



Painting by Rafael Arzuaga reflects his African roots.

Las Positas College Events Focus on Cuba

Las Positas College is hosting a week-long series of events focusing on Cuba.

The Spanish Department and the Campus Change Network will host Le Semana Cubana (the Week of Cuban Culture) with a full schedule of activities through Dec. 8. The program will include cultural events such as traditional Cuban drumming, salsa dancing, films, a Rumba demonstration and a percussion master class. There will also be cultural and educational events each evening, beginning at 7 p.m.

"This is the first time we have done something like this," declared Catherine Suárez, Chairman of the Foreign Language Department and one of the organizers.

The celebration will focus on the history, art, dance and religions of the Cuban people. Suárez, and LPC dance instructor Luis Valverde, have combined their efforts to bring the

(See CUBA, page 10)



Ravenswood is all decked out for the holidays.

This Weekend

The Comedy of Errors, presented by the Livermore High School Theatre Department; performances: December 7, 8, 13, 14, 15 at 8pm; tickets \$8; Reserved seating available, call (925) 606-4812 ext. 2446. Livermore High Theater, 600 Maple St., Livermore.

Pagbabalik, Theatre Production written/produced by Aimee Suzara, December 8, 8pm. Las Positas College Theatre, 800 Building, 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. Pagbabalik is a multidisciplinary theatre work fusing spoken word and theatre, Filipino and modern dance, and indigenous Filipino and contemporary music for an unforgettable journey through history, language and memory. For more info www.aimeesuzara.net.

The Valley Concert Choral holiday concerts. The concert includes an audience sing-a-long of traditional carols. Sat., Dec. 8 at 8 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1225 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton and on Sun., Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore. Tickets are \$18 if purchased in advance, and \$20 at the door. Students age 18 and under are admitted free. Advance tickets may be ordered by calling (925) 866-4003, or by email to info@valleyconcertchorale.org.

Christmas Concert at Our Savior. The musical groups of Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 South Livermore Avenue, will present a concert of Christmas music on Sunday, December 9, at 4:00 p.m. The audience will also have the opportunity to sing along with a few carols. There is no charge for the concert. A reception following the concert will highlight Christmas foods from around the world.

Celtic Christmas Concert, Crafts Boutique and Artists' Open Studios presented by the Bothwell Arts Center, 4 to 7 p.m. boutique and open studios; 7 p.m. Celtic concert. Dec. 9. Free admission to the Boutique and Open Studios from 4-7pm;

(See WEEKEND, page 7)

Activism Helping Habitat In Valley and Bay

Activity by various non-profit environmental groups may pay off eventually in benefits to endangered species habitat in the Valley and in San Francisco Bay.

Among the recent results of activism have been a turn toward possible expansion of habitat for threatened species in the Valley. There is also vigilance concerning declining bird species. Further, there are consciousness-raising attempts to educate the public about toxic chemicals and the harm that improper disposal of prescription drugs is having on animal populations.

The most dramatic activist

news was an announcement Nov. 27 by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) that it will reconsider decisions about the size and boundaries of habitat locations for seven threatened or endangered species. The California red-legged frog is the only one of the seven with habitat in the Valley.

The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) had placed the red-legged frog on a list of 55 species over which it was preparing to sue the FWS. It had already filed suit over six of them. None were in northern California.

The FWS decision to reconsider the frog removes the need to file a suit, provided the reconsideration result proves to be satisfactory, said CBD environmental advocate Jeff Miller. Still on the CBD's list for potential suits are two other species in the Valley, the California tiger salamander and the Alameda whip-snake. Miller said that he is hopeful that the FWS decision about seven species "is the tip of the iceberg," and many similar decisions to reconsider will be forthcoming.

CBD filed its six suits on Nov. 15. The FWS decision to recon-

sider was announced Nov. 27. Miller isn't taking any credit for the timing. However, CBD for many years has put the pressure on FWS with lawsuits designed to have habitat set aside.

