

# Livermore District, Union at Impasse over Workday

By Patricia Koning Negotiations over the teacher workday between the Livermore Education Association (LEA), the teachers' union, and the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, came to a halt on Tues., Feb. 13. Both sides mutually agreed to declare an impasse.

"We've got a few sticking points on the issue of the teacher workday that we can't reach an agreement on," said LEA President Keith Pickering-Walters. "I'm hopeful that a third party can facilitate a solution.'

Impasse means that the parties have

been unable to reach agreement and are asking the State Mediation and Conciliation Service to send an individual to assist in bargaining. A mediator should be assigned in about 4-5 weeks.

The mediator, once assigned, will hold joint meetings with both sides to work out an agreement. The mediator can take as much time as he or she feels is necessary. If an agreement cannot be reached, the mediator then will certify the case to fact-finding. "I believe this mediation will suc-

ceed. I also thought we'd reach an agree-

ment through interest-based bargain-ing," said Pickering-Walters. If the negotiations go into fact-find-ing, the District and LEA will appoint a

fact-finding panel consisting of one ad-vocate selected by the District, another advocate selected by LEA, and a neutral third person agreed upon by both parties. Both sides then present their case to the fact-finding panel. In 2004, LEA and the District went

into fact-finding on negotiations primarily over benefits. Other issues were wages, retiree benefits and incentive program, work year, workday, evalua-tion, and transfers and reassignments. That negotiation took a total of 18 months. It resulted in changes to the health care that may have been the key factor in turning around the District's financial situation.

LEA and the District have reached a tentative agreement on all other issues that were up for negotiation this year, most notably the 7% salary increase for all teachers and the school year calendar. According to Pickering-Walters, LEA might ratify the agreed upon por-

tion separately so it is not held up by the work day negotiations. "We've agreed on three years worth

of calendars, which is really amazing,' he said. "For the benefit of the community it makes sense to finalize this item quickly.

Superintendent Brenda Miller, commented, "The board is disappointed that we couldn't come to a settlement with LEA on a workday. However, we are looking forward to impasse and bringing in a mediator who will bring a conclusion to negotiations.'

# Regional Support Key To Getting Federal Funds

The region's elected federal officials made it clear to Tri-Valley mayors who lobbied in Washington recently that the best way to obtain any federal money to solve regional problems such as homeland security, freeway congestion and the lack of affordable housing is to have a concerted regional effort in proposing\_solutions.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein drew the picture clearly for them. She commented on the prospects for obtaining Homeland Security money for a communications system that would enable Álameda and Contra Costa counties and their cities to use handheld devices to talk to each other in emergencies.

Feinstein said that with two counties and 31 cities involved, she wants to see all parties on board first with a signed joint powers agreement. Then she will fight for the funding, reported Dublin Mayor Janet Lockhart.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena said he was very interested in how much homeland defense money could help the Tri-Valley. The same hand-held radio compatibility project that drew Feinstein's comment, got a thoughtful assist from Boxer, said Kamena.

Right now, only Oakland, San Jose and San Francisco are eligible for the special homeland



Todd Fischer, PGA golfer from Pleasanton, tees off during a Media Day round.

# **Great Golf Promised at Championship Event**

Great golf on a great golf course - that was the message delivered during a press confer-ence to promote this year's Livermore Valley Wine County Championship.

Now in its second year, the 72 hole PGA Nationwide Tour event takes place March 29 to April 1 at The Course at Wente Vineyard. This is the only tour stop

Phil Wente told the crowd, "There is nothing that gets me more excited than having a world class sporting event come to our community. This is a great op-portunity to see hotel rooms filled, dinners eaten in restaurants, and monies going to charity. The Nationwide is every bit

as good as the main tour." Tim Benton, business affairs

course was the toughest on the tour. The only one tougher across the PGA Tour and the PGA Nationwide Tour was Wing Foot with the U.S. Open.'

The course has been described as "three in one," because it plays through three distinct terrains and environmental ecosystems: vineyards; oak, sycamore and cottonwood groves; and on

# **Livermore Moves** Ahead with LMD Vote

Livermore will move forward with plans to form a Landscape Maintenance District (LMD) in downtown Livermore.

The Livermore City Council voted unanimously Monday to ask property owners in the downtown area to vote on forming the LMD. Prior to the decision, the council heard a lot of criticism on how the whole process was handled.

The ballots are being sent out this week. They are due to be returned to the city clerk on April 9, following a public hearing on the matter. The ballots will be counted in public on April 10 at city hall.

Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena stated, "The council sets up the mechanism for the district. Property owners will vote on whether to move forward."

**Councilmember** Lorraine Dietrich commented, "I have been very critical of how we got to where we are. I recognize we are only voting on the right for property owners to vote on the ĹMD.

Speakers criticized how the city went about proposing the LMD, saying it should have been clear before the improvements were made in downtown that property owners in the area would be asked to help pay for the maintenance. Most also said that since the entire city benefits from the improvements, the entire city should pay for the maintenance of downtown.

Councilmember Tom Reitter

money from the city will help to pay the maintenance bill. "Including the replacement costs and the maintenance, the city will always pay more," said Reitter.

He added, "The idea is that the improvements will increase the profits of downtown businesses. If revitalization works successfully, businesses should benefit significantly."

The cost of maintenance the first year is estimated at \$750,000. Under the proposed LMD, the city would pay \$450,000. At buildout, the city would pay \$500,000, the LMD \$600,000, and new development \$200,000 (for pocket parks). The level of assessment is

based on the proximity and use of the improvements. Those closest will be assessed at a higher rate. Improvements to be completed in the future include the Livermore Valley Center Plaza, trails along Railroad Avenue, enhancements at Carnegie Park, and changes to First Street to Inman on the east and P Street to the west.

Since it was first proposed, the city has responded to complaints by making several changes in the LMD. The replacement costs were removed. A partnership component was added. whereby property owners twice a year review work done and money spent.

A three year phase-in was approved by the council for assessments on businesses either open or under construction during the First Street renovations. The city had suggested that those under construction have a two years (See MAINTENANCE, page 2)

defense funding. There is a 10-mile limit extended beyond those cities for eligibility for those funds, but it does not reach the Tri-Valley. The delegation wanted to extend the limit.

"Boxer questioned us at length, went to a map, and asked if going to 25 miles would do it. It looked like it. She hopes to sponsor an amendment, at least, for us," said Kamena.

On the same topic, Kamena said that he had lunch with Oakland's new mayor, former veteran congressman Ron Dellums. "Until recently, Oakland wanted to go it alone. Dellums was encouraging. He wants to be regional on it. He said that if Oakland has to evacuate, residents can't go west, they have to go east, so we'll be neighbors," said Kamena.

Besides Kamena and Lockhart, Danville Mayor Mike Shimansky and San Ramon Mayor Abram Wilson attended meetings of the National Conference of Mayors in Washington Jan. 22-25. Pleasanton Mayor Jennifer Hosterman did

(See FEDERAL, page 4)

in the Bay Area. Golfers will be vying for a total purse of \$625,000.

At a special meeting of the

Livermore Board of Education on Jan. 30, the trustees of the Liv-

ermore Valley Joint Unified

School District discussed the

possibility of closing both an el-

ementary and middle school in

the near future. Enrollment in the

District is declining. District staff

predicts that this trend will only

increase over the next 10 years.

**By Patricia Koning** 

director for the Nationwide Tour, a ridge among existing native noted, "The golf course is one of the key elements. Last year, this (See GOLF, page 3)

Michell, Marylin, or Portola Are Potential Candidates

cant potential to close at least one

elementary school in the next few

years," said trustee Bill Morrison.

"We should seriously look at

closing a middle school in the

jected enrollment, the top three

candidates for school closure are

Joe Michell, Marylin Avenue,

and Portola Elementary Schools,

Based on current and pro-

next five to seven years.'

voting "no."

"We are looking at a signifi-

pointed out that downtown property owners aren't paying for everything. The city is paying the replacement costs of about Livermore School Board Considers More Closures \$300,000 a year. In addition,

# McNerney Has Say On VA Nursing Home Fate

Building a new nursing home at the Livermore VA site or building a new one at a Central Valley location were the two formal options forwarded to VA Secretary James Nicholson by a panel assigned to make recommendations.

A third approach mentioned by many, but rejected by Nicholson, was to build new nursing homes at both locations. It appeared to be the favorite among all four panelists, and

(See VA, page 4)

**Pleasanton OKs Financing Water System** The Pleasanton City Council approved a financing plan for construction of water infrastructure in the Vineyard Corridor.

The total cost of the improvements to the water system is just about \$10 million. The vote was

McGovern declared. "I'm not comfortable with the financing plan. I feel there is a great risk to the city. It is a weak plan. It needs to be redone.

The financing plan involves 4 to 1, with Cindy McGovern three loans totaling just over \$8

million from the city's sewer and water replacement and improvement fund. The loans would be repaid through developer fees and changes in the city's water fees

> McGovern's concerns related (See FINANCE, page 4)

Park District Celebrating 60 Years of Serving Livermore

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#### **By Patricia Koning**

The year was 1947. President Harry S. Truman was gearing up for the Cold War, test pilot Chuck Yeager broke the speed of sound, and Howard Hughes performed the eight-minute maiden flight of the Spruce Goose. Halfway around the world, India broke free from British rule and Arnold Swarzenegger was born in Austria.

Meanwhile, in the small, pastoral town of Livermore, California, 1947 was the year that the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) was established as a special independent district by a vote of the public. For the past 60 years, Livermore and East Bay residents have enjoyed the use of hundreds of acres of open space parks, landscaped ball fields, and recreation programs and facilities offered by the ĽARPD.

This year the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> year of serving the Livermore

community. The Livermore Area Park Recreation and Parkway District, the original name, was officially formed on June 17, 1947. The change to the present name occurred on Dec. 8, 1959.

"We're planning to take advantage of this special anniver-sary in every way possible," said community center director Rich Lange. "There will be 60-cent gymnasium and pool days this summer, and celebrations in our senior program for all 60-year-olds. Just keep your eyes open, there will be giveaways and special events all year.'

In early June, LARPD will host a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mixer for current and former board members, past general managers, school district and city employees, and others who have worked with and for LARPD over the years. Look for historical photographs and documents displayed at various sites. Lange says there might be even be birthday cake served on June 18, the Monday after the official anniversary.



Sycamore Grove Park is one of the district's popular destinations.

"We have a lot to celebrate," Lange said. "For 60 years we've been doing what is best for the community, trying to make Livermore a great place to live."

LARPD is unique in that it is an independent special district covering a 245 square mile area bounded by Contra Costa County to the north, San Joaquin County to the east, Santa Clara County to the south, and the cities of Pleasanton and Dublin to the west. LARPD is more like the East Bay Regional Park District than a traditional park district, which typically end at city boundaries.

LARPD offers an unusual mix of programs, from preschool to adult daycare, aquatics to equestrian, and a full range of classes and sports programs. LARPD's most recent acquisition is the Valley Rock Climbing Gym, formerly known as the Sunrise Rock

Gym. "When we heard that the Sunrise Rock Gym was going to close (See LARPD, page 5)



Exotic birds were the main attraction at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton last weekend.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen



#### By Anne Homan

### **LIVERMORE VALENTINES**

While working in Libya, Louis Gardella Jr. was invited to a coworker's home; Louis met his friend's sister, Evridiki Malafatoupou there. "We dated for about three months, going out every weekend to the hot spots in Tripoli, having a wonderful time." They were married twice, once by the mayor of Tripoli and again in a British garrison church. They have been married for 51 years. Their favorite joke is about how she "caught" him—"her camel was faster than mine and chased me across the Sahara."

String players Arnold and Marion Clark are founding members of the Livermore-Amador Symphony. They met while Marion was doing graduate work in medical microbiology at the University of Wisconsin. Arnold's sister was also in the graduate program, and she invited Marion to her home, where Marion met Arnold for the first time on New Year's Eve when the Clark family and friends gathered to read Shakespeare. Their mutual fondness for music brought the violinists together.

Tilli Holm visited her friend, Noelle Johnson, one night and met Wayne Calhoun, Noelle's cousin. "I thought Wayne was terribly sophisticated—he had been in the Navy and in college at the time I was still a senior in high school." He waited two weeks to call me, though, and I said, "What took you so long?" They married in 1950. Wayne and Tilli still love to dance. "Wayne and I could dance cheek to cheek. At that time, you held each other when you danced. When I danced with a tall man, I'd have my face in his chest."

Henrietta Stewart first met her future husband, Tom Greer, when he came to work at the Stewart ranch in Marin County. Henrietta didn't see him too often because she was in Livermore taking care of her grandmother. But one day when she was at home, she learned that Tom could not catch her horse, which was in a large pasture near the house. She told him that she could. "He bet me \$5 that I couldn't. I walked over to the fence and called 'Come, Billy. Come, Billy.' The horse came down to the gate and waited for me to put a halter on." At their 60th wedding celebration, Rev. Bill Nebo of First Presbyterian Church gave Henrietta her \$5. Tom had never paid her for the bet, but she had collected on a lifetime of love.

Miriam Cohen had just graduated from high school in Minnesota, but she had asthma and came to visit an aunt in Berkeley for the summer. Don Miller's mother was a close friend of the aunt. The two ladies fixed up a blind date for Miriam and Don. Don was not keen to go because he had just gotten some books out of the library that he was anxious to read, but he felt obligated because he really liked Miriam's aunt. Two years later, they were married.

Grace Evans first met Henry Devnich when she walked through a snowstorm to the local post office with her future husband's sister. Henry showed up at the post office, too, and his sister introduced them. The sister had been telling Grace what a "grand person" her brother was, but Grace had been ignoring her. She had made up her mind in fifth grade that she would only marry a doctor. Then, on the first day of their class together at Union College in Lincoln, NE, in January 1929, she learned that Henry was a pre-med major. They were married in September.

In 1948 Margo Praasterrink came to California from Holland. She went with friends to the Russian River area and met Arne Kirkewoog at a dance there. They began dating. Margo started nurse's training at St. Luke's Hospital in San Francisco. Arne would pick her up and drive her out in the country to hike and relax from her studies. "He kept my sanity." He asked her to marry him, but "I was waiting for a white knight-I couldn't marry someone who was my best friend." Nevertheless, Arne persisted, and they were married in 1952.

Bobbie Livermore met her future husband, Doug Baird, at a dance at UC Berkeley. As he whirled her around the floor, Doug said, "You're from Livermore, aren't you?" She was surprised. "How did you know?" "Well, you told me the first time we danced together."

# MAINTENANCE

(continued from page one)

phase-in. However, Mayor Kamena suggested the three-year option be applied in both cases.

Kamena explained that developers were taking a risk when they proceeded with projects. "They weren't told there would be an LMD.

Councilmember Marj Leider added, "There may not be actual tenants for a while to provide income to pay the assessment."

There is also an economic hardship component, where assessments could be deferred or subsidized.

Speakers were mainly critical of the city.

John Štein, who owns property on the outskirts of the downtown, declared, "I believe it is unfair. The city already holds a significant number of votes in it's pocket. This isn't really being decided by the downtown." He also felt that the borders of the LMD were arbitrary. His property has no fountains, no trail, no bluestone sidewalks, street furniture or benches. "I don't see any special benefit at our business. The entire process has been unfair to the people who live and work in the downtown."

Michael Ferrucci, a business owner, said that he has been assured by his landlord that he (Ferrucci) will be paying the assessment of \$1800 a year. He said that when he decided to move his business downtown he did so knowing there was no assessment district."The improvements benefit the entire community. I advocate a citywide LMD. Maybe there should be a toll booth at each end of First Street. I could give tokens to my customers if



PET OF THE WEEK Sydney is one of a litter of eight Australian Cattledog mix puppies. They are as cute as a button and as sweet as they can be. There are five girls and 3 boys, and most are blue merle in color (gray and black spotted). Mom is a Cattledog mix, but Dad's breed is a mystery. Currently they are just seven-weeks old and not ready to be adopted yet, but they will be at our Pet Extreme adoption event this Saturday for viewing and may be reserved. They will be ready to go to their new homes after neutering the first week in March. Valley Humane Society

they buy something so they can leave the downtown.

Residents were most upset about other homeowners who lived closer to downtown that were not included in the assessment district. "I don't understand why only a few of the residents are being assessed," said Francesca DuMont. "All we've gotten is more traffic, more cars parked on our streets, an increase in graffiti and escalation of gang presence.

On a more positive note, Mike Madden, the major developer in the downtown, said it is important to look at the big picture. "A lot of communities talk about improving their downtowns and don't do anything. The city has done a number of great things. They built a parking structure out in the middle of nowhere. It was ready when we needed it.

The Redevelopment Agency got a movie theater. It's a heck of a lot more exciting to see a movie in the downtown, than out near the freeway. The performing arts center is coming out of the ground nicely. New restaurants are opening. Nobody likes to be taxed. It came as a surprise to me. The city stepped up and poured millions in the downtown. As stakeholders, we have benefited. Now it's time for us to step up and meet them halfway with funding. If we find we don't like the LMD, we can vote to disband it," Madden stated.

Doris Ryan, who owns a building in downtown, said she supports what is going on in the downtown. Businesses and merchants shouldn't be singled out since everyone benefits. "We already pay extra for sewage and water and business fees. What makes Livermore special are the small businesses. That won't happen in the future if the LMD is implemented as proposed.

One homeowner, Jason Fuller, stated, "I am vehemently opposed to the LMD." He said it was not something that existed when he purchased his property. He is working to improve the site, which was in disrepair when he purchased. The city is not help-ing in anyway. "I'm doing all the work. As a single father, my ownership is in jeopardy. Many others are opposed to this plan. We believe the costs of maintenance should be spread throughout the city.

The issue of how many votes are already required to approve the LMD was raised.

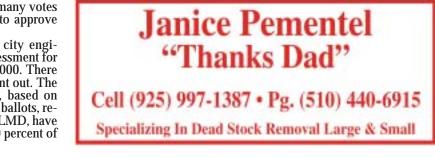
Cheri Sheets, the city engineer, said that the assessment for the first year is \$300,000. There will be 700 ballots sent out. The ballots are weighted, based on property value. Three ballots, required to approve the LMD, have \$100,000 value, or 30 percent of the vote.















Bobbie's dad played for dances at the Vet's Hall in Albany, and after the second intermission, Bobbie and Doug could get in free. "We were the only kids dancing at the Vet's Hall."

Joan Fisher and Garret Boer met when they were cast in a George Bernard Shaw play, Misalliance. Garret played the part of an old man, Lord Summerhays. Joan was a young woman who refused his proposal. They went on to participate in a number of plays at UC Berkeley, and eventually he did talk her into accepting his proposal and moving with him to Livermore.

Walter Davies was working at the Lawrence Livermore Lab. He enjoyed playing flute duets in his free time, but his partner went into the Peace Corps. Before she left, she suggested that Walter ask Nan Wood to play with him. But before their first date, he came by her Lab office. He opened the door, and there was Nan with her shoes off, her feet on her desk. Rehearsals segued into marriage.

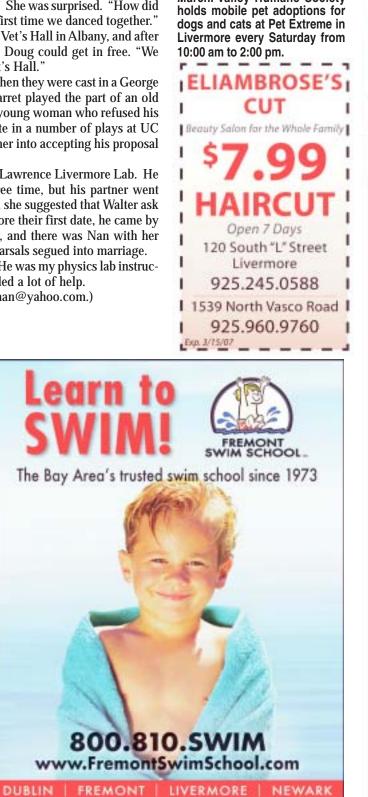
How did my husband and I meet? He was my physics lab instructor at Gettysburg College, and I needed a lot of help. (Readers can reach me at am3homan@yahoo.com.)

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Police blocked off access from Foothill Road to Castlewood while police and sheriff's officers attempted to arrest a suspect hiding in the area.

# **Suspect Arrested After 6-Hour Standoff**

Following a six-hour standoff, SWAT officers caught and arrested a man at a home near Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton.

The suspect, Forrest Chancellor, had fled from an officer who was conducting an investigation at a San Ramon apartment. He then led several law enforcement agencies on a short, high-speed chase south on Interstate 680 to a house owned by his exgirlfriend's mother. Chancellor abandoned the van he was driving within sight of the house.

The Alameda County SWAT team was called out after noon and set up a perimeter around the house.

Police dogs located the suspect in a crawl space underneath a house. The suspect reportedly has prior drug and bomb-making convictions.

