

VOLUME XLIV, NUMBER 48

Your Local News Source Since 1963

McNerney has written to VA

acting secretary Gordon Mansfield stating that with the

"nation's overseas engagements creating a new generation of vet-erans, we should be working to

expand services to veterans. The

Livermore VA Medical Center

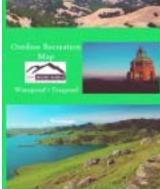
presents just such an opportunity.

The peaceful, serene setting is ideal for a treatment clinic for

SERVING LIVERMORE • PLEASANTON • SUNOL

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2007

MOUNT DIABLO LOS VAQUEROS



Definitive Map Off Mt. Diablo Area Available

For the past two and a half years Save Mount Diablo's volunteer map committee has been working to produce the first re-gional trail map of the Diablo region. The effort was funded entirely with two grants from REI, Recreational Equipment Inc., totaling \$9,000.

The map, "Mount Diablo, Los Vaqueros & Surrounding Parks, Featuring the Diablo Trail," is

now available to the public, The new regional recreation map is full color, double-sided, waterproof and tearproof. It details nearly 90,000 acres of protected land throughout Central and Eastern Contra Costa County. The map, which includes hill shading, illustrates what has been accomplished and what private lands still need to be protected.

When SMD was formed in 1971 there was just one park on the mountain measuring 6,788 acres (about 10.5 square miles). Public and protected lands around Mt. Diablo State Park have increased significantly since that time; the map covers 250,000 acres (390 square miles), of which over 90,000 acres are public or protected (141 square miles versus 1971's 10.5 square

(See MAP, page 10)

CHP Officer Loses His Life in

Study Shows Greater Need for Livermore VA

The Veterans Administration PTSD and other mental distress." needs to do more for the mental

McNerney made a similar health recovery of returning war pitch to the previous VA secreveterans. The Livermore VA camtary, James Nicholson, who expus is an ideal spot to help with pressed some interest in it bethe task, according to Rep. Jerry McNerney. (D-Pleasanton). fore he left office.

Nicholson was interested in considering a PTSD-focused treatment clinic on the Livermore campus "if such a need could be demonstrated," McNerney wrote Mansfield.

McNerney now has more information to back his call for using the campus for short-term mental health recovery periods for veterans. The congressman

cited an article in the Nov. 14 is-sue of the Journal of the American Medical Association, which reported on follow-up screenings of returning combat veterans.

An abstract of the article on the internet said that by instituting follow-up screenings three to six months after initial screenings, higher numbers of veterans were found to have more problems with such things as alcohol misuse, major depression, and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The combined two screenings found that 20 percent of active and 42 percent of re-

serve troops require mental health treatment.

"Soldiers frequently reported alcohol concerns, yet very few were referred to alcohol treatment. Concerns about interpersonal conflict increased fourfold. Most soldiers who used mental health services had not been referred, even though the majority accessed care within 30 days fol-

lowing the screening." McNerney called the Liver-more VA hospital "a perfect fit for the kinds of needed mental health services highlighted in the study.'

The decision to close VA campus has already been made. However, that was before the new study was released, said McNerney. Not only would the atmosphere be good, but the Livermore campus is only 15 miles from Camp Parks, where more than 20,000 Army reserve and California National Guard soldiers train.

"Many of these soldiers and their families have settled in the region and would find accessing the Livermore campus a conve-nient and accessible location upon their return to civilian life.' said McNerney.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Cottage Preschool in Livermore has held a Thanksgiving Feast for the past 30 years. The tradition continued last week with the children learning Thanksgiving songs, making necklaces and headbands, and preparing all of the food for their parents, siblings and grandparents. The children make all of the decorations (centerpieces and table runners). Everyone sits down together and shares a Thanksgiving meal.

County Asks Public To Help Expand Mental Health Services

Alameda County is looking to expand its mental health services, and is inviting the public and services expansion, which will non-profit providers to help de-

Prevention and early intervention are the themes for the be financed by an additional \$11

families, trauma-exposed people, children at risk for school failure, and youths involved in the juvenile justice system.

Forum Addresses **Theater Issues**

Financing, traffic, parking, and location were among the issues raised by those attending a forum on the regional theater proposed for downtown Livermore.

This was the second forum hosted by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAČ) to provide information to the public regarding the theater.

In addition to responding to questions from members of the public, LVPAC provided an update on the status of the theater.

Len Alexander, LVPAC executive director, described the regional theater as the third leg in projects planned by the nonprofit group. The first was the Bothwell Arts Center, designed to be a place where the visual and performing arts could grow. The second was the Bankhead Theater. During its first month and half of operation, the theater has played host to 10,000 people. 'There's no guarantee people will come to the regional theater. However, the numbers are working very strongly for the Bank-head and underlying indicators all suggest a regional theater would have a good turnout."

The regional theater, said Alexander, is most important in what it can do for downtown Livermore. It would have an economic impact of up to \$20 million per year. By comparison, the Bankhead generates about \$5

million per year. The projected completion of the regional theater is late 2010 or early 2011. "It's pretty much on schedule," stated Alexander, noting that the Livermore City Council will host a workshop on the theater at its December 10 meeting

No decision would be made at that time.

FINANCING

Bob Gamble, LVPAC finan-cial consultant, explained that the financing structure would be similar to that of the Bankhead Theater. The difference is that the city is being asked to contribute substantially more towards the regional theater, said Gamble. The city would contribute tax increment funds to help pay off bonds. In the early years, LVPAC would pay virtually all of the bond debt. The city would take over most of the payment of debt service in 2020 or 2021. At that time, it would have the ability to do so, because the tax increment would have grown, said Gamble.

In current dollars, LVPAC would be responsible for \$89.5

Pleasanton Graduates Give Their Preparation a B+

The Line of Duty

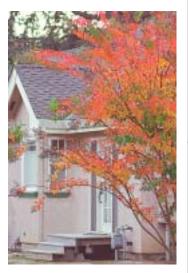
By Victoria Kamerzell

On November 16, California Highway Patrolman John Miller lost his life in the line of duty during a high-speed pursuit of an alleged drunk driver in Livermore. The highway patrol had received several phone calls around 9:00 PM that an intoxicated motorist was driving on North Livermore Avenue in Livermore.

Officer Miller was trying to locate the suspect on North Livermore Avenue when a report came in that a Livermore police officer had seen the suspect driving eastbound on I-580. The driver appeared to be so intoxicated that nearby drivers were frightened to pass him as his car swerved into the center median. The suspect, Luis Solano, 21, was soon apprehended on I-580 near Greenville Road. Solano was charged with evading police, driving without a license and suspicion of driving under the influence.

Around 9:15 PM, shortly after Solano was arrested, an unidentified Livermore man called the police about Officer Miller. The man and his wife had been driving on North Livermore Avenue when they saw a crashed black and white CHP vehicle. Officer Miller's car had veered

(See CHP OFFICER, page 2)



The cool nights have turned the leaves to colors of scarlet and gold.

sign ways to do it.

Mental health officials will hold a dialogue with the public over a series of seven meetings to see what could be added or expanded to the existing programs. One of the meetings will be at 4 p.m Dec. 4 in community room A at the Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave.

million in annual revenue for the county from Proposition 63. That initiative imposed a 1 percent tax increase on personal income over \$1 million.

A wide range of people could be served by the program expansion. Among them are people with onset of serious psychiatric illness, children in stressed

After the mental health officials conduct their meetings, they will invite requests for proposal from any relevant nonprofit, said Ann Bacon, a program assistant at the Health & Human Resource Education Center. A committee will decide who will be funded. "The committee

(See SERVICES, page 4)

The Pleasanton school district received a B+ on its first major report card from students. The grade came from a survey of 284 graduates from the high school class of 2005.

The school board heard results of the survey at its meeting Nov. 9.

There was also a report about another study, taken last spring of all graduating seniors at that time. Some 78 percent of the graduates returned the survey, which overall spoke highly of their experiences in the district. The survey of graduates from (See STUDIES, page 4)

Bike Stunt Course to Open

The new Sunken Gardens Bi-cycle Stunt Course will officially open on Sat., Dec. 1.

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District will host a dedication ceremony at 11 a.m.

The 6,500 sq. ft. course features a six-foot half-pipe, quarter-pipes, a street spine and a concrete bar-rier that can be used by all skill levels. The bike stunt course is adjacent to the existing skate park, 3800 Pacific Avenue in Livermore.

FOUNDATION

Randy Schlientz, president of the LARPD Foundation Board, reported a goal of raising \$1 million to establish an endowment.

He told the LARPD Board last week that the foundation is seeking 1000 donors of \$1000 each. All of the foundation board mem-

Long time resident Mario

In his last will and testament,

Pedrozzi is leaving a legacy that

will benefit Livermore students

he expressed a desire to share his

for many years.

bers have joined the list. He asked that the LARPD board donate to the foundation. "In order to go out and ask the community for money, we think it is important that both boards need to show support." The LARPD Foundation is a

501(c)3 nonprofit foundation supporting Livermore area parks and community resources, nature programs, special events, Ravenswood Historical Site, and community beautification efforts.

It was established as part of the district's 60th anniversary celebration. Funds will be used for both programs and projects.

LARPD Board President Steve Goodman commented, "It's a worthwhile program. It will benefit us far into the future.

more secure future for the most

deserving students from his



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Sergeant Erin Lillie meets Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena in his office at city hall.

Sergeant Leaving for 2nd Deployment in Iraq

of Livermore is headed to Iraq for her second deployment.

number of items, "that will be meaningful to her." Among them were a Livermore lapel pin, a mug with the new Livermore logo, a pen and a couple of little poems. Kamena added, "We also (See DEPLOY, page 7)

PET OF THE WEEK

Daphne is a 3 year old female cat looking for a guiet home to curl up and relax. Her previous owners did not give her much attention, so she is ready to be loved! She enjoys getting head rubs and cuddling, but she can be a bit of a bully to other cats. She has never lived with dogs and would do best

in a home with older children. For more information on Daphne, call Valley Humane Society at 426-8656. Valley Humane Society, located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton, is open Wed-Sun from 11AM to 5PM. Adoptable dogs can be seen every Saturday at VHS from 11AM to 2PM.

Inside

community.

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wealth in support of the vision of paving the way to a brighter and

Long Time Resident Leaves Legacy to Benefit Students

> The Mario Pedrozzi Scholarship Foundation will be awarding hundreds of dollars in its first year to graduates of (See LEGACY, page 2)

On Tuesday, Mayor Marshall

Marine Sergeant Erin Lillie Kamena presented her with a

LEGACY

(continued from page one)

Livermore's high schools and Alameda County high school graduates attending St. Patrick's Seminary and University..

"Mario would be thrilled, as am I," commented Gene Hale, board president and longtime friend and associate of Pedrozzi.

Pedrozzi was born in Switzerland in 1908. At age 18, he traveled by train and ship, eventually arriving at Ellis Island, New York. From there he crossed the United States by train, with Livermore becoming his final destination. For awhile, he lived in the Joesville Hotel while tending store for his relatives, Joe and Josephine Caratti. Mario learned the grocery business from the Carattis and saved his money. After a short stay in the Army as an MP, he established his own grocery store, Valley Food Center on First Street in Livermore. The Firestone Tire Store now occupies the site.

In 1955, Mario purchased the Livermore Hotel. He was known to open the doors of the hotel to those in need of housing.

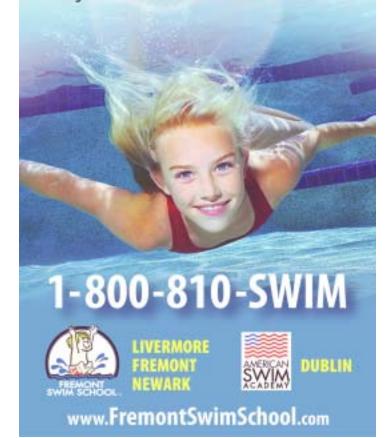
In addition to the grocery business, Mario loved politics. He was one of the first people in Livermore to walk neighborhoods to meet constituents in the city. His goal was to inform voters of his positions and issues and find support for his run for city council. He was elected to serve on the council in April 1962 and continued his public service until September 1965. At the end of his tenure, he was vice mayor.

Mario was known as a private man who embraced a strong work ethic, valued frugality and loved the food business. He was an avid gardener. He lived into his 90s and died in Livermore on Oct. 30, 2002.

According to the Foundation,

LEARN TO SWIM THIS WINTER!

Indoor, climate-controlled pool and comfortable parent viewing area make winter the ideal time for swim lessons



"As a Swiss immigrant, he embodied the American dream. Overcoming humble beginnings and limited formal education, he achieved financial success and a full life. He envisioned that his wealth could provide a means for students of all ages to achieve their educational and career goals."

The foundation will be awarding annual and multiple year scholarships of up to \$5000 per year to eligible students of all ages whose higher education goals may range from technical and vocational certification to upper graduate degrees. Scholarships of up to \$10,000 per year will be awarded to those attending St. Patrick's.

Information regarding scholarship types, eligibility, selection criteria and application details is available at the Foundation's website at www.pedrozzifoundation.org. Applications will be available after Jan. 7, 2008 and will be due back no later than March 7, 2008.



CHP OFFICER (continued from page one)

(continued from page one) into a tree about one mile north of I-580 on North Livermore Avenue. While trying to make his way to I-580 in pursuit of Solano, Miller had lost control of his car on a sharp curve.

The passerby tried to find a pulse on Miller but couldn't locate one. Officer Miller was pronounced dead in Livermore. He was thirty-two years old. Officer Miller lived with his family in Lodi. Miller is survived by his wife Stephanie and their two-year old daughter Reese and their four-year old son Chandler.

Miller was born in Stockton. He graduated from Linden High School in 1994. In his spare time Miller played softball for the Linden-Peters Fire District Station. On Saturday the fire station flew their flag at half-staff in honor of Officer Miller.

On Saturday Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger released a written statement regarding Officer Miller's death: "Maria and I join all Californians in mourning the loss of Officer Miller who gave his life in the line of duty while honorably protecting his fellow citizens. California's law enforcement officers protect our communities day in and day out and words cannot adequately express how grateful we are for their service and sacrifice. Our thoughts and prayers are with Officer Miller's loved ones as they mourn the loss of a son, father, friend and fellow officer."

On Monday a bell-ringing ceremony was held for Officer Miller at the California Highway Patrol Academy in West Sacramento. Miller graduated from the academy last March. His first assignment with the California Highway Patrol began in April.

Miller's co-workers, family and friends gathered at the Academy early Monday morning. A bell-ringing ceremony takes place for a fallen officer after the first business day of the officer's death. The tradition began after the death of California Highway Patrolman Brent Clearman on August 6 2006. Clearman, 32, was investigating an accident on I-880 near 66th Avenue in Oakland when a car hit him. The driver later plead guilty to a felony hit-and-run charge. Clearman was a highly decorated sharpshooter in the U.S. Marines.

Since the beginning of 2007 two other California Highway patrolman have died in the line of duty. Officer Robert Franklin Dickey died in an automobile accident on June 10th in Imperial County. A tire on his patrol car blew out, he lost control of the car and it flipped over multiple times. He was thirty-seven years old. He was survived by his wife and young son. On July 31 2007 Officer Dou-

On July 31 2007 Officer Douglas Scott Russell died while setting up a spike stripe to avert a car that was fleeing the police at the time. After the suspect hit Russell he continued driving until the police were eventually able to apprehend him. Russell was airlifted to the University of California Davis Medical center where he later died. Miller, 46, had been a patrolman for twentytwo years. He was raised in Pleasanton.

On a national website dedicated to fallen law enforcement officers Douglas Scott Russell's widow, Lynn Russell, left a message on Officer Miller's memorial page: "Your dedication and ultimate sacrifice will never be forgotten, thank you for protecting us. My heart and thoughts are with your wife and children."

Officer Miller's accident occurred in the same area where in 2000 a 34-year-old woman was driving with her six children when she also lost control of her car on a sharp curve. The accident in 2000 had no survivors.

The Livermore Police Department website lists the twelve intersections with the most collisions in 2006. North Livermore Avenue is listed three times on this list. The three intersections with the most accidents in Livermore are Kitty Hawk and Airway Boulevard; Stanley Boulevard and Murrieta Boulevard; and Las Positas Road and North Livermore Avenue.

To learn about Officer John Miller's funeral arrangement or donate to a survivor benefit fund, contact the California Highway Patrol at (916) 657-7261.

Welcome to Pleasanton's Newest Park



Photos by Becky Dennis. Taken as hikers walk south from the future staging area in the park at Oak Grove, a park TWICE the size of Augustin Bernal.

Let's Not Give It BACK!

The new park at Oak Grove is 496 acres of oak woodland habitat with 12,000 oak trees.

Please do NOT sign the referendum. Without Oak Grove, the City won't get the park. Pleasanton will lose public access to the southeast hills and lose conservation easements that will ensure that the open space is preserved forever.

We support the public's right to use our open space. Don't Sign the Petitions! www.KeepOurPark.org

Jennifer Hosterman, Pleasariton's Mayor Cheryl Cook-Kallio, City Council member Matt Sullivan, City Council member Jerry Thome, City Council member Becky Dennis, former City Council member Sharrell Michelotti, former City Council member Bob & Orley Philoos, formar Mayor Pete McCloskey, former Congressment Kathy Narum, Planning Commissioner Ame Olson, Planning Commissioner Jennifer Pearce, Planning Commissione Larry Lindsey, former Planning Commissioner Trish Maas, former Planning Commissioner Jim Dibiase, Parks and Recreation Commissioner Ted Kinzer, Parks and Recreation Commissioner Kurt Kummer, Parks and Recreation Commissioner Howard Neely, former Parks & Rec Commissioner Jerry Pentin, Parks and Recreation Commissioner

Herb Ritter, Parks and Recreation Commission Joe Jones, Housing Commissioner, Trails Ad Hoc David Stark, Housing Commissioner Pat & Marcia Keman, PUSD School Board Trustee Jim Ott. PUSD School Board Trustee Dolores Bengston, former Parks & Rec Dept director Jocelyn Combs, former EBRPO director Christine Steiner, Alameda Co Housing Co Jeff Durban, Trails Ad Hoc Committee Ralph Rajs, Trals Ad Hoc Committee (pending) Joe Streng, Trais Ad Hoc Committee (pending) Deb Wahi, Trails Ad Hoc Committee Tony Rivera, Civic Arts Commissioner Dick Guigley, Zone 7 Director Jan Batcheller, Plassanton resident Ward Belding, Pleasanton resident Jack & Flo Bras, Pleasanton residents Mary Jane & Tom Casper, Vintage Hits residents Rich Cimino, Auduban Society

Catherine Consolino, Park advocate Dan Faustina, Pleasanton resident Tom & Sue Fox, Kottinger Rarich residents Troy Grooms, Pleasanton resident Kathleen & Bronco Hinek, Kottinger Ranch residents Skip Hinsley, local business owner Ron Hyde, retired Superior Court Judge Pete MacDonald, Pleasan Otis Nostrand, Pleasanton resident & business owner Kristen Ondeck, Vintage Hills resident Carl Palowitch, Economic Vitality Committee Janice Phalen, Pleasardon resident Eric Schumacher, Vintage Hills resident John Sensiba, Pleasanton resident John Shurtleff, Pleasanton resident Keith & Lisa Symons, Kattinger Franch residents Sandi Thome, Pleasanton resident Robert Tucknott, Pleasanton resident James Van Dyke, Vintace Hills resident

Affiliations listed for identification purposes only, and do not necessarily indicate official agency positions.





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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Prize for Work

A team of scientists from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and IBM earned the 2007 Gordon Bell Prize for a first-of-a-kind simulation of Kelvin-Helmholtz instability in molten metals on BlueGene/L, the world's fastest supercomputer.

By performing extremely large-scale molecular dynamics simulations, the team was able to study, for the first time, how a Kelvin-Helmholtz instability develops from atomic scale fluctuations into micron-scale vortices.

'This has never been done before. We were able to observe this atom by atom. There was no time scale or length scale we couldn't see," said Jim Glosli, lead author on the winning entry titled "Extending Stability Beyond CPU Mil-lennium: A Micron-Scale Simulation of Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability." Other team members were: Kyle Caspersen, David Richards, Robert Rudd and project leader Fred Streitz of LLNL; and John Gunnels of IBM.