As much a factor in the change may have been the resignation in May by Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior Julie MacDonald. She had taken various species off the endangered list, allegedly because of political influence, which critics said conflicted with recommendations by agency scientific consultants. MacDonald also faced heat for removing habitat

from the list for a fish species in the Central Valley. She owns 80 acres in the Central Valley where the designated fish habitat can be found.

There are two red-legged frog habitat areas in the Valley. One is in east Dublin, the other north-east of Livermore. There were other locations, too. However, they were de-listed when the FWS heeded the building industry's suit charging FWS had not properly interpreted adverse economic impacts on communities which were imposed by listing habitat. The suit was settled

(See ACTIVISM, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Santa greets some young fans during Livermore's annual holiday parade.

Signature Gathering Completed for Pleasanton Initiative and Referendum

Supporters of the Save Our Hills referendum and petition drives plan to turn in petitions with enough signatures that they say will qualify both measures for the ballot.

The deadline is 5 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 6. Close to 4,000 valid signatures are needed to place the measures on the ballot.

Kay Ayala, one of the organizers, told the city council Tuesday, "We have collected thousands and thousands and thousands and thousands of signatures from people who want the right to vote. What we have

learned is that in all areas of Pleasanton people want the opportunity to protect our southern ridges in the same way we have protected our western ridges."

The approval of the Oak Grove development was the impetus behind the two petition drives. The referendum, if approved, would overturn the approval of Oak Grove.

The initiative would put in place measures that would prevent building on ridgetops. Housing units and structures

(See PETITIONS, page 4)

Aquatic Center, Soccer Field Under Construction at LPC

Several projects are either under construction or soon to begin construction at the Las Positas College campus.

Bob Kratochvil, interim college president, stated that work is underway on an aquatics center, soccer field and a parking lot. "People will see a lot of construction now. A lot of planning has gone into the projects. Our hope is to put up signage to let voters know that something is happening."

LCLC leadership recently filed a new petition for the Livermore Valley Charter Prep (LVCP) High School with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD). The new petition represents a change in course for LCLC on the high school. Last spring LVJUSD conditionally approved petitions for

(See CHARTER, page 4)

District capital improvement (construction) bond that is enabling the district to repair leaky roofs, worn wiring and plumbing; renovate aging classrooms and the library; as well as repair, acquire, construct and equip college buildings and computer labs at Las Positas College in Livermore.

The aquatics center will include a competition pool for both diving and swimming. It is not Olympic size. "Our events don't require an Olympic pool," explained Kratochvil. There will be a smaller pool for recreational swimming and adaptive P.E.

It is anticipated that the aquatics center will open in the winter of 2008.

The soccer field, just east of the gymnasium, will be available

(See COLLEGE, page 4)

Charter School Hires New Executive Director, Changes Plans for High School

By Patricia Koning

Last week Matthew Brandstetter joined the Livermore Charter Learning Corporation (LCLC) as the Executive Director, filling a position left vacant since Lon Goldstein was terminated last June. LCLC oversees operations of the Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS).

"I'm really excited to be here," says Brandstetter. "This is a unique opportunity for anyone who believes in education to build something special and create a legacy."

Brandstetter joins LCLC after

spending nine years at the Harker School in San Jose, a private K-12 school. He joined the faculty the year that the high school program opened, experience he believes is very relevant to the future of LCLC. Brandstetter founded and developed the Communication Studies program at Harker.

"Dr. Brandstetter certainly has an impressive resume, but I think it his collaborative leadership style that appealed most to the board," says Bill Batchelor, President of the LCLC Board of Directors. "With

his experience and enthusiasm to guide us, I think the LCLC board took a major step toward implementing the vision we have for the LCLC schools with this hire."

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County Seeks Input on Historic Preservation Ordinance

The public is being asked to weigh in on a proposed historic preservation ordinance for Alameda County.

A workshop hosted by the Alameda County Parks, Recreation and Historical Commission is set for 7:30 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 6 at the Alameda County Public Hearing Room, 224 West Winton Ave., Hayward.

Angela Pinon, county staff, is hoping that the public will take a look at the proposal, make comments and suggest changes. She said that the ordinance will make

things more clear as to what property owners, the county and the commission can or cannot do when dealing with a historic site.

