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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2007



Serving ice cream at last year's social.

Ravenswood to Host Annual Ice Cream Social

The Ravenswood Historic Site in Livermore hosts its Annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 12 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

This family event is free to the public. Ice cream, hot dogs and other treats will be available for purchase. There will be games, music, historic demonstrations and much more. The event is sponsored by the Livermore Area **Recreation** and Park District (LARPD) and the Ravenswood Progress League. All funds raised will go towards the restoration of the Ravenswood Historic Site.

Ravenswood features two Victorian houses set on spacious landscaped grounds with a gazebo, large shady trees and a vineyard. The site is on the National Register of Historic Places,

(See ICE CREAM, page 9)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen The annual Pooch Parade

LVCS Limits New Hires, Shortens School Day

By Patricia Koning Last week, parents of students attending the Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS) learned the details behind the \$2.5 million cut from the original budget for the 2007/08 school year. The majority of the cuts are in the ar-

eas of staffing and facilities. Approximately \$470,000 was cut from the proposed certificated staff. No teachers from the current staff were laid off; new positions were not filled, including a vice principal and several middle school teachers.

On the classified side, \$405,000 was cut from the origi-

nal 2007/08 budget. Areas affected include physical education, library, custodial, security, and yard duty.

The school will also realize approximately \$260,000 in sav-ings in benefit payments as a result of limiting the staff size. The Choice for Children

Education Foundation (CCEF), a nonprofit fund-raising entity that supports LVCS, is hoping to raise enough money in its annual fund-raising drive to fund the librarian, custodial staff, yard duty, campus security, and middle school laptop program.

The school's popular laptop program, in which middle school students are given their own laptops for school and home use during the school year, is also taking a hit. Laptops for the ad-ditional middle school grade (LVCS was K-7 last year and will be K-8 this year) are not included in the current budget, a savings of approximately \$130,000. The school leased laptops from Dell and Toshiba in its first

two years. Both leases are for three years; the school is in the second year on the Toshiba laptops and the third year on the Dell laptops.

"We need to alter how technology is handled," said Bill Batchelor, president of the LVCS Board of Directors. "Once we are out of these leases, my hope is to purchase equipment." If CCEF reaches its fund-rais-

ing goal, the foundation would pick up the remaining cost of the laptop program. In the 2006/07 school year, CCEF raised over \$500,000 through parent contributions, bingo, and annual events.

A savings of over \$400,000 in facilities costs was realized by not adding portables to the LVCS campus. Another 128 students will join the student body this vear—one class in the second grade and three classes of eighth graders. To accommodate the new students without additional classroom space, the middle school schedule was adjusted to a six-period day.

Parents of middle school students have expressed concern that LVCS is reverting to a traditional middle school in terms of schedules and subjects taught. One particularly sore area is the lack of an instrumental music program. Batchelor said he has been

(See CHARTER, page 2)

Haggerty Has Harsh Words for Pleasanton

citizen initiatives targeting Staples Ranch were approved by voters, Alameda County will make the land available to Livermore to annex.

That was one of the statements made by County Super-visor Scott Haggerty during his annual State of the County talk. The presentation was made at a Livermore Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

His comments about Staples Ranch included some harsh words for the City of Pleasanton.

"Staples Ranch is of value to Livermore. There are two Pleasanton citizen initiatives being circulated. One would keep the land in open space. The other sets aside 37 acres for an auto mall. If either initiative were approved," Haggerty stated, "the county would give Liver-more the project and the \$3 million in tax revenues each year that goes with it.

'I'm tired of playing around with this. We've messed around with this over and over because of a small group of people. If Livermore doesn't want it, Dublin has said they will take it," said Haggerty. The two Pleasanton citizen

initiatives are viewed by Haggerty and others as a means of blocking the extension of Stoneridge Drive. Without the Staples Ranch development, the demand for the extension and funds for it would be reduced.

Livermore residents must vote to extend their urban growth boundary to annex the planned development.

Stoneridge should be built. A couple of people are making life miserable for the entire Tri-Valley. It's not just about circulation, it's a safety and health issue for Livermore residents trying to get to the hospital for emergency service," declared Haggerty.

The Stoneridge Drive right-of-way is part of Staples Ranch, which is owned by Alameda County. The Pleasanton City Council has agreed to keep the right-of-way in the general plan. If it were ever removed, the land

would revert to the county. Haggerty also discussed the proposed Livermore Valley (See TALK, page 4)



Billy Tonis flies high.

Disability Fails to Douse Athlete's Competitive Fire

Livermore resident Billy Tonis loves sports and the competitive spirit too much to let a disabling injury halt him.

Tonis, 31, was in Orlando, Florida this past July 19-21, participating in the wakeboarding event at the O&P Extremity Games. This was his second time in the Extremity Games; last year he placed third. He finished second this year.

ever, the competitors in the Extremity Games are all athletes with a limb loss or limb disabil-

ity. Tonis played college baseball at Ohlone and San Francisco State and was also a golfer. He was a catcher, good enough to days in ICU. The accident left him with a paralyzed right arm, his throwing arm, from the shoulder down.

He brooded about the life now awaiting him, but his mood soon rebounded. "The competitive spirit was still very much alive in me. The competitive spirit, there's just no replacement for it," Tonis says.

Houston Will Run Against Ally For Supervisorial Seat

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

If either of the Pleasanton

was held last Wednesday in Pleasanton. A dog dressed as Harry Potter took second prize in the costume category.

Renovation Of Veterans Building Nearly Complete

The renovation of the Veter-ans Memorial Building is nearing completion. The temporary construction fencing will be removed this week. The building will remain closed during final construction as finishing and detail work continues through the end of the month.

A rededication ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, October 7 at 1:00 p.m. Following the ceremony, the facility will be open until 5:00 pm for tours.

This \$4.8 million renovation project preserved the building's exterior appearance and restored significant interior features, including many that are historic.

The renovation addressed safety issues by bringing the building into compliance with the current building code, while also upgrading all building systems for program needs, energy efficiency and cost effectiveness.

To seismically strengthen the building, the roof was removed, steel columns were craned into place and attached to the exist-

(See BUILDING, page 3)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen Several fire departments responded to a fire at Cedar Mountain Winery last Tuesday. structures No were threatened by the blaze.

"I'm moving up one rung ev-ery year. I'll be first next year," Tonis says, chuckling.

The Extremity Games are an offshoot of the X-Games, with many of the same events. How-

be recruited by the Chicago White Sox. That prospective career came

to a crashing end in 1998 when he had a motorcycle accident in San Ramon and suffered a devastating brachial plexus injury. The crash severed some of his spinal nerves and snapped his femur in half. Tonis spent five

A buddy took him to a lake and introduced him to wakeboarding. The sport is a water version of snowboarding. "I instantly felt a passion for it. I've been wakeboarding ever

(See ATHLETE, page 3)

Assemblyman Guy Houston will not run for re-election even if term limits are extended. Instead Houston will make a bid to become a Contra Costa County supervisor next year, running against an incumbent who is a former political aide.

Houston is scheduled to be termed out of office next year. He

told the Independent on Monday that even if voters extend term limits for incumbents in an initiative in the presidential primary election Feb. 5, he will not run for another term in the 15th Assembly District. Instead. Houston will oppose supervisor Mary Nejedly Piepho, who was elected

(See HOUSTON, page 4)

Vasco Road Safety **Efforts Move Forward**

Efforts are underway to make Vasco Road safer by straightening a portion of the road.

Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty was joined by other local officials in a groundbreaking ceremony to move two gas lines to accommodate construction of improvements to Vasco Road in unincorporated Livermore.

"Relocating these PG&E gas lines is a prelude to the construc-tion of the County's new section of Vasco Road slated to begin this

Fall," said Haggerty. "It's been almost a decade during which we've worked to advance this project through some especially challenging economic times. It's definitely called for some creative and collaborative efforts to design, fund and construct a road that will help to improve safety for motorists traveling on Vasco Road in Alameda County.'

The new segment will replace 1.3-mile that has winding

(See VASCO, page 2)

Board Candidates Narrowed to Three

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) Board of Directors voted last Wednesday to interview three persons who submitted applications for the seat left vacant by the resignation of Director Dale Turner.

The Board reviewed the appli-cations of six candidates for the vacancy and voted to advance the three for an interview. They are Robert J. Coomber, Jr., Corey L. Nelson and Beth Wilson. The applicants were interviewed at the Wednesday, August 8 meeting. Following the interviews that evening, the Board may make a selection to fill the vacant seat. The meeting took place after The Independent's deadline.

Other candidates, who were not selected as finalists, are former board member Alice Quinn, Stan Peters, and Mark Ťhrailkill.

Last week, the Board voted to appoint Director Steve Goodman as the panel's Presi-dent. The Board also voted to elect Director Maryalice Faltings to the position of Vice-President.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Helping to plant young vines were Anastasia Bendebury and Yulia Bendebury.

New Vineyard Planted at Las Positas College

Students and faculty director David Everett planted grapevines at Las Positas College's new vineyard.

The 3-acre vineyard will be-

come a hands-on classroom that students will use as part of Las Positas' viticulture and winery technology program. The college offers 16 courses in this program

designed to prepare graduates to work in the wine industry.

The three-year-old program was started to support the Liver-(See VINEYARDS, page 3)

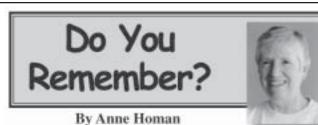
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PETS OF THE WEEK

Cowboy and his brothers are just three of a large selection of adorable kittens available for adoption at Valley Humane Society. They are all well socialized, healthy, and cuddly. All cats and kittens, dogs and puppies available from Valley Humane have been spayed or neutered, micro-chipped, dewormed, and have their ageappropriate vaccinations. For more information about our kittens, call Valley Humane Society at 925-426-8656, or visit them at our Adoption Center at 3670 Nevada St. in Pleasanton's Stanley Business Park Wed-Sun 11 am-5 pm. Valley Humane Society holds mobile pet adoptions for dogs at Pet Extreme in Livermore every Saturday Afrom 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.



The Irish in Murray Township

The six-year-old grabbed the worn rope handle of the wooden bucket his mother handed him and followed the path to the side yard of the cottage, where the potato pit had been dug. Whis-tling, he swung the bucket back and forth as he walked, as high as he could stretch, like a pendulum gone amok. He knelt to peel back the straw covering the pit, reached in, and stirred the loose dirt, feeling for a potato. He pulled one out, but instead of drop-ping it in the bucket, he remained stock still, staring at the stink-ing black mass that melted in his hand. Disgusted, he threw it on the ground and reached in the dirt several more times, only to find more of the same rotting substance.

With a partial crop failure in 1845, the nightmarish saga of invasion of Ireland by potato blight began. By 1846 the disease had affected the potato crop of the entire country. The results were catastrophic. The potato, introduced from South America 200 years earlier, had become the mainstay of the Irish diet. Potato blight is caused by a fungus with tiny spores that can quickly and imperceptibly infect an entire healthy field of growing potatoes. Often the harvested potatoes appeared fine when first stored in the pits; only later did the rotting effects of the disease appear.

To make matters worse, the winter of 1846-47 proved to be the coldest and most prolonged that Ireland had known. Then the blight struck again in 1848. The toll: more than a million and a half people in a country of eight million died of starvation or from problems exacerbated by lack of nourishing food. Another million chose to emigrate between 1845 and 1851, many to the United States.

The 1880 Alameda County census shows that the Irish were by far the largest group of foreign-born settlers in Murray Township. Often, they followed the usual custom of many immigrants by sending travel money back to Ireland for their relatives and friends to follow in their footsteps. Even the name of our township is Irish, named for the first member of the family, Michael Murray, who came in here in 1850 and bought property from José María Amador. He served as Alameda County Supervisor in 1860 and 1861. His relatives from County Roscommon soon arrived, and their descendants still remain, longtime sheepmen, farmers and cattlemen in the valley

Dublin itself is said to have been named for its large Irish population. John Green emigrated from County Longford in 1851. He arrived in California in 1858 and by 1862 had paid Michael Murray for his property. Green built a general store and a hotel in the 1860s at the southeast and southwest corners respectively of what is now Dublin Boulevard and Donlon Way, then the main arteries for north/south and east/west travel. He served for many years as the Dublin postmaster and was elected Alameda County Supervisor from 1863 to 1866 and again from 1877 to 1882. Greenville Road in Livermore is named for him because he had another store in that area on the old Stockton Road.

Livermore also had its share of Irish immigrants. John McGlinchey came in 1882 from Donegal, Ireland, to Canada and then traveled by train cross-country to Livermore. He raised sheep in the Corral Hollow area. McGlinchey was one of the founders of the Stockmen's Protective Association, formed in 1904 to prevent and fight fires, control hunting and address other mutual problems in local rural areas. McGlinchey was elected president and organized the fire crews. Eventually he was appointed county fire warden and developed the Alameda County Fire Patrol. He fought more than 2,000 fires in his lifetime. Under his leadership, the stockmen also took on the challenge in 1918 of sponsoring the Livermore rodeo.

Another sheepman, Michael Mulqueeney, who had emigrated from County Clare, Ireland, was running his flocks on 4,000 acres in the Altamont hills near Midway by 1882. The Alameda County History of 1883 called him "the acknowledged king of that industry in this section of the state, having from five to eight thousand head of sheep on his range." He acquired more land, and eventually his descendants switched from sheep to cattle. Today, they also have many windmills on their property.

Perhaps the most famous person to come to our valley from Ireland was James Concannon. He was born on St. Patrick's Day in 1847, to a Gaelic-speaking fisherman's family on Inisman, one of the windswept Aran Islands west of Galway Bay. He immigrated to the United States when he was 18, eventually coming to

VASCO

(continued from page one)

curves, lacks guardrails and has restricted sight distance. There will also be median barriers. This project will reconstruct the roadway on a new and improved alignment and grade, provide wider shoulders and add a truck/ bus climbing lane to improve traffic operations and safety.

The segment is near the Vasco Landfill in Alameda County.

The first phase of the project includes the relocation of two natural gas pipelines by Pacific Gas and Electric Company. In order to straighten out the section of roadway, PG&E will relocate a 24" and one 36" natural gas pipelines that run through the area. The preliminary location and preparation for the relocation of the pipelines is already underway.

Some 20,000 vehicles travel the two-lane Vasco Road each day. Sixteen people have died in collisions on the road since 2003.

According to the California Highway Patrol, speeding driv-ers cause most Vasco Road accidents. Because of the limited passing lanes on the road, tailgating is also a major problem.

Supervisor Haggerty com-mented during his state of the county talk that Alameda County is designing the new road with a median barrier. "We will not see cross-over head-ons in the future." Haggerty added, "We can build the best roads in the world. We can't build for stupidity.

Vasco Road is a regional roadway that has become the primary access between job centers in the Tri-Valley area of Alameda

CHARTER (continued from page one)

talking with Brenda Miller, Superintendent of the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District, about sharing resources so LVCS can offer instrumental music as an elective for middle school students. One issue is hiring a teacher for just one class a

day. This change also led to a shortened school day for all students except kindergartners. Middle school students will be released at 2:25 p.m. rather than 3 p.m. Students in grades 1-5 will be released at 2:45 p.m., rather than 3:15 p.m.

Even with the shortened school day, LVCS' academic program still far exceeds state standards for educational minutes. Kindergarteners receive 43,680 instructional minutes per year, compared with the state minimum of 36,000. Students in grades 1-8 will receive approxi-

Meet and Greet 'Les' Knott at the Park

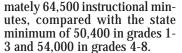
August 11 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Residents of five develop-

ments near the Lester J. "Les" Knott Neighborhood Park are inCounty and residences in the southern portion of east Contra Costa County. The upgrades are expected to improve traffic flow and safety and facilitate express and regular bus service between the two counties.

The estimated costs of the project is \$30 million. Funding for the project has been secured from Alameda County, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA), the Alameda County Transportation Improve-ment Authority (ACTIA), the East County [Contra Costa] Transportation Improvement Authority (ECTIA), and federal earmark funding included in SAFETEA-LU. Additional support for the project is being sought from fed-eral sources, State Transportation Improvement Project (STIP), as well as the ECTIA and Alameda's Tri-Valley Transportation Council (TVTČ).

The realignment is just an-other step in efforts to improve safety on the road.

In 2006, Brentwood and Livermore police departments received a two-year grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to step up traffic enforcement on Vasco Road. The funds provide about 25 hours of overtime pay per week to be split between the two police departments. In Au-gust of 2006, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a bill that doubled fines for traffic violations along the corridor. Rumble strips and vertical delineators were added to the road in the past couple of years.



LVJUSD offers 36,000 instructional minutes for kindergarten in all elementary schools except Marylin and Portola, which have extended day programs. Students in grades 1-8 re-

ceive approximately 53,000-56,000 instructional minutes per year, with exact amounts varying by school site. The LVCS calendar for the 2007/08 school year was also adjusted. December 21 was added to the winter break, which lasts through Jan. 4 (students re-turn to school on Jan. 7). A scheduled three-day break in early March so that teachers could at-

tend a charter school conference has been cancelled. The last day of school, which was originally planned for June 13, will be on June 12, the same as LVJUSD.



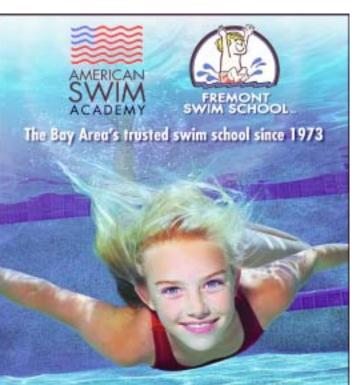
Lester J. Knott Neighborhood





Glass and Passports \$30 On the day of the event at Lizzie Fountain (corner of First Street and Livermore Avenue) vino Cellars and Accessories, 1772 First Street ohn Christopher Cellars, 25 S. Liverma \$25 Pre-Sale Glasses and Passports *N* partonet by Augus Vino Cellars and Accessories, 1772 First Street John Christopher Cellars, 25 5. Livermore Ave Livermore Downtown Inc., 2060 Second Street Pre-Sale Tickets Available online a www.livermoredowntown.com Already have your Official 2007 Livermore Wine Country Festival Glass? Your passport is just \$20 on the day of the event or \$15 Pre-Sale? live.shop.play.dine. Livermore Downtown Inc. 2060 Second Street, Livermore, CA 94550 (925) 373-1795 www.livermondowntown.com Sponsored by: The City of Livermore,

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Livermore in 1883 to plant his first vineyard and establish his winery. This year, his grandson, Jim Concannon, published a beautiful history of the winery, Concannon.

Isabel Nolte has also published a book recently, The Early Pioneers in the Livermore Valley Were One Big Family; it covers many local Irish families, including the Armstrongs, Callaghans, Colliers, Croaks, Doolans, Fallons, Gallaghers, Kellys, Moys and Twoheys. It is available from the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society.