The Kelvin-Helmholtz instability arises at the interface of fluids in shear flow and results in the formation of waves and vortices. Waves formed by Kelvin-Helmholtz (KH) instability are found in all manner of natural phenomena, such as waves on a windblown ocean, sand dunes and swirling cloud billows. While Kelvin-Helmholtz instability has been thoroughly studied for years and its behavior is well understood at the macroscale, scientists did not clearly understand how it evolves at the atomic scale until now.

The insights gained through simulation of this phenomenon are of interest to the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Stockpile Stewardship Program, the effort to ensure the safety security and reliability of the nation's nuclear deterrent without nuclear testing.

Understanding how matter transitions from a continuous medium at macroscopic length scales to a discrete atomistic medium at the nanoscale has important implications for such Laboratory research efforts as National Ignition Facility (NIF) laser fusion experiments and developing applications for nanotube technology.

Fair Board Adds Directors

Three new Directors have been selected to serve on the Board of the Alameda County Agricultural Fair Association. The Fair Association's twenty-six board members oversee the operations of the Alameda County Fairgrounds. James Knudsen, Bill McCammon and Bonnie Sabraw, were selected to fill three vacancies on the Fair Board.

Hayward's James Knudsen worked in the County of Alameda Sheriff's Office from 1972 to 2006. He served as the Sheriff's Public Information Officer and managed the Sheriff's Office contract with the Fair for the past 26 years. Knudsen is a life long resident of Alameda

County. He is a Director of the Greater Hayward Area Recreation and Park District Foundation. In addition, Knudsen is a Director of the Martin C. Kauffman 100 Club of Alameda County, which helps spouses and dependents of police and firefighters who lose their lives in the line of duty.

Pleasanton resident Bill McCammon served as Fire Chief for the Alameda County Fire Department from 1993 to 2007. He has served over 30 years in fire service in Alameda County and has experience managing a \$60 million budget with extensive experience in labor relations, budget and finance. Bill serves as the Treasurer of the Las Positas College Foundation and as a Board member of RotaCare Bay Area, which provides free medical care through 9 clinics in 6 counties.

Castro Valley resident Bonnie Sabraw has served Alameda County as a Judge since 1988. She attended San Francisco Law School and earned her State Bar License in 1979. Sabraw is also a member of the California Judges Association, Alameda County Bar Association, Women Lawyers of Alameda County and the Shack Riders located at the Stanford Campus. Sabraw plans to use her 27 years of experience in her law career that focused on land use, environmental law business interests, agriculture, government, labor, and insurance issues, to contribute to the community and the goals of the Fair Board.

In addition to managing more than 300 event days this year, the Fair Association is preparing for the 2008 Alameda County Fair. June 20th July 6th celebrating 150 years of Horse Racing The Fairgrounds is home to the oldest one mile Race Track in America dating back to 1858.

Torrico Perfect on Two Issues

Assemblymember Alberto Torrico (D-Newark) racked up perfect scores on two score cards analyzing legislators' votes on key environmental and consumer protection issues. The score cards were developed by the California League of Conservation Voters and the Consumer Federation of California.

The League of Conservation Voters score card examined legislators' votes on issues such as clean car discounts, investing in alternative fuels and clean air, solar hot water heaters, advancing renewable energy and reducing e-waste.

The Consumer Federation of California Score card for State Lawmakers rated Assembly members and Senators on a range of issues, including financial privacy, health care reform, cell phone customer rights, food safety, truth in advertising, and consumer product safety standards.

For more information and a complete look at the Consumer Federation's score card, go to www.consumercal.org. The California League of Conservation Voters score card can be found at www.ecovote.org.

THEATER (continued from page one)

million over thirty years, which includes operation of both theaters; the city \$61.4 million. No general fund monies would be used, noted Gamble. He added that tax increment funds generated in the redevelopment area must be used in the area.

One audience member asked what if the tax increment falls short of prediction. Where does the money come from to pay off the bonds?

Marc Roberts, Director of Community Development, an-swered, "We are looking at whether the numbers predicted are realistic now and over the long run. Shortfalls are part of the negotiations between the city and LVPAC.'

Roberts noted that, with the Bankhead Theater, dollars from the Altamont Landfill settlement are being used to help pay off the bond. If the dollars are not as expected, the city is not responsible to make up the shortfall.

Another individual asked whether it was fair to have redevelopment dollars concentrated in one area of the downtown.

Roberts pointed out that the bulk of the early tax increment money went to ValleyCare for its senior housing. That project created additional tax increment monies. He stated that there are other projects in the redevelopment area that will need some help from the agency. The allocation of tax increment money is among the questions the city is working on.

Rob White, Economic Development Director, explained that a percentage of redevelopment money is required to go to housing. He mentioned the Livermore Village and Groth Bros. as significant projects that include housing and are in the works. He added, "A lot of attention has been paid to other areas." Examples he provided were the city's help in bringing in Trader Joe's and its work in revitalizing the Safeway Center.

One concern was that the approval process was moving too slowly to make it possible for LVPAC to raise its share of the funds.

Alexander agreed, "It is holding us back. We can't say directly to donors this is the site plan. LVPAC is spending \$500,000 on a schematic design with no guarantee that the theater will be built. There is a need for \$30 to \$35 million to be raised for the regional theater. Most of the money will come through corporate donors. There has been \$3 million spent upfront to develop a dream. Once the city says go ahead, that allows LVPAC to go out and tell a positive story. That is stronger than saying we have a dream.

Alexander pointed out that LVPAC has demonstrated that it has the ability to raise money. Bankhead Theater goal is \$15 million. LVPAC is approaching the \$14 million mark.

PARKING AND TRAFFIC

Roberts said that the city's Downtown Specific Plan had anticipated the movie theater, the 500-seat theater and a regional theater of up to 1500 seats, along with new shops, office uses and restaurants. The environmental impact report studied parking and traffic impacts based on that plan. The regional theater, as proposed, will require a supplemental environmental impact report to look at impacts on traffic and parking. The original EIR looked at the impacts of a 1500 seat theater. LVPAC is now proposing up to 1960 seats.

Roberts stated that the city council made a policy decision that traffic in the downtown would not be required to meet the city's level of service criteria. The trade-off, the council felt, is that a far more pedestrian area would be created. First Street was narrowed. "The changes did what they were supposed to do. Cars drive more slowly. The traffic volume on First Street has dropped off. Traffic is coming to downtown for a purpose, not driving through it. In the past, 95 percent of the traffic had no destination in the downtown. That level has dropped to 50 percent," stated Roberts.

Roberts commented that in measuring predicted traffic and parking against actual, the city has been pretty accurate. "That gives us a lot of comfort that we have a pretty good idea of what the parking demand is in the downtown.

One question from the audience related to trucks delivering scenery to the theater, and the impact on traffic going to the post office. Hutch Meridian of MacCracken Architects explained that trucks would not be on Second Street, rather on the theater property, while making deliveries.

Alexander added that most deliveries would occur around 4 a.m. The trucks would be gone before there could be an impact on the Second Street traffic. **LOCATION**

Asked whether the selected site at the corner of First and Livermore is the best South

does not enhance downtown."

The supplemental environmental document requires the city to look at alternative locations. The city hasn't finished work on that aspect, added White

Roberts noted that the downside of selecting a new location is a need to redesign the facility. The master developer (LVPAČ) may be unwilling to develop at another site. The positive is that perhaps there would be a friendlier acquisition of the land.

REVIEW PROCESS

There was concern that the process was moving too quickly and that the public needs more information.

White said that the city is conducting its own review of the LVPAC regional theater proposal. Consultants are looking at other theaters, what they look like and how they work. A master reviewer will look at all of the studies that have been conducted and provide an opinion as to their accuracy.

Alexander pointed out that LVPAC is required to submit five year business and operating plans. They will be peer reviewed line-by-line. Some numbers will be adjusted after the review.

All of the city's reports and findings will be available on the city's website prior to the Dec. 10 city council meeting.

Roberts said that the final approval would likely come later next year. "Are you going to have more shots at this and chances to ask more questions? Yes you are," he declared.

COMPETITION

Alexander responded to a question about the ability to fill the regional theater and competition from other theaters. He stated that the theater could draw from a market of 750,000 people. Studies show that 10 percent of the population is predisposed to attend cultural events. If a popular attraction were available, the numbers increase to 15 to 20 percent. "You will be able to see the Little Mermaid on stage and be home in ten minutes," said Alexander.

Alexander said that in comparing the regional theater to the Lesher Theater, the Walnut Creek complex contains three venues in one building. The largest is 800 seats. It's too small; therefore it can't earn enough money to pay for itself. The theater complex belongs to the city, which is responsible for its operations. A city finds it very difficult to go out and raise money. Las Positas College is build-

ing a 500 seat theater. Alexander said that the forecast is that 80 percent of the usage will be by the college itself.

Alexander said it is his hope that there are times when all of the theaters could work together to create weekend events. Theaters that could participate include the Amador, Las Positas, regional theater in Livermore, Bankhead Theater, and the amphitheater in front of the Bankhead.

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Dole Honorary Chairman: Judy Lloyd announced the addition of former 1996 Republican Presidential Nominee Bob Dole to her campaign team in her run for the 15th Assembly District. Dole will serve as an Honorary Chairman of Lloyd's campaign.

"I have known and worked with Judy Lloyd for more than two decades. Working with me

fornia will be well served with Judy Lloyd in the state legislature," said Dole.

"Bob Dole's distinguished record of public service has had a tremendous positive impact on taxpayers and future generations. His story of courage, perseverance, and sacrifice is one all Republicans admire. I have been honored to have worked with him

eration and helped enshrine a legacy of sacrifice and freedom. In 2007, he served as the cochair of the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors and put forth recommendations to

improve delivery of health services for returning wounded service members.

haven't really built a business or had to live under the heavy regulations that California places on businesses," said Councilman "That's why we need self-Lee. made business people like Robert Rao in the Assembly.' Robert currently lives on Rao

Ranch in Livermore with his wife Linda and his two children, Tori and Cole, who are students at Valley Christian in Dublin. For more information, or to contribute to Robert's campaign, visit www.RobertRao.com.

Mental Health Services Act

in the U.S. Senate, Judy was a tireless advocate for taxpayers and fiscally responsible budgets," said the former 1996 Republican Presidential Nominee.

"I wholeheartedly endorse Judy Lloyd and am pleased to serve as her Honorary Campaign Chairman. The people of Caliand am so proud to have his support," said Lloyd.

Dole was the 1996 Republican Presidential Nominee and served as the U.S. Senate Majority Leader. In recent years, he chaired the National World War II Memorial Commission which honored the heroes of his gen-

Robert Rao endorsed: Stockton City Councilman Clem Lee has announced his support for **Republican businessman Robert** Rao in the open 15th Assembly District.

"The legislature is full of former staffers and people who

Alexander responded, "It's a great place, because it is in the middle of things. LVPAC is wary about having the theater pushed to the edge of the downtown. It

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AT ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY INPUT MEETINGS Tuesday, November 27, 2007 (4pm - 6pm) Eastmont Branch Library (in Eastmont Town Center) 7200 Bancroft Ave, Suite 211 (Dakland, CA)

Wednesday, November 28, 2007 (4pm - 6pm) Taylor Memorial Church - Harris Hall 1188-12th Street (Oakland, CA)

Thursday, November 29, 2007 (4pm - 6pm) Odd Fellows Hall - Banquet Room 1349 Hays Street (San Leandro, CA)

Monday, December 3, 2007 (4pm - 6pm) Alameda County Conference Center **Oakland Room** 125-12th Street, Suite 400 (Oakland, CA)

Tuesday, December 4, 2007 (4pm - 6pm) Livermore Public Library – Community Rooms A & B 1188 South Livermore Avenue (Livermore, CA)

Wednesday, December 5, 2007 (4pm - 6pm) Fremont Family Resource Center - Pacific Room 39155 Liberty Street (Fremont, CA)

Thursday, December 6, 2007 (4-6pm) Alameda County Community Development Agency 224 Winton Avenue - Room 160 (Hayward, CA)

SYSTEM PARTNERS MEETING for County and other Public Service Agency Employees Monday, December 10, 2007 (2-4pm) Behavioral Health Care Services - Alameda Room 2000 Embarcadero Cove, Sui te 400 (Oakland, CA)





AT A SMALLER FOCUS GROUP MEETING Contact us at 510-567-8133 if your or your organization would like to attend or host a Focus Group of twenty people or less

Come to these meetings to learn about the state PEI guidelines and give input on what our local priorities should be

YOUR IDEAS ONLINE



EDITORIALS

Financing A Grand Park

Pleasanton's 300-acre Bernal Park will be completed some 13 years sooner than originally estimated as the result of a funding plan recently approved by the City Council.

The plan — okayed unanimously by the council will use a mix of existing funds and new monies to finance the park. The latter include bond measures and an increase in the hotel room occupancy tax.

It had been thought that it would take 30 or so years to build the park. The new monies will enable the project to be completed in 17 years.

Phase I will commence in January. At buildout, the park will feature a glorious 250-acre open space area with a great meadow, woodlands, streams and trails. There will also be lighted ballfields, a youth center, a community center, an arts center, and other facilities.

City officials are hopeful that once the park begins taking shape and people are using it, the voters will look with favor on the ballot measures that will be necessary to obtain the new monies.

We believe that, too. Bernal Park is going to be a gem, much in the grand park tradition of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park and New York's Central Park. It won't be hard to sell Bernal Park to the public when that time comes.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think you would come up with a plan to build this park in 17 years,' Mayor Jennifer Hosterman exclaimed to the committee that developed the finance plan.

Committee members were Councilmembers Cindy McGovern and Jerry Thorne, City Manager Nelson Fialho, City Attorney Michael Roush and other staff. A job well done!

Immigration Forum

The League of Women Voters, including the Livermore-Amador Valley chapter, has launched a nationwide examination of immigration, with the goal of addressing the breadth and depth of the issue.

The Livermore-Amador Valley chapter has been studying immigration since last year and has now begun holding public meetings, with an eye toward adopting some positions.

The economics and family reunification aspects of the issue were discussed at the first set of meetings, held last week in Pleasanton and Livermore.

Legal status and border control questions will be addressed at the next set, slated next Wednesday from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Livermore Library and Thursday from 9 to noon at Pleasanton Gardens, 251 Kottinger Drive.

Immigration is one of the hottest of the hot-button issues of our time. It touches almost everyone in the country in both direct and indirect ways. We applaud the League of Women Voters. In promoting local involvement, and in striving to bring a rational, informative approach to the nationwide debate, the League is performing a real public service.

SERVICES

(continued from page one) will look at the needs, at what school level, without giving the

money to the school

Despite Ruffled Feathers, Pleasanton May Discuss High School Overcrowding

Early in the Pleasanton school board meeting there was appar-ently strained relations between parent Julie Testa and school superintendent John Casey. It ended with enough agreement to bring about a promise of a future meeting regarding Testa's and others' concern about campuses' overcrowding.

Testa appeared at her second consecutive school board meet-ing Nov. 13 to talk about campus overcrowding. She said at the board's previous meeting Oct. 23 that Amador Valley High School is overcrowded by 151 percent, and elementary schools at 150 percent or more, with one being 175 percent. Testa based her percentages on what she said were suggested state limits, as published on the state education department's web page.

Casey in the past has agreed that the two campuses' dimensions were too small for the enrollment, as proclaimed by state guidelines. This is especially true of Amador, which was sited and partially built early in the 20th century. However, Casey has contended that the district has worked to establish a smallschool feeling in the classrooms, with class size reduction for some classes, and career academies that cluster students by their vocational interests

Testa has said that many students dislike the campus atmo-sphere, with long lines to restrooms and cafeteria steam tables, crowded school libraries, and more competition to win a spot on athletic teams. She has cited statistics that show small schools provide a greater sense of involvement and participation in decision making, and a greater sense of belonging. Testa has conducted her own

research on-line at the California Department of Education's web page, and found two money sources that would help Pleasanton build a 500-student magnet school. A few years ago, she was an advocate for a full, comprehensive high school. The school board at the time killed that idea. Testa now favors building a 500student magnet school to remove some of the pressure on the two large high schools.

Testa spoke at the meetings of Oct. 23 and Nov. 9 about two funding sources that would enable the district to build a magnet school. One funding source is Career Technology Education (CTE), which makes up to \$3 million available to build new facilities that will enable career programs. If existing facilities were used, the subsidy drops to about \$1.5 million, said Testa.

The other source is a state ogram to help fund construction of smaller schools. Both CTE and the small-schools program have millions of dollars available statewide from passage of Proposition 1D.

TESTA CLAIMS DISTRICT MISSED THE BOAT

Testa told the board at both meetings that Pleasanton failed to keep abreast of both potential funding sources. While Livermore was applying for \$3 mil-lion from the CTE funding for a new agricultural and environmental education facility, and San Ramon sought four grants for an engineering and design program at Dougherty Valley High School, Pleasanton did nothing, she said. Combining CTE money with the smallschools funding could go a long way in funding a magnet school, she said.

Testa said at the Oct. 23 meeting that she is on the state mailing list that will notify her about any future funding opportunities. "I don't understand why others in the district, who are paid to do this, are not on the list," she said.

After Testa spoke, Casey told the board, "The speaker painted a pretty dismal picture of the district board and district staff. We have consultants who work closely with staff. We take a close look at all these grants, so for someone to come up and paint someone to come up and paint such a dismal picture of the dis-trict as incompetent and not stay-ing abreast of what is out there, is disappointing." Casey praised his staff in re-

gard to good stewardship regard-ing money. He cited the leveraging of Measure B funds, approved by Pleasanton voters in the 1990s, to get the district far more school renovation improvements than were available through the measure's funds alone. The staff and consultants keep abreast of available money, and do not waste it, he said. "To come up and belittle us is ridiculous," said Casey.

Referring to Pleasanton as a community of character, Casey said, "We are belittled and criticized. Just talk to us about it. Most of the time, we are not a target population for grants." TESTA CALLS RESPONSE

'UNPROFESSIONAL'

At the meeting Nov. 13, Testa returned to the audience portion of the agenda. She said that Casey's response to her comments at the meeting Oct. 23 "were unprofessional and disappointing." She read from the state education code a passage that says the board "shall not prohibit public criticism of its policies, procedures, actions or omissions.

Testa went on to say that the passage "specifically says 'criti-cism'. It's wonderful to see all the awards that staff receives. but these meetings aren't just for selfcongratulations. It is an opportunity for the public to bring our concerns forward." "The public's role is that of watchdog, perhaps a badger at times. Since the last board meeting, I received lots of calls and e-

mails. A great portion of the dis-trict shares my concern (about overcrowding). They don't know where to voice it, or how.'

Then Testa read an education code passage that says that people can put matters "on the agenda that are directly related to school district business, at a governing board meeting." She then requested having the overcrowding topic on a future agenda.

Casey told Testa, "Sometimes we react emotionally to things that come our way. One thing I react to emotionally is when I perceive my staff has been criticized." Criticism of elected officials is different. It's part of the job, but "if it goes to staff, it will

get a reaction out of me." Casey also said, "Certain things fell off our radar screen ." A consultant said that the district would not qualify for the CTE money, he said.

It's not too late to apply by Feb. 1 for the second round of funding that remains in the CTE fund, said Testa. If the district had applied in the first round, it may have had the chance of obtaining more dollars than in the second round, she said. That was based on conversations with state officials, she later told The Independent.

Casey acknowledged that the staff would be trying to apply in the second round. However, he disagreed with Testa that the district wouldn't be doing that if she had not brought it up Oct. 23.

Testa told the Independent on Tuesday that no one has called her yet about setting up a meeting with administrative staff. She also noted that subsequent research on the internet showed that school boards are supposed to schedule a public-requested agenda item at the next regular meeting, provided that at least 72 hours have passed to meet Brown Act meeting notification requirements.

AILBOX

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

Separate Cities Sal De La Torre Livermore

Pleasanton may file suit against Livermore on the so called expansion of the Livermore Airport. Expansion will be when Pleasanton expands into the Staples Ranch and builds a large senior complex and homes in a direct line of the flight pat-

Board president Jim Ott said at the meeting Nov. 9 that the district had looked into the CTA grant. "We are happy to have a dialogue," said Ott.