The Pleasanton School District issued a bulletin during the day stating that as a precaution, Hearst, Lydiksen, and Donlon elementary schools have modified their lunch and recess activities. Pleasanton Middle School has secured the perimeter of its campus, and Foothill High School has posted additional personnel outside.

Taking part in the incident were Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department, Alameda County Sheriff's Department, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, Alameda County fire department, Pleasanton Police, San Ramon Police, the California Highway Patrol and three East Bay Regional Parks District Police helicopters.

# VALLEY ROUNDUP

#### Suicide Prevention Bill

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi (D-Hayward) announced her plans to introduce a bill in the Assembly that would create the Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP) under the Department of Mental Health. Modeled after the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, OSP would devise a recycled carpet tile. comprehensive and integrated approach to reducing the loss and suffering from suicide and suicidal behaviors on a statewide basis.

Once enacted, OSP would establish an advisory committee of mental health professionals to conduct a comprehensive analysis to determine existing resources and best practices now available to prevent suicides. It would also identify populations of concern by collecting and Feb. 20 at 10 a.m. disseminating information compiled from the Department of Vital Statistics and other sources regarding suicide deaths including, but not lim-Feb. 27 at 10 a.m. ited to, the manner and means of death, age, race/ ethnicity, city of residence. Another important function of the office would be to develop prevention training standards with an emphasis on funds from Measure D to be used for recycling underserved communities and cultural competency.

Currently, California does not have a state agency that coordinates suicide prevention ef- already had the recycled carpet installed.

tion of Oakland, as well as the unincorporated areas of Ashland, Cherryland and San Lorenzo.

#### Libraries Closed for Carpeting

The two Livermore Library branches will close later this month for the installation of new "green"

Modular carpeting, or carpet tile, is recommended as a green product, because only tiles in the area where there is the most wear need frequent replacement. Recyclable carpet further enhances waste reduction and raw materials sav-

The Rincon Branch will be closed from Fri., Feb. 16 through Mon., Feb. 19, re-opening on

The Springtown Branch will be closed from Fri., Feb. 23 through Mon., Feb. 26, re-opening

The new recycled carpet at both branches are part of an overall City of Livermore project providing new carpet to several city buildings using projects.

The Livermore city council chambers, the multi-service center and police department have

Green building or bioclimatic building is the forts. OSP would serve in that role by working with community health care partners to research with community health care partners to research and develop successful prevention strategies. and reducing building impacts on the environ-Additionally, it would report the extent of the ment through better design, maintenance, and so problem and the effectiveness of various preven- on. Green building is sometimes referre sustainable building or environmental building. The practice of green building can lead to benefits including reduced operating costs and reduced environmental impacts. Green design emmost of Castro Valley and Pleasanton, and a por- phasizes taking advantage of renewable resources.

#### GOLF (continued from page one)

life inhabits the course and surrounding areas including hawks, wild turkey and deer.

Benton said that he believes the Nationwide Tour is getting stronger and stronger. He referred to the Nationwide Tour as an expansion, where golfers play different courses, there is less TV coverage and less money. "The players and the competitiveness are the driving force," according to Benton. He pointed out that a number of players had gone on to do well on the PGA. 'We continue to see players

go back and forth between the two tours. The gap is going to narrow even further," added Benton.

One of the golfers who will be competing is Todd Fischer, who grew up in Pleasanton. He has been out on the tour for four years. He said of the PGA and Nationwide tour, "There is really no difference. Players who go back and forth realize the competition is the same. There are about ten guys you hear about who are the elite players. Fortythree past PGA champs were play-ing in the Nationwide Tour when I started." He called it the second best out in the world. "The only difference is the zero at the end of the prize money.

"I look forward to playing here. I need to learn this golf course. I have heard from other

# **Assembly Candidate List Grows**

necessary paper work to run for the California State Assembly in the 15th District.

Klaske, a Democrat and an environmental entrepreneur said, "I am going to work tirelessly to represent the residents of the 15th Assembly District and California as we take on the very serious problems that face our state.

The 15th Assembly District is currently represented by Guy Houston (R). He must leave office in 2008 due to term limits. The district covers parts of Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento, and San Joaquin counties, including the communities of Livermore, San Ramon, Danville, Walnut Creek, Brentwood, Oakley, Mountain House, Galt and Elk Grove.

Klaske has already taken steps toward building an effective campaign. His campaign has retained Jim Ross Political Conplayers from last year's event that the rough was impossible. I hit it in the rough quite a lot," Fischer stated.

Benton amplified the connection between the two tours. He noted that golf is limited by day-light. The Nationwide is an additional opportunity to compete. The NFL has 1700 players. There are 156 on the PGA tour. Adding in the Nationwide provides playing opportunities for just over 300 players. "If players are not on the PGA, the way to get there is to play the Nationwide." This year's Nationwide at

Wente is the fifth event on the tour. Full television coverage will be provided by the golf channel.

The tournament provides more than golf for those attending.

Chris Conway, tournament director, stated, "There will be a huge bustle of activity around the clubhouse during the tour." There will be activities for all ages. Technology will be featured in the AT&T Tech Pavilion. Wine and food are showcased in another pavilion. There will be cooking demonstrations and gourmet food.

Several speakers pointed out that rain last year marred the very successful debut of the event at Wente. Mayor Abram Wilson and Mayor Marshall Kamena, who were in the audience. were "or-

Fred Klaske today filed the sulting, the law firm of Remcho, Johansen & Purcell, and ML Associates to handle financial re-

porting. Klaske is the founder of a business focusing on the use of innovative, environmentally sustainable technologies such as solar electric power. He devotes time, expertise, personal resources and hands-on assistance to providing needy families with affordable and energy-efficient housing through Bay Area chapters of Habitat for Humanity and GRID Alternatives. He has been named a Coro Foundation Community Leader for his work with Habitat and renewable energy.

Other announced candidates include: Republicans: Scott Kamena, Robert Rao; Democrats: Chris Van Schaack, Terry Coleman (who ran against Houston in the last election), and Stevan Thomas, who ran unsuccessfully in the primary last year. dered" to provide better weather this year.

Proceeds from the event benefit various gorups, inclding the Taylor Family Foundation and the Livermore Valley Performign Arts Center. Four day passes, Thursday-Sunday, are \$30 per person. They are avaiable on web the www.winecountrychampionship.com/ tickets.

Information is availale at 447-2200.



Kathleen Minser strongly supports public education on her favorite subject: waste reduction.

This year, to add spice to the subject, WM is adding an Ask Kathleen advice column in its newsletters regularly mailed to curbside & commercial customers. In the column, Kathleen will answer customer questions & give advice about WM's recycling programs and other resources that help reduce unnecessary waste & pollutants in overcrowded landfills.

Watch for Kathleen's column in future newsletters! Email Ask Kathleen questions to AskKathleen@wm.com or send written questions to: Attn. Ask Kathleen, Waste Management, 6175 Southfront Rd., Livermore, CA 94551





tion measures it advocates for periodically to the

legislature and the public. Hayashi serves the 18th Assembly District, which includes San Leandro, Hayward, Dublin,

# **WOMEN AND** HEART DISEASE FREE EDUCATION SEMINAR



#### Speaker:

Anthony Musni, M.D. Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2007

#### Time: 7-9pm

Because their symptoms differ from men, more women die from a heart attack than men because they don't recognize the warning signs. Come learn about signs and symptoms, risk factors, the latest treatment options and how to take care of your heart.

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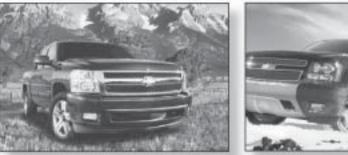
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# **EDITORIALS**

### That Bicycle In The Garage

The February edition of Ride On, the East Bay Bicycle Coalition's monthly newsletter, offers the following insight: "When President Bush outlined his commitment to

"When President Bush outlined his commitment to 'cutting edge technologies' that will move America toward his goal of a 20 percent reduction in gas consumption in 10 years, he forgot that one of the most energy-efficient, congestion-reducing vehicles in the world is sitting in the garages of most American families already: the bicycle."

The newsletter quotes Andy Clarke, executive director of the League of American Bicyclists:

"The best way to zero out carbon dioxide emissions is not to make them in the first place. We're not suggesting everyone give up his car or truck and start bicycling 30 miles to work each day. But the reality is that more than one-quarter of all U.S. trips are one mile or less, and right now most of those trips are made by car."

Clarke observes that if each resident of a "typical" American community (a city approximately the size of Livermore and Pleasanton) replaced a car trip with a bike trip just once a month, it would cut carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions by nearly 4000 tons a year (based on federal data). "That's rapid progress," states Clarke.

The Ride On article gives several examples of communities that are making serious efforts to increase bicycle use. Among them is Portland, Oregon where bike use has risen fourfold since the early 1990s thanks to the city adding striped bike lanes to its roads and providing parking for bikes, hand in glove with educational and promotional programs.

That level of awareness, we're glad to say, is high in Livermore and Pleasanton. Both communities have numerous bikeway activists. Both boast bikeway networks that traverse each city, encouraging both the transportation and recreation aspects of bike use. There's a cross-valley bikeway along Stanley Boulevard between the two cities.

Nevertheless, gaps in the bikeway system continue to exist, hindering more people from using bicycles. The fight against CO2 emissions should spur local governments to do more. Measurable targets to increase bike use should be established. Almost every new road and road improvement should be required to accommodate bicycles.

That bicycle in the garage deserves respect. If we're serious about eliminating the CO2 emissions, bikes should become commonplace along our roads.

# VA

#### (continued from page one)

many of the veterans and public officials who spoke at the hearing Feb. 9 at the Livermore VA hospital campus. This was the fourth hearing held at the site.

The newest official to express an opinion, freshman 11th District Rep. Jerry McNerney of Pleasanton, favored rebuilding the Livermore nursing home and expanding services to veterans. McNerney appeared in person, becoming the only member of Congress to attend any of the four Local Advisory Panel hearings

Rep. Ellen Tauscher of the 10th Congressional District was abroad and sent an aide to read projects in Congress. The money doesn't even exist yet.

Moving the nursing home to the Central Valley has been an option because 60 percent of the Livermore campus users lives in the Central Valley, the VA has said.

Panel member Tom Vargas, though, found fault with the VA's argument. He told the Independent that while the VA statistics show a greater percentage-rate growth rate of veterans in the Central Valley than in the Eastbay, the increase in the numbers of people projected for the future are virtually the same. That would seem to argue for no extra special need for the Central Vallêy, said Vargas. In fact, it's an argument for building nursing homes at both locations to meet the obvious increase in need at both locations, Vargas said. While all of the testimony taken Feb. 9 will be passed along to Nicholson, and there is no panel recommendation, the panelists' comments will be considered, too. The four panelists who attended all showed the sentiment that nursing homes should be built in both locations, said Vargas. If confined to an either/ or decision, the lines were clearly defined, he said. Vargas and Dr. Ellen Shibata, who works at the Livermore clinic, favor building a new nursing home on the Livermore site. It's more cost-effective in the long run than remodeling the current facility, which was another option, and is superior to a new location. Moving to the Central Valley would put more hardship on VÅ medical staff, which works in Palo Alto, and would then have to drive all the way to the Cen-tral Valley to see their patients, said Vargas. The other two panelists, Ed Schoonover of Merced and chairman Al Perry, an administrator at the VA facility in Fresno, favor the Central Valley option. Another panelist, Bev Finley of the Central Valley, was absent Feb. 9. At an earlier meeting, she came up with the formal recommendation to consider both locations. That was rejected by Nicholson. The sixth panelist was Assemblyman Guy Houston. He missed the first three meetings. Houston's chief of staff, Aaron Bone, told the Independent that Houston resigned from the committee two weeks ago. He is on the Assembly Transportation Committee, and must spend more time focusing on area traffic congestion problems. Bone said the resignation was made on a voicemail to the appropriate VA official. However, Houston's office never received a callback confirming it.

# FINANCING

(continued from page one) to the fact that repayment of the loan assumes complete buildout in the corridor. McGovern wondered how borrowing from the city's sewer and water CIP funds would impact projects in the rest of the city. "I am one hundred percent sure we are not going to get all of this money back," she stated.

Councilmember Matt Sullivan stated, "As a practical matter, we have no choice but to move forward. We do have a financing plan and money to cover the project and a mechanism to cover the loans. It may not be the absolute best way to move forward."

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman added, "The alternative to mov-

### CLOSURES (continued from page one)

and Arroyo Seco all have over

700 students and are closed to transfers.

The trustees discussed the option of gradually closing down one of the sites by diverting kindergartners over several years. Wilson presented projections of how this would play out at each school site over the next four years.

If kindergarteners are diverted from Marylin Avenue starting in the 2007/08 school, in the 2010/11 school year there would be 121 students remaining in grades four and five with 62 open seats elsewhere in the District. For Mitchell, 128 fourth- and fifth-graders would remain with 83 open seats. For Portola, there would be 25 students remaining in the 2010/11 school year and 55 open seats.

The projections indicate if the District closes Portola in this manner, there will be enough open seats elsewhere in the District to absorb the remaining students into another school. Marylin and Mitchell would require additional classrooms being provided.

"Portola is the school that can be closed at the least cost to the District," said Wilson.

The projections do not take into account how diverting kindergartners would affect other school sites. For example, Jackson Avenue Elementary currently has a staggered kindergarten schedule that would likely be changed to am/pm to accommodate more classes.

Superintendent Brenda Miller also pointed out that parents may choose to move their children from a school targeted for closure. Another issue is keeping a school targeted for closure at a viable size.

"How far down can you push the size of a school before it doesn't make sense to operate that campus?" asked Morrison. The trustees also discussed ing forward is that we are not going to be able to deliver water to neighborhoods."

There are two landowners who have said they have no intention of developing their properties. In addition, the school district has not yet built Neal School, which would have repaid part of the loans. A major portion of the \$4.8 million in reimbursements is anticipated to come from Signature Properties as part of the Vineyard Avenue improvements. "Because the Signature Properties reimbursement is under discussion, receipt of all of these funds is not assured," according to a staff report

In addition, changes in water fees are expected to cover the

the possibility of creating a K-8 school in the District. Such a school would likely have a specific focus, such as visual and performing arts, global studies, sci-

ence, environmental studies, or International Baccalaureate. "A K-8 program would give parents more choice, which is something we know this community wants," said Miller.

This spring the District will survey all families with elementary school aged students in the District to gage interest in a K-8 school. The survey also will ask how far parents might be willing to travel for such a school to determine the viability of specific locations.

Another issue for the District is providing facilities for the two new charter schools, which it approved in January. The Livermore Valley Charter Academy is set to open in 2008 and the Livermore Valley Charter Preparatory is set to open in 2009.

Under Proposition 39, school districts must provide charter schools with "reasonably equivalent facilities." If the District closes a school site, that would create another option for charter school facilities.

The timeline for a school closure will depend on the results of the survey. If there were sufficient interest in a K-8 school, such a school might open in the 2008/ 09 school year. According to Miller, the District will close at least one school, most likely elementary, within the next five years because of declining enrollment.

At the next special Board meeting on Feb. 27, the trustees will review survey questions and possible ways of conducting the survey. Miller is considering using an outside company, similar to the one that aided in writing the parcel tax ballot measure.

Future special Board meetings are scheduled for March 27 and May 1. city's portion of the infrastructure.

City Manager Nelson Fialho explained that if the city were not reimbursed the council would be faced with a decision of forgiving the loans or taking money from other sources, such as the self-insurance fund or the general fund annual capital improvement project fund.

The city will be conducting a water fee study to determine whether to institute a tiered fee structure. High water users would pay more. Staff estimated that a four-tier fee structure could generate \$650,000 that the city would use to pay its share of the water infrastructure costs.

Mary Roberts, one of the landowners not planning to develop, urged the council to move forward with the financing plan to get the water infrastructure place. She noted costs had already increased and further delays would

# MAILBOX

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

#### Just Slow Down Robert S. Atkinson Pleasanton

In January Senators Bayh and Lugar introduced bipartisan supported legislation (called the Drive Act) designed to reduce our dependence on foreign oil by 7 million barrels per day by the year 2026. If achieved this would be a 50% reduction in today's voracious appetite for fossil fuel.

Increasing the use of renewable fuels like ethanol, advanced diesels, plug in hybrids, tax credits to manufacturers to retool their factories to produce these fuel-efficient vehicles and tax credits to purchasers of those vehicles are at the heart of this legislation.

How about if we all just slowed down and drove the speed limit? That would reduce our fuel consumption overnight. Driving at 65 mph vs. 75 or 80 is a huge reduction in fuel burned and pollutants introduced in the air. Since public transportation seems to be loosing all the time and we are addicted to our cars, we can make an enormous difference by driving slower. Now that's a fresh idea lead to higher costs. "This is not anybody's fault," Roberts said of the fact that the money from development was not in place to pay for the infrastructure. "It is the fault of the market. People didn't develop when the city thought they would."

McGovern also questioned the development fees set at \$68,500 per unit in the Vineyard Corridor. She said she wished the fee study were completed so she could see whether the fees are correct.

Steve Bocian, assistant city manager, told the council, "If all of the reimbursements are not received, the council will have to revisit the issue to identify funds to repay the loans."

The good news, according to Bocian, is that no additional funding will be needed to complete Vineyard Corridor improvements.

Support Discussion Fred Norman Pleasanton

The Pleasanton City Council has decided to discuss its role, if any, in dealing with the War in Iraq. The question is, what kind of discussion? Will it be the opinions of a panel of experts, and who will these experts be? Will it be a town-hall-style meeting with the citizens of Pleasanton giving advice to the Council? Will it be a free-for-all with verbal thugs shouting insults at the Mayor? These questions will be addressed at the next City Council Meeting on Tuesday, Febru-ary 20. The subject of the form for the discussion of the Iraq War will be on the agenda, and as an agenda item, the public may give its input. I hope the people of Pleasanton find this subject important enough to attend the meeting to offer their opinions. Note that the agenda item deals with the format for a discussion of the Iraq War and not with whether or not there should be a discussion of the Iraq War.

I know from experience, however, that people will show up to try to force the Council not to have a discussion of the War. I implore the people who DO want such a discussion to also show up to offer their advice. I don't understand why so many people in Pleasanton support this War. I don't understand why so many people in Pleasanton don't want to honor the American Troops in Iraq who have been killed. Please come to the meeting. Help us all understand.

her statement. She urged saving the Livermore locations, as she had done at a previous hearing via teleconference.

McNerney pleaded to save the Livermore nursing home site, and add more services for veterans throughout the region, in view of the many injured in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. That could include nursing homes in the Central Valley as well as Livermore. The congressional district includes both the Central Valley and the Interstate 680 corridor from Danville south through Sunol.

McNerney's statement may attract more attention from the VA than statements by other public officials and the general public. The freshman representative serves on the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, which controls the purse-strings for the VA. The VA's rationale for forcing

The VA's rationale for forcing a decision between rebuilding or remodeling the Livermore site to accommodate new medical equipment or building a new site in the Central Valley has been that veterans' population is increasing in the Central Valley. The possible realignment is part of a a nationwide push to bring current-level facilities to newer, larger population areas of veterans.

The VA has already made the decision to close the remainder of the Livermore campus, which now serves outpatients in clinics, and has a few short-term care beds. The plan is to lease out the land for a long term, at least 30 years, possibly for housing for senior citizens, or some sort of spa that would fit into Livermore wine country living.

The VA won't give up the site's ownership. Nothing would be done with the site, until new medical facilities are in position.

The VA said it would build a clinic for veterans somewhere in Alameda or Contra Costa counties. That's not expected to be at least until 2012, because of the current status of funding for VA



**FEDERAL** 

not attend. The city was represented at the Capitol sessions by its lobbying firm, which is based in Washington.

Hosterman told the Independent that she was "not able to schedule time to attend" the conference. Hosterman added that she will be devoting time to two other national conferences in the spring. She will represent the National Conference of Mayors at an EPA conference in Atlanta in March. She will speak about watershed health from an elected official's point of view.

On the other trip, she will lobby in Washington with Councilmember Cheryl Cook-Kallio in hopes of obtaining federal money for three Pleasanton projects: Vineyard Avenue corridor infrastructure improvements, completion of a VA memorial building project, and additional funding for Alviso Adobe Park.

Almost one-half of the session time at the this year's mayors' convention in Washington, D.C. was devoted to lobbying congressional members. This is done annually by the mayors conference. The federal officials seen in one-half hour sessions were Reps. Jerry McNerney and Ellen Tauscher and Sens. Feinstein and Barbara Boxer. There was also follow-up separately with their staff members.

#### 'REGIONAL VOICE IS LOUD, CLEAR'

During meetings with them, federal officials told the mayors that with the federal government facing huge deficits, it would be difficult for Congress to appropriate any money for such things as infrastructure problems, unless their solutions are undertaken on a regional basis, said Lockhart. To the Tri-Valley's credit, the lobbying approach was regional and united, she said.

Lockhart has been attending the lobbying sessions regularly since 2001. "This was the first time I heard our regional voice loud and clear," she said. The Tri-Valley mayors had a somewhat similar approach last year. However, it wasn't as well-organized, she said. "We got better feedback this year from the legislators. They were impressed with how organized we were. It makes their job a little easier," Lockhart said.

