March 5. Those interested in becoming a Save Mount Diablo Hike leader are invited to meet on Tuesday, March 5th from 6-8pm at the Mt. Diablo office to learn about leading hikes in the parks on and around Mount Diablo. There will be some follow up on-the-ground trainings in early spring and later next fall. No experience necessary. R.S.V.P. required (925) 947-3535.

# SHORT NOTES

## Bike-Trail Network

The City of Dublin is hosting a Community Workshop to gather public input on proposed bicycle and pedestrian network updates to the City of Dublin's 2007 Bikeways Master Plan. The goal of the Plan is to create safe, pleasant places for walking and biking in Dublin that balance the needs of all roadway users.

It will be held on Thurs., Feb. 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Dublin Library, 200 Civic Plaza.

## Wintery Walk

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff will host a Wintery Skies Star Walk on Sat., Feb. 23.

Meet Ranger Glen Florey at 6:30 p.m. at Sycamore Grove Park, 1051 Wetmore Road.

Start the weekend with a fantastic journey under the twinkling winter stars above Sycamore Grove. Dress warmly and come out to the park for an evening of star stories and astronomy. If it is clear, there will be a chance to look through a telescope; if it is cloudy, the walk will focus on looking for nocturnal animals. Canceled if raining.

There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

## Parent Group Expo

PTO Today's Annual Parent Group Expo will return to the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Thursday, February 28th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For \$10, PTO and PTA leaders and volunteers will have unlimited access to over 100 of the best school-related companies ready to help them plan school events, fundraisers, and projects for the next year.

Fundraising and school services companies such as World's Finest Chocolate, Great American Opportunities, Otis Spunkmeyer, BRAX Spirit Cups, Chuck E. Cheese's, Flower Power and Yankee Candle will be exhibiting this year and giving away free samples, great prizes and tons of information all day long.

PTO and PTA leaders can also take part in fun and informational activities at the PTO Today booth, such as taking a spin on the popular prize wheel or watching a demonstration of TeacherLists.com, a registry-like site for schools that helps teachers and parents connect relative to the supplies needed at back-to-school and beyond.

This event is presented by PTO Today, the only company dedicated exclusively to providing a full suite of products, programs and services to the entire K-8 school parent group market.

For more information on the PTO Today Expo in Pleasanton, CA visit [www.ptotoday.com/events/register/sf-bay](http://www.ptotoday.com/events/register/sf-bay), or contact our Leader Support team at 1-800-644-3561 x208.

## Ragin' Cajun

The Annual Ragin' Cajun Cancer Fundraising Event is rolling into town on floats of feathers, beads, and doubloons on Friday, March 8, 2013, 6:30 to 11 p.m. at the Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton. The East Bay's Mardi Gras

party supports the Sandra J Wing Healing Therapies Foundation. The evening will include music, dancing, dinner, beads, live and silent auctions, and more.

The Ragin' Cajun Mardi Gras Fundraiser is the primary source of income for the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation, which provides cancer patients in the Tri-Valley with financial assistance for complementary healing services during the course of their chemo or radiation therapy.

Top event sponsors who are helping to make this event possible include Pacific Transformer, Valleycare Medical Oncology Consultants, McKesson, The Rose Hotel, Pacific Color Graphics, Epic Care, Striking Web, Fremont Bank, CMG Financial, MacCorkle Insurance, San Ramon Regional Medical Center, Professional Home Care Associates, Takeda, Heritage Bank of Commerce, Cents & Sensibility, Amador Valley Chiropractic, Sonic Manufacturing, Novus Investments, Diablo Valley Philanthropic Society, Physical Therapy Specialties, Diversified Mortgage Group/Alain Pinel, Mike Kammermeyer, Interim HealthCare.

Tickets are available online at <http://www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org> or by calling (866) 862-7270. If you can't attend the event, please consider purchasing a ticket for a beneficiary or make a donation to the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation.

## Paws to Read

The Paws to Read program, sponsored by the Livermore Public Library and the Valley Humane Society, matches elementary-aged beginner readers with trained and certified dogs in a non-judgmental environment. For 25 minutes, a child will read to a furry friend with the dog's owner quietly looking on to help with any tricky words. Programs of this type have been successful across the country, and testimonials from Livermore parents have been extremely positive.

The Spring Paws to Read program for the Rincon Library for 2013 will run as follows: Fridays, March 1 through March 29, 2013. (two sessions, 3-3:25 and 3:35-4 p.m.). Registration begins Tuesday, February 19, 2013.

Children may register for up to three sessions during the Spring program, as space allows. Drop-ins may be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Participating children should not be fearful of dogs or have allergies to pets.

For more information about the Civic Center series or to register, please call the Livermore Public Library's Children's Desk at 925-373-5504.

## Outdoor Programs

The presentations printed below are free and open to the public. They will be held at REI, 7099 Amador Plaza Road, in Dublin.

Bike Maintenance Basics: 9 am-10:30 am Saturday, March 2; certified bike tech Jill Brown will teach participants how to lube a chain, fix a flat tire in record time, and make other minor adjustments to your bicycle.

Trail Running Basics: 9 am-10:30 am, Saturday, March 16; in this class, REI's Emily Bauska will cover what you need to get on the trail. Learn about technique, training, clothing, and footwear specific to the sport

of trail running.

Half Dome in a Day: Tips for a Successful Hike: 7 pm-8:30 pm, Thursday, March 21; with proper preparation and motivation, nearly anyone can complete the 16-mile hike to its summit and back, in one day. Join Rick Deutsch, author of "One Best Hike: Yosemite's Half Dome," for slides and information on this spectacular day hike. Find out about acquiring permits, which are required for any Half Dome hike, every day of the week. Permits will be made available by pre-season (March) and daily lottery only.

Using POLES for Hiking & Outdoor Exercise: 7 pm-8:30 pm, Thursday, March

28; whether a beginner hiker or a cross-training athlete, learn how optimal use of poles engages the whole body while hiking or walking. This skill is great for the heart, back, and overall well-being. Save your knees, improve endurance, balance, agility, and core strength. Experience noticeable difference in spine function and posture. Jayah Faye Paley, creator of the award-winning DVD "POLES for Hiking, Trekking & Walking" ([www.AdventureBuddies.net](http://www.AdventureBuddies.net)), will lead the demonstration.

Contact REI Dublin's Customer Service Department for more information, (925) 828-9826.

## Axis Health Plans April Fools 5K Run / Walk

Axis Community Health's first-ever fun, foolish, and fabulous 5K Walk & Run takes to the streets on Sunday, April 7th.

"Because 'Laughter is the Best Medicine,' everyone is invited to come in costume—or not if you're a serious runner," says Sue Compton, CEO of Axis. "You can run or walk, push a stroller, or even form a centipede team for this family-friendly event." The event starts at the future Axis location, 5925 West Las Positas Blvd., in Pleasanton's Hacienda Business Park.

"Raising money that enables needy Tri-Valley families to take their children to the doctor is important to me," says Becky Yeffa, Chairperson of the Foundation for Axis Community Health, the event sponsor. Proceeds will support medical care for low-income and uninsured families.

Axis is the sole provider of affordable, quality primary medical care in the Tri-Valley. Families turn to Axis for immunizations, prenatal care, chronic disease management, and other needs. By helping people stay healthy, Axis is helping lower healthcare costs by preventing the need for more expensive care, according to Compton. In addition to medical care, Axis offers behavioral health and WIC

nutrition services and serves more than 14,000 Tri-Valley residents at its current five sites.

"It is especially meaningful when local businesses support quality, compassionate health care in our community," says Yeffa. "Sports Authority is our first corporate sponsor. We really appreciate their stepping up to help make this effort a success. We hope more businesses want to get in on the fun." Sponsorship categories are LOL (Laugh out Loud - \$500); Chuckle Sponsor (\$1,000); Tickle Sponsor (\$2,500); Guffaw Sponsor (\$5,000); and Giggle Sponsor (\$10,000).

Registration includes a commemorative tech T-shirt. Registration fee is \$30 for adults until April 3, \$35 after; and \$15 for youth (17 or under) until April 5, \$20 after. Event logistics are by On Your Mark Events. Runners can win medals in their age division. Prizes include Best Costume in adult, teen, and team categories, as well as top fund-raiser in each category. The event takes place rain or shine. To register, sponsor or volunteer, go to [www.AxisAprilFools5K.org](http://www.AxisAprilFools5K.org) or call 925-201-6221.

"Whether you walk, run, cheer or come out just for the laughs, join us on April 7," says Yeffa, "because staying healthy is no joke!"

**ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**  
**Feb. 22nd, 23rd, & 24th, 2013**  
 Hours: Fri 10-5:30; Sat 9-5:30; Sun 9-4:30  
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Livermore Downtown Inc. (LDI) noted in giving the award, "The Independent is a strong advocate for assisting our small businesses in local advertising. They work closely with LDI in creating cooperative programs. These give businesses affordable ways to introduce themselves to our local consumers. The Independent is a consistent and reliable source in finding out about local events, cultural arts programs and local news. Their assistance in producing our Livermore Wine Country Festival Program is a valuable outreach to the Tri-Valley to attend and gives us an attractive information guide to assist attendees to enjoy the festival to its fullest!"

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# Lab Recertified to Analyze Chemical Weapons Samples

After a two-year process, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has been recertified as a facility that can analyze samples collected during inspections under the Chemical Weapons Convention.

In force since 1997, the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) has been ratified by 188 countries, including the United States. It is administered by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). Livermore's OPCW work is carried out by the Forensic Science Center (FSC) as a part of the Global Security Principal Directorate's Nonproliferation Program.

To maintain certification, the Lab and other OPCW-designated laboratories must maintain a three-year rolling minimum average of at least two "A" grades and one "B" in ongoing proficiency tests.

The Laboratory received its original certification in 2003 and retained its certification to accept samples and analyze them for the possible presence of chemical weapons under the CWC for seven straight years. However, in February 2011, the Laboratory received a "C" grade in its proficiency test and was suspended from receiving samples during an OPCW challenge inspection.

Since that time, in three straight proficiency tests -- October 2011, April 2012 and October 2012 -- the Lab has garnered "A" grades and has regained its full status as a designated OPCW laboratory.

"It's not unusual for a number of the OPCW laboratories to be suspended for failing to achieve their proficiency standards," said Brad Hart, the director of the Laboratory's Forensic Science Center.

Out of the 23 currently certified OPCW laboratories worldwide, only eight of the labs (or about one-third) have never been suspended. Only one laboratory, Finland's Verifin lab, has received straight "A" grades since the start.

Besides LLNL, the other U.S.-designated laboratory that could receive OPCW

challenge samples, the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.-based Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, was suspended from 2006-2008.

Under the CWC treaty, the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons is banned, as is the transfer of chemical-weapon-related technologies.

In the latest proficiency test, held Oct. 15-29 at the Lab, FSC scientists analyzed two types of samples, an organic waste sample and a waste water sample, for CWC-monitored chemicals.

The Livermore researchers were given 15 days to identify the "suspected" chemical weapons compounds in the samples and report their findings, said Lab principal investigator Armando Alcaraz.

Alcaraz and Hart called the October test "one of the most difficult technical challenges of any of the previous OPCW proficiency tests that Livermore has taken."

The organic waste sample was spiked with high concentrations of interfering hydrocarbons. These compounds completely hindered the team's nitrogen screening techniques and required development of a special sample cleanup procedure to detect and identify the nitrogen-containing reportable chemicals.

The waste water sample contained a reportable spiking chemical that included deuterated functional groups (i.e., had deuterium introduced into the compound). A deuterated reportable chemical had never been spiked in a proficiency test before. The compound (di-isopropyl-(d14) methylphosphonate) was not in any of the spectral databases.

"The Lab's Forensic Science Center is a full spectrum all-weapons of mass destruction forensic analysis center," Hart said. "We span everything from basic research to applied research and analysis of real-world samples. Some of the OPCW-designated labs focus solely on their OPCW work. We work on OPCW projects for about two weeks of the year."

The FSC was selected in

2000 by the State Department to be a U.S. facility to seek OPCW certification. The FSC was tapped because of the Laboratory's advanced environmental controls and physical security, as well as its demonstrated capabilities in detecting and analyzing trace levels of unknown materials.

Under a condition set by the U.S. Senate during its ratification of the CWC, all samples taken by OPCW inspectors at U.S. chemical plants must be analyzed in the United States.

The Laboratory's OPCW work is funded by the National Nuclear Security Administration's Nonproliferation and International Security Office and its Office of Dismantlement and Transparency.

The samples for the October proficiency test, taken by LLNL and 22 other laboratories around the world, were prepared by the VERTOX Laboratory, Defence Research & Development Establishment in Gwalior, India. The participating laboratories' test results were then evaluated by the LAVEMA (Laboratorio de Verificacion de Armas Quimicas, Instituto Tecnológico la Maranosa) in Madrid, Spain.

In the most recent round of testing, 12 laboratories received preliminary grades, of "A's," two received "B's," four received "C's," one was given a "D" and four were given "F's."

In addition to Alcaraz and Hart, other Lab researchers participating in the OPCW tests were Maureen Alai, Cynthia Alviso, Deon Anex, Sarah Chinn, Saphon Hok, Carolyn Koester, Roald Leif, Brian Mayer, Tuijuana Mitchell-Hall, Heather Mulcahy, Michael Riley, Edmund Salazar, Robert Schmidt, Carlos Valdez, Alexander Vu, and Audrey Williams.

Through the OPCW process, Livermore researchers have developed working relationships with the U.S. State, Commerce, and Homeland Security departments, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other law enforcement agencies.

# Count Takes One-day Survey of Homelessness

EveryOne Home has conducted its biennial survey of homeless people, and is looking forward to using the data to ensure that revenue is directed to where it is needed.

Some 233 volunteers staffed 33 service sites throughout Alameda County on Jan. 30, said Elaine de Coligny, executive director of EveryOne Home.

EveryOne Home is a non-profit organization that determines where the need is, and how government and private grant revenue can best be directed to solve the homeless problems.

Government funders of homeless programs require counties to take the survey every two years.

The data won't be written into a final report until this summer, said de Coligny. It's impossible to tell right now what trends might be happening in the homeless population, since the samples vary, depending on where people are contacted. Only the statistical formula used on the countywide data will yield an accurate picture, said de Coligny.

In Livermore, people were contacted while receiving services at the Tri-Valley Haven's Food Pantry and the Open Heart Kitchen, which rotates its location around the Valley. When the survey

was taken, the location was Asbury United Methodist Church.

Livermore Human Services Coordinator Jean Prasher said there were many more homeless people at the kitchen, because homeless people usually have no facilities where they can cook. They rely on the weekday meals at the kitchen.

EveryOne Home uses the data to channel funders' money into programs that can be tailored to meet the needs of homeless populations that are especially underserved.

The last survey, in 2011, found that there was a decrease of 28 percent in the homeless family population since 2009. The most dramatic drop in that demographic, 67 percent, for unsheltered families, which went from 72 to 24 families over the two years. (Other categories include those sheltered in emergency or transitional housing, and other homeless situations, such as people with AIDS/HIV or others living in inadequate housing.)

De Coligny said that the drop in homeless families could be traced to the spotlight put on them for more help from the government agencies and philanthropic donors.

However, in the 2011 survey, the number of adults

without children increased significantly. It was up 13 percent, from 1541 to 2072. As a result, EveryOne Home put a focus on that homeless group. De Coligny said that she will be reading the results of this year's survey to see how well that need has been met.

As many as 16,000 people experience homelessness in the course of a year in the county, says the EveryOne Home web page. Some 6215 people are homeless on any given night. Children are 28 percent of the county's homeless population.

The homelessness survey is computed like a political poll. Not everyone is counted. There are samplings, with various people representing a statistical number of people in their category. For example, a certain number of middle-age white women represents that category, and others represent other combinations of ages, ethnic categories, single/married/children, and so on.

EveryOne Home began its mission to end homelessness in the county in 2005. Its goal is to house 20,000 homeless people by 2020. There are also goals aimed at reducing the length of time a household spends homeless, and keeping people housed for at least one to three years.

# Las Positas College to Launch Business Speaker Series

The Business and Marketing Department at Las Positas College announced that Ray Cloud will discuss his story about overcoming obstacles to become a senior manager at the Fortune 500 Company, Ross Stores. The presentation will be on Thursday February 21 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 2420 of the Multi-Disciplinary Building (2400).

Cloud's visit to Las Posi-

tas College is part of the inaugural year of The Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series. It has been designed to feature local business leaders who will share stories about embracing a start-up spirit to achieve professional and organizational success.

The Business and Entrepreneurship Speaker Series is open to students and the general public as a campus

community outreach effort by the LPC Business and Marketing Department. There is no charge for admission. Visitors are reminded that the campus has a \$2 parking fee. Daily tickets are available from vending machines in the campus parking lots. The College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore 94551. For more information, visit [www.laspositascollege.edu](http://www.laspositascollege.edu).

# New Look at Cell Membrane Reveals Surprising Organization

A new way of looking at a cell's surface reveals the distribution of small molecules in the cell membrane, changing the understanding of its organization.

A novel imaging study by researchers from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the University of Illinois and the National Institutes of Health revealed some unexpected relationships among molecules within cell membranes.

Their findings provide a new way of studying cell structure and ultimately its function.

Led by Mary Kraft of the University of Illinois, Peter Weber of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Joshua Zimmerberg of the National Institutes of Health, the team published their findings in the online version of the Jan. 28 edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Cells are enveloped in a semi-permeable membrane that acts as a barrier between the inside and outside of the cell. The membrane is mainly composed of a class of molecules called lipids, which are small and easily perturbed when tracked.

"Lipids have multiple functions serving as both membrane structure and signaling molecules, so they regulate other functions

inside the cell," Kraft said. "Therefore, understanding how they're organized is important. You need to know where they are to figure out how they're performing these regulatory functions."

Previous cell membrane research suggested that lipids in the membrane assemble into patches, called domains, which differ in composition. But the challenge of direct observation has limited research into how lipids are organized in the membrane, and how that organization affects cell function.

In the new study, the team used an advanced, molecule-specific imaging method developed at Lawrence Livermore that allowed the researchers to look at the membrane itself and map a particular type of lipid on mouse cell membranes. The researchers at University of Illinois fed lipids labeled with rare stable isotopes to the cells and then imaged the distribution of the isotopes with high-resolution imaging mass spectrometry at LLNL.

Called sphingolipids (sfing-go-lipids), these molecules are thought to associate with cholesterol to form small domains about 200 nanometers across. The direct imaging method revealed that sphingolipids

do form domains, but not in the way the researchers expected.

The domains were much bigger than results from prior experiments.

"We were amazed when we saw the first images of the patches of sphingolipids across the cell surface," said Peter Weber, who directed the team at Lawrence Livermore. "At the start, we weren't sure if our imaging mass spectrometry method would be sensitive enough to detect the labeled lipids, let alone what we would see."

When the researchers looked at cells that were low on cholesterol -- thought to play a key role in lipid aggregation -- they were surprised to find that the lipids still formed domains. However, disruption to the cell's structural scaffold seemed to dissolve the lipid clusters.