Assistant Superintendent Sandra Lepley said at the meet-ing that the district has not pursued the state money in regard to small campus construction because the past board made a decision to not build a small high

school campus. Testa told that Independent that Lepley's remark is at the crux of her concern. The staff will do things only at the board's direction, as is appropriate. However, the "board doesn't understand yet" that it can take a whole new look at starting a small high school, because new funding sources are available that were not available when previous school boards were sitting. Local matching money for a

technology high school could come from the \$6 million that the district has been using as principal for funding technology in the classrooms, said Testa. The money came from the sale of the former Sycamore Road high school site.

Testa noted that board member Pat Kernan had suggested at a previous school board meeting that there are no sacred cows in funding, and that the Sycamore fund could be tapped for other things, although he was not talking about a magnet school.

Casey said that the district will keep a close eye on the city's general plan revisions. If the city were to grow to more than 29,000 units, then the district would have to accommodate new plans for housing students, possibly in-cluding a third high school.

Kernan said that new facilities aren't the only way to ad-dress overcrowding of campuses. A year-round school calendar can remove any crush from facilities, although he would not necessarily favor taking that step himself.

tern. It is the same wisdom of those politicians that allowed homes to be built over earthquake faults or flood zones.

There are those who say there are enough parks and open space in Pleasanton. They desire growth, a larger city with ameni-ties provided by developers. A developer or land speculator takes a gamble as to whether his property is sold or not. With developers propaganda one can only im-age how powerful they are in changing city policy and sway-ing the people. Politicians can be removed by a vote of the

parts of the county have strong needs for services, and whether proposals given to us will fill those gaps.

"The county will be conducting focus groups with providers. However, we want to hear from people who use mental health services, or from those who have used them, and came out on the other side," said Bacon.

Asked whether school districts are eligible for any of the money for counseling or other intervention, Bacon said that she isn't sure whether direct application for it is barred. However. there are "creative ways to complement programs at the

She cited a wellness clinic, which operates its services on an Oakland school campus. It uses county funds and some grants. "It is not necessarily fully funded

by the school." Two focus groups of parents that met with Bacon about mental health Nov. 13 at the Almond Education center in Livermore showed that "people really want to talk about this stuff. There is such a heavy stigma around mental health. You can't stand around at a burger joint, and talk to Mrs. Smith about it. It is private, and involves denial, shame and guilt.

Kamena Still Pitching For Altamont Bullet Train

Kamena has not given up on trying to land the Bay Area spur of the San Diego-Sacramento bullet train that may be in the state's future.

Kamena said late last week that he will attend the California High Speed Rail Authority's meeting Dec. 19 to make another pitch for the Altamont route. Many Tri-Valley and Eastbay officials back the Altamont spur from the Central Valley main line as a way of helping to ease future commute traffic from the Central Valley.

The authority's staff recommended last week that the spur to San Francisco instead should travel through the Pacheco Pass and up through San Jose and the Peninsula. The staff recognized the value of East Bay commuting relief by recommending a separate kind of train that would travel fast, but not at bullet train speeds of up to 140 mph or more.

The staff backed its Pacheco Pass recommendation by saying that an Eastbay approach would require construction of a new Bay Bridge or tunnel. It would

Livermore Mayor Marshall also be more expensive to operate the train system, with service split to San Jose, Oakland and San Francisco. There could also be construction in sensitive wetlands, and the possible taking of housing through property condemnation.

Kamena spoke previously to the authority commission, but was limited, like all speakers, to only two or three minutes. Although he also provided commissioners written material, sometimes officials get the pic-ture better from oral and visual presentations, said Kamena. He hopes to cover points he didn't have time to enunciate last time.

What it says to me is that I need to make a little stronger case before the decision is made. We'll do the best job we can. I'm still optimistic," said Kamena.

No funding exists for the bullet train. The entire project is estimated to cost \$40 billion. An initiative for \$10 billion of funding may be on the state ballot in November 2008. However, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger wants to see it pushed back to 2010 or 2012.



STUDIES

(continued from page one)

2005 was conducted by Applied Survey Research. The sampling included 140 Amador Valley graduates, 132 were from Foothill, 11 from Village High school and one from Horizon. The gender split was 50-50 in the survey. The racial composition was 72 percent Caucasian, 15 percent Asian, 7 percent Latino, and 4 percent multi-racial. There was no listing for African American. Some 42 percent of the parents of the students had graduate degrees, with 48 percent of Foothill parents in that category, and

35 percent at Amador. Of the graduates interviewed, 91 percent are in college, 7 percent dropped out or didn't enroll, and about 1 percent finished a program in two years. Some 37 percent in college are in the UC system, another 34 percent of them are in the California State University system, 19 percent went to private schools in and out of state, and 9 percent attend public schools out of state.

Asked about their current status, 93 percent said they were satisfied, 6 percent said they were not, and 1 percent "didn't know." Some 90 percent gave their high school an A or a B grade. The remaining 10 percent gave it a C or D.

In a breakdown of specific skills, a sampling shows that a lack of preparation about entering data into computers and producing spreadsheets and analyzing data received the lowest mark, a C+. The highest grade, an A-, was given to basic math. Many of the others skills

needed for college success were rated at B+. They included, but were not limited to, personal skills such as resolving conflicts and expressing differences of opinions. In social sciences, understanding current events and historical facts received B+, as did English and communication, writing academic papers and comprehending complex materials.

Some 97 percent said they were given enough help from teachers. Tutors were sought by people.

From a distant view we see how ugly Ruby Hill looks. There are no open spaces or greenbelts between home after home. It is (See MAILBOX, page 4)

what parents might be complaining about.

Hanging out" definitely outscored homework as an activity. Some 37 percent said they hung out more than 10 hours weekly; 29 percent said they did it for five to 10 hours; and 28 percent for two to five hours each week. Watching TV or playing video games, and exercising had many devotees — at least one third of respondents — in the two to five hour range. So did talking on the phone, including cell phones.

Overall 92 percent of students agreed with the statement that they feel good about school. That compared to 80 percent of the national average. Some 95 percent said they feel safe at school, compared to 77 percent nationally. Some 94 percent of Pleasanton students said they feel supported by their teachers. Nationally the figure was 81 percent. Noting the 94 percent statis-

tic, board president Jim Ott said, "If overcrowding is an issue (in the district,) it's not in the area of teaching.

However, one of the ASR consultants said that the survey also showed that 16 percent of students say there are too many students in their classes.

Trustee Steve Brozosky suggested that the next time the survey is conducted, other questions could be asked students about their perception of overcrowding. He said, "Are there enough sports opportunities? Are there long lines at lunch? Is there enough time to eat?

The board had a long discussion on the overcrowding topic earlier in the meeting. It prompted Ott to reply to Brozosky, "Enough on overcrowded schools. I want to know specific downsides.

Brozosky said he guessed it would be traffic congestion, lunch period length. He noted, "Our classes are all the same size, but we have more of them."

Getting back to the survey, Grant credited teachers for the high opinions given by students on the involvement survey.

mostly for math. When they listed what they'd like to see changed in their schooling, they talked about more integration of computers into regular classes. For example, they would like to see more spreadsheet skills integrated with math classes.

23 percent while in high school,

Tracy Keenan, who made the board presentation for ASR, pointed out that the survey was conducted two years ago. There may be more computer integration going on in the classroom now

One standout in the survey was the 63 percent who have undertaken community service since they left high school. The Pleasanton district requires 20 hours of community service in order to graduate, so it appears many students have picked up a habit of service. Some 85 percent said they took an arts class in high school.

In summarizing their use of counseling services, some 62 percent said they sought academic guidance, and 22 percent said they had personal counseling. The surveyed group was a

busy one, with 77 percent saying that they participated in extracurricular activities. The study showed a split in interests and attitudes between the people who had high grades in high school and those with low grades. The high grades group reported hold-ing clerical (sales) jobs, taking advanced placement classes, doing more community service, and patronizing academic counse-

lors. The low scores group reported manual jobs, and being dissatisfied with college work. They felt a lack of skills hurt their ability on jobs. Math was not a helpful class, said Keenan.

Among ASR's recommendations are to further explore needs of students who are the least satisfied with their school, and increase outreach for student groups who tend to not use counseling services.

Trustee Pat Kernan noted that

the lowest grade for the district was in technology education. He said he wants to revisit how the

district is spending money in that area. "Are we getting the most bang for the buck," he asked. Board president Jim Ott said the district "floated the idea of a

parcel tax. Part of the idea was to obtain funds to go to tech. There's a need there, identified both by the (district's) excellence committee, and the students who have gone through out district."

Another consultant who worked on the survey told the board that it was clear that students want computers to part of the curriculum.

MEASURING STUDENTS' PARTICIPATION

The High School Survey of Student Engagement was the second study presented to the board. It was given nationally to 120 participating school districts. Cupertino was the only district in the Bay Area besides Pleasanton to administer the survey, said Pleasanton schools staffer Jim Rallis.

It was given to seniors during their last two weeks of school last spring. The profile found that 33 percent of the 78 percent who responded want to go on to obtain a master's degree, and 16 percent have a Ph.D. in their sights. Some 42 percent said they spend two to five hours each week on written homework, while only 19 percent said six to 10 hours, which is the district's suggested amount of work. Some 23 percent said they spend only one hour a week on homework.

Superintendent John Casey said that the homework data were puzzling, since some parents have been complaining about kids being assigned too much homework, which they said puts stress on them. However, "reading and studying for class," a category that would appear to be related to homework, shows that 37 percent do those activities from two to five hours a week, and 39 percent for one hour each week. Adding the two figures together would bring the aggregate statistic closer to the concept of

MAILBOX

(continued from page 4)

an example of how money and power that count. It is a disaster in a beautiful part of the valley.

Pleasanton and Livermore are unique in that their is land separating the cities. In Staples Ranch there should be open space and a buffer zone between the cities. The ideal would be to build another Golden Gate Park between the cities. In time the park would become known throughout Calif.

Our future is with us. Let's not build another Dublin, LA or San Jose.

Oak Grove Park Janice Phalen Pleasanton

What a gift to Pleasanton! Over 475 acres of dedicated park that we don't have to build or finance! The City Council voted 4-1 for this compromise of 51 homes (not the 98 that the entitlement is for on the property), for all this acreage of built park. It has gone through an extensive review process, fully open to the public, if we chose to participate.

public, if we chose to participate. The City and Council are working hard to finance the Bernal property, an unnecessary step for this park. The project provides trails, open space, a boundary between Pleasanton and Livermore, such positive benefits! All these homes will have to go through an extensive planning and permitting process with the City. You can bet these will be highly scrutinized homes so that they don't look like the ones jutting from the cliffs in Oakland, however built in a style like Mayor Hosterman likes - timeless, "green", and elegant.

Pleasanton voters, see the good in this park, don't sign the referendum being passed around town. Better yet! Ask how we got to this when the City Council voted 4-1 to approve this. Pleasanton voters, graciously accept this gift!

Keep Largest Park Eric "Otis" Nostrand Pleasanton

Pleasanton voters, beware! A group of disgruntled residents are out gathering signatures to subvert years of public planning for Pleasanton's newly approved 496 acre Oak Grove park. Don't be fooled, separate fact from fiction before signing any petitions.

Fact: If referended, the city will have to give back the 496 acre park. There will be no public access, no multiuse trails and no regional link connecting Shadow Cliffs with Callippe Preserve.

Fact: We lose the permanent open space along our southern border that Oak Grove affords. With no easement permanently protecting this open space, the door opens for future development and traffic, and puts more all of our Parks and Recreation Commission, several of our School Board members and many of our Housing commissioners and Trails ad hoc committee members all strongly support this project. Why? Because it's an extraordinary deal for Pleasanton!

Please make an informed decision- decline to sign the petitions. If you've already signed and would like to remove your name, visit www.keepourpark.org.

Support Oak Grove Herb Ritter Pleasanton

I support the Oak Grove ordinance adopted by the Pleasanton City Council on November 6, 2007. My comments are expressed as an individual citizen and businessman in Pleasanton. I am a past member of the Pleasanton Trails Ad Hoc Committee and a current alternate on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

I had the opportunity to hike the Oak Grove trails with interested citizens, commissioners, and city leaders. I feel that every detail was exchanged between all of the groups to come up with the ordinance that supports the residents of Pleasanton. The public will be getting 496 acres of open space that will have trails that tie into the general plan and the development will be limited to only 51 homes (Originally 98 homes). Oak Grove Park is twice the size of Augustin Bernal and will be open to the public.

There is a small group of residents who are trying to reverse the council's decision by collecting signatures from people who may not have spent the time doing the research as many of the supporters of the Oak Grove ordinance have done over the past 10 years.

If this referendum succeeds, it will force our City to return the 496 acres and the park will have an uncertain fate. Please review attached link www.keepourpark.org for more information and to see some of the supporters that have endorsed the city council's decision. Please join in our support. Also for more facts, review the Oak Grove Project website www.oakgrovepleasanton.com.

Important Legacy Jennifer Hosterman Pleasanton Mayor Matt Sullivan Pleasanton City Councilmember

We had planned to stay out of the debate over the Oak Grove referendum; however misinformation about the project and confusion in the public about our support considering our history of slow growth, environmental advocacy, and support for neighborhoods, compels us to provide this clarification. to help shape the project, provide "finality" from future development, and create a model for the acquisition of public open space for the remaining developable properties in the Southeast Hills. The result has been a resound-

ing success! A consensus plan was facilitated by the City for a 51 unit project – half the size of the original – with the addition of \$1 million in traffic mitigation fees for the neighborhood, and the dedication of a 497 acre public Open Space Park. The plan then went through the normal Commission and City Council public review process, input was sought throughout, additional issues identified, and adjustments were made. Regulatory agencies will evaluate habitat and mandate mitigation measures, or prohibit building on environmentally sensitive areas. No taxpayer monies will go to fund the Open Space Park – the developer will deed the property to the City, will construct the trails and a staging area, pay the endowment to the easement-holder Tri-Valley Conservancy, and the future HOA will be responsible for ongoing maintenance costs. For the units potentially most visible from the valley floor, one story limits, reduction in size, strict design guidelines, and plant and earth berm screening have been mandated. Finally, not one single house has been approved for this project – each will submit detailed plans and visual simulations to both the HOA Design Committee and the City for approval. The Planning Commission can choose to bring each to a public hearing, and any house can be appealed to the City Council for final decision. With these requirements and processes in place, the images presented by some project opponents of two and three story 12,000 square foot white glowing "mega-mansions" sitting on barren hilltops are simply false.

Similar to what the City achieved with the Bernal Property, Oak Grove provides nearly 500 acres of public open space in exchange for minimal development within the context of a collaborative neighborhood process and the support of four out of five Councilmembers. With this success, the Council has taken the first step in achieving a Vision for a magnificent 2,000 acre natural park completely ac-cessible to the public stretching from Shadow Cliffs to the Callippe Preserve Golf Course forever protecting these hills from development. This is an important legacy that this generation to future leave can Pleasantonians.

Wolf in Sheep's Clothing Michelle LaMarche PUSD Environmental Awareness Committee Member

Please sign the Initiative to Save the Hills and Protect the Housing Cap, and the Referenaum to overturn the 51 Meg mansions of the Oak Grove development. Pleasanton voters should have the right to decide on any development that will affect our surrounding hills. The story has played out over and over in surrounding cities: Developers spending tens of thousands of dollars on 4-color mailers and marketing phone calls thinly disguised as "surveys" to convince regular citizens that our hills can be bought. Pleasanton was just given 1500 acres of park land near the Pleasanton Ridge with no strings at-

tached. Why should the southeast hills have to be scarred with hillside homes? An initiative passed by voters in the early 90's protected our Western Ridge and this one can similarly protect the rest of the hills around our city.

1) The Initiative will actually protect against the developer reisiting this property, unless the 10 home limit and less than 25% slope conditions are met. 2) These ballot measures will not give away parkland. They will actually protect our views without paying the price of development on the hills. 3) Voters in Livermore successfully kept 1200 Livermore Trails homes off their hills by a 72% margin. Aren't the voters of Pleasanton just as wise? 4) Why would anyone be afraid of the people's vote? Who is paying for the glossy ads and the expensive signage against voter input...Charter Properties! (A wolf in sheep's clothing.)

Historic Home Darryl L. West Livermore

The November 8, 2007 Independent editorial continues a case of disturbing misinformation that began with a front page article on the same topic. The issue is a historic home

located at 292 North L, which is scheduled to be demolished as part of a nine unit housing project.

Not once, either in the news item or the editorial, did The Independent give credit to the process that takes place in making decisions regarding historic buildings throughout the City. Such structures on proposed development sites are reviewed by: The Historic Preservation Commission; the Design Review Committee; the Planning Commission; and the City Council.

The Independent did not give credit to the developer, city staff or the various reviewing bodies regarding their efforts to preserve the building. In fact, city planning staff have had ongoing discussions with the developer in an attempt to save the building.

The need to find a site to accept the relocation of the structure is but one sticking point. The Planning Commission questioned the developer and staff as to why it is so difficult and expensive to relocate such a building. One important point that has been lost in the current public discussion/reporting is the extremely expensive effort it takes to bring such a building up to

code, once it is moved. The developer was willing to move the structure; but who is to pay for the new site and code upgrades? The City?

Contrary to what Deborah Fields believes (and The Independent reported) there are extensive protections in place to protect our historic resources; and rather than taking yet another bite out of our precious downtown redevelopment funds (as John Stein suggested) if our citizens took part earlier in the process rather than making it a Council political football, perhaps a successful solution might become available through private contacts and means.

Don't deride the process if you are uninformed, or don't take part in it until far too late.

Sign Petitions Lou Astbury Pleasanton

The Pleasanton Planning Commission disapproved the Oak Grove project and deemed the Environmental Impact Report to be inadequate. Then in a split vote the City Council ignored the normal development approval protocol and approved the project.

The initiative and referendum simply allows the citizens to decide what is right for Pleasanton in an open and democratic process via the ballot. The "Pleasanton Weekly" newspaper in an editorial dated Feb. 2, 2007 stated: "Spirit of Open Meetings Fades with Oak Grove." A lot of the so called compromise in this project was worked out behind closed doors. Our Mayor Hosterman and City Councilmember Matt Sullivan say the project is a result of a collaborative process. If so, why are these elected officials actively opposed to allowing the citizens of Pleasanton to get informed and make their own choices at the polls?

Let there be an open forum. Please sign the initiative and referendum or at least please do not harass those who are trying to allow our democracy to work as is the right of all Americans.

Livermore Election Susan Steinberg Livermore

Bravo, Livermore! This reviewer applauds your brilliant performance.

You have persevered in the long-held dream of a world class concert hall and succeeded beyond expectation. Your re-imagined downtown is now a welcoming place for strolling, browsing, wining, and dining.

Handsome new infill buildings are providing a cohesion to the city core and a population to support it.

Finally, you have stood as a shining example of civic determination in defining an acceptable Urban Growth Boundary and defending it against corporate developers' big-money blandishments.

Now you have elected a full slate of city leaders dedicated to the "wise growth" policies that have made Livermore unique among Bay Area communities, large and small.

A class act if I ever saw one. Bravo, Livermore, and encore!

Another Petition Christine Steiner Pleasanton

Lucky you! Today you have the opportunity to sign yet another petition. This one designed to deny you Oak Grove Park. How they love to frighten you with visions of 51 large scary houses. Forget the fact that the citizens of the valley will get a gift of 496 acres for a park to be enjoyed by young and old forever. Forget that this compromise was discussed and fought for by many community groups after the landowner was denied 89 houses and a golf course that would have carved up the land (a proposal I did not support). Forget that many in the immediate neighborhood who initially cried foul, already perch on hillsides in above average sized homes. But now they accept it.

Do not forget that we live in this beautiful city because a developer built a house for us. Our business parks/retail center provide us substantial revenue to give us the amenities and jobs our families enjoy. Yet, despite our wealth, the chances of us voting for increased tax assessment to fund the acquisition of hundreds of acres of open space is small.

Pleasantonites, what has happened to our ability to look beyond our own neighborhoods and see what is best for the community. Maybe it's time to build a wall and moat around Pleasanton and pull up the drawbridge. On no! That would create more petitions for us to sign. Please before you sign, get the facts at keepourpark.org or just say "no."



oak trees and streambeds back at risk.