Kamena stated that the five cities had presented their agenda to the federal representatives. "It was a wonderful time. We had eight face-to-face meetings. They heard our concerns. They know who we are."

For example, the mayors' delegation was unified about backing the University of California and Bechtel Corporation to op-erate Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Although the Lab is in Livermore, "San Ramon and Danville (and the other Tri-Valley cities) have residents that work at the Lab. We all stepped up and said it was important to all of us. It's good when communities can come together and look at the bigger picture. We didn't waver. We didn't talk about anything that someone else wouldn't support," said Lockhart.

Livermore Mayor Kamena said that he was glad to see the entire region lending support on the Lab issue, and also on the issue of trying to retain the 120bed nursing home for veterans on the Livermore VA Hospital site. The VA may eliminate it, if it builds a similar facility in the Central Valley, where Livermore and Pleasanton veterans would then have to go. The Tri-Valley mayors' think-

The Tri-Valley mayors' thinking on the VA nursing home issue was along the lines of Rep. Jerry McNerney's position. "The thing that was so exciting about it was that the four cities and McNerney were working out (what would be) his approach at the hearing," said Kamena. The Tri-Valley mayors also

The Tri-Valley mayors also sent the VA community hearing panel its position, which was the same as McNerney's. McNerney wants the Veterans Administration to modify or rebuild the nursing home on its campus in Livermore, and also build one in the Central Valley. (Another story in this issue talks about the nursing home's future.)

#### CONSTRAINTS ON FEDERAL FUNDING

Lockhart said that federal money for local projects will be tight is partly because of the money that is going to finance the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the federal officials told the mayors. A new constraint on funding for some projects is the new Democratic majority's resolve to eliminate earmarks by members of Congress.

With earmarks, Senators and House members who belonged to committees that have jurisdiction over various projects had appropriations set aside for their pet

projects in the home district, with no questions asked. An example from the last Congress was the "bridge to nowhere" in Alaska, which had it been approved would have spent millions on building a bridge to an island where no one lives. Now projects have to pass scrutiny of an entire committee.

Lockhart said that the area congressional delegation felt that such things as the Tri-Valley's highway projects could pass that stricter test, since the solutions are regional and show thorough preparation.

"Honestly, we've done well with earmarks in the Tri-Valley area. Now there won't be any. However, in having conversations with Feinstein, Boxer, McNerney and Tauscher, they felt that all our projects are legitimate, and we can move through the normal funding process (and not have to worry about earmarks)," said Lockhart.

Kamena also said that Feinstein said it's a year of transition in Congress, with the Democrats assuming power, and many new seat-holders. Kamena added that Feinstein commented that the loss of earmarks was punishment for the old Congress, and eventually the earmarks will probably be back.

The mayoral delegation's portion of the presentation that dealt with roads and freeways were mainly an update related to the progress being done on Interstates 580 and 680, including auxiliary lanes that are not completely funded yet.

On the topic of affordable housing, federal funding has been supporting the Housing Opportunities Center in Livermore. It helps people throughout the region find housing to learn what steps they have to take to purchase a home. The center's contract is up for renewal. All Tri-Valley cities support it, because it helps people throughout the region, said Lockhart.

The cities also supported a bill that died last year, but will be back again, which would order phase-out of older, noisier small jet airplanes, now that quieter new craft are available. Livermore wants the bill to become law to help lower noise levels at its airport, which is seen as a regional facility by the cities. Kamena said that Boxer plans to be a co-sponsor of the bill.

#### TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT CONTEMPLATED

Also on the topic of communication between Washington and the Valley, Kamena said that Tauscher and McNerney hope to have a "transportation summit" in Pleasanton, perhaps in April.

The idea is to bring the chairs of the Senate and House transportation committees and key committee members to the Valley to see the problems firsthand. There would also be decision-makers attending from the Federal Transportation Authority.

"We want to show them what congestion is like out here," stated Kamena.

There would be a public hearing, with comments from the Metropolitan Transportation Committee, Congestion Management Authority, Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA), and the general public.

Kamena also appeared optimistic about obtaining some money for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). "If you ask for \$20 million or \$30 million, you won't get it. But \$600,000 at first, and then a few million (might be possible). BRT does seem to be a national security thing, as well as transportation. You can move people from the east end of Livermore (where LLNL is located) to the (Pleasanton) BART station," said Kamena.

According to a transportation expert in Tauscher's office, there could be two BRT systems, said Kamena. One would be the one that Livermore has been talking about. which would run line No. 10 buses from Livermore to Pleasanton BART, shaving about 14 minutes off the current service. If Pleasanton punches through Stoneridge Drive, it could cut the time even further, he said. BRT buses are express buses, and they have the ability to change red lights to green on traffic semabores, so that they don't have to stop, which greatly speeds up a ride. There is also a way to run BRT on Interstate 580, said Kamena. He said he didn't have the details about how it would work.

Tauscher's transportation expert wasn't available before the Independent's deadline to explain or confirm the details of Kamena's comments.

# LARPD

(continued from page one) for financial reasons, we felt that it would be wrong for the community to lose this unique enter-

prise," said Lange. LARPD has agreed to operate the Valley Rock Climbing Gym for a trial period of one year. LARPD must be able to break even on the cost to continue operation beyond the trial period.

Another unique LARPD facility is Camp Shelly, a campground in South Lake Tahoe. Camp Shelly has 25 campsites, restrooms and free hot showers, vollevball and basketball courts. ping pong tables, horseshoe pits, and ranger-led activities. Lange notes that while other park districts offer offsite campgrounds, Camp Shelly is unique in its size and prime location, just one mile from Baldwin Beach.

Sycamore Grove Park, located off Wetmore Road between Arroyo and Highway 84, is another one-of-a-kind opportunity. The 774-acre park is home to one of the state's largest groves of native sycamore trees as well as a wide variety of bird species. LARPD established Sycamore Grove Park in 1974 when it purchased the old Olivina estate, which was founded by Julius P. Smith in 1881. In 1999, the district acquired an additional 370 acres, including the old winery and distillery.

A 2.5-mile paved trail connects Sycamore Grove with Veterans Park, perfect for walking, running, cycling, and horseback riding. The ranger/naturalist staff offers environmental education programs for school groups, weekend and evening nature programs, a Summer Nature Program, Junior Rangers Program, and a variety of outdoor recreation classes

LARPD's oldest park is Sunken Gardens Park on Pacific Avenue. The District purchased the land in 1959 from home builder Roy Jensen for \$8,500. Many ideas for the park have been discussed, including using it as rodeo grounds or building a senior center on the grounds.

In 1998 an idea finally stuck-to transform it into a skate park. After several years of work, the skate park was dedicated on March 10, 2001. Recent improvements have included asphalt trail connections, pathways, gravel edging, benches, a water fountain, fencing, turf, and

a parking lot. The May Nissan Pool on Rincon Drive is nearly as old as LARPD itself, dating back to the mid-1960's. Steve Goodman, who currently serves on the LARPD board of directors, remembers watching the construction as a child. He swam at the pool on the first day it opened.

Like many longtime Livermore residents, Goodman grew up with LARPD. During college he spent his summers working as a playground leader. After graduation he joined LARPD full-time as a recreation supervisor, where his duties included overseeing the aquatics program at May

Nissan. "It was surreal to swim at May Nissan as a kid and then come back to supervise the aquatics program," he said.

Goodman recalls that before 1992, when LARPD began losing money to the State for Education Řevenue Allocation Funds, almost everyone he knew was either working for the district or participating in one of its

programs. "LARPD was a great source of jobs for young people and we had some incredible programs," he said. "We still have great programs, but the loss of funding has hurt.

LARPD has a significant impact on families through the Extended Student Services (ESS) program, which provides care before and after school and during summers for elementary and middle school students.

In the early 1980's, Barbara Kraybill was running a home daycare near one of Livermore's elementary schools. She constantly received calls from parents at the school asking if she could care for their children after school. "I talked to Lynn Stein, who

was on the school board at the time. We put out a survey and found that there was a definite need," Kraybill recalled. "There was Lab daycare and Kindercare, but otherwise not a lot of childcare options for school age children.

In 1985 she began a pilot pro-gram at Smith Elementary with 5 children. The following year LARPD was granted a state subsidy, which allowed the program to expand to Marylin and Portola Avenue Elementary Schools.

With additional funding, LARPD purchased portables and began offering ESS at all of the elementary schools in the Livermore School District. With the passage of Gov. Schwarzenegger's 2002 ballot initiative to fund after-school programs at public schools, LARPD, in conjunction with the Police Athletic League, began offering care at the four middle schools.

Currently ESS serves 950 elementary school students and 150 middle school students. The program offers reduced tuition for lower-income families.

LARPD also provides another essential program to help fami-lies. Childcare for children is an obvious need, but caregivers of the elderly also need help. The Friendship Center provides adult social care five days a week from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Before establishing the Friendship Center, LARPD ran a pilot program at the Bothwell Center for about 10 years. The program consisted of a few hours of activities one and then two days a week.

In about 1987, a nurse who was working with the program as part of a graduate school project conducted a community survey. Like the school age childcare survey, the results showed a real need for a program that would serve both as a respite for caregivers and an opportunity for users to socialize and be active.

A task force encompassing a cross-section of Livermore was formed. The task force included representatives from Rotary, the Soroptimist, the City of Livermore, ValleyCare, LARPD, the Livermore School District, and others. Maureen Gandara-Swinbank. senior services supervisor for LARPD, was on that task force.

"I was getting 400 calls a year asking for this kind of service," she said. "So I knew there was a need.

A consultant conducted a feasibility study and determined that LARPD would be the best organization to run such a program. The City of Livermore and LARPD formed a joint nonprofit organization to raise funds. It took several more years to finish the project, and lots of grants from Rotary, the Soroptimists, and others. At her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party, Ayn Weiskamp, who was an LARPD trustee at the time. requested donations to the foundation in lieu of presents.

In 1992 the Friendship Center opened its doors as a weeklong adult daycare center. That first year there were seven participants, whom staff referred to as the "magnificent seven." More people enrolled quickly. The Friendship Center now serves 60-70 seniors who attend two to five da<u>ys</u> a week.

The Friendship Center serves seniors who want social interaction, need help getting around, and those with bigger problems. About 60% of the participants have dementia as their primary diagnosis, many of whom suffer from Alzheimer's. Depression is another ailment frequently seen.

"Sometimes, just getting seniors into a healthy and supportive environment that provides stimulation and opportunities for friendship is enough to make a significant improvement in their quality of life," said Gandara-Swinbank. "And for the caregivers, the break to go about their own lives can be essential. They are doing everything they can to hold their families together and sometimes they just need help. We try to be an extension of the family.

The Friendship Center does have space available. Gandara-Swinbank attributes the decline in enrollment (the program typically has a waiting list) to the uncertainty about facilities. LARPD and the Livermore Valley Charter School recently reached an agreement that will keep that Friendship Center in its current home at 543 Sonoma Street through June 2008.

The same type of communitywide effort that went into creating the Friendship Center helped bring about LARPD's new headquarters, the Robert Livermore Community Center. In 2003, LARPD, the City of Livermore, and the Livermore School District worked together to pass Measure L, a \$150 million bond to fund the community center, a new library, and school facilities.

"I think the cooperation between city agencies that went into Measure L is extremely unique," said Lange. "That measure passed with an approval rating of 84%. That's just unheard of for public bond measures.

Goodman echoes that sentiment.

"Livermore is a unique city," he said. "The strong relationship between the city, school district, and LARPD is just one thing that sets us apart.

In March 2005, LARPD opened the community center and centralized many of its programs there. The center includes aquatics, a gymnasium, senior programs, special interest youth and adult classes, a teen program, tot drop, and youth sports.

Classes offered include Lego Engineering, Preschool Spanish, and Hula and Tahitian Dance, to name a few. Events have included weddings and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Science Fair. This fall movies will be screened at the community center as part of the Livermore Independent Film Festival.

"I can walk through the building on any given day and see the whole gamut of ages and activities going on," said Lange. "I love this place. It's my home away from home."

LARPD: (925) 373-5700, http://www.larpd.dst.ca.us/; Regional Parks (Sycamore Grove Park and Camp Shelley), (925) 960-2400; Extended Student Services (ÉSS), (925) 373-5780; Friendship Center, (925) 9602420; Senior Services Information, (925) 373-5760.

In celebration of its 60th anniversary, the LARPD is soliciting stories and memories that Livermore and region residents might have about our parks, events, recreation activities and sports programs both before and since 1947. Perhaps it's a bit of trivia about the name of local park, or memorabilia such as a photo of your great-grandparents picnicking at one of our parks. Send your stories and memories to 60years@larpd.dst.ca.us to be included in a 60th anniversary "memory book."

### Celebrate the **Chinese New Year**

The Fourth Tri-Valley Chinese Culture Day will take place on February 18, at the Amador Theater and Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton (1155 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton).

This event is organized by the Pleasanton-based Chinese American Cooperation Council (CACC), a nonprofit organization with more than a thousand members. The objectives of the event are to celebrate the Chinese New Year and promote Chinese cultural heritage.

From 3:00pm to 6:30pm, there will be a spring carnival, CACC student shows, karaoke, vendor booths, art exhibits, kid's games, raffles, and prizes. These activities are free to the public.

The New Year Dinner Competition "Making Jiaozi (Dumplings) Together" along with a potluck with hundreds of families will also be free and start at 4:00pm. However, in order to participate in the potluck and the Jiaozi-Making competition, people need to bring enough dishes to share with other families and register at the website

www.caccusa.org. Professional performances will be presented from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. The show costs \$15 per person. Free childcare will be provided.

# <u>BULLETIN BOARD</u>

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

**The War Tapes**, Saturday, February 24th, a film on what it's like to be a soldier in Iraq, will be shown at 7 PM at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. This event is free (or \$2.00 donation accepted), open to the public, and is wheelchair accessible. Meet and greet starts at 6:30 PM. After the film. for those interested, we will have a short discussion about the movie. Snacks and beverages, convenient, ample parking, and tables for your literature are provided. If vou wish to make a brief announcement or vould like more information, call 925-462-

Scholarships for Tri-Valley students,

school, community college or a 4 year state college or university. In addition to AVSI General Scholarships, the following memorial scholarships are also awarded: Frank Damerval, Nancy Dohner, Nich Ermak, Don Foreman, Chrissy Granum, Tom and Mary Hart, Michael Miller , Scott Soule, and Helen Vardon. The organization is also beginning a direct mail fund raising campaign. All contributions go directly into our scholarship fund. Donations can be sent to Amador Valley Scholarships 4665 Bernal Ave. Pleas-

Valley Scholasings 4003 Bernar Ave. Fleas-anton, CA 94566. The Pleasanton PTA Council's an-nual Founder's Day luncheon celebrates 100 years of child advocacy on Wednesday, February 28, 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., at the Castlewood Country Club. The event in-cludes a special panel including school and cludes a special panel including school and community leaders who will discuss, "Be-yond the Classroom: PTA Supports Pleasan-ton Youth in Becoming Active Citizens." Tickets are \$25 and include a buffet lunch.

Livermore to Del Valle and back, opportunity to watch Tour of California bike race, meet 9 a.m. at Independence Park, Richard Hedges, 447-6197. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring. Mad Hatter's Tea, Assistance League

of Amador Valley, April 28, noon to 4 p.m. Tea and sandwiches, and spring fashion show presented by Chico's. The afternoon's activi-ties include a hat contest, raffle, and the sale of lucky teacups. Shrine Event Center in Livermore. It will benefit Assistance League of Amador Valley's many philanthropic projects, including Operation School Bell<sup>®</sup>. Ninety percent of all net proceeds go toward philanthropic projects. For further informa-tion contact Annette at 925-846-3922 or email alomedor. alamadorvalley@yahoo.com. Additional information is available on the web at

www.amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org. Livermore Library Board, meets

have on others. This event will take place on Tuesday, February 20, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 5115 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. The cost is free for members and \$5 for nonmembers. Reservations are not required. Women in business who are interested in joining the networking group or want to know more about the meeting can e-mail info@expresstosuccess.org for more information, or go on-line at www.expresstosuccess.org. This event is sponsored in part by Striking Web and See 360 Studios

Annual Spring Fling, fund-raiser for Rancho Las Positas Elementary School. Sat., March 10, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Shrine Event Center, Livermore. "It's An Adventure Around the World," with silent and live auctions, raffle prizes, casino tables, no host bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and more. Tickets \$35 includes \$20 in casino money, one 50/ 50 raffle ticket, 3 prize raffle tickets, a complimentary cocktail. After Feb. 26, ticket price will be \$40. Information, contact MeCostco and the Iron Horse Trail. Contemporary Sunday Worship Service meets at 10:30 www.pathwaycommunitychurch.org (925)830-4PCC (4722). St. Michael's Catholic School Open

House will be February 15th from 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. 447-1888.

Solutions meets Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. at Tri-Valley Church of Christ, 4481 East Ave, Livermore. The new series called, "It's Not My Fault!," is currently being held. For more information call Greg Brown at 925-447-4333 or visit www.trivalleychurch.org. The Roots of Secular Humanistic

**Judaism**, presented by Executive Director of the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations, Rifke Feinstein. Shabbat potluck dinner precedes presentation, 7 p.m. Friday, February 23, 1817 Sinclair Drive, Pleasanton. Home of Rabbi Judith Seid. Tri-Valley Cultural Jews serves those whose Jewish identity is based on culture, heritage and family, rather than on religion. It is an affiliate of the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations. Bring a dish for 8. Reserva tions required (space is limited). 485-1049 or CulturalJews@aol.com. Tri-Valley Cul-tural Jews 1817 Sinclair Drive Pleasanton. **United Christian Church**, 1886 College Ave. at M St., Livermore; worships on Sunday morning at 10:30am. Children's program on Sunday morning and first Fri-days. An Ash Wednesday Service of meditation and reflection is at 7pm on Feb. 21. The community is welcome. United CC is an Open and Affirming ministry and welcomes all of God's children. 449-6820.



offered by Tri-Valley Retired Educators. The awards are offered to high school graduating seniors, Las Positas students, and Cal State East Bay students who are residents of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton or Sunol and are planning a career in education. Appli-cations for the scholarships have been dis-tributed to each of the Tri-Valley high schools and are available on the scholarships links at Las Positas and Cal State East Bay The completed applications are due by March 2, 2007

**Tri-Valley Democratic Club**, meets 7 p.m. Mon., Feb. 19. The public is invited to hear Janice Jensen, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity East Bay, discussing e organizations work in Livermore where 22 houses near completion by the organiza-tion. Meeting at IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy, Dublin. Information

bin. Information and Iblow India, Josephania of Margo Pkwy, Dublin. Information www.TriValleyDems.com. Having Trouble Hearing? Come to the meeting of HLLA, the Hearing Loss Association of America, Tri-Valley Chapter, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Valley Community Church at 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasan-ton. There will be an open discussion of the problems faced by hard of hearing people living in a world of hearing people and plans for increasing the availability of assistive hearing equipment in public places. The meeting is open to the public. Attendance is free and refreshments are served. For more information contact Hiram Van Blarigan at 925 455 6591 or Email hvanblarigan@hotmail.com.