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

College to Host Expo on August 14

Las Positas College (LPC) in Livermore will host Expo LPC 2007 on Tuesday, August 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

Expo LPC is a one-half unit college orientation that includes a tour of the 147-acre campus, a preview to college life, college success strategies, important academic information, an opportunity to meet faculty, staff and fellow students, food, and fun activities.

All new and re-entry students enrolled in 6 or more units are encouraged to register for the August 14 Expo orientation (PSCN 24 section - course code CRN# 20955).

For more information, please call Veronica Jennings at (925) 424-1421 or the Counseling of-

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fice at (925) 424-1400.

Knott served on the LARPD Board of Directors from 1958-1982. He turned 89 years old on July 31, 2007. Residents in the

vited to attend.

Park is located at 655 N. Mines Road, Livermore. There is a tot lot, barbecue pits, picnic tables and a basketball court. The event will include a visit from Sparkles the Clown from noon to 2 p.m.

Janice Pementel "Thanks Dad"

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AVENTINE

VALLEY ROUNDUP

McNerney Chamber Speaker

Congressman Jerry McNerney will discuss the latest issues in Washington D.C. at the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Tues., Aug. 28 luncheon.

McNerney was sworn into office on January 4, 2007. He serves in the U.S. House of Representatives representing California's 11th District, which includes parts of San Joaquin County in the Central Valley as well as parts of Contra Costa, Alameda and Santa Clara Counties in the Bay Area.

The luncheon will be held at Wente Vineyards in the Cresta Blanca room, 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Chamber Luncheons are open to the community. Cost is \$30 per person for members; \$35 for non-members. Limited space available. For reservations, call (925) 846-5858.

Texas A&M Affliated with Lab

The Texas A&M University System last week announced its affiliation with Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC (LLNS), which was selected in May to be the management and operations contractor for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL).

The Texas A&M System is an academic affiliate of LLNS, a management team that includes Bechtel National, Inc., the University of California, BWX Technologies, Inc., Washington Group International, Inc and Battelle. The A&M System's role, subject to DOE approval, will be to operate an institute at LLNL dedicated to national security education and research. The concept paper to establish the institute was presented

and discussed last week at the regular meeting of the A&M System Board of Regents.

Once approved, the institute will collaborate with LLNS to develop educational and research programs in three areas: detection and prevention of the proliferation of nuclear and radiological weapons; large-scale computer simulations of complex physical processes; and homeland and international security. The institute also will collaborate with LLNS to develop a multidisciplinary educational program.

Three A&M System members—Texas A&M University, the Texas Engineering Experiment Station and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station—are partners in the System's academic alliance with LLNS. The collaboration is led by Marvin Adams, associate vice president for research and professor of nuclear engineering at Texas A&M University. Adams is slated to become director of the institute when it is officially established by the A&M System Board of Regents.

Faculty in several colleges at Texas A&M will participate in the collaboration, including the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Bush School of Government and Public Service, Dwight Look College of Engineering, College of Science and College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Also involved in the institute are the Integrative Center for Homeland Security, the Nuclear Security Science and Policy Institute and the Center for Large-Scale Scientific Simulations, all located at Texas A&M. Other A&M System universities involved with the institute are Prairie View A&M University and Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

BUILDING (continued from page one)

ing concrete walls; the roof was then seismically sheeted with plywood and the original hand fabricated terra cotta barrel were replaced. Lighting upgrades were added. Both fire protection and security systems were installed, and air conditioning and heating systems added, without impact to the historical integrity of the facility.

The building has been made accessible to the disabled by the

The City will move the veterorities. ans' organizations back into the

addition of ramps at all entrances.

building in mid-September. As part of the renovation, the two rooms dedicated for use by the Veterans' of Pleasanton (VOP) organization - comprised of VFW Post 6298 and Ladies Auxiliary, and American Legion Post 237 – have been improved.

The renovation project was

\$38,800. At that time, a dedication ceremony featured a five-

> Legion representatives. Community leaders were present, including Alameda County Attorney General Earl Warren, who later became Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

one of the five city council pri-

The building was first completed in 1933 at a cost of Holland. piece orchestra and American Tonis is married. He and wife Allison moved to Livermore from Dublin about a year ago. Their household includes a sweet, gentle 5-year-old pit bull

named Jade. The wakeboarding season runs about nine months, beginning around March and continuing to December, with a winter break when the lakes and Delta waters turn cold.

Tonis is out there every weekend. He competes in Advanced, one of the higher categories.

The highest is Outlaw. Tonis says the Outlaw competition is for pros and is beyond his abilities

He is proud to be good enough to compete in Advanced. In the competitions he commonly places in the top three. With his disability, no one would begrudge him if he competed in a lower category. "I could do that and bring home a lot of first place trophies, but I'd rather be in competition that challenges me. I do pretty good," Tonis explains. He goes wakeboarding with three friends, Jarrod Ehlers of Castro Valley, Evan Brown of Dublin and Allen Bischofberger of Tracy. "They motivate me.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Monday marked the 62nd anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Anti-nuclear activists gathered at the West Gate of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to commemorate the day. The gathering, which included poetry, music and spoken word, ended with an air raid siren and moment of silence at 8:15 a.m., the time of day the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Several protestors were arrested for blocking access to the Lab. In the photo, some of the demonstrators are drawing outlines of "nuclear victims" on the road. Among those on hand for the event was Daniel Ellsberg.

ATHLETE (continued from page one)

since," he says.

Tonis has become so engrossed in wakeboarding that he says. has co-founded a business, CIE Sports, devoted to the sport. It markets wakeboarding gear and is active in promoting the sport nationwide - indeed, worldwide. Tonis says wakeboarding is spreading. He has met wakeboarders from Germany and

They push me to do my best. I really owe them a lot," Tonis Jarrod Ehlers sits nearby, lis-

tening. He says, "Billy is known throughout the industry. He's known for what he does and how he does it. All the pros know him. He has the reputation of being a top-notch athlete. Billy has to live with that disability, but he doesn't let it slow him down.





VINEYARD (continued from page one)

more Valley wine industry. The wineries range from the pioneer wineries of Wente Vineyards and Concannon Vineyards that have operated for more than 120 years to wineries established in the last few years.

The local Livermore wineries have welcomed Las Positas students into their facilities to take part in a work exchange program and have donated materials as well as provided advice, said David Everett, faculty/program coordinator of viticulture and be enough vines planted of each variety to make a minimum of one barrel of wine, which will also offer valuable blending opportunities.

"This is more of a research vineyard site as opposed to production for cash flow," Everett said. "We will experiment and see what works. One goal is to provide answers for valley vintners. Lots of people don't have the opportunity to do trials and experiments and see what works. In the name of education, we don't have to worry about failing. Failing can give as many good answers as succeeding," he said. Once the vines are mature and producing, plans call for the enology department to make wine. Eventually, the college plans to sell both grapes and bottled wine

also wine programs at Santa Rosa and Modesto community colleges.

For further information, please contact David Everett, faculty/ program coordinator of viticulture and winery technology department, at (925) 285-3954 cell or by email deverett@laspositascollege.edu.

Deadline Friday to File for Election The deadline for candidates

vinery technology department.

"The vineyard will be a handson classroom where students can learn principles and disciplines and really experience a Livermore vineyard during class time," Everett said.

About 60 students are currently enrolled in the viticulture program at Las Positas. Some are pursuing a track that will lead to further studies in winemaking, while others are working on the grape-growing and winery operations track.

Napa Community College has just received its bonding approval from the state and now can sell its wine at retail. There are

to file for Livermore city council or mayor for the November 6, 2007 election is tomorrow Friday, August 10 at 5:00 p.m.

As of Tuesday, incumbents Mayor Marshall Kamena, Councilmembers Lorraine Dietrich and Marj Leider had filed. The only other candidate is Jeff Williams, who is running for council.

Nomination papers are available at the city clerk's office in city hall.

Rates quoted are Annual Percentage Yield (APY). Interest is compounded daily Minimum CD deposit required to obtain this rate is \$10,000. This offer is for a limited time only. The Bank reserves the right to change or cease this offer at its sole discretion any time without prior notice. Penalty for early withdrawal. Offer expires August 17, 2007.



You can View up to 12 Livermore Homes in one afternoon!

Patti's Tour of Homes is a quick and easy way to preview many homes in couple of hours without any pressure or hassle. This tour includes homes that are listed, new development, and ones that are for sale by owners.

My Tour of Homes is a great way to get an overview of what homes and features are available in your price range. My Tour of Homes operates very differently from a traditional open house. Traditional open houses are sometimes uncomfortable for both buyers and sellers because you've often got a hovering agent watching your every move.

In contrast, my well-organized & customized Tour of Homes are much more convenient and productive for both buyers and sellers. We found that most buyers can determine within a very short time-frame whether or not they're interested in a home they've previewed. If you see a home on the tour that you're interested in, a second private showing can easily be scheduled for you (often the same day).

Upon your registration, my House Hunter will begin hunting for houses that match your price range & criteria. Homes found that match your price range & criteria will be featured on the tour. We will conduct one tour of eight to twelve homes. The tours run between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., you meet us at a specific location, board an air conditioned shuttle van, receive a feature sheet of each property and enjoy the tour. It's that simple and FREE!

To register go to bayareahomeinfoonline.com or call for pre-recorded information (800) 591-1247, enter ID 2073 or call direct (925) 640-2645. Check my web page for FREE information & reports that will help you in your real estate buying or selling process.

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Envirian



EDITORIALS

Bus Rapid Transit

As one of their topmost priorities, local transit planners want to improve access to BART for Valley residents.

This goal received a big boost with the recent announcement by Congressmembers Jerry McNerney and Ellen Tauscher that the 2008 federal budget will include \$3.5 million to create a bus rapid transit route between the Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

The route will make stops in Pleasanton and Livermore, but will skip many of the stops made on the regular routes.

"Offering commuters a viable, quick, easy-to-use option will help relieve some congestion on I-580, which resembles a parking lot during morning and afternoon rush hours," remarked McNerney.

We applaud the two congressmembers for securing the federal money and our local planners for their efforts. While bus rapid transit won't be as rapid as BART rail, it will provide a good substitute until the rail can be extended to Livermore.

Obnoxious Plant To Move

An agreement has been reached that will result in the relocation of Granite Construction's asphalt batch plant early next year.

The plant will move to a site on Stanley Boulevard where no residential neighborhoods exist near enough to suffer the operation's noise and smells.

The asphalt plant, located near homes in the Vineyard Avenue corridor, was built under a grandfathered county permit from the 1950s, with minimum review. A furious outcry arose from the residents of the area. The Pleasanton City Council put pressure on the county, leading to negotiations by the county planning department.

In a tentative settlement, the company agreed to relocate the plant in 2009. The final agreement, which the Alameda County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved last week, calls for the relocation to take place a year earlier, in January or February of 2008.

The plant should never have been permitted where it was built in the first place. However, though the county erred on that matter, it acted in the residents' interest during the negotiations.

The agreement brings the issue to a satisfactory conclusion. With the relocation slated to take place in six or seven months, the obnoxious noises and odors should soon be gone.

HOUSTON (continued from page one)

in November 2004 in the county's Third District.

Like Houston, Piepho is a Republican, and was an aide to former Republican Assembly-woman Lynn Leach. Piepho was hired by Houston for the first year after he succeeded Leach. She left Houston's staff to run for the supervisorial seat.

Piepho said that Houston gave her before announcing that he would run against her. "It's very disappointing. We welcome the challenge. We had a tough battle last time. My record stands on its own. I think I represented the valley very well," said

Piepho. Piepho said that six months ago, Houston encouraged her to run for his seat, declaring that her Discovery Bay residence is in the middle of his Assembly district. He would run for her seat. However, she said that she wanted to "stay where I am, and finish the job I started with the county. It takes time." Furthermore, she doesn't want to be far away from her daughter and husband, a firefighter who works 24-hour shifts. She said she heard nothing further until Houston's phone call last week.

Houston said, "The rest of the story was that six months ago I hosted a luncheon in Dublin for all of the potential candidates for the Assembly seat. I invited 14 or 15 people. She chose not to attend." The luncheon was to inform everyone "what it takes to

run." Those who did show included LARPD board member Scott Kamena, San Ramon Mayor Abram Wilson, former 18th As-sembly District candidate Jill Buck, Alameda County supervisor Scott Haggerty, Pleasanton resident Judy Biviano Lloyd and Livermore resident Robert Rao. All but Haggerty are running for the Republican nomination, and have been raising money, as re-ported in a related story in

today's Independent. HOUSTON EYED OTHER **RACES FIRST**

Houston said that he has ap-proximately \$300,000 cash on hand from two campaign committees. One is Friends of Guy Houston, the other is a continuation of his 2006 Assembly campaign committee. He estimated the supervisors race will cost \$500,000.

GOP Hopefuls Take Big Lead In 15th AD Fund-raising

Republicans are raising big money. Democrats lag far behind in the funding race for the party primaries next June in the 15th Assembly District.

The money disparity is a sign that Republicans appear more comfortable about their chances of winning the seat that will be vacated next year by Republican incumbent Guy Houston, when term limits will force him out.

Houston told the Independent

from others in the period. He has no loans. Expenditures were \$26,909, leaving an ending cash balance of \$236,617.

Last year, Kamena collected the difference between that amount, \$122,654, and the activity in the first six months of this year. In counting all of the dollars, including self loans, Robert Rao of Livermore leads the field in accumulated funds, with \$247,900. During the first six months of this year, he reported \$153,200. However, \$100,000 collected this year was his own loan to his campaign. That cuts the contributions from other donors down to \$53,200 for the period, and the accumulated total to \$147,900. San Ramon Mayor Abram Wilson reports having \$113,400 cash on hand, after expenditures of \$3100. He collected \$113,400 during the first six months. However, §95,000 of it was in the form of loans to his campaign in May and July. The only Republican who has not reported is Joseph Rubay of Alamo.

contribution of \$600 from the Teamsters Union, had declared an intention to run for the 20th Assembly District seat. She said this week that she is not a candidate. Her most recent campaign collection was for her unsuccessful 2006 primary election race for lieutenant governor. The commit-tee to raise funds for it has been terminated.

Last year, Houston considered running for the state equalization board. It held some appeal for him. "However, after a lot of soul-searching, coming back closer to home, and really having an impact on the (county) board, was best for me. I think I am doing what is best for me, and Contra Costa County. I'm not running against her. I'm running

for supervisor," said Houston. Houston had gone to Washington for an interview with the Republican National Congressional Committee (RNCC) for the congressional seat held by Democrat Jerry McNerney of Pleasanton. However, the RNCC decided to back Dean Andal, a former San Joaquin County Assemblyman.

According to Houston, "At the state and national level, they think the more conservative candidate (Andal) will be the more successful one. Rather than have a big, bloody primary battle that would jeopardize both our chances, the best thing would be that we not have a big fight." Houston said that he has not

endorsed anyone for his Assembly seat. "There is a fine crop of people running for that seat. We have Scott Kamena. He did a fine job (on the LARPD board), and Abram Wilson, mayor of San Ramon, just entered the race. He probably has the best name identification. Judy Lloyd was appointed to the Department of Labor in the Bush administra-tion. She did a good job of fund-raising. Robert Rao lives in Livermore, and put lot of his own resources into this. It should be a good campaign. I don't know if I'll do something (support a candidate) by primary time. My inclination is to help in the gen-eral campaign," Houston said. Houston said that he wants to

bring his experience to bear on what he called an intermediate level, after serving as Dublin mayor and then assemblyman. He said that his motivation for running is that the county faces a \$2.5 billion deficit in funds for future county retirees. The situation needs to be dealt with. The problem arose in 2001, when contracts were negotiated, he said.

Houston said that he has the endorsements of Sheriff Warren Rupf, assessor Gus Kramer and county treasurer Bill Pollacek. He said that Kramer is a Democrat and the others are Republicans. "I'm glad to receive bipar-

tisan support," he said. SOME VOTERS KEEP **EYE ON PARTIES**

Piepho won the supervisor seat in 2004, defeating Demo-cratic incumbent Millie Greenberg, a former Danville mayor who had been appointed to the seat by former Democratic Gov. Gray Davis. The seat was vacant because Democrat Donna Gerber resigned to take a nurses'

union lobbying job. Her fellow board members had drawn redistricting lines so that Gerber picked up a b chunk of rural east county, which made it difficult for a Democratic environmentalist like Gerber to win re-election. Although the office is officially non-partisan, many Contra Costa voters keep an eye on the party affiliations and the politics associated with them.

the primary, although 50 percent plus one vote would be needed. If the vote goes to a November run-off between a Democrat and a Republican, the Republican would be favored, at least on the

basis of party registration. U.G.B. HASN'T STOPPED **ALL GROWTH QUESTIONS**

Piepho said that with an initiative in place which set an urban growth boundary, the old development questions that involved Gerber so much don't come up anymore, except for what she said were relatively mi-

LARPD Eyes Alternative Energy to Heat Pool

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is looking into ways to reduce the cost of energy at the Robert Liver-more Community Center, particularly the cost of heating the pools.

The community center PG&E bill averages over \$22,000 a month.

The LARPD heard a presentation by David Ross of BSA Architects on several alternatives including a cogeneration system, solar panels, and photovoltaic (PV).

Cogeneration produces elec-trical power through a gas-fed internal combustion engine. Its heat emissions are used to heat the pool water through a heat transfer process. A solar water heating panel system uses solar radiation to heat the pool water. A PV system uses solar cells to capture solar radiation and convert it to usable electrical power.

Ross evaluated each of the systems for initial investment, hardware, and payback. "Two front runners emerged. PV clearly is very green and has enormous potential It doesn't provide a quick payback. Since LARPD is in the public sector, it can't take advantage of tax write-offs for the system," said Ross.

The cogeneration system is the best from a financial performance. It could be used in conjunction with solar panels. The initial cost is lower. The manufacturer sustains the system, providing replacements and repairs. The system is the most efficient of the systems in producing energy in power and heat, since it

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

tions to the local cultural arts scene over the past decades.

It also serves as a lasting reminder of a historic Valley family's deep roots in the area, and their continuing dedication to its progress.

Roots in our past plus visions for our future – such a beautiful combination represented by this

nor subdivisions "here and there.

Supervisors agreed two weeks ago to examine a proposal to develop 770 acres east of Danville and San Ramon, and extend the UGB beyond the area so that it could develop, or to allow homes to be built outside of the UGB. The request is opposed by envi-ronmentalists, including Save Mount Diablo. A second request last week was proposed for 30 acres in El Sobrante, near EBPD's Kennedy Regional EBRPD's Kennedy Regional Grove

can be efficient all year round. "The unknown is the cost of natural gas in the future. That is a factor that could hinder the performance of the system over time,' Ross explained. The set-up cost is \$240,000, which would be show a payback in 7.5 years

Solar panels are technically simple and truly a renewable en-ergy source. The panels can replace the need of using gas-heated boilers completely May through August. There is a low initial investment cost and the initial payback is shorter. However, the system would run out of warranty in 10 years and would likely have to be replaced in 15 to 17 years. The initial cost is estimated at \$140,000 with payback in 6.5 years.