Fact: Instead of 51 homes, the property reverts back to the 98 homes for which it's zoned.

Fact: We've got control of the home design process. In spite of the doctored photos you may have seen, no homes have yet been approved! In fact, the review process is similar to that of the homes at Kottinger Ranch, with the opportunity for public input on all 51 homes.

Fact: Four out of five City Council members, the majority of our Planning Commission, almost Over three years ago, the property owner started work on a 98 unit plan, which was opposed by the adjacent Kottinger Ranch neighborhood. We have both campaigned against development in the hills and in support of affected neighborhoods. But instead of entering into yet another endless land-use battle, we thought there might be a better way: a collaborative process with the neighbors, the developer, and the city to see if agreement could be reached and these outcomes avoided. Our goals were threefold: Empower the neighborhood



SPORTS NOTES

Gymfinity Gymnastics

The level 5 team from Gymfinity Gym-nastics competed in the Level 5 Norcal State Championships held this past weekend in Lemoore, California.

Rebecca Meister, 10, led the way for Gymfinity scoring a 9.225 on bars to win the state title. Meister also placed second on floor and third on vault on her way to placing third in the all-around with a 36.0

Kelley Hebert, 8, placed third on vault Kelley Hebert, 8, placed third on vauit with a 9.0. Isla Andrews, 8, placed 4th on bars with a 9.15. And Amy Morrison, 11, placed 5th on floor with a 9.1. Full scores: Rebecca Meister - vault, 8.9, 3rd; bars, 9.225, 1st; beam, 8.675, 9th; floor, 9.2, 2nd; all-around, 36.0, 3rd. Kelley Hebert - vault, 9.0, 3rd; bars, 8.9, 8th; beam, 8.875, 9th; floor, 8.75, 104b; 204 march 26, 262, 604 march 475, 104b; 204 march 275, 10th; all-around, 35.525, 8th. Amy Morrison - vault, 8.4, 14th; bars, 8.65, 15th; beam, 8.0; floor, 9.1, 5th; all-around, 34.15, 15th. Isla Andrews - vault, 8.275, 14th; bars, 9.15, 4th; beam, 8.5; floor, 8.175; all-around, 34.1,

California Gymnastics

California Gymnastics team members competed in the Level 5 State Championship

Meet November 17-18. Age Group: 10yr A VAULT - Isabella Orecchia (8.85) BARS - Isabella Orecchia (8.875) BEAH - Isabella Orecchia (9.075) FLOOR - Isabella Orecchia (9.325, 1st) ALL AROUND - Isabella Orecchia (36.125, 5th)

Age Group: 10yr D VAULT - Morgan Fiske (8.65) FLOOR - Morgan Fiske (8.525)

ALL AROUND - Morgan Fiske (32.55) Age Group: 11yr C VAULT - Celina Moufarrej (8.65), Dori Lucero (8.45), Rachel Yang (8.25) BARS - Celina Moufarrej (8.75), Dori Lucero (8.30), Rachel Yang (8.025) BEAM - Celina Moufarrej (8.675), Dori Lucero (9.35, 2nd), Rachel Yang (8.80) FLOOR - Celina Moufarrej (8.575), Dori Lucero (8.875), Rachel Yang (8.55) ALL AROUND -Celina Moufarrej (34.65), Dori

AROUND -Celina Molitarlej (34.63), Don Lucero (34.975), Rachel Yang (33.625) Age Group: 11 yr D VAULT - Elizabeth Higa (8.30) BARS - Elizabeth Higa (8.525) BEAM - Elizabeth Higa (8.525) FLOOR -Elizabeth Higa (34.425) Age Group: Cr. B. VALUT - Laccies

Age Group: Sr. B VAULT - Jessica Fineran (8.425) BARS - Jessica Fineran (8.625) BEAM - Jessica Fineran (8.20) FLOOR - Jessica Fineran (8.65) ALL AROUND -Jessica Fineran (33.90).

Phantom Takes Title

Phantom 12 and under team went 6-0 to take the title in the Last Chance tournament at Big League Field of Dreams in Manteca. Phantom struck offensively with 11 hits collectively in the championship game to beat the Nor Cal Cruisers 9-2. Phantom offense was strong with three hits from Krista Williams, two hits from Kennedy Poplawski, two hits from Julia Petros, two hits from Johanna Grauer and singles from Corinne Valdix, Victoria Molina, Jenni Beadle and Malory Masajlo. Defense was led by 2nd baseman Kendall Moore and catcher Victoria Molina. Williams was excellent on the mound with 6K, 2W, 6H.

Phantom beat Concord Glory in the semi final 8-1. Grauer slapped a double and had two RBIs. Petros hit two singles and had an RBI. Phantom also beat Gilroy Chaos 6-0 earlier Sunday. In Saturday pool play, Phantom beat East County Hot Shots 8-4, the Pack 4-3 and the Stomperz 2-1. Phantom finished their fall ball season 21-8-2.

CYO Basketball

CYO basketball scores from last week: 7th grade girls, St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) Hippies #7003 played an awesome game against Catholic Community of Pleas-anton (CCOP) #7001 with a win and final score of 27 to 17. Almost every Hippy scored a basket in this game with Kristy Kearney making a 3 point shot. Kaila Silver ran the offense with 9 rebounds, Janelle Reali, Elyse Telford, and Sara Batchelor with 3 rebounds each. Carolyn Fletcher and Nina Hayes had 2 assists. Jenny Meredith and Carolyn Fletcher played a great defensive game as well.

In a close game Sunday, CCOP # 7005 defeated CCOP # 7009 20-14. Sydney Hitesman and Ashley Lindke lead the scoring for # 7005 with 8 points each. Aubry Wolff and Sarah Loduha scored 2 points each. CCOP's defense was lead by Alaina Urban, Cassidy Lynch and Arleen Firoozan. It was first half but CCOP # 7005 pulled

and several steals. His teammates, Justin McKee and Tito Quihuis, excelled under the board with many rebounds. CCOP's Clint Stewart scored 8 points.

SM/SC 5th grade girls team #5013 lost a close game to #5015 St. Joan, 16 - 12. Kelly Borden had 6 pts, Alyssa Gonzalez had 4, and Julie Maruskin had 2 for SM/SC. Danielle Sun played aggressive defense to help SM/ SC keep the game close. Madison Paulson had 3 pts and Mackenzie Dobson had 4 for St. Joan. Kimi Beiler had 6 and also played strong defense all over the court for St. Joan.

The SM/SC CYO 5th Grade Boys Team 4 started their season with a bang, scoring 40 points in their win over SM/SC Team 3. Collin Stafford led all scorers with 14 points. A softense from the 1 position. Zack Kline played ferocious defense blocking several shots and pulling down rebounds in addition to scoring 6 points. Mateo Marciel and Alex Cupps scored 4 points each while Devin Ilharreguy and Vince Rizzo each added 2.

SM/SC 5th grade boys played a tough game against St. Joan of Arc. St. Joan of Arch beat SM/SC 30 - 7. Arman, Jevin, Nick and Jamal were St. Joan of Arc high scorers. Kyle, Ian, Johnny and Jordan all scored for SM/SC.

The St. Isidore's (5002) 5th grade girls defeated the SM/SC Dribblers (5004) in Sunday's game 23 to 10. It was a close game in the first half but St. Isidore's, led by Natalie Coffin's strong offensive game, pulled away in the second half. For the Dribblers, Paige Walker was the leading scorer with 4 points. Nicole Alcaraz and Sarah Partridge played great defense with 5 rebounds each and 2 to 3 steals each.

SM/SC 5th grade boys (#521) vs SM/SC #520 won 30-20, the first win of the season! For SM/SC (#521) top scoring players were Brandon Cory with 10pts, 5 rbs & 1 steal, William Johnson 4 pts & 2 rbs and Kent Greene 4 pts, 7 rbs & 3 steals. Top defensive players for SM/SC #521 Jake Hall 4 pts & 10 rbs Para Halmes 2 rbt 7 rbs & 6 fcteals 10 rbs, Ryan Holmes 2 pts, 7 rbs & 6 steals and Jacob Woll 4 pts, 3 rbs & 5 steals. Also playing a very hard game for SM/SC #521 was Nathan Julku, Andrew Kettenhofen and Matt Sheziff.

SM/SC 5th grade boys (#533) vs. SM/ SC (#530) won 22-16. SM/SC 533 was led SC (#550) Woh 22-16. SM/SC 533 Was led offensively by Michael Pierce with 10 points and Kamryn Mosleh adding 4 points. Kevin Garcia and Patrick Miron provided solid defense. For SM/SC #530, Keith Tyser knocked in 12 points while Nick Sposeto and Ryan Rogers provided solid defense.

SM/SC 4th grade American team (#40005) took on a short-staffed CCOP American team (#40001). The girls battled equally during the first half until Gabby drained a shot to end the period 4 to 2 in favor of SM/SC. The second half was also close, but Jesse had an end to end break-away run consistent an uncontexted law un Finel cons scoring on an uncontested lay-up. Final score SM/SC 10, CCOP 6.

SM/SC 4th Grade Boys (#412) played St. Isidore (#410) in a very competitive game with a final score of 8 to 15. Logan Potter was top scorer with 6 pts. and John Reggiardo with 2 pts. There was a lot of great action on the court from Ryan McCool, Erik Mork and Nathan Tabaracci

SM/SC 3rd grade team #326, the War-riors, beat SM/SC #328 16-6 in a hard fought battle. The Warriors' top scorer was Ben Kerling with 8 points and 5 rebounds. Kavan Bagaetelos played a tough defense. Azon

Fernandez and Austin Curtis were the top offensive and defensive players for SM/SC #326.

SMSC 3rd grade boys (#329) vs. SMSC (#325) tied 8 to 8. It was an exciting game with great effort from both teams. SMSC 325 got of to a quick start with early points on the board by Jordan Buranis. Zac Heinz was two for two from the free throw line. SMSC 329 came back to tie it up in the fourth period with a timely shot by Nicholas Ratinho, with only 32 seconds left on the clock. There was also great supporting effort on steals and assists from Frank Gomez and Landon Grace.

SM/SC 3rd grade girls (#3010) defeated St. Joan of Arc (#3008), 18 to 2. SM/SC offense was led by Taylor Peterson and Alexandra Lonsinger with 6 points each. Mila Steinberg and Tea Stephenso play outstanding defense with 2 steals each. SM/SC 1st and 2nd grade boys and girls (2BN5) vs. (2GN2). The game was quite balanced between the two teams. The girls' top scoring players were Hannah and Kate. The boys' top scoring players were Kinaar and Colton. The players were moving back and forth across the court, the game was very fast paced. The top defensive players for the girls were Kate and Chloe. Top defensive players for the boys were Logan and Andrew.

regular season. The girls performed well in the tournament, winning their first two games and tying their third. Their point total netted them a slot in the Consolation game. The Bulldogs came home with a 4th-place finish. Congratulations on a great season: Alex, Emily, Jesse, Jordan, Jurnee, Kelcie, Kylee, Makala, Nancy, Natalie, Rachel, Sydney, Coach Tom and Coach George.

Elite Tournaments Livermore Elite Rampage 98 U9Div 1 girls had a phenomenal weekend at the NorCal State Cup in Sacramento this week-end. Livermore's Elite Rampage placed 3rd overall in Northern California.

Elite Rampage 98 vs Mustang for a 1-1 tie. Six minutes into the game, Amy Silva sent a pass over to Ashley Morton who sank the ball in the back of the net for the early lead. Unbelievable efforts by Lesly Jimenez, Delaney Foote, Adrianna Sblendorio and Isabella Neads gave Rampage many scoring opportunities. Both teams played tough and Mustang put one in the net to tie up the score in the second half.

in the second half. Elite Rampage 98 vs Elk Grove 0-2. Rampage played an unbelievable game against Elk Grove with the score at 0-0 at half. An unlucky corner kick and ping-pong bounces that bounced off a Rampage player gave Elk Grove a lead. Rampage 's strong defense and midfielders of Katie Rademann, Delaney Foote, Hunter Vice, Lauren Sandy and Lesly immers due Elk Croux meior difficultion Jimenez gave Elk Grove major difficulties. With minutes remaining, Elk Grove put in an insurance goal to secure their win. Elite Rampage 98 vs San Ramon 1-0.

Rampage won a difficult match against San Ramon. With the score at 0-0 at the half both teams would not let down. The Rampage defense of Jesse Espana and Hunter Vice shut derense of Jesse España and Hunter Vice shut down San Ramon's scoring opportunities while Rampage's offense pressed hard. Midfielders, Katie Rademann and Lauren Sandy fed the ball up the field to give Rampage many scoring opportunities. Well into the second half Amy Silva took an unbaltwidel, autoida chet ace bath teams unbelievable outside shot as both teams watched the ball sail into the back of the net for the one and only goal of the game. Rampage had unbelievable goal tending any many outstanding saves by Isabella Neads

and Ashley Morton. and Ashley Morton. Elite Rampage 98 vs Gryphons 2-3. Rampage played a tough game and fought hard against the Gryphons. Gryphons had a 2-0 score at half time but Rampage remained calm. Early into the second half Adrianna Sblendorio made a beautiful run to stuff Pampagic first cameback gai into the net Rampage's first comeback goal into the net. Minutes later Ashley Morton dribbled through Windles tater Asmey Morion dribbled unrough two defenders and placed a perfect shot in the corner for the 2-2 tie. Rampage defenders and midfielders Lauren Sandy, Jesse Espana, Lesley Jimenez, Hunter Vice, Katie Rademann and Delaney proved to give the Gryphon's unexpected trouble. In the first 5 minute unexpected trouble. In the first 5 minute overtime both teams fought hard with the score unchanged. A penalty kick shot was saved by Isabella Neads allowing Rampage to move into the second overtime. With 2 minutes remaining in the second overtime. With 2 Gryphons were the first to score for the win.

State Cross Country

The California Community College State Cross Country Championships were held

Nov. 17 at Fresno City College. Las Positas College finished in 19th place. Joey Nunes was the first Hawk over the finish line, finishing 79th in a time of 22:11.

Other competitors from Las Positas were: Tristan Blair, 91st, 22:26; Juan Gomez, 92nd, 22:27; Ivan Medina, 105th, 22:51; Ross Mollenkopf, 144th, 23:58; Jag Kalirai, 147th, 24:13; and Alex Blue, 160th, 25:14.

Smoke in Tournament

The Livermore Smoke 11-under fall ball team competed in a tournament in Hayward this past weekend.

Livermore Smoke 11, Team MVP 1. Solid pitching came from Madalyn Geyer, giving up just two hits and one run while striking out four. Geyer helped her cause by doubling and driving in two runs. Offense was led by Lindsey Lucivero who singled, tripled and drove in four runs. Sophie Hartley had a single, three stolen bases and two runs scored.

Sunnvvale Wicked 4. Livermore Smoke Solid pitching from Sunnyvale kept the Smoke bats at bay. Molly Farro, Brittney Gunderson and Kassidee Rusniak all singled. Adrianna Correa pitched a great game, striking out nine.

Livermore Smoke 14, Livermore Xtreme

while Corinne Heinstein, Sophie Hartley, and Kassidee Rusniak all scored twice.

LGSGSA Magic 8, Livermore Smoke 7. The Smoke's weekend was ended by a come-

from-behind victory by the Magic in the final inning. Three straight singles by Cassie Campiotti, Lindsey Lucivero, and Brittney Gunderson capped off a five-run first inning.

The Smoke scored three more in the third, led by a double by Kayla Fitzgerald.

Two games into the NORCAL ice hockey regular season the Tri-Valley Blue Devils Pee Wee A team finds themselves undefeated,

wee A team finds themselves undereated, thanks to a win and a tie. The Blue Devils began the 2007-2008 season with a 2-2 tie against the San Jose Junior Sharks. Patrick Melville opened the

scoring for Tri Valley on a setup from Jordan Smith. After Matt Woodley tied it for San

Jose, Smith put the Blue Devils back in front

Law Offices of

Youth Ice Hockey

with his second goal midway through the middle period. But early in the third period Chris Schumacher scored for the Junior Sharks and the contest ended in a tie. Blue Devils goalie Michael Sinicropi was outstanding in the contest making 24 saves. Against Vacaville, Tri Valley scored two

goals in each period to post a convincing 6-2 victory. The first star of the game was Connor Young who recorded a three goal "hat trick". Two of his goals came on break-aways. Jordan Smith also scored 2 goals in the game with Michael Hahn adding another. Matthew Bissell had a pair of assists. Hahn, Aleksey Pelletier and Patrick Melville also had assists. Sinicropi had another strong game recording 13 assists. Robert Rogers scored both Vacaville goals. Tri Valley coaches John Young, John McGowan and Anthony Melville also received solid efforts from Daniel Atwater, Jeremy Che, Gerin Flories, Michael Liamos, Justin McGowan, Cole Merrick, Jacob Minton and Quinn Moore.

The Blue Devils now prepare for the Silver Sticks Holiday Tournament in San Jose with games scheduled against Santa Clara, Bakersfield, Ontario and Oakland.

Aqua Cowboys

The Livermore Aqua Cowboys partici-pated in the Golden Bear Swim Club short course swim meet on November 17-88. It was a very successful meet for the Aqua Cowboy team as each swimmer registered new best times and many swimmers set new team records.

The Aqua Cowboys were led by three swimmers earning new Junior Olympic quali-fying times: Kylie Clark (200 breaststroke), Nina Hayes (50 backstroke, 50 butterfly) and Moriah Simonds (100 breaststroke). "A" times were earned by Taylor Brennan (100 freestyle, 50 backstroke, 50 freestyle, 100 I.M.), Évan Carlo (200 freestyle), Nina Hayes (50 backstroke, 50 butterfly) and Katie Kulp (400 I.M.). Results: Boys: 8-and-under: Matthew

Hayes — 50 backstroke, 5th, 48.34, 50 butterfly, 2nd, 1:00.28, 25 freestyle, 7th, 20.08, 50 freestyle, 4th, 43.41, 25 butterfly, 4th, 27.31, 25 backstroke, 2nd, 23.21, 100 4th, 27.31, 25 backstoke, 2hi, 25.21, 100 I.M., 7th, 2:00.93. 15-16: Evan Carlo – 200 freestyle, 1st, 1:59.20, new A, 100 breast-stroke, 3rd, 1:16.99, 100 butterfly, 2nd, 1:01.83, 100 backstroke, 2nd, 1:04.41. Patrick Kulp — 200 freestyle, 2nd, 1.04.41.7 auto Kulp — 200 freestyle, 2nd, 2:08.50, 100 breaststroke, 1st, 1:25.60, 100 butterfly, 3rd, 1:07.66, 400 I.M., 2nd, 5:12.81. Girls: 8-and-under: Taylor Brennan —

100 freestyle, 1st, 1:32.87, new A, 50 backstroke, 1st, 47.61, new A, 25 freestyle, backstroke, 1st, 47.61, new A, 25 freestyle, 8th, 19.04, 50 freestyle, 1st, 40.35, new A, 25 butterfly, 4th, 26.11, 25 backstroke, 22.97, 100 LM, 1st, 1:48.93, new A. 9-10: Elizabeth Bukus — 100 breaststroke, 4th, 2:14.64, 100 freestyle, 2:05.74, 50 back-stroke, 1:09.34. Allie Clark — 100 freestyle, 3rd, 1:31.67, 50 backstroke, 6th, 50.79, 50 butterfly, 7th, 52.27, 50 freestyle, 4th, 40.34, 100 breaststroke, 1:50.06, 50 breaststroke, 51.02. Catherine Elliott — 100 freestyle, 1:23.19, 100 breaststroke, 8th, 1:48.62, 50 backstroke, 44.24 50 butterfly, 46.98 Moriab 123.19, 100 breaststroke, 8th, 148.62, 50 backstroke, 44.24, 50 butterfly, 46.98. Moriah Simonds — 200 I.M., 4th, 3:00.75, 50 butterfly, 5th, 39.16, 100 breaststroke, 1st, 1:35.16, new JO, 50 freestyle, 34.59, 50 breaststroke, 6th, 46.34, 100 backstroke, 1:20.23, 100 butterfly, 6th, 1:29, 22, 11, 12,

 1:29.32, 100 butterfly, 6th, 1:38.33, 11-12:
Kylie Clark — 100 freestyle, 1:07.51, 200 I.M., 2:44.41, 50 backstroke, 39.89, 200 2001.M., 2:44.41, 50 backstroke, 39.89, 200 breaststroke, 2nd, 2:55.25, new JO, 200 freestyle, 4th, 2:29.33, 100 breaststroke, 1:20.52, 50 freestyle, 32.08, 400 I.M., 4th, 5:47.68.Nina Hayes — 100 freestyle, 1:03.32, 200 I.M., 2:43.29, 50 backstroke, 3rd, 33.75, 2:23.88, 50 butterfly, 8th, 34.36, 50 freestyle, 31.01, 400 I.M., 1st, 5:36.66. Jessica Paul — 100 freestyle, 1:22.03, 200 I.M., 3:25.58, 50 backstroke, 46.3. 15-16: Alexa Danner— 100 freestyle, 5th, 1:04.30, 50 freestyle, 1st, 28.23, 500 freestyle, 6:12.28.