"We found that the presence of domains was somewhat affected by cholesterol but was more affected by the cytoskeleton -- the pro-

tein network underneath the membrane," Kraft said. "The central issue is that the data is suggesting that the mechanism that's responsible for these domains is much more complicated than initially expected."

In addition, the new study found that sphingolipid domains were incompletely associated with a marker protein that researchers have long assumed lived where sphingolipids congregated. This means that data collected with imaging techniques that target this protein are not as accurate in represent-

ing sphingolipid distribution as previously thought.

The researchers plan to use the direct-imaging method in conjunction with other more conventional methods, such as fluorescence, to further determine the organization of different kinds of molecules in the membrane, their interactions and how they affect the cell's function. They plan to begin by targeting cholesterol.

"Cholesterol abundance is important. You change that, you tremendously change cell function," Kraft said.

Other Livermore researchers include Ian Hutcheon and Kevin Carpenter.

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DARK SKIES (PG13) DLP	12:15	2:40	5:05 7:25 9:45
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) DLP D-BOX	11:45	2:25	5:00 7:30 9:55*
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) DLP	1:00	3:30	6:10 8:30
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG13) DLP	12:35	3:40	6:40 9:40
SAFE HAVEN (PG13) DLP	1:10	4:10	7:10 9:50
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) DLP	11:50	2:00	4:15 6:35 8:45*
IDENTITY THIEF (R) DLP	12:40	1:50 3:45 4:35	6:15 7:00 8:45 9:40
SIDE EFFECTS (R) DLP		12:30	6:40 9:20
DJANGO UNCHAINED (R) DLP			3:15
WARM BODIES (PG13) DLP	11:50	2:15	4:40 7:15 9:45*
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) DLP	12:45	3:45	6:45 9:30
ZERO DARK THIRTY (R) DLP		1:00	4:30 8:00
PREVIEWS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 10:00PM			
21 AND OVER (R) DLP, JACK THE GIANT SLAYER (PG13) DLP, PHANTOM (R) DLP			

**JOB FAIR**

**HERITAGE ESTATES** Tuesday, March 5th  
9am - 1pm

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**ALL PARTS NEEDED**

# OBITUARIES

## Anthony "Papa Tony" Melchionne

May 5, 1924 - Jan. 31, 2013

Anthony "Papa Tony" Melchionne, devoted father, grandfather and great grandfather, passed away in his sleep peacefully on Thursday, January 31, 2013. Tony was born to Pellegrino and Jiovannina Melchionne in Belleville, New Jersey.

Tony joined the United States Marines Corp in 1942. After completing boot camp at Quantico, VA he was deployed to the Solomon Islands in the South Pacific. There Tony served as an airplane mechanic and loaded B-25 Mitchell bombers for the VMB-413 Bomb Squadron, the Flying Nightmares.

In 1953 Tony married Yvette Santos in New Jersey. Tony and Yvette had 5 children - Yvonne Marie, Joseph Anthony, Linda Jenny, Laura Anne and Mary Celeste.

Tony owned and operated Melchionne Brothers Esso Gas Station in Belleville, NJ with his brothers Lou and Ses until 1961. He then purchased a dairy farm in Canandaigua, NY where he toiled raising dairy cows and his five children. In Canandaigua Tony was Zoning Officer, Captain of the Hopewell Volunteer Fire Department, an EMT for the Canandaigua Emergency Squad, and a Trustee member of the Canandaigua VFW Post 7414. He was a Union Carpenter in Rochester and also worked as an Ontario County Correction Officer, and after retiring he worked as a ski lift operator at the Greek Peak ski resort.

Tony enjoyed hang gliding, fly fishing, sail boating and kayaking. He loved to listen to Italian opera and eat all his favorite Italian delicacies. When he sold his dairy cows and equipment he continued to raise rabbits, turkeys and capons that he gifted to his friends and family.

Tony moved to Pleasanton, California in 2000 where he lived with his daughter Laura, her husband David and two grandsons, Jordan and Joshua, for thirteen years. In Pleasanton, Tony was the grand marshal of the local family Italiano Feasts held in October to celebrate Columbus Day and the Italian Heritage.

Tony is predeceased by his son Joseph Melchionne and survived by daughter Yvonne (Joel) Trimble, Port-au-Prince, Haiti; daughter Linda Melchionne (Stephen Bonnell, deceased), Schuyler Lake, NY; daughter Laura Melchionne (David Ott) Pleasanton, CA; daughter Mary Thorn (Larry Thomas) Marathon, NY; 12 grandchildren - Sara Shifflet (Trimble), Joel Trimble, Jr., Paul Trimble, Michael Trimble, Jenny Bonnell, Mary Yve Bonnell, Seth Bonnell, Evan Thorn, Tara Thorn, Jordan Ott, Joshua Ott and Rachel Melchionne; and 9 great grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Thursday, February 7 at The Fountain Christian Fellowship Church, in Pleasanton, CA. A large gathering of family and friends shared stories and fondly remembered Tony. US Marines Sergeant Kalani Garber and Sergeant Tyler Webb were in attendance. Tony was buried on Saturday, February 16 at the Glendale Cemetery Association, Bloomfield, NJ, next to his father, mother and many of his brothers and sisters.

Tony will be dearly missed by his family and friends, and his legacy and stories will be passed on for generations to come. Rest in Peace.

*Our brother has fallen. Marine is down. Daddy is sick. Grandfather is weak. Great Grandfather has*

*passed. But he has risen. He has risen indeed. God Bless you Papa Tony.*

## George Cramer

George Cramer, 93, a member of the Karuk Tribe, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at the Veteran's Center, Livermore, California.



George is predeceased by his brother, four sisters, wives Althea Inlow Cramer, Marie Cramer, and Madelyn Sue Cramer, son Andrew Cramer, daughter Betty Bohannon, and grandchildren Craig Cramer and Karin Carter.

George is survived by his sister Elsie of Oakley; his son George (Cathy) Cramer, Jr., of Dublin; Grandchildren Jonathan Cramer of New Orleans, LA, Jennifer Cramer of Mountain View, Paul Cramer of Livermore and Katie Sue Cramer of San Ramon; Proud Great Grandfather of Salina Carter and Noah Carter both of Brentwood.

George was born July 28, 1919 in Etna Mills, CA to Harry Cramer and Elena Roff Cramer. He spent his first years on Moffett Creek. After his father died, the family moved to Redding, CA. He moved many times over the years, but always seemed to return to Redding.

Growing up in the Great Depression was difficult for his family. With five sisters and a brother to help feed, he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps and worked on Shasta Dam. He joined the 11th Cavalry, U.S. Army in 1939 and served until after World War II. Among his favorite duty stations were the Presidio of Monterey and San Francisco. An accomplished horseman, he was occasionally drafted to replace missing officers on the polo team. He laughed often when telling of his exploits as a ringer. He was proud of his service as a horse soldier. He loved to regale his family with stories of his time in the cavalry and in war time Europe.

He loved to fish and travel in his R.V. In the eighties, diagnosed with cancer and not expected to survive, he climbed in his R.V. and went fishing. He spent the next twenty years on the road. Legally blind, his wife would watch the side of the road giving him directions and telling him when to stop. No other family member would ever get in a vehicle he was driving.

The family extends a heartfelt thank you to the doctors, nurses and staff at the Livermore VA.

A celebration of life was held Sunday February 10, 2013 in Walnut Creek, CA. Interment will follow at the Fort Jones Cemetery on February 22, 2013.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Karuk Tribe, P.O. Box 1016, Happy Camp, CA 96039

## Carroll Anita Masquelier

Carroll Anita Masquelier was born into this world October, 18, 1930, in Oakland Ca. Then, eighty two years later, on February 8, 2013, she died peacefully in her Tracy home. Meanwhile, she spent a lifetime building a rich legacy of family devotion. She was thought of as Beloved Grams; to others, she was Grandma Great. She was Mom to some and a friend to many. She was a peacekeeper. She was too modest for ceremony and

too helpful to let the needs of a loved one go unmet. She would not hesitate to take what was hers and make it yours. Her life was a fragrant garden of generosity.

The daughter of George and Bonita Bernard and sister to Francis, Barbara, Diana, and Robert, Carroll received Christian baptism when she was a child. Having lived most of her life raising her family in Livermore, she moved to Tracy in 1987. She was preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, Elmer "Jack" Masquelier, and is survived by daughter Shirley McMaster and her husband Patrick; son Don Masquelier and his wife Jenny; and son Joe Masquelier and his wife Holly; grandchildren Chase and Jennifer McMaster; Katie and Josh Brannon; Donia and Chris Davis; Joseph and Melissa Masquelier; Daniel and Chelsea Masquelier; and Joshua, Caleb, and Samuel Masquelier. She was adored by her 17 great grandchildren.

Carroll spent much of her life working at Hills Brothers Coffee and later Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. She was inspired by a variety of interests and activities, from playing baseball in high school to target shooting with her grandsons. She was sometimes referred to as "High Tech Grams" due to her aptitude with computer technologies. She rarely turned down an opportunity to try new things and to go new places, especially if it provided occasion to enjoy life with the people she loved. She was not afraid of risks, even in her old age, remaining independent and self-sufficient by her own resolve.

After moving to Tracy, she began attending church regularly around the year 1990, most recently at Good Shepherd Church in Tracy. She maintained a passion for reading and learning, her favorite books being the Bible and other true stories such as biographies and histories. Even before her death, she remained active and social, meeting regularly for lunch with friends and serving as parliamentarian for the Tracy Widowed Persons Association. She took great comfort in Proverbs 17:6 which reads, "Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children."

Above all, Carroll, was devoted to her family, touching them with every drop of sunshine that she had at her disposal, not sparing a single ray of happiness; caring, giving, laughing, loving - this was Carroll's gift to the world, and it is for these things that she will be missed. If you visited her, you would always feel at home. When you left her house and drove away, you could always find her lingering at the front door waving good-bye. And she never once turned away and shut the door until you were out of sight. The door is shut this time for good, but only to be opened even wider on the other side.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, February 16th, 11:00 am at Valley Community Baptist Church, 903 S. Corral Hollow Rd, Tracy. If desired, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Tracy Interfaith Ministries or Tracy Crisis Pregnancy Center.

## Richard Allen Palmer

Richard was born on Nov. 5, 1943 in Indiana and grew up in Illinois. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he learned Electronic Engineering and then taught it on Treasure Island until his Honorable discharge.



Rick fell in love with California. He worked for Lawrence Livermore National Lab and retired after 32 years of service. Rick was an avid hunter, fisherman, golfer and he loved animals. He contributed to the local Humane Society. Richard passed away suddenly on Jan. 22, 2013 of a brain hemorrhage.

He is preceded in death by his adoring sister, Janise Goldwater and father, Carlton Palmer Jr. He is survived by his 97 year old mother, Leona Palmer, his loving companion of the past 12 years, Gayle Miller; nephew, Rodney Canavan, his daughter Zia, Zia's mother Kimberly and step sister Sienna.

Private Services were held at Memory Gardens at the Palmer family plot.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

## Glenn Arthur Dean

Dec. 30, 1936-Feb. 11, 2013  
Resident of Livermore

A great light has gone out of our lives. Glenn was a loving and caring husband to his wife Sandra; a wonderful

grandfather to Erik, Luke, and Griffin Bateson and to Sarah and Tommy Turner;

father-in-law to Heather and Will Bateson; Christian and Lauren Turner.

Glenn attended the School of Social Work at USC where he earned a Master of Social Work. He loved his profession as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker; retiring after 24 years with the VA Medical Center.

He suffered with Myelodysplastic Syndrome and finally, Leukemia at the end.

Glenn died as he lived, with dignity. The family wishes to thank Hope Hospice for the wonderful care they provided.

## Perry Russell Coe

Former resident of Pleasanton April 25, 1962- Jan. 5, 2013

Our precious son passed away in South Lake Tahoe at the age of 50, a victim of fibromyalgia.

Perry was born in San Mateo and grew up in Pleasanton. He graduated from Amador Valley High School.

He spent his career in the aviation industry. While employed at National Airmotive, Rolls Royce and United Airlines, he performed aircraft maintenance as well as reciprocating and jet engine maintenance while holding applicable Federal Aviation Administration ratings.

Perry's hobbies included motorcycling, kayaking, trading precious metals and travelling the world. His favorite travel destination was Barcelona, Spain. He created original art pieces using iron, silver and plastics.

Over the years, he had a number of girl friends, but preferred staying single. He loved living at Lake Tahoe or near the ocean.

His friends and family will miss his sense of humor, generosity and thoughtfulness.

He is survived by his father, Kenneth Coe, his mother, Ruth Pauline Coe, his sister Laura Drake; uncles Scott Coe (Dorina) and Eugene Sprague; nieces Leanne Drake and Michelle Drake, nephew Allen Drake; cousins Dina Coe, Andrew Coe, Douglas Sprague, William Sprague (Jessica), Joan MacLean and Robert Rugar.

A private memorial service was held for his family.

The family prefers contributions in his memory to Hope Hospice, 6377 Clark Ave., Dublin CA, 94568.

## Theodore Lane Andersen

Theodore Lane Andersen (1940-2013), husband, father, friend and athlete, finally encountered something that couldn't be fixed with either duct tape nor gorilla glue. Go

rrilla glue it seems is best reserved for making or repairing golf clubs, a hobby he thoroughly enjoyed. Each club had a story and Teddy loved to tell a good story. His stories had a common theme - great people, good food, and enduring friendships.

Ted was genuine, very active, loyal, and always available to help wherever and whenever he was needed. There was a right way to do things and he was never shy about explaining if you became confused on that point. He approached life the same way he played basketball, honestly, with absolute confidence in his own ability, and the mentality of a man a foot taller and fifty pounds heavier. His fearless competitive spirit, and will to win earned him the respect of his teammates on the basketball court at Livermore High from which he graduated in 1958.

Ted was also a man of routine. He drove the same Livermore roads he has for decades. Attempts to convince him that there were newer roads and faster routes were both unnecessary and unproductive. Teddy's love of golf and his weekly golf game were surpassed only by his love of family. He took great pride in watching his granddaughter, Marisa, grow into a beautiful college student and grandson, Dyson, compete as a fierce yet slightly undersized point guard. It seems some things live on . . . As for Teddy, I believe he is with us still, but looking around for that duct tape and gorilla glue, as things up there need fixing too.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Peggy, daughter Leah, son Lane, daughter-in-law Gloria Andersen, mother-in-law Jeanne O'Donnell, sister-in-law June Nunes, all of Livermore and brother-in-law Tim O'Donnell (Sandy) of Rio Vista and many friends. He was preceded in death by his father Robert Andersen with whom he ran the Livermore Beverage Company for many years and his father-in-law Robert O'Donnell. A celebration of his life is being planned. For more details, contact Leah at 925-872-1693.

Iloe Ruth Rodrigues Former Livermore resident Iloe Ruth Rodrigues was born on Nov. 13, 1925. She

passed away with her family



by her side on Feb. 15, 2013, at the age of 87. Iloe was a warm, sweet, generous, kind wife, mom, sister, grandmother, and friend. On Aug. 7, 1965 she married her best friend and the love of her life. She is survived by her husband Ronald Rodrigues, daughter Billie Sue Lawrence, sons, Larry Cox, and Ron Rodrigues, four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter. She was preceded in death by her parents Henry and Eula Crist, two sisters, and two brothers. She leaves a legacy of being a strong and tenacious woman who loved her family and friends.

Visitation will be on Thursday, Feb. 21, 2013 from 5 to 7 p.m. Funeral Services will be on Friday, Feb. 22, 2013 at 1 p.m., all at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore, CA. Interment will follow at Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Romeo Theodore Solis Jr. March 8, 1949-Feb. 15, 2013

Romeo went into the arms of Jesus on Friday, February 15, 2013 at the age of 63.

He was born to Romeo and Angelita Solis on March 8, 1949 in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Romeo graduated from Irvington High School in 1967. He married Vicki Sue Lewis in Carson City, Nevada on May 2, 1970.

Romeo was retired after serving 27 years at Alameda Naval Aviation Depot.

Romeo is survived by his wife of 43 years, Vicki Solis; his father, Romeo "Ted" Solis; his sister and brother, Grace Finlason and Michael Solis; his daughters, Andrea Anderson and Nicole St John; his sons-in-laws, Darin Anderson and Garrett St. John; and his 7 grandchildren, Dalaney, Darin James, Daralyn, Nathaniel, Allyah, and Destiny Anderson and Raegan St. John.

Romeo enjoyed golf, playing the lottery, softball and most importantly spending time with family and friends. He was a phenomenal son, husband, dad, grandpa and friend. He was an active member of Sunset Community Church, he loved the Lord and his church family. Romeo was an inspiration to all.

A celebration of life service will be held Saturday, Feb. 23 at 1:00 p.m. at Sunset Community Church in Livermore.

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# MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

beach cleanup efforts plastic bags are second only to cigarette butts as the most common item removed from our beaches.

This doesn't even take into account the refining process to make the bags, the oil they use to make them (estimated to be 75 million barrels a year), etc. I agree it's a hassle to bring your own reusable bags, but it's simply a matter of getting into the habit. More than once I've forgotten mine, and then lament having to pay that 10 cents per bag fee. But by this time next year, the habit will have been made. I also agree that recycling is an illusion to help make people feel better about their over usage of single-use items. However, eliminating (or at least limiting) our use of single-use items (including plastic water bottles, styrofoam cups, etc), is a HUGE first step to limiting our impact on our planet. If I'm right, we may well have saved future generations a huge headache. If I'm wrong, we've cleaned up the clutter a bit. What's to lose?

## Give Money Back Rick Osborne Livermore

The subject of this article is that Livermore is starting to get flush after the 2008 recession. This is good news.

The text then goes on to discuss what services to bring back that were cut to staunch the fiscal bleeding.

Nowhere in the article is it opined that one option is to return excess tax revenue to the taxpayers from whence it came.

Why does government always think that any money it has must be spent? Taxpayers involuntarily give up their cash to fund city government and should have first call on excess funds. The matter should be presented to the voters in a special election and let the populace have their say.

## Changing Times David Handeli Livermore

High School: 1957 vs. 2010

Scenario 1: Jack goes quail hunting before school and then pulls into the school parking lot with his shotgun in his truck's gun rack. 1957 - Vice Principal comes over, looks at Jack's shotgun, goes to his car and gets his shotgun to show Jack. 2010 - School goes into lock down, FBI called, Jack hauled off to jail and never sees his truck or gun again. Counselors called in for traumatized students and teachers.

Scenario 2: Johnny and Mark get into a fist fight after school. 1957 - Crowd gathers. Mark wins. Johnny and Mark shake hands and end up buddies. 2010 - Police called and SWAT team arrives -- they arrest both Johnny and Mark. They are both charged with assault and both expelled even

though Johnny started it

Scenario 3: Jeffrey will not be still in class, he disrupts other students. 1957 - Jeffrey sent to the Principal's office and given a good paddling by the Principal. He then returns to class, sits still and does not disrupt class again. 2010 - Jeffrey is given huge doses of Ritalin. He becomes a zombie. He is then tested for ADD. The family gets extra money (SSI) from the government because Jeffrey has a disability.