The PV system is also environmentally friendly. However, it has the longest estimated payback time and requires a lot of space. It is also the most expensive at about \$1.2 million.

He suggested that the board consider green factors as an issue. Solar uses a renewable source. There is also the potential to combine one or more of the systems. For example, PV and solar panels together would cost \$240,000 to install and have a payback of 8.5 years. "These are two really terrific green strategies.

Board President Steve Goodman said he believes that being green is important.

LARPD staff will evaluate the report and bring back a proposed budget for each option. The board will then make a decision on how to proceed.

on Monday that even if voters extend term limits in the presidential primary Feb. 5, he will not seek to extend his term. Instead Houston is committed to running against his former Assembly staff aide, incumbent Contra Costa supervisor Mary Piepho of Discovery Bay, as reported in another story today in the Independent.

Although the Republicans have only a 2 percentage point edge in voter registration (40%) to 38%), the 15th AD is considered to lean their way because historically a higher percentage of Republican voters has turned out to vote. Houston has won his races handily.

Among Republicans, the lead-ing fund-raiser during the report's time-span from Jan. 1 to June 30 was Judy Biviano Lloyd of Pleasanton. However, Scott Kamena has collected the most money overall.

After the reporting deadline of July 31, Secretary of State Debra Bowen's web pages showed that Lloyd leads in collecting monetary donations from others, without any loans to her herself. Lloyd reported collecting \$153,700 during the period, with \$23,800 in expenditures, and \$134,800 in ending cash balance.

Lloyd, who worked in the Labor Department during the Bush administration, named former Republican presidential nomi-nee Robert Dole as a donor at \$1,000. William Lacy, director of the Dole Institute at University of Kansas, also donated \$1000. Lloyd received several \$3600 donations, including one from the Presidential Coalition LLC in Washington, and another from her husband, Timothy Lloyd. He is president and CEO of Altamont Solutions, Inc., a firm owned by Judy and Timothy Lloyd.

Scott Kamena, member of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) board, filed a report of \$140,874 in contributions during the period, giv-ing him second place in funding

FILSON LEADS DEMOCRATS WITH \$35,000

The Democrats are not finding such green acres on the campaign trail. Democrat Steve Filson of Danville, who ran in the congressional primary in 2006, and lost to Rep. Jerry McNerney, reported collecting \$35,300. His ending cash balance on June 30 was \$31,200.

Steve Thomas of Danville, who also ran in the 2006 congressional primary, has raised \$1125 during the period, spent \$996, and reports a cash balance of \$128. Alamo resident Joan Buchanan announced only a month ago that she was running, and has not reported any donations.

Democrats who said they are in the race, but who have not reported receiving any donations yet are Granada High School principal Chris Van Schaack, Davies Ononiwu of Elk Grove, and Frederic Klaske.

Terry Coleman, who ran in 2006 for the Assembly seat, was incorrectly reported last week as seeking a seat, but he is not. His fund-raising campaign for his run in 2006 has been terminated.

In the 20th AD, which includes Sunol and part of south Pleasanton, Democratic incumbent Alberto Torrico reported col-lecting \$301,300, spending \$107,200, and winding up with cash on hand of \$236,700.

The Independent incorrectly stated last week that former Sen. Liz Figueroa, who reported a



ValleyCare **Seats New Board Members**

ValleyCare Health System Board of Directors seated two new Board members to three-year terms at its recent annual meeting. They are Dick Fischer, atlarge seat, and John Louie, M.D., physician seat B.

Appointed to a vacant at-large seat, Fischer currently serves as vice president and Chief Financial Officer of ProRhythm, Inc., an emerging medical device company that is developing high intensity focused ultrasound svstems for the minimally-invasive treatment of Atrial Fibrillation. Previously, he served as CFO for EndoSonics, a company that provided ultrasound imaging tools for use by physicians in coronary stenting. He also has served as CFO for Microgenics Corporation, a company providing specialized immunoassay diagnostic tests for use in hospital laboratories. Prior to his experience with health care companies, Fischer served in senior financial management positions at a number of Silicon Valley high-technology companies. He holds an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and a California CPA license. Fischer and his wife, Jean, reside in the Tassajara Valley south of Danville where they have made their home for the past 30 years.

Dr. Louie was elected by the medical staff to serve as a physician representative to the Board for a three-year term. This is his first term serving on the Board of Directors. He is a board certified physician specializing in family medicine. Dr. Louie has been associated with ValleyCare since 1993. An active physician, Louie has served on a number of medical staff committees and was chief of staff from 1999-2000, and department chief in 1996 and 1997.

He is affiliated with Tri-Valley Physicians medical practice, and sees patients at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. A graduate of Stanford University, Louie received his medical degree from UCLA and completed his residency at Kaiser, Sunset Division in Los Angeles. With both Piepho and Hous-ton on the ballot, the two might split the Republican vote. A Democrat could win the seat in

TALK (continued from page one)

1800-seat regional performing arts theater in downtown Livermore, transportation infrastructure, the county budget, and the Stoneridge Drive extension.

The county budget, Haggerty noted, "Has been improving. This year we only had to cut \$52 million. The final budget is \$2.2 billion. The trend is in the right direction. In 2005, we cut \$92 million; the budget was for \$2.18 billion. The state could still impact us.

When it comes to the performing arts center, Haggerty declared, "The county is proud to help in this endeavor." He went on to discuss the Altamont Landfill settlement agreement that includes a 25 cent host impact fee on each ton of garbage dis-posed of at the landfill. "The fa-cility is in the county. The fee could have come to the county. However, we felt that Livermore was impacted more," said Haggerty. He estimated the fee would generate \$20 million towards the performing arts center, which includes both the 500seat Bankhead Theater and the

1800-seat regional theater. 'The city has done a phenomenal job. It is moving ahead with studies on the regional theater. This is not something that happened overnight. It has taken de-cades of work by a lot of people to reach this point." He added, "The theater will be part of the fabric that makes Livermore greater than it is already."

Traffic is an ongoing issue with I-580 the second and third worst commutes. Haggerty credited efforts by Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena and the Chamber in helping to obtain funding for local transportation projects from the state. Projects that have received funding include HOV

publication of their letters delayed.)

Bankhead Family Susan Steinberg Livermore

What a grand gesture for the Bankhead family to give such a generous donation to the new Performing Arts Center.

publish letters without names.

Frequent letter writers may have

It is a gift to the Valley community in so many ways, permanently enshrining matriarch Evelyn Bankhead's contribu-

lanes on I-580 and the Isabel/580

While construction takes place on 580, traffic will become extremely difficult. The county has already added reader boards and light metering to help with the traffic flow. Work will begin in the next two years on the in-terchange. It will take about two years to build.

Future plans call for truck climbing lanes over the Altamont. Haggerty noted that traffic over the Altamont is expected to increase by 90 percent by 2030. Add to that projections that the Port of Oakland will handle three times the number of containers. "Think about trucks and following them," said Haggerty.

Currently, Haggerty serves as vice-chairman of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). He will be the next chairman. He said when it comes to future road projects, "We are \$230 million short.

He discussed BART to Livermore, calling it an extremely frustrating project. "I haven't been able to get it into the capital improvement project program. It takes many years to as-semble the kind of money needed to build the extension to Livermore." The cost is estimated at \$1.2 billion.

There is \$100 million available to purchase the right-of-way needed for the extension. That will begin soon.

"We are working on truck climbing lanes. The cost is \$80 million. While there is money available, it comes with a 50 per-cent match requirement. MTC wants to take the money set aside for BART to Livermore. Right now we are trying to look at other ways to fund the match," said

civic-minded family.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if other local families with longterm ties to our Valley also stepped up to the plate with important contributions. Imagine having all those historic family names prominently represented in our ongoing heritage legacy!

It's a glorious vision, and I hope more of our "first families" will embrace it as their own.

Haggerty. Highway 84 improvements to Pigeon Pass, which include a truck climbing lane, are under-way and will be completed in 2011. The widening of Isabel (designated as Highway 84) from Jack London to Ruby Hill is also planned. However, when it comes to widening the remainder of 84, Haggerty stated, "We will have an environmental fight on our hands. Caltrans believes it can get it done.'

Haggerty explained that at one point, Highway 84 improvements were removed from projects planned for the Tri-Val-ley, "because of one city. We felt the improvements should not be done unless Stoneridge Drive were extended. At the last CMA meeting, we added 84 back in. The improvements will stay as long as Pleasanton moves forward on Stoneridge Drive.

He commented on several other issues. Efforts will continue to try to beautify Stanley Boulevard along the quarry area.

Haggerty does not support the initiative to rebuild Children's Hospital. He said that the initiative, authored by Children's Hospital Oakland, does not indicate where the hospital would be built. It could be outside the county, leaving local taxpayers with the bill to pay for the bonds.

The bonds were another issue. Haggerty pointed out that the hospital board has not worked with the county on the initiative. What it means is that if the initiative were approved, the county would have to provide the bonds to build the hospital. That would take up most of the county's bonding capacity. If we wanted to rebuild Highland Hospital, which is needed, we wouldn't be able to do it.

interchange.

SHORT NOTES

Meteor Shower

Spend an Evening with the Per-seids on Sat., August 11.

The 13th of August will be the peak of the Perseid meteor shower this year. After the sun sets meet at 8:45 p.m. in the Sycamore Grove parking lot for a walk out into the park. Bring blankets and some warm clothes since we will be

out for about 2 hours. This program is presented by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. A \$2 donation is requested to help support the pro-grams. Please call (925) 960-2400 for more information.

First Celiac Camp

Imagine being a kid at a birthday party and having to shy away from cake and cupcakes. Or being a teenager at a pizza parlor with friends and having to call your mom to bring you a special gluten free feed. For children living with celiac disease, this is a reality.

Celiac disease is a digestive disease that damages the small intestine and interferes with absorption of nutrients from food. People who have the disease cannot tolerate a protein called gluten found in wheat, rye and barley. During the first ever Celiac Camp

in Northern California, these kids will be able to eat without fear of their food being contaminated by crumbs from a toaster.

The 100-particpiants in the Celiac Camp will be able to attend Camp Arroyo near Livermore free of charge for four days and three nights, August 20-23. The camp provides an opportunity to experience fun filled activi-

ties. The Taylor Family Foundation partnered with East Bay Regional park District to build Camp Arroyo. The Foundation funds the summer program at Camp Arroyo and is co-oper-ated by the YMCA of the East Bay. During the school year, camp is used as an environmental education center for local school children.

The Day in the Park auction fundraiser, set this year for Sun., Aug. 26 from noon to 6:30 p.m., raises more than \$1 million annually of which ninety percent of the money goes directly towards funding and running Camp Arroyo.

Emergency Communications

"Emergency Communications in Livermore" is the title of a community education presentation offered by the Livermore Police Department in co-

on Dec. 31, 1926 to Clara and

Ted Kistner. After high school she

lived and worked in Minneapo-

lis, MN, where she met her hus-

band Duane. They were married

in Minneapolis on Feb. 25, 1961.

They moved to Livermore in

1969. She sold Avon for many

years, and enjoyed visiting with

her customers. She also enjoyed

operation with the Livermore Police Department Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (CPAAA) and the Livermore Area Recreation and Parks District (LARPD)

The program will be held at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue on Tues., Ăug. 28 at 7 p.m. The presentation will be made by Supervising Public Safety Dispatcher Sherri Plamondon who has extensive experience in emergency communica-tions, has worked for the Livermore Police Department dispatch center for 16 years, and regularly teaches courses

for the Dispatch Academy. Plamondon will be discussing a variety of topics related to Emergency Communications. She will discuss how the 911 system works, what happens when you call 911, cellular and VOIP (internet telephone services) issues. What to report and when to report it. Plamondon will share stories of incidents occurring in Livermore and how they impacted the dispatch center. There will be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions of SPSD Plamondon and to share communications related concerns.

Although reservations are not required, signing up for the program at 373-5700 helps LARPD plan seating arrangements.

This Emergency Communications presentation is co-sponsored by the Livermore Police Department and the CPAAA, an organization of members from the community who have graduated from the Citizens Police Academy. For more information about the Citizens Police Academy, please visit www.livermorepolice.org

Mother Bear Project

Knit This, Purl That at 205A Main Street in Pleasanton, is partnering with The Mother Bear Project to create knitted or crocheted teddy bears to send to children, primarily those suffering from HIV/AIDS, in emerging nations.

Owner Beth Spisak has a goal of sending 100 teddy bears to needy chil-dren by December. She seeks knitters and crocheters, from beginners to those with years of experience, who want to participate by purchasing an inexpen-sive pattern from The Mother Bear Project and completing a bear by De-cember. Those who want to help can knit or crochet a bear on their own and bring the completed stuffed animal to the store or join with others at Knit This, Purl That for group bear-knitting ses-sions. Group get-togethers will be on Wednesdays in August from 7 to 9 pm, starting August 8. Other times will be announced soon.

The Mother Bear Project is a

grassroots, non-profit group dedicated to providing comfort and hope to chil-dren, mainly with HIV/AIDS and living in Africa, by giving love in the form of hand-knitted and crocheted bears. To date, 19,660 bears have been sent to children in such countries as South Africa, Zambia, Rwanda, Botswana, Uganda, and many others. The bears are made from a World War II-era pattern, costing only \$5 to purchase from the Mother Bear Project and cho-sen because the bears are cute, lightweight, and easy to ship. Each bear is sent with a tag signed with the creator's first name attached to the bear's wrist.

To order a \$5 bear pattern or learn more about The Mother Bear Project, go to www.motherbearproject.org. For more information on Knit This, Purl That's bear campaign, interested par-ticipants or those who want to donate yarn can call the store at 925-249-9276 or go to www.yourknittingplace.com.

Day with the A's

Disabled veterans spent a Day with the A's last Saturday, attending the baseball game pitting the Oakland A's against the Los Angeles Angels. The Tri-Valley Rotary Club sponsored 10 wheelchair and 3 ambulatory veterans, accompanied by 7 VA medical/assistant personnel who transported and assisted the veterans. This will mark the 6th year that this event has been supported by the Tri-Valley Rotary Club.

A portion of the proceeds from the tickets that Rotarians sell on this day are donated to RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) programs. The Tri-Valley Rotary Club is the newest of six Rotary clubs in the Pleasanton, Dublin, and Livermore area. It was chartered in May of 2002. Since the founding of the club, its members have donated their time and funds to a myriad of local, regional, and international service projects.

The club's weekly meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in Pleasanton at the Girasole Grill on Santa Rita Road. For more information about the Tri-Valley Rotary Club please visit www.trivalleyrotary.org or email info@trivalleyrotary.org.

PDK Honors

Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) is an inter-national organization of about 100,000 members worldwide. PDK is dedicated to upholding the ideals of research, service, and leadership in education. As part of fulfilling these ideals, the CSU East Bay - Diablo Chapter of PDK awarded two \$500 scholarships to high school seniors who plan to pursue a teaching career. This year's winners are Tyler Cornfield of Foothill High

School in Pleasanton and Rosa Lee of San Leandro High School.

These recipients were eligible as candidates for 30-40 scholarship grants of \$500 up to renewable awards totaling \$5,000 over four years from PDK

International. Cornfield has been active in Boy Scouts, serving as a Camp Counselor and Merit Badge Instructor. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout as a tenth grader. During his senior year, he taught fourth through seventh graders in the Regional Occupation Program (DOD) Each year in bird school he (ROP). Each year in high school, he participated in community service ac-tivities. He also found time to pursue his musical interests, teaching guitar lessons and be a member and president of the Bay Area Music Club. He has been a Band Posterboy, releasing two CDs, touring, and winning the Bay Area Battle of the Bands at the Concord Pavillion. His English teacher said he "picks the brains of his teachers in order to learn from their successes, challenges, philosophies, and methodologies." She described him as patient, kind, creative, diligent, fun, and funny. Cornfield's older brother Clint won the Prospective Educator Scholarship from the PDK Diablo Chapter last year. Clint Cornfield is attending CSU Monterey Bay. Tyler Cornfield plans to attend San Francisco State this fall. He wants teach English to either middle or

high school students. Lee has worked with middle and high school students for a year as a tutor and academic coach at R. T. Fisher & Associates/THE QUAD in Oakland. She is President of the Current Events Debate Club and, as a freshman, par-ticipated in track and field, and cross country. Lee is described in the letters of recommendation as "genuinely in-terested in assisting all people in realiz-ing their academic potential," able to mg then academic potential, able to multi-task, positive, engaging, serious and yet welcoming, with a good sense of humor, and having top communica-tion skills. Lee plans to attend the University of California, Santa Cruz this fall. She wants to teach at the high school head hurd hear't deaided yet school level, but hasn't decided yet between English and math.

EDUCATORS RECOGNIZED The CSU East Bay - Diablo Chapter of PDK recognized three outstanding educators at its award banquet earlier this month. The 2007 winners are Bruce Wolfe, a science teacher in Livermore, Diane Everett, Superintendent/ Principal of Sunol Glen School District, and Olivia Gallardo, a Lec-turer in Education at California State University - East Bay, Hayward Cam-

pus. The 2007 Outstanding Teacher Award recipient, Bruce Wolfe, was nominated by Fred Quarterman, Prin-cipal at Del Valle Continuation High School in Livermore. Wolfe is a sci-ence teacher at Mendenhall Middle School in Livermore, where Quarterman was the Vice Principal and

Principal. Wolfe "is hard working, and dedicated where extra time for a student is never an issue." Quarterman said Wolfe has a curriculum that is fun and informative. Wolfe is flexible, adapting the curriculum for students with unique needs. While President of the Livermore Education Association (LEA), Quarterman said that Wolfe "demonstrated great leadership ability and established excellent working rela-tionships with the school district." Livermore teachers selected Wolfe for the WHO (We Honors Ours) award in 1993 for his work for LEA.

Wolfe provides learning opportu-nities for his students beyond the class-room. This spring, for the fourth year, he took students to Costa Rica. For the past 10 years, he has taken students to Livermore's sister city, Yotsukaido, Japan, where they live with Japanese families and learn about their everyday lives. Since 1998, he has taken students each year for an outdoor education trip to Yosemite. Wolfe has coached varsity swimming at Granada High School for 18 years, and was in Boy Scouts of America for 16 years, 7 of them as Scoutmaster. Wolfe was also honored as the "Teacher of the Year" for Livermore in 1999-2000, and as the Daughters of the American Revolution Josefa Higuera Livermore Chapter's 2007 Outstand-

ing Teacher. The 2007 Outstanding Administra-tor Award recipient, Diane Everett, was nominated by Madeliene Ward, a retired teacher from Sunol Glen School. Everett is the Superintendent/Principal of the Sunol Glen School District, a position she has held since 1991. Prior to that, Everett was a K-8 teacher for 13 years and an administrator for 7 years in the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District.