Water Polo Signups

Signups for Stoneridge water polo winter season are now being accepted. The season runs from November 26-Feb 7. M/W at 7:15-9:00 for high school boys and Tu/Thu at 7:15-9:00 for high school girls. 8th grade and under and 6th grade and under Coed groups are held on M/W at 5:30-7:00. All groups are held at the Dolores Bengston Aquatic Center in Pleasanton. Two week sessions are offered for

birth certificate and proof of residency. For more information visit our website at www.lnll.us or call our hotline at (925) 443-5655

Fastpitch Tryouts

Softball tryouts are set for the Young Guns 18A girl's fastpitch softball team for the upcoming 2008 summer travel season. Try outs will be held Sundays, Dec. 2 and 9 starting at noon at Creekside Middle School in Castro Valley. For information, call Rocky at 510-886-0243 or Jeff at 510-828-3812.

Baseball Camp

Tri-Valley Baseball Camp is set for December 2nd, 10:00am-3:00pm. Camp is for Boys and Girls ages 5-13. Camp is run by Diamondback Scout Brian Kohndrow along with College and Pro Players. For further information emai springtrainingcamp@comcast.net.

American LL Signups

American Little League will hold regis-tration on Thurs., Dec. 6, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Asbury Church, 4743 East Ave., Liver-more. Players must be 5-18 yrs. old on or before April 30, 2008. New players must bring birth certificate and proof of residence. Information www.eteamz.com/LALL.

Baseball Bricks.

The Livermore High School baseball field is undergoing some major renovations. It will have is a new brick backstop. The team is selling engraved bricks to help raise funds for the project. Bricks are 4x8 or an 8x8. They will be engraved with whatever you wish installed at the field forever. The cost is \$50 per small brick and \$100 per large brick. There are discounts for multiple bricks. Please go to www.eteamz.com/LHSCowboysBaseball for more info or contact David Perotti at (925) 606-4812 x2438 or dperotti@livermore.k12.ca.us. The deadline is November 30.

Fastpitch Tryouts

Tryouts for the spring/summer team Lady Hustle Fastpitch Softball 14 A travel team in Pleasanton have been scheduled: Dec. 1: Tryouts for Pitchers and Catchers

only 10-11am; All Players Hitting 11:00-12:30; All Players Fielding/Running 1:30-2:45

Dec. 9: Tryouts for All Players Fielding/ Running 1:30-2:45; All Players Hitting 3:30-5:00; Pitchers and Catchers Only 5:00-6:00

Tryouts are at Double Diamond Sports Academy, Livermore/Robertson Park soft-ball Field, 2272 Research Dr., Livermore. Please register for tryouts in advance at www.ladyhustlefastpitch.com. For information call Coach Teresa Bochard at 785-0846.

Softball Tryouts

Livermore Smoke 12U-A Softball will hold tryouts December 8th at 10am at Robertson Park, Livermore Please contact Johnny Heinz for further information by e mail at jmheinz@comcast.net or call 454 1406.

Pony Baseball

Pony Baseball is now accepting Regis-tration for the Spring 2008 season. Register on-line at www.pleasantonpony.com or call 600-PONY for more information.

PGSL Registration

2008 Registration 2008 Registration is open for all divi-sions in the Pleasanton Phantom Girls Soft-ball League. All girls living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol are eligible to play PGSL softball. Two ways to register: 1) On-line at www.pleasantonsoftball.org; 2) Mail-in: PGSL, P.O. Box 911, Pleasanton, CA 04566 (download a versitertion form form 94566 (download a registration form from our website). Registration deadline is Janu-1, 2008. For more information visit the ary 1, 2 PGSL website at www.pleasantonsoftball.org.

Track and Field

Track and Field Athenian Athletics Track Club invites athletes ages 7-18 to participate in our winter practice sessions to prepare for the 2008 track and field season. Practices will the 2008 track and field season. Practices will be held on a voluntary/drop-in basis Monday through Friday. Adults of all ages and ability are also encouraged to join the club to participate in the health and wellness night program. For membership, practice time and location, please visit location, please visit www.athenianathletics.com or call Coach Rik Richardson at 925-518-9356.

Women's Lacrosse Umpire Clinics

The growing school of women lacrosse needs trained umpires for junior and high school games. Detail information can be obtain at www.ncwlua.org. No cost or enrollment necessary. Location: University of California (Hall of Fame Room in Memorial Stadium), Berkeley. Clinicians: Julie Duff & Scot Mehl Wednesdays, January 16, 2008 (Part I) & January 23, 2008 (Part II) from 6-9 p.m. (Total: 6 hours).



away in the second half, holding on in the 4th quarter for the win. . . .

SMSC 6th Grade Girls American (#60004) vs. St. Isidore (#60002) 18 to 21. It was a closely matched game down to the end of the fourth quarter when a free throw and fast break clenched the victory for St. Isidore Allison Martin, McKayla Saavedra, and Hailey Lasit were the leading scorers for SMSC, with great defense and assists by Rachel Norman and Ashleigh Pettit. St. Isidore received a well earned victory with great offensive and defensive plays all around.

St. Joan 6th grade (614) defeated SM/SC (610) 26-12. A close game in the first quarter, St. Joan went on a 13-2 run to break open an 11 point halftime lead. Led by Darin Anderson, SM/SC cut the lead to 8 in the third quarter. St. Joan regrouped with a time-out and stopped the SM/SC comeback. Ander-son was high scorer for SM/SC with 8 points. Marcus Marr-Clark had 4 points and 7 rebounds. Calvin Rasbold had 4 rebounds and an assist.

The SM/SC Grizzly Bears (Team #607) held off a determined CCOP Team #606 to win their second game of the year, 22-20. CCOP jumped to an early lead but the Bears quickly took control of the game and built a commanding 21-9 lead early in the third quarter. CCOP surged back into contention by dominating the fourth quarter with ten unanswered points. The teams traded late free throws and SM/SC held on for the win. The top offensive player was SM/SC's Hunter Ashby with 11 points, numerous rebounds,

SM/SC Farro Warriors vs. SM/SC Wildcats. What a great game by both teams. Outstanding job Wildcat players: Vassilis, Ian, Samuel, and Dillion and by Farro Warriors players: Kamryn, Tyler, Kyle, and

The Wildcats played a hard fought game! Offensive stand-outs were Regan Wiedenfeld, Madison Kahwaty and Caitlin McCool. Madison Stewart and Talina Quezada provided aggressive defense throughout the game. Melanie Laronde and Jessica Keaney contributed great passing to the overall strong team effort.

Livermore Soccer

Livermore Youth Soccer League teams took part in tournaments over the weekend. House Tournaments

Under-10 Girls, The Bulldogs played at the Annual Crossroads Soccer Tourney. The Bulldogs garnered an invitation to the annual Crossroads Soccer Tourney after a winning

Kassidee Rusniak pitched a great game silencing the Xtreme bats, allowing just two hits and two runs while striking out five beginners. No experience necessary however, some swimming skills are helpful. batters. The Smoke offense was led by doubles by Molly Farro and Taylor Zehr,

For more information or to signup on-line, please go to Stoneridgewaterpolo.com or call 216-2102.

Pleasanton Soccer

Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club Division 4:

Division 4: **Under-8:** The Chargers played their final game on Saturday against the Cannonballs. Brandon Kinsey, Riley Shields and Kevin Wiest scored goals to finish out a great season. The boys also challenged their dads to a game in which the score was tied 1-1. Top Offensive Players: Brandon Kinsey, Kevin Wiest, Riley Shields - Chargers.

LNLL Registration

Livermore National Little League has a walk-in registration scheduled for Thursday November 29, from 6-9pm. It will be located at Mountain Mike's Pizza 1472 Vasco Rd. in the PW Shopping Center. Those new to the League need to bring a copy of their child's **Dom's Your Safe Experts**

Call Monika Harris 📽 (925)417-0424









scooter."

sports in school such as PE, 4

square, running, four corners,

soccer and football. I also wear

them around the house, taking

family walks and riding my

sneaker award, plus an all expense

paid trip to The Top Notch Re-

sort in Stowe, VT and a year supply of Odor-Eaters products to

help him "kick out" odor and wet-

ness. Preston is looking forward

to competing in the annual Na-

tional Odor-Eaters Rotten

Sneaker Contest to be held in

Montpelier, Vermont with the

other eight local winners from

around the nation. He will be eli-

gible to win \$2,500, a two day stay

in New York City, see a Broadway

Show and he may have the chance

to enshrine his winning sneakers

in the Odor-Eaters Hall of Fumes.

Maryalice Faltings said of the

contest, "Everyone recreates in

their own way; this (contest)

LARPD Board member

Preston won \$200, the golden



By Anne Homan

Butchers and Polar Bears

I read recently that polar bears will be extinct in the not-toodistant future because of the melting of polar ice from the earth's warming. Butchers, too, might soon join the ranks of endangered species here in the Tri-Valley. Our last existing butcher shop, Kelly's Meats, has been given a year plus three months by the City of Livermore to relocate. That time runs out in September 2008, when the city anticipates tearing down the group of small businesses off L Street near the Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet.

Charles G. Kelly was born in Castleblaney, County Monaghan, Ireland, in 1903, his brother John in 1905. Their father, who was a commercial seaman, was killed at the San Francisco docks about 1907. Their mother remarried; her new husband was a butcher and taught his two stepsons his vocation. John stayed in Ireland and opened a butcher shop in Castleblaney. Charlie left for New York City in 1927. His future wife, Bridget "Betty" Brennan, immigrated from Swinford, County Mayo, Ireland to New York City at age 19 in 1929. Charlie and Betty met in New York at an Irish dance; they married in 1940. Charles signed up with the U.S. Navy in World War II, serving as cook and butcher for Seabees stationed at Dutch Harbor, Alaska. When he was discharged from Camp Shoemaker in Dublin on June 8, 1945. He decided to stay in California.

He worked as a butcher for Fiorio's Market in Pleasanton until 1950, when he came to Livermore and opened Kelly's Meats on First Street. The Kellys had two children, Patricia and John. John remembered how hard his father worked: six days a week from seven until six o'clock. Although his mother did not work at butchering, John said that she was a partner in their enterprise, delivering meat, keeping the books, making bank deposits. She also worked at the Livermore Sanitarium. Charlie was only five foot six and spoke with a brogue, always softly, perhaps because of his partial deafness from his tour with the navy. As the result of a car accident in 1951 which left him with a shattered leg, he walked with a limp. Charlie retired in 1977 and sold the shop to Vaughn Evans, but he would still come in and work three or four hours a day. His specialty cut was a "feather-bone steak."

John started work in the butcher shop with his dad at the age of six—he stood on a wooden crate and measured a certain amount of meat on the scale and then packaged it, but being a butcher was not his idea of a career. John enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in May of 1966 when he saw his draft number coming up. He became a jet mechanic and eventually, after college, a commercial airline pilot. One of the highlights in his life was being able to fly his parents to Ireland and back in 1980. His parents enjoyed seeing the old country, friends and relatives; his mother saw her sister for the first time in 60 years. Charlie died in September 1980, not long after the trip. John said, "My father was well-known for helping young men who had dropped out of school. He taught them the butchering trade, young men that no one else would give a chance." Betty Kelly died in 2001.

Randy Smith, who had opened his own butcher shop, Randy's Meats, in 1965, merged it with Kelly's Meats in 1981. Kelly's was moved from First Street to its present location near Kentucky Fried Chicken. Randy bought out Vaughn Evans's share in the business in1983. Randy taught at Junction Avenue School for many years until his retirement in 1999; now he and his daughter Cheryl Lillard run Kellys' Meats together.

It is definitely worthwhile to visit the little shop, not only to buy fresh meat, but also to see the equipment: the beautiful Fleetwood and Ace refrigerated cases from the original Kelly's, the old smoker, and the beam scale, which still measures up to 1,000 pounds accurately. There are usually three or four friends hanging around who have come to kibitz and have a beer.

When my husband and I were running a few cattle in the 1980s, we would call the Scheringa brothers to come up on Morgan Territory Road to slaughter them. The Scheringas delivered the carcasses to Kelly's, where they were cut up in the manner I requested and frozen before I picked them up. Nowadays, Randy says that the Scheringas are no longer in business; the closest slaughterers are in Morgan Hill or Modesto. They charge a high fee

Kelly's does a good business in wild game; they have butch-ered bear, deer, antelope and wild pigs. Besides meat cuts, they often make sausage and salami. They also butcher 4H animals County the Alameda all.



Smith Elementary School recently held its annual Scholastic Book Fair. The idea is to promote an appreciation for reading among the student body. Students visit the fair, set up in the school library, to make their purchases. In addition, a family night was held in the library Wednesday evening. This year's fair was called "The Book Blizzard." Revenue from sales goes back to the educational programs at Smith.

Giving Tree At Livermore Police Station Awaits Donations

The Livermore Police Department and Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association is again sponsoring the Giving Tree to help some hand picked families in Livermore that need a little assistance this holiday season.

A tree has been set up in the Livermore Police Dept. lobby. It is decorated with tags containing items needed and sizes, ages, etc. Interested individuals simply select a tag from the tree and go

shopping. Return the gifts in boxes, unwrapped, with tags attached, to the collection box in the Police Dept. lobby. The CPAAA does the rest.

Monetary donations cannot be accepted. However, gift cards are welcome. Hours are Monday to Friday, Nov. 26 to Dec. 14, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the lobby, 1110 So. Livermore Ave.

For information, contact Nancy Mulligan, 925-443-3076.

Livermore Youth Has Smelliest Sneakers

For sneakers with the most of- confessed, "I wear them playing fensive odors, worn-out soles, frayed laces and torn toes, tenyear-old Preston Hasting of Livermore, beat out all competitors in the California Odor-Eaters Rotten Sneaker Contest, held at the Robert Livermore Community Center.

The second runner-up was Ethan Abourmrad also of Livermore.

Livermore was the only city in California represented.

The list of judges included John Marchand – Livermore Vice Mayor, Steve Goodman-LARPD Board President and Kevin Zollinger - Community Member. Preston will now be eligible to compete in the 33rd annual National Odor-Eaters Rotten Sneaker Contest to be held on March 18, 2008, in Montpelier, VT.

Goodman described the contest a "great one, fun for everyone.'

Competitors, ranging in age from five to 15 years, went noseto-toes in this contest that lets "kids be kids." The Champion

Immunization Clinic Set Dec. 1

Axis Community Health has scheduled its free fall immunization clinic for children on December 1, from 9:00-11:30 a.m. The clinics will take place at Axis' Pleasanton Clinic only, 4361 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

proves it."

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

Immunization appointments are also available at (925) 462-1755.

SHORT NO

Nature Programs

Two programs are planned for this weekend by the Livermore Area Rec-reation and Park District ranger staff. There will be an Autumn Amble on Sat., Nov. 24. Meet Ranger Darren Segur at 10 a.m. at the nature area

entrance to Sycamore Grove Park. This is a moderate, easygoing hike to look at the fall colors and check out

the things the flora and fauna are doing to prepare for winter. This hike is about 2 miles on level trails. It is good for all ages. Bring water, good shoes and questions about the park or its inhabit-ants. Canceled if raining. A Crazed Creekside Excursion will

be held Sun., Nov. 25. Meet Ranger Pat Sotelo at 2 p.m. the Wetmore Road entrance to Sycamore Grove Park.

Participants will walk along the banks of the Arroyo Del Valle. Be ready to bushwhack over uneven terrain as participants explore the magical world of nature using all of our senses, including (most importantly) a sense of

adventure. Wear old clothes and be prepared for anything. There is a \$3 per vehicle parking fee. A\$2 donation is requested to help support the programs. Participants may call (925) 960-2400 for more informa-tion

New Officers

Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. More information about Drs. Zamary, Abdel-Malek, Thompson and Kalisetti, as well as PAMF's services in Dublin and Livermore is available at www.pamf.org/ dublin and www.pamf.org/livermore. For appointments at either location, please call (925) 875-6100.

Toys for Tots

The following businesses are ac-cepting donations for Toys for Tots: Local chiropractor, Dr. Lynne Sullivan, is hosting Toys for Tots cam-paign in her office. She is looking to collect 500 toys for the kids of Pleasanton by the end of December. To donate a toy, or for more information, please call Dr. Sullivan at (925) 484-1070. 268 Main Street, Pleasanton.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is once again joining forces with the United States Marine Corps Reserve in its local Toys for Tots campaign. This season marks Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's 21st consecutive year as an official gift collection center. Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices will serve as official collection centers from now until December 10.

Individuals interesting in donating a new, unwrapped toy to the Toys for Tots program may do so at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerag e.5980 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 122, Pleasan-ton; 847-2200.

Center last Sunday by Karen Kam, Executive Director of Dublin Ulferts Center, Chun received gift certificates Center. Chun received gift certificates of \$500 value that are good for pur-chases and dining at all Dublin Ulferts Center stores and restaurants. • Sake Bomb Contest – December 20 (Thursday): House of Sake Japa-nese Restaurant will host this annual wart at the new Dublin keasing. A total

event at its new Dublin location. A total of 24 contestants will compete in three rounds. One final winner will bring home the grand prize of \$100 gift certificate and a deluxe set of sake bottle and cups. Entry fee is \$15 per person. Time: 8:00 p.m. Location: House of Sake Japanese Restaurant. Call 925-833-8448 to register. The 52,000 square foot Dublin

Ulferts Center is an open-air regional shopping center. Dublin Ulferts Center provides a mix of over 30 specialty retailers, services, restaurants and food shops, bringing "globally inspired lifestyle and international cuisine" to the Dublin/Pleasanton/San Ramon neighborhood.

Dublin Ulferts Center is located at 4288 Dublin Blvd. For more informa-tion about Dublin Ulferts Center and its upcoming events, please contact Ulferts Concierge at 925-828-6688, or visit its official website www.ulferts.com.

Turkeys Donated

Distribution of the turkeys took place on Nov. 19, 20 and 21. This year's turkey recipients were St. Michael's Food Cupboard, Tri-Valley Haven Food Partry, Interfaith Sharing, Buenas Vidas Youth Ranch, First Presbyterian/ Agape Villages, Valley Christian, and Open Heart Kitchen. Operation Gobble was initiated by

the California Water Association, a consortium of privately owned water utility companies throughout the state. Cal Water is a member and is the largest investor-owned water utility in California.

Junior Rangers

Junior Ranger Program is being offered by the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff for youth ages 9 to 12. Meetings are scheduled from January - June, approximately two Saturdays per month with two overnights. Fee is \$225 for residents and \$270 for non-residents. Register online at www.larpd.dst.ca.us or by calling (925)373-5707.

Junior Rangers in Winter/Spring 2008 is looking for kids from 9 to $1\overline{2}$ years old who want to explore the wonders of nature and learn essential skills for safely enjoying the great outdoors and some of the basics of wilderness survival. There will be two overnights as part of the program including a backpacking trip to Sunol which includes rappelling and rock climbing. If you have questions, call the ranger office at (925) 960-2400. To sign up log on to www.larpd.dst.ca.us or call (925) 373-5707.

The major problem for Randy and Cheryl in moving to make way for Livermore's redevelopment is their equipment. They are grandfathered in now after being in business so long. However, once they relocate, everything will have to be up to code. The Fleetwood units are not completely air tight; the smoker will not be up to code. It will be difficult if not impossible to move the huge beam scale or the walk-in freezer.

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

DEPLOY-

(continued from page one) gave her a booklet that she can fill with photos and friends to take with her.'