Scenario 4: Billy breaks a window in his neighbor's car and his Dad gives him a whipping with his belt. 1957- Billy is more careful next time, grows up normal, goes to college and becomes a successful businessman. 2010 - Billy's dad is arrested for child abuse Billy is removed to foster care and joins a gang. The state psychologist is told by Billy's sister that she remembers being abused herself and their dad goes to prison. Billy's mom has an affair with the psychologist.

Scenario 5: Mark gets a headache and takes some aspirin to school. 1957- Mark shares his aspirin with the Principal out on the smoking dock. 2010- The police are called and Mark is expelled from school for drug violations. His car is then searched for drugs and weapons.

Scenario 6: Pedro fails high school English. 1957- Pedro goes to summer school, passes English and goes to college. 2010- Pedro's cause is taken up by state. Newspaper articles appear nationally explaining that teaching English as a requirement for graduation is racist. ACLU files class action lawsuit against the state school system and Pedro's English teacher. English is then banned from core curriculum. Pedro is given his diploma anyway but ends up mowing lawns for a living because he cannot speak English.

Scenario 7: Johnny takes apart leftover firecrackers from the Fourth of July, puts them in a model airplane paint bottle and blows up a red ant bed. 1957 - Ants die. 2010 - ATF, Homeland Security and the FBI are all called. Johnny is charged with domestic terrorism. The FBI investigates his parents -- and all siblings are removed from their home and all computers are confiscated. Johnny's dad is placed on a terror watch list and is never allowed to fly again.

Scenario 8: Johnny falls while running during recess and scrapes his knee. He is found crying by his teacher, Mary. Mary hugs him to comfort him. 1957 - In a short time, Johnny feels better and goes on playing. 2010 - Mary is accused of being a sexual predator and loses her job. She faces 3 years in State Prison. Johnny undergoes 5 years of therapy.

This is how stupid we have become!

# DUBLIN

(continued from page one)

Haubert said that he was extremely impressed with Gupta's background and education, "and the diversity of thought that he brings to the table."

Gupta said he brings the background experience to help recruit more high tech businesses to Dublin. That statement appeared to catch the council's attention.

During the council's interview, Gupta said that he would like to see Dublin open a business incubator, as has been done in Fremont and Sunnyvale. "It would allow small tech companies to come in during their floundering stage, and be able to take off. We could cut them a break on sales tax and other impediments to their growth, so that when they do advance, we are in on the

growth," said Gupta.

Gupta earned an engineering degree from Stanford and a law degree from the University of San Francisco. He has started up two companies, and currently serves on the board of one that manufactures software. He is also a member of a non-profit board and the board of San Francisco Law School, where he teaches.

Gupta is married, and has no children, which he said put him in the DINKY category: Double Income, No Kids. He told the council he understands the community and will be able to help build a Dublin brand that will appeal to that demographic, and attract more such people to Dublin.

Connectivity and communication are important, said

Gupta. Although he holds a law degree, he does not want to practice, but instead wants to help people arrive at solutions without facing the conflict found in courts. He has taught law students who were struggling with writing to improve their skills to the point of writing legal briefs for appellate court.

Biddle asked all finalists what they would do if they really liked an idea that the city would like to implement, but could not afford to do so. Gupta's answer was that in law school, where he served on the board, the students came in with an idea. He added, "I had to look them in the eye and say, 'We just can't finance this incredible idea.'"

All finalists were asked if they planned to run in 2014,

the end of Swalwell's term. Only King said he would not do so. Gupta said that he definitely would, and had already been making plans to run on his own when the vacancy opened up.

In the council packet were two letters of endorsement for Gupta. One was from Matt Morrison, who was active in Pleasanton city politics for Councilmember Karla Brown and former Councilmember Matt Sullivan. Both Brown and Sullivan are slow growth proponents. Morrison, a professor at San Francisco Law School, met Gupta in 2009 at the law school.

The other endorsement letter for Gupta came from Fremont city attorney David Benoun, who has worked with him in a professional capacity.

## Three Guys Named Steve Give "Swirl" A New Twist

by Laura Ness

There's little doubt that locating a tasting room in Blacksmith Square has opened up a whole new world for three guys named Steve, not to mention for Rocco and Stephanie next door. It's become a destination for locals who enjoy having a glass of wine after dinner. And, it's added a lot of work to their already heavy load, but they seem to be thriving on the challenge of making great wine and providing visitors a pleasantly memorable experience. Thus far, they seem to be doing an exemplary job at both.

Although the most talkative of the three, Steve Burman, downplays the significance of awards, he's nonetheless proud that the 2010 Dry Creek Zinfandel and the 2008 Livermore Cabernet won Silver in the recent S.F. Chronicle competition. Says Berman, "We don't want to get too caught up in all the award stuff. We want to be three guys, making wines worth more than our price point, having fun,

but taken seriously. We are very fortunate. We are just students of the art, never claiming to have it all figured out. If we stay grounded, sell a good value wine, and realize people want an enjoyable time when they visit us; we think we will do okay. We may never be rich with money, but we will be rich beyond imagination by doing what we love." Bravo on that. Quite the mission statement, coming from a former firefighter and Silicon Valley exec turned winemaker and tasting room guy.

What they've learned about the wine business since their involvement in the ill-fated soap opera that still surrounds the local label with the large white bird, could fill more barrels than there's room for in the Tenuta facility where they currently process their wines.

One of the most important lessons they've learned is that they need more wine just to keep their tasting room clientele and growing wine club happy. Consequently, they doubled their

production in 2012. They have quite an arsenal ready to launch this year when the current supply runs out.

Of all the wines tasted during a recent visit, the about-to-be bottled 2012 Sauvignon Blanc from Ghilmetti Vineyard is the bomb: beckoning aromas of grapefruit, pineapple and lime lead to flavors of gooseberry, pineapple guava, candied apple, smoky orange peel and melon. Made in stainless, this wine is fresh, clean and possesses great depth. We also barrel-sampled two promising Chardonnays: one a short timer in oak, the other basking in barrel a bit longer. Like a greedy sunbather on a white sand beach, its rich flavors of apple bread pudding emphasize its love affair with soaking up extra toast. A true beach babe!

One of their more interesting wines is the non-vintage 3 Reds (Cab, Petit Verdot and Merlot), which they bottled specifically for a woman they met on the internet. Not what you think: she rented Steve B's property, called "Wine & The Sea," on the Outer Banks of NC, and was intrigued by his wines. Turns out she and a group of her sister throat cancer survivor friends like to go on yearly outings and discover new things that really excite their remaining tastebuds. He sent her three blend samples to try, and she chose the 3 Reds. It's pretty tasty. It woke up my tastebuds, for sure.

However, the Crane Ridge 2008 Reserve Cabernet from the vineyard owned by the person they jokingly refer to as "Richard Cranium," is a big, buxom blackberry, tobacco, cassis, ganache-frosted chocolate cake and incense-filled beauty, flowing with toasted pecans tinged with worstershire, and dusty cocoa on

the finish. Marvelous. Their De Rose Vineyard-sourced Cabernet Franc is a thing of lithe, red-lipped staining beauty. The old vine Zin from the same San Benito county source, rages against the machine with classic red brick-colored purity, delivering a tsunami of ripe strawberries and red plums looking to crash on a beach of crushed Roma tomatoes, fresh mozzarella and basil sausage pizza.

Asked what the most surprising thing is about operating a tasting room, all three Steves have a story. Steve Burman, immediately points out the rather forward and to him, almost shocking behavior exhibited by some female visitors. He says simply, "I'm glad I don't have a daughter."

Steve Zigante admits he's constantly surprised at the exhaustion of being in the hospitality business. They open at noon, and close around 11pm. Although he loves the job, it's punishing, grueling and hard to recover from physically. After all, he's driving the effort to take over the Red Feather facility. They hope to move in and perhaps open by May 1. Rocco hopes to provide the gourmet food touch that such an out there on Greenville tasting room will need. They're as excited as Mexican jumping beans.

It's all pretty surreal. They've come so far, so fast, it feels like a juggernaut. The third Steve, Steve Melander, just nods. He's the silent partner. Then he smiles. When he does, it's even better than winning a medal or getting a great Yelp review, of which they've had plenty of both. It means they've finally turned the corner on making their collective hobby a viable enterprise, or in 3 Steve's parlance, a terrific triple play.

## Teen Job and Career Fair Set for March 2

The City of Pleasanton has partnered with the cities of San Ramon and Dublin and the Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club to present a Teen Job and Career Fair on Saturday, March 2, 2013. This free event will take place from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Dougherty Station Community Center located at 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road in San Ramon.

Teens ages 14 through 18 will have the opportunity to meet with employers and attend a series of workshops on Managing Finances; Social

Networking and Use of Media; Job Search, Research, and Applications Process; Interview Techniques; How to Be a Great Volunteer; and Resume Development.

The event will also feature mock interviews and opportunities for students to meet and talk with professionals from a wide variety of fields.

Employment opportunities are also available through local organizations and businesses.

For more information, please call (925) 931-3432.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

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### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 473871

The following person(s) doing business as: Animal Medical Center of Livermore, 1318 Railroad Avenue, Livermore CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Livemore AMC Incorporated, 1318 Railroad Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by a Corporation  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 9/25/1998.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Harinder Bains, President  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 15, 2013. Expires January 15, 2018.  
The Independent Legal No. 3388. Published January 31, February 7, 14, 21, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474059

The following person(s) doing

business as: Premier Handyman Service, 688 Saddleback Circle, Livermore CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Richard Garcia, 688 Saddleback Circle, Livermore, CA 94551

This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/2/2012.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Richard Garcia  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 18, 2013. Expires January 18, 2018.  
The Independent Legal No. 3389. Published January 31, February 7, 14, 21, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 473959

The following person(s) doing business as: Livemore Valley Bed and Breakfast, 3615 Caldeira Dr, Livermore CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1)Jaime Osorio (2)Etelvina Garcia, 3615 Caldeira Dr, Livermore, CA 94550  
This business is conducted by a Limited liability partnership  
The registrant began to

transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Etelvina Garcia, LL Partnership  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 10, 2013. Expires January 10, 2018.

The Independent Legal No. 3392. Published February 7, 14, 21, 28, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474379

The following person(s) doing business as: Small Jobs Fine Home Remodeling, 2390 Pasatiempo St, Livermore CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Michael Sean Henry, 2390 Pasatiempo St, Livermore, CA 94551  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on May 3, 1991.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Michael S. Henry  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 29, 2013. Expires January 29, 2018.  
The Independent Legal No.

3396. Published February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474396

The following person(s) doing business as: Cafe Joy, 5321 Hopyard Rd, Ste G, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): (1)Taj N. Kamkar, 2833 Alnwick Ave #4, Livermore, CA 94551 (2)Marjan Fotouhi, 6122 St. Andrews Way, Livermore, CA 94551  
This business is conducted by a General partnership  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/1/2013.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Taj N. Kamkar, Marjan Fotouhi, Partners  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 30, 2013. Expires January 30, 2018.  
The Independent Legal No. 3397. Published February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474457

The following person(s) doing business as: Mechanic King Auto Repair, 3687 Old Santa Rita Rd #14, Pleasanton, CA

94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): RJB Enterprises LLC, 4011 Regatta Dr., Discovery Bay, CA 94505

This business is conducted by a Limited liability company  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Raymond Haywood, President  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 31, 2013. Expires January 31, 2018.  
The Independent Legal No. 3398. Published February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 473572

The following person(s) doing business as: Brain Stain Entertainment, 5157 Norma Way, Apt 239, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Caleb Leighton, 5157 Norma Way, Apt 239, Livermore, CA 94550  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/26/2012.

Signature of Registrants :s/ Caleb Leighton  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on January 10, 2013. Expires January 10, 2018.

The Independent Legal No. 3399. Published February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474604

The following person(s) doing business as: Bel the Handyman Services, 1312 Maplewood Dr, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Belkasim Maklaf, 1312 Maplewood Dr, Livermore, CA 94551  
This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Belkasim Maklaf  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2013. Expires February 5, 2018.  
The Independent Legal No. 3402. Published February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474621

The following person(s) doing business as: Animal Medical Center of Pleasanton, 3901 Santa Rita Road, Suite A, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Harinder Bains, 1318 Railroad Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474659

This business is conducted by an Individual  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Harinder Bains  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2013. Expires February 5, 2018.  
The Independent Legal No. 3403. Published February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2013.

This business is conducted by a Corporation  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 7/9/90.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Michael P. Schmitt  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 11, 2013. Expires February 11, 2018.

The Independent Legal No. 3405. Published February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 2013.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474770

The following person(s) doing business as: Koko Fit Club Livermore, 4485 First Street, Livermore, CA 94551, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): AG Professional Group Inc, 691 New Well Ct, Lathrop, CA 95330

This business is conducted by a Corporation  
The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.  
Signature of Registrants :s/ Amninder Sandhu - VP  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 7, 2013. Expires February 7, 2018.

# LEGAL NOTICES/CLASSIFIEDS

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3406. Published February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2013.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474754

The following person(s) doing business as: Sweet Dee Photography, 726 South K Street, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Danielle Courtney Norheim, 726 South K Street, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: s/ Danielle C. Norheim. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 7, 2013. Expires February 7, 2018.

The Independent Legal No. 3407. Published February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2013.

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 474573

The following person(s) doing business as: Caddis, 2245 South Vasco Rd Unit B, Livermore, CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner(s): Christopher J. Sorensen, 4336 Baylor Way, Livermore, CA 94550. This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A. Signature of Registrants: s/ Christopher J. Sorensen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on February 5, 2013. Expires February 5, 2018.

The Independent Legal No. 3408. Published February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 2013.

## NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS

NOTICE is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted in the office of the Alameda County Planning Department, 224 W. Winton Avenue, Suite 111, Hayward, CA 94544

## NETWORKING/BIDDERS CONFERENCES for RFP CDA 2013-02 Community Health and Wellness Element Outreach and Meeting Facilitation South County

- Friday, March 1, 2013, 2:00 PM, Alameda County Planning Department, 224 W. Winton Avenue, Suite 160 (Public Hearing Room), Hayward, CA and North County - Monday, March 4, 2013, 2:00 PM, 1401 Lakeside Drive, Room 228, 2nd Floor, Oakland, CA Responses Due by 5:00 pm on March 20, 2013 County Contact: Angela Robinson Piñon, (510)670-5400, angela.robinsonpinon@acgov.org

Attendance at Networking Conferences is non-mandatory. The RFP is available via the GSA website—www.acgov.org under Current Contracting Opportunities. 2/21/13

CNS-2447568# THE INDEPENDENT Legal No. 3409

## ANIMALS

### 2) CATS/ DOGS

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

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

## FERAL CAT FOUNDATION

Cat & kitten adoptions now at the new Livermore Petco on Saturdays from 10:00AM to 2:30PM. We have many adorable, tame kittens that have been tested for FIV & FELV, altered & vaccinated. We also have adult cats & ranch cats for adoption.

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### 56) ADULT CARE

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## BE WARY of out of area companies.

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## NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 155) NOTICES

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## What's For Sale? Taking Inventory of Tri-Valley Real Estate

By Cher Wollard

On Monday, real estate inventory in Livermore reached the high point of the year so far: 61 residential properties offered for sale on the Multiple Listing Service, up from fewer than 50 in January.

This includes 4 condominiums, 7 townhouses and 9 country properties; the rest are single-family residences in neighborhoods. Prices range from \$199,000 to \$4.2 million.

For perspective, last year at this time Livermore had 189 residential properties on the MLS – still about 20 percent below average for February and less than half the number of listings at the market's low point in 2008.

Current numbers in Pleasanton are similar – 50 total properties, including 2 condos, 1 duet, 5 townhouses, 2 country properties and a bare 40 single-family homes in neighborhoods. Prices range in price from \$201,000 to \$5.88 million.

Dublin has half as many homes listed – 24 total priced \$234,995 to \$1.1 million, all but 9 of which are condos or townhouses. Four of those properties are brand new, offered by the builder.

This low inventory is caused by a combination of pent-up buyer demand and limited construction over the past few years.

Low inventory plus strong demand makes this a distinct seller's market in the Tri-Valley, as throughout most of the Bay Area.

As in most seller's markets, properties are selling fast.

The market is churning so fast that the average number of days a single-family home is on the market has dropped from 54 days a year ago to 32 days. In fact, many homes are snatched up within the first week they are on the market, often with competing offers.

"Buyers are showing strong confidence in real estate," said Craig Ragg, president of the Bay East Association of Realtors. "Whether they're looking for a place to live or an investment, buyers are out there and they're serious."

Competition for the few homes that are available to purchase is driving prices up at a pace that hasn't been seen in the last several years. Prices in Alameda County stabilized as the real estate market began recovering in 2009.

The last few months, however, have shown double-digit price appreciation in several areas, including Livermore and Pleasanton for single-family homes, and throughout the Tri-Valley for multi-family units. As of the end of January, median sales prices for single-family homes in Livermore was \$465,000, up from \$380,000 a year earlier.

In Pleasanton, prices jumped to \$712,000 from \$627,000 during the same period.

The increase in Dublin was more modest – \$596,975 from \$575,000 – but still significant.

The uptick in median sales prices for condos and townhouses is even more dramatic: Livermore, \$310,000 from \$215,000; Pleasanton, \$413,750 from \$280,000; and Dublin, \$379,888 from \$325,000.

"The last time prices were up this significantly was during the early days of the real estate bubble," Ragg said. "During that period prices were driven by easy access to purchase financing."

"The current run-up in prices is based on restricted supply and strong demand from investors and owner-occupants who may be coming to the table with all-cash offers."

Something else is different from last year. The makeup of homes offered for sales has shifted to sales of homes in which the sellers have equity.

For the last several years, even as late as last summer, the market has been swimming in distressed properties. That trend has declined sharply.

At the most sluggish point in the market, distressed properties accounted for more than half of all homes on the market in some cities.

As of this week, Dublin has 1 bank-owned (REO) and 2 potential short sales on the MLS; Pleasanton lists 1 REO and 5 potential short sales; Livermore 2 REOs and 3 potential short sales.

This makes sense: When prices are rising, property owners who find themselves in financial trouble can sell their homes quickly and for good prices. That means fewer homes are sold short or lost to foreclosure.

So are all the bargains gone?

Most economists think the uptick in housing prices will continue for the foreseeable future, making this a great time to purchase property.

But new regulations have made loan guidelines stricter. That means buyers who need a mortgage must make sure their credit is clean and that they have funds for a downpayment and closing costs.

A mortgage specialist can help figure out what you need to do to be pre-approved for a mortgage. If you don't know one, your Realtor can refer you to a good loan officer.

"It is a good time to buy if you are well-qualified," says Gloria Landavazo, a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.

"The market is competitive, but the values are going up and you may be able to see appreciation. Plus, interest rates on mortgages are still really good."

Mortgage interest rates have edged up slightly since the start of the year, but still hover at about 3.6 percent for a conventional 30-year fixed rate mortgage.