Sunol is a small district and thus Everett, as Superintendent/ Principal, has had to also fill the roles of Vice-Principal, Curriculum Director, Stu-dent Services Director, Staff Development Leader, and all the other admin istrative posts in a larger district. Everett exhibited outstanding leadership in a large improvement project, construc-tion of a new permanent building be-tween the end of the school year in June 2000 and the Fall 2000 openingthree months! This included new infrastructure (sewer and water) and the replacement of the original contractor. She developed the building plans, and hired and oversaw all contractors. Students, parents, and staff were overjoyed to see the new school building, with beautiful landscaping, on the first day of school.

Everett also started and oversaw a before-school and after-school pro-

gram, and a pre-school program. She has hired highly qualified personnel for these programs.

The 2007 Outstanding Professor Award recipient Olivia Gallardo has been a Lecturer at CSU East Bay with an emphasis on bilingual- cross cul-tural courses for the past eight years. She was nominated by Patricia Perez, a student of Gallardo. For four years, Gallardo was a Lec-

turer and Supervisor at St. Mary's College in Moraga teaching BCLAD (Bilingual Cross-Cultural, Language and Academic Development) courses and supervising teacher credential candidates. She has 16 years of expe-rience in school districts, including being a K-8 teacher and a middle school bilingual coordinator and read-ing teacher in Montebello Unified School District, and a Spanish and English language development teacher and a Bilingual coordinator at Brentwood High School. In nominating Gallardo, Perez de-scribed how dedicated Dr. Gallardo is to hor cludents.

to her students. Perez wrote that Gallardo is "deeply devoted to her students, very involved in maintaining an impressive bilingual credential pro-gram, and actively engaged in chal-lenging her students to be sensitive to the neede of undercorresorted com the needs of underrepresented com-munities."

Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. on Cable Channel 26 "GRASSROOTS ISSUES" An opportunity for citizens to publicly broadcast an opinion on local issues Video-on-Demand at www.grassrootsissues.com

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American Heart Assoc., or Hope Mary Magdelyn Froistad of Hospice 6500 Dublin Blvd. Suite Livermore died Monday, July 30, 100 Dublin, CA 94568. Arrangements by Callaghan Mary was born in Walker, MN

Mortuary.

John N. Voelker Jr.

John N. Voelker Jr. died July 27, 2007. He was 75.

John was born in French Camp, he oldest son of John Voelker and Emma Pearl Schmidt Voelker of Lodi. He graduated from Lodi Academy. In Nov. 1950, he joined the Navy and served on the USS Essex in the Pacific and the USS Randolph in the Mediterranean. After leaving the Navy, he met and married Roberta. Shortly after, they moved to Moses Lake, WA. After two years, they returned to the Bay Årea and lived in Hayward. He worked at the Ames Laboratory in Sunnyvale until 1967. They moved to Pleasanton where John, known as "Big John" owned and operated John Voelker Heating and Air Conditioning for 32 years. He retired in 1999. He will be truly missed.

vived by many nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Albert Voelker of Fontana.

At his request, no services will be held. Private interment will be at the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery in Gustine.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Mabel Elaine Rich

Mabel Elaine Rich died July 29, 2007 in Pleasanton. She was 75.

She was a native of Maryland.

OBITUARIES

Mary M. Froistad

2007, she was 80.

riding her bicycle which she did daily until a year ago when her health failed. Mary also was a self taught artist; who painted in oil and watercolors. Mary won several honorable mention awards in local art shows.

She is survived by her husband Duane:, sisters Barb (Charles) Norman of MN, Pat (Earl) Willmarth of MN, brother Ted (Mary) of Fargo ND, Bruce of MN, sister-in-law Jeannette Froistad of MN, brother-in-law **Richard Schommer of WI, several** nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held Aug. 4th in Livermore. Internment will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in St. Paul, MN.

Memorial donations may be sent to Alzheimer's Association,

He was a brother to June Voelker Cannon, brother-in-law Chuck Cannon, and sister, Betty Voelker Stubbs of Pleasanton; and a half-brother to Bernice Mays of Pioneer and Melvin Ehrhardt of Plymouth. He is surHer hobbies included embroidery, crossword puzzles, crafts and Bible studies.

She is survived by her husband Frank Rich, sons Peter Rich of Fremont and Paul Rich of Hayward; daughters Patricia Kramm of Pleasanton and Mary Boyer of Livermore, a sister Edna Schneider of Virginia and grandchildren, Nicole, Chrissy, Peter, David and Michelle.

Mass was celebrated August 3 at St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Pleasanton. Burial was private.

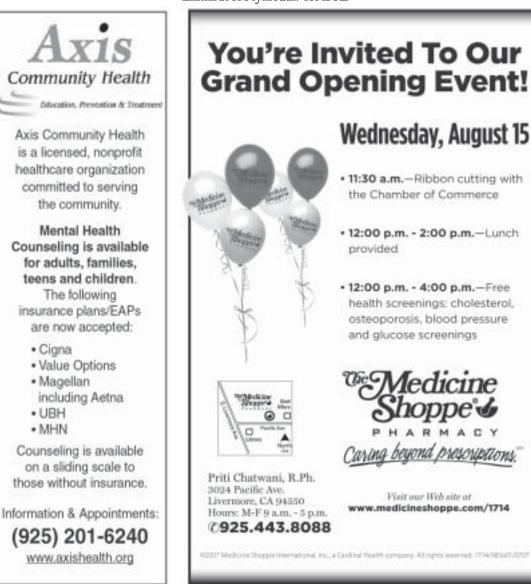
Donations may be made to the Tri-Valley Adult Day Care Program, PO Box 617, Livermore, ČA 94550.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.



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SPORTS NOTES



Breanna Rittmann (left) and Racquel Hamblem chosen for team.

Olympic Development

Two lifetime Livermore Youth Soccer League players were selected by U.S. Soccer coaches to play on the Region IV ODP Player Pool. The Olympic Development Program is a national process for identifying and developing the best youth soccer players. The process promotes players to the U.S. National Teams, which represent the United States in international competition, such as the Youth World Cup and the Olympics.

Racquel Hamblen and Breanna Riftmann were among 18 girls from the Northern California (CYSA - North) state team who traveled to the University of Idaho during the last week in June 2007 to compete and tryout for placement on the U.S. Youth Soccer Region IV ODP Player Pool. Region IV includes players from 13 western states. After a rigorous week of games, training, and evaluation, the Region IV coaches selected 38 girls out of 197 to be members of the Region IV ODP Player Pool. The 38 girls were held over for an additional week of games and evaluation. Soon the girls will find out if they will be selected to play on the Region IV ODP traveling team - only 25 players will be selected. Each U.S. Youth Soccer ODP Regional team (Regions I-IV) carries up to 25 players for a total of 100 players nationwide. These 100 players are the top players in the pation for their are group and could eventunation for their age group and could eventu-ally compete for a spot on the U.S. National Team

The girls were first selected to the District II ODP player pool in June of 2006 and after many hours of competitive evaluation and "play days" they were picked to be members of the District III ODP team. District III players compete against other districts within CYSA-North where state coaches evaluate the players and invite the top players to the State ODP Pool try-outs. Hamblen and State ODP Pool try-outs. Hamblen and Rittmann were invited to the State ODP Pool try-outs held in March 2007 and both were eventually selected to the State ODP Team The girls traveled to Denver, Colorado over the Memorial Day weekend (May 25-28, 2007) to compete in the Colorado Showcase tournament to prepare for the Region IV ODP

Camp. While they spend many hours each week training, practicing, and playing in soccer games, Hamblen and Rittmann still find time to excel in school - both girls maintain a 4.0 GPA and will enter 8th grade in the Fall. Racquel "Bam-Bam" Hamblen and

Breanna "Banana" Rittmann have played on the same Livermore High Comp soccer team since age nine. They have been coached and trained over the years by Mary Ann and Jesse Hamblen (Racquel's parents). Currently the girls are teammates on the U14 Girls Livermore Shock team. Several other players on Livermore Shock have made the District III ODP Player Pool / Team and State ODP Player Pool - they are: Kiersten "Kiki" Simmons (State ODP Pool), Kylie Hill (District III ODP Team), Rachelle Hamblin (District III ODP Team), Brianna Hylton (District III ODP Pool), and Ashlyn Conlin (District III ODP Pool).



Sahit Menon (left) and Theodore Carter competed.

National Track Finals st junior track meet of the s

opponents 57 to 5 over six games to take first place. Saturday's pool play began in the Stockton Storm, Northern Cali-Cats, and Shasta Gold Rush. Dharini Clare with a triple, Jenel Firneno with a triple and two singles, Andie Becker with a double and Brienna Brown with two singles contributed to the offensive explosion over the Storm. Andie Becker pitched against Stockton and recorded seven strike outs and a shut out in the one hitter. Against the Cali-Cats, Brienna Brown blasted two singles and a double, Lyndsay Godwin hammered a ground rule double over the center field fence, Ellen Freitas powered a triple and a single and Jana Johnson punched a triple to left center and a single. Dharini Clare pitched a three hit shut out, striking out six in the one hour and twenty minute game. In the third game on Saturday against a strong Gold Rush team, the Phantom girls didn't stop their offensive onslaught. Jana Johnson went three for four Lyndsay Godwin went two for three, Jenel Firneno doubled and singled, Syd Okumura went two for three. The shut out win was recorded by pitcher Lyndsay Godwin and supported by the entire Phantom defense.

The Phantom girls faced the host team AMA Lightning on Sunday morning. Playing their best defense of the year, stated after the game by their head coach, the Lightning stayed in the game to the end. But with an early three run lead, Phantom pitcher Andie Becker settled in and struck out eleven in the three to one victory. In the second of three back to back games the Phantom girls squared off against the Galt Illusion. "Break it open; rattle the bats" was the motto of this game. Lyndsay Godwin launched a towering double to left center to score the first two runs. Jana Johnson executed two textbook bunts down the first base line going two for three. Jenel Firneno and Brienna Brown came up big, both going two for three. Jenel had two doubles and Brienna had a double and a single. Ellen Freitas doubled to right center. Pitcher Lyndsay Godwin got the semifinal win striking out eight of the seventeen batters she faced. The final score was eleven to one.

In the final game for the tournament championship the Phantom faced the Stockton Rockettes. It was a tight game in the beginning with each team scoring one run through the first four innings. In the fourth inning the Phantom girls got the edge by adding a run driven in by Ellen Freitas. In the top of the six inning a huge two out single from Haley Buteau garnered two more runs for the Phantom. The Phantom girls added two more insurance runs in the top of the seventh. With a fired up Lyndsay Godwin on the mound the Rockettes were sent home losing the championship game six to one. Big hitters in this contest were Ellen Freitas going two for four with a single and a double, Lyndsay Godwin going three for four with a double and two singles, Andie Becker going two for four and Katie Bindert going two for four. The final score to win the trophy was Pleasanton Phantom 6, Stockton Rockettes 1. Congratulations to the Phantom 12c Girls Softball team!

Youth Soccer Tournaments

The Livermore Fury Girls U12 D-3 team won the Junction City Silver Cup tournament in Roseville by defeating the MDSL Dominators 2-1 in overtime in the championship game. Amanda Fairclough's long, powerful free kick deep into the back of the goal was the game winner. The Fury defense held on against a strong MDSL team. Livermore fell behind three minutes into the game and tied the score early in the second half when Marissa Scheid received the ball from Katie Lortie and drilled a long kick into the back of the net. Both teams spent the second half trading scoring opportunities and Fury goalie Emily Kalantar made several diving saves to keep the game tied. Fury defenders Alyssa Stevenson, Erin Winegarner, Morgan Brandt and Callie Crowe battled hard to keep the ball away from the goal and limit MDSL shots.

Three earlier victories placed the Fury in the championship game. In the first game against the Fair Oaks Falcons, Alison Pierson opened the scoring after a nice pass from Marissa Scheid in the 9th minute. Seconds before half, Kaitlin DaDalt took a long kick from Amanda Fairclough, dribbled by the defender, and powered a high shot into the left corner for a 2-0 lead. Livermore continued its strong play in the second half as Mikayla Skyler Kriz and Brittany Ahrbeck dominated the midfield. Rebekah Johnson set up Pierson with a great pass for the third goal and then completed the scoring when she

drove towards the net, fending off his mark, and went far post for the game winner. Late in the second half, Nayam Karavadra made a similar play to block a shot at an open corner similar play to block a shot at an open corner as the Rovers pressed for the equalizer. Game two was against Orangevale, and the Black cruised 4-0. In the 7th minute, Weber sent a cross to Lobao, with his back to the goal. He brought it down and laid it back to an on rushing Kurt Lenamon. "Tough Guy" sent a scorcher on net for the 1-0 lead. In the 21st minute, Kris Tayyeb led Cambra down the middle, and he danced through 4 defenders until he was tripped just outside the box. Cambra drilled in the direct kick from 19 yards for the goal. The nail in the coffin came just before halftime. Again playing back to goal, Aaron Scott made a perfect flick to his left to lead Justin Dorsey breaking in down the middle of the field. With a brilliant individual effort warding off his mark for the last 15 yards, Dorsey connected just before halftime for the 3-0 lead. In the second half, the Black controlled play for long stretches, led by incessant pressure from Kieren McEntee and Dorsey. It paid off late when a Dorsey steal was crossed to Karavadra. He fed Kamron Behzadi who chinned the keeper for the 4-0 Behzadi, who chipped the keeper for the 4-0

The Black then blanked the Santa Rosa Crew 2-0 to win their flight. Joey Halim, Karavadra, and Lenamon controlled the midfield, not allowing any buildup and allowing the Black to wait for a strike. It came in the 23rd minute when a flat roller came up the middle of the field. Dante stepped up and let one fly on a line from 45 yards out. The startled GK could only wave as it went over his head for the 1-0 lead. The keeper's aggressiveness throughout gave the Black some chances, and they made him pay in the second half. He came way out to challenge Rocha on a through ball and actually got a piece of his shot. Behzadi, alertly trailing the play, finished the rebound for a 2-0 final. The championship game against the aggressive FC Barcelona was a good one. FC scored in the first half on a diving header off a corner kick, and in the second on a break-away. BUSC attacked to the end, but eventually fell 2-0

The Livermore United Boys U13 soccer team won 1 and lost 2 over the weekend at the Juventus 2007 Tournament of Champions in Redwood City. Livermore started out strong in their first game against Santa Clara Sporting with good pressure up and down the field. Paul Mayes scored the first goal of the game with assistance from Juan Carlos Alfaro. Santa Clara retaliated quickly and was able to score 2 goals before the half. Unfortunately, Santa Clara went on to get 3 more goals in the second half, winning 5-1. Later in the day, Livermore played an-

other tough match against the Brazil 94 team, losing 4-1. Mayes scored the lone goal for Livermore off of a hard shot that hit the post and bounced into the net, assisted again by Alfaro. Ryan Gollott, Cody Martinez, and Sergio Alvarez fought hard for Livermore's defense, but were unable to hold back the Brazil team completely.

On Sunday, Livermore was victorious against the Juventus White 94 team, winning 3-1. The game started out slow with no scoring in the first half. During the second half, Alfaro scored the first goal for Livermore off of a penalty kick awarded when Mayes was fouled in the box. Juventus quickly tied up the game 1-1. However, Livermore fought hard with Brandon Marantan scoring 2 more goals in the remaining few minutes of play. Marantan was assisted on the first goal by Mayes and on the second goal by Damon Tregear. Gellerman played excellently on defense aiding Goalkeeper, Tristan Lewis, in holding the Juventus team to 1 goal. **The BUSC Ballistic Black U14** played in the Folcom Lake Cup Classic the part

in the Folsom Lake Cup Classic this past weekend. The home Ballistic Black played meter for balance of the balance of

goal coming from Jake Lorentz, Jack Lyons, Nick Bayley, and Justin Medina. The Ballistic Black scored in the 33rd minute when Jake Lorentz made an incredible bending shot into the back of the net, with an assist from Justin Medina. Cade Debenedetti came into the game with only 5 minutes remaining after being sidelined with an injury, then scored the winning goal in the 58th minute which was a shot drilled into the net with an which was a shot dirited into the field with an assist coming from a forward pass by Hunter Meurrens. Shots on goal in the game also came from Yashar Behnam, Jared Shohfi, Christian Still, and Vik Aulakh. Defender Tyler Mende's skillful play was critical in the watch dromeing the four 's orthogical and neurois Tyler Mende's skillful play was critical in the match stopping the Fury's attack and consis-tently pressing the ball forward. Keeper Lukas Moses had 6 saves in the game. In their third and final game of the tournament, the home Ballistic Black played the undefeated Eureka Ice in a 3 to 1 loss. Vik Aulakh scored a goal in the 29th minute with a shot from midfield that surprised the Eureka Ice goalkeeper when the ball bounced over his head and into the net. The Ballistic Black allowed the fewest goals scored against by the Eureka Ice in the tournament with an astound-ing 16 saves made by keeper Lukas Moses in Eureka Ice in the tournament with an astound-ing 16 saves made by keeper Lukas Moses in the very physical match. The Ballistic Black played an evenly matched game with shots on goal also coming from Cade Debenedetti, Jared Shohfi, and Nick Bayley. The entire team played an outstanding game including support from Hunter Meurrens, Jack Richardson, Yashar Behnam, Jake Lorentz, Eric Brooks, Jack Lyons, Christian Still, and Justin Medina. Ballistic Black U11 Class three lost 4 to 1 to Sonoma FC Strikers at the Magic Cup III in San Jose. Missing some key players and showing some first game jitters, the Ballistic Black team struggled against the Sonoma FC Strikers. Ballistic scored first as Ben Smedley found the net following a nice pass from Brian Strikers. Ballistic scored first as Ben Smedley found the net following a nice pass from Brian Kinnee, but the Black were unable to score again. Christopher Goldhawk did good work on both ends of the field and Andrew Griehshammer was solid defensively. Top Offensive Players: Ben Smedley; Brian Kinnee; Top Defensive Player: Andrew Griehshammer. The Ballistic Black team struggles con-tinued in the second game of the day against the Almaden Cosmos, losing 5 to 1. The one offensive highlight was a goal by Justin Taylor, assisted by Brian Kinnee. Christo-

pher Goldhawk continued his good work on both ends of the field and Andrew Griehshammer was again strong defensively. Top Offensive Players: Justin Taylor, Brian Kinnee; Top Defensive Player: Andrew Griehshammer. The Ballistic Black team turned in a

The Ballistic Black team turned in a The Ballistic Black team turned in a strong performance in a win over the Mustang Galaxy, winning 5 to 0. With a full compliment of players, the performance was a total team effort and a dramatic turnaround from the previous day's struggles. Goals were scored by Alex Lee (2), Roberto Beard, Calvin Rasbold, and Brian Kinnee with assists by Joey Repac (2), Collin Blaney (2), and Justin Taylor. Francis Dunne was steady in goal, while Andrew Griehshammer and David Acosta were strong defensively. Christopher Goldhawk was recognized as the topher Goldhawk was recognized as the team's "Hardest Working Player" and Roberto Beard as the team's "Most Valuable Player" for their efforts during the two day tourna-ment. Top Offensive Players: Alex Lee, Joey Repac, Collin Blaney; Top Defensive Play-ers: Andrew Griehshammer, Francis Dunne, David Acosta.