Attention Foothill High School Class of 2007 Students and Parents: Grad Night 2007 tickets are now on sale every Tuesday and Thursday on Campus during lunchtime Grad Night is a fun-filled, safe and sober party for graduating seniors and this year it will take place at Clubsport Pleasanton on Friday, June 15th. Tickets are currently selling at \$135 per student but hurry before the prices go up! Check the website: http:/ /www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/foothill and look under the Announcements/Activities section for Senior Activities. A ticket form and two mandatory waivers are available for your puchase. Make checks payable to:FHS Grad Night, and place your check and all filled in forms in an evelope addressed to: FHS Grad Night 2007 c/o Foothill High School 4375 Foothill Road Pleasanton, CA 94588 If you have any questions, please call Jaylene Groeniger at 426-5680/ jaygroeniger@aol.com or Cynthia Lynn at 846-1823/ lynnfamily5@comcast.net. Excellence in Education Awards, Pleasanton PTA and Pleasanton Unified School Dictrict, concered by Stayon M

School District, sponsored by Steven M. Chew, DDS. The community is encouraged to nominate a special teacher, administrator or staff of the PUSD for the award. Applications are available at each school site and at www.pleasantonpta.org. Nominations must be received by March 23, 2007. Honorees will be celebrated at a public ceremony on June 6, 2007. For more information, contact Kim Chew, 462-4891

**Livermore Valley Business and Pro** fessional Women, meeting and program Thurs.,. Feb. 22 at Cafe Nordstrom in Pleasanton's Stoneridge Mall. Guest Speaker Clara Rouse is regional VP and general managerin charge of Edison Charter Schools in California. \$18 for dinner and program. Call Mona at 829-3505 for reservations. Scholarships available to graduating

seniors from Amador Valley, Foothill, and Village High School through Amador Val-ley Scholarships, Inc. Applications can be downloaded

www.amadorvalleyscholarshipsinc.org Completed applications are due back to the scholarship coordinator on or before March 16. Scholarships are available to students who will be attending a vocational/trade Please reserve tickets no later than February 16 by contacting the PTA Council 846-3257 or e-mail Jamie at jhintzke@aol.com. Local Scholarship Offered, The Ameri-

can Association of University Women (AUW) Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch will award 2 or more scholarships (each award between \$500-\$1,500) to women who: currently live in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, or Sunol or graduated from a Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, or Sunol high school and are college undergraduates who will have junior or senior standing at beginning of 2007 college fall term and plan to complete their college or university. Deadline for applica-tion submission is 3/15/07. For application form and further information, please contact: Devon LaHar, AAUW LPD Scholarship Coordinator, PO Box 238, Pleasanton, CA 94566; devonlahar@gmail.com; (925) 548-4333

4333. The Concordia University Women's Ensemble from Irvine, CA, will present a concert of sacred music at Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 So. Livermore Ave. (in Livermore), on Saturday evening, February 17, at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to this free concert of music. The group is under the direction of Joshua Chai, music minister at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church in Lake Abiding Savior Lutheran Church in Lake Forest. Singing with the group is LeAnna Christopher, daughter of Steve and Dee Christopher, of Livermore. Christa Even Director of Music Our Savior Lutheran Min-istries 1385 S. Livermore Ave. Livermore; 925 447-1246, ext. 231 ceven@oslm.net. The California Retired Teachers As-

sociation Tri-Valley Branch is offering ten \$100 stipends to the teachers in Pleasanton, Dublin, and Livermore. A teacher must send a postcard or 3x 5 card with their name, a postcard of 3X 5 card with their name, address, phone, e-mail, school, number of years taught, and what they plan to do with the money. The card must be received by March 1, 2007. No information will be shared. Please send to: Cathe Norman, 7986 Driftwood Way, Pleasanton, CA 94588; 462-7405

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Chub, Sat., Feb. 17, 40 miles San Ramon to Wente Winery in Livermore to acknowledge club riders who rode 1000+ miles, meet 10 a.m. at Central Park, Susan Gibbs, 389-270 Sus. Eeb. 18, 60 miles out Coloroge 7279. Sun., Feb. 18, 60 miles out Calaveras Rd. to Milipitas then return north, meet 10 a.m. at Val Vista Park in Pleasanton, Curtis Stallins, 462-8384. Wed., Feb. 21, 30 miles

p.m. Thurs., Feb. 22 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. An agenda will be posted at the library 72 hours prior to the meeting

US Photo Group, members and all photography buffs invited to meeting Wed., Feb. 21, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Pleasanton Library, 400 Old Bernal Ave. A professional photographer will detail "Ten Top Tips to Improve Your Photography: In addition a Photoshop expert will explore "cool tricks and advanced ways to work with Photoshop." No reservations are required. Information, contact Jack Ligon at 931-0290. Potential

v members welcome. Mt. Wanda Bird Walk, Sat., Feb. 24, Mt. Wanda Bird Wark, Sat., Feb. 24, 8:30 to 11 a.m. John Muir National Historic Site, corner Alhambra Ave and Franklin Canyon Rd., Martinez. Terrain is steep. Wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes. Bring water and binoculars. Rain or unsafe conditions cancels. Admission free. Informa-tion, 238, 8860 tion, 228-8860.

The Political Book Group will meet on February 27th in the Board Room of the Livermore Public Library from 7-9 p.m. This month's book will be *The Revenge of Gaia*, by James Lovelock. For those who have time, we'll also read the article The Darkening Sea by Elizabeth Kolbert from The New Yorker magazine, available from the web. Open to all

Writers California Club www.trivalleywriters.com), meets Satur-day, February 17 from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m. Susan Bono, author and editor of Tiny Lights: A Journal of Personal Essay, will lead an interactive workshop on memoir writing. Luncheon held at Girasole Grille, 3180 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. \$18 member/\$25 nonmember. Reservations necessary. Con-tact Fred Norman Fnorman300@aol.com for more information

A Starry Night at the Vineyard, Pleas-anton Middle School Parent Faculty Asso-ciation will host the annual fund-raiser on Sat., Feb. 27 at 6 p.m. at Ruby Hill County Club. It includes a sit-down dinner, live and silent auctions and Principal John Whitney's band. All proceeds benefit student programs. Tickets \$75 per person. Donation of auction items is greatly appreciated. For more infor-mation, contact the school at 426-4390.

ABWA Express to Success (E2S) Network will be presenting Liz Pabon, President and Principal Consultant of Head2Toe Cona personal brand that gives business women greater control over the personal impact they



price will be \$40. Information, contact Me-lissa Schaible at 455-5833 or ranchofundraising@sbcglobal.net. **RELIGION** Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, Livermore. 9 a..m Sun-day worship. Information 447-1950. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 21, service at 7 p.m. Pathway Community Church, 3470 Fostoria Way, Suite D, San Ramon, east of

# Isn't it time to stop making **EXCUSES**?



### Introducing the NEW YOU CHALLENGE.

A unique program to help you reach your weight loss and fitness goals!

This 12-week program allows you the opportunity to work with a certified personal trainer in small groups of no more than 4 people. A customized fitness plan will be created for you, while your progress is carefully monitored. Join us February 12th for this remarkable program and have all the support you need while losing inches and staying healthy!

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- Interval Training
- Cross Training
- Core Training
- Cardio Training

Non-Members Welcome - Contact Kim Hood For Sign-Ups.

### Livermore Valley Tennis Club Complete Support from the club that offers you MORE! 925/443-7700 • lvtc.com



# SPORTS NOTES



Two St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) teams finished the regular CYO basketball season undefeated. In the top photo are the SM/SC 7th grade boys #717, who put together a perfect 10-0. The SM/SC 6th Grade Girls (lower photo) (#6010) rallied in their final game to clinch a win to cap off the season.



#### Wiffle-Ball League

Competitive Fast Pitch Wiffle-Ball League/Tournament! Serious players wanted for high competition with real Wiffle-Balls (holes on one side of ball). For more info call Ed at (925) 846-1199.

#### CYO Basketball

Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) (#81) clinched 2nd place and a first round playoff bye with a 43-40 victory over St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) (#86) in CYO basketball action. SM/SC opened up the game with a strong first half performance and led 22-20 at half time. CCOP took the lead midway though the 3rd quarter and was able to maintain the lead until the final buzzer sounded. Trevor Gurerieri scored 12 of his game high 16 points in 2nd half to lead CCOP's rally. Carson Ewanich added 9 points for CCOP and recorded game highs with 9 rebounds and 5 steals. Stephen Ferrel scored 7 points and made a key steal with 3 seconds remaining to seal the victory. Top Offensive Players CCOP: Trevor Gurerrieri (16 points, 8 rebounds, 1 steal); Carson Ewanich (9 points, 9 rebounds, 5 steals); Stephen Ferrel (7 points, 6 rebounds, 1 steal); Top Defensive Players: David Elison (2 oints, 2 rebounds, 2 steals); Michael Udinski 5 points, 3 rebounds, 1 steal); Rees Curtis (2 points)

(2 points). All nine SM/SC players scored in a tight game. Richie McWilliams scored four points (4 rbs). Gurmeer Uppal hit a 3 pointer at the buzzer to end the first half. Kyle Zendarski 9 pts (5 rbs). John Murphy 2 pts (3 steals). Anthony Ruiz 5 pts (3 assists), Michael Schley 1 pt (2 steals), Gary Chapetta 4 pts (3 rbs), Donald Furr 2 pts, John Kuchac 4 pts (5 rbs, 6 steals). (5 rbs, 6 steals).

SM/SC 7th grade boys #717 completed a perfect 10-0 season with a 39 to 36 win over St. Isidore's #716. This was a hard fought battle with SM/SC in the lead at the end of

her excellent free throws giving CCOP a couple of extra points. Top Offensive Players for CCOP #6007: Kylie Copenhagen, Sydney Hitesman, Aubry Wolff, Alaina Urban, Kris Dunworth; Top Defensive Players for CCOP #6007. Urden: Bendey, Arbean Eineger #6007: Hayley Bradley, Arleen Firoozan, Marlo Aghazarian, Bailey Downum, Sarah Loduha

### In 8th grade action, in a nail-biter between the CCOP and SM/SC American Boys' Teams, CCOP held their ground to win, 43-40. Top scorers for CCOP were Guggrieri with 16 points, Ewanich with 9 points, and Ferrell with 7. Leading scorers for SM/SC were Dominic Palino with 13 points, Jared McCallister with 9 points, Kevin Stein with 6 points, and Adam Dickinson and Nikko Marcelo, each with 4.

The SM/SC 8th grade boys (#804) de-feated the St. Joan of Arc (#803) 43-40 at the Pleasanton Middle School gym on Sunday. SM/SC avenged a defeat earlier in the season to the same St. Joan team. SM/SC led most of the game, but needed several clutch three point baskets by Jacob Goodness in the fourth quarter to seal the victory. SM/SC was led by: Jacob Goodness with 15 points, 7 rebounds, 3 blocks and an assist; Zack Edwards with 10 points, 12 rebounds, 3 assists and a steal, Jacob Hohl with 12 points, 5 rebounds, 5 blocks and a steal, Ryan Rogers had 4 points, 6 rebounds and 3 assists, Kyle Phillips had 2 points and a rebound.

SM/SC 7th grade girls (#7010) took on St. Raymond's (#7008), losing a close game, 21 to 24. In the final game of the season the SM/SC team played tough defensively with Shannon Sunnergren (2 pts, 8 rebs, stl), McKenzie Hubert (2 pts, 6 rebs, stl) and Brittany Campiotti (2 pts, 2 rebs, 2 stls) leading the way. The offensive fire power for SM/SC came from Katelyn Jones (4 pts, 7 rebs blck) and Achue Holmes (10 pts & Rebs rebs, blck) and Ashley Holmes (10 pts, 8 rebs, 4 stls). Playing outstanding all around basketball was Navneet Kahlon, Dani Arnold

Isidore (#410) and lost 36 to 26. The rebounding for SM/SC was great with Ryan Holmes (4 pts, 11 rebs, blck, stl), Michael Bohl (6 pts, 11 rebs) and Jason Bohl (4 pts, 10 rebs, 2 stls) fighting for position. Michael Pierce (8 pts, 6 rebs, 2 stls, blck) and Dustin Allen (2 pts, 3 rebs, stl) had outstanding offensive games. Omar Naisan and Patrick Miron played great defensively to slow down the hot shooting St. Isidore team.

In one of the most exciting games of the year, SM/SC 4th grade girls (4009) defeated St. Isidore's (4008) 14 to 13 in double overtime. Both teams played very well on both ends of the floor. In a true team effort all 7 players on SM/SC scored and played great defense. Offensive leaders for SM/SC were Madalyn Geyer, Julie Maruskin, Evelyn Rivera, Paige Walker and Lainey Hibbard. By pulling down multiple rebounds and blockedshots, Katie Walls and Sarah Davidson were the anchors to a very tough SM/SC Defense.

#### AAU Basketball Tryouts

Sixth grade boys/under 12 years-old Tri-Valley Wildcats AAU basketball team will be holding tryouts for its late Spring through Summer 2006 team. Plans to play 6-8 tournaments and all games completed by July 31, 2006. Serious players welcome to attend. Tryouts are Fri., March 2 from 7 to 8 p.m. at Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Avenue, Pleasanton. For more information, please contact Mike at 925-413-1618 or Charles at sommerpr@comcast.net or 925-371-6341.

#### Amador Wins Two

The Amador Valley Lady Dons freshman Wednesday night taking on the Monte Vista Mustangs at home. The Lady Dons used a dogged defense to defeat Monte Vista by the score of 20-12. Amador Valley defenders held the Mustangs scoreless in the first and third quarter of the game. Guards Courtney Wagner, Jessica Infald and Pauline Rosa applied constant pressure to the Mustang players causing many turn overs which led to easy scoring opportunities. Haley Douglas, Kelsey Martin and Infald led the team in steals while Chelsea Luther, Wagner and Douglas handed out the assists. Emily Pease also had an outstanding block of a Monte Vista attempt to score. Luther led the team in scoring with seven points that included two three-point baskets. Emily Pease, Martin and Douglas handled the rebounding along with Paula Krzesinska

The Lady Dons found themselves in a tight physical battle with the San Ramon Valley Wolves on Friday night. Amador High trailed after the first quarter by the score of eight to seven, but in the second quarter Emily Pease and Courtney Wagner took over the game and led the Dons to a one point lead at half time (18-17). Pease and Wagner continued their scoring ways during the third quarter as San Ramon and Amador Valley went back and forth ultimately ending the period tied at 27. The Lady Don defense stiffened in the final quarter allowing only three points to the Wolves while scoring eight to earn a well deserved victory by the score of 35-30.

Emily Pease had an outstanding game scoring 12, hauling down 13 rebounds, and blocking four shots. Kelsey Martin also battled under the boards collecting five rebounds and led the squad with five steals. Jessica Infald, Pauline Rosa and Wagner all handled the ball well while running the offense. Chelsea Luther had another good game shooting the outside shot as well as a courageous attempt at drawing a charge along the sideline against a San Ramon player that was dribbling at full speed. Paula Krzesinska and Neha Seelam spent time at the forward position battling San Ramon players. Haley Douglas spent most of the game in foul trouble came off the bench half way through the fourth quarter to pull down six rebounds and block two shots

#### California Gymnastics

California Gymnastics Academy competed in the Clovis Classic Mede hosted by Clovis Academy of Gymnastics in Clovis on February 10. Level 7, 8, 9 and 10 earned 2nd place team award.

RESULTS (by event): LEVEL 7: 12-13 yrs old: VAULT - Jenny

Yang - 3rd place (9.15); Melissa Parker - 4th place (8.85); Emma Rigl - 7th place (8.5) BARS - Jenny Yang - 2nd place (9.0); Emma Rigl - 7th place (8.2); Melissa Parker - 10th Rigl - 7th place (8.2); Melissa Parker - 10th place (7.75) BEAM - Jenny Yang - 1st place (9.3); Emma Rigl - 6th place (8.4); Melissa Parker - 7th place (8.35) FLOOR - Jenny Yang - 3rd place (9.0); Emma Rigl - 8th place (8.55); Melissa Parker - 10th place (8.25) ALL AROUND - Jenny Yang - 1st place (36.45); Emma Rigl - 7th place (33.65); Melissa Parker - 8th place (33.2); 14+ yrs old: VAULT - Megan Ouyang - 1st place (9.35);Erin Gray - 3rd place (9.2); Briana Gray - 5th place (8.85); Brianna Jessup - 7th place (8.65) BARS - Briana Gray - 1st place (8.85); Megan Ouyang - 5th place (7.95); Erin Gray - 7th place (7.8); Brianna Jessup - 8th Place (7.6) BEAM - Brianna Jessup - 2nd place (8.6); Erin Gray - 5th place (8.4) FLOOR - Megan Ouyang - 3rd place (8.9); Brianna Jessup and Erin Gray - T4th place (9.057) (8.875); Briana Gray - 8th place (8.425) ALL AROUND - Erin Gray - 4th place (34.275); Brianna Jessup - 5th place (33.725); Briana Gray - 7th place (32.875); Megan Ouyang -Sth place (32.4); LEVEL 8: 11-14 yr olds VAULT -Stephanie Stamates - 1st place (8.775); Mandy Bakker - 2nd place (8.6) BARS -Stephanie Stamates - 2nd place (9.075); Alexa Hernandez - 3rd place (9.05); Mandy Bakker Sthulace (8.875) BEAM Stophanie Bakker - 5th place (8.875) BEAM - Stephanie Stamates - 2nd place (9.15); Alexa Hernandez - 4th place (8.6); Mandy Bakker - 7th place (7.7) FLOOR - Alexa Hernandez - 2nd place (9.2); Mandy Bakker - 4th place (9.0); Stephanie Stamates - 6th place (8.85) ALL Stephanie Stainates - oin place (8.53) ALL AROUND - Stephanie Stamates - 1st place (35.8); Mandy Bakker - 4th place (34.175); LEVEL 9: VAULT - Katie Kinser - 1st place (9.0); Keri Mack - 6th place (8.575) BARS - Keri Mack - 1st place (9.0); Katie Kinser - 7th place (8.25) BEAM - Keri Mack 3rd place (9.65); Ketia Kinser, 9th place - 3rd place (8.65); Katie Kinser - 9th place (7.5) FLOOR - Katie Kinser - 6th place (8.575); Keri Mack - 7th place (8.275) ALL AROUND - Keri Mack - 3rd place (34.5); Katie Kinser - 6th place (33.325).

7th grade girls defeated Charter 37 to 14. It great team effort for East with 9 players scoring from the field. The East Ave. team took control of the boards with Katy Jones (8 took control of the boards with Katy Jones (8 pts, 11 rebs, 3 blcks, stl), Sami Schiller (13 tt, 11 rebs, 6 stls, blck), McKenzie Hubert (2 pts, 8 rebs, 2 blcks), Shannon Sunnergren (4 pts, 7 rebs, blck), Jessica Beckwith (2 pts, 7 rebs) and Ashley Holmes (2 pts, 5 rebs, 6 stls, 2 blcks). The stellar defense of Alyse Kline (2 pts, 2 rebs, 5 stls), Erin Walthall (2 pts, 3 rebs, 2 stls), Jamie Elliott (2 pts, 4 rebs, 2 stls) and Julie Walsh (3 rebs, 2 stls) kept the great shooters of Charter from getting hot.

the great shooters of Charter from getting hot. Feb 6, 2007 East Ave. MS 8th grade girls downed. Christensen 36 to 24. Hustling on defense for East was Veronica Garza, Kathryn Rambo, Audrey Brooks, and Kelly Fryendal. The East team broke out to an early lead with help from Kaitlynn Amaral (15 pts), McKenna Kettenhofen (8 pts, 3 blks), Carrie Melrose (8 pts, 5 rebs) and Brooke Betts (5 pts, 5 rebs, 4 asst, 3 stls, 4 blcks) to take a 27 - 8 halftime bed

East Ave. MS 7th grade girls defeated. Christensen 26 to 9. It was a physical game with both teams contesting each shot and rebound. The East Ave. team pressured the ball full court with Erin Walthall (1 pt, 6 rebs, 4 stls), Julie Walsh (reb, stls) and Jamie Elliott leading the way. The East team pushed the ball up court with Sami Schiller (14 pts, 9 rebs, 6 stls), Ashley Holmes (3 pts, 4 rebs, 3 stls) and Alyse Kline (4 pts, reb, 7 stls) leading the charge. Grabbing the rebounds and passing well for East was Shannon Sunnergren (2 pts, 8 rebs, blck), McKenzie Hubert (9 rebs), Jessica Beckwith (2 pts, 7 rebs) and Katelyn Jones (2 rebs, stl, blck). Feb 8, 2007 East Ave. MS 8th grade girls got past Mendenhall won 38 to10. Busting out of the gates for East was Brooke Betts with 4 out of 5 shooting from above the arc. Having a great game offensively was Carrie East Ave. MS 7th grade girls defeated.

Having a great game offensively was Carrie Melrose (8 pts, 5 rebs) and McKenna Kettenhofen (11 pts, 4 rebs, 3 asst, 3 stls, 4 blcks). Once again the defense was scrapping for every loose ball and rebound lead by Kelly Frydenal, Kaitlynn Amaral, Audrey Brooks and Veronica Garza.

and Veronica Garza. East Ave. MS 7th grade girls topped Mendenhall won 42 to 27. It was a super passing effort by East to find the open player. Leading the way down low was Katy Jones (8 pts, 7 rebs, blck), Shannon Sunnergren (8 pts, 7 rebs, 3 stls) and McKenzie Hubert (6 pts, 10 rebs, 3 blck). The second half defense of East lead by Erin Walthall (5 rebs, 3 stls), ulia Walsh (2 ntc. 2 rebc). Tamia Elliott (2 Julie Walsh (2 pts, 2 rebs), Jamie Elliott (2 assts, blck) and Jessica Beckwith (2 pts, 4 rebs, stl) slowed the offense of Mendenhall. A great effort on both sides of the ball by Ashley Holmes (2 pts, 6 rebs, 2 stls, blck), Alyse Kline (5 pts, 2 rebs, 2 stls) and Sami Schiller (9 pts, 11 rebs, 3 blks, 7 stls) to help secure the win for East Ave.

#### Seahawks are Tigers

The Pleasanton Seahawks' age group swimmers spent the weekend in Stockton at the TIGR meet held at UOP. Lots of great swims were clocked in.