If you are interested in buying or selling real estate, contact your local Realtor today

Cher Wollard is a Realtor with Prudential California Realty, Livermore.

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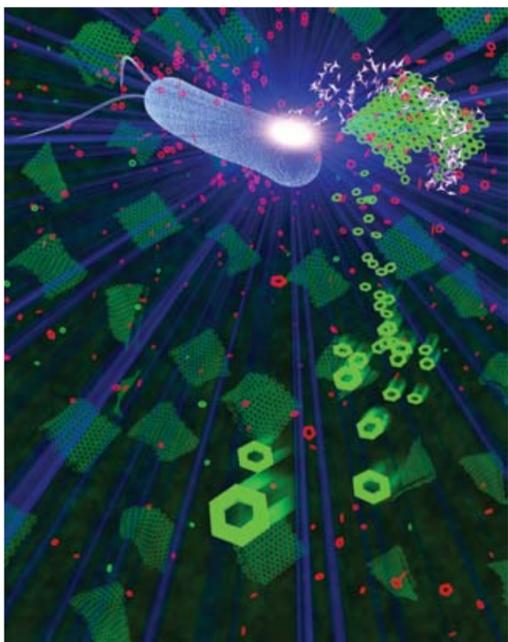
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## Livermore Schools to Participate in Annual Science Odyssey; Public Invited

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District will present the 11th annual Science Odyssey event on Thurs., Feb. 28.

The Odyssey is open to the public from 5 to 7 p.m. at Junction Avenue K-8 School, 238 Junction Avenue, Livermore.

A record-setting number of over 700 students have registered to display a project for judging. New this year, middle and high school students may enter an engineering project. Visitors can expect to see several robotics projects from Livermore High School's Green Engineering Academy students.

All visitors may walk through both the project display areas and the exhibitor area. Exhibitors will include the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, Friends of the Arroyo, Tri-Valley Fly Fishers, Swaim Biological (with live snakes, turtles, and other creatures), Zone 7 Water District, Friends of Springtown Preserve, Play-Well TEKnologies (lego creations), and Solar Universe (watch for their portable model solar house on display in the quad).

Also participating will be the City of Livermore Community Development Department, Abbie 4-H, high

school physiology students displaying dissections, New World System and WattzOn (giving energy saving strategies), Livermore Sanitation, Alameda Creek Alliance, VauaTechniques (vacuum pump activities), Livermore Water Resources, Livermore Lithophiles, and Green Engineering Academy.

Live music will be provided by Scientific Jam.

Students will deliver their projects on Wednesday, February 27 and defend their work to judges on that day. Projects will have award ribbons displayed for the public viewing on Thursday.

Also on display will be

the winning logo contest designs and winning photographs from the Art of Science student photography competition.

Presentation of Best-of-Show awards for students projects will begin at 6:45 PM in the multi-purpose room.

Food will be available for purchase.

Parking is free in the school parking lots.

For more information, contact Regina Brinker at brinker.science@gmail.com or rbrinker@lvjUSD.k12.ca.us or Pauline Huben at phuben@lvjUSD.k12.ca.us

## Science on Saturday Talk to Focus on Biofuels

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's lecture series, "Science on Saturday," on Feb. 23 features biofuels.

The lectures are free and are held in the Bankhead Theater, located at 2400 First St. in Livermore. Two presentations are offered at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Each lecture highlights cutting-edge Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) science presented by leading Lab researchers who are joined by master high school science teachers.

On Feb. 23, the title of the presentation is "Biofuels: The new use of microbes to

produce energy." Presenting the program will be LLNL scientists Michael Thelen and Rhona Stuart and Tracy High School teacher Ken Wedel.

Lectures and demonstrations are targeted to middle and high school students. The lectures are sponsored by LLNL's Science Education Program. Seating is on a first-come basis. There is no preregistration.

For more information about Science on Saturday, directions and a map, go to the Web at [www.llnl.gov](http://www.llnl.gov) or contact Richard Farnsworth, (925) 422-5059.

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

## STEM

(continued from page one)

is a year-round elective open to 7th and 8th graders. "Our generous PTA provides funds to support a zero-period (before school) physical education class so that students can then take two electives during school," added Brinker. "I honestly have never heard a student complain about having to wake up early in order to take STEM. Teenagers and mornings usually do not mix well!"

Students' projects included the Jo-mar-ick Coaster (by Josh, Omar and Nick), the Eco 'Bode, the Solar House of Awesomeness, the Team YOLO (you only live once) Coaster, and the Big BAM: a BAM-tastic Energy Efficient House, built by classmates Ben, Anthony and Matthew.

"We had a fun time building it," said 7th-grader Ben Roller. "It's important because if a house isn't green, you pay more money and it hurts the planet."

Brinker, who teaches earth, environmental and life science at Christensen along with the STEM classes, said 7th-grade students spent the first part of the school year learning technical drawing skills and green-engineering principles which were showcased in their earthquake-prepared, solar-powered, energy-efficient models of homes, casinos and pit stops.

"Second-year students learned electronics, nanotechnology, simple machines and physics," said Brinker, noting that the 8th-graders' projects included marble roller coasters and Rube Goldberg's - complex machines designed to perform simple tasks.

"Both of the projects were interesting to me because they were challenging yet fun," said eighth-grader Maddy Williams. "I loved seeing what the younger kids were doing because it reminded me of last year

and how interested I was. It doesn't matter who you are, STEM is always interesting."

STEM classes are part of Project Lead the Way, a leading provider of rigorous and innovative curricula designed to engage students in educational activities and projects through hands-on classroom experiences and collaboration.

"The best part is working together with friends," said Matthew Myers of his BAM-tastic project.

Christensen and East Avenue are the two Livermore middle schools offering STEM education, noted Brinker - a benefit to Livermore High School (LHS) into which both schools feed.

LHS science and math teacher Susan Johnston attended the open house to see the students' projects. "They were fantastic," she said. "Middle school STEM is a program to encourage and motivate young students to consider being part of the Green Engineering Academy at LHS."

In upcoming months, Christensen STEM students will learn the Autodesk Inventor computer-aided drafting program, and how to build and program computers using VEX robotics kits and the RobotC program.

"About 90 students are enrolled in our STEM classes," said Brinker. "We thank our major sponsors: Chevron, Lam Research and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory."

Added Johnston, "Studies, and common sense,

show that if a child develops a passion for a career or profession, they are more likely to succeed in school than if they do not. There are so

many activities in the STEM program to develop worthy passions for a lifelong career. What better time than middle school to begin?"

## Dublin Issues 10 Week Wellness Challenge

The City of Dublin is hosting a "10 Week Wellness Challenge" from March 17 through May 25, 2013, to encourage residents to make positive changes toward living a healthier and happier life.

Form a team and register now for this exciting new program! The Challenge

is a great way to team up with co-workers, family, neighbors, and friends to get active, lose weight, and eat better.

Visit [www.livehealthy-dublin.com](http://www.livehealthy-dublin.com) or the City's "Live Healthy Dublin" webpage (under "Special Events" on the home page) for more information.

## Expanding Horizons Conference at LPC

The 34th annual Tri-Valley Expanding Your Horizons Conference will be held Saturday, March 2, at a new location - Las Positas College (LPC) Gymnasium, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore. The conference begins at 8:30 a.m.

The day-long event is open to girls, grades 6-9, from Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon and Sunol school districts. The goal is to increase interest and foster awareness of careers in math and science.

This year's theme is "Get Connected With Your Future." At the conference, girls will participate in hands-on workshops, a special group activity and a career fair. The conference also provides young women opportunities to meet and interact with positive role models who are actively engaged in math- and science-related careers.

For parents, there is a two-and-a-half hour workshop on college planning, academic requirements, financial aid and transferring to a four-year university. Registration is required. Parents may register online at <http://tveyh.org> or by mailing in the registration form.

For more information on the conference and to register on-line, go to the Web at [www.tveyh.org](http://www.tveyh.org). Contact EYH Hotline [tveyh@llnl.gov](mailto:tveyh@llnl.gov) or call 925-422-2453 for questions. Local organizations or businesses interested in donating or participating may e-mail [tveyh@llnl.gov](mailto:tveyh@llnl.gov).

The conference is coordinated by Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC, Sandia National Laboratories/California, Las Positas College and the American Association of University Women.

A Casbah Café presentation

# ONE NIGHT IN PARIS

From French Café Music to French Quarter

**DUO GADJO**

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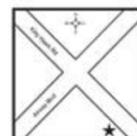
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# THE INDEPENDENT • SECTION A



Pictured are Joseph Bonfiglio (front), Sang Yoon Cho, and Peter Bedrossian.

## Trio to Perform Classics in Livermore

The Bonfiglio-Bedrossian-Cho Trio will present a concert of classic works at 2:00 on Sunday, March 3 at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore. The program will include "Trio," op.11, by Ludwig van Beethoven; "Fantasy Trio," op.26, by Robert Muczynski; "Eight Pieces," op.83, nos. 2, 6, and 4, by Max Bruch; and "Trio in A minor," op. 114, by Johannes Brahms.

Clarinetist Joseph Bonfiglio earned a Bachelor of Music degree at the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University and a Master of Music degree at the Juilliard School. He has taught at the Peabody Preparatory School in Baltimore, the Walden School in Vermont, and the University of California at Santa Barbara as Associate Professor of Music. In addition to many solo and chamber music performances, he can be heard on two CDs, "The Open Path" and "Through the Trees" with the chamber ensemble "Departure," and on the film score to the Showtime Movie, "Fat Rose and Squeaky." Along with teaching part time on the faculty at Chabot College, he currently maintains a busy teaching studio at Ingram and Brauns Musik Shoppe in Pleasanton.

Cellist Peter Bedrossian, a native of Long Island,

(continued on page 9)

## "With the Needle That Sings in Her Heart"

Amador Valley High School is set to perform a full-length, student led production of a play based loosely on the story of Anne Frank. "With the Needle That Sings in Her Heart" will be staged in the Multi-Purpose Room at the high school, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton, on February 28th, March 1st, and March 2nd at 7:30 p.m.

The musical was first created by alternative and punk cabaret star and co-founder of The Dresden Dolls, Amanda Palmer, along with her former drama teacher, Steven Bogart. Palmer and Bogart wrote the play from scratch, with music and lyrics inspired by the cult indie concept album, "In the Aeroplane over the Sea" by Neutral Milk Hotel.

The play follows Anne and her sister Margot through their concentration camp experiences. It weaves scenes from their life prior to imprisonment along with settings which are sometimes dreamlike and of a baroque-style fantasy world. The play has been described as "A work of art, both touching and strangely beautiful."

A live band made up of students from Amador will be performing all of the music for the play from onstage, using instruments such as: euphoniums, trumpets, French horns, and an acoustic guitar.

Amador High School seniors, Caleb Baldwin and Justin Farris, first thought of putting on their own rendition of the show about a year ago.

"Our vision was to offer an extra opportunity to all the drama students to participate in a full-length production, and one which was entirely student-driven," said Baldwin. "This year, as seniors, we finally had enough pull within the program to make it happen."

"We took the idea to the school and to our teacher and director, Ms. Hartman, who has been incredibly supportive and helpful," said Farris. "I think we speak for everyone involved when we say we are excited to see this small idea of ours come to fruition."

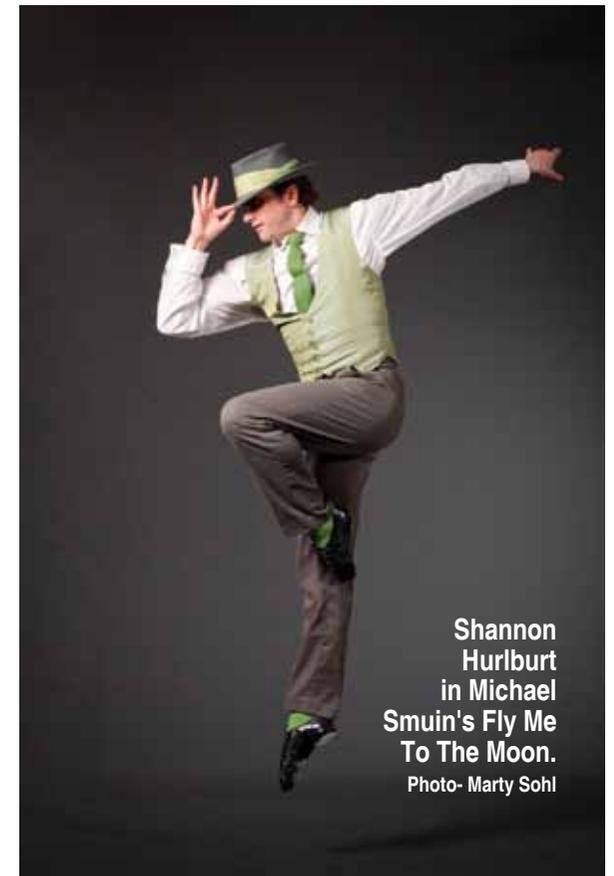
According to the students at Lexington High School who were part of the first production, this play is about art and music coming out of terrible things. It is about being transformed by that process of creation.

The play sets one of the scenes with Anne in a restaurant, ordering duck a l'orange, saffron couscous and steak. Of course, this experience is all in Frank's imagination, since she is actually in a death camp, dying of typhus, and losing her grasp on reality. She escapes from the horrors and brutality of this camp by visualizing the prisoners and Nazi officers as circus performers.

Lyrics from the songs off Neutral Milk Hotel's album include: "I know they buried her body with others/her sister and mother and five hundred families/and will she remember me, fifty years later/I wish I could save her in some sort of time machines."

The full length play can be viewed at: [withtheneedlethatsingsinherheart.webs.com](http://withtheneedlethatsingsinherheart.webs.com) with photos from Amanda Palmer's performance at Lexington High School's production: [amanadpalmer/sets](http://amanadpalmer/sets).

Admission is free. The performances are open to the public. Donations are accepted and greatly appreciated.



Shannon Hurlburt in Michael Smuin's *Fly Me To The Moon*.  
Photo- Marty Sohl

## Ballet Program Offers Showcase of Hits

Smuin Ballet brings a showcase of hits to Livermore's Bankhead Theater for a special two day visit this spring. From swinging Sinatra, to indie pop icons The Shins, to African rhythms en pointe, "Best of Smuin" presents three ballets that highlight the eclectic style and innovative spirit evident in the company's nearly 20-year history.

This portfolio of company favorites includes Michael Smuin's tribute to Frank Sinatra, *Fly Me to the Moon*; Trey McIntyre's acclaimed modern ballet *Oh, Inverted World*, featuring music from The Shins; and Amy Siewert's *Soon These Two Worlds*, set to music by the Kronos Quartet. "Best of Smuin" comes to the Bankhead Theater at the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, March 1-2, 2013. Tickets are available at [www.smuinballet.org](http://www.smuinballet.org) or by calling (925) 943-6800.

Michael Smuin's signature style is at the heart of his smash hit tribute to the genius of Frank Sinatra. A blend of ballet and popular dance performed against a twinkling backdrop of a glowing night sky, *Fly Me to the Moon* is the embodiment of the smooth and stylish songs of the "Chairman of the Board." This ballet highlights warm

(continued on page 9)



## Rhythms of Paco Pena Flamenco Coming to the Bankhead

Guitarist Paco Peña, with his company of dancers, singers and musicians, will celebrate the rhythms and visual splendor of the Spanish art form in "Flamenco Vivo" at the Bankhead Theater on February 26, 2013.

Over the past four decades, Peña has been credited with transforming the image of flamenco, bringing fresh life to this archetypal form of music and dance while preserving its revered traditions. In "Flamenco Vivo" the sounds of guitar, percussion and voice combined with the passionate energy of the dancers easily demonstrates why flamenco's rich and authentic expression of emotion continues to captivate audiences around the world.

A native of the Andalucian city of Cordoba, Peña began his guitar studies at the age of six and was already performing in public by the age of 12. He landed in London in the late 1960s where his virtuoso musical performances ignited new interest in this centuries-old Spanish art form. Although he was named Best Flamenco Guitarist for five consecutive years by Guitar magazine, awards have never been what motivate Peña.

Peña's shows can seem deceptively simple, often starting with just evocative lighting and a solo performer on stage. A single musical line, simple dance beat, and quiet vocalizations come together with increasingly dramatic intensity, enveloping musicians, dancers and audience in both the precise artistry and the physical abandon that is at the heart of true flamenco. Peña has been particularly acclaimed for his impeccable sense of pacing and his ability to communicate with each dancer and musician through his playing style. Slow and sensuous or fast and electric, Peña's compelling interpretation of this passionate art form sparks an instinctive response in audiences of all ages.

"Flamenco Vivo" is a musical journey that demonstrates how the soul and legacy of flamenco lies in the pure and authentic expression of emotions through music and dance. Over the course of the evening, it looks back at the most primitive and pure forms of this captivating art, as well as looks ahead to the highest level of modern flamenco, highlighting the rhythmic complexities of its latest variations. Tickets for "Flamenco Vivo" at the Bankhead Theater on

(continued on page 3)

## 'Pippi Longstocking' Comes to the Firehouse Arts Center

The Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company presents an adaptation of the classic children's tale Pippi Longstocking, the wacky and irrepressible youngster with a heart of gold.

The show runs for two weekends, March 1-10, at the Firehouse Theater, 4444 Railroad Ave in Pleasanton. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and matinees Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Based on the children's books by Astrid Lindgren, and adapted by Thomas W. Olson with music by Roberta Carlson, this popular version features Pippi's most famous and lovable antics – flying off the top of her house, lifting a strongman with one hand, and causing chaos at a ladies' tea party. Complete with her crazy mismatched outfits and signature red braids, Pippi Longstocking celebrates every child's dream of independence while reinforcing the importance of friendship and family.



Avery Clinton appears as Annika, Peyton Cook as Pippi, Ian Taylor as Tommy. Photo - Aaron Zwielfel

Swedish author Astrid Lindgren conceived the idea for Pippi from her then nine-year-old daughter, Karin, who asked her mother for a get-well story one day when she was home sick from school. Karen named her pint-sized counterpart "Pippilotta Delicatessa Windowshade Mackrelmint Ephraim's Daughter Longstocking," and the rest is history.

Translated into 64 languages to date, Lindgren is currently the world's 20th most translated author, and has sold roughly 145 million copies worldwide. Transformed into multiple TV, film, and stage versions, Pippi is known and cherished the world over. The 1961 TV series hosted by Shirley Temple was the first American adaptation of Pippi Longstocking, not to mention the first one to feature a child actress of the appropriate age playing Pippi (former Mouseketeer Gina

(continued on page 6)

## Livermore High to Stage Musical Version of 'Animal Farm'

By Carol Graham

Watching Livermore High School students rehearse on stage is witnessing art form out of chaos.

One young man shimmies the long straight hair of the girl in front of him, another practices karate moves with a phantom opponent, and several break into a rollicking rendition of Gangnam Style dance moves.

However, the playfulness during downtime belies the incredibly hard work the teenagers are doing: bringing to life the classic tale

"Animal Farm," and adding to its vigor by performing it as a musical.