The Livermore Shock U-14 girls, Division-1 Soccer Team came home undefeated and the 1st place title at the California Rush Open 2007 tournament held this past week-

end at Cherry Island August 4th and 5th. The first game was played against Placer Prestige 94 Black where Shock scored several goals for a final score of Shock 3, Placer 1. Shock dominated the game after Placer scored the first goal the first goal.

The second game on Saturday was played in blistering 103 degree heat against the Santa Rosa Earthquakes. Despite the heat, Shock fractured the Earthquakes with a shutout and a final score of Shock 2, Earthquakes 0. Shock was moving slowly for the third

game on Sunday morning against the Butte Bobcats. However, they managed another shutout with a final score of Shock 1, Butte Bobcats 0.

Bobcats 0. The championship game was played excellently by the Shock Team against the Turlock Tornado Fury. Shock controlled most of the game with expert passing and outstanding ball control as they knocked the wind out of the Tornadoes. The final score for the championship game was again a for the championship game was again a shutout out, with Shock 2, Turlock 0.

On the attack for Shock were strikers Ashlyn Conlin, Lauren Kershner, Haley Londry and Kiki Simmons who played excellent games all weekend. Successfully excellent games all weekend. Successfully controlling center midfield play for Shock were Breanna "Banana" Rittmann, Racquel Hamblen and Kylie Hill. They were expertly assisted by Angel Gosse and Tatyana Martinez on the outside wings. In all four games, the four Shock defenders, Alison Burklund, Rachelle Hamblen, Brianna "Bob" Hylton and Julie Lopez played awesome with the aid of goalis Kotia Prunda of goalie, Katie Pruneda. The Pleasanton Rage U12 Div. 3A

team took part in the Magic Cup Div. III tournament in San Jose and showed everyone that Rage is a force to be reckoned with in coming home with the title. The Rage racked up an impressive 19 goals over the 2 day tournament with a 3-0 win over the San Jose PAC Inferno, a 6-0 win over the Hollister Arsenal, a 8-0 win over the Fremont Light-

Inferno in the Championship game. The strong offense was led by Keli Wheatley with 4 goals and 3 assists, Mathea Turkaij and Kayla Bautista both with 4 goals and 2 assists, Sami Williams and Ali Racer both with 2 goals and 2 assists, Cassie Santana with 2 goals, Molly Grozier with 1 goal, and assists from Mackensie Shoen and Taylor Sanchez. Just as impressive was the brilliant defensive play led by Olivia Brown at goal, Danni Leedeman, Lauren Fan, Olivia Deutschman, Patti Norcross, and Claire Hickel who gave up only 1 goal in the entire

In their first tournament of the 2007 season, the U16 Ballistic Black captured 1st place in the Novato Classic held on Aug 4th and 5th

Ballistic came ready to play in the championship game scoring early and often and posting a 5-0 victory over the Mustang Sharks. Several players were in on the offensive attack with goals coming from Jared Lui, Nik Thompson, Ryan Parsons, and Alejandro Bueno who netted 2.

Earlier in the day, the boys secured a place in the finals when they beat Mustang Alliance 1-0. In this much tighter game it came down to Ryan Parsons being fouled in the box and

Jared Lui converting the PK. In Saturday's pool play, Phil Viebeck, Tiago Abreu, David Meyer, Alejandro Bueno, and Edris Beenanian all scored goals. Keeper Evan Zolfarelli, was outstanding in the net. Top Offensive Players: Alejandro Bueno, Tiago Ábreu, David Meyer, Jared Lui, Ryan Parsons, Nik Thompson, Edris Bemanian;

Stepanie Little and Jessica Khlar added another goal each. Final Score was Rage 6-Hayward 1.

The second day of action started with a close match-up against the Sonoma Earth-quakes. Good defensive work by Megan Clark, Megan Ash, Autumn Whitney, Kristen Dumanski, Cassi Scoggins, Elena Victor and Marisa Victor helped Rage control the field. Rage came out on top after goalkeeper, Aria Crawford kept Sonoma scoreless and several players assisted Danielle Homan in scoring for a 1-0 win. In the Championship game agains! t Pacifica Celtics, Rage lost 0-1 in a game which could have gone either way. Top Offensive Players: Katey Cloonan,

Danielle Homan, Stepahanie Little, Jessica Khlar; Top Defensive Players: Megan Ash, Megan Clark, Cassi Scroggins and Aria Crawford.

Pleasanton Seahawks

The Pleasanton Seahawks are finishing up their swimming season with their most challenging meets.

Junior Olympics: The JO's saw Rachel Knowles win high point honors for 9-10 Girls by placing 1st in the 50/100/400 Free and 2nd in the 200 Free, 100 Fly, and 200 IM. Along the way, Rachel also clocked in a new National Reportable Time in the 400 Free (5:12.02). Catherine Breed won high point honors for 13-14 Girls by winning the 100/ 200/400/800/1500 Free and 200IM, and 2nd for the 100 Back

Joining Rachel and Catherine with breakthrough performances were: Monica Bello, Bridget Booe, Alicia Brown, Heather Chandler, Iris Chang, Analese Chinn, Eva Chung, Elise Cox, Caitlin Dourov, Sam Hsieh, Peter Huang, Jonathan Kuo, Regis Lachance, Kayla Lindsay, Caitlin MacGregor, Morgan McGrath, Tim McLaughlin, Jonathan Ong, Annalisa Parker, Krishnan Rajagopalan Maxime Rooney, Bryan Qi, & Ryan Vicencio

The 200 Medley Relay Team for 10-Under Girls of Kayla Lindsay, Eva Chung, Stephanie Aronson, and Analese Chinn set a new team record. The 200 Free Relay Team of Caitli MacGregor, Lillian Sun, Stephanie Aronson, Rachel Knowles also set a new team record.

Additionally, Nick Silverthorn took 1st place in the 200 Back, and 2nd in the 400 and 800 Free. Andrew Seitz placed 1st in the 200 Free 2nd in the 200 IM and 3rd in the 400 800 Free. Chris Guido took 1st place in the 400 and 1500 Free. All-Star Team: As a result of stellar

performances this year, the following swim-mers were selected to compete in Pacific Swimming's Western Zones All-Star Team in Farmington, NM this August: Rachel Knowles (9-10 Girls): Nick Silverthorn (11-12 Boys); Tory Houston (13-14 Girls); Andrew Seitz (13-14 Boys); Katrina Ander-son (15-16 Girls); Melissa Bonnel (15-16

Son (19-10 cms), Mensa Donner (19-10 Girls, Alternate). Nationals: Although the Nationals made headlines for Michael Phelps' and Dara Torres' record-breaking swims, the Pleasanton Seahawks saw 8 of their swimmers competing at Summer National in Indianapolis. The entire Bay Area saw only 59 talented swimmers compete, so the Seahawks were well represented. Kayleigh Foley swam best times in the

50 & 100 free (both TR's), plus a great 200 leg (2.09) on the 800 Free Relay. Jen Narum placed 12th in the 1500 Free and 28th in the 800 Free, close to her best times in all events.

Jen also swam a great leg (2.04) on the 800 free relay. Lisa Narum contributed to great performances by the relay teams, while Karer performances by the relay teams, while Karen Wang swam a strong 100 Back and time trial in the 200 Back. Neda Nguyen swam a strong time trial and had a great split (1.15) in the 400 medley relay. Hailey DeGolia swam to 12th in the 100 Back while earning another barth at the Olympic Trials pour types. Fria berth at the Olympic Trials next year. Eric Dunipace swam a very strong 100 Back time trial

Far Westerns: The Seahawks were well epresented at the Summer Far Westerns held in Concord, CA this past weekend. Catherine Breed had an outstanding last meet of the season by taking 1st in the 100/200/800/1500 Free, 1st in the 200 Back, and 3rd in the 400 IM. Catherine earned the high point award for 13-14 girls - and - broke a Far Western record in the 200 and 800 Free. Rachel Knowles placed 3rd in the 400 Free, 50 Fly, and 100 Fly, 4th in the 200 Free and 200 IM. Tory Houston placed 2nd in the 100 Breast and 5th in the 200 IM. Katrina Anderson placed 5th in the 200 Free and 200 Back.

Nick Silverthorn swam to 4th in the 200 & 800 Free, and 5th in the 100 and 400 Free. He took 1st place in the 200 Back – and set a new team record! Andrew Seitz took 2nd in the 400 IM, and 4th in the 200 IM, 100 Breast, and 200 Free. Josh Meints had a fantastic meet placing 2nd in the 200 IM and 200 Back, 3rd in the 100 Breast, and 4th in the 100 & 200 Free. Josh won the high point award for 15-16 boys. The 10-Under girls relay teams of Annalisa Parker, Rachel Knowles, Stephanie Aronson, Lillian Sun, and Caitlin MacGregor placed 4th. Kyle Lindsay earned the coaches' recognition for best team spirit, supporting all his team-mates and counting for distance events.

Club Sport Defends Title

The Tri-Valley Swim League held the league championship meet at the Robert Livermore Pool, in Livermore on Sat., Aug.

The Club Sport Tidal Waves out swam the competition and defended its champion-ship title for the third year in a row with 3,024 points. Del Prado Stingrays finished second, 2737; Briarhill third, 1649; Dublin Green Gators, fourth, 1614; DBAC Swim Team, fifth, 1586.5; Ruby Hill, 1498.5; Pleasanton Meadows, 1080.5: and FAST Dolphins 950.5.

Thirteen league records fell. New League record holders are Marissa Bergh from Briarhill, turned in some amazing swims, breaking three individual records for the Girls 11-12 50 Yard Free, 26.05, 100 Yard IM, 1:08.2 Girls 11-12 50 Yard Back, 31.28. 1:06.2 GHS 11-12 50 Faitu Back, 51.26. Other new record holders are: Girls 11-12 200 Yard Medley Relay N. Tang, B. Martin, J. Taylor, E. Ouyang, CSP 2:09.50, Girls 11-12 200 Yard Free Relay, N. Tang, B. Martin, E. Ouyang, J. Taylor, CSP 1:54.79, Girls 13-14 200 Yard Free Relay, A. Hernbroth, E. Douras P. Millor H. Schmitz, CSP 1:50.66 Powers, R. Miller, H. Schmitz, CSP 1:50.66, Girls 11-12 50 Yard Breast, Bernadine Mar-Girls 11-12 50 Yard Breast, Bernadine Mar-tin, CSP 36.17, Girls 9-10 25 Yard Breast, Brittney Achziger, 25 Yard Back, Ben Wooldridge, CSP 18.10, Mixed 7-18 100 Yard Free Relay, N Clark, J Miller, M Martin, B Wooldridge, CSP, 1:06.12, BH 17.94, 25 Yard Fly, Jorell Toney, DUB 15.28, 50 Yard Fly, Brandon Lind, BH 24.65, 100 Yard IM, Kyle Surber, CSP 1:01 88 1.01.88

Results: Girls 6 & Under: 25 Yard Free:



wo-sport athletes and Pleasanton Heat run-ners Theodore Carter (age 13) and Sahit Menon (age 10) competed at the expenses-paid invitational Hershey North American National Finals at Hershey, PA, this last weekend. The Hershey's chocolate and candy company invites only 8 runners per age group and event for ages 9-14, after numerous qualification meets throughout the U.S. and Canada. The runners spend almost a week with Olympic greats such as Carl Lewis, Michael Johnson, Bruce Jenner, Rafer Johnson, and visiting the Hershey's Choco-late Factory and amusement park before

Carter, age 13, attends Harvest Park Middle School. He came in to the meet as last year's Hershey champion and gold medalist. Due to injury (sustained in basketball) he was unable to train much this season, but still was able to get fourth place overall in the 800 meters for the 13-14 years age group, losing

only to three older athletes. Sahit Menon (also a soccer player for BUSC) attends Fairlands Elementary. He blazed in for the silver medal in a photofinish, getting second in the 400 Meter race in the 9-10 year-old age group, less than 100th of a second from being the champion. Menon had started running only last fall, after reading about Carter's championship success story from the previous summer. Both boys also had qualified for the 2007 USATF Junior Olympics earlier, with Carter unable to race, but Menon getting top 20 (15th and 16th overall) in both the 400 meter and 100 meter

Based on his performances, Theodore Carter was asked by Hershey officials to run in a 400 meter race for the U.S. in the international competitive race against Chi-nese athletes later in the day. He finished third. "I was surprised they wanted me since I was hurt," said Carter, "But when they said I would race against guys from other countries, I knew I was going to do it no matter what, and it felt great." The boys are coached by Pleasanton's

Kevin McCarthy.

Phantom Strikes Gold

Wrapping up the summer tournament season, the Pleasanton Phantom Rose 12c girls softball team struck gold in the Sierra foothills. Playing in the AMA Lightning tournament in Angels Camp the Phantom girls dug down deep to out score their

took a short ball from Ahrbeck and scored to complete the 4-0 win.

In game two versus the Elk Grove Vortex, the Fury fell behind in the 4th minute on a long run and well-placed goal. However, the Fury stepped up the pressure as forward Katie Lortie had some strong shot attempts and the Fury midfield controlled the play. In the final minute of the half, Marissa Scheid shook her defender and placed a hard kick just by the goalie to tie the score. Livermore carried its momentum into the second half and wore down the Vortex defense. Nifty passing between Winegarner and DaDalt set up Scheid for the tie-breaking goal and minutes later Pierson followed up her own shot, turned and fired for a 3-1 lead. The Fury capped the 4-1 victory when Fairclough raced towards the center of the field after a free kick and placed a perfect ball over the Vortex defense to Pierson who scored easily. Game three against the Roseville Spirit

was a defensive battle and remained scoreless until the final minute. Morgan Brandt continued her excellent defensive play by winning a number of one-on-one battles. Mikayla Molien provided strong support to counter several Spirit rushes. Skyler Kriz also helped slow down Roseville's attack and came up to support the offense, including a good shot attempt in the second half. Callie Crowe had some nice take-aways and cleared the ball well. Alyssa Stevenson and Rebekah Johnson worked hard to keep the ball out of the box. Offensively, Kaitlin DaDalt created a couple of good scoring opportunities in the second half and, with only seconds remain-ing, received a ball from Fairclough and sent a high, long kick over the Roseville goalie for the game-winner.

The Pleasanton Ballistic United Soc-cer Club (BUSC) U19 Black got their season off to a great start with a strong second place finish in the Pacifica Coast Cup. Goalkeeper Garrett Clark registered three shutouts on the way to the championship game, with the back line of Willie Berger, Bryant Dante, Brent Cambra, Nate Weber, and Alex Martinez forming a human wall between themselves and the goal.

Game one was a 1-0 win vs the Celtic Rovers. Martinez made an outstanding play to keep the game scoreless in the 28th minute when he looped behind Clark, who had just made a sprawling save, to knock away a rebound attempt by the Rovers. This came up huge when 6 minutes later, Alfredo Rocha led Eric Lobao inside his defender. Lobao



Taste of Downtown

Livermore - Aug. 11 & 12

Featuring Bodegas

Aguirre Winery

DJg for Sunday 1-5 PM

FREE

Scrapbooking 101

Class

Closed Sundays

8 Fea.

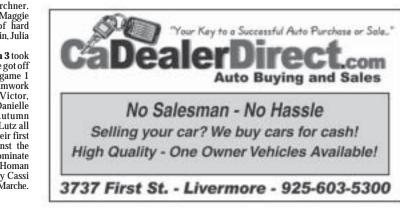
8 Creative

Defensive Players: Evan Zolfarelli. Drew Hall, Kevin Shadd, Krishna Prasad

The Pleasanton Rage U15 D-3 team defeated the Botofago team at Tracy Sports Complex, 3 to 0, on Sunday, August 5. In the first half, Casey Curtis scored on a penalty kick after being leveled by a foul. In the second half, Noelle Malindzak rolled one in past the goalie to add the second point. With five minutes to go in the game, Heidi Johns crossed one in on a tight shot to the Botofago far post to clinch the win. Across the threegame weekend, Rage out-scored their oppo-nents 4-3, holding the other teams scoreless in 4 out of 6 halves. Defensive standouts were Nicole Gotelli and Meaghan Kirchner. Midfield play by Kristin Desprez and Maggie Blasing was notable in support of hard charging forwards Chelsea Lowenstein, Julia Price, and Sara Quero.

Pleasanton Rage U-14 Division 3 took second at Pacifica Tournament. Rage got off to a strong start for the season! In game 1 against Pacifica Always United, teamwork highlighted the game. Marisa Victor, Stephanie Little, Katey Cloonan, Danielle Homan, Danielle LaMarche, Autumn Whitney, Jessica Khlar and Devon Lutz all knocked one goal in to give Rage their first win 8-0. The second game against the Hayward Hotshots saw the Rage dominate play. Katey Cloonan and Danielle Homan scored two goals each with assists by Cassi Scoggins, Devon Lutz and Danielle LaMarche.







SPORTS NOTES

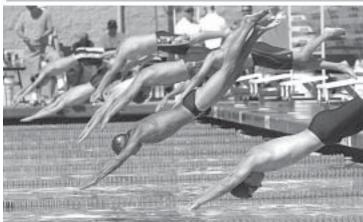


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Swimmers dive into the water at the start of one of 50-free during the Tri-Valley Swim League championship meet held at the Robert Livermore Pool, in Livermore last Saturday.