Analese Chinn, 8, swam to 5 new best Analese Chinn, 8, swam to 5 new best time, including 2 new A times and 3 new B times. Rishab Nair, 7, earned 6 new best times, including 5 new B times Adrien Rooney, 7, swam to 2 new best times, a new A and new B time Maxime Rooney, 8, clocked in with a new A – and best time Annalisa Parker, 9, swam to 5 new best times, including 4 new B times and a 2nd BB time (which was only the 2nd 9-10 BB-time in

### Intermediate group history). Walnut Creek Junior+ Meet

The Pre-Senior group swam outstanding wims at the WCAB Jr+ meet last weekend. The team supported each other to great extents throughout the weekend, with Brandon Chandler earning the title of "Outstanding Seahawks Cheerleader Cheerleader." Kyle Lindsay picked up a new Far Western cut in the 1650 and dropped times in her events, including the 100 Back and 100 Free. Caitlin Dourov picked up new JO in the 200 Breast. Chris Dourov picked up new JO in the 100 fly. Brianna Neumeyr had a very colid 1650 and 1000 Bachel Knowlas nicked solid 1650 and 1000. Rachel Knowles picked up a new team record in the 10-Under girls short course 50 fly (31:15). Maggie Woods dropped to new best times in the 500 free, 50 free, and 200 IM.

#### Bowling News

Roger Purta and Chris Williams led bowling action at Granada Bowl in Livermore. Purta, Sunday Rollers League, joined one of bowling's elite club as he bowled a 803

series with games of 269-245-289; Williams, 4 Seasons Heating and Air league, strung twelve strikes in a row for his first sanctioned 300 game.

Kathleen Hemza, 132 averager in the

(100 fly, 100 free, 200 free, 50 back), achieving two new AA times in the 200 free and 100 fly from a B standard. She just missed her qualifying times for Far Westerns in those two events. Kulp recorded three new A times in the 100 IM, 50 free and 100 free, dropping over 38 seconds in new times. She sill compete at Spring Junior Olympics Championships Mach 16-18 in six events: 100 IM, 100 free, 50 back, 50 breast, 200 free,

100 fly. Patrick Kulp, 14, swam all best times, dropping over 48 seconds while competing in 8 events, achieving new B times in the 200 IM and 100 fly. Matt Carlo, 10, and Kylie Clark, 11, each

competed in 8 events and improved in 4 events. Matt earned his new B time in 100 fly events. Matt earned ins new B time in 100 rly by dropping 26 seconds. Kylie improved in the 200 IM, 50 free, 100 free and 100 breast, achieving a new B time in the 50 free. Evan Carlo, 14, improved in 3 out of six events swum (100 fly, 100 back, 50 fly).

Shelby Swansons, 12, competed and improved in four out of 8 events. She will be joining Katie Kulp at the Junior Olympics in the 50 free 50 head 50 events. the 50 free, 50 back, and 50 fly.

#### Gymfinity Gymnastics

Gymfinity Gymnastics competed this past weekend at the MEGA Invitational in San Rafael. The level 5 and 6 teams combined to take first place in the team competition in

Individual highlights included Annie Allen winning the vault title in level 4 competition. Rebecca Meister won bars and floor titles on her way to winning the all-around in the younger level 5 group. Melissa Graber placed first on bars, beam and floor to bring home the all-around title in the middle bring nome the all-around title in the middle level 5 group. Also in level 5 competition, Celina Moufarrej placed first on vault and Sabrina Chaco placed first on floor. Compet-ing at level 6, Haley Brott placed first on bars and in the all-around and Gabriella Lemoine brought home beam and floor titles. And Nicole Firstgrand Alphaced first on yought in level Nicole Fitzgerald placed first on vault in level 8 competition.

LEVEL4-Younger Age Group - VAULT: Annie Allen, 1st, 9.0; Katie Mathers, 3rd, 8.8; Chrupalo, 10th, 8.0. BARS: Allen & Mathers, T4th, 8.7; Chrupalo, 8th, 8.0. DEAM. Aller, 5th 9.0 Chrometh, 6th 7.86. BEAM: Allen, 5th, 8.0; Chrupalo, 6th, 7.85; Mathers, 7th, 7.8. FLOOR: Allen, 3rd, 8.55; Mathers, 7th, 8.2; Chrupalo, 9th, 7.8. ALL-AROUND: Allen, 4th, 34.25; Mathers, 5th, AROUND: Alien, 4th, 34.23; Mathers, 5th, 33.5; Chrupalo, 10th, 31.65. Middle Age Group - VAULT: Baylee Hill, 8th, 8.6; Shannon Payne, 9th, 8.4. BARS: Hill, 9th, 8.8; Payne, 8.4. BEAM: Payne, 8.2; Hill, 7.7. FLOOR: Hill, 10th, 8.4; Payne, 8.15. ALL-AROUND: Hill,12th, 33.5; Payne, 14th, 33.15.

14th, 33.15. LEVEL 5-Younger Age Group - VAULT: Rebecca Meister, 3rd, 8.3; Victoria Enos, 5th, 7.75; Isla Andrews, 7.7. BARS: Meister, 1st, 8.375; Andrews, 2nd, 8.35; Enos, 3rd, 8.325. BEAM: Enos, 2nd, 9.0; Meister, 3rd, 8.75; Andrews, 4th, 8.5, FLOOR: Meister, 1st, 8.9; Andrews, 3rd, 8.55; Enos, 4th, 8.425. ALL-AROUND: Meister, 1st, 34.325; Enos, 3rd, 33.5; Andrews, 4th, 33.1. Middle Enos, 3rd, 35.3; Andrews, 4dn, 35.1; Middle Age Group - VAULT: Celina Moufarrej, 1st, 8.45; Melissa Graber, 2nd, 8.05; Amy Morrison, 3rd, 7.65; Rachel Pombo, 6th, 7.35; BARS: Graber, 1st, 8.4; Moufarrej, 2nd, 8.275; Morrison, 3rd, 8.15; Pombo, 6.725; BEAM: Graber, 1st, 9.25; Morrison, 5th, 8.2; Moufarrej, 8, Dombo, Teth, 7, 6 5th, 8.3; Moufarrej & Pombo, T6th, 7.6. FLOOR: Graber, 1st, 8.9; Morrison, 2nd, 8.825; Moufarrej, 3rd, 8.65; Pombo, 6.9. ALL-AROUND: Graber, 1st, 34.6; Moufarrej, ALL-AROUND: Graber, 1st, 34.6; Moufarrej, 2nd, 32.975; Morrison, 3rd, 32.925; Pombo, 7th, 28.575. Older Age Group - VAULT: Carina Salcedo, 3rd, 7.9; Sabrina Chaco, 7.05. BARS: Chaco, 2nd, 8.6. BEAM: Chaco, 7.1; Salcedo, 6.8. FLOOR: Chaco, 1st, 8.2; Salcedo, 7.35. ALL-AROUND: Chaco, 3rd, 30.95; Salcedo, 22.05. LEVEL6-Younger Age Group-VAULT: Haley Brott, 2nd, 8.9; Moira Andrews & Gabriella Lemoine, 3rd, 7.675; Andrews, 4th.

1st, 8.5; Lemoine, 3rd, 7.675; Andrews, 4th, 7.35. BEAM: Lemoine, 1st, 8.5; Brott, 2nd, 8.25; Lemoine, 3rd, 8.325; Andrews, 7.55. FLOOR: Lemoine, 1st, 8.7; Brott, 4th, 8.45; Andrews, 7.7. ALL-AROUND: Brott, 1st 34.1; Lemoine, 2nd, 33.675; Andrews, 5th 34.1, Lehlohle, Ald, 35.07, Alduews, Jul, 31.4. Middle Age Group - VAULT: Gabby Schulz, 3rd, 8.1. BARS: Schulz, 3rd, 7.1. BEAM: Schulz, 3rd, 8.25. FLOOR: Schulz, 3rd, 8.3. ALL-AROUND: Schulz, 3rd, 31.9. Older Age Group - VAULT: Taylor Fleer 8.0. BARS: Fleer, 7.4. BEAM: Fleer, 3rd 8.0. FLOOR: Fleer, 7.7. ALL-AROUND: Fleer, 4th, 31.1.

LEVEL7-Younger Age Group-VAULT: Valentina Barbalinardo, 8th, 8.825; Brianna Camacho, 8.6. BARS: Barbalinardo, 7th, Barbalinardo, 2nd, 9.1; Camacho, 10,025. BEAM: Barbalinardo, 2nd, 9.1; Camacho, 10th, 8.175. FLOOR: Barbalinardo, 6th, 9.0; Camacho, 7th, 8.95. ALL-AROUND: Barbalinardo, 6th, 35.5; Camacho, 9th, 33.75. Middle Age Group - VAULT: Ashley Eastman, 8.7. BARS: Eastman, 9th, 9.025 BEAM: Eastman, 8th, 8.45. FLOOR: Eastman, 10th, 9.075. ALL-AROUND: Eastman, 11th, 35.25. Older Age Group VAULT: Sophie Libkind, 7th, 9.175. BARS Libkind, 8th, 8.375. BEAM: Libkind, 7.55. FLOOR: Libkind, 6th, 9.075. ALL-AROUND: Libkind, 7th, 34.175. AROUND: Libkind, 7th, 34.175. LEVEL8-YoungerAgeGroup-VAULT: Nicole Fitzgerald, 1st, 9.0; Jamie Haines, 5th, 8.55. BARS: Fitzgerald, 3rd, 8.575; Haines, 7.5. BEAM: Fitzgerald, 3rd, 8.575; Haines, 7.5. FLOOR: Fitzgerald, 4th, 9.1; Haines, 8.0. ALL-AROUND: Fitzgerald, 3rd, 35.225; Haines, 7th, 31.6. Older Age Group - VAULT: Dana Felker, 3rd, 8.4; Alexa Leporati, 7.85. BARS: Felker, 5th, 8.45; Leporati, 8.325. BEAM: Leporati, 3rd, 8.725; Felker, 7.8. FLOOR: Felker, 5th, 8.7; Leporati, 8.5. ALL-AROUND: Leporati, 5th, 33.4; Felker, 6th, 33.35. LEVEL9-Older Age Group - VAULT: Kimmie Lisiak, 2nd, 8.65. BARS: Lisiak, 2nd, 8.3. BEAM: Lisiak, 2nd, 7.8. FLOOR: Lisiak, 1st, 8.75. ALL-AROUND: Lisiak, 2nd, 33.5.

great way to be part of the exciting games, have fun, earn money and build confidence at the same time. A mandatory training session will take place on Feb. 24 at the Pleasantor Tennis Complex. If you are interested, email vour name, address, phone numbers (home & cell), age, grade and any previous experience to Garry Bardakos gbardakos@comcast.net or James Gilbreth james@bayseal.com. For more information, contact Garry Bardakos at 462-5830.

#### Football and Cheer

Youth Football & Cheer (LYF&C) is a full contact football league that has been established for more than 30 years. The league's motto is "children first, game sec-ond." The goal is teaching the fundamentals of both football and cheer. The league works together with the local High Schools to ensure participants are learning the funda-mentale needed for the high schools' commentals needed for the high schools' competitive football and cheer programs. LYF&C emphasis is on proper technique and funda-mentals, responsibility, accountability, and most importantly being a good person and teammate.

All coaches are CPR and First Aid certified as well as NYSCA certified. All coaches are required to attend coaching clinics each year to strengthen their knowledge of the gam

The football and cheer squads have been very successful in the highly competitive Diablo Valley Youth Football Conference (DVYFC). DVYFC is one of the strongest youth football conferences in Northern CA. It consists of 16 "city" teams that attract the best football players and cheerleaders in the Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. In the past 5 years LYF&C has sent at least 2 teams to the playoffs each year, with one team reaching the championship 4 consecutive years. Cheer squads consistently place in regional as well as national cheer competitions. There are 5 levels to tryout for with ages 7 to 14 (football) 5 to 14 (cheerleading). Registration will be held March 15th from 6 3 pm @ Round Table Pizza 1024 East Stanley Blvd. " Information at web-site www.eteamz.com/lyfc or call 925-454-1421(evenings).

#### **Bay to Breakers**

Registration for the 96th annual one-and-only internationally-known footrace, ING Bay to Breakers 12K, is underway. Come Sunday, May 20, 2007, runners and spectators will embark on a weekend full of athleticism, musical events, food and fun! To register visit www.ingbaytobreakers.com.

For the first time, in 2007, all registered participants will receive a specially created timing chip, the first in a series of five collectible chips leading up to the 100th anniversary of the race, which will automatically collect data from each runner as they compete along the course. These results will be processed and distributed at the conclusion of the race. The chips will be worn on the shoes of each participant. Their official time will be determined as they cross the Start Line where they begin their "personal" race. Each version of the five chip collectible series will commemorate a well-known visual icon from along the racecourse.

In addition, all registered runners will be able to obtain their finishing time on a bib sticker at the end of the race and have the opportunity to print out an official finisher's certificate online.

#### Track and Field Sign ups

Athenian Athletics is accepting applications for youth athletes between the ages of 7-17 for the upcoming track and field season. Athletes 18 and older are also invited to join the club and train during adult sessions.

Practices are held year round and are scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays. For practice time and location, please visit www.athenianathletics.com or call Coach Rik Richardson (Home) 1-925-862-0855 or (Cell) 1-925-518-9356.

#### Kung-Fu Karate

Competitors from Livermore Kung-Fu Karate took part in the Disneyland Martial Arts Festival Competition on Feb. 3 and 4.

Tournament team winners were: Mr. Lipp: 1st place sparring, traditional forms, and weapons, 2nd open forms; Ben Lipp:. 1st sparring, 5th traditional forms, 3rd weapons; Ms. Earl: 1st sparring, open forms, 2nd ning, 1st sparring, 2nd traditional forms, weapons; Jedediah Lipp: 3rd sparring, 2nd traditional forms, weapons; Joshua Lipp: 4th weapons, 3rd tradi-tional forms, 2nd sparring; Lisa Lipp: 2nd sparring, open forms; Hannah Lipp: 3rd weapons, 4th traditional forms, 1st sparring; Mr. Franco: 2nd sparring, 5th traditional forms, 4th weapons; J-P du Pont: 3rd spar-ring, 6th traditional forms; Steven du Pont: top competitor award for forms, 2nd sparring, 1st traditional forms, weapons; Vincent du Pont: top competitor award forms, 3rd sparring, 1st traditional forms, weapons; Matthew du Pont: 3rd sparring, 2nd traditional forms, 1st weapons; Justin du Pont: 2nd sparring, 3rd traditional forms, weapons.

each period. Quincy White led the scoring with 14 points, followed by Austin Andrews with 11. Austin Nelson, Fitz Ryan, Brandon With 11. Austin Neison, Fitz Kyan, Brandon Ganguet, Joey Xavier and Zack Conley all scored, while Ryan Viera and Girish Kowligi added their skills to the team effort. Jeremy Mata was missing for this game. The team, led by Dean White, advances to the playoffs, which begin on Feb. 18.

Down in the 1st quarter, the SMSC 6th Grade Girls (#6010) rallied to clinch the win 22-20 against St. Isidore (#6014) to cap off a perfect regular season record (10-0). After several close games, the girls exhibited their several close games, the girls exhibited their 'never give up' attitude and showed what teamwork, friendship, commitment and a lot of hard work can accomplish. Sara Miller, Rebecca Pilz and Kaylie Phillips, top scorers for the season, each added 6 points each to the game. Top rebounder, Kaila Silver, came down with key rebounds in the final seconds to help ensure victory time and again. Briana Willhite's dominant presence at center kept girls from scoring in the key throughout the season. Rugged defense was led by Kendall Ott, Jennifer Meredith, Kaitlin Harvey and Stephanie Davis – all who contributed to the boards as well. The team advances to the playoffs this Sunday at Granada.

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) 7th grade girls (team 7005) ended their regular season play with a win over SM/ SC (7007) 22-15. CCOP started in their usual fashion trailing at the half and scrambling to catch up. "Breaking the ice" came in the 2nd period with a basket from Jessica Morosoli. At the end of the 3rd period it was tied and by the 4th CCOP went on to outscore SM/ SC 10 to 3. Textbook assists from Lauren MacDonnell and Morosoli to the inside and steals by Kelly Parsons and Nicole Ponzini rallied the players. Forceful defensive play by Sydney Okumura (7 rebounds, 1 block) Sydney Okumura (7 rebounds, 1 piock) hindered SM/SC's offensive game. Offen-sively 5 of 7 girls contributed to the final score MacDonnell/Lyndsay Godwin (6 points each), Michelle Mann/Ponzini (4 points each) and Morosoli (2 points). CCOP was never untracked on defense as they controlled the beards with Emily Alborg (4 pohounds) boards with Emily Alberts (4 rebounds), Mann (8 rebounds) and Godwin (11 rebounds, 1 block). SM/SC defeated CCOP their first game of the season but CCOP went on to win 9 in a row to finish the season with a stellar record of 9-1.

CCOP #6007 (007) and SM/SC #6006 CCOP who in the playoff to the first based to the playoff started things off with a great steal and then pass to Kris Dunworth for the first basket. The first half ended 10-2 with CCOP in the lead. SM/SC fought back hard and at the end of the third quarter the score was 12-13 with SM/ SC ahead. CCOP played excellent defense and a great passing game to pull back in the lead. Sydney Hiteman ended the game with

(stl), Katie Gannon (reb) and Erin Walthall (reb, stl).

CCOP (7009) played one of their best games of the season against a tough opponent and brought home a well earned victory, 32 to 30 over St. Isidore's (7006). CCOP was down by by one point at the half, then took the lead in the 3rd quarter - and battled to the end, with both teams fighting for the win. High scorer - Marisa Victor, with 10 points, played a very physical game. CCOP's record now stands at 6-4, which will hopefully earn them a spot in the CYO championships.

An exciting and physical game between SM/SC (7003) and St. Joan (7004) ended the season with a 13-20 loss for SM/SC. Allie Labine (4 points) had several steals. Kaylynn Richards (4 points) had several scals. Ray1yim Richards (4 points) played great offense. Claudine Seriani (4 points) scored a great three-pointer, and Mindy Morettini (1 point) played outstanding defense. Kenzi Holcomb, Chelsea Thomas, Roxanna Uptadale, Brianna Goodno, and Juliana Marciel played outstanding defense, and had several assists on offense. The SM/SC girls had teamwork and heart. They kept their composure, and showed a great deal of class, and they should be very proud of themselves.

SMSC #607 defeated CCOP #606 in a fast paced season finale, 35 to 28. Great shooting by CCOP's Brian Henderson (6 points) and SMSC's Rio Orozco (19 points) led to a halftime score of SMSC 16 to CCOP 14. Louie Orozco (10 points) came out of the half with a bang with great assists by Gaston Oviedo to hold CCOP going into the 4th. Patrick Maravelias rose to the occasion for SMSC the 4th quarter firing off 6 points. Consistent rebounding and relentless defense was played by Aaron Costello and Rio

St. Isidore 6th grade girls (#6008) took on SM/SC (#6005) and won 19 to 15. Top defensive players for St. Isidore were Maggie Liettre and Katie Merritt. Briance Yee scored 4 points. SM/SC was led in scoring by Elyse Telford with 10 points. Annie Williams and Sarah Batchelor-Lopez were top defensive players. It was a very close and great game.

In CYO fifth grade action, SM/SC team 527 lost an exciting game to visiting St. Joan's team 523, 26-23. Both teams moved the ball quickly and SM/SC jumped to 14-7 lead at halftime. St. Joan's closed the gap to 18-14 at the end of the third quarter as they willed abead 26-23 on avecalent free through pulled ahead 26-23 on excellent free throw shooting. They were able to run out the final two minutes to win the game. The game's top defensive player was Jesse Farrens (steals, rebounds, and 2 points). The game's top scorers were St. Joan's Brandon Haefling (9 points) and Grant Rogers (8 points) and SM/ SC's Tito Quihuis (7 points).

SM/SC 4th grade boys (#411) battled St.

#### Middle School Basketball

Feb 5, 2007: East Avenue Middle School

Getaway Leas gue, bowled her initial 200 game with a 206. Martin Sanders, Reno Gamblers, made it ten in a row for a big 289 game. Lenny Martinez, Eagles Renovations, rolled 100 plus over his 141 norm with a 248 game. The Generation Gap had their youths shine with Payton Grambrone, 155 par, hit games of 241-209- 609 set and Patrick Garcia, 131 norm, came in with a 213 game - 520 set. Prime-timer Dwayne Childress, 168, made it to a 601 series with highs of 200 and 202.

Jeff Williams rolled games of 223-248-220 for his 688 total. The ReMax Reality Cheyenne, watched Gene Bruihl of Gene's Pro Shop came in with a 733 series with 258-244-226; the hot Scott Hylton was next with a 694 set with highs of 258-235. Stacy Stephenson, Reno Gamblers, topped the women with a pair of 200 with a 216 for 616 series. The Sunday Rollers had David Bunch use his 268 game for a 696 placement. The Modified Guys and Dolls followed Dennis Mitchell's 696 series with highs of 245-236.