"Besides having some of the most interesting costumes I've ever performed in, the most memorable part will be bringing something to life that no one would believe could be pulled off as a stage production," says senior Alyssa Proudfoot. "Most people have read Animal Farm as a usual part of high school curriculum. When they attempt to fathom performing it onstage, adding music and still taking it

self seriously, they can't. But it's a really good production; the heartbreaking and glorious moments from the book are all there. It's so much more real than reading it off black-and-white pages."

Opening weekend will offer performances on Friday, February 22 and Saturday, the 23rd, followed by three performances the next week, Thursday through Saturday, February 28th to March 2nd. All performances begin at 8 p.m. and are held in the LHS Theater at 600 Maple Street. Tickets cost \$10. They can

be purchased online at [www.livermorehs.schoolloop.com](http://www.livermorehs.schoolloop.com) or at the door.

"I chose Animal Farm because this is our year for serious drama," said director Carol Hovey who teaches drama and English at the high school. "I rotate genres of shows: drama, comedy, period works or Shakespeare over a four-year period so that students become familiar with different genres and styles. I was also happy to find a work that is taught as part of our curriculum to

(continued on page 5)

## OperaLIVE Presents Preview of 'La Traviata' with Free Performances at Libraries

Continuing with its commitment of making opera more accessible to the community, Livermore Valley Opera will showcase talented opera singers who will appear in the March production of Verdi's "La Traviata" in two free OperaLIVE! events.

The performances are 1 p.m. Sun., Feb. 24 at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. The event is sponsored by Friends of the Pleasanton Library.

The program will be held at 2 p.m. Sun., March 3 at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore. The performance is sponsored by Friends of the Livermore Library.

"OperaLIVE! events are free, public events that are all about bringing opera to the community so that people who might not otherwise have the opportunity can experience the music and drama in an intimate public setting," says LVO President Jim Schmidt. "We hope that the experience will encourage people to seek out



**Rebecca Davis**

other opera and musical opportunities."

The library performances occur prior to each opera production, and over the years attendance expands. It's one of many outreach programs LVO offers. Others include programs and vocal coaching at Tri-Valley middle and high schools.

The one-hour performances will feature professional opera singers performing arias from La Traviata well as those from other well-known operas.

Soprano Rebecca Davis and tenor David Gustafson, the lead principal singers for La Traviata will perform. Stage Director Brian Luedloff will share insights to LVO's production.

"The singers will perform selections from Verdi's romantic opera as well as selected arias. Their performance will give listeners a taste of the wonderful talent that they will hear at the Bankhead Theater when 'La Traviata' opens March 9," adds Schmidt.

A question and answer period follows immediately after the performance. "The singers are always more than happy to answer questions about opera, what it's like to sing opera and be on stage," says Gary Sears, LVO's Outreach Coordinator who manages OperaLIVE. "It's a great opportunity to learn about this passionate and diverse art form."

For details on the full production of La Traviata and the library preview programs, visit <http://www.livermorevalleyopera.com/>.

## FLAMENCO

(continued from page 2)

Thursday, February 26 range from \$43 to \$63 for adults and \$14 for students.

The Bankhead Theater is located at 2400 First Street in Downtown Livermore. To purchase tickets, visit the box office, call 925-373-6800 or go to [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org).

## Livermore Daffodil Show

The Northern California Daffodil Society is holding its annual Bay Area daffodil show at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore.

This is not only a competition, but also a display of new and old varieties of daffodils, both standard size and miniature. The show will be displayed in the Seasons Room, Saturday, March 2 from 1 to 5 pm and Sunday, March 3 from 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is free.

For more information about this (and the Mother Lode) show, visit the Society's web site at <http://www.daffodil.org/ncds/shows.htm>.

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## Do You Remember?



By Anne Homan  
Livermore City Historian

### Livermore Downtown Valentines

This year I started my search for Valentines with our downtown merchants. My first stop was at the Cooleykatz Toy store at 1959 Second Street. The store is in the middle of a block long strip mall that was built in 1960 on the south side of Second from L to M Streets. When my family moved to Livermore in 1970, J.C. Penney's held down the western end, and The Squire, a clothing store, the eastern corner. Originally, the eastern corner was occupied by a Woolworth's store. Rexall Drugs was somewhere in the middle of the block. Today, none of the original stores are present.

The owners of Cooleykatz are Pat and Nita Cooley. They were sweethearts at Berkeley High. One of Pat's best friends told him about this "crazy" girl he had to meet. Amazingly, Nita was the same person he had liked in junior high; in fact, he had given her a lock of his hair back then. At Berkeley High, he would give her money, and she would stand in line to buy their lunches, and "it progressed from there." They married in 1975. They have lived in Livermore for 30 years and raised their children here. After their retirement, they opened the toy store in 2006.

Even if you haven't shopped at Baughman's Western Outfitters, I'm sure that you are familiar with their life-size brown horse statue on the sidewalk at 2029 First Street. Here I interviewed one of their clerks, Mary Lou (Daveny) Miller. She has a

quiet, competent presence. She has been a clerk at Baughman's for 28 years. At a New Year's Eve party on Tassajara Road, she met her future husband, Jack Miller. Although he was living in Alameda at the time, he often came to Livermore to visit friends and ride horses. He worked for the East Bay Parks. He roped in the Livermore rodeo; Mary Lou rode in the grand entry. They had their love of horses in common, and Mary Lou said, "He was tall and handsome." Their relationship blossomed, and they married in 1965. They lived in Collier Canyon. Unfortunately, he died in 1998, and Mary Lou is now a widow. Baughman's business started in 1881 across the street at what is now Proctor's. Jack Baughman bought the business, moved it across First Street in 1961, and began specializing in western style clothing. He died in 1973.

Valley Furniture, at 2193 First Street, was the original Safeway Store in Livermore. Bill Jeffers owns the furniture store. He met his wife, Stephanie Molcsan, at a dance at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. The dance was a costume party on Halloween. She was dressed as a dance hall girl, and he was a genie. Bill bought Valley Furniture in 1981. His favorite part of the business is meeting the customers: "They make it all worthwhile."

Caratti Jewelers is a familiar name in Livermore, but Richard Caratti died in 2002, and the Bennetts bought the business from his estate in

that year. Laura Jackson met Colin Bennett at Lake Tahoe while she was on a ski vacation. They both attended a dance at Caesar's Palace. They danced the night away, exchanged phone numbers, and later got in touch. They married in 1997 and now have two children. Laura explained their compatibility: "I'm quiet; he talks a lot. He has very nice eyes." Richard Caratti ran his business for 30 years in the Rincon Shopping Center, and then moved it to Second Street. The Bennetts kept the same name for the business, but customers will now find Caratti's Jewelers at 2056 First Street.

I have worked as a columnist for the Independent newspaper for almost four years. I met my husband, Don, at Gettysburg College, a small liberal arts college in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He was my physics lab instructor, and I needed a great deal of help. Our first date was playing tennis. The Independent newspaper building, at the northeast corner of Livermore and First, was originally the Bank of Italy, built in 1922. Eight years later, it became the Bank of America. In 1957 the city of Livermore bought the building, and from 1958 to 1978 it served as Livermore's city hall. In 1978 the building was placed on the National Register of Historic Landmarks. Lynn and Joan Seppala bought the building in 1991, restored it, and made the necessary seismic reinforcements. You can drop in and pick up last week's edition of the paper in case you missed it; you can sign

up to have it delivered to your house by mail for free if you live locally.

A clerk in Van's Health Food store at 2148 First Street helped me recently when I needed a fragrance free shampoo. I was amazed—I thought they just sold food. The single-story 1937 brick building has a distinctive brick pattern on the street façade. The Van Der Kamp family has been running the business since the 1970s. Craig Van Der Camp, the current owner, after graduating from high school in Sacramento, made a tour through the United States. Later, he met his wife, Gayleen Labo, at a party. He admitted, "I was obnoxious and rude." Something must have appealed to Gayleen, however, because she did begin dating him, and they married in 1972. Craig admits that he still acts up sometimes. He took over the operation of the store in 1977.

(Readers can reach me at [am50homan@yahoo.com](mailto:am50homan@yahoo.com).)



Pictured are (front row) Drew Katsock and John Russo; (back) Frank Spangler and Cruise Russo.

### America's Got Talent Finalist Performing at Granada High

America's Got Talent finalist, Reverse Order, will perform at Granada High School.

Reverse Order is a pop/rock band that was a finalist on America's Got Talent and has a Grammy nominated song, Go. On Friday, March 1, the group will be performing at Granada High School in Livermore during lunchtime. After the performance students will have time to meet the band, purchase a CD and obtain an autograph.

Reverse Order's music is filled with catchy words and infectious melodies. It's been compared to All Time Low, Boys Like Girls and Blink 182. Besides playing music, the band puts on a high energy show. Reverse Order is from New Jersey. The members are performing at schools throughout Texas, AL, MS and California on the High School Nation tour. High School Nation works with schools to provide fun, free entertainment that turns lunch time into memorable fun times.

Throughout their tour the band will also be performing at several venues in the evening where anyone can come listen to the music and meet the band. To learn more about Reverse Order or find out if they'll be performing near you, go to: [www.reverseorderonline.com](http://www.reverseorderonline.com)

### Tickets Available for Brew Crawl in Pleasanton

St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl is planned from 6 to 9 p.m. on March 15 in downtown Pleasanton.

Participants will be able to sample 25 local beer and food pairings. To add to the festive, holiday spirit of this event, guests are encouraged to wear costumes.

The event is presented by the Pleasanton Downtown Association. Tickets at \$30 per person includes admission to the event, a commemorative beer glass,

event map and beer tastings and food samples at participating downtown Locations.

Tickets are available at Studio Seven Arts, Redcoats, and Pleasanton Main Street Brewery.

Tickets must be redeemed by 7:30 p.m. the day of the event at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St. All guests must be 21 or older.

Only 1000 tickets will be available. If not sold

out, tickets will be sold on the day of the event for \$35 starting at 5:30 p.m. at the starting location - Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main St.

PDA will sell designated driver tickets for \$10 on the night of the Brew Crawl and the event programs will include taxi contact information.

For information go to [events@pleasantondowntown.net](mailto:events@pleasantondowntown.net)



Photos - Doug Jorgensen

In the photos, Livermore High School students rehearse for the opening of 'Animal Farm.'

## ANIMAL FARM

(continued from page 2)

give students another take on works that they read in class."

First published in 1945, George Orwell's *Animal Farm* is based on the 1917 events of Russia's Bolshevik revolution, which dismantled Tsarist autocracy, along with Joseph Stalin's ensuing betrayal of the cause. Orwell's political fable centers on a group of barnyard animals who overthrow and chase off their exploitative human masters to set up an egalitarian society of their own. Eventually the animals' intelligent and power-loving leaders, the pigs, subvert the revolution. Announcing that "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others," the pigs form a dictatorship even more oppressive and heartless than that of their former human masters.

Eighteen year old Delaney Corbitt narrates the production which, she says, has more than 40 student actors and technicians. She auditioned because, "The idea of a musical version of *Animal Farm* looked interesting. The play has taught me to speak up when I see



something is wrong; basically, to do the right thing. Come and support your local high school and the students who are involved."

Hannah Conner, 17, adds, "We had a short amount of time and a large cast to put the show together. It took a lot of teamwork and personal responsibility to get it ready."

During rehearsals the students meet the demands of learning lines and stage movements while continually fine-tuning dialogue, songs and dances to a professional level. "I always

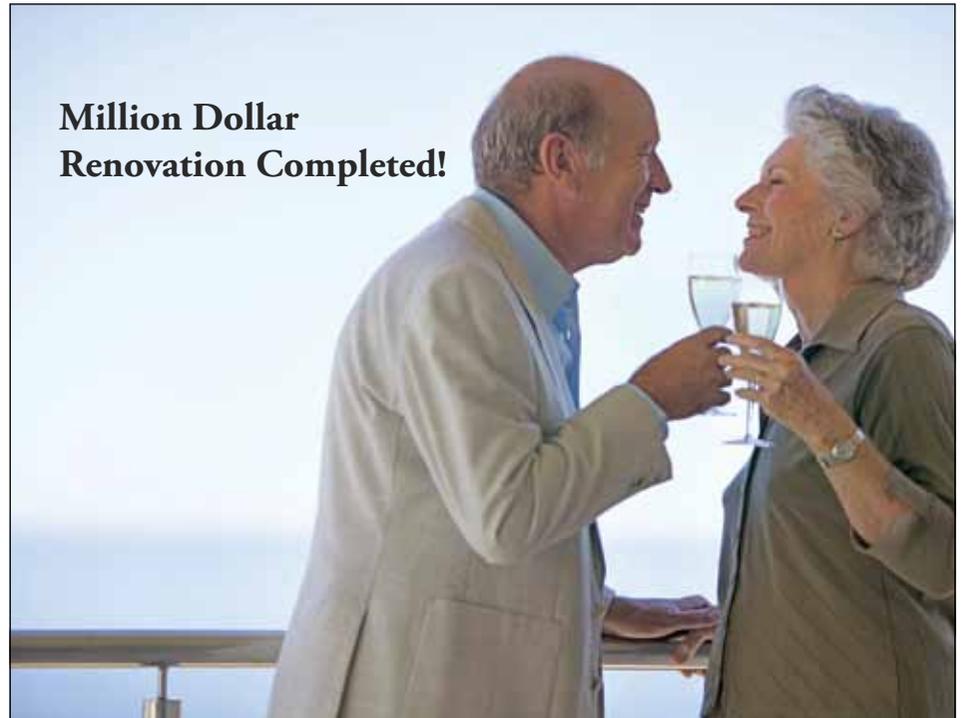
love all the casts I direct, but this cast is most memorable for the fun and creative interpretations they come up with for their animal selves, physicalizing their characters in as many ways as a person can come up with," says Hovey.

Senior Andrew Kolb-Gouveia has been a huge fan of the book since he was in the seventh grade. "I was worried when I heard we were performing a musical of it. I thought it would have mediocre songs and completely miss important parts of the plot," he says. "However, the adaptation is nearly flawless. I find myself getting the songs stuck in my head on a daily basis."

The paradox of watching these very talented and hard-working young people is that while they comically let off steam between scenes one minute, the very next their voices soar together in a song that makes chills run down the spine.

As freshman Kirsten Floyd says, "*Animal Farm* has really good music that our band and singers pull off in a magnificent and magical way."

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The 2013 Oscars will be handed out in a few days. That makes me think back to the 60s, to a decade of incredibly good cinema. However, what stands out for me are not films like "Lawrence of Arabia," "Psycho," "The Graduate," "Easy Rider," "Dr. Strangelove," "2001," "To Kill a Mockingbird," and "My Fair Lady," but James Bond.

If you were a kid living in Miami, Florida in the mid-60s, about the most exciting way you could spend an evening was to see a James Bond film. That's because British secret agent 007 led a more outrageous life than any of us could ever imagine.

Bond had the latest cars, guns, and gadgets at his fingertips. We had old jalopies, like Fords or Chevs of 1950s vintage, if we were lucky. I didn't even have a car, although the affluent society of the 60s was already making technological advances such as cars, color television sets, hi-fi record players, more sophisticated washing machines, and cheaper jet air travel commonplace.

Bond was super cool, even when facing a laser beam inches away from pulverizing his manhood, not to mention slicing him in half. The closest we ever got to being halfway cool in the lazy-day heat and humidity of South Florida was to sit under the sparse shade of coconut trees and sip iced lemonades.

Women just melted in Bond's arms, women he didn't even know who would track him down and wait for him in whatever hotel suite he happened to be at the moment. That seemed a world away from the 50s morality that still held us in check. We high school kids might have engaged in heavy petting, often in the back seat of a car at a drive-in movie, but only the loose girls went all the way. Birth control pills had not yet become widespread, so the fear of

## Yesterday into Today

### Remembering "James Bond"

by Sarah Bobson

pregnancy was very real. James Bond's antics in "Dr. No," the first Bond film, released in 1962; gave us a preview of the sexual revolution that would blossom a few years later.

Sean Connery WAS AND ALWAYS WILL BE for me THE James Bond. The first actor to play 007, I thought he had it all: the rugged good looks of a man's man, a disarming Scottish brogue, a cocky manner with his superiors, a wicked wit he used against his enemies. And, he had a muscular bod and manly pectorals that made me want to jump out of my theater seat, smash through the screen, fall into his arms, and have him look at me the way he looked at Ursula Andress, the gorgeous actress who played Honey Ryder, an amply endowed woman clad mostly in a white bikini, in "Dr. No."

While the winning combination of the charismatic Sean Connery and the exciting James Bond persona electrified my friends and me, there were other elements of the films, which have since become iconic, which kept us spellbound as well. For one thing, there was the James Bond theme song: two minutes of bebop swing vibe with hammering electric guitar notes running through it that suggested something dark, dangerous, sexual, and unstoppable. We sat enraptured waiting for the phantasmagoric opening shots and credits, which were simply not to be missed, the stylized swirl of a character seen through the barrel of a gun to the accompaniment of a Bond film staple, a song sung by a well-known pop singer. The one that stands for

me is Shirley Bassey's hard-grit vocal rendition of "Goldfinger."

Then there were the plots. They always followed a predictable trajectory, at least the early Bonds. Agent 007 meets with his superior at British Intelligence, "M" ("Q" first makes an appearance in "Thunderball" in 1965), who tells Bond of the latest threat to world peace by some mad but brilliant and insanely wealthy criminal working in cahoots with rival organizations SPECTRE and SMERSH. "M" displays the latest gizmos Bond will use to defeat the villain. Bond leaves, but not before flirting with the ever-hopeful Miss Monypenny, "M's" secretary, who has been eavesdropping on their conversation over the intercom in the outer office, who would love to have a tryst with Bond. Bond goes to his hotel room, where he finds a gorgeous, young woman with a body to die for, snuggled under the sheets. They make love. Then she's killed (more often than not) in some ingenious way, (in "Goldfinger" her body is spray painted with gold), either in revenge or by accident. Undeterred, Bond tracks down his mark and plays a game of verbal and physical cat and mouse with him. Bond is captured, tortured (without any lasting scars, I might add), and nearly killed. Then he manages to escape and defeat his brilliant, mad opponent. The last shot of the film always shows Bond and his female comrade in an embrace, often adrift at sea.

In retrospect, what I find interesting is that I swooned at Sean Connery's

macho James Bond at the same time I swooned at the clean cut, skinny Beatles. For all intents and purposes, the Fab Four could have been, in comparison, the equivalent of 97-pound weaklings that the bully body building stomps into the sand.

James Bond was our dashing hero at a time when America was engaged in the Cold War with the Soviet Union. The films often reflected those tensions, usually made worse by the intervention of the mad villain of the moment, who tried to instigate a war between the two countries. In "From Russia with Love," for example, which came out in 1963, a year after the Cuban Missile Crisis, a SPECTRE agent steals a Lektor cryptographic device from the Soviets, hoping to seek revenge on Bond for killing Dr. No.