Gluck, Sofia, DUB-CC, 20.56. 25 Yard Back: Caufield, Emma, CSP-CC, 26.63. 25 Yard Breaststroke: Ku, Catherine, CSP-CC, 28.41. 25 Yard Fly: Tincher, Emily, PMST-US, 22.73. 100 Yard Free Relay: Ruby Hill US, 22.73. 100 Yard Free Relay: Ruby Fini Swim Team-CC 'A' (Sowers, Taylor 6, Laberge, Annika 5, Vasquez, Alicia 6, Jensen, Jessica 6), 1:40.47. 100 Yard Medley Relay Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Caufield, Emma 6, Wieser, Vanessa 6, Densmore, Makena 6, Ku, Catherine 6), 1:48.64. Circle 7 8: 95 Vard Error Haccor Pairo

Girls 78: 25 Yard Free: Heacox, Paige, FAST-PC, 16.35. 25 Yard Back: Heacox, Paige, FAST-PC, 21.56. 25 Yard Breast-stroke: Renton, Kelly, CSP-CC, 23.31. 25 Yard Fly: Taylor, Maddie, CSP-CC, 20.38 100 Yard Free Relay: Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Bardakos, Alyssa 7, Hogue, Meghan 7, Waldear, Heather 8, White, Nicole 8), Number of the second se

Girls 9-10: 50 Yard Free: Achziger, Brittney, BH, 31.25. 25 Yard Back: Chan, Naomi, DBAC, 17.11. 25 Yard Breast-stroke: Achziger, Brittney, BH, 17.94. 25 Yard Fly: Sullivant, Danielle, DP-CC, 15.65. 100 Yard IM: Achziger, Brittney, BH, 1:20.52. 200 Yard Free Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Barrett, Emily 10, Ouyang, Kelsey 9, Wood, Jacqueline 9, Taylor, Danielle 9), 2:16.95. 100 Yard Medley Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Ouyang, Kelsey 9, Wieser, Savannah 10, Taylor, Danielle 9, Barrett, Emily 10), 1:10.28.

Girls 11-12: 50 Yard Free: Bergh Girls 11-12: 50 Yard Free: Bergh, Marissa, BH, 26.05. 50 Yard Back: Bergh, Marissa, BH, 31.28. 50 Yard Breaststroke: Martin, Bernadine, CSP-CC, 36.17. 50 Yard Fly: Taylor, Jackie, CSP-CC, 30.34. 100 Yard IM: Bergh, Marissa, BH, 1:08.21. 200 Yard IM: Bergh, Marissa, BH, 1:08.21.200 Yard Free Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Tang, Natalie 12, Martin, Bernadine 12, Ouyang, Ellen 12, Taylor, Jackie 12), 1:54.79. 200 Yard Medley Relay: Club Sport Pleas-anton-CC 'A' (Tang, Natalie 12, Martin, Bernadine 12, Taylor, Jackie 12, Ouyang, Ellen 12), 2:09.50.

Girls 13-14: 50 Yard Free Schmitz, Hannah, CSP-CC, 26.66. 50 Yard Back: Baxter, Lindsey, RHST-CC, 33.43. 50 Yard Breaststroke: Hernbroth, Alison, CSP-CC, 36.29. 50 Yard Fly: Schmitz, Hannah, CSP-CC, 30.41. 100 Yard IM: Miller, Rachel, CSP-CC, 1:10.64. 200 Yard Free Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Hernbroth, Alison 14, Powers, Eryn 14, Miller, Rachel Anison 14, 10 wets, Elyn 14, 14 Meter, Aderlei 14, Schmitz, Hannah 14), 1:50.66. 200 Yard Medley Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Stuart, Cassandra 14, Hernbroth, Alison 14, Schmitz, Hannah 14, Powers, Eryn 14), 2:11.41.

Wo: 50 Yard Free: Ma, Stephanie, DUB-CC, 26.28. 50 Yard Back: Mayes, Colleen, DP-CC, 31.17. 50 Yard BreaststrokeL Doi, Niki, DP-CC, 34.94. 50 Yard Fly: Ma, Niki, DP-CC, 34.94. 50 Yard Fly: Ma, Stephanie, DUB-CC, 29.28. 100 Yard IM: Mayes, Colleen, DP-CC, 1:07.95. 200 Yard Free Relay: Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Mayes, Colleen 15, Boughton, Kari 16, Doi, Niki 15, Peterson, Taylor 17), 1:47.73. 200 Yard Medley Relay: Dublin Green Gators-CC 'A' (Hung, Crystal 16, Minase, Ikumi 17, Hanson, Alycia 16, Ma, Stephanie 16), 2:05.12.

Boys 6 & Under: 25 Yard Free: Grywczynski, Joey, BH, 17.79. 25 Yard Back: Grywczynski, Joey, BH, 21.75. 25 Yard Breaststroke: Reznick, Cole, CSP-CC,

CSP-CC, 24.55. 50 Yard Back: Gates, Eric, DP-CC, 31.25. 50 Yard Breaststroke: Surber Kyle, CSP-CC, 33.43. Jacobe, Matt, CSP-CC, 33.43. 50 Yard Fly: Perry, Nicholas, RHST-CC, 28.59. 100 Yard IM: Surber, Kyle, CSP-CC, 1:01.88. 200 Yard Free Relay: Dublin Green Gators-CC 'A (Camozzi, Robert 14, Young, Benjamin 14, Lau, Eric 14, Brillante, Jonathan 14), 1:46.55. 200 Yard Medley Relay: Club Sport Pleas-anton-CC 'A' (Fornoles, Ryan 14, Jacobe, Matt 14, Surber, Kyle 14, Hildebrand, Eric 13), 2:00.79.

Men 15-18: 50 Yard Free: Reed, Brent, BH, 23.52. 50 Yard Back: Reed, Brent, BH, BH, 23.52. 50 Yard Back: Reed, Brent, BH, 27.31.50 Yard Breaststroke: Landas, Trevor, DP-CC, 30.66.50 Yard Fly: Lind, Brandon, BH, 24.65#. 100 Yard IM: Lind, Brandon, BH, 58.47.200 Yard Free Relay: Del Prado BH, 58.47. 200 Yard Free Relay: Del Prado
 Stingrays-CC 'A' (Cousens, Chris 16, Payan,
 Cole 17, Compton, Jeffrey 18, Beatty, Alex
 17), 1:34.79. 200 Yard Medley Relay: Club
 Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Jacobe, Stephen
 17, Schempp, Kyle 17, Ambrose, Kevin 18,
 Capece, Mitchel 16), 1:50.46.
 PLEASANTON MEADOWS
 The Pleasanton Meadows swim team
 fuiched seventh in the Tri Valley Swim

finished seventh in the Tri-Valley Swim League Championships, but came away with three new club records. Starting off the meet right were the U6 girls (Audrey Simmons, Jordan Ciesielski, Emily Tincher and Mary Tincher) who broke their own medley relay record by over 9 seconds, posting a 1:49:10 time. Emily Tincher followed shortly thereafter, breaking her own 25 yard butterfly record with a first place, 22,73 time. Finally, capping the meet, the 9-10 boys broke the 200 yard free relay record which had stood since 1997. Team, consisting of Perry Cheney, Charles Platt, Jack Geasa and Nicholas Tucker finished with a 2:16:44 time that was good enough for first place by almost four seconds.

Although he didn't break a club record, Aldin Dallos won the 13-14 50 yard breast stroke, out touching two other competitors at the finish. Team mate Chris Bush posted his personal best by over two seconds and finished sixth to give the Sharks two swimmers in the top ten in the event. The 9-10 boys did that one better in the 50 free, placing three in the top 10 with Geasa, Cheney and Platt finishing 2,5,8 respectively. Geasa had a particularly impressive meet, garnering a third in the breast stroke and a second on the medley relay team to go along with previ-ously mentioned first and second place finishes. Tucker almost matched Geasa getting thirds in the fly and IM along with the two

Other top ten finishers included: Mary Silva - Free (7), Back (5) Talia Florio - Free (5), Breast (8) Perry Cheney - Fly (6) Joey Silva - Free (4) Connor Greene - Fly (5) Kaala Cheney - Fly (9), Back (9) Audrey Simmons - Back(8) Emily Tincher - Breast (4) Jordan Ciesielski - Breast (10) Drake Southern -Breast(9) Talia Floria - Breast (8) Tyler Rhoads - Breast (7) Blake Tucker - Back (5) Sam Tincher - Back (8) Parker Brown - Back

Cycling Workshop

Cyclepath Pleasanton is kicking off its cycling workshop series. It features free bi-monthly clinics intended to educate cyclists - and cyclists to be - on topics ranging from bicycle handling and safety to understanding the parts on a bike and changing flat tires. The first workshop, a hands-on cycling skills clinic led by EMC Team Racer Richard Asturias, is scheduled for August 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Topics covered in the clinic will include Topics covered in the clinic will include riding in a group, drafting/pacelining, corner-ing, bicycle handling skills, safety, rules of the road and how to stay on your bike if bumped by another rider. Participants should bring their bikes and be prepared to go on a short ride to practice what they have learned. "Cyclepath is committed to educating and informing the local community about cyclepath is committee to concerning and informing the local community about cycling," said Joel Davis, the shop's owner. "Our new cycling workshops will provide an un-intimidating environment where people can learn and practice their skills so that they can ride safely and have fun." The workshop is free and takes place at Cyclepath Pleasanton, 337-B Main Street (in the Bank of America building). Those interested in participating are encouraged to register in advance at www.cyclepath.com or at the Cyclepath Pleasanton store. For more information call 925-485-3218.

Theler, Joe Abdallah, Emily Frank and

Patrick Daniels. The Greg Brown Memorial Award is a once in a lifetime honor, given to a swimmer who exemplifies sportsmanship towards all swimmers on the Sunset team and others. Additionally, past honorees have provided countless hours of help and support to their countless hours of help and support to their teammates. The award is given in remem-brance of Greg Brown who had a love of swimming, and exemplified sportsmanship and teamwork. Greg was on the Sunset 13-14 boys team in 1978, the same year he passed away from heart complications. The award was created in the following year, and has been presented annually for the last 28 years. The Sunset Swim Team is a member of

The Sunset Swim Team is a member of the Valley Swim League. It is coached by Stuart Smith, Trisha Rosa, Mary Rosa, and Ana Rosa.

Telly Awards

TV30, Tri-Valley's community televi-sion station, has been awarded two Telly Awards. The bronze Telly Awards were presented to George "Dr. B." Baljevich's "Let's Talk Sports" show. The episode, "Boxing from King's Gym with Andre Ward, Olympic Gold Medalist," won in the live documentary and special effects categories. The 27th annual Telly Awards received over 13,000 entries from all 50 states and five continents continents.

"I would like to thank Glenn Davis, TV30 Executive Director; Ian Bartholomew, TV30 Sports Director; Ian Bartholomew, TV30 Sports Director; and all my TV30 co-workers, and in particular the Madden family for the sponsorship of my show, " said Dr. B. "It is a great honor to be recognized by your

peers. I thank you for your help." Dr. B is a former college basketball coach at Cal State East Bay, College of Alameda, St. Mary's College, and the University of San Francisco.. His teams went to the NCAA Tournament three times, making the Sweet 16 and Elite 8. During his career, he coached six players who went on to the NBA. After retiring from coaching, he embarked on a 20year career in sports media most of the time spent at TV30.

Fall Ball Signup

PONY Baseball is now accepting regis-trations for 2007 Colt/Palomino Ages 15-18 Fall Ball Season Register online at www.pleasantonpony.com www.livermorepony.com Any questions please contact Angel Moore at amo10@comcast.net.

Fall Swimming

The Livermore Blue Dolphin swim team is offering a Fall Rec program for swimmers who have just finished up with their summer teams. The program allows your summer league swimmers to practice with year round swimmers to gain endurance and improve technique. There are no long term commit-ments. One coach per lane is provided for increased feedback. For more information we invite you to contact the club at 925-447-SWIM or on the web at www.swimclub.com

Hats Off Run

The 8th Hats Off America Red T-Shirt 10K Run/5K Walk will be held beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 8, at Sy-camore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive, Danville, rain or shine. Hats Off America has extended invitations to local and state gov-

ernment officials to run or the event. Entry fee is \$35 per person. All runners and volunteers will receive a red t-shirt and a barbecue lunch after the run. There is no entry fee for volunteers. Hats Off America (HOA) nonprofit orga-

nization raises money for families of soldiers who have died in Afghanistan and Iraq. The run is another way that Hats Off America lets the families know that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

For information or to register or volunteer, contact Sparky George at (925) 855-1950 or thebearflagrunner@yahoo.com Visit www.hatsoffamerica.us. The site includes links to other organizations that support our troops. Hats Off America is a nonprofit, tax-owner to fol(a)(2) expansion in a support of the support of exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Pony Baseball

Pleasanton/Livermore Pony Baseball will hold the 2008 Tiger Baseball General Meeting in August. All players ages 11-15 who are interested in participating in this unique program should attend this meeting by preregistering. To pre-register go to http:// www.pleasantonpony.com and fill out the program registration form.

Curves Launches Pet Food Drive

Twenty-two East Bay area Curves fitness clubs are helping dogs and cats in local animal shelters around the Bay Area. August 13-17, Curves fitness centers will be collecting and donating pet food and other pet items to shelters and rescue centers.

The Pet Food drive is the first event organized by Curves East Bay Co-operative, an organization of local Curves fitness franchisees in the San Francisco Bay

BULLETIN

Bulletin Board. Include name of organiza-tion, meeting date, time, place and theme or subject. Phone number and contact person should also be included.

War Made Easy: How Presidents & Pundits Keep Spinning Us To Death, will be shown at the IBEW Hall; 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin at 7 p.m. on Sat., Aug. 25.

This is a non-partisan, public event, \$3 donation or free, wheelchair accessible, and

refreshments are served. Meet & greet begins at 6:30 PM and a short discussion follows the

film. 925-462-3459. Vineyard Alternative Elementary/ Middle School, a Livermore School District

run independent study program for grades 1-8, is now accepting enrollment for the 2007-08 school year. A Parent Orientation Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21, 2007 at 10:00am in Room 8 at the Ed Rundstrom

at 10:00am in Room 8 at the Ed Rundström Learning Center, 1401 Almond Ave., Liver-more. This voluntary program is designed to assist parents who wish to instruct their children at home. The program provides, at no cost, educational materials that meet the district and state framework guidelines. For more information, call (025) 606-4740

more information, call (925) 606-4740.

Assistance League of Amador Valley

Assistance League of Amador Valley meeting at 7 p.m. on August 16th at Trinity Lutheran Church on the corner of Hopyard and Del Valle Parkway in Pleasanton. This meeting is open to everyone. There will be an informational half hour starting at 6:30 followed by social time at 7 and the regular meeting at view for 220. This is a property

meeting meeting at 7:30. This is a nonprofit organization dedicated to hands-on volunteerism, assisting those in need through

unique service projects such as, preschool eye screening, and caring for the retired and elderly and Operations School Bell - clothing

children in need and other projects. For more information: call 925-461-6401, email

alamadorvalley@yahoo.com; website: amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org.

Wine & Food Pairing Train with Ace Club, Sun., Aug. 26, 2:30 to 6 p.m. Niles Canyon Railway, 6 Kilkare Rd., Sunol. Cost

Say 50. Register at www.ncry.org/wine' For information, contact Mark at 408-849-4749 or go to www.ace-club.com. Ace Club is Silicon Valley's Adventure and Social Club. Livermore High School Class of 1958, 50 year reunion; Friday, May 30, 2008 at the Sheraton Hotel, Stoneridge Mall in Pleasan-on Attomation to locate and inform all

ton. Attempting to locate and inform all classmates of the upcoming event. Please

contact: Betty (Tilton) Garner in Pacifica, CA at 650-355-4195 or email her at

art obt-335-4195 of entait net at garnerbee@yahoo.com. Annual Luau, hosted by the Liver-more-Pleasanton Elks Lodge #2117 on Sat., Aug. 18. 6 p.m. evening includes a barbecue,

dancing and live entertainment. \$15. Prepaid

registration required by August 14, no tickets will be sold at the door. 455-8829. **TOPS (Take off pounds sensibly)**, a

nonprofit support group for people concerned with weight and interested in better nutrition.

Meetings 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. Mondays in room 19, Almond Ave. School (adult ed.),

1401 Almond Ave., Livermore. Visitors are

welcome. Information, call Sue, 462-6281,

August 21 at the City of Pleasanton Library from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. Presented by Diane

Keller, an Independent College Admissions Advisor with The College Connection, Pleas-anton. This free seminar is for parents and high school students to learn more about the

college admissions process. Topics include

how colleges evaluate applicants, how to find

a good fit, what to do before senior year, and

Peggy, 447-1995. College Admissions Seminar Tuesday,

Area. August 13 through 17, women have the opportunity to donate pet food or needed items in exchange for a free month when joining at participating Curves. Animal lovers can take advantage of this opportunity to help themselves become healthier while contributing to local animal shelters to help them offset the cost of caring for the animals.

"Curves in Livermore and our members want to assist our com-

Organizations wishing to run notices in Bulletin Board, send information to PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551, in care of

BOARD

to meet and what to bring. Adventure, The Pleasanton Senior Center's "Passport to Adventure" series continues on Friday, August 31st at 10 a.m. as guest speaker Dolores Bengston invites parficipants to visit the Dogon, Bozo and Gurunsi tribes of West Africa. Includes a look at the "Sea Salt Caravans" traveling to Timbuktu. No cost. 925-931-5365.

Danville Family Night, Thursday, August 16, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., wizards of all ages will be invited to "A Night For Wizards," Booths for games, arts & crafts, entertainment and magic potions will be set up in historic Danville for all to enjoy. Every wizard can participate in the Harry Potter Scavenger Hunt and follow clues to find Harry Potter items hidden in store windows. Everyone who returns with a completed scavenger hunt will be entered to win the seventh Harry Potter book. Bring the whole family for a stroll down the magical streets of historic Danville. The event is free and open to the public.

Livermore Area Blood Drive - Friday, August 17, 2:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue in the Gym. There is a severe shortage of blood in the Bay Area, and only 3% of the eligible people give blood. Please help save a life by giving blood. The process takes 1- $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and snacks and refreshments are served after you donate. You must be 17 years old, and have a form of identification with you. To sign up, go to www.GiveLife.org, and use ASBURY as the sponsor code. For information contact Tom Petty at 925-447-

information contact Tom Petty at 925-447-1950, menu #7 (leave a message) or e-mail BloodDrive@asburylive.org. Livermore-Amador Genealogy Soci-ety, meets Tues., Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Ct., Pleasanton. Marge Bell's presentation, "Churches and Cemeteries," will cover the kinds of records kept by most churches and cemeteries for biths marriage deaths and cemeteries for births, marriages, deaths and membership. Locating these records will be discussed. Information, contact Marie Ross at 447-1806.