#### **Tsunami Aquatics**

Livermore Tsunami Aquatics swimmers competed in the Zone 7 Short Course Winters Championships in San Ramon over the weekend. Eight year old swimmers Alexander Gonzalez and Sarah Swanson achieved their goal of making the All-Star team. They will compete against four other zones in Pacific Swimming for a Pacific Development All Star Swim Meet to be held March 4 at Koret Center at the University of San Francisco. Alexander and Sarah will join seven other

swimmers selected from the 8 and under age division from other teams in Zone 2.

Last weekend, Gonzalez competed in 8 events, improving his time in seven and placing in three (50 free, 100 free, 50 fly. He dropped his time in the 100 IM by 1 minute and 10 seconds to achieve a new A time. Swanson competed in 6 events. She

improved her time in two events and placed in three (25 back, 25 fly, 50 free) and swam

to a new A time in the 25 back. Katie Kulp, 10, competed in and im-proved her times in all events, placing in four

2nd. 33.5.

#### Benefit Golf Tourney

Livermore High Baseball will host its 1st annual Benefit Golf Tournament at Poppy

Ridge Golf Course on Fri., March 16. Scramble format is at 1 p.m. The \$150 fee includes golf with cart, lunch, range balls, winner, clubhouse credit and door prizes. For information, call Coach Dave Perotti at 586-

#### Junior Umpires Needed

Pleasanton Phantom Girls Softball League is looking for boys and girls in 7th grade or older to become Junior Umpires. This is a

#### GolfTournament

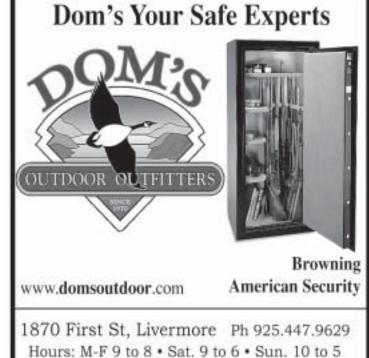
The Dublin High School athletic pro-grams will benefit form the Dublin High School Golf Tournament to be held April 20 at the Sunol Golf Course.

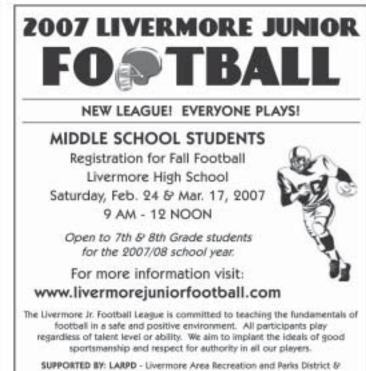
Tee time, shot gun scramble, is at 1 p.m., no host cocktails and silent auction 6 to 6:30, and dinner, live auction, raffle and awards 6:30 p.m. The \$175 fee includes golf, cart, box lunch, buffet dinner, and contest pack-age. For information, contact Sandy Yee at 833-3300 ext. 5217 or 833-3300 ext. 5217 changyeesandy@dublin.k12.ca.us.

#### GolfTournament

The Livermore High Baseball Team is March 16th at Poppy Ridge Golf Course at 1:00. The cost is \$150 and it is a scramble format. Fee includes: range balls, cart, lunch, dinner with auction, clubhouse credit, door prizes. All the money benefits the baseball program at LHS

program at LHS. For more information, please call Coach David Perotti at 925-606-4812 x2438 or go to www.eteamz.com/LHSCowboysBaseball and click on the golf tournament link. Sponsorship opportunities are also available





PJFL - Pleasanton Jr. Football League (www.pjfl.com)



# SHORT NOTES

email

Thomas Coyne Winery will host the

annual winter open house on Feb. 17, 18 and 19. The winery will be open from noon to 5 p.m. Four new wines will be released: 2001 Syrah, Liver-

more Valley; 2004 Malbec, Lodi; 2004

Cabernet Franc, Livermore Valley; and 2004 Grenach, Lodi.

Will be served. The winery is located at 51 E. Vallecitos Rd., Livermore.

Back by popular demand is "Bottle Your Own Wine." Purchase Vino Tinto

Barato (Red Table Wine) for \$4.00 a

bottle (750ml), bring your own clean bottle and you may fill it, cork it and label it, or use one of winery's bottles

for \$4.50 a bottle. This will only be available on the Feb 17th and 18th. For

more information call(925) 373-6541

or visit the Website http://

In honor of Presidents' month, the topic for the February history lecture will be presented by a docent of the

Presidential Yacht, USS Potomac. The lecture will be held on Wed., Feb. 21 at

7 p.m. Franklin D. Roosevelt used the "Floating White House" during World

London Square in Oakland. The public is invited to hear the story of how this historic yacht came to

Oakland from Washington, D.C. Livermore Heritage Guild spon-sors the lecture series. Come early for

The USS Potomac is berthed at Jack

History Lecture

War II.

A selection of fine fruits and cheeses

Winery Open House

#### Citizens' Police Academy

Enrollment is continuing for the Spring 2007 session of the Pleasanton Police Department Citizens' Police Academy. It begins on Thursday, March 8 and concludes on June 14. This will be the fifteenth Citizens Academy the Department has presented since its inception in 2000. The goals of the program are to

create closer partnerships with the pub-lic, explain law enforcement procedures, and discuss the importance of public involvement in the policing process

All 14 segments of the Academy will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Pleasanton Police Department, with the exception of April 12<sup>th</sup> to coincide with Spring Break for the Pleasanton Unified School District. These classes are primarily taught by Department personnel. They cover a wide variety of topics including Community Polic ing, Patrol Procedures, Radio Com-munications, SWAT, Narcotics Investigations, Crime Prevention, Traffic Enforcement, K-9's, Evidence Col-lection, Use of Force Issues, Animal Services and the DARE program.

This program is open to adults only. Applicants will be carefully screened and participants must live or work in the City of Pleasanton. They must be free of any felony convictions, have no misdemeanor arrests within one year of application, successfully complete a background investigation check, sign waiver forms and be approved by the Chief of Police.

Applications are available at the front counter of the Pleasanton Police Department, by calling the Academy Coordinator, Sgt. Mike Tryphonas at (925) 931-5169 or by sending an

### **OBITUARIES**

#### **Gary Hoefner**

Gary Hoefner, a kind, loving man with a huge heart and a great sense of humor, passed away peacefully with his family by his side February 3, 2007.

He was born April 5, 1946 in New York. He served his country in the Navy. Gary enjoyed fishing, gardening, woodworking and barbecuing. Most of all he enjoyed his family and friends.

He was married to his wife Cheri for 39 years. They have three children, Devin Hoefner, Ali Gratny and Sara Pittson; six grandchildren Cori and Danielle Hoefner, Riley and Zander Pittson, and Hailey and Savanna Gratny. The family is also joined by his daughter-in-law Michelle Hoefner and sons-in-law Tom Gratny and Lee Pittson.

A memorial service was held February 9 in Livermore.

Donations can be made to the Veterans Affairs, 4951 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, CA 94550.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

#### Alice Day

Alice was born in Oklahoma on July 9, 1919. She was married to her husband Bob for 42 years.

After spending several years abroad, they settled in Pleasanton and later Sierra Vista, AZ. They spent several years traveling together, spending time with

Frank was a dedicated construction superintendent for Safeway. He enjoyed baseball, his vegetable gardening and "putter-ing." He was affiliated with the Elks Club.

He is survived by his children, Rick (Sandy) Dunn of Pleasanton, Michelle (Jay) Hertogs of Pleasanton and Dawyn (Trevor) Kanno of Rancho Santa Margarita, and a brother, Robert Dunn of Orinda. He also leaves behind seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his won, William and sisters, Dorothy and Idris.

Visitation is 1 to 2 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 15 followed by the funeral at 2 p.m. at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St., Pleasanton. Burial will be Fri., Feb. 16 at 10 a.m. at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 26320 Mission Blvd., Hayward.

#### Barbara Elaine Burns

Barbara (Bell) Burns passed away February 8, 2007 after a short, unexpected fight with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. She was 71.

Barbara was born in Portland, Oregon and grew up in Castro Valley where she graduated from Hayward High in 1953. She was an avid piano player, received the Girl Scout Curved Bar Award, the highest award given at that time, and was a member of Job's Daughters. In 1957 she married and the couple moved to Pleasanton and then later resided in Livermore. She was heavily involved in her children's activities, such as Cub Scouts, Demolay, Girl Scouts, and horse showing. Barbara and her husband, Stan, enjoyed traveling in their RV for twenty years. They made cross country trips including Alaska and an annual trip to Mexico with the SIRS. She enjoyed genealogy, scrapbooking, and entertaining where she could display her creativity. Her husband of forty-nine years, Stanley S. Burns, and children Steven C. Burns and Julie Anne Frick were lifelong recipients of her love. Fourteen year old Julie would require varying levels of at-home care starting in 1975. Kidney and heart related illness that struck at Julie would require not only a strong family but a fledgling nurse capable of sustaining her daughter's life. Barbara mastered this challenge, seeking only to see her daughter live a healthy and normal life. Her grandchildren, Ryan, Vanessa and Justin filled Barbara with the utmost joy. They will fondly recall "Gramma's" and "Nanny's" willingness to give them art lessons, her readiness to bestow gifts upon them or countless rides to and from school.

cookies and chitchat. The lecture will be at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Suggested donation is

For more information, call 443-9740.

#### Program on Birds

to

February Birds is the theme of the nature program to be presented Sat., Feb. 17 by the Livermore Area Recre-

ation and Park District ranger staff. Meet Ranger Vickie Eggert at 9 a.m. at the Arroyo Road entrnace to

Veterans Park. On this short walk, visitors will be exploring Veterans Park looking for our feathered friends. The walk will be along a paved path. Strollers and wheelchairs are welcome. Good for beginners and all ages. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring water, binoculars if you have them. Some binoculars and field guides will be available. Cancelled if raining. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking

fee. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call (925) 960-2400 for more information.

#### **Creative Festival**

The Original Creative Festival will be held Feb, 16, 17 and 19: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Workshops, Seminars, Fashion Shows, Over 300 Quilt & Dolls on Display, Quilt Appraiser, Make it-Take it Projects, and a Special Doll Alley. San

Mateo County Event Center, 2495 So. Delaware St., San Mateo. Special Doll Alley, presented by the 5 Top Industry Cloth Doll Designers, will include Barbara Willis, elinor peace bailey, Patti Medaris Culea, Betts Vidal and Sally Lampi. Special guest speaker

She is survived by her husband Stanley Burns, son and daughter-in-law Steve and Gina Burns and daughter and son-inlaw Charles and Julie Frick and her grandchildren, her mother Elaine Bell and a brother and sister-in-law Gerald and Shirley Bell. She was preceded in death by her father Percy Bell.

A private family celebration will be held Friday, February 16.

In lieu of flowers the family wishes donations to be made to the National Kidney Foundation of Northern California, Development Dept., 131 Stewart St., Ste. 520, San Francisco, CA 94105 or the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Donor Services, PO Box 4072, Pittsfield, MA 01202.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary

#### William Prokosch Jr.

William Joseph Prokosch Jr. died February 9, 2007 at San Ramon Medical Center. He was

He was born March 29, 1928 in Albuquerque, New Mexico and had lived in Livermore for the past 40 years. He served four years in the Navy as a Seaman. He was an electroplater in the engineering department at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for 21 years, retiring in 1988. He enjoyed camping, traveling and spending time with family. He also liked baseball, bowling, fishing, model airplane building and making woodcrafts. He was a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and involved in the American Legion, Eagles, Sons in Retirement, and the American Bowling Congress. His was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Joan Prokosch. He is survived by sons David Prokosch and Michael Prokosch and daughters Bonnie Hahn and Nancy Danielson, all of Livermore and Sherry Marsh of Fremont, thirteen grandchildren and one great grandchild. Visitation is 5 to 8 p.m. on Thurs., Feb. 15 at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore. A funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. on Fri., Feb. 16 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore. Burial will be Sat., Feb. 17 at Memory Gardens, 2873 East Ave., Livermore. Call office, 447-2942, for the time.

is Kathy Ruddy, Vice President of Unique Patterns, and international sew-ing celebrity, educator, pattern designer, serger and fitting expert. Active

in the sewing industry since 1962, Other Top featured educators in-clude: Jerri McKee, Julie McAuliffe, Gay Gerlack, Connie Spurlock, Kandi Christian, Larry Touchette, Davia Shireley, Lori Gresham, and Terri Schneider . In addition, a large vendor mall will

feature plenty of products available for

Particle piece of piece of

For more details or to order ad-vance tickets for admission and workshops go to http://pcmexpo.com or by call 1-800-472-6476.

#### **Singles Party**

Single professionals of all ages are invited to a Wine Tasting Party on Sunday, February 25, 2007, 1-3pm, at Crooked Vine Winery, 4948 Tesla Rd.,

Livermore. This party is sponsored by The Society of Single Professionals, a non-profit organization. The fee of \$10 at the door includes the wine tasting, accompanied by light appetizers. Anyone wishing more information may call 415/507-9962 or visit visit www.ThePartyHotline.com.

#### Writers Series

Fiction writer Lucy Corin will be featured in the next installment of the "Distinguished Writers Series" on Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. on the Hayward campus of California State University, East Bay, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd.

The series, sponsored by the De-partment of English and the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences, will feature Corin reading and discussing

feature Corin reading and discussing her work. It will take place in the Biella Room of the University Library. Ad-mission is free and light refreshments will be served. The public is invited. Corin's work has appeared in a journals, including "Ploughshares," "Conjunctions," "The Southern Re-view," "Gargoyle," and "Fiction Inter-national." They've also appeared in anthologies such as "Algonauin's New anthologies such as "Algonquin's New Stories from the South: The Year's Best (1997 and 2003)," "The Iowa Anthology of Innovative Narrative," and "Serpent's Tail's Strictly Casual: Women on Love." Her novel, Everyday Psychokillers: A History for Girls, was published by FC2 in 2004. Her forthcoming short story collec-

tion will be entitled, The Entire Predicament.

Parking in lots F, G, H, and K on the east side of the Cal State East Bay campus is available for \$1.50 per ve-hicle. Permits can be purchased at any labeled dispenser in those lots.

More information on the Distinguished Writers Series is available at (510) 885-3254 or online at http:// class.csueastbay.edu/writers.

#### Ocean Adventure

The Pleasanton Library welcomes marine biologists Wayne and Karen Brown from The Ocean Adventure on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 17 at 2 p.m. for a program showcasing the marine life described in the children's classic book, Island of the Blue Dolphins, by Scott O'Dell.

The Newbery award-winning book tells the real-life story of a 12-year old

American Indian girl who fended for herself for 18 years after being aban-doned on an island off the California coast

In this interactive program, the Browns take students on a tour of the giant kelp forests surrounding the Channel Islands, where the story took place. They'll visit various ecosystems and meet marine animals from docile to

dangerous that inhabit the islands. Free tickets to this show will be limited to children age 6 and older. Tickets will be distributed to children from the children's desk 30 minutes prior to the start of the program. Parents and younger children are welcome if space becomes available.

Patrons are asked to please arrive on time as doors will close to late arrivals at the start of the program.

For more information about library programs, please check the library's website at www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/library/programs-events-child.html or call the Children's Desk at (925) 931-3400 x 8.

#### Nomination Sought

The Pleasanton PTA Council and Pleasanton Unified School District are seeking nominations for the 17th Annual Excellence in Education Awards.

The two categories for nominations are Classroom Teacher and At-Large. Any classroom teacher who has not been previously honored may be nominated. The At-Large category includes employees other than teachers whose jobs are connected with Pleasanton public schools (volunteers are not eligible). The deadline for mail entries to be received is Friday, March 23.

The nomination form and list of previous recipients may be downloaded from the District web site at www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us. For ques-tions or further information, call the PTA Council at 462-4891 or e-mail publicinfo@pleasanton.k12.ca.us

#### Before the Nukes

Author Charles Meier will talk about his book. "Before the Nukes: The remarkable history of the area of the remarkable history of the area of the Nevada Test Site," during a program to be held at 7 p.m. Thurs., Feb. 22 at the Pleasanton Library. The author, retired Lawrence Liv-ermore National Laboratory engineer Charlee Meior, hec carefully, charaided

Charles Meier, has carefully chronicled, with photos, maps, and personal logs, the story of those who were there. For those who think the history of the Nevada Test Site prior to nuclear test-ing is written solely in geological terms, Before the Nukes - the remarkable history of the area of the Nevada Test Site will change your mind. History buffs and Test Site workers will enjoy a window into the past of an area that was forever changed with the advent of nuclear testing in 1950.

Meier lives in Pleasanton. In the 1960's, he worked at the Nevada Test Site for (then) Lawrence Radiation

Adventure trips being offered by the LARPD Ranger staff for youth ages 12 to 16. Fee is \$36 and includes transportation. Reservations are required and can be made online at www.larpd.dst.ca.us or by calling (925)373-5707. Since this a group tour, there will be no refunds.

#### Garage Open House

The 1915 Duarte Garade, located on the "Old Lincoln Highway," will be open on Sun., Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The historic garage is located on the corner of Portola and L Streets in Livermore.

The public is invited to stop by and check out the collection of Lincoln Highway memorabilia. The recently published book, "The Lincoln High-way: California - Vol. 6," will be available for purchase, as well as other

photographic vintage car books. The garage is maintained by the Livermore Heritage Guild. For more information, call 443-9740.





required.

Johnson, 931-3405.

Point Reyes Trip

Laboratory. "Before the Nukes" is avail-

able at the LLNL employee store and Towne Center Books, Pleasanton. To

view color photos of the Forsythe paint-

ings and other historic photos, or to

order an autographed copy go to www.lansingpublications.com.

All library programs are free and open to the public. No registration is

fore the Nukes" at the program. For book pre-sale information, call 846-8826. For more information, call Penny

Towne Center Books will sell "Be-

Tri-Valley teens are invited to join

us for a trip to scenic Point Reyes on Sunday, February 25th from 8:30 a.m.

to 5:30 p.m. Led by LARPD Ranger Aide Glen Flory, the tour will head to the lighthouse to look for whales on

their annual migration. There is an

opportunity to see majestic Tule elk and then hike to one of the scenic

beaches. Bring some friends and warm

clothes. This is one of a series of Bay Area

family and friends. She was an excellent seamstress, loved to play cards and made the best chocolate fudge ever. Alice loved watching TV and was an avid sports fan - Go Broncos. "Grandma Day" had a gentle

nature and a wonderful sense of humor and was dearly loved by her family. She will be missed.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

#### Shirley Fisher Steele

Shirley Fisher Steele died February 2, 2007 at her home in Livermore with her family by her side. She was 86.

Shirley grew up in Star City and Morgantown, West Virginia, where she met and married Jasper on Sept. 21, 1940. Throughout their lives together, family Scouting and church were priorities. She was a strong advocate of education and community service for children. She was active in the Presbyterian Church, a Scout den mother for each of her sons, and a Girl Scout leader. She loved gardening, cooking and playing bridge with her friends. She touched many lives

and will be greatly missed. She is survived by her husband of 66 years, Jasper; children Nancy Steele of Livermore; Andy (Sabra) Steele and their son, Robert of Idaho; Berg Briggs of Wyoming; Sam and Debbie Steele and son Ben of Oregon, and five great grandchildren. She is also survived by her sisters Virginia Fisher Drew of West Virginia, and Dolores Fisher Beach (Eddie Beach).

In her memory, donations can be sent to the Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave., Livermore, CA 94550. A fund has been established in her memory for the Children's Library.

A private celebration of life will be held later in the year.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

#### Frank Russ Dunn

Frank Russ Dunn died February 11, 2007 in Livermore. He was 76.

The native of Oakland was a lifelong resident of Alameda County. He graduated from Castlemont High School and then went on to serve his country in the U.S. Army. For 20 years,

Following the services, family and friends are invited to gather at Holy Cross Lutheran Church for a reception.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the William Prokosch Memorial Fund, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1020 Mocho St., Livermore, 94551.



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Livermore High School seniors dance with senior citizen guests. (To the left is LHS senior Paloma Dudum-Maya; in the middle dancing is Jenny Byrd.)

### Livermore Seniors Dine and Dance the Night Away

**By Patricia Koning** Last Friday night seniors from Livermore High School (LHS) threw a party for senior citizens from the Livermore community. Dubbed "Seniors Helping Seniors," the event consisted of a dinner served by the students, dancing by both types of seniors, pictures, and questions and answers with the guests.

"It was really a lot of fun," said LHS senior and class treasurer Susan Gazzuolo. "Many of the senior citizens were really grateful that we were there. All of my classmates had a fantastic time."

About 80 senior citizens from Livermore at-tended the event, which was held at the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's (LARPD) Robert Livermore Community Center. The evening started at 5 p.m. with dinner served by the high school students, who were dressed in black slacks and white collared shirts.

The guests ate quickly and were ready to dance. Several of the senior citizens decided to give their younger hosts a lesson on classic dance steps. "I was so impressed," said Gazzuolo. "I learned

to dance the swing. I've never been twirled so many times.