Lillie graduated from Granada High School. Her parents still live in Livermore.

Lillie will be heading to al anbar Province in January. She spent 12-months in the area during her first deployment January 2006 to January 2007.

"It was a pretty decent deployment," she recalls. "I got to move around a lot, working in different situations where there were different threats involved and different missions flown by pilots.'

Her job is an analyst with the airwing deployed out of Miramar Marine Air Corps Station. As an analyst, she works with pilots briefing them on air threats and current ground threats in the areas where they will be operating. It's a 7 day a week, 15 to 16 hour a day job. It involves reading reports, analyzing them and passing the information onto pilots.. got to work with Hueys and Cobras, the attack helicopters, among others. That was really interesting," she stated.

Among the information she provides pilots who has been operating in an area, insurgent

AVE'S

Computer

Hardware & Software Installation

Repairs & Upgrades

Security, & Monitoring

Specialists

activity, arms fire, and so on.

When the pilots return from a mission, she takes part in the debriefing. The pilots are asked for specifics on what they might have seen, such as surface to air fire. The information could include a pile of rocks on the side of a road or a suspicious looking vehicle. The information is written up in a report for command staff.

Al anbar is considered one of the most hostile parts of Iraq, with a lot of insurgent activity. However, Lillie says her situation is a relatively safe one. She doesn't take part in convoys or in patrolling in cities.

'Conditions weren't terrible. There were no toilets. At one base, there were no women's facilities. I lived in a wooden hut with a tarp roof. When it rained you got rained on. When there was a sand storm, you were covered with sand. I had it a lot better than a lot of people. I can't complain," Lillie declared.

She has spent the time from January at Miramar recovering from deployment and preparing for her next deployment. Lillie says she hopes her next deployment will be a learning experience, just as the first deployment was.

Valley Mother's of Twins Club held its annual officer elections on Nov. 13.

The 2008 TVMOTC Executive Committee includes the following: Srilatha Gollapalli, President, San Ramon; Theresa Waschua, Vice Presi-dent, Livermore; Ruth Wiley, Vice President of Programs, San Ramon; Lori Burfield, Treasurer, San Leandro; Susan Hobbs, Assistant Treasurer, Pleas-anton; Julie Corbett, Recording Secre-tary, Danville; and Deb Hart-Hugill, Corresponding Secretary, San Ramon. Twin Valley Mothers of Twins Club

meets 2nd Tuesday's at John Knox Presbyterian Church, 7421 Amarillo Road, Dublin, Ca. The club's goal is to provide support, information & friendship for Mothers of Multiples (Moms). Roundtable discussion is open to new and prospective members. Round table discussion begins at 6:30 PM dads/partners are encouraged to attend

adds/partners are encouraged to attend R/T. TVMOTC general meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Babies up to eight months and guests are welcome to the Roundtable discussions. At the general meetings, newborns and breastfeeding babies only clease. For more info visit babies only, please. For more info visit http://www.tvmotc.com or v/m 925-948-0004.

Primary Care Office

The Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF) recently opened a newly remodeled primary care office in Liv-ermore at 1258 Concannon Road. Michael Abdel-Malek, M.D., Damayanthi Kalisetti, M.D., Tracy Th-ompson, M.D., and Raafat Zamary, M.D., FACP, FCCP – who practiced at this location until joining PAMF earlier this year – will provide internal medi-cina and nulmonry medicing services cine and pulmonary medicine services at the Livermore location, as well as at the PAMF Dublin Center.

All patients of the Dublin Center and Livermore office benefit from the services and state-of-the-art technology provided by PAMF, including an electronic health record system and access to PAMF's e-health service, PAMFOnline; digital imaging services; and same-day and next-day appointments with primary care physicians.

The Livermore Primary Care office will be open from Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Dublin Čenter is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Butterfly Life will be accepted new, unwarpped toys for US Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots drive through Decemver at two locations: 2267 las Positas Blvd., Livermore, 454-1815 and 7723 Amador Valley Blvd., Dublin, 833-0184.

Members of the United States Marine Corps Reserve will pick up the toys and deliver them to charitable organizations and social welfare agencies in the area just in time for the holidays.

Festive Events

Dublin Ulferts Center, the newest shopping center in the Tri-Valley area planned a series of festive events to celebrate the arrival of holiday season 2007. They include the following:

• Family Fun Day: December 1, 2, 15 & 16: Ginger Snaps the Clown will perform a magic and music show and design balloon twisters for the little ones. Parents will find special kidfriendly discount offers from various restaurants and shops, including free drinks and desserts for kids, discount on children eyeglass purchase, free children dental check-up and discount on children haircuts, etc. Time: noon to 2:00 p.m. Central Foyer Fountain. Contact the Concierge for more information.

• \$500 Gift Certificate Monthly Lucky Draw – November & Decem-ber: All visitors to Dublin Ulferts Center are invited to enter the monthly lucky draw and get a chance to win a \$500 gift certificate for purchase at any Dublin Ulferts Center shops. There is no purchase necessary to enter this lucky draw. One winner will be randomly drawn at the end of each month. All entries will automatically roll over to the next month for more chances of

winning. Dublin Ulferts Center announced the October winner of its monthly \$500 Lucky Draw: Darin Chun. Prize presentation was held at Dublin Ulferts

Valid only at

Lowes/Safeway Center

4227 1st St, Livermore

Expires 12/15/07 LIN

California Water Service Company put 900 turkeys on the tables of needy families in this area on Thanksgiving by way of its annual Operation Gobble program. Each year, Cal Water works with

local legislators, asking them to recom-mend charities in their districts that can distribute the turkeys. Since its inception in 1988, the statewide program has fed hundreds of thousands of people.

Q What sort of food waste is

accepted in my Green Waste

A The following food

food-soiled paper and

· Baked goods, pasta, rice

Coffee grounds, filters,

Dairy products (butter,

cheese, yogurt, etc.)

Food-soiled paper: plates,

napkins, towels, take-out

containers, pizza boxes,

ice cream, etc.), grocery

bags & newspaper used

as Kitchen Pail liners

Not accepted in Green

Waste carts: No plastic

Styrofoam[™], sanitary

treated wood.

bags/other plastics, glass, pet

waste, pet-waste soiled paper,

napkins, diapers, tissues, dirt,

rocks, drywall, particleboard,

liquids, metal, foil, painted/

· Meat, fish, poultry · Spoiled, moldy food

waxed cartons (milk, juice,

· Fruits, vegetables, peels, pits

accepted in Green Waste

yard trimmings) are

curbside carts:

tea bags

Anything edible

scraps (along with

cart? Doreen



WASTE REDUCTION SPECIALIST OFFERS ADVICE ABOUT THE 4Rs: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, ROT (COMPOST)

Q Will my WM service day and pick-up rules change because of the holidays? Simon

A Waste Management closes Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Years Day. If your service day fails on or after these holidays, your pickup will occur one day later through Saturday. WM service-day guidelines are the same throughout the year: 1) Place all carts (with lids completely closed) and other recyclables at curbside by 6 am. 2) Position carts 2-3 feet apart, unobstructed by objects such as vehicles, basketball hoops or power poles. 3) Never overfill or tightly pack carts. 4) Remove all carts and empty containers from curbside by midnight.

Email Ask Kathleen questions to: AskKathleen@wm.com

Or send written questions to: **Ask Kathleen** Waste Management 6175 Southfront Road Livermore, CA 94551



From everyday collection to emironmental protection, Think Green.® Think Waste Management



BOARD BULLETIN

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

Holiday Boutique/Craft Fair, Donlon Elementary School features representatives from various direct sales companies as well as hand crafters. They will be everything from handmade crafts of all types, to scrapbooking, beauty supplies, and housewares. The Boutique will be open on December 1st from 9am-3pm. A raffle will be held with merchandise from each of the vendors up for grabs. Food will be available for purchase. Donlon Elementary School is ted at 4150 Dorman Ave. behind Lucky's off W. Las Positas. For more information please contact Barbara Benedetto at 425-9279 or barbbenedetto@comcast.net.

Holiday Boutique at Emma C. Smith Elementary School, 391 Ontario Dr., Liver-Elementary School, 391 Ontario Dr., Liver-more, Saturday, December 1 from 10:00-4:00 in the Multi-Purpose Room. Two dozen crafters and direct sales vendors. **Holiday Home Tour,** Sun., Dec. 2. Soroptimist International of Livermore hosts the 24th Annual Holiday Home Tour. Five heartifiel homes clarable document of for the

the 24th Annual Holiday Home Tour. Five beautiful homes elegantly decorated for the holidays will be open from 11:00-3:00 PM. Tickets \$25 per person tax deductible. The donation supports local community projects benefiting women and children in need. Tour begins at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. For advanced tickets make checks payable to SIL, mail to: SIL, PO Box 812 Livermore CA 94550 Tickets are 812, Livermore, CA 94550. Tickets are available at Proctor's Custom Framing, 2200 First Street & Valley Properties, 1841 Fourth Street. Tickets may be purchased the day of the tour at Alden Lane Nursery. For more information please call President Denise Montalvo, 925-640-7465 or Charlotte Newman, 925-449-4079. For information about Soroptimist please go to www.sifounderregion.org. Pleasanton Spa, 6155 Stoneridge Drive

Suite 150, will hold a "Where is the Pleas-anton Spa?" Holiday Open House on Tues-day, November 27 from 3 to 7 pm. In conjunction with the holiday event, the spa will make a monetary donation to Livermore's Tri-Valley Haven. There will be complimen-

The Valley Haven. There will be complimen-tary hors d'oeuvres and champagne. Spa products and services will be available; prizes will be awarded. 925-463-1572. Mary Kay Ash Charitable Founda-tion Fundraiser, Sat., Nov. 24, 10:00am – 12:00pm. Events include before and after whete constant of selected by these in other. photo contest as selected by those in atten-dance. Food and refreshments will be served, dance. Food and refreshments will be served, including warm apple pie, pumpkin pie, and sweet potato pie. Guest speaker. Door prizes and prize drawings for goods and services donated by local businesses (e.g. dinner gift cards, massages, jewelry, and boutique give-aways). LaQuinta Inn, 7700 Southfront Road, increment 272 0600. The MK & Charitchle Livermore, 373-9600. The MKA Charitable Foundation funds breast cancer research and funds shelters and programs to help end domestic violence against women. For more information please call Brenda Valley, 925-455-8100 or email at

455-8100 or email at brendavalley@marykay.com. Artisan Affaire Holiday Boutique, Sunday, December 2, Veterans Memorial Hall, 301 Main Street, Pleasanton. 10-4pm. Free admission. Gifts, pottery, Vegan spa products, stained glass, jewelry, scarves, baby gifts, scrapbooking, journals, gournet foods, ethnic arts, and more. Raffle, need not be present to win. Portion of proceeds go to UCSF Comprehensive Cancer Center. Visit www.ArtisanAffaire.com or call Brandi (925)-922-1750.

Passport to Adventure, Fri., Nov. 30, 10 a.m. City of Pleasanton naturalist Eric Nicholas presents, "Rediscovering the Beauty of Open Space in Pleasanton." In addition to an overview of open spaces in the Pleasanton area (lecture and DVD), Eric will also include an up-close and personal look at a few indigenous reptiles and amphibians. Also includes information on the opening of the Adobe House Museum and how seniors can become involved as volunteers. No charge.

Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd. Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Mon., Nov. 26, 60 miles out Calaveras Road to Milpitas, meet 10 a.m. at Val Vista Park in Pleasanton, Curtis Stallins, 922-2461. Tues., Nov. 27, 55 miles, Livermore Airport to Sunrise bakery in Walnut Creek, meet 10 a.m. at the airport, Curtis Stallins, 922-2461. Wed., Nov. 28, 20 miles out and back Bollinger Canyon Rd., meet 9:30 a.m. atSan Ramon Central Park, Bekki Livingston, 735-8327. Thurs., Nov. 29, 32 miles form Pleasanton to Livermore and back, meet 10 a.m. at Val Vista Park, Curtis Stallins, 922-2461. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Political Book Group meets Tuesday, November 27 from 7-9pm in the Board Room of the Livermore Public Library, Civic Center Branch, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. The book to be discussed is "The European

book to be discussed is "The European Dream: How Europe's Vision of the Future is Quietly Eclipsing the American Dream," by Jeremy Rifkin. All are welcome. **Retired Public Employees Associa-tion, Tri-Valley Chapter 075**, Christmas party 10:45 a.m. on Thurs., Dec. 6 at Emil Villa's, 3054 Pacific Ave., Livermore. Charge for brunch is 85 per person. There will be a Christmas organent exchange (no more than Christmas ornament exchange (no more than \$10). For information and reservations contact Bob at 845-6563 or June at 461-0315. Livermore Peripheral Neuropathy

Support Group, meets 10 a.m. Tues., Nov. 27 at Heritage Estates Retirement Commu-nity, second floor conference room, 900 E. Stanley Blvd., Livermore. All are welcome.

Contact: Lorene Stack, 447-6158, or Ann Laye, 443-4098. Chemotherapy and radiation treat-ment for cancer patients, Thurs., Nov. 29, 6 to 9 p.m. at the Regional Cancer Center at ValleyCare, 5725 W. Las Positas Blvd., Pleasentron Neuver and targated therapies will Pleasanton. Newer and targeted therapies will be discussed. Doctors presenting the program will be available to answer questions. Reservations are required. Call 933-0107. Pre-sented by The Wellness Community.

RELIGION Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco

Rd., Livermore. 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Topic for Nov. 25 will feature the Sunday Servicews Committee.447.8747. Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Ne-vada Court, Pleasanton. Fri., Nov. 23, 8 p.m. lay service led by Beth Wilson, 931-1055.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Liv-ermore, has services at 10 a.m. every Sunday and at 7:30 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. Sunday School for students (ages 3-Month. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. (925) 447-2946. **Tri-Valley Unity Church**, The first Sunday of Advant a time of gathering our

Sunday of Advent, a time of gathering our thoughts in preparation for Christmas, will be celebrated at Tri-Valley Unity Church on Nov. 25. The theme of the message will be "A Legacy of Love." Tri-Valley Unity meets at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin Dublin

Christmas Concert, brothers Ben and Jonathan Burchfield, award-winning Chris-tian recording artists from Nashville, start their California Christmas Concert Series in Livermore. The brothers combine their down-home humor with the sweet sounds of guitar, electric marimba, and other percussion. Admission is free to this one-night-only event to be held at Discovery Church, 5860 Las Positas Rd., on Sunday, December 2. Love offering and donations welcomed. Call 925-449-5256 for more information.

Call 925-449-5256 for more information. St. Charles' Community Advent Ex-travaganza, Fri., Nov. 30, 7 to 9 p.m. at 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore. sing Christmas songs, make Advent Calendars, create Christmas cards, see a skit and much more. Good for all ages. Hot cider, hot chocolate and cookies will be served. St. Charles will be collecting sceles izekats Charles will be collecting socks, jackets, gloves, knit caps, and blankets to distribute to the homeless during the YM's SOS in San Francisco. For more information contact Julie at upcatholic@aol.com or 447-4549

Pleasanton Presbyterian to Hold **Final Services in Old Church**

More than four decades of ministry at its Mirador Drive home will be celebrated Sunday, Nov. 25 when the Pleasanton Presbyterian Church holds its final worship services here.

The services, at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., will include remembrances and celebration of the people who have been members or who have been served by the church in the 42 years at 4400 Mirador Drive.

"We've planned a celebration of gratitude and thanksgiving for the ways God has blessed people during our time at Mirador," said Senior Pastor Mike Barris.

The St. Mary and St. John Egyptian Orthodox Church purchased the property in the fall of 2006 and allowed the Presbyterian Church to continue to worship there while the new campus is built. The church partnered with Ponderosa Homes to obtain city approval of the campus masterplan at 3410 Cornerstone Drive.

It's in Ponderosa's Ironwood subdivision and is scheduled for occupancy in March of 2008. The new campus is at the corner of Valley Avenue and Busch Road along the Iron horse trail.

In the interim, Sunday worship services will be held at the CarrAmerica conference center, 4400 Rosewood Drive. A blended worship service with a traditional influence will be held at 9 a.m. followed by a contemporary service at 10:30 a.m. that includes Sunday school for children as well as a nursery.

The Advent season services will be held in the Tassajara Room at Carr America as well as a 6 p.m. Christmas Eve service on Dec. 24.

Construction on the Ironwood campus is on schedule. The campus will include a full-service pre-school that features an innovative playground. The architects designed the 6.2-acre campus to be a church within in park.

"We are excited to see the first phase of our new campus taking shape," said Barris. "Our congregation is excited about the journey God is taking us on to our new site. The Ironwood location is central to the Tri-Valley and will allow us to serve more people."

For more information, please call 925-846-4426 or see www.pleasantonpres.org.

OBITUARIES

Eleanore Hammer

Eleanore Hammer died November 13, 2007 in Pleasanton. She was 83.

She was born March 1, 1924 in Ironwood, MI. Eleanore was a homemaker.

She is survived by her sons, Mike Hammer and Jeff Hammer, daughters Natalie Aldridge and Linda Garnham, a brother, Chip Korpela, grandchildren, Sharon, Bouton, CJ Hammer, Katie Riggs and Kemper Garnham and great grandchild, Emilie Bliss. She was preceded in death by her husband Natt K. Hammer in 1973.

No services are planned. Arrangements by Graham-

Hitch Mortuary.

Memorial Planned

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6298 and American Legion Post 237 will be holding a memorial service for Past Commander Henri Lindhurst Sunday November 25, 2007 at 1 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Building, 301 Main Street, Pleasanton.

William E. Harding

William Eugene Harding passed away in the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Reno, Nevada on Saturday, October 20th at the age of 57. Bill, a longtime resident of Livermore, graduated from Granada High School in June of 1968. He joined the U.S. Navy in Decem-

to the MS Society or Disabled American Veterans, in lieu of flowers.

Fred Coensgen

Frederic H. Coensgen passed away November 18, 2007 following a short illness. He was 88.

Fred was born February 10, 1919 in Great Falls, Montana to Helen and Henry Coensgen. He was a resident of the Livermore Valley for 50 years. He received his doctorate in physics from University of California, Berkelev and worked for 45 years at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, retiring in 1994. Throughout his distinguished career he published numerous papers and received multiple awards for his pioneering work in Plasma Physics. In 1989 he received a distinguished career award in the area of Fusion power. He enjoyed hiking and photography. In recent years he was an active member in the Livermore Valley Photo Club and taught Photoshop at the Pleasanton Senior Center.

He is survived by Charlene Coensgen, his wife of 43 years, 6 children, and 8 grandchildren.

Madeline Clark

Madeline Clark died November 16, 2007 in Pleasanton. She was 90.

She was born July 26, 1917 in Battle Creek, Michigan. She was

hard worker. She was loyal to her friends and most of all to her dogs. She loved her garden and collecting antiques. She and her brother Art were the first members of the family to graduate from college. They both graduated from San Jose State University; Karen with a nearly 4.0 gpa and with honors.

I first met Karen at West Valley College in Saratoga in 1971. Karen was beautiful with long blonde hair and blue eyes. She was even more beautiful inside and I recognized that right away. She was the girl for me. Eventually I proposed to Karen in a 1965 black Ford Mustang. The car is still in our garage.

Karen loved downtown Pleasanton and everyday after work would "make the rounds: of her friends. She supported all the local thrift stores and would come home each day with her finds. Everyone in downtown enjoyed her jokes, her beautiful smile and her love of life. She was always a great wife, partner, and true friend.

I am going to miss my partner of 33 years. What I will always have is the special memories of blessed life and the fact that Karen, my college sweetheart, will always be mine.

She is survived by her husband, Bill, and her parents Agnes and Chester Douglas of San Jose.

he also served as scout executive for the Charwood District and the Twin-Valley District (1960-66-Livermore/Pleasanton) of the San Francisco Bay Area Boy Scout Council.

During those years Jasper championed the building of camp Los Mochos and served as the summer Camp Director for Diamond-O, Camp Royaneh, and Willits Scout Reservation. In 1970 he moved to Willits and took the position of Camp Ranger of the Wente Scout Reservation and oversaw the operation and development of the camp for the San Francisco Scout Council. Sometimes called the "Father of Camp Los Mochos" by many Bay Area scouters, he moved to the camp located in the hills of the Livermore Valley in late 1978. He spent most of his career developing the camp site at Los Mochos. He retired from professional scouting in 1979 and remained at Los Mochos as a camp consultant for several years.