Sister City Fund-raiser, Pleasanton/ Tulancingo BBQ 2007. Sat., Aug. 11, Pleasanton Fairgrounds, 5:30 to 11 p.m. Chips and salsa, salad, rolls, corn on the cob, beans, tri-tip, dessert. Silent and live auctions. Mystery door prize, music, no-host bar. Tickets \$30 per person in advance, \$35 at the door (limited availability); \$240 reserved table for eight with sponsor sign. Tickets available at Chamber of Commerce, Pleasan ton Downtown Association, or call Alice ryor 462-5786 or Jorge Victoria 462-6723. Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network,

new group to the area and will be holding an Open House on Mon., Aug. 20, at CrossWinds Church, 6444 Sierra Ct., Dublin at 7 p.m. Regularly scheduled meetings will be held on the shirt Mandheet for the state of th the third Monday of the month at the same time and location. Children are welcome! Please visit www.holisticmoms.org. **RELIGION**

RELIGION Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m. "The Importance of Showing Up," is the topic for Aug. 19, leader is Dorris Lee. Information 447-8747. Music for a Sabbath Evening: Com-positions by Clayton J. Foor. Sunday, August 19, 7:30 pm, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Featuring East Bay Festival Chorus; Flutes Con Moto; and Clayton Foor, Music Direc-Con Moto; and Clayton Foor, Music Direc-tor at Tri-Valley Unity Church in Dublin, on piano. Lively music in the classical tradition and brilliant new compositions. \$20 per person; \$40 per family of two or more. For tickets and more information, call 925-783-

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munity in different ways," said

Gayle Stewart, Livermore Curves

franchise owner. "Many of our

members are pet owners, and we

are delighted to have an oppor-

tunity to support our local ani-

mal shelters and the important

work they do. Studies show that

companionship of pets can

greatly improve the quality of

in the Granada Shopping Center

at 1129 Catalina Drive.

Curves Livermore is located

their owners."

26.09.25 Yard Fly: Grywczynski, Joey, BH, 20.96. 100 Yard Free Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Reznick, Cole 6, Louderback, Joseph 6, Torres, Robert 6, Skinner, Nick 6), 1:32.64. 100 Yard Medley Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Torres,

Relay: Chin SportPleasanton-CC A (10rres, Robert 6, Reznick, Cole 6, Skinner, Nick 6, Louderback, Joseph 6), 1:46.35.
Boys 7-8: 25 Yard Free: Sornsen, Tom, RHST-CC, 15.47. 25 Yard Back: Wooldridge, Ben, CSP-CC, 18.10#. 25 Yard Breaststroke: Clark, Nicholas, CSP-CC, 23.45. 25 Yard Ehr, Wicholas, CSP-CC, 22.45. 25 Yard Fly: Wooldridge, Ben, CSP-CC, 16.26. 100 Yard Free Relay: Club CSP-CC, 16.26. 100 Yard Free Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Clark, Nicholas 8, Miller, Jack 8, Martin, Michael 8, Wooldridge, Ben 7), 1:06.12. 100 Yard Medley Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Martin, Michael 8, Clark, Nicholas 8, Wooldridge, Ben 7, Miller, Jack 8), 1:16.72. **Boys 9-10**: 50 Yard Free: Toney, Jorell, DUB-CC, 30.65. 25 Yard Back: Newman, Jake, DP-CC, 18.58. 25 Yard Breaststroke Sabatini, Tommy, DP-CC, 19.65. 25 Yard Fly: Toney. Jorell, DUB-CC. 15.28. 100

Fly: Toney, Jorell, DUB-CC, 15.28. 100 Yard IM: Toney, Jorell, DUB-CC, 1:20.25. 200 Yard Free Relay: Pleasanton Meadows-US 'A' (Cheney, Perry 10, Platt, Charles 10, Geasa, Jack 9, Tucker, Nicholas 9), 2:16.44. 100 Yard Medley Relay: Del Prado Stingrays-CC 'A' (Newman, Jake 9, Sabatini, ommy 9, Balas, Peter 10, Hrycewicz, Theo

10), 1:14.86. Boys 11-12: 50 Yard Free: Johnston, **Boys 11-12:** 50 Yard Free: Jonnston, Nick, RHST-CC, 28.42. 50 Yard Back: Becker, David, DBAC, 36.78. 50 Yard Breaststroke: Dallos, Aldin, PMST-US, 39.66. 50 Yard Fly: Johnston, Nick, RHST-CC, 31.80. 100 Yard IM: Johnston, Nick, RHST-CC, 1:13.72. 200 Yard Free Relay: DPAC Suite Torm: 54: (Bederee: Velby: DBAC Swim Team 'A' (Pedersen, Kaleb 1 Kim, Austin 12, Huang, Daniel 1 Gates, Griffith 12), 2:05.01. 200 Yard Medley Relay: Club Sport Pleasanton-CC 'A' (Horne, Jeff 12, Jetter, Cayla 12, Miller, Arin 12, Holt, Braden 11), 2:25.28.

Boys 13-14: 50 Yard Free: Surber, Kyle,

Sunset Team Awards

Sunset Swim Team held its annual awards BBQ Saturday night at Sunset Ca-bana Club on Cordoba Street, in Livermore.

Honoree's included: William Hughes, Greg Brown Memorial Award, Kelsey Thand the following: Most Valuable Swim-mers: Bailee Alvarez-Walls, Reid Heffron, Christine Danforth, Wesley Katz, Nicolle Glover, Tristan Knuth, Katherine Orrell, Alec Grabarek, Emma Hughes, Ryan Linhart, Mary Rosa and Caleb Sharp. Most Improved Swimmers: Bryn Murphy, Jason Wigginton, Jovana Solis, Sam Knuth, Annalise Lemler, Blake Richards, Lauren Darling, Brian Garcia, Cassi McDiarmid, Brandon Pitts, Emily Philpott and James Peters. Sunset Spirit Awards: Tami Lee, Aidan Ackerman, Haley Rosa, Jack Walker, Katie Lortie, Kyle Chong, Nicole Mindione, Logan Glover, Katelyn

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Pony Registration

Pony Baseball Pleasanton/Livermore/ 2007 Fall Ball season for ages 5 to 10. Ages 11 to 14 will register with the Pony Baseball Tiger program. Games begin Sun., Sept. 23 and continue for six Sundays. For more information or to register for Fall Ball or Tiger Baseball go www.pleasantonpony.com or www.livermorepony.com.

CYO Basketball

St. Michael's/St. Charles CYO Basket-ball is now accepting registration for 07/08 season. Register on-line at www.smsccyo.org for player's 1st - 8th grade, coaches and referees. Sign-ups on line conclude August 17. Late registration will be accepted at try-out. View the website for more information outs. Visit the website for more information or email vince@teamwpd.com . CYO hot line number 925-417-5429.

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how to prepare a strong application. For more information, please contact Diane Keller at 925-963-2932 or drkellercc@yahoo.com.

Livermore Lunch Bunch Toastmaster's Club presents a special guest speaker, comedian Richard Stockton, who will be giving his presentation entitled, "How to Turn Fear of Public Speaking into a Great Presentation." Monday, August 13, 2007, at the Livermore Public Library, Com-munity Room, 1188 So. Livermore Ave., at 12:00-1:00 pm. Lunch will be catered by Fusions. Space will be limited, so please RSVP to Rosmary Bartsch at 925-456-6001. For more information about the club visit

www.livermoretoastmasters.org. Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Aug. 18, 47 miles Moraga Loop from Shannon Center to Castro Valley and Moraga, meet 9 a.m. Peter Rathmann, 818-1973. Sun., Aug. 19, 30ish miles from Walnut Creek BART, meet 8 a.m., Kandice McDonald, 505-400-1609. Sun., Aug. 19, 30 miles to first Calaveras summit and back, meet 9 a.m. at drive-thru dairy on Neal St. Pleasanton, Jonathan Quist, 510-881-5295. Wed., Aug. 22, 40ish miles, Diablo Junction up South Gate and return down North Gate, meet 9 a.m. at Park 'n Ride, Henry Lam, 708-4066. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where

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Pen Women Display Work

An exhibition of work by members of the Diablo-Alameda Branch of American Pen Women is currently at the John O'Lague Galleria in Hayward.

"Art: Believe/Achieve" will be at the gallery through September 27.

Pen Women represented are Kazumi Cranney, Elaine Drew, Evelyn Glaubman, Elizabeth Hack, Lenona Nichandros, Dori Pendergrass, Clarice Roberts, Glenvs Hunt Ronan, Charlotte Severin, Pallayi Sharma, Barbara Spanskie, Frances Spencer, and Tomye.

The National League of American Pen Women began in 1897 in Washington, D.C., when three well known professionals in the fields of writing and art were denied access to the Press Club because they were women. The three formed their own orga-



"Matilija Poppies" by Charlotte Severin, watercolor on Yupo paper.

nization of seventeen women of achievement in letters, art, and music composition. The get-together for networking and to provide support. Presently about 4000 meet for support and inspiration.

The Gallery is located at Hayward City Hall, 777 B Street. Hours are weekends 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Camp Arroyo Paintings at Library

The Livermore Art Association (LAA) is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. To commerate this event, the LAA artists are sponsoring an exhibit at the Livermore Library Gallery featuring the many different types of art that they represent.

As a special added feature, a group of LAA artists conducted a Plein Aire painting of Camp Arroyo.

Camp Arroyo is in the Livermore hills and is managed by the YMCA, East Bay Regional Parks, and the Taylor Family Foundation.

The exhibit runs from August



lery is located at 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore and is open during business hours. For more information call LAA at 449-9927

tor/conductor Jonathan Khuner. Stripped of all the preten-

always been there, but buried and smothered under the burden

Here we have the most visually believable Aida in memory: a thin, stoic-faced slave-princess, hiding her true rank from the conquering princess she now serves. She is also hiding a hopeless love for the warrior who has just vanquished her people, and been promised to her mistress as husband and co-ruler.

woman sings with passion, volume, conviction, and a vibrato that throbs with heartbreaking anguish. It was an emotional vocal performance that connected viscerally with the audience, as did her electrifying acting, from desperation to courageous resolve. Welcome Juyeon Song to the roster of brilliant new artists we hope to hear again soon

Aida's haughty mistress, Princess Amneris, jealously suspi-cious of a possible rival, was sung by impressive mezzo Jennifer Roderer. Her rich powerful voice practically raised the roof of the Julia Morgan Theater with the force of her frenzied emotions. Her carefully controlled cajoling of Aida to elicit her secret love was a believable and chilling change of voice and style, showing the range of her acting versatility. A rare artist who always sings full-throttle, even in rehear sals, she is also a "must-seeagain" star.

Caught between these two strong women is the unfortunate soldier-hero Radames, in love with Aida, but officially betrothed to Princess Amneris. Kevin Courtemanche's ringing tenor and fearlessly-flung high notes made even long-time "Aida"-lovers sit up, take notice,

gan the Act I trio, expressing their conflicting emotions, it was a high-powered dramatic expe-rience. Confined to a small stage, their passionate energy was in-tensified by physical proximity, unlike the spread-out ensembles in big-stage productions, and more like scorpions in a bottle. The same energy carried through the rousing scene of Radames public sendoff to battle, and the grand Triumphal March. Not surprisingly, even the "small" duets exploded with unusual force and tension, especially the Amneris-Aida rivalry scene, the powerful psychological confrontation between Aida and her disguised father Amonasro, Aida's subsequent seduction of Radames to flee with her, and Amneris final desperate bid for Radames' life and love. The immediacy of this theatrical energy was obvious from the enthusiastic audience reaction. A long-time opera lover who had even seen "Aida" (com-

Don't Always Believe Those (Other) Critics

By Susan Steinberg I was prejudiced against Ber-keley Opera's "Aida" without ever seeing it. After reading two scathing reviews by other critics, I envisioned the new produc-tion as an ugly throwback to Berkeley's 1960's "Guerilla Theater."

Alan Frank, founder of our Livermore Valley Opera, and a member of the "Aida" chorus, persuaded me to go judge the show for myself, for which I am humbly grateful. This new take on an old classic was an exciting, effective, and vocally stunning collaboration by director Yuval Sharon and artistic direc-

tious pageantry and traditional stylized staging, "Aida" is as in-tense an interpersonal drama as "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" with enough sex and violence, rivalry and betrayal to match any popular TV series. It's always been there, but buried of formalized productions.

Surprise – this slim young

and yell "Bravo"!

When these lead singers be-

plete with elephants) in Rome's Baths of Caracalla, exclaimed, "Why would anyone do it any other way than this?'

I agree completely. This is the real "Ăida", without all the gorgeous ceremonial window-dressing: a personal human tragedy like that of today's British Royals. It is also a painfully realistic political parable, as referential of Caesar's Rome, the Third Reich, or Stalin's USSR as it is to contemporary world events.

The naked ugliness of war and the clichéd patriotism trotted out by militaristic leaders to popularize the carnage of combat were also basic to Verdi's humanitarian message. But productions parading nearly-naked Nubian warriors, writhing slave girls, and blaring blood-stirring trumpets in the Grand Triumphal March usually smooth over the horror of war with glorious pomp and circumstance.

Not in this production, which bared the cynical workings of manipulative government, con-trolling the media to show a care-fully-calculated façade, and rouse the populace to a war-committed frenzy.

Glory to God, and let's rush on to victory" is the rallying slogan from king and high priest alike – the united power structure – until the people's cries of "War, War, War!" are deafening.

Behind-the-scenes (or rather on the upper stage level) coldblooded acts of torture, murder, and debauchery played out very aptly while idealistic platitudes of religiosity, patriotism, and ideal love were being sung. Some of the explicit nastiness was admittedly hard to take, and even distracted at times from the music, but it effectively evoked the world of tyrannical governmental corruption, hypocrisy, and abuse of power.

Does any of this sound familiar? After an initial quick victory, there was even a triumphal baninscribed "Missione ner Compiuta" (Mission Accomplished).

Unfortunately, reviewers repelled by this aspect of the production published some very negative opinions, a decided disservice to the ticket-buying public. To their credit, they did praise the voices of the entire cast, as well as the off-stage chorus, all richly deserving of plaudits. Livermore Valley Opera's fa-vorite Figaro, Jo Vincent Parks,

in the role of Amonasro, King of Ethiopia, literally commanded the stage. Even in the rags and humble demeanor of a conquered prisoner, he was obviously a larger-than-life force of fighting spirit. His powerful voice and strong acting ability elicited spontaneous "bravos" hardly ever associated with the stiff father-figure of most traditional

ment, he showed himself a shameless hypocrite: all professional piety in public and an abandoned sensualist in private.

Even that ultimate cipher, the King of Egypt, came to life in Paul Cheak's preening persona: the benevolent smiling patriarch on camera, but the cold-blooded tyrant off-screen. Without the impressive regalia of their high offices, these three male characters emerged as recognizable power-figures on the contemporary world stage, and it was genuinely frightening.

In fact, that was the key to this small-scale production's impact: the powerful intimate passions of the vital young protagonists and the painfully bitter re-alism of its timeless political message. The cheering audiences obviously "got it." Why didn't all the critics?

Congratulations from this critic to Stage Director Yuval Sharon for his insightful vision. Seeing the triumphant commander Radames returning "vincitor" (conqueror) in ā wheelchair grimacing in pain brought to mind all-too-vivid images of today's disabled vets.

Great praise is due to Conductor Jonathan Khuner for an amazingly effective "mini-or-chestration" of a major big-pit score, and for one of the truest libretto translations in memory. Eschewing the usual graceful euphemisms, it finally gives au-diences the straightforward words of Verdi himself.

Chorus director Mark Sumner pulled off a minor miracle with a strong-voiced well-timed chorus singing com-pletely hidden behind the set, but almost never sounding ragged of off-beat.

Projection Designer Jeremy Knight provided most amazing special effects. His combined live and pre-recorded imagery in the Triumphal March video was a theatrical tour-de-force of realistic and surrealistic imagery that enhanced the sense of artificially-contrived political pageantry.

Finally, hats off to young Charlotte Khuner for her cheerful patriotic dance routine, which devolved into the vicious beating and killing of an "enemy figure." As a fresh-faced and innocent-looking 11-year-old, she symbolized the cadres of children currently being indoctrinated with the glorious virtue of murdering their enemies all over the world.

It was one more chilling dose "Reality Theater" that re-emphasized Verdi's relevance to world politics. As they still say in Italy, "Viva Verdi!" like Shakespeare, a voice for the ages. (The production has closed.)



LIVERMORE CINEMAS			2490 First Street 443-SHOW			
RUSH HOUR 3 (PG 10) DLP THX	12	10	1:15 6:40		3:30 9:05	
THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM (POINDUP			12:40 6:40			4:30 10:00
STARDUST (PG(3) DUP			12:30	3:35	6:35	9:10
SIMPSONS MOVIE (FG13) DLP	12	05	2:20	4:40	7:00	9:05
UNDERDOG (PO) DUP	1:10 3:	15	4:45	5:20	7:30	9:40
DADDY DAY CAMP (PG) DLP	12	00	2:15	4:35	6:459	9:00
NO RESERVATIONS (PG) DUP			12:15	3:20	6:55	9:25
HAIRSPRAY (PG) DLP			12:10	3:00	6:30	9:10
I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY	Y (PG13) D	up.	12:30	3:10	6:35	9:20
RATATOUILLE GOOLP					1:20	7:00
HOT ROD (PG13) DUP					12:25	7:10
TRANSFORMERS POID OUP					3:30	9:10





Photo - Doug Jorgensen Pastel artist Lenore Kriet demonstrated her technique during the Livermore Art Association's annual Montmartre: A Little Bit of Paris in the Park event at Carnegie Park last weekend.

Authors of New 'Dune' Books to Speak at Livermore Library

Sandworms of Dune brings together the great story lines and beloved characters in Frank Herbert's classic Dune universe. Based directly on Frank Herbert's final outline, which lay hidden in a safe-deposit box for a decade, Kevin Anderson and Brian Herbert, Frank Herbert's son, will finally answer the urgent questions Dune fans have been debating for two decades. This free event will be presented on Thursday, August 16th at 6pm at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us For further information about programs, please contact Joyce Nevins at (925) 373-5500 extension 5577.

Painting "Camp Arroyo" by Larry Gipson 2-31 . The Library Artists' Gal-

Men of Worth Perform at Library

Men of Worth will be performing at the Livermore Library on Thurs., Aug. 16. The program begins at 7 p.m.

The Celtic/folk music duo of James Keigher and Donnie Macdonald, have been performing music from Ireland and Scotland since 1986. Their show is a unique combination of humor, exciting tunes, and soulful, heartfelt ballads. Blending their voices in harmony, James and Donnie perform on a varied selection of instruments. Men of Worth perform internationally at concerts and festivals, and have recorded seven albums.

This free event will be presented at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 So. Livermore Ave.. The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series.

For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us. For more information, please contact Joyce Nevins at (925) 373-5500 extension 5577.



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Ramfis the High Priest, an-other traditional cardboard cutout character, was also personalized by popular basso William Pickersgill. A cold and menacing



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Performance is December 9th at Bankhead Theater in Livermore.