The space race was part of the Cold War. After the Soviets beat the U.S. into space by shooting cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin into the wild blue in 1961, to complete one earth orbit, the U.S., embarrassed by the incident, launched John Glenn in 1962 as its first astronaut to orbit the earth. In "You Only Live Twice," which came out in 1967, a SPECTRE agent destroys both American and Soviet manned spacecraft, hoping to cause each country to blame the other.

The Bond films of the 60s stand out for me today, even though I know that many great films came out during that decade. But the Bond films gave me a thrill in a way that the other films, as wonderful as they were, and as much as I enjoyed them, just didn't.

## PIPPI LONGSTOCKING

(continued from page 2)

Gillespie). Other famous versions of the Pippi stories include the long-running Swedish series which was dubbed into English and ran for many years on USA television.

"Pippi" is directed by Pleasanton playwright, theatre artist, educator, and dad John Ribovich. "As a parent, a neighbor, a Little League coach, I've formed a very real connection with this town, particularly the historic downtown district that surrounds the Firehouse Arts Center," Ribovich says. "I am proud to be working for the Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company. Civic Arts combines the best of the youth and professional theatre worlds, allowing young actors to work with professional designers and directors to produce consistently high quality theatre while learning the importance of teamwork, community and the performing arts." Ribovich is also the Artistic Director of Calaveras Repertory Theatre in Milpitas.

The show features over 40 local children in two alternating casts. Guest artist Jessica Smith plays the role of the imperious Mrs. Prysselius, while locals Arianna Feemster of Danville and Peyton Cook of Pleasanton share the title role. Both girls have appeared in previous Civic Arts Stage Company shows, but this is their first leading role.

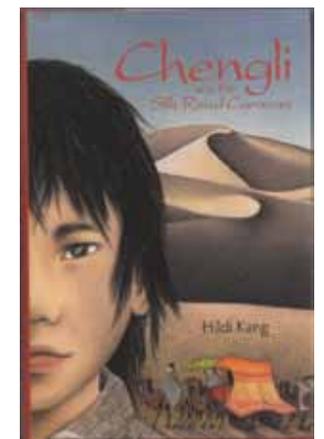
The production design team includes set and lighting designer Steve Mannshardt, sound designer Ryan Lee Short, and props designer Kristin Werder, all core company members who return from previous shows with Civic Arts. New costume designer Magenta Brooks and Assistant Director Maryssa Wanlass join the team for the first time.

"Part of our mission is to showcase stories from around the globe," says Artistic Director Rebecca J. Ennals of the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, which partners with the City of

Pleasanton for the three Civic Arts Stage Company productions this season, noting that the French fairy tale "Puss in Boots" was the holiday offering, and the classic South Asia tale "Ramayana" will be their spring production.

Ennals sums up the show, "Pippi" is so much fun because she does all the things we all wish we could do – she has superpowers, she defies authority, she has unlimited access to pirate gold – but in the end she chooses friendship with other children over everything else. She is not exactly a role model, but she allows all of us to dream of what we might do if only we had the nerve."

Tickets are \$10, \$15, \$18; child or senior: \$6, \$9, \$12. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), by calling 925-931-4848, and in person at the Firehouse Arts Center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton.



Hildi Kang, the author of "Chengli and the Silk Road Caravan," has been selected as a winner of the 2012-2013 Asian/Pacific Award for Literature. Her award is in the Children's Literature area. Winning titles receive an award plaque at the annual award ceremony at the American Librarians Association Annual Conference on June 30 in Chicago.



## The Venusians to Perform as Part of Livermore Reads Together

The Venusians (pictured at left) will perform at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, February 26 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

There is no charge for this event.

The Venusians introduced a unique form of Global Instrumental Music and remain one of the most sought-after groups in a now popular genre. Their

style fuses the ambient and atmospheric with melodies and entrancing rhythms. The instrumentation that the band is best known for combines world instruments with ones more common.

The band members have performed together for many

years and have a chemistry and synergy that is described as pure magic.

This program is part of Livermore Reads Together, a community-wide reading program featuring Mary Roach's *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life*

in the Void. Copies of books and event schedules are available at all Livermore Public Library locations. Livermore Reads Together is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. For additional events check [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

## Program on World of Apps . . . for All Ages

*Out of This World Apps!... For All Ages* is a program to be presented at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue.

There is no charge for this event.

Are you wondering what cool apps to put on a phone or tablet? Find out about some of the best at *Out of*

*This World Apps!...For All Ages*. From time-saving productivity tools to wildly addicting fun, Jennifer Mosel, Livermore Public Teen Librarian, will show the apps you won't want to be without.

This program is part of *Livermore Reads Together*, a community-wide reading program featuring Mary Roach's *Packing for Mars:*

*The Curious Science of Life in the Void*. *Livermore Reads Together* is hosting free events for children and adults during the month of February 2013.

*Livermore Reads Together* is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library. For additional events check the library's website at [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

## 'Mars Czar' to Present Talk at Library

Scott Hubbard, author and former NASA Ames Research Center Director, dubbed the "Mars Czar," gives an insider's account of NASA's Mars Exploration Program—a behind-the-scenes look at the people who brought it to life, and the political forces that shaped it.

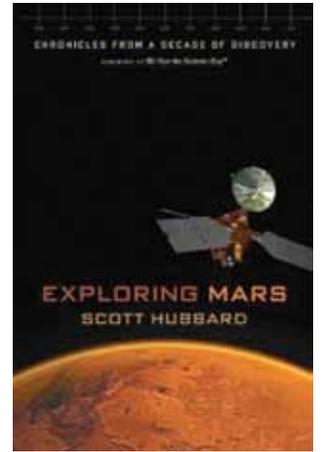
The program will be presented at 2 p.m. on Feb. 24 at the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Avenue.

Blending personal anecdotes with exciting stories of the missions, Hubbard

recounts the failures and triumphs of space exploration in the 21st century and weaves a compelling story surrounding the Red Planet.

This program is part of Livermore Reads Together, a community-wide reading program featuring Mary Roach's *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void*. Livermore Reads Together is sponsored by The Friends of the Livermore Library.

For additional events check the library's website at [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).



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### Celebrating Rotary's 108th Anniversary

#### ROTARY CLUBS & Weekly Meetings

**LIVERMORE, Pres. Ralph Sherman** - DoubleTree Hotel Wed., 12:30 p.m.

**LIVERMORE VALLEY, Pres. George Wineinger** - Beed's Sports Bar & Grill Tues., 7a.m.

In 2012 the Rotary Clubs of Livermore (and the Rotarian Foundation of Livermore) collectively donated over \$120k to support community projects for kids, schools, scholarships, food and clothing for those in need. We also donated dictionaries to all 3rd grade students for the 10th year in a row. [www.livermore-rotary.org](http://www.livermore-rotary.org)

**DUBLIN Pres. Tim Delaporte** - Dublin Ranch Golf Club, Tues., 12 noon  
Rotarians are a group of dynamic individuals who place service above self. Join us at one of our fun and engaging meetings. Together we can change the world. [www.dublinrotary.org](http://www.dublinrotary.org)



A donation of \$15  
will save 25  
children from Polio.  
[www.endpolionow.org](http://www.endpolionow.org)

## ART &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## ART/PHOTO EXHIBITS

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

**Art Happens**, 2nd Thursday of each month, 6 to 9 p.m. March 14, April 11. Downtown Livermore. Art displays, poetry, entertainment, special events. For the brochure go to [www.bothwellartscenter.org](http://www.bothwellartscenter.org).

**Livermore artist Lenore Kreit** is exhibiting her paintings at Garre Winery Cafe through February 29. Garre Winery Cafe is open weekdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Weekends 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 7986 Tesla Road, Livermore.

**California: Earth, Air, Water, Fire, Life.** Exhibit at the Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, March 2 through April 6. Exhibition interprets and honors nature in California, and features painter Engela Olivier-Wilson, photographer William Hackett, and sculptor/designer Matthew Nylander. Gala performance and opening reception on Wednesday, March 6. Performance art will be presented by Le Tableau Magnifique at 6:30 p.m. Artists' reception 7:00-9:00 p.m. Both are free and open to the public. Regular gallery hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 12-5 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Harrington Gallery at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton, 4444 Railroad Avenue. Admission is free, donations always appreciated.

**Art Show**, Livermore artist Maryann Kot is showing her art at the Wente Winery tasting room at 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore for the month of March. Hours 11 AM to 4:30 PM

**Livermore artist, Gloria Sayers**, is exhibiting her paintings at the café at Garre Winery, 7986 Tesla Road, Livermore for the months of March and April. The café is open weekdays 11 am to 2 p.m. and weekends 11 am to 3 p.m.

**Pleasanton Art League Show** at the Alviso Adobe, March 9 and 10. Reception and awards Sat., March 9, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Located between Old Foothill Road and Foothill Road, 3465 Old Foothill Road, Pleasanton. [www.pal-art.com/](http://www.pal-art.com/)

## MEETINGS/CLASSES

**Classes, Colored Pencil Classes** "Basics and Beyond." Instructor Maryann Kot. Starting at 6:30 PM-9:00 PM on Tues., March 19th for five weeks. Classes will be held at the Bothwell Arts Center 2466 8th Street, Livermore. Sign up at Way Up Art and Frame, Livermore. 925-443-3388. Space is limited. See Maryann's paintings at Wente Winery, 5565 Tesla

Rd., Livermore. March 1st through March 28th

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

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

**Preschool Art classes:** Thursday mornings 9:45 - 10:45. Children aged 3-5 are welcome to join this class. Classes cover drawing, painting, print-making, sculpture and ceramics. For further information please contact Thomasin Dewhurst at (925) 216-7231 or [thomasin\\_d@hotmail.com](mailto:thomasin_d@hotmail.com) or visit <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com/>

**Livermore Art Classes**, Artist and art instructor, Thomasin Dewhurst offers art instruction to children and adults. Classes cover painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, collage, animation and construction. For further information please call (925) 216-7231 e-mail [thomasin\\_d@hotmail.com](mailto:thomasin_d@hotmail.com) or visit <http://childrensartclassesprojects.blogspot.com>

**Pleasanton Poetry League**, Catch the Wave and Play with Poetic Journaling lead by local Artist/Poet Claudette McDermott. E-Mail interest to PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com. Meetings at local locations. All Poetry enthusiasts welcome. Get on the PPL mailing list: PoetryOnCanvas@Mac.Com

## WINERY EVENTS

**Port & Chocolate Weekends** held weekends in February, 2013. Tamás Estates, 5565 Tesla Road Livermore, (925) 456-2380.

**Charles R Vineyards Wine, Music, Food Pairing, & Wine Pick-Up Party**, noon to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 23. White and red wine tasting with Bonnie's food pairings. Music by Steve Kritzer. 8195 Crane Ridge Road - Beyond the end of Greenville Road, Livermore.

**Barrel Tasting Weekend**, noon to 4:30 p.m., March 23 and 24, taste wines right out of the barrel, meet winemakers and more. Each winery will host a unique experience during barrel tasting weekend including at least one barrel sample for each ticket holder.

Chance to pre-purchase wines before they have even been bottled (aka "futures")! Tickets are \$35 in advance / \$40 event day and includes barrel tasting at over 30 wineries on Saturday and Sunday, a logo wine glass and wine tasting map. Visit [www.LVwine.org](http://www.LVwine.org) for tickets and a list of participating wineries.

**The Steven Kent Winery**, future release program pairing featuring the cuisine of Chef Jimmy Connors. Wed., Feb. 27, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Reservations required, 21 and over event, \$75+ per person. [www.stevencentportfolio.com](http://www.stevencentportfolio.com) 925-243-6442. 5443 Tesla Rd., Livermore.

## MUSIC/CONCERTS

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

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

**Tri-Valley Medieval and Renaissance Collegium** playing session for amateur musicians, Peter Maund, director. Mondays 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7600 Dublin Blvd., suite 370, Dublin. \$25. Information [collegium2011@gmail.com](mailto:collegium2011@gmail.com) or 925-424-1209 or 925-984-4395

**Chris Bradley's Jazz Band** will appear at The Castle Rock Restaurant in Livermore/at Portola Ave., Feb. 26. Band performs 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Dance Floor, Small Cover.

**Reunion of the Doo Wop Stars**, Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Guitarist of the Decade, Adrian Legg**. British Guitar Maestro Adrian Legg's USA Tour comes to Firehouse Arts Center. Celebrating award-winning 11th album release "The Very Best of Adrian Legg." Friday, February 22, 8:00 p.m. Tickets \$10-\$20. Purchase online at [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org), 925-931-4848, or at the center Box Office, 4444 Railroad Avenue, Pleasanton

**Livermore-Amador Symphony**, Feb. 23, 8 p.m. Vienna Bonbon and Russian Drama. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Chamber Music trio 'Humboldt Pi'** featuring Barbara Mullens-Geier on flute, Phyllis Harding on clarinet and Alan Geier on piano will present a concert on Feb. 24, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church, corner of 4th and L Streets in Livermore. Donations will go to Open Heart Kitchen.

**The Venusians concert**, Feb. 26, 7 p.m. The group's style fuses the ambient and atmospheric with enchanting melodies and entrancing rhythms. Program part of Livermore Reads Together,

a community-wide reading program featuring Mary Roach's *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void*. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. 925-373-5505.

**Beppe Gambetta and Peter Ostroushko**, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Mike Marshall, on mandolin**, Pacific Chamber Symphony, Sun., March 3, 7 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Carl Tilchen**, singer/songwriter performing, Blackhawk Museum, 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, Sunday, March 3, 2-4 PM, & 4-5 PM. This performance is for Family Day at the Auto Museum. Carl Tilchen will sing many popular songs about cars, & his original songs Google's Car No Driver, & Racing for the Common Man. This performance is free with paid admission to the museum: Adults \$10, Seniors 65+, and Students \$7.

**San Ramon Symphonic Band**, March 8, 7:30 p.m. A Night at the Symphony, Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, Alhambra Rd., San Ramon; [sanramonperformingarts.com](http://sanramonperformingarts.com). 973-3343.

**Julian Lage Group**, March 12, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Red Clay Ramblers**, March 13, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Story Road, featuring members of Molly's Revenge**, concert 7 p.m. Sat., March 16, St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 3350 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Great music, Good Food - traditional Irish Fare. Child care will be provided. Tickets are \$40.00 for adults, \$25.00 for children. Membership in St. Clare's is not required. To purchase tickets, please call the Church office: 925-462-4802 or e-mail [david.wildy@gmail.com](mailto:david.wildy@gmail.com), [www.stclarespleasanton.org](http://www.stclarespleasanton.org)

**Pleasanton Chamber Players**, March 17, 2 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**Steve Seskin & Friends** The Songwriters sing, March 16, 8 p.m. Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, Albion Rd., San Ramon; [sanramonperformingarts.com](http://sanramonperformingarts.com). 973-3343.

**Archetti Baroque String Ensemble**, Del Valle Fine Arts concert, March 23, 8 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Beatles tribute**, the Sun Kings, March 30, 8 p.m. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

## ON THE STAGE

**Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure**, Feb. 14-March 10. By Steven Dietz. Based on the original 1899 play by

William Gillette and Arthur Conan Doyle Winner of the 2007 Edgar Award for Best Mystery Play Combining two of Arthur Conan Doyle's stories, *The Scandal in Bohemia* and *The Final Adventure*. The Douglas Morrisson Theatre, 22311 N. Third St. in Hayward. The Box Office is open Tuesday through Friday, 12:30 to 5:30 and can be reached at (510) 881-6777. [www.dmtonline.org](http://www.dmtonline.org).

**Paco Pena Flamenco**, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**California Theatre Center**, Robinson Crusoe, 9:30 and 11 a.m., Feb. 26, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. Includes lesson guide. [www.ctcinc.org](http://www.ctcinc.org), 800-606-0424.

**Tickets for the 32nd year of the Sunol Repertory Theatre** are on sale at Ellis-ton Winery, 463 Kilkare Rd. Tickets can be purchased for \$15 on Sat. & Sun. between 11am-4pm. This is a first for the theatre "Murder in the House of Horrors" A Who Done It Mystery. Performances are Fri. & Sat March 8, 9, 15, 16, 22 & 23 at Sunol Glen School 11601 Main St. Sunol. Doors open at 7:30. Performance starts at 8 p.m. Beverages are sold at intermission by charitable organizations.

**Pippi Longstocking**, Pleasanton Civic Arts Stage Company projection. March 1-10, Fri., Sat., and Sun., March 6 and 7. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org) or 931-4848.

**Murder Most Fouled-Up**, a comedy by the award-winning playwright, Nikki Harmon, presented by Asbury Players Community Theater. It's the madcap story of a greedy family, a confused household staff and some unhappy spirits who only have 24 hours to find the treasure hidden by the diabolical Edwin Randolph and his ancestors. Performances March 2, 3, 8 and 9, 2013. Show time Friday and Saturday 8 p.m.; Sunday matinee 2 p.m. General admission \$10. Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore, CA. (925) 447-1950. Tickets available at the door or online at Brown Paper Tickets. For more information about this show or about Asbury Players Community Theater, go to [www.asburylivepresents.com](http://www.asburylivepresents.com).

**Ivy and Bean, The Musical**, March 9-17, 11 a.m., 2 and 4:30 p.m. Front Row Theater, Dougherty Station Community Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon; [sanramonperformingarts.com](http://sanramonperformingarts.com). 973-3343.

**Student One Acts**, Mar. 20, 12:30 p.m. and Mar. 22, 8 pm. Black Box Theater, Barbara Mertes Center for the Arts, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. 424-110.

## MOVIES

**Student film festival**, Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore. Sat., Feb. 23, 1 to 10 p.m. main stage theater, Barbara Mertes Center for the

Arts. 424-1100.

**We're Not Broke**, winner of numerous film awards, will be shown at 7 p.m. on Sat., March 2 at the IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. This film documents how American corporations hide trillions of dollars from Uncle Sam and why many Americans are taking it to the streets, demanding that corporations pay their fair share. Meet & greet potluck feasting begins at 6:30 PM, while a short discussion follows the film. For further information, call 925-462-3459. This event is wheelchair accessible and free; although, a \$3.00 donation is appreciated.

**Free Classic Film Series**, Pleasanton Public Library, 400 Old Bernal Avenue, 1st Thursday of the month, 7 p.m. through June 6, 2013. The program is hosted by Candy Klaschus, a film historian who coordinates the Humanities program at Las Positas College. The programs are free and all are welcome to attend. Penny Johnson at 925/931-3405.

## DANCE

**Best of Smuin Ballet**, March 1, 7:30 p.m.; March 2, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.



**Tri-Valley Haven brings Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" to the new Mertes Center for the Arts at Las Positas College, 3000 Campus Hill Dr., Livermore, on Friday and Saturday, March 1 and 2 at 8 pm. This production is different from prior year's performances with new actresses, and some unique monologues. Local favorite Eleisa Cambra is directing. Proceeds from this production will benefit the Haven's domestic violence and sexual assault programs. Tickets are still available and can be purchased online at <http://vaginamonologues.brownpapertickets.com>. Photo - Veronica Esqueda**

# ART & ENTERTAINMENT

**Friday Evening Group Dance!** Learn how to dance with great instructors from It's All About Dancing, new dance every week from Salsa, Tango, Swing and more. Group lesson starts at 7:30, followed by open dance until 9:45 in our new location at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore; 925-449-9292. \$15.