Another highlight of the evening was a question and answer session with the senior citizens. The guests shared their personal histories and sur-prised the high school students with their shared

total number of grandchildren. LHS Principal David Chamberlain took photo-graphs of the senior citizens, which will be distributed next week through the LARPD Senior Pro-gram. On display were historic photographs of Liv-ermore and the high school. The event was also a fundraiser for LARPD's Friendship Center, which needs money to pay for its relocation. The students solicited donations from businesses and individuals, even going doorto-door one evening, and collected donations at the event.

Altogether they raised \$1,800 after expenses. The seniors plan to present the contribution to LARPD, but are hoping to get a matching dona-tion from a local business first. Any businesses or individuals interested in making a matching donation can contact Veronica Torres in the LHS Ac-

nation can contact veronica forres in the LFIS Ac-tivities Office at (925) 606-4812 ext. 2303. The Seniors Helping Seniors dinner and dance came about from a failed attempt at a social event between Livermore and Granada High Schools. Last year students from both schools discussed hosting a dance and community service event together. The idea never went anywhere.

Gazzuolo said the idea of a community service event for senior citizens appealed to her and many of her classmates, so they pursued that aspect of the original idea. For all involved, the night was a huge success.

"I can't think of a time when I've been more proud to be associated with this class," said LHS Leadership teacher Tom Curl.

Seniors Helping Seniors was made possible through donations from Canton Village, LARPD, the Livermore Heritage Guild, Premier Catering, Starbucks, the Tri-Valley Community Foundation, Tri-Valley Garden and Lawn Care, UNCLE Credit Union, and Wal-Mart.

### Amador 'We the People' Team Heads to Nationals

The Amador Valley High School "We the People" compe-tition civics team placed first in the state championships held in Sacramento on Thursday, February 8 and Friday, February 9.

The Class of 2007 successfully defended the state title earned by the Class of 2006, who went on to finish second in the nation last year. This year's team now moves on to the national competition in Washington,

D.C., which takes place at the end Maguire, Angelo Marcelino, of April.

Members of the 2006-2007 team are David Anderson, Adam Bacal, Olga Beltsar, Mika Bhatia, Yvonne Chi, Tyler Creighton, Aaron Diggins, Robert Doxey, Alexene Farol, Wesley Garwood, Alex Hall, Emma Holmquist, Lauren Ivey, Garima Kalra, Catherine Kennedy, Taylor Lane, Christopher Loncarich, Devin

Acreage Added to Mt. Diablo Parklands

Elena Moreno, Bianca Ponce de Leon, Prachi Priyam, Carl Schlachte, Carena Schmidt, Elizabeth Smutz, Darylen Terry, Linda Wan, Frederick Young, Allen Yu, Alex Zhu.

The team's coach is Brian Ladd, who was named last year as Pleasanton Unified School District's 2006 Teacher of the Year.

#### & ENTERTAINMENT A

26th annual Melodrama, Sunol Rep-**36th annual Melodrama**, Sunol Rep-ertory Theatre will present "Taming the Wild, Wild West in a Dress, or....Let's Give the Villain the Slip," adapted from a play by Billy St. John and directed by Klay Kunkel. Perfor-mances are March 10, 16, 17, 23, 30 & 31 at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of Sunol Clon School at 11601 Main St. Sunol Glen School at 11601 Main St. in Sunol. Tickets are \$12.50 and can be ordered on line at www.sunol.net or by calling (925) 862-0664 for further information. Tickets can be purchased at Elliston Vineyards & Little Valley Winery tasting room on Saturdays and Sundays between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. beginning February 10. So hiss and boo and have a laugh with the whole family. Wine County Festival open to local

artists and businesses, The 16th Annual Livermore Wine Country Festival, May 5 and 6 in downtown Livermore. Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Application deadline is March 1st. Volunteers are also needed. For information go to the Downtown Liv-ermore, Inc. website at http:// www.livermoredowntown.com.

**Seussical**, students from Arroyo Seco Elementary School in Livermore are performing the musical "Seussical," based on the characters and stories of Dr. Seuss. This is the fourth year Seco's after school education program has produced a musical. The cast of "Seussical" will go on the road to Jackson Avenue Elementary, per-forming for students during school hours on February 28th. That evening at 7:00 pm the the show plays at Arroyo Seco, and again during school hours on March 2nd for Seco students. The public is welcome to attend the February 28th evening show.

Bordeaux Tasting, Tues., Feb. 20, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Uncle Yu's at the Vineyard, 39 So. Livermore Ave. Sample wines form the region of

Sample wines form the region of Bordeaux imported by Grand Cru Imports. \$45 per person includes wine, passed hors d'oeuvres, tax and gratuity. RSVP at 449-7000. **The Odd Couple**, a Comedy by Neil Simon, Feb. 2-18, Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. The Douglas Morrisson The-atre. 22311 North Third Street Hay-

 p.m. The Douglas Morrisson The-atre, 22311 North Third Street, Hay-ward. Tickets (510) 881-6777; in-formation dmtonline.org.
Celebrate Opera Week, Livermore Valley Opera, March 10-18, order Mikado Party Package, 4 tickets for the prize of 2 formerable porter do the price of 3, frameable poster de-signed for "The Mikado." Offer good through Feb. 15, 2007. Tickets are good for discounts at local restaurants on performance nights. Call 960-9210 or go to 960-9210 or go to www.livermorevalleyopera.org for details.

Killer Laughs Comedy Competition, Tommy T's Comedy and Steakhouse, 5104 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton; info 227-1800. Each show will feature a special guest comedian after the competition. Pre-sented by Laugh-A-Lot Productions Presents. Dates for preliminary rounds: Feb. 27; March 6, 1; semi finals: March 20, 27; finals: April 3 featuring nine comics. All shows start 8 p.m.; doors open 6 p.m. \$7 cover plus two item minimum. For More Information Call (925) 264-4413 or john@laughalotproductions.com. **Call for Art,** Art in the Park, Danville,

October 6 and 7, 2007, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Co-sponsored by the Town of Danville & the Alamo Danville Artists' Society. A Benefit for Art in the Schools of the San Ramon Valley School District. Applications being accepted for booth space. No crafts. ADAS Members: \$70; Non-Mem-bers \$85 . A commission of 10% of net sales will be collected at the end of the show and will be put directly into the Community Art Education Fund for grants to local art teachers. To be considered for the April jury selection, applications must be post-marked no later than April 1, 2006. Applications received after that date will be considered on a space avail-able basis. Norma Webb (925) 828-

normawebb@comcast.net 9170 Stephen Rodriguez (925) 462-1919 e-mail: srod@earthlink.net Susan Dennis (925) 837-6577 e-mail: dicknsue@infionline.net

**Chinese cooking demonstration and wine-tasting** benefit to support the Valley Dance Theatre. Sunday, March 18, from 4 to 7 p.m. After-noon with lots of food and festivities in Puby Hill featuring trains traiting in Ruby Hill featuring wine tasting and a demonstration of how to cook Chinese food at home. Reservations are \$50 per person (limited capac-ity). Informal attire requested. Adults only. Call 925-243-0927 for reservations.

Vations. Jazz, California State University, East Bay 8th Annual Night of Jazz Fund-raiser directed by Dave Eshelman with special guests Shelly Berg and Gregg Field Monday, Feb. 26, 8 and 10 p.m.; Yoshi's-Jack London Square (Ocklengt) costic priced at \$25 for 8 10 p.m.; Yoshi's-Jack London Square (Oakland) seats priced at \$25 for 8 p.m. show, \$15 for 10 p.m. show; 6:30 p.m. reception and 8 p.m. show VIP tickets \$75 Information at 510-885-4089 or www.yoshis.com. **Spyro Gyra – Jazz for the Ages**, Friday, February 16, 8 p.m. Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road on the Amador Valley High School compus

Amador Valley High School campus in Pleasanton. City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents will host. Spyro Gyra's show will include music from the past three decades as well as selections from four new albums, including last spring's Wrapped in a Dream. Advance tickets are \$20, \$30 & \$35. Tickets may be purchased on-line at www.civicartstickets.org up to three house prior to the parformance three hours prior to the performance, by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in by phone at (923) 931-3444, of m person at the Amador Theater Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. Group dis-counts are available.

### Program on Venetian Mask

Venetian mask artist and sculptor Carla Almanza will present a program at the Livermore Library on Sun., Feb. 18.

Almanza is perhaps the only artist in the United States practicing the authentic 16th and 17th century Venetian style of mask making. She first encountered the art while attending the Venetian Carnivale in Italy when she was 20 years old. There she met the artist Agostino Dessi, considered to be one of the finest classical mask makers in the world. Through intensive training as an apprentice for two years under the tutelage of Dessi, Almanza became a professional mask maker herself.

She will share her journey to master craftsman, artist and sculptor, the technique used in making her works of art and examples of her masks and jewelry.

The program begins at 2 p.m. in the Community Room at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. There is no admission charge. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Livermore Library.

For more information, contact Joyce Nevins at 373-5500 ext. 5577.

### Church to

Play It Again Sam, a Comedy by Woody Allen; March 2-18, Thurs., Fri., Sat. 8 p.m. and Sun. 2 p.m. The Douglas Morrisson Theatre 22311 North Third Street Hayward. Tickets at 510-881-6777.

**Diablo Ballet**, one of the Bay Area's new ballets, Nikolai Kabaniaev's *The Tale of Cinderella*, will be presented at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley on Sunday, February 18, at 8 pm, by Diablo Ballet under Artistic Director Lauren Jonas. The program will also include two audience favorites from Diablo's extensive repertoire of commissioned works: Go Girls, choreo-graphed by Viktor Kabaniaev, and Dancing Miles by Kelly Teo. Call (510) 642-9988 or purchase on-line at http://tickets.berkeley.edu. For in-formation: Call Diablo Ballet at (925) 943-1775

Art Collecting 101, Saturday Febru-ary 24, 3 to 4 p.m. Join Seamus Berkeley, Bay Area painter, as he shares fascinating tales about exotic locals. Free to the Public. Refresh-ments Served. Worthington Gallery West International Fine Art 739 J. Main St. Pleasanton, (925) 485-1183 www.worthingtongallerywest.com wgallerywest@sbcglobal.net Hours: Tues. - Sat. 10:30- 5:30 Other times

by appointment Early registration: The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council and City of Pleasanton Civic Arts announce the opening of early registration for the Sixth Annual Poetry, Prose & Arts Festival on Saturday, March 31. The Festival will be held at the CarrAmerica Conference Center, 4000 Bosowood Drive, Pleasanton 4400 Rosewood Drive, Pleasanton from 8:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Adult registration includes two workshops, sessions with California Poet Laure-ate Al Young and author Michael Chabon, afternoon events that are Chabon, afternoon events that are open to the public, and meals, includ-ing the evening awards banquet. The adult fee is \$80 before March 3 and \$95 after. Youth Poetry & Arts reg-istration includes a morning poetry workshop and the public afternoon activities. Youth fee \$15 prior to March 3 and \$20 after. Teen Prose registration includes two workshops, the Al Young and Michael Chabon sessions, and the afternoon public activities. Early registration for teens is \$25; After March 3, the fee is \$35. Adults, teens and youth who wish to enter the Festival's poetry contests must submit their entries with early must submit their entries with early registration. Early registrations and payments must be postmarked on or before March 3. Registration forms may be downloaded from the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council website at tww.pleasantonarts.org or ob-tained by contacting Michelle Russo at (925) 931-5350 or mrusso@ci.pleasanton.ca.us. **2007 Livermore Lives! Teen Art Expo.** Livermore residents in the sixth through twolfth grades are invited to

through twelfth grades are invited to submit a piece of original art visually expressing a distinct perspective of

(continued on page 9)

### 'Hotel Rwanda' Film at Library

The Pleasanton Public Library is hosting an after hours program featuring the film *Hotel Rwanda* (PG-13) on Sat., Feb. 17th at 4:30 p.m.in the large meeting room.

This film takes place amidst the attempted genocide of the Rwandan people in 1994 by the Hutu militia. Paul Rusesabagina was a hotel manager in Kigali, Africa who took in over 1,000 refugees to save their lives at great risk to himself and his family. This program is to inform and stimulate discussion about human rights violations in Africa. Leading the program will be Jürgen Braungardt, who teaches philosophy at the California State University of the East Bay. A photo exhibit will be displayed in the Teen Area of the library 1 week prior. Refreshments will be served before the film begins at 5:30 (after regular library hours) This program is suitable for ages 13 and up. It is free and open to the public. The film is 120 minutes. For more information call Teresa Parham 931-3404.

Save Mount Diablo has road trail passes within a half mile "Mt. Diablo Coal Field" of Black signed a purchase agreement to acquire the heart of Irish Can-yon, 320 acres for \$1.344 million The property, a half mile north to south and a full mile east-west, is near Clayton's Oakhurst Country Club. It drops from the crest of Keller Ridge north across Irish Creek and its middle fork before rising toward Kreiger Peak. The stage

of the property, which was once Diamond Mines Regional Prepart of the Bettencourt Ranch. serve While the corridor focused on The property was threatened the narrowest open space gap, over to Black Diamond's Oil by development. Irish Canyon is surrounded by 2000 acres of Canyon, Chaparral Spring's northern boundary crosses Keller Ridge and west into upper Irish Canyon, which drops across ranch land to Clayton's Oakhurst private land but within one or two parcels of three different preserves. "Although Irish Canyon is located a stone's throw from the City of Clayton, it has a very isodevelopment. Chaparral Spring narrowed a 2.5 mile gap between the parks and in 1999 SMD worked with lated, almost a turn-of-the-century feel," said Scott Hein, chair-man of SMD's Land Committee. Thirteen years ago Save Mount Diablo bought its 333-acre Chaparral Spring property east of Clayton, stretching north the East Bay Regional Park District to acquire adjacent 1,031 acre Clayton Ranch at the top of Irish Canyon. The District acquired two more parcels in 2001 and 2005, leaving just a quarter mile gap. The Mt. Diablo to from Marsh Creek Road and Mt. Diablo State Park onto the face of Keller Ridge. It was the first Black Diamond Mines corridor step in creation of a corridor between Mt. Diablo and the historic will be a wildlife corridor.

### **Bike Race Route Goes Through** Livermore

The 2007 Amgen Tour of Cali-fornia will pass through Livermore on Wed., February 21.

This is the second Amgen Tour of California - the West Coast's answer to the Tour de France. The Tour showcases more than 100 of the world's fastest riders.

Sixteen of the world's top professional cycling teams will compete along a demanding 650mile course from San Francisco to Long Beach.

Stage three begins in Stockton. The course travels over Patterson Pass Road to Cross Road, Tesla Road, down Concannon Blvd. and finally to Isabel and Highway 84. The 94.6 mile stage ends in San Jose.

Race organizers expect the tour to attract more than one million fans along the 650-mile course.

This year's course is 50 miles longer than last year's and includes several new parts of California: Sacramento, Stockton, Seaside, Solvang, Santa Clarita and Long Beach are new venues this year.



Police Chief Michael Fraser talked to diners during Pleasanton Police's Tip-A-Cop event at Chili's on Thursday, February 8. The event raised over \$4000 for Special Olympics.

# Saturday Salon **Features Two**

4th Street Studio presents its monthly Saturday Salon on Sat-urday February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at 4th Street Studio, 2235 Fourth Street, in Livermore.

Featured writers this month are Karen Hogan and Tom Darter.

The public is welcome. Open reading follows the featured writers (time allowed for each writer depends on the size of the crowd). People are welcome to just come and listen as well.

For more information, contact Karen Hogan at 925 456-3100 or by email at 4thstreetstudio@pacbell.net.

## 'Comedy of Errors' Performance Set

"The Comedy of Errors" will be staged by the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival at the Pleasanton Library at 2 p.m. on Sun., Feb. 18.

This will be a free presenta-tion of Shakespeare's rollicking tale of chaos and confusion caused by two sets of twins.

There will be a post-show Q and A with the cast at 3 p.m.

The program is open to all. No registration required. There is no admission charge.

The Friends of the Pleasanton Library are sponsoring the program. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

Host Concert

A concert presenting clarinetist Joe Bonfiglio, and featuring works of von Weber, Mozart, Mendelssohn and Gershwin will be presented at 4 p.m. on February 25.

The Unitarian Universalist Church will host the program, which will be about 1 hour. A reception will follow.

No tickets are needed. However, there is a suggested dona-tion of \$12 -\$20 per person, youth free. The church is locatd at 1893 North Vasco Road, Livermore. For information, call 447-6454



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Mark Anderson and Tamriko Siprashvili

# **Concert Benefits Arts** In the Schools Program

Mark Anderson and Tamriko Siprashvili will perform their four-hand, two-piano concert on Saturday, February 24, at 8:00 p.m. The concert is hosted by the Pleasanton Cultural Council and will benefit the organization's Arts in the Schools program, will take place at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road.

This year's concert program will begin with the 1911 version of Stravinski's Petruska. After intermission, the concert will continue with Winter and Spring, two of The Four Seasons by Vivaldi, and a "rousing arrangement" of The Sorcerer's Apprentice by Paul Dukas. The performance will conclude, by popular de-mand, with Ravel's Bolero.

"We are looking forward to performing for our community once again and believe that the audience will be very pleased with this year's program and the new effects we've added," says pianist Mark Anderson. "Petruska is one of the great works of the 20th Century. Since the ballet has a story line connected to the music, we will add a multimedia touch by projecting the text of the story on a big screen onstage throughout the performance of this piece. We want the audience to be aware of the extramusical storyline and its development as we play. We feel this is certain to add to their enjoyment.'

Mark Anderson, who was raised in the Tri-Valley, and Tamriko Siprashvili, a native of tion in England and eventually married and settled in Pleasanton

In 2005, Mark and Tamriko opened the Anderson Siprashvili Music Academy in Pleasanton, which combines a comprehensive keyboard, guitar, voice, strings, woodwinds and theory curriculum with technology as an educational tool.

"At the Academy, our goal is to educate, encourage and inspire musicians in a positive environ-ment," says Anderson. "We strive to provide the highest level of music education to people of all ages and abilities and to share the dynamic art of music communitywide through out-reach programs and other civicminded efforts like our annual benefit concert for PCAC's Arts in the Schools.'

Tickets to the February 24th concert are \$15, \$20 and \$25. They may be purchased online at www.civicartstickets.org until 5:00 p.m. the day of the perfor-mance; by phone at (925) 931-3444 and at the Amador Theater Box Office. The box office is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays and for two hours prior to the performance.

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC) is a licensed non-profit organization that pro-vides facilities for arts activities and fosters environments where residents of Pleasanton and surrounding communities can pursue and enjoy a wide range of cultural opportunities. PCAC believes that the arts are vital to the community's overall well being. More information is available at www.pleasantonarts.org.

# Youth to Perform in Annual Pleasanton Music Festival

Solo vocalists, instrumentalists, and vocal and instrumental ensembles under the age of 18 will entertain at the fifth Annual Youth Music Festival

The festival will be held on Friday, February 23, at 8:00 p.m. at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Road (on the Amador Valley High School campus), Pleasanton. Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents will host the event.

"As in the past four years, the audience will see a show filled with incredibly talented young people. This year, we have 26 acts including performers like Chinese zither artist Jennifer Yan from Pleasanton, flamenco guitarist Ryan Flynn of Dublin and vocalist Victoria Matthews from Tracy. We'll conclude with a finale by Cantabella Chamber Choir," says Senior Recreation Program Specialist Mark Duncanson.

"Jennifer, who is a freshman at Amador Valley High School,



Jennifer Yan performs on the zither.

began playing the zither two years ago after many years playing the piano. The zither is an ancient Chinese harp that is of-ten played as a solo instrument,

but is also seen in orchestras. 'Ryan is 13 and attends St.

Philip Lutheran School. He was able to distinguish the types of guitars being played in songs on

the car radio at age eight and began guitar lessons that year. He hopes to be a professor of music one day.

"Victoria sings with an 'old school jazz' voice that has won many awards at vocal competitions. She has performed at corporate events, fundraisers and private parties and is planning to audition for American Idol this summer.

"We promise an entertaining evening for our community filled with amazing talent and, I'm sure, a peek at some celebrity performers of the future," Duncanson concludes.

Advance tickets to the Youth Music Festival are \$7.00 in advance and \$10.00 at the door. They may be purchased by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance.

# Chamber Symphony Presented A Garden of Delights

By Nancy O'Connell "A Garden of Delights," a bouquet of musical treats, was the name given to the concert on Friday night, February 11th at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore. Director Lawrence Kohl was in full control of the Pacific Chamber Symphony in its debut in Livermore. Discerning concert goers have heard this group perform for several years in Pleasanton, but this was its first appearance in Livermore, and an enthusiastic audience turned out to hear this new addition to its musical scene.