Jasper was distinguished in his field as a professional and mentored many boys and men throughout his career. He was an avid believer in community service and participated in the Livermore Rotary Noon Club, where he served as Rotary Club President, 1990-91. He was a Precinct Election Official for 20 years, and

DVDs Sought for Service Personnel

In participation with Opera-tion DVD, The Rose Hotel is collecting new and used DVDs to be sent to service personnel overseas and in military hospitals as well as to families whose loved ones are away from home on active duty. DVDs may be dropped in a special donation box in the hotel lobby, located at 807 Main Street in downtown Pleasanton. The hotel will forward the DVDs to Operation DVD's distribution hub în Southern California.

Operation DVD is a nonprofit organization whose nationwide effort has shipped more than 500,000 DVDs to date, half of its target goal. The project was started in May of 2007 by a minister in Kansas who received a request for DVDs from a parishioner stationed in Iraq.

The Rose Hotel launched its own Operation DVD effort on Veterans' Day and will continue it indefinitely. "We know that DVDs are one of the most-re-



quested items by our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan," says General Manager Phylis Grisham. We urge our friends in the Tri-Valley to donate those DVDs that they no longer want to our service personnel, so that military installations can set up DVD libraries and provide a brief escape from the hardships of war.

While here dropping off DVDs, we invite our friends and neighbors to stop by our bar for some holiday cheer or ask for a room tour. They're always welcome.

The Rose Hotel may be reached at (925) 846-8802 or info@rosehotel.net. More information about Operation DVD is on-line available at www.operationdvd.net.

Winter Wonderland Benefits **Livermore Valley Charter School**

The 3rd annual Winter Wonderland gala is set for Dec. 1 at the Robert Livermore Community Center in Livermore.

Hosting the event will be the Children's Choice for Education. The gala is a benefit for the Livermore Valley Charter School.

The evening will include music, friends, hors d'oeuvres, casino style games, raffle and door prizes. There will also be silent and live auctions. Tables and sponsorships are still available. Tickets are \$55 per person. Sponsorships range from \$500 to \$3000.

There will be a pre-event auction at several businesses in down-

Scout Council. From 1953-1970

ber of 1969 and married his high school sweetheart, Charlotte Schexneider, the following September.

Bill served in the Navy for nearly 21 years, retiring in August of 1990 with the rank of Lieutenant. He was a veteran of Operation Urgent Fury (the Grenada invasion) on the U.S.S. Ticonderoga. He also served on the USS Kitty Hawk during the first Gulf War, and the USS Inde-pendence. He thoroughly enjoyed his flight time, acting as a sonar operator in jet fighters, and especially liked flying off the huge aircraft carriers.

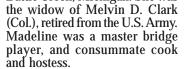
In 1980, Bill suffered a minor head injury and subsequent balance and vision problems. It was then, after a battery of tests, he was diagnosed with an "undetermined neurological condition" - later found to be Multiple Sclerosis

Settling in Reno in 1996, Bill enjoyed a very active life despite the worsening M.S. He conducted a home business teaching others like himself, who could not type or write, in the use of speech recognition software. He was actively involved in the MOAA or Military Officers Association of America, where he served as President of the Reno chapter for seven years; the National MS Society; Disabled American Veterans; and AMVETS.

Bill is survived by his loving daughters, Lara Minerva of Orange Park, Florida and Dana Meurlot of Saint-Lambert, Quebec, as well as brothers Michael Harding of Clayton and Chuck Harding of Livermore and a sister, Becky Hodson of Newman, and their children and grandchildren.

The family requests donations

Feb 22-25



She is survived by sons David Clark and Richard Člark, daughter Julia Drummond, daughtersin-law Judy Clark and Wendy Clark, a brother Don Robinson of Michigan, sister Esther Robinson of Arizona, five grandchildren and three great grand-children. She was preceded in death by her husband Melvin Clark in 1995.

Madeline will be buried on Dec. 11, 2007, with her late husband Col. (retired) Melvin Clark, at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Karen Diane Rudolph

Karen's husband Bill offered the following in memory of Karen:

Karen Diane Douglas was born on June 13, 1951 to Agnes and Chester Douglas. Her parents grew up in Oklahoma during the Depression. Both my father and mother in law worked hard to survive and eventually came to Fresno in the early 1950s. They made a living picking cotton. They worked hard and bought a small home. My father-in-law went into selling oil and related products for Kendall Oil. He stayed in the car parts business until he moved to Palo Alto. He made the decision to become an accountant. He had no formal training or even a high school education. What he had was ambition and drive to support his family and to have a better life.

Karen's parents are at the fiber of her being. Karen was bright, courageous and a very

Jasper Steele

Jasper Steele passed away peacefully at home on November 16, 2007. His family was by his side. He was 93. His wife Shirley died February 2, 2007, at the age of 86. They were mar-ried for 66 years, resided in the Bay Area for 47 years: San Leandro (9 years), Willits (9 years), and Livermore 29 years.

He is survived by his daughter Nancy Steele and sons Andrew (Sabra) of Driggs Idaho, Sam (Debbie) of Livermore, and Eric (Sherry) of Sister's Oregon and Livermore. He has five grandchildren: Ben Steele, Robert Steele, Lucus Steele, Berg Briggs (Lori and daughter Lilly), and Lucy Steele-Schram (Pete and children Quincy, Braden, Samantha, and Zabrina). He is also survived by his sister, Irene Lane, of Chicago.

Jasper grew up in Morgantown, W. Virginia where up in he met and married Shirley on September 20, 1940. Throughout their lives together, Shirley and Jasper placed their priorities in family, church, and scouting. He attended West Virginia University where he majored in chemi-cal engineering. In 1943, after serving as an instructor in the Conservation Corps, he began his adult scouting career as field service executive in Dayton, Ohio. He remained there until 1947, at which time he assumed a similar job for 16 months in El Centro, Calif.

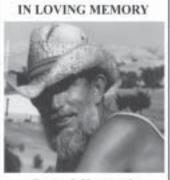
From April of 1949 through February of 1953 he was the scout executive for the Cochise County Council of Boy Scouts and lived in Douglas, Arizona. His next move was to Oakland in 1952 where he became a district scout executive for the Lake District of the Oakland Area Boy

as a member of the Livermore Presbyterian Church, sang in the choir, and served many years as a Deacon. One of his great pleasures was taking flowers from the church each Sunday to the Veteran's Hospital. He touched many lives and will be greatly missed. A Celebration of Life for both

Jasper and Shirley will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Livermore on Saturday December 1, at 11:00 am. A reception will follow in the church Fellowship Hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be directed in Jasper's memory to: Livermore Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 694, Livermore 94551 or to SFBAC/ Rancho Los Mochos, 1001 Davis St. San Leandro, Ca 54977. A donation in Shirley's memory mav be sent to: Children's Library, Livermore Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave. Livermore 94550.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.



George S. Kumparak July 9, 1932 - November 18, 2004

It's been three years since you were taken from us. Time may hide the sadness

Like smiles that hide the tears But memories hold you close to us

Despite the passing years. We will never cease to love you We will never cease to care There is a corner in our hearts And you are always there.

One Life, One Love Your Wife Joan nd the families of Lisa, Lori, Paul, Chip, Kim, Stacy and Matt

May Your Spirit Always Be Free Rest in Peace my Georgie Dear! town Livermore. They are Starbucks, Fire & Ice, Ancestros, First Street Wine Company, Woopsie Daisy, The Independent and Castle Comforts. Full size wine barrels handpainted by artists will be auctioned off. The barrels are currently on display at the businesses.

For more information on the barrels and the artists, or to place a bid visit www.ccefonline.org and follow the "annual gala/auction" link.

The community center is located at 4444 East Avenue. For information or tickets go to www.ccefonline.org.

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Pianist Presents Varied Concert Program

Del Valle Fine Arts presents the American pianist Jon Nakamatsu in recital on Saturday, December 8 at 8 p.m. The performance takes place at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First Street, Livermore.

program includes The Haydn's "Piano Sonata No. 33 in C Minor, Hob.XVI:20;" Beethoven's "Piano Sonata No. 15 in D Major, Op. 28;' Chopin's "Andante spianato & Grande Polonaise Loris;' Tjeknavorian's "Danses Fantastiques, Op. 2b (1958);" Liszt's "Impromptu for Princess Gortschakoff Valse-Impromptu" and "Après une lecture du Dante: Fantasia quasi sonata.'

Tickets are \$18-\$28. They are available by calling 925-373-6800 or at the Bankhead Theater box office.

Nakamatsu continues to draw unanimous praise as a true aristocrat of the keyboard, whose playing combines elegance, clar-ity, and electrifying power. Increasingly, critics Nakamatsu for the way his lyrical and unmannered musicianship is supported by a blistering technical command.

These qualities were cited by senior New York Times critic Bernard Holland in reviewing Nakamatsu's sovereign performances of Liszt during a recent recital at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall in New York City: "Liszt's piano music is something between a mirror and a lie detector. Think flashy and selfserving as you play it, and so it responds. Think better thoughts and the music transforms itself. John Nakamatsu, playing three Liszt pieces at the end of his recital at Alice Tully Hall on Wednesday, reminded us that there are gradations in between. This young American pianist has stunning technical control and can do anything at the piano he wants; in Aprés une lecture de Dante there was octave playing as clean and as fast as any I have



Jon Nakamatsu

ever heard. But I think Mr. Nakamatsu has more of a wish for elegance. The Valse Impromptu and the Impromptu for Princess Gortschakoff distanced themselves from the virtuoso noise surrounding them on the program and offered refinement of detail at relatively quiet levels. Mr. Nakamatsu's languid, sighing and yet tasteful sense of phrase fit Liszt well." (March 16, 2007)

A native of California, Jon Nakamatsu came to international attention in 1997 when he was named Gold Medalist of the Tenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, the only American to have achieved this distinction since 1981. Nakamatsu, who at the time was a high school German language teacher without formal conservatory training, seized the Van Cliburn jurors and audiences with the polish, musicality, and technical brilliance of his playing—the result of many years of private piano study starting at the age of six.

Nakamatsu has been profiled by "CBS Sunday Morning" and Reader's Digest magazine, and is featured in "Playing with Fire," a documentary about the Tenth Van Cliburn

Special Events at Wineries ²⁰⁰⁵ Cabernet 373-6541 or visit the Web

The Sauvignon from the Rodrigue's vineyard will be released to the public on Saturday November 24.

According to the winery owners, "This is a young expressive wine that we couldn't wait to share with you. Savor the hint of fig, raspberries, anise and vanilla as you swirl it in your glass. Very drinkable now, but will improve with each month of cellaring. We love to pair it with figs, nuts, and braised meats.

The Chianti is back. The name for this blend is Cabiovese. Like its Italian counterpart, this wine is mostly Sangiovese with a top373-6541 or visit the Website http://thomascoynewinery.com.

Wente Vineyards will host a holiday preview, Nov. 23 through Nov. 25.

Visitors can browse artisan gifts while tasting new release wines and more.

Hours are 11:00 am to 4:30 .m. at the Estate Winery Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Road.

For information call 925-456-2305 x4

Chouinard Vineyards will host the annual Walk off the (Wild) Turkey Walk Nov. 23-25. The winery invites everyone to collect their turkey-stuffed relatives and friends, pack some turkey sandwiches and enjoy a fall picnic on the Winery grounds. Chances are good you will see a wild turkey. There is no admission charge.

Plaid Tidings Offers Humor with the Music of the Holidays

Las Positas Talk Hawks Come Home with Numerous Trophies

"Forever Plaid: Plaid Tidings," a special holiday offering by Pleasanton Playhouse, runs November 30 through December 9 at the Studio Theatre in Pleasanton.

This musical is filled with holiday standards that have all been "Plaid-erized." The Plaids: Penn Brimberry as Frankie, Jesse Garcia as Jinx, Chris LaCour as Sparky, and Sean Fenton as Smudge, are back to do perform a Christmas Special.

At first they aren't sure why they've returned. However, a phone call from the heavenly Rosemary Clooney lets them know that they're needed to put

The Las Positas College

(LPC) forensics team recently

competed in the last intercolle-

giate tournament of the fall se-

mester at the Paul Winters Invi-

tational Speech Tournament at

the University of Pacific in

Stockton. With nine competitors

and fifteen events, the LPC

"Talk Hawks" forensics team

colleges participating, the LPC

Talk Hawks finished in second

place overall, edging out such

schools as University of the Pa-

cific, San Francisco State Uni-

versity, Chico State University,

Out of 13 universities and

took home fifteen awards.

a little harmony into a discordant world.

Sprinkled among the offerings are audience favorites like a riotous three minute and eleven second version of "The Ed Sullivan Show," this time featuring the Rockettes, the Chipmunks and the Vienna Boys Choir, and a Plaid Caribbean Christmas which puts the "Day-O" in Excelsis!

The book is written by: Stuart Ross with vocal and musical arrangement by James Raitt, Brad Ellis, Raymond Berg, David Snyder.

'Forever Plaid: Plaid Tidings" is used with permission by

Ohlone College, San Joaquin Delta College, Northern Arizona University, and Western Kentucky University.

This tournament was a wonderful way to finish up an already wildly successful season for the Talk Halks. Our small yet mighty team is building a reputation as one of the teams to beat, noted LPC Speech Coach Tim Heisler. In addition to the 2nd Place

Team Sweepstakes Award, the following students earned individual awards:

Jenna Jones, Dublin 2nd Place - Open Dramatic Interpretation 1st Place - Novice Dra-

Shamouel, Pleasanton 2nd Place - Novice Informative Speaking 2nd Place - Novice Impromptu Speaking; Lyndsay Parkman, Pleasanton Finalist - Open Prose Interpretation 1st Place - Open Oral Interpretation; Jacquie de Fremery, Pleasanton 1st Place -Novice Informative Speaking;

Tiffany Lee, Pleasanton 3rd Place - Novice Informative Speaking Finalist - Novice Persuasive Speaking; Jessie Padula, Pleasanton Finalist - Open Prose Interpretation; Stacy Shaw, Castro Valley and Lauren Hochman, Pleasanton 3rd Place Music Theatre International. The show is produced by Susan Hovey, directed and choreographed by Derrick Silva with musical direction by Greg Zema.

Performances are at 8pm Fridays and Saturdays and 2pm on Sundays November 30 through December 9, at the Pleasanton Playhouse Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309 in Pleasanton.

The show is presented as a fund-raiser for Pleasanton Playhouse with a suggested donation of \$20 each.

To reserve seats, call 925-462-2121 or order online at www.pleasantonplayhouse.com.

matic Interpretation; Adam **Open Duo Interpretation 1st** Place - Novice Duo Interpretation; and Lauren Hochman, Pleasanton 3rd Place - Novice Persuasive Speaking 3rd Place -

Novice Prose Interpretation. Las Positas College is a member of the Northern California Forensics Association (NCFA), a collection of California junior colleges and universities that have formed a league for intercollegiate competition in the areas of public speaking, interpretation of literature and debate.

Las Positas College is located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive in Livermore.

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Melodrama auditions, Sunol Reper-tory Theater, "Wagon Wheels a Rollin'. Try-outs are Thurs., Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. at Sunol Glen School, 11601 Main St. Performances are weekends in March. Information at www.sunol.net/srt or call 862-9006. Auditions, Iron Curtain at Las Positas College. Dec. 3 and 4 from 7 to 10 p.m. Musical comedy takes place in the 1950s and is about a pair of New York song writers who are kidnapped and taken to Moscow to help the Soviets create a propagandist musi-cal. Bring a prepared song with sheet music. Be prepared to move. There will also be readings from the script. Auditions in the theater, room 800. Show directed and produced by Ken Ross. College at 3033 Collier Can-yon Rd., Livermore. Information email kross@laspositascollege.edu or call 424-1166.

Contra Costa Wind Symphony, Duane Carroll conducts. Includes audience sing-along of familiar car-ols. Featuring harpist Shannon Polley and actor Ken Baggott narrating "The Night Before Christmas." 7:30 p.m. Dec. 17. Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, 49 Knox Dr., Lafayette. Free. www.ccwindsymphony.org. rree. www.ccwindsymphony.org. 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. In-formation 456-8215 or info@nopnyridecoolf com

formation 456-8215 or info@poppyridgegolf.com. **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 Restau-rant and Bar menu available. No reservations required. Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-8106. The Livermore Art Association Gallery, located at the Carnegie Build-ing, 2155 Third Street, Livermore, is "Wine and Dine Me." The show runs through November 29th. The dates and hours are Wednesday through Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There is no admission charge. Painted Porcelain by Eugenia Zobel, Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Tast-ing Room. The exhibit will be on display throughout the month of November. October 31 to November 29, 11:00am to 4:30pm. For more information please call 456-2305 Holidays with "Voices in Harmony," Northern California's Premier Men's A Cappella Chorus, with special guests UC Men's Choral from Berke-ley, as well as an award winning a cappella quartet. Sun., Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. \$25. 373-6800. Where the Wild Things Are, exhibit at The Main ARTery Gallery 453 West J Street Benicia, October 27th-January 19th. Exhibiting Artists: Livermore's Joanna Crawshaw will exhibit along with Aisyah Ang, Carol Berrett, Vanessa Barrett, Nicole

Cameron, Mike Cincotta, Guy Colwell, Kristen Cumings, Cedric Georgel, Brian Giambastini, Brittany Heskett, Lorri-Marie Jenkin, Rob Jenkins, John Jonas, Marty Moriarty, Amorette Rich, Bob Russell, Anna Seven, Jill Therrien, Richard Toronto, John Tullis, Cindy Williamson, Jenny Yandell. For more information call Lorri-Marie The Main ARTery Gal-lery 707-745-2768 www.themainARTerygallery.com; gallery hours Friday-Sunday 10-5 (usually).

ivermore School of Dance, Nov. 24, "The Dream of the Snow Queen," performances at 2 and 7 p.m. Holi-day production showcasing both classical and modern ballet with pointe work, as well as jazz, lyrical, hip-hop, and Broadway style numbers. The performance offers a variety of mu-sic from such classics as Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker, to con-temporary pieces from The Polar temporary pieces from The Polar Express and other popular music of today. Tickets are \$24, \$18, and \$158 for adults, and \$108 for chil-drem 12 and under and seniors over 65. Tickets may be purchased at the door before each performance. Both performances are reserved seating. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St.,

downtown Livermore, in www.livermoreperformingarts.org. mance, Friday & Saturday, November 30, December 1 at 8 pm and Sunday, December 2 at 4 pm. Las Positas College Theater and are \$10 general admission and \$7 for students and seniors. 3033 Collier Canon Rd., Livermore. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925-424-1119. Art!Space Gallery, 133 S. Livermore Avenue in Livermore There will be an art show and two receptions fea-turing Pat Katz, "New Works Ex-hibit." The first will be on Thurs., Nov. 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The second reception will be Sat., Dec. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. Katz is known for elegant and eclectic assemblage work, framed to evoke a sophisticated aura. Meet Pat and see her latest work at this gallery event. For more information, call Nan Rachlin at 925-371-2500. Contra Costa Ballet, Story of the Nutcracker, hour-long production of the holiday classic. Guest artists David Fonnegra of Diablo Ballet, and Jenna Maule of Company C Contemporary Ballet will be featured in the roles of the Nutcracker Cavalier and the Sugar Plum Fairy. Now in our seventeenth year of produc-tion. Thursday, November 29 7:30 PM Friday, November 30 4:30 and 7:30 PM Saturday, December 1, 2:00, 4:30 and 7:30 PM. Lesher Center for the Arts Hofmann Theatre 1601 the Arts, Hofmann Theatre 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. Tickets: Center Box Office or call (925) 943-SHOW (7469), Adults \$28; Children and Seniors: \$23. Art Fundraisers, Sue Evans of Sue Evans Photography and Design is sponsoring a holiday fundraiser to support the Arts in Pleasanton and Livermore. She has created two dif-

ferent holiday cards for each com-munity. The Pleasanton design includes the Pleasanton Arch, museum and Christmas tree, while the Liver-more design features Ravenswood. Both cards are available in a colored photograph version and a black and white sketch with red highlights. A portion of her wholesale and retail sales will be donated to the Pleasanton Firehouse Project and the Livermore Performing Arts Center. Evans is a member of the Tri-Valley Visitor and Convention Bureau, the Livermore Chamber of Commerce and ABWA Express to Success. Sue can be reached at (925) 989-4113 or SueEvansPhotography@comcast.net for further details and to order cards. Pleasanton Art League Public Art

Circuit has installed its fall/winter exhibits. The public is invited to view and purchase work by local artists at the following locations in Pleasan-ton: Main Street: Lynda Briggs and Erika Richert at Bank of America (337); Bruce Ruark, Mahesh Baishya, and Dee Haag at Keller Williams Realty (459) and Towne Center Books (555). Exhibits on Hopyard Road: Annette Mack, B.J. Shaw, and Elaine Szymanska at R E Realty Express (4555); Sharon Lanham, Pat Smith, and Tricia Poulos-Leonard at Smith, and Tricia Poulos-Leonard at Sallmann, Yang, and Alameda C.P.A.s (4900, #183). Artists Bonnie Krichbaum, Sallly Haig, and Antonia Wennink are showing their work at Me and Mai Friend's Cafe at 4713 First Street. Photography by Lisa Davis, Lisa Rigge, and Karen Hanner is on display at the Pleasanton Cham-ber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street.

get some holiday gift shopping done while you are at it. Free admission. Refreshments will be served. Carnegie Bldg., 2155 Third Street, Livermore. For more information call: (925) 449-9927

The Wonder of Christmas: A Con**cert**, Featuring original composi-tions by Clayton J. Foor along with seasonal favorites. With the East Bay Festival Chorus, Flutes Con Moto, And soloists Gayle Staehle, Diane Hardy, Joan Davis, and Kelly Callahan. 4 p.m. Dec. 2, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. Tickets: \$15 ad-vance; \$20 at the door; for families: \$40 advance; \$25 at the door. Call \$40 advance; \$35 at the door. Call (925) 783-3965 for tickets. www.claytonjfoor.com.