## AUDITIONS/COMPETITIONS

**Children's opera auditions.** Cantabella Children's Chorus will hold a Round 2 of auditions on Sunday, February 24th, 2-3 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, for principal youth roles in Benjamin Britten's famous children's opera, *Noye's Fludde* (Noah's Flood) to be produced this summer in collaboration with St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church. The audition is for all roles, but Cantabella especially welcomes, male voices (changed voice preferred, but not required). No previous opera experience

necessary. Upon receipt of audition form and \$20 audition fee, the audition schedule and materials, including a specific song for you to prepare will be provided. Walk-ins are welcome at 3 p.m. and can sing "happy birthday." Audition fee will be applied toward the opera camp tuition. For audition forms, location and financial aid information, visit [cantabella.org/opera-camp](http://cantabella.org/opera-camp) or call 925-292-2663.

## OPERA

**La Traviata by Verdi**, presented by Livermore Valley Opera. Sat., March 9, 8 p.m.; Sun., March 10, 2 p.m.; Sat., March 16, 8 p.m.; Sun., March 17, 2 p.m.. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Opera San José Giuseppe Verdi's Il trovatore.** Set in 15th-century Spain, Verdi's classic has it all: vengeance, war, jealousy, and passion with an emotional, heart-stopping score

including one of the most famous choral melodies ever written, the "Anvil Chorus." Il trovatore will be sung in Italian with English supertitles. Eight performances are scheduled from February 9 through 24 at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San José. Tickets are on sale at the Opera San José Box Office, by phone at (408) 437-4450 or online at [www.operasj.org](http://www.operasj.org). Il trovatore is made possible, in part, by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San José.

## Metropolitan Opera Schedule,

screening at Regal Hacienda Cinema in Dublin: *Rigoletto*, March 6, 6:30 p.m.; *Parsifal*, March 2, 9 a.m., March 20, 6:30 p.m.; *Francesca da Rimini*, March 16, 9 a.m., April 3, 6:30 p.m.; *Giulio Cesare*, April 27, 9 a.m., May 15, 6:30 p.m.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Political Issues Book Club** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, and reads

books about issues and trends that are driving current affairs in both the national and international arenas. Topics that have been covered include politics, governance, economics, military affairs, history, sociology, science, the climate, and religion. Contact Rich at 872-7923, for further questions  
**We're Talkin' Books! Club** is a member-centered book group led by a small group of book club veterans, with reading selections based on member recommendations and consensus. No homework required—share your insights or just listen in! Contact Susan at 337-1282 regarding the *We're Talkin' Books! Club*.

**Science on Saturday**, Feb. 23, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Free series for students presented by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. [www.bankheadtheater.org](http://www.bankheadtheater.org) or 373-6800.

**Livermore Reads Together 2013**, Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of

Life in the Void, by Mary Roach. Events include the following (unless noted, events are held at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave): Astronomy for Everyone: Size & Scale of the Universe with Dr. Kevin Manning, astrophysicist; Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.; Left Brain, Right Brain: Visualizing Science Through Art with Christopher J. Ford, RenderMan Business Director, Pixar Animation Studios; Sat., Feb. 23 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon: SpaceCrafts! — A Children's Program with space-related crafts for preschool through grade 3, and have your photo taken as an astronaut; Sun., Feb. 24 at 2 p.m.: Exploring Mars: Chronicles from a Decade of Discovery with author Scott Hubbard; Tues., Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.: The Venusians featuring global instrumental music; Wed., Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.: Out of This World Apps, computer apps that will rock your world. For more information, check the library's website at [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net).

**Ragin' Cajun**, Mardi Gras event, music, dancing, dinner, beads, live auctions, and more on Friday, March 8, 2013, 6:30 to 11 p.m. at the Palm Event Center, 1184 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton. Annual fund-raiser event for the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation, which provides cancer patients in the East Bay Tri-Valley area with financial assistance for complementary healing services during the course of their chemo and/or radiation therapy that are not covered by insurance. Tickets are available online at <http://www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org> or by calling (866) 862-7270.

**50th Annual Coin Show**, Livermore Valley Coin Club, March 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Dr., Livermore. Displays, bourse, prizes. Free admission, free wooden nickels, hourly drawings. Lunch available.

**An Evening with Lady Carolyn**, Tues., March 12, 7 p.m. Museum on Main Ed Kinney Lecture series, Celebrate Women's History Month with Carolyn Runnells, as the lovely Lady Carolyn. Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton. [www.firehousearts.org](http://www.firehousearts.org).

**St. Patrick's Day Brew Crawl**, March 15, 6 to 9 p.m. downtown Pleasanton. Downtown merchants, restaurants and local breweries. [www.pleasantondowntown.net](http://www.pleasantondowntown.net)

**St. Patrick's Day Festival**, March 16-17, Civic Center, Dublin. Parade on March 16. [www.ci.dublin.ca.us](http://www.ci.dublin.ca.us)

**History Lecture**, Livermore Heritage Guild, new Livermore "Images of America" photo book featured. Doors open 7 p.m., talk begins at 7:30 p.m. Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. \$2 donation suggested.

## BALLET

(continued from front page)

and witty favorites, including "I've Got You Under My Skin," "That's Life," and "The Lady is a Tramp," before culminating in a full chorus, high-kicking "New York, New York."

Called "striking" and "remarkable" by the New York Times, Oh, Inverted World by Trey McIntyre is set to music by the influ-

ential indie-rock band The Shins. Oh, Inverted World is marked by intricate patterns and athletic partnering. This dynamic ballet, commissioned by Smuin Ballet, received its world premiere in fall 2010 in San Francisco, and last summer enjoyed its New York premiere at The Joyce Theatre in Manhattan, when the New York Times

again proclaimed it "irresistible. The Smuin dancers are excellent . . . they're at their finest here."

Rounding out the program is *Soon These Two Worlds*, by Smuin's choreographer-in-residence Amy Seiwert. This ballet received its world premiere with Smuin Ballet in San Francisco in 2009, and was her-

alded by the San Francisco Chronicle as "a genuinely upbeat diversion that melds solidly structured energy with a fresh, sunny disposition." Set to music from the Grammy Award-winning Kronos Quartet, *Soon These Two Worlds* blends West African rhythms and intricate pointe.

Now at the helm of Smuin Ballet is Artistic and Executive Director Celia Fushille. The company has continued to highlight works created by Smuin, both for his own and for other ballet companies, but Fushille also enriches its impressive repertoire with newer choreographic voices.

## CLASSICS

(continued from front page)

NY, holds both A.B. and Ph.D. degrees in physics from Harvard University and is currently on the staff of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He has studied cello with Mildred Johnson, Claus Adam, and George Neikrug and has served as principal cellist with the Tassajara Symphony, the Livermore Valley Opera, and the Livermore-Amador Symphony. He lives in Livermore and plays with the Berkeley Symphony and the Fremont Symphony.

Pianist Sang Yoon Cho,

a graduate of Seoul National University, earned her Master's degree at Ewha Women's University. She received a diploma for piano performance from Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw, Poland, where she studied under professor Maria Szaiber. She has performed several times at the Salzburg Mozart Summer Festival and has taught piano performance at Korea University as an assistant professor.

Admission to the concert is by free-will donation (suggested amount \$15-

\$25) at the door beginning one hour before the concert. Early arrival is recommended, as seating is limited to approximately 100. There will be a reception with the opportunity to meet the artists following the concert. A portion of the proceeds of the concert will benefit Hope Hospice.

The Unitarian Universalist Church in Livermore is located at 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore. Visit the church's website at [uucil@sbcglobal.net](http://uucil@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

## Local Leaders Join Shakespeare Company Board

Louise Gill and Heidi Kaseff have joined the Board of Directors of Shakespeare's Associates, producer of the Livermore Shakespeare Festival.

Gill, an independent college admissions advisor, will serve on two Board committees: the Personnel Committee and the Public Relationship and Advocacy Committee. Kaseff will join the Education Committee and Development and Fundraising committee.

Both women are Livermore residents. A relative newcomer, Gill says she was delighted to find "an amaz-

ing, professional company creating outstanding theater in a beautiful vineyard setting. . . . I am grateful for the opportunity to be on the Board and help the company develop still further."

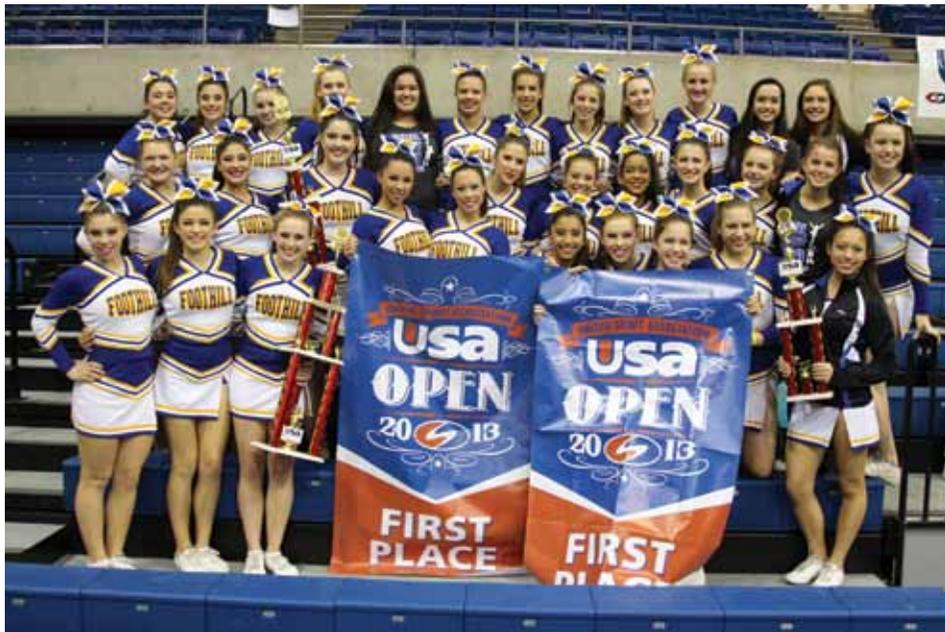
Kaseff's first contact with the Shakespeare company was through her children, who were cast in the 2011 production of *Macbeth*.

"Their positive experience during rehearsals and performances is something they will never forget. . . . It has been my dream to have local, high-quality, affordable actor training and performance experiences for

children. I also want to make children's tickets accessible so families can afford to bring the whole clan to these incredible performances."

For its 2013 summer season, the Festival will include William Shakespeare's comic look at the battle of the sexes, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *The Liar*, adapted by David Ives from a 17th comedy by Pierre Corneille. The productions play in repertory June 20-July 21. Tickets go on sale at the end of February. Visit [www.LivermoreShakes.org](http://www.LivermoreShakes.org) or call 925-443-2273 (BARD) for more information.

# Milestones



Foothill High School cheer squads

## Foothill Cheer Squads Win Accolades

For a second year in a row, Foothill High School's competition cheer squads returned home to Pleasanton victorious from the United Spirit Association (USA) California Open held at the UC Davis ARC Pavilion last Sunday.

"Eight months of practice and five successful regionals led up to this day," said Coach Kim DeJoy. "The girls know you get one shot and two and a half minutes on the floor. They gave it everything they had and then some."

The varsity squad triumphed over seven other small and medium sized teams from California and Nevada to take home first place in the varsity show cheer-intermediate category. In addition, the team captured the coveted grand champion title, awarded to the squad posting the highest overall score of the afternoon. They trounced 31 other teams to claim the title, including three middle

school and 28 high school squads competing in all sizes and skill levels, including advanced and co-ed.

Foothill's junior varsity (JV) Show cheer squad prevailed over four other teams to take home first place in the large JV show cheer novice division. Group stunt does not compete at the California Open.

"We could not have made this far without our alternates," said JV Coach Karen Maurice. "Tumbling and stunting took a toll this year and we're grateful to Stephanie, Katie, Haley, and especially Jordan for stepping in on short notice so the teams wouldn't lose momentum."

The California Open was the last in a series of six competitions in which the teams competed from November to February on their quest for back-to-back national titles when they return to USA Nationals in March 2013. The teams travel next to Anaheim in

March to compete in the USA Spirit Nationals. You can support them on their journey by following them at [www.facebook.com/FHS-FalconCheer](http://www.facebook.com/FHS-FalconCheer).

Varsity show cheer team includes Amanda Arnold, Zoe Cristobal, Sarina DeJoy, Bailey Downum, Michelle French, Camille Hamlin, Keri Kodama (captain), Amber Marquez, Emily Palange, Jordan Robinson, Gabriella Scalise, and Natalie Wright.

JV show cheer team includes Cassidee Banks, Kailyn Coleman, Mackenzie Curran, Mitsu Dill, Shauna Dunlap, Jenna Edsen, Karina Galvez, Katie Jeffries, Emma Loll, Maddy Maas, Brie Morrissey, Erin Page, Jordan Robinson (co-captain), Taylor Sanchez (co-captain), Anika Simons, Stephanie Tasto and Noelle Viscaina.

Injured reserve: 'Alakoka Kailahi, Morgan Greenup, Sara Moore and Sabrina Stermer.

## Couple Marks 50th Anniversary

Ed and Cindy English, formerly of Livermore, just celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They will continue the celebration in April when the entire family will cruise to the Caribbean.

Edward A. English married Lucinda Lee Brush on Feb. 1, 1963, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, while they were students at the University of Idaho. They were high school sweethearts. After graduation, they moved to Livermore, California, where they lived for 38 years before moving to Grants Pass, Oregon, ten years ago. Ed retired as a mechanical engineer at Sandia National Laboratories in 1996. Cindy retired as public relations and ombuds assistant at Sandia National Laboratories in 1996 as well. She previously worked as an elementary school librarian and a secretary.

In Livermore, they were active in the Altamont Cruisers Car Club, Livermore Valley Rotary, Ravenswood



Ed and Cindy English

Historic Site (Progress League), Tri-Valley Haven for Women, among many other activities. In Grants Pass, they are active members of the Newcomers Club, Josephine County Historical Society, and Jefferson State Street Rods. Ed also volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and Cindy enjoys the Merlin Rouge Red Hat-

ters and the Colonial Valley Women's Club.

They have two daughters: Amy Sessums, and her husband Scott, of Springfield, Oregon; and Katy Kendall, and her husband Dale, of Carson City, Nevada. They are the grandparents of five teens, Cole and Jesse Sessums, and Drew, Kacey and Dani Kendall.

## Pleasanton Police Department Adds a New Officer

The Pleasanton Police Department has added Officer Tony Repetto to its roster.

Officer Tony Repetto was born and raised in Pleasanton and is a graduate of Amador Valley High School. He served in the United States Air Force as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician following his graduation from high school. He was stationed at Patrick Air Force Base in Florida. Officer Repetto was a member of the bomb squad servicing Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral. He deployed to Afghanistan from September 2005 through March 2006 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Following his honorable discharge from the Air Force, Officer Repetto joined the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department where he worked for more than five years. He was assigned to the detention facility in Richmond and was a member of the

Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT).

Officer Repetto will begin a 16 week field training program, after which he will be assigned as a patrol officer.

He was hired to fill a vacancy created by an officer who recently retired.

  
**THE NEPTUNE SOCIETY**  
**OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

2177 Las Positas Ct, Ste. K, Livermore CA 94551  
 (925) 454-1974  
[www.neptune-society.com](http://www.neptune-society.com)  
*Angie Apolinar, Branch Director*

FD#1823

# BULLETIN BOARD

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

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

**Tri-Valley Republican Women** present former State Legislator, Lynne Leach, at the annual Membership Luncheon to be held on March 9 at Cattlemen's Restaurant. Leach is a member of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Posse, on the executive board of Mount Diablo Boy Scouts of America, and advisory board of the Chinese-American Political Association. As a legislator, Ms. Leach worked on various committees: Transportation, Insurance, Jobs and Economic Development, Aging and Long Term Care, and Legislative Audit. Social time is 12:30, meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$24 per person. For information and reservations, contact Devy Torrance at [deandevy2004@yahoo.com](mailto:deandevy2004@yahoo.com) or phone 925-234-2209.

**Livermore Library Board**, meets 7 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 28 at the Rincon Branch, 725 Rincon Ave., Livermore. An agenda will be posted at the Civic Center Library, 72 hours prior to the meeting.

**Dress a Girl Around the World**, meetings once a month, next Sew-Fest is Saturday, March 2 from 9 am to 3 pm at St. Michael's Hall, Livermore. Help is needed sewing, ironing, cutting. (Those planning to stay all day should bring a bag lunch.) There is a lot of fabric and pillowcases, so there are many kits ready to sew. Those who can't make the Sew-Fest but would like to sew, please arrange for kits that can be sews at home. Suzanne Beck, 925-352-8447 or [suzbeck@yahoo.com](mailto:suzbeck@yahoo.com)

**We're Not Broke**, winner of numerous film awards, will be shown at 7 p.m. on Sat., March 2 at the IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. This film documents how American corporations hide trillions of dollars from Uncle Sam and why many Americans are taking it to the streets, demanding that corporations pay their fair share. Meet & greet potluck feasting begins at 6:30 pm. While a short discussion follows the film. For further information, call 925-462-3459. This event is wheelchair accessible and free; although, a \$3.00 donation is appreciated.

**Kindergarten registration**, Do you have a child turning 5 on or before October 1, 2012 and ready for kindergarten? Come to a Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District annual Kindergarten Registration Fair on Thursday, February 28, 2013 from 3 p.m.-7 p.m. or Friday, March 1, 2013 from 2-6 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center. For more information, visit [www.livermore.k12.ca.us](http://www.livermore.k12.ca.us)

**SAT Prep Classes in Livermore - LARPD** is offering classes in Strategic SAT Prep (Saturdays 4/6 - 4/27/13 - 9 am - noon), "Spring Break SAT Prep" (Tues. - Fri. 4/2 - 4/5 - 9 - noon), and Last Minute SAT Prep (4/15/13 - 5:30 - 9 pm or 4/20/13 - 1:30 - 5 pm). Classes will be held at Robert Livermore Community Center 4444 East Avenue, Livermore. Register at 925 373-5700, or go to [susanprep.com](mailto:susanprep.com).

**Foothill High School's Academic & Activities Booster Club (AABC)** is offering 6 scholarships of \$500 each to the graduating

seniors. Applicants must attend a higher education college/university. Three of these scholarships are on academic basis and other three are based on need. Application forms are available with Mrs. Bing at the Counseling Desk at Foothill HS. Awards will be based on effort, activities and interests both in and out of school. Consideration will be given to students who have demonstrated academic improvement during the past four years. The last date of application is Friday, April 19, 2013.

**Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club**, Sat., Feb. 23, 44/55 miles Cinderella conditioning rides, meet 9 a.m. on Airway Blvd., Livermore, [maclenzi@aol.com](mailto:maclenzi@aol.com) or [loritrublood@gmail.com](mailto:loritrublood@gmail.com). Sat., Feb. 23, 60 miles from old Nob Hill lot in Livermore to Mines Road junction and back, meet 9:30 a.m., Alberto Lanzas, 510-825-9581. Sun., Feb. 24, 30 miles to the junction on Mt. Diablo, meet 9 a.m. at Danville Railroad Museum, Mark Decon, 997-3528. Sun., Feb. 24, 20 miles over the Iron Horse Trail from Dublin to Danville, meet 9:30 a.m. at Dublin location of Livermore Cyclery, Bob Heady, 980-7989. Wed., Feb. 27, 35-55 miles from Heather Farm, meet 10 a.m., Richard Skow, 939-6964. Wed., Feb. 27, 40 miles from Lafayette on a loop to Pinole via Reliez and Pig Farm Hill, meet 10 a.m. at staging area on Olympic Blvd., Alberto Lanzas, 510-825-9581. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to contact the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

**Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment (Tri-Valley CARES)**, monitors nuclear weapons and environmental clean-up activities throughout the US nuclear weapons complex, with a special focus on Livermore Lab and the surrounding communities. All are welcome at our monthly meeting at the Livermore Civic Center Library Thursday, February 21 from 7:30pm to 9pm. For more information call Tri-Valley CARES at (925) 443-7148 or visit our website at <http://trivalleycares.org>

**Lawyers in the Library**, program offers free legal information and referral. The program is co-sponsored by the Alameda County Bar Association. The third Tuesday of each month at the Pleasanton Library. Each person will have a 15 to 20 minute free consultation with a member of the Alameda County Bar Association. Appointments are by lottery. Register from 5:30 to 5:45 pm. Names will be selected at 5:50 pm. You must be present when names are drawn. Appointments begin at 6:00 pm and end at 8:00 pm. Call Merry Luskin, 931-3400, extension 7.

**Emeritus Senior Living**, grand re-opening celebration, 4 to 7 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 28, 355 West Grant Line Rd., Tracy. Tours, entertainment, food and beverages. RSVP at 209-835-1000.

**Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour**, Registration for the Sunday, May 5, 2013 tour is now open. A variety of bird- and butterfly-friendly, pesticide-free, water conserving, low maintenance gardens that contain 60% or more native plants will be open on Sunday, May 5, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at various locations throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties. More than 40 garden talks will be scheduled throughout the day. Native plants will be sold at numerous locations the weekend of May 4 and 5. [www.bringingbackthenatives.net](http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net)

**Widowed Men and Women of Northern CA.**, Breakfast in San Ramon, Feb. 24, noon, RSVP by Feb. 21 to Janet, 443-3317. Lunch in San Ramon, Feb. 27, 11:30 a.m., RSVP by Feb. 24 to Marsha, 830-8483.

**Pleasantonians for Peace**, Peaceful War Protest on the fourth Wednesday of the month, February 27, between 5 - 6 at the

corners of First and Neal Streets. Call Cathie Norman at (925) 462-7495; Matt Sullivan at [mj57882@gmail.com](mailto:mj57882@gmail.com); or [kdowning@pacbell.net](mailto:kdowning@pacbell.net). [www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org](http://www.Pleasantonians4Peace.org)

**Health and Fitness Classes** at CareMore Care Center, 4270 Rosewood Dr., Pleasanton. No cost or preregistration is required. Tai Chi: Tues. and Thurs. through Feb. 28, 10 a.m. Chi Kung: Tues. and Thurs. through Feb. 28, 11 a.m. Zumba: Thursdays through Feb. 28, 9 a.m. Chair Yoga: Mondays through Feb. 25, 10:30 p.m.

**LARPD Rummage Sale**, Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's annual Rummage Sale 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 23. The Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave., Livermore. [www.larpd.dst.ca.us](http://www.larpd.dst.ca.us) or 925-373-5700.

**4th annual Crab Feed & Auction**, Alisal Elementary School PTA fund-raising. Sat., March 2, 6 p.m. to 20 p.m. at the California Center, 4400 Rosewood Dr., Pleasanton. \$45 per person includes all you can eat crab (or chicken), bread salad and pasta, no host bar, silent and live auctions, music by The Regulars. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.alisalppta.org](http://www.alisalppta.org)

**St. Michael's/St. Charles crab feed**, benefit for CYO basketball. Fri., Feb. 22, 6 p.m. to midnight. Shrine Event Center, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore. All you can eat crab or chicken, pasta, bread, salad. Tickets \$40 at [www.smsccyo.org](http://www.smsccyo.org). Evening includes raffle prizes and dancing. Additional information at [njfromindy@yahoo.com](mailto:njfromindy@yahoo.com) or 216-2519.

**Ragin Cajun Mardi Gras Gala** hosted by the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation on March 8, 2013 at the Palm Center in Pleasanton. The event includes dinner, music, dancing as well as silent and live auctions. The proceeds benefit cancer patients living in the Tri-Valley by providing healing therapies that help offset the side-effects of radiation and chemotherapy and are not covered by insurance. Information and tickets, contact the Sandra J. Wing Healing Therapies Foundation at 866-862-7270 or visit the website at [www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org](http://www.healingtherapiesfoundation.org)

**Beeb's Team Trivia is Back**, every Wednesday 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Teams of 1 to 6 players. Beeb's Sports Bar & Grill, 915 Clubhouse Dr., Livermore. 455-7070. [www.beebsatlaspositas.com](http://www.beebsatlaspositas.com)

**Writing Club for Young Adults**, open to all skill levels, taught by published Young Adult author J.L. Powers at the Livermore Public Library. The Club will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays, February 21, March 21, and April 18, 2013 in the Storytime Room at the Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Avenue, Livermore. The event is free. No registration is required. TEEN SPACE on the library's website: [www.livermorelibrary.net](http://www.livermorelibrary.net), or contact Jennifer at 925-373-5500, extension 5576.

**M.I. Hummel Club**, San Francisco Bay Chapter, meets second Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. at a member's home. Guests always welcome. Topics include sharing of Hummel figurine news and information. Joan Mumma, club secretary, 447-5164 or [www.mumma.org/hummel/](http://www.mumma.org/hummel/)

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

**Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group** meets every fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the second floor conference room at Heritage Estates

Retirement Community. The address is 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore All are welcome. Contacts are. Sandra Grafath 443-6655 or Lee Parlett 292-9280.

**Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)**, Josefa Higueria Livermore Chapter, meets 9:30 a.m. first Saturday of the month from September to May at Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore. DAR is a women's service organization. Members are descended from a patriot of the American Revolution and are dedicated to patriotism, preservation of American history, and securing America's future through education. Contact Pat at 447-8254 for more information.

**Operation: S.A.M.** "Supporting All Military" is a 501(c)3 non profit military support organization based in Livermore. S.A.M. has been in operation since January 2004. It is dedicated to the continued support of deployed troops. Preparation of comfort packages takes place every other week - all year long. Providing morale support for those deployed. All information provided is confidential and is not shared for security purposes. To submit a name and address, inquire about donations or help, please visit [www.operationsam.org](http://www.operationsam.org), email [operationsam@comcast.net](mailto:operationsam@comcast.net) or call 925 443-7620 for more information and the calendar of events.

**Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL)** offers services to help people with disabilities and supports them to live independently and participate in their community for as long as they are willing and able to do so. CRIL maintains offices in Hayward, Fremont and Livermore to provide information and referrals and provide community education at senior centers and affordable housing complexes to residents of Southern Alameda County. The Tri-Valley office is located at 3311 Pacific Avenue, Livermore 94550 and can be reached by phone at (925) 371-1531, by FAX at (925) 373-5034 or by e-mail at [abril.tamayao@cril-online.org](mailto:abril.tamayao@cril-online.org). All services are free.

## RELIGION

**First Presbyterian Church**, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore. 9:00 a.m. Contemplative Service in the Chapel, 10:30 Traditional Service in the Sanctuary and children's program. [www.fpcl.us](http://www.fpcl.us) or 925-447-2078.

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

**Unitarian Universalist**, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Information 447-8747 or [www.uucil.net](http://www.uucil.net).

**Congregation Beth Emek**, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Information 931-1055.

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

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

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

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church** Sunday

Service 9:30 a.m. 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Information, 447-8840.

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

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

**Calvary Chapel Livermore**, Sunday Services 10:30 a.m. 545 No. L Street Livermore. (925) 447-4357 - [www.calvalrylivermore.org](http://www.calvalrylivermore.org).

**St. Matthew's Baptist Church**, 1239 North Livermore Ave., Livermore. Services on Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. Prayer each Wednesday at 7 p.m. followed by Bible study at 7:30 p.m. 449-3824.

**United Christian Church**, celebrating 50 years in the Tri-Valley. 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worships on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fridays. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry. Call 449-6820 for more information.

**Granada Baptist Church**, 945 Concanon Boulevard, Livermore. Services: Sunday school - 9:45 a.m.; worship service - 11 a.m. All are welcome. 1-888-805-7151.

**Seventh-day Adventist Church**, 243 Scott Street, Livermore. 925-447-5462. Services on Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m., worship 11 a.m. [www.livermoresda.org/](http://www.livermoresda.org/) All are welcome.

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

**Faith Chapel Assembly of God**, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton, Sunday School for all ages 9:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m., Children's Church 11:15 a.m. Women's Bible study Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Intercessory prayer 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Please call office at 846-8650 for weekly programs.

**Trinity**, 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday school or Bible study for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Awana is Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday nights there is adult Bible study at 6:45 and NRG and Re.Gen for youth, and children's choir for kids. Child care during all events. 447-1848. [www.trinitylivermore.org](http://www.trinitylivermore.org).

**St. Charles Borromeo**, 1315 Lomas Ave., Livermore. Meditation groups following the John Main tradition, every Monday 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. For details, contact Claire La Scola at 447-9800.

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

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

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

**St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church**, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, Sunday services with Rev. Joyce Parry Moore - Rector. 8:00 am Contemplative Eucharist with Taize music. 9:15 am Godly Play and Adult Bible

Study, 10:30 am Sung Eucharist with choir; child-care available. Youth Group every Sunday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall and youth room; youth oriented programs "Rite 13" and "Journey to Adulthood." [www.saintbartslivermore.com/](http://www.saintbartslivermore.com/) for more information.

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

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

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

**Pathway Community Church**, 6533 Sierra Lane, Dublin. Contemporary Worship Service, Sunday 10:30 a.m. Children, youth, adult programs. Biblically based practical messages, nondenominational. All are welcomed. [www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org](http://www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org) (925) 829-4793.

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

**Tri-Valley Church of Christ**, 4481 East Avenue, Livermore, 447-4333 [www.trivalleychurch.org](http://www.trivalleychurch.org). Update on classes for The Story 9 to 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

**Lynwood United Methodist Church**, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Sunday worship at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. with childcare and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. (First Sun. of month 9 a.m. is traditional with organ, 10:30 a.m. is informal with guitar.) Rev. Heather Leslie Hammer minister. All welcome. [www.lynnwood.org](http://www.lynnwood.org), 925 846-0221.

**Unity of Tri-Valley Church**, ongoing groups, activities, classes, and youth services. Sunday services at 10 a.m., 9875 Dublin Canyon Rd., Castro Valley (just 2 miles west of Stoneridge Mall). Rev. Karen Epps, minister. (925) 829-2733, [www.trivalley.com](http://www.trivalley.com)

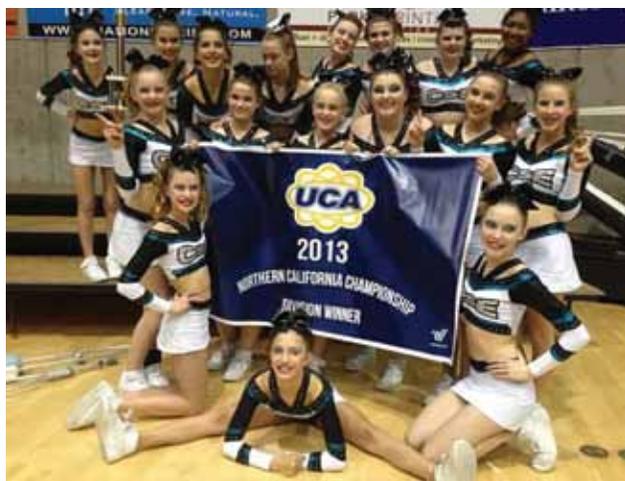
**St. Michael's Centennial celebration**, mass and dinner, April 27, at St. Michael Church. Mass at 3 p.m. followed by a celebration dinner with two seatings: 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tickets for dinner are available in the rectory and at the school. For additional information, please email Jacki Tyler [jtyler@csdo.org](mailto:jtyler@csdo.org) or St. Michael's School or Sister Emmanuel [sr.eardinale.op@gmail.com](mailto:sr.eardinale.op@gmail.com).

**Cedar Grove Community Church** located at 2021 College Avenue in Livermore. Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University classes will begin Friday, March 1, 2013 at 7:00 PM. Contact Gary Chang at (925)447-2351 for more information or to register.

**Lenten Series**, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 678 Enos Way, Livermore, is offering Wednesday evening programs during Lent. All are welcome at 6:00pm potluck dinners and 7:00pm Evening Prayer services with discussions led by guest speakers.

Topics include "Poetry of George Herbert and Langston Hughes" with Fr. Eric Metoyer, Feb. 27; "Women and Spirituality" with the Rev. Kerstin Hedlund, March 6; "Women and Literature" with Susan Mayall, March 13, and "Women Mystics," led by St. Bart's rector, the Rev. Joyce Parry Moore, on March 20. There will also be a labyrinth walk at 7:00pm on Friday, March 1. For further information, call the church at 925-447-3289.

# Milestones Community



California Spirit Elite's (CSE) 'Showtyme' team placed 1st at the Northern California Championship at UOP on Jan. 20th. They are a senior level 3 team that has competed together since October. CSE is an All Star Competitive Cheer gym located at 6800 Sierra Ct. Ste. P, Dublin. It offers year-round and half-year competitive All Star Cheerleading Teams that compete locally and nationally. Pictured are (back, from left) Caroline Grossman, Haley Chambers, Amanda Diehl, Sally Ferguson, Samantha Franco, Alexis Lovin, Jacalyn Fults, Jazmine Ezebuio; (middle) Julia Oltman, Megan Ferguson, April Turner, Cheyenne Higgins, Katia Katunaric, Lilly Medeiros; (bottom) Kayla Fulmer, Kelly Fox and Nadia Masody.

## DAR Holds Annual Awards Ceremony

By Cindee Delavara

The Jose Maria Amador Chapter, NSDAR, held its February student awards event and chapter meeting at 10 a.m. Sat., Feb. 9, at Pleasant View Church of Christ in Pleasanton. The annual Awards Ceremony included a patriotic performance by Pleasanton's Young American Patriots Fife and Drum Corps (YAPS), presentation of awards, and refreshments.

"We honored the DAR Good Citizen students, and the Christopher Columbus Essay and the American History Essay winners," said Chapter Regent Diane Groome.

The American History Essay Contest for the 2012-2013 academic year included community fifth-eighth grade students who submitted essays on the topic, "Forgotten Patriots Who Supported the American Struggle for Independence." Contest chairpersons Phyl-

lis Houghton, Judy Herrera and Nancy Villarreal worked with local libraries and schools to encourage local students to enter.

The three first-place winners of the American History Essay Contest were Windemere Ranch Middle School sixth-grader Amanda Yang, Harvest Park Middle School seventh-grader Stacy Shimanuki, and Wells Middle School eighth-grader Alexandra Stassinopoulos. Each received \$100 from the Jose Maria Amador Chapter. They were presented with a medal and Certificates of Recognition signed by Ca. State Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan and U.S. Congressman Eric Swalwell.

The Jose Maria Amador DAR Chapter is dedicated to selecting young people from the community who exhibit leadership, dependability, service and patriotism in daily lives when giving the DAR Good Ci-

zen Award. Chairperson Laurie Robertson presented the Chapter and Ca. State Society DAR (CSSDAR) District IV winner, Valley Christian High School senior Olivia Coackley, with a \$500 award from the Jose Maria Amador Chapter, a medal and a Certificate of Recognition signed by Ca. State Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan. U.S. Congressman Eric Swalwell presented Coackley a signed Certificate of Recognition.

Chairperson Carole Vercellino presented the Christopher Columbus Essay Award to Chapter and CSSDAR District IV winner, Dougherty Valley High School 10th-grader Augustine Chemparathy. Competing students submitted essays on the topic,

"How were high faith and indomitable courage demonstrated in the life and actions of Columbus, and how did they give to mankind a new world?" Chemparathy received a \$100 cash award from the Jose Maria Amador Chapter, a medal and a Certificate of Recognition signed by Ca. State Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan and U.S. Congressman Eric Swalwell.

All of the students who entered the contests received Certificates of Participation.

Currently, members are making plans to attend the exciting 105th California State Conference, March 7-10. For information about DAR membership, contact Jose Maria Amador Chapter Regent Diane Groome at 510-866-4032.

## Michael Brown Achieves Eagle Scout Rank

Michael Brown of Boy Scout Troop 939, Livermore, was awarded the Rank of Eagle Scout on November 21, 2012. He started scouting as a Cub Scout in pack 951 at Arroyo Seco Elementary School and admits he really didn't understand the lessons and skills that scouting taught until he entered Boy Scouts. He picked Troop 939 because it was a high adventure troop with many scouts and adult leaders willing to help the scouts learn new skills. Mr. Dave Reece was the Scout Master in March of 2006 when Michael joined the troop. Michael learned to build a shelter and organize



Michael Brown

teams to lighten work. Mr. Sam Steele taught Michael how to canoe, cross country ski and tie knots. Mr. Mark McKernan instructed him in how to make a delicious camping meal and light a

raging camp fire. The scouts and leaders made scouting fun.

Leadership skills were learned as Michael participated as Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. He functioned as Scout in Charge for summer camp and for Scout Sunday and was part of the first troop patrol to obtain the designation Honor Patrol. One of his most rewarding experiences was to volunteer at the East Bay Stand Down last year with other members of Troop 939.

In addition to his participation in scouting, Michael has also played four

years of football and golf for Livermore High School and received several awards by his coaches. It was often a struggle to combine Scouting and an active high school life, but Michael was committed to both and has been successful.

Michael remarks, "I want to be a good role model and leader for my peers and my younger brother. This means making good personal decisions and encouraging others to do the same and to be a good friend when someone needs support at a time in their life that may be difficult."

He will be attending Las Positas College.



Pictured are (front, left to right) American History Essay winners; 7th Grade Stacy Shimanuki, 6th Grade Amanda Yang, 8th Grade Alexandra Stassinopoulos - Chapter Regent, Diane Groome; (back row) Chapter winner DAR Good Citizen, Olivia Coackley, ROTC Cadet Gillian Bishop, DAR Good Citizen Roshni Nair, Congressman Eric Swalwell. Not pictured were DAR Good Citizens: Manuel Rubio and Mikalea Schwab and Christopher Columbus Essay Contest chapter winner Augustine Chemparathy.