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nation is suggested. For more in-

formation call 443-9740.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT



Grant Lowenstein, a Livermore resident, plays the role ofMayor of the Munchkins in the Woodminster Summer Musicals' "The Wizard of Oz." The show runs August 10-19 in historic Woodminster Amphitheater in Oakland's Joaquin Miller Park. Grant returns to Woodminster for his second season, after having played Edgar in "Ragtime" in 2006. In "The Wizard of Oz," Grant plays the Mayor of a group of 21 Munchkins portrayed by children aged 4 to 14, living in 11 different Bay Area cities and attending 17 different schools. "The Wizard of Oz," plays August 10-19 at the Woodminster Amphitheater in Joaquin Miller Park, 3300 Joaquin Miller Road, Oakland. Tickets can be purchased at 510-531-9597 or www.woodminster.com, \$23-\$36 (\$2 discount for children/ seniors).

- '60s Hair, tribal love-rock musical.Friday-Saturday, Aug. 10-11, 17-18 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 19 at 2 p.m. University Theatre, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward tickets for the CSUEB production, at \$14 general, \$12 senior/youth/alumni, and \$8 for CSUEB students, may be reserved at (510) 885-3261, or purchased at the door beginning one hour prior to show time.
- Auditions, The Las Positas College Theater Department will hold audi tions for The Diviners, by Jim Leonard, Jr. on Wednesday and Thursday nights, August 22 and 23 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. The play is a poignant drama set in middle American during the Great Depression and tells the story of a boy with a traumatic fear of water and the former preacher who tries to free him from his fear. There are five female and six male roles of various ages, including a boy between the ages of 11

and 17. Auditions will be held in the theater on campus, 3033 Collier Canyon Road in Livermore. Please bring a prepared audition monologue. Performances will be November 9-18. For more information, call (925) 424-1166 email

kross@laspositascollege.edu. Saturday Night Funnies, Aug. 11, 8 p.m. Bothwell Arts Center West End . Stage, 8th and H Streets, Livermore. Laugh-A-Lot Products presents stand up Bay Area comedians. Doors open at 7 p.m. Seating on first come, first served basis. \$12. Information 264-4413

info@laughalot productions.com.Jazz at the Ridge, Poppy Ridge Golf Course, 4280 Greenville Rd., Liver-

- more. Every Thursday 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Smooth jazz by Two Guys or Opie Bellas and Jeff Massanar. Infor-456-8215 mation info@poppyridgegolf.com.
- **Tuesday Tunes**, June 5 to October 16, 2007 Livermore Downtown Inc. Free live music at the Flag Pole Plaza 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Information: 925-373-1795

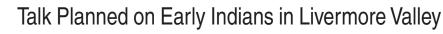
www.livermoredowntown.com. Ceramics by Hanno Hagen, Wente Vineyards Estate Winery tasting room, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. The exhibit will be on display throughout the month of August. For information please call 925-456-2305.

- The Mad Woman of Chaillot, Las Positas College production. August 11 and 12. Outdoor performance on campus, 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. Information, 925-424-1100 or www.laspositascollege.edu/ performingarts. \$10 general admission, \$7 seniors/students.
- Comedy Showcase. Wednesdays 8:00-10:00 pm featuring 6-7 of the best comedians in the Bay Area. Doors open at 6:30, show starts at 8pm. Produced by Laugh-A-Lot Productions \$7.00 cover charge will be collected at the door. Full Restaurant and Bar menu available. No reservations required. Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-8106.
- Sunday Blues and BBQ from 4-8 pm on the Patio during August and Sep-tember, beginning August 11. Bands: August 12 Sinister Blues Band; August 19 Georgi & the Roughweek; August 26 No Band; September 2 Screamin Iain & the Diving Ducks; September 9 Kathleen Cairns & Tattoo Blue; September 16 Annie Sampson; September 23 Jack Pollard Band; September 30 Top Secret. Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-8106.
- Blues on the Patio Thursdays 5:30-9:30 pm August 9 Johnny Nitro and the Doorslammers; August 16 Bluestate Band; August 23 Kathleen Cairns & Tattoo Blue; August 30 Marshall Law Band with Sam; September 6 Highwater Blues Band; Sep-tember 13 Nite Cry; September 20 Kathleen Cairns & Tattoo Blue; September 27 Georgie and the Rough Week. No cover charge. Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-8106

History - Ed Kinney Lecture series, August 16: Ice Age Mammals of the East Bay. Guest speaker will be Joyce Blueford from the Math Science Nucleus and the Gordon Fossil Hall. The Museum On Main in Pleasanton. Lectures are at 7 p.m. at the museum. Reservations are requested. \$5 members/\$10 nonmembers. Memberships available for purchase. The museum is located at 603 Main Street, downtown Pleasanton. For information, call (925) 462-2766.

- The Mundaze at the WestEnd Stage, The Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street (between "G" and "H" Streets), Livermore. August 17, 8pm (doors open at 7:30). \$10. Tickets may be placed on hold at lryan@livermoreperformingarts.org or 925-447-ARTS. Seating is limited.
- Wine and Words, Sun., August 19, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Martinelli Event Cen-ter. Catered by Garre Winery and Cafe in Livermore. Featured Readers : Paul Hoover and Jennifer Sweeney. Hosted by Livermore Poet Laureate Connie Post. Featured readers begin at 2 p.m.; open mic after a short break. Admission \$5.

Family Movies Under the Stars, at Emerald Glen Park, Dublin. Pre-sented by City of Dublin..All movies are free of charge and open to the public. All ages are welcome. Fri., Aug. 10; "Charlotte's Web" (g) on Fri., Aug. 24; and "Curious George: (g) on Fri., Sept. 7. 4201 Central Parkway. Arrival time is 7:30 p.m. (maxia start at duch) Beforehment. (movies start at dusk). Refreshments, including candy, popcorn and soda, are available for sale. Attendees can bring their own snacks. People are encouraged to bring blankets and low beach chairs to sit on. No pets, please. For information, call 556-4500 or go to www.ci.dublin.ca.us.



The Livermore Heritage Guild will present a talk on "Early Indians in the Livermore Valley" on Wed., Aug. 15.

The guest speaker will be Beverly Ortiz, who works as a Naturalist at Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont. In her work she coordinates a program through which several Ohlone and Bay Miwok share their history and cultures with people. During her talk, she will provide an overview of the cultures, land management practices, social and political organization, and history of the Indians in the Valley from the past to the present. She will also describe the significance of Brushy Peak and other local places to nearby tribes.

Ortiz is a Ph.D. Candidate in Cultural Anthropology at UC Berkeley. She has conducted cultural research with more than 200 individuals of California Indian descent from tribal areas spanning the state. In addition she has published one book, several book chapters, and more than 100 articles about California Indians.

The talk will be given on Wednesday, August 15, at the Civic Center Library, 1188 S.



Livermore Ave., Livermore. Doors will open at 7 pm; talk is at 7:30 pm. Come early for re-

(continued from page one)

a State of California Historical Point of Interest, and is a City of Livermore Historic Preservation Landmark Site. The Ravenswood home was built by Christopher A. Buckley, Sr., known as the "Blind Boss" of San Francisco politics in the 1870's and 80's. Ŵhile it served as a summer home for the Buckley family from 1885 to 1920, it was also one of the larger early vineyards in the Livermore Valley, with 100 acres in grapes and winery production of 500,000 gallons per year.

located at 2647 Arroyo Road in Livermore. Ravenswood is open for free public tours from noon to 4:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Costumed docents lead hourlong tours starting every 20 minutes, with the final tour of the day beginning at 3:00 p.m. Also open on public tour days is the Ravenswood Progress League Gift Shop, located in the Tank House and featuring Victorian style gifts and souvenirs. For more information, please call (925) 443-0238.



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CLASSIFIEDS

County on July 13, 2007. Expires July 13, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2199. Publish July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

The Independent Legal No. 2201. Publish July 26, August 2, 9, 16, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

pires July 12, 2012.

FILE NO. 398225 The following person (s) doing business as Vision Industries, 2349 Bluebell Dr., Liver-more CA 94551 is hereby reg-

FILE NO. 398361 The following person (s) doing business as Kim's Realty, 2092 Eilene Drive, Pleasanton CA 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Kimberly Ann Graves, 2092

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

2, 9, 16, 2007.

Signature of Registrant: Tri-Valley Animal Rescue /s/:Aaron Ebinger hosts cat and dog adoptions This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 26, 2007. Expires July 26, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2205. Publish August 2, 9, 16, 23, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 398312

Ronald Stokes, 4948 Mines

Mary Ann J. Allen, 2944 Perla,

This business is conducted

The registrant commenced to

transact business under the

fictitious business name or

names listed above on July 1,

/s/:Ronald Stokes and Mary

This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda

County on July 13, 2007. Ex-

The Independent Legal No. 2206. Publish August 9, 16, 23,

AKC Purebred Labrador

Retriever Puppies, Females \$550.00, Males: \$500.00.

(209)832-5180

pires July 13, 2012.

ANIMALS/PETS

1) CATS/DOGS

Signature of Registrant:

Bd Livermore CA 94550

NewPort Beach CA 92660

by:a general partnership

owner (s)

2007.

Ann J. Allen

30. 2007

at the Pleasanton Farmers Market on Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Cat adoptions are at Dublin Pet Food Express on Saturdays from 12 to 4 PM (excluding 4th Sat) and on Sundays from 1 to 4 Adoptions at Dublin PetsMart on Saturdays from 12 to 4 PM and on Sundays from The following person (s) do 1 to 4 PM, dog adoptions on ing business as Help-U-Sell Allen Realty, 4171 1st Street. the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM and rab-Livermore CA 94551 is hereby bit adoptions on the 2nd and registered by the following 4th Saturday of the month from

1 to 4 PM. For more informa-

tion please visit www.tvar.org

4

f

START OF SOMETHING

or call (925) 803-7043.

RETAIL

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at 925 426-8656. 5)FOUND FOUND CAT, Small Long-Haired Cat. Female 925 249-1935

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rehv re following owner (s): Gary Toralph Bruton, 315 North "K" Street, Livermore CA. 94551 Harold Arnold Pierce, 315 North "K" Street, Livermore CA, 94551 This business is conducted by:a limited partnership Registrant has not vet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant /s/:Gary T. Bruton and Harold A. Pierce This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 12, 2007, Expires July 12, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2197. Publish July 19, 26, August 2, 9, 2007.

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 398233

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 398325

The following person (s) doing business as Las Positas Vineyards, 2306 Gloria Court Pleasanton CA, 94588 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Maier Winery, LLC, 2306 Gloria Court, Pleasanton CA 94588 This business is conducted by:limited liability company Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/̈ːLisal Maier and Lothar Maier This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda

Country Flooring, 1459 Chianti Court, Livermore Ca 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Wine Country Flooring, 1459 Chianti Court, 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 October 10 2002 Signature of Registrant: /s/:Makolm D. Trunnell This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

by:an individual 2007. Signature of Registrant: pires July 11, 2012.

County on July 19, 2007. Expires July 19, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2, 9, 16, 2007. 2200. Publish July 26, August

2, 9, 16, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 398246 The following person (s) doing business as Trends Global, 6350 Carson Pass Way. Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Trends Global LLC, 6350 Carson Pass Way, Livermore CA 94551 This business is conducted by:limited liability company The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on May 9, 2007. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Erwin F. Chiong This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 12, 2007. Ex-

Eilene Drive, Pleasanton CA istered by the following owner 94588 James F. Johnson, 2349 Bluebell Dr., Livermore CA, 94551 This business is conducted

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 1,

/s/:James F. Johnson This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 11, 2007. Ex-The Indépendent Legal No.

2202. Publish July 26, August FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 398296 The following person (s) doing business as Black Hills Enterprises, 16678 Bivar Court, Pleasanton CA 94566

is hereby registered by the following owner (s): James A. Perry, 1667 Bivar Court. Pleasanton CA 94566 This business is conducted by:an individual The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on June 22, 2007.

Signature of Registrant: /s/:James A. Perrv This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 13, 2007. Expires July 13, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2203. Publish July 26, August

This business is conducted by:an individual Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed Signature of Registrant:

/s/:Kimberly A. Graves This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 16, 2007. Expires July 16, 2012. The Independent Legal No 2204. Publish August 2, 9, 16, 23, 2007

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO 398909

The following person (s) doing business as Hi Tech Wood Custom Floors, 1883 Valley of The Moon Road. Livermore CA, 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Aaron O. Ebinger, 1883 Valley of The Moon Road, Livermore CA. 94550

This business is conducted by:an individual The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 23, 2007.

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- Housekeeping Associates
- Evening Ad Set/Pricing Associates

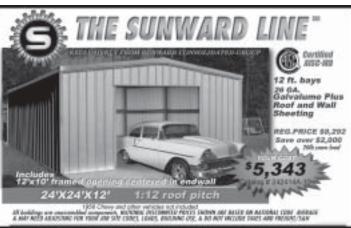
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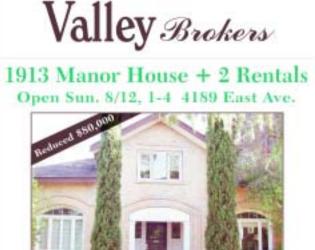
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Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Pleasanton Arch celebrated its 75th birthday last Wednesday with what else, but a birthday cake. It was created by Noland's Cake Shop.

Groundbreaking Corneal Transplant Performed

ValleyCare Health System ophthalmologist Michael Gagnon, M.D. recently per-formed the first corneal transplant without sutures (stitches) in the Tri-Valley at ValleyCare's Out-patient Surgery Center in Livermore.

The procedure, called DSEK, was introduced in the U.S. a little over two years ago. At the University of Utah while doing his corneal fellowship, Dr. Gagnon helped to perform the first sutureless corneal transplants in the state of Utah. When he joined the Valley Eye Care practice in Livermore and Pleasanton, Dr. Gagnon, who specializes in corneal and refractive surgery, brought it to the Tri-Valley. The traditional method of cor-

neal transplant, which has been around for nearly 100 years, is to cut out the entire cornea (somewhat like a circle cookie cutter) and to stitch in place a donated cornea. This type of surgery requires a longer recovery and usually takes one – two years to fully regain sight. Because astigmatism normally develops after traditional surgery, a contact lens is required. In addition, the structural integrity of the eye is comprised, which can cause serious eye injury or loss of sight if a person were to fall or bump their eye.

According to Dr. Gagnon, the sutureless transplant is a huge boon for patients. "Not only is the recovery time much shorter, but most patients regain sight within one to two months compared to one to two years," said Gagnon. "In addition, the structure of the eye is stronger because we only make a very tiny incision to remove just the diseased part of the cornea and insert the donated cornea through the same small incision. It is somewhat similar to cataract surgery today," he said. Another advantage is that no contact lens is required because this new surgery doesn't cause astigmatism. "It is much better for the patient all around," said Gagnon.

Seventy-nine year-old Livermore resident Anton Kuendig and his wife Aida can attest to the advantages. Nearly blind in one eye with vision of 20/300, he can

now see almost 20/50 in just a little over a month following the surgery. Recovery time for the traditional method was one to two years compared to one to two months. "He had no pain and his vision has definitely improved," said Mrs. Kuendig (speaking for her husband who has Alzheimers). "Having the surgery right here in Livermore was such a blessing. Before Dr. Gagnon came, we were thinking of having the surgery in Concord. That would have meant getting a room. This was so convenient,' she said.

Cornea transplants are used when a person's eyesight is extremely poor due to eye disease such as Fuch's Dystrophy or Pseudophakic Bullous Keratopathy. This new procedure can be used for all of these as well as for a failed cornea transplant. Some corneal diseases like keratoconus and corneal scars still require a traditional corneal transplant. "With the tremendous patient benefits using this new method, I fully expect that sutureless corneal transplants will soon become the standard procedure," said Dr. Gagnon.

U.S. House Passes Energy Package

The U.S. House of Representatives last Saturday passed a package of energy legislation that would promote conservation and the use of renewable resources.

The New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act, a combination of H.R. 3221 and 2776, passed the House over the weekend, 241 to 172. It would require more energy effi-ciency in appliances, buildings and power grids. It also would provide grants for studies to promote ethanol pipelines, installation of pumps for 85 percent ethanol fuel at gas stations and production of cellulosic ethanol.

Fifteen percent of electricity from private utilities must come from solar, wind or other renewable energy sources. The legislation closes loopholes that offer incentives for businesses to purchase gas-guzzling vehicles and

repeals \$23 billion in tax subsi-dies and royalty relief provisions for big oil companies.

Congressman Jerry McNernev (CA-11) praised the House of Representatives for passing landmark energy legislation that he says will help lead the nation to energy independence, make the nation more secure, create new, good-paying American jobs, reduce energy costs to consumers, and fight global warming.

"Today the House took a giant step forward in providing a new direction for American energy policy by passing legislation that will expand the use of renewable energy, create new American jobs, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and begin to tackle the issue of global warming," McNerney said.

According to McNerney, the initiative approved by the House strengthens national security by reducing our dependence on foreign oil, making the largest investment in homegrown biofuels in history, and repealing giveaways to big oil companies. The legislation also supports cutting edge-research and the development of new technologies that will bring down energy costs and

help create new jobs. The legislation includes pro-visions of a bill originally authored by McNerney, the Advanced Geothermal Energy Research and Development Act, H.R. 2304, which will increase research and development funding for next-generation geother-"Geothermal mal technology. is just one element of the solution to ending our dependence on foreign oil," said McNerney. "Doing so will make our nation more secure and is good for consumers and the environment.

"I am excited about the effort we took because it will mean the creation of an entire spectrum of good-paying jobs here in the United States," Rep. McNerney said. "Conservative estimates show that clean technology could create at least 500,000 jobs in the next few years. I believe California's 11th district offers a number of advantages to researchers and manufacturers and is well-positioned to benefit from cleantech job creation."

Energy Secretary Samuel W. Bodman had a different view. 'Today the House passed legis-

Bellamy In Charge of Finance & Administration

David Bellamy, a former financial executive from The Body Shop and Intel Corp., has been appointed Vice President of Finance and Administration at Alain Pinel Realtors, announced President & COO Larry Knapp.

Bellamy has 20 years of experience across a broad range of financial functions at the corporate, division and operating levels. Most recently he was CFO, VP Finance, Real Estate & IT at The Body Shop, a \$1.5 billion global specialty retailer and a subsidiary of L'Oreal. As CFO of The Body Shop, he was responsible for all financial, real estate and conlation that does little to increase our nation's energy security or reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In fact, the bills will actually lead to less domestic oil and gas production and increased dependence on imported oil."

Bodman noted that the measure would lead to higher energy costs and higher taxes. He would recommend that the President veto the bill.

struction functions within the Americas region. Previous posts with The Body Shop include VP Real Estate and Director of Planning & Analysis.

At Alain Pinel Realtors, Bellamy will manage corporate finance and administration.

Bellamy, a Certified Public Accountant, has a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from University of Santa Clara, a B. Com (Accounting) from the University of Cape Town, South Africa, and a Master of Business Administration in Finance from the University of Chicago.







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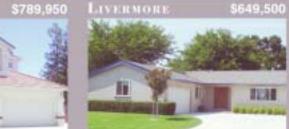
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