The program opened with Beethoven's "Leonore Overture No. 3." As the title suggests, this is the third of four overtures Beethoven penned for his opera "Fidelio." Composed in 1806, it is the most familiar of the four versions and features the haunting aria which the prisoner, Florestan, sings as he pleads for his freedom. The flute solo, accompanied by the violin section, and later joined by the French horn was most effective. A good spiccato technique in the 'celli and the single bass viol displayed excellent bow control as the bows danced over the strings, never lingering too long on any one note. The French horns sounded particularly brilliant. Even though this is a chamber orchestra, the audience heard the full range of dynamics. There was no problem with producing a forte fortissimo or dropping to a pianissimo. The trumpet off stage, played by Ron Blais, was particularly effective, as was an unerring sense of rhythm in the tympani.

Two young piano soloists from Russia were presented Friday night with the orchestra. Both show a maturity of style. The Guzik Foundation has funded the Awards Program that both young people have won, an award which has financed schol-

arships for them, as well as their international tours.

Ilya Petrov, born in 1985 in Krivoy Rog, Ukraine, performed Sergei Prokofieff's Piano Concerto #3. Although this is ex-tremely difficult for the pianist, Petrov was always in command of his instrument. His technique was very clean, his fingers flew over the keys. There was good rapport between the soloist and Maestro Kohl. Prokofieff in today's concert hall sounds almost romantic. There were lush, warm violin passages and won-derful sound effects in the percussion section with castanets and cymbals.

The Andantino was in the musical form of theme and variations. A dialogue between the 'celli and the bassoon, two of the lower voices in the orchestra, was an unusual pairing of instru-ments. Ilya Petrov played the quieter passages with great musicality. Some of the variations placed great demands on all of the players, but they managed to make it look effortless. The *Allegro no non troppo* opened with a bassoon solo with 'celli pizzicato, and then the pianist entered, demanding attention, yet with almost playful melodies. The movement featured rhythmic complexity. The violins had a beautiful melody, but then the pianist entered with a humorous playful passage answered in the winds. A lush melody in the 'celli and bass was answered by the other strings. The pianist's running 64ths were very clear with no pedal blurring of the notes. A brilliant coda brought the concerto to a close and an enthusiastic audience

After the intermission a younger pianist appeared. Born in 1989 in Kharkov, Dinara Nadzhafova is also a winner of the Guzik Foundation Award. Under the Foundation's auspices she has performed in many American cities and has appeared as soloist with international orchestras. In talking with her afterwards, I found her English to be easily understood, which will help her in this country. Dinara was dressed in a glittering en-semble - a long black skirt with a top of silver sequins. She created a beautiful picture with her long flowing dark hair. She performed

She performed Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini," portions of which are very formilie which are very familiar because it has been heard in films. She played with sensitivity, yet was strong and forceful when the music called for that response. In quieter passages she brought out a singing, legato tone on the pi-ano. Throughout this concert the different section players listened to one another. There was a good dialogue between the first oboe, Robin May, and the soloist. The concert master, Christina Mok, played a luxuriant melody with finesse. The famous theme was introduced by the piano, then played by the 'celli. All of the strings eventually joined in with a change of mood introduced by the strings in a pizzicato, a plucking of their strings.

There was one thorn in this bouquet of flowers and it pricked our eardrums. One very loud wrong note was sounded in the trombone section and throughout that passage intonation was a problem. Complex rhythms followed in the next musical variation, made more exciting their intricate entrances on time. Throughout the entire work, Dinara Nadzhafova played with a complete mastery of her instrument and a maturity far beyond her years.

In an aside, I have a good friend, Natasha Borovsky, the poet and novelist, whose father was a Russian concert pianist in the earlier part of the 20th century. Alexander Borovsky tutored the Tzar's nephews when he was young, and his family and the Prokofieff family lived in the same apartment house in Paris. Borovsky championed Prokofieff's piano music and Natasha called the famous composer, 'Papa Prokofieff' as she played with his sons while her own father was on tour. She also knew Rachmaninoff, who was a frequent guest to her parents' home in Paris. For years I have heard tales of these two musical giants as she and I have performed together in poetry read-ings, I on piano or 'cello impro-vising to her poetry. The program closed with

Brahms," Variations on a Theme of Haydn." Familiar to all concert goers, each section has solo passages, its "moment in the sun." One friend, a college music critic, said of Brahms - "Too much fruitcake." I don't agree, but there were rich and delicious moments in this final work on the program. There was masterful playing throughout. The French horns were brilliant. Maestro Kohl's sweeping and generous baton technique gave precise cues. It was almost soothing to end with something so familiar. It gave one a feeling that all is well in the field of classical music when it is performed with such finesse.

Georgia in the former Soviet Union, have received broad recognition for their performances as soloists and duo pianists. They met at the Leeds piano competi-

e voung sol deserved ovation. The orchestra members tapped their bows on their stands in a tribute to Ilya Petrov, which is an honor not always accorded a visiting soloist.

when played at lightning speed. Heads were bobbing up and down as the orchestra members counted carefully so that they could make

Yet the night will be long remembered as an introduction to new, young talents of great promise: Ilya Petrov and Dinara Nadzhaťova.

### The Russian American Kids **Circus Comes** to Pleasanton

The Russian American Kids Circus will perform in Pleasanton on Wednesday, February 28, at 7:30 p.m.

City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents will host this family en-tertainment event. The performance will take place at the Amador Theater, located at 1155 Santa Rita Road on the Amador Valley High School campus in Pleasanton.

The troupe of young performers between the ages of 6 and 16 will present a show of acrobatics, tightrope walking, juggling, unicycling and more. "This troupe of young professionals makes spirits soar and crowds roar," wrote the New York Times.

"This show promises wholesome family entertainment that includes a spectacular production and some education about the Russian Circus tradition. It'll be a great family activity for dispelling the winter doldrums," says City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Manager Andy Jorgensen.

Members of the Russian-American Kids Circus troupe are trained by veterans of the famed Moscow Circus. Over the past 11 years, they have performed shows at theaters, performing art centers, colleges, universities,



Bicycle act at circus.

opera houses, music halls, festivals, corporate events, fundraisers, family resorts, city celebrations and many more events. They were featured at Disney World' Millennium Celebration and have been featured in commercials and on international television.

Tickets to the Russian American Kids Circus show are Adults: \$14, \$18 and \$22 and Child: \$10, \$14 and \$18. For patrons' convenience, they may now be purchased online www.civicartstickets.org until three hours prior to the perfor-mance, by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance. Group discounts are available.

#### & ENTERTAL ΕN

#### (continued from page 8)

their lives. Media including painting, sculpture, photography, textiles and collage are eligible for this exhibit. Entries will be accepted Mon., March 5 through Sun., March 25 at the Civic Center Library, 1188 So. Livermore Avenue. Artwork will be shown as space allows. Teen Expo Artwork will be on display from April 2-29 in the Civic Center art gallery during regular library hours. For more information and to access applications, visit the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us or contact Mary Sue Nocar at 373-5500 ext. 5583.

The Secret Garden, Willows Theatre Company production. February 23 through March 25th, at the Willows Theatre, 1975 Diamond Boulevard, Concord. Tickets are \$33-\$38 with discounts for students (6-18), seniors (65+), groups (10+), and Preview performances. To purchase tickets call (925) 798-1300 or visit the Willows Theatre Company Web site at www.willowstheatre.org. Perfor-mances are Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m., and Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m., with matinees Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m.

**Diablo Symphony**, Joyce Johnson Hamilton conducts, "The American Dream," a concert of works by American composers including the pre-miere of Nancy Bloomer Deussen's 'A Field in Pennsylvania," a tribute to the crew and passengers of the ill-fated flight on 9/11. Featured will be flutist Adrian Sanborn, 17, winner of the symphony's young artist compe-tition. 2 p.m. Feb. 16. Regional Cen-ter for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. \$12, \$20, \$22 avail-able at 943-7469.

Faculty art, Cal State East Bay faculty artwork will be on display in the annual CSUEB Faculty Art Exhibi-

tion to be open Mondays through Thursdays, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Art and Education Building gallery, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward. The exhibition will be open through March 1. Admission will be free. The Art Gallery is part of the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences. Additional information is available by telephone at (510) 885-3299. Beach Blanket Babylon Scholarship

for the Arts, high school seniors may submit a complete entry form (avail-able on-line at beachblanketbabylon.com or by calling 415-248-1729) along with a VHS tape, DVD or CD-Rom of a three minute performance. Entries must be postmarked by Fri., April 20, 2007. Nine finalists, three form each category, will be selected by a panel of performing arts professionals and notified May 7. Three finalists in each category will perform in front of celebrity judges and an invited audience. One winner from each category will receive \$10,000 from The Steve Silver Foundation and Beach Blanket Babylon toward higher education.

Papier-mache Whimsy Classes, Sat-urday March 24 and 31, 2-4pm, Bring to the first class: Roll of 1" masking tape, full newspaper issue, scissors, a couple of wire hangers. This class is taught by artist MJ Wilson and is free to the public, but reservations are a must. Must attend reservations are a must. Must attend both days due to drying and time required.Call: Worthington Gallery West (25) 485-1183 wgallerywest@sbcglobal.net. Worthington Gallery West Interna-tional Fine Art, 739 J. Main St., Pleasanton Pleasanton.

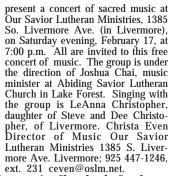
Laurence Juber, Finger-style Guitar-ist Formerly of Paul McCartney and Wings, performs Sat., Feb. 24 at The Wesley Center, 902 Danville Blvd., Alamo. Doors open 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Tickets \$40 Gold Circle;

\$25 adults, \$22 seniors and children Tickets at 229-2710 www.communityconcerts.com or

**High School Musical**, stage produc-tion of the Disney Channel movie. Christensen Middle School 9th annual musical production. Show dates are March 23, 24, 30 and 31 at 7 p.m. All shows are at Livermore High School Performing Arts Theatre, 600 Maple St. Tickets are \$7 orchestra level and \$5 balcony level. Seating at Livermore High is assigned. Tickets can be purchased at Country Charm in Livermore at 1601 Railroad Ave., or by calling Kathy Pehrson at 925-443-1931. Tickets may be available at the door 30 minutes prior to the show.

Valley Concert Chorale auditions, by appointment, for experienced singers interested in singing with the chorus on Monday, March 19 in Livermore. The Chorale is looking for singers who enjoy performing a wide range of music from classical to contemporary, from folk to jazz. If you have sight reading skills and enjoy singing exciting and challeng-ing music, call 925-462-4205 to schedule an appointment.

The Concordia University Women's Ensemble from Irvine, CA, will



group Art Show by the Landscape Sketching class members of the QUEST Program, Las Positas College is currently on display at Way Up Art & Frame at (1923 Second Street, Livermore, CA). The Landscape Sketching class meets each Wednes-day morning. Several times each semester, the students meet at vineyards, parks, downtown areas, and historic centers to sketch en plein air. This Art Show presents a couple dozen "accordian books," each with several 5" x 7" sketches of favorite local scenes by individual class members. The Art Show at Way Up will be on display through the Month of February





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#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 390033 The following person (s) do ing business as Loristuff, 790 Sunny Brook Way, Pleasanton, Ca 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Lauren Millslagle, 790 Sunny Brook Way, Pleasanton, CA 94566 This business is conducted by:an individual Registrant has not vet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed Signature of Registrant: /s/:Lauren Millslagle This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on January 10, 2006. Expires January 10, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2109. Publish January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 2007.

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ing business as 1)Stony Ridge Winery 2)Stony Ridge, 4948 Tesla Road, Livermore, Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Crooked Vine, Inc., 4948 Tesla Road, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted by:a corporation The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 4/11/

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FILE NO. 391374

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NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 390007 The following person (s) do-

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT ing business as Remmyses 257 Soapstone Common, Liv-The following person (s) doermore, Ca 94550 is hereby ing business as Serenity Stone Works, 252 Main St., Pleasanregistered by the following ton, CA 94566 is hereby regowner (s): Olyremi Áwosanya, 257 Soap istered by the following owner stone Common, Livermore arry Bourland 4865 Mason CA 94550 This business is conducted St., Pleasanton, CA 94588 This business is conducted by:an individual by:an individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed fictitious business name or Signature of Registrant: names listed above on 2/2/07. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Olvremi Awosanva This statement was filed with /s/:Larry Bourland This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on January 10, 2007 Expires January 10, 2012. The Independent Legal No 2113. Publish February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2007.

the County Clerk of Alameda County on February 2, 2007. Expires February 2, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2117. Publish February 15, 22, March 1, 8, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS FILE NO. 390712 NAME STATEMENT The following person (s) do ing business as Assisted Help The following person (s) do-ing business as Safety Zone, 2480 Ancona Circle, Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby 4138 Stanford Way, Liverregistered by the following more, CA 94550 is hereby owner (s): registered by the following Yolanda C. Yassini, 2480 owner (s): Ancona Circle, Livermore, CA Tony Frye, 4138 Stanford Way Livermore, CA 94550 Terry Cruz, 2664 Torrey Pines Rhonda Frye, 4138 Stanford Drive, Brentwood, CA 94513 Way, Livermore, CA 94550 This business is conducted This business is conducted by:co-partners by:husband and wife Registrant has not yet begun Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the

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to transact business under the fictitious business name or fictitious business name or names listed. names listed. Signature of Registrant: Signature of Registrant: /s/:Yolanda C. Yassini and Terry /s/:Tony Frye and Rhonda This statement was filed with This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda the County Clerk of Alameda County on January 25, 2007 County on February 7, 2007. Expires January 25, 2012 Expires February 7, 2012. The Independent Legal No The Independent Legal No. 2114. Publish February 8, 15,

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 391294

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the County Clerk of Alameda County on February 6, 2007. Expires February 6, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2119. Publish February 15, 22, March 1, 8, 2007 ORDERTO SHOW CAUSE

FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. VG07309577 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA 5672 Stoneridge Drive Pleasanton, CA 94588 TO ALL INTERESTED

PERSONS: Petitione Martha Vanessa Garcia Grover filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows Present Name: Martha Vanessa Garcia Grover

Proposed Name: Vanessa Maassen 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING a.Date: 3/20/07 Time: 2:00PM Dept: 707

b.The address of the court is: 5672 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588

3a.A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in the county The Independent Dated:February 2, 2007 /s/:Judge Alice Vilardi Judge Of The Superior Court The Independent Legal No. 2116. Published February 8, 15, 22, March 1, 2007. **ANIMALS/PETS** 

1) CATS/DOGS ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at 925

426-8656.

START YOUR OWN! Land-**Tri-Valley Animal Rescue** hosts cat and dog adoptions scape Curbing Business · at the Pleasanton Farmers High Demand. Market on Saturdays from Overheads. High Profit. Training Available. Priced from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Cat adoptions are at Dublin Pet Food \$12,000, 1-800-667-5372. www.EdgeMaster.net Express on Saturdays from 12 to 4 PM (excluding 4th Sat) (CAL\*SCAN) and on Sundays from 1 to 4 LEARNTO BUY Foreclosures, PM. Adoptions at Dublin tax liens, and rehabs for pen-PetsMart on Saturdays from 12 nies on the dollar. Mentor to 4 PM and on Sundays from walks you through each deal 1 to 4 PM, dog adoptions on A-Z to insure SUCCESS. 1the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the 800-433-4556. (CAL\*SCAN) month from 1 to 4 PM and rab-

A CASH COW!!! 30 Vending bit adoptions on the 2nd and Machines/You Approve Each 4th Saturday of the month from Location. Entire Business 1 to 4 PM. For more informa-\$10,970. Hurry! 1-800-836tion please visit www.tvar.org 3464. (CAL\*SCAN) or call (925) 803-7043. ATTENTION ENTREPRE-NEURS! A 19 Year Luxury Re-

FOUND CAT Manx Cat found sort Membership introduces new global business. Ground in Livermore Area. 925 449-Floor. 250K + first year potential. Timeshares are history! Details 1-800-391-3035 (24hr) (CAL\*SCAN) Lost Cat missing since 12/21/

06. Vicinity of Norma Way & East BE WARY of out of area com-Ave. Black & White with long panies. Check with the local hair. Tuxedo white feet, white Better Business Bureau before chin. Call 925 321-1796 you send any money or fees. Read and understand any Lost Cat, in Pleasanton, Neal contracts before you sign. & Entrada. Long, White hair Shop around for rates. Male, blue eyes, shy but nice,

Put your ad here! Call Barbara at 925 243-8000 Lost an family pet? Found an today or go on-line at animal? Free Section. Call www.independentnews.com Also available **pay by Credit** Barbara 925 243-8000 to let Card for Classified and

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Caregiver / Full-Time For Male Quadriplegic Livermore Social Security and California Drivers License Required Call Steve: 925 606-5732 65)FRANCHISE/BUSINESS OPP.

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territory, won't last long. 1-888-8 4 - J U I C E . www.JuiceZone.com (CAL\*SCAN)

#### 68)HAIR SERVICES

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EDUCATION The Unitarian Universalist Church In Livermore seeks a program director to work 15 hours a week for 11 months annually to supervise a growing dvnmanic religious educa tion program for a church of 80 families. This position requires working all but 72) HELP WANTED/DRIVERS

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#### The Independent, FEBRUARY 15, 2007 - PAGE 11



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Kim Ott By Appointment DUBLIN \$2,125,000 5bd/5.5ba, 5,300+/-sf home on 12,600+/-sf lot. 2 offices, gour-met kitchen, cherry cabinets, granite countertops. Built-in fire-place on patio and in ground spa.



Jennifer Malakoff By Appointment LIVERMORE \$1,085,000 Luxury in Lindenwood! Spacious 5bd/4ba, 3,541+/-sf highly upgraded home. Dazzling pool nestled in one of Livermore's prestigious neighborhood.



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Ginger McGrail By Appointment LIVERMORE \$1,395,000 Beautiful 4bd/4.5ba home built in 2004, 4,451+/-sf on a 16,547+/-sf iot with incredible views. Formal LR/DR, gourmet kitchen, loft/veranda, mud room and FR.



Brad Slabaugh By Appointment LIVERMORE \$925,000 4bd/2.5ba, custom kitchen. Pri-vate backyard, pool and remark-able brick deck. Hdwd floors, side yard access. Plus many other custom features. A rare find.



Mark James By Appointment LIVERMORE \$627,950 Gorgeous remodeled 3bd/2ba. 1,374+/-sf home. Formal LR/DR, vaulted ceilings, brick fireplace, and granita counter tops. Deck and spa! By Appointment \$627,950 deled 3bd/2ba



Rose Perry By Appointment LIVERMORE \$1,290,000 Extraordinary custom 4bd/3.5ba home in the very best of locations! 5 car garage plus side access. Game room, private bd downstairs plus office. Italian fountain, pool.



Rose Perry LIVERMORE By Appointment LIVERMORE \$779,000 This one has everything... 4bd (2 master suites)/3ba, beauti-ful new granite and stainless appliances. 2 separate garages. Spa and new sod in backyard.



Open Sunday 1-4 LIVERMORE \$479,950 3bd/2ba, 1,393+/-sf townhome. Up-dated throughout. Full size 2 car ga-rage. Large private backyard. Looks like it is right out of the Pottery Barn catalog. 4770 Apple Tree Common



Mark James By Appointment LIVERMORE \$1,249,000 One story 4bd/3ba home in Alden Lane. 2.5 years new, 3,100+/-sf, formal LR/DR, gour-met kitchen and large backyard, pool/waterfall, spa and slate patio.



Kim Ott By Appointment LIVERMORE \$747,800 Charming 4bd/2ba, 2,300+/-sf home on a 7,060+/-sf lot. Remod-eled kitchen, romantic master bedroom/marble walk-in shower. Beautiful backyard, remodeled pool.



Jennifer Malakoff By Appointment LIVERMORE \$315,000 Quiet third floor location, elevator access. 1bd/1ba, large den area. Stainless steel appliances, granite counters, new maple colored cabi-nets, new paint, pool/spa, gated entry.

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# Livermore Ford Lincoln Mercury and Livermore Chrysler Jeep Re-Instate the Used Car Sell-Off due to Public Demand.

TO

Livermore, CA-Rental car companies such as Enterprise Rent-a-car are deluged with late model vehicles from virtually every manufacturer. Rather than lose thousands of dollars at auction, rental companies frequently seek the assistance of independent companies to reduce their inventory. Livermore Ford Lincoln Mercury and Livermore Chrysler Jeep is helping to reduce this huge fleet of pre-owned vehicles.

Steve Kerekesh, Used Car Sales Manager at Livermore Ford Lincoln Mercury said, "We're here to do one thing only and that's do what it takes to sell these vehicles." Kerekesh added, "This is one of the largest inventories

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Ford

BLVU.

of quality, pre-owned vehicles I've ever seen."

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AI PUBLIC

When asked if this event is limited to private parties, Kerekesh said, "No. This special used car event is open to the public. Even if you're not sure if you can qualify for credit, come in. We are processing every loan application, regardless of past credit history."

The Used Car Sell-Off is only going on for four days only: Friday-Monday, February 16th-19th and will only be held at Livermore Ford Lincoln Mercury and Livermore Chrysler Jeep on 2266 Kitty Hawk Drive off 580 at Airway Blvd. For more information, call (866) 488-8960.

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