Mark Mertens, a local artist, will be having a one-person show at the Center for the Arts, 20440 Redwood Road, in Castro Valley. November 23rd through December 24th. The title of the show is "An Artist Takes the Long View," featuring recent pastel landscapes by Mark Mertens. The show will be open during perfor-mence.

Pagbabalik, a multidisciplinary Theatre Production written/produced by Aimee Froduction withen/produced by Aimee Suzara, December 8, 2007, 8pm. Las Positas College Theatre, 800 Building, 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. Pagbabalik is a multidisciplinary theatre work fus-ing spoken word and theatre, Fili-ning and modern dance and indipino and modern dance, and indigenous Filipino and contemporary music for an unforgettable journey through history, language and

ping of Cabernet. Enjoy with a spicy Italian pasta or cacciatore. Release date is November 24.

Bacasa is the third release for November 24. This is the winery's newest blend and a lighter weight red than the other two. It holds to the Italian style and goes well with soup, pasta and cheese. Put your nose to the glass, take a sip and experience fresh floral with some spiciness of pepper and cin-namon. This is a well-balanced triple blend with lots of fruit but enough tannin to hold the three wines together.

Rodrigue Molyneaux Winery and Vineyard is located at 3053 Marina Ave., Livermore. For information, call 447-4280.

Thomas Coyne Winery will host a fall open house on Nov. 23, 24 and 25. The event will be from noon to 5 p.m. each day at the historical tasting room, 51 E. Vallecitos Road Livermore, CA 94550.

Four new wines will be released: 2003 Confluence, 2002 Quest, 2005 Grenache, and 2004 El Dorado Petite Sirah. A selection of fine fruits and cheeses will be served.

Bring a picnic, catch a glimpse of sheep, Red Tail Hawk, deer and enjoy tasting fine wine. For more information call (925)

The winery is located at 33853 Palomares Road, Castro Valley. Hours are noon to 5 p.m. weekends. Information is at (510) 582-9900.

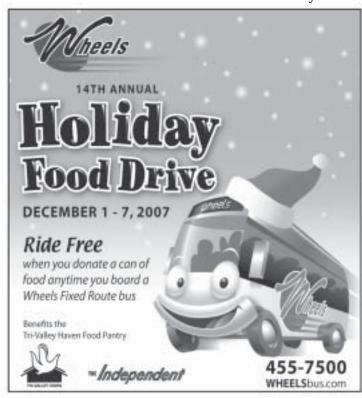
Cedar Mountain Winery will host a new release party on Nov. 24. The event includes wine and food pairing, release of new wines and ports, in addition to sampling wines still in the barrel. Fee is \$10 per person, which includes light faire.

Cedar Mountain is located at 7000 Tesla Road, Livermore. Information at 373-6636.

Fenestra Winery will host Prelude to Christmas on Nov. 23, 24 and 25 from noon to 5 p.m. each

day. The winery will be decorated for the holidays. Party food and gift items will be featured, as well as Fenestra's award winning wines.

The winery is located at 83 Vallecitos Rd., Livermore. Information is available at 447-5246 or www.fenestrawinery.com.



LIVERMORE CINEMAS			2490 First Street 443-SHOW		
THE MIST (R) D.P		12:45	3:50	7:00	9:55
HITMAN (R) DUP	12:00	2:20	4:45	7:05	9:30
AUGUST RUSH (POLDLP	11:10*	1:50	4:25	6:55	9:35
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) DLP		12:05	3:15	6:45	9:50
BEOWULF 3D (PGS) DLP	11:05*	1:40	4:10	6:50	9:35
BEOWULF (PG43) DLP	11:40*	2:10	4:50	7:20	9:55
MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM (5) DUP	12:20	2:35	4:55	7:10	9:20
FRED CLAUS (PG) DLP	11:15*	1:40	4:35	7:20	9:50
BEE MOVIE (PG) DUP 11:00* 12:10 1:20	2:40	3:40	4:45	7:15	9:40
LIONS FOR LAMBS (ROLP				6:55	9:25
AMERICAN GANGSTER (PUDLP			12:30	4:15	7:30
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PO13) DUP	12:30	2:35	4:55	7:05	9:35
THIS CHRISTMAS (PG13) D.P		1:30	4:30	7:10	9:45
* FRIDAY - SUNDAY					



ber of Commerce at 777 Peters Street A solo show of abstract acrylics by Sally Haig is on display at Vogue Hair Studio at 5410-4 Sunol Blvd. Artists who would like to join the circuit can call Lisa Davis at 925-518-4436 for more information.

Razzle Dazzle, The Livermore Art Association Gallery presents the theme "Razzle Dazzle!" Dec. 1 to Jan. 31. Holiday Sparkles, wearable art, dress-up with fine and costume jewelry, hats, scarves and fancy bags Dress up your home with new art and holiday decorations which include handmade ornaments by our gallery members. Gallery Hours: 11:30a.m. Members. Gallery Hours: 11:30a.m.
4:00p.m., Wednesday through Sunday at Carnegie Bldg., 2155 Third Street, Livermore. For more informantion call: (925) 449-9927.
Holiday Open House, The public is invited to the Livermore Art Association Collematic and the Collematic and the Strengther and the Str tion Gallery's annual holiday recep-tion on Dec. 1st from 1:00 - 3:30p.m. This year the Livermore Heritage Guild will have its Open House si-multaneously with the LAA Gallery. Meet the LAA Gallery Members and

memory. For more info www.aimeesuzara.net.

Ohlone Community Chorale, Satur-day, December 1, 2007, 3pm under the direction of Darryl Guzman. Centerville Presbyterian Church, 4360 Central Ave., Fremont. Tickets \$15 adults, \$10 seniors/staff/students, \$8 youth. (510) 659-6031 www.smithcenterpresents.com.







MAP

(continued from page one) miles).

A hundred trail heads and staging areas are shown (vs. 2 in 1971). Public trails cover 520 miles. Trail segment mileages and trail intersection elevations are included. The map was GPS'd and GIS'd. Volunteers walked hundreds of miles of trail with GPS units and other trails were digitized from and the map corrected with over 400 aerial photos to create the most accurate Diablo map ever produced.

Generally, recreational users are most familiar with Mt. Diablo's west side and the upper elevations of Mt. Diablo State Park, where acquisition began in 1931. However, most preserved land is actually east of Diablo's

The fictitious business name

referred to above was filled on

anton CA 94566

by:a corporation

summit, acquired over the past two decades. The map brings these new areas to the public's attention.

Mt. Diablo's two biggest public parks are Mt. Diablo State Park and the Los Vaqueros watershed, located diagonally from each other across Riggs Canyon, Highland and Morgan Territory Ridges.

The map is the first to show all of the parks and preserves

/s/:Edward K. Bernal

22, 29, 2007

Expires November 2, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 402970

The following person (s) do-

ing business as:Artisan Salon

around Mt. Diablo, including for the first time, Los Meganos Štate Historic Park, the 18,500 acre Los Vagueros watershed in detail, and Vasco Caves Regional Preserve.

This map presents the 30-mile Diablo Trail to the public for the first time, including an elevation profile. Save Mount Diablo wanted to create a map that specifically details the Diablo Trail as it winds through six different

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owner (s):

open spaces - Shell Ridge Open Space, Diablo Foothills Regional Park, Mt. Diablo State Park, Morgan Territory Regional Preserve, the Los Vaqueros watershed, and Round Valley Regional Preserve. The inclusion of the trail demonstrates more clearly the connections of parks across Mount Diablo from Walnut Creek to Brentwood and Livermore. The map also shows the proposed route of the 60-mile Di-

notice to interested persons

unless they have waived no-

tice or consented to the pro-

posed action.) The indepen-

dent administration authority

will be granted unless an in-

terested person files an objec-

tion to the petition and shows

good cause why the court

ALAMEDA.

5672 STONERIDGE DR.

PLEASANTON, CA 94588

GALE/SCHENONE HALL

OF JUSTICE

IFYOU OBJECT to the granting

of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state

ablo Grand Loop, which can be completed if just two small gaps were secured.

"Mount Diablo, Los Vaque-ros & Surrounding Parks, Fea-turing the Diablo Trail" is available at the SMD office or at www.savemountdiablo.org for \$9.95 plus tax, or by mail for an additional \$3.55 in tax, postage and handling (total \$13.50). 1901 Olympic Blvd. Suite 220, Walnut Čreek, CA 94596, 925-947-3535.

8)LOST

V/SA

LOST CAT: Smokey-Turbo,

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402496

The following person (s) do-ing business as TruKid, 129 Filbert Street, Oakland CA 94607 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Tree Star Group, Inc., 129 Filbert Street, Oakland CA 94607 This business is conducted by: a corporation

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on August 2,2007.

Signature of Registrant: /s/:Jennifer Adams This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 22, 2007. Expires October 22, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2243. Publish November 1, 8 15, 22, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 402244 The following person (s) doing business as Artisan Marshmallows, 714 Canterbury Av-enue, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Kim Elaine Faulkner, 714 Canterbury Avenue, Livermore CA 94550 John Arthur Faulkner, 714 Canterbury Avenue, Livermore CA 94550 This business is conducted by:husband and wife The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on October 10, 2007



94566

Signature of Registrant: /s/:Kim E. Faulkner and John Faulkner This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 15, 2007 Expires October 15, 2012. The Independent Legal No 2244. Publish November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2007

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402041

The following person (s) doing business as Pro Interiors 266 Nadine Street, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Donald Scott Simpson, 266 Nadine Street, 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 Octo ber 9, 2007. Signature of Registrant:

/s/:Donald Simpson This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 10, 2007 Expires October 10, 2012. The Independent Legal No 2245. Publish November 1, 8, 15. 22. 2007

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 392121

The following person (s) has (have) Abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business Name Specialty Inspections, 4417 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton CA

Reconditioned

February 23, 2007, in the Signature of Registrant: County of Alameda. s/:Minh Nguyen Specialty Home Inspections Inc., 4417 Railroad Ave., Pleas-This business was conducted Signature of Registrant: /s/:Mark J. Kearns 22, 29, 2007 This statement was filed with

names listed

the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 29, 2007. The Independent Legal No. 2246. Publish November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

FILE NO. 402808 The following person (s) doing business as:Specialty Inpections, 4417 Railroad Áve., 94596 to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: s/:Mark J. Kearns This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

County on October 29, 2007. Expires October 29, 2012. The Independent Legal No 2247. Publish November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402933

The following person (s) doing business as:Bollinger Nail Salon, 2375 Railroad Ave #201, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Bollinger Nail Spa, Inc., 18080 San Ramon Valley Blvd., San Ramon CA 94583 This business is conducted

by:a corporation Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the



fictitious business name or

Company 2) The Kind Realtor 3120-C Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Edward Margherio, 1728 Almond Ave., Walnut Creek CA This business is conducted by:an individual The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on October 5, 2007. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Edward Margherio This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 24, 2007. Expires October 23 2012 The Independent Legal No 2249. Publish November 8, 15, 22, 29, 2007

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403061

The following person (s) do-ing business as: Alliance 1 Staffing, 43170 Christy Street Fremont Ca 94538 is hereby registered by the following owner (s) Edward K. Bernal, 7412 Flagstone Dr., Pleasanton CA 94588 This business is conducted by:an individual The registrant commenced to 1837 Holmes Street, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby reg-94550 istered by the following owner Hair I.D. Inc., 76 Tourmaline Avenue, Livermore CA 94550 This business is conducted y:a corporation Registrant has not vet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Georgina Taylor This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 1, 2007 Expires November 1, 2012 The Independent Legal No 2251. Publish November 15, 22, 29, December 6, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403412 The following person (s) do-ing business as:Absolutely

harp, 4849 Mohr Avenue, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Mark A. Giudici, 4849 Mohr Avenue. Pleasanton CA 94566 Eileen Moroneg, 4849 Mohr Avenue, Pleasanton CA 94566 This business is conducted by:husband and wife Registrant has not vet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant:



www.valleycare.com

2012. The Independent Legal No. 2255. Publish November 22, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda 29, December 6, 13, 2007. County on November 2, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS The Independent Legal No. NAME STATEMENT 2250. Publish November 8, 15, FILE NO. 402762 The following person (s) do

ing business as:Energy šhould not grant the authority Metrics, 23 Diamond Dr., Liv-A HEARING on the petition will ermore CA 94550 is hereby be held in this court as follows: registered by the following JANUARY 7, 2008 at 1:30PM in DEPT. 707 at Keith Rothenberg, 23 Dia-SUPERIOR COURT OF mond Dr., Livermore CA CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF

This business is conducted by:an individual Registrant has not vet begun

to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/:Keith Rothenberg This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 26, 2007. Expires October 26, 2012 The Independent Legal No. 2256. Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403403

The following person (s) do-ing business as:Holistic Bodywork For Women, 1080 Concannon Blvd., Ste 180, Liv-ermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Tracy Ann Chesney, 2653 St.

Helena Ct., Livermore CA 94550 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/:Tracy A. Chesney This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 13, 2007. Expires November 13,

The Independent Legal No. 2257. Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

Registrant has not yet begun

to transact business under the

fictitious business name or

This statement was filed with

the County Clerk of Alameda

Signature of Registrant:

names listed.

/s/ː́Brian Bogie

2) Bittmore,

sentative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time

> before four months from the hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate. you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of àn inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A

Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner DONALD R.TRAVERS

LAW OFFICES OF DONALD R. TRAVERS

529 PEARSON ROAD, PARA-DISE, CA 95969-5113

The Independent Legal #2252. Publish NOVEMBER 15, 22, 29, 2007

PUBLIC NOTICE Public notice is hereby given that on October 19 2007 the Regents of the University of California filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C., for a construction permit for a new noncommercial educational FM Station on Channel 210 at Livermore, CA. The proposed Class A Station will operate with effective radiated power of 200 Watts and antenna height of 36.9 meters above ground from a transmitter located .1 mile south of E.

Grant Avenue on Research

Coombs, Stephen Schreiner Robert Dynces, Richard C. Blum, Judith Hopkinson Odessa Johnson, Joanne Kozberg, Sherry Lansing Russell Gould, Monica Lozano, Benjamin Allen, Gerald Parsky, Norman Pattiz, Leslie Tang Schilling, George Marcus, Eddie Island Frederick Ruiz, Paul Wachter, Bruce Varner, and William De La Pena. A copy of the application and related materials are on file for

OBCINES

CONTRACTORS IN CONTRACTORS INTENTO TORS IN CONTRACTORS INTENTO TORS INTENTOS INTENTOS INTENTOS INTENTOS INTENTOS INTENTOS INTENTOS INTENTOS INTENTOS INTENTO

public inspection during normal business hours at 14 Lower Freeborn Hall UC Davis, Davis, CA 95616 The Independent Legal No 2253. Publish November 15, 22.29, December 6, 2007

NOTICE your objections or file written objections with the court be-On October 18, 2007, Les fore the hearing. Your appear-ance may be in person or by Seraphim tendered for filing your attorney. IFYOU ARE A CREDITOR or a with the Federal Communications Commission an applicacontingent creditor of the tion for a permit to construct a decendent, you must file your new noncommercial Class A FM station on Channel 210 at claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal repre-Livermore, California. The station will operate at .1 kilowatt of power, using an antenna · 84 meters above average terrain, from a transmitter location with the coordinates 37 for filing claims will not expire 39-24 N, 121-41-42 W (NAD 27); station studios will be located at a site to be determined in Livermore. Officers and directors of, and individuals vot ing a 10% or greater interest in, the applicant include Damon Ferreira, Ebony Ferreira, Anita Blake, and M Hvon Lim. A copy of the application and related material is available for local public inspection at the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, 2157 1st Street, Livermore, CA 94550.

The Independent Legal No. 2254. Publish November 15, 22, 29, 2007

ANIMALS/PETS

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

426-8656. Tri-Valley Animal Rescue hosts cat and dog adoptions 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 PM. Adoptions at Dublin PetsMart on Saturdays from 12 to 4 PM and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM, dog adoptions on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM and rab-

bit adoptions on the 2nd and

4th Saturday of the month from

short-hair grev neutered male cat, 3 years old. Lost on Kamp Drive in Livermore Oct. 16. He has a small odd clump of fur in the middle of his back from a cut. His owner, Anna Johnson, recently moved to the neigh borhood. The cat got out and ran away. He is on the leaner side, and a little shaggy. Anna says, "I rescued him, and he can be a little feisty, but adores me. Please help me find my furry friend! He can be feisty so if you see him, I can happily come get him... (He some times bites) Please call if you see him!" (510)508-1825 Cell or send an e-mai AJohnson_Email@Yahoo.com

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7)AUTOSWANTED DONATE VEHICLE, running or not ACCEPTED! Free Towing. Tax Deductible. Noahs Arc Support No Kill Shelters, Ani-

mal Rights, Research to Advance Veterinary Treatment/ Cures. 1-866-912-GIVE. (CAL*SCAN)

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Livermore

Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Specialty Termite, Inc., 4417 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton CA 94566 This business is conducted by:a corporation Registrant has not yet begun



Location. Entire Business -\$10,970. 1.800.VENDING (1.800.836.3464) (CAL*SCAN)

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650-504-6590

5075 Erika Wy 925-463-0436

925-963-8322

925-443-3110

764 Leland Wy

925-487-8983

510-304-1907

925-487-4555

566 Kinglet Rd

925-784-5502

925-487-2080

2329 Rapallo Cmn 925-463-0436

5529 Autumn Wy

925-918-2662

ADDRESS

6386 Shorewood C

1037 Hometown Wy

925-463-0436

925-447-2723

3302 Prairie D

925-463-0436

ADDRESS

8358 Orazio Lr

925-998-3078

4 Medina St

1947 Helsinki Wy

251 Soapstone Cmn

1828 Cassiopia

6608 Tiffany Cmn

925-519-1455

81 Mountain Valley P

5037 Royal Pines Wy

V/SA



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65)CLEANING SERVICES

Cleaners for model homes in San Ramon Area. P/T 2 evenings a week. Pls call 800-815-1197 for interview. 68)HAIR SERVICES

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AUTO SALES No Experience Needed Will Train Flexible Schedule Full Benefits + 401K Up to 40% Commission Contact: Rich Jensen 925 294-7700 Livermore Auto Group w.livermoreautogroup.co Ford / Lincoln / Mercury Chrysler / Jeep. 72) HELP WANTED/DRIVERS

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