A long list of potential properties has been compiled using previous lists and the input from a consultant. A map of properties that might qualify for listing as historic was submitted. A subcommittee narrowed down the list.

There are different levels of designation proposed. The high-

(See HISTORIC, page 3)

Matching Donation of \$1 Million Offered in HOME Campaign

Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC (LLNS) is heading HOME in an effort to help Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory raise money for local nonprofit agencies.

The LLNS Board of Governors recently approved a matching donation of up to \$1 million for the Lab's HOME Campaign, an annual drive that benefits community/nonprofit agencies in the Tri

Valley, San Joaquin Valley and Greater Bay Area.

Since 1997, the Lab's HOME Campaign (Helping Others More Effectively) has raised more than \$1 million annually through employee donations that go directly to agencies selected by the employees. In the spirit of this year's campaign slogan, "A New Era of Giving," the

(See MATCH, page 3)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Fire Captain Joseph Rodondi shows off the department's newest vehicle.

New Vehicle Makes It Easier to Navigate in Crowded Areas

A ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration was held recently to recognize the donation of a special event vehicle to the Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department

(LPFD) by several local businesses and agencies. The special event vehicle is an electric golf cart that has been specially modified to accommodate a

gurney (stretcher) and medical gear.

"Due to its compact size and mobility, this vehicle will allow an LPFD emergency medical

(See VEHICLE, page 3)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Dakota is a 5-year-old female Husky mix with gorgeous strawberry blonde fur. Her owner moved and could not take Dakota, so she is looking for a new, permanent home. She likes people and (believe it or not) cats! She is fully house-trained. All Valley Humane Society animals are spayed or neutered, micro-

chipped, and are current on all vaccinations. Dogs can be seen every Saturday from 11AM to 2PM at VHS, 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. Cats can be seen Wed-Sun from 11AM to 5PM. For more information, call Valley Humane Society at 925-426-8656, or visit us on the web at www.valleyhumane.org.

Over 260,000 Lights to Be Turned on As Part of Deacon Dave's Annual Holiday Display

The biggest and best holiday display in Livermore is set to open on Friday, December 7 at 6:30 pm. Celebrating his silver anniversary this year, Deacon Dave Rezendes is known for his elaborate tributes to Christmas. The front yard of his home at 352 Hillcrest Ave in Livermore, Casa del Pomba, is visited by tens of thousands of guests each year.

The theme each year changes. It is always kept a secret until opening night ceremonies. On December 7th, the home and yard

will be dark as a candlelight procession makes its way down the blocked off street. Members of the community are welcome to join the procession, which features the Livermore Granada Chorale leading Deacon Dave to his home.

In honor of both Deacon Dave's 25th year as an ordained Roman Catholic Deacon, and of the Christmas display, some special tributes are planned. After a blessing of the lights, the theme is announced, and the lights are

turned on. At that time, guests are invited to walk through the yard. Members of the non-profit group Good News Bears will help Deacon celebrate his special night by serving refreshments.

Last year, the "Santa's International Visitor Center" theme was accented by over 260,000 lights. Guests got to see how Christmas is celebrated in many countries from around the world as they entered the driveway, walking under the visitor center sign. The long driveway build-

ing showcased children from around the world in native dress, and decorations for the season. A circus train circled the room.

Santa often stopped by and greeted the children visiting from the special room built just for him at Casa del Pomba. Santa is a special friend of Deacon Dave, so he's always welcome, and he loves to make time in his busy schedule to see the wonderful children in Livermore!

This year's theme will again feature over a quarter of a mil-

lion lights. And as usual, each light is a prayer for peace. Approximately 25 volunteers work hard throughout the year to put on the display. They are from many faiths, and welcome guests of all faiths.

Deacon Dave opens his yard from the opening on December 7th until January 1st. The hours are 6 pm to 9:30 pm Sunday through Thursday, and from 6 pm until 10:30 pm Friday and Saturday. The gates may be closed during inclement weather, al-

though every effort is made to leave the lights glowing. There is no admission charge. Donations are collected for Santa's Secret Service, a program providing a visiting Santa, carolers, and gifts to area nursing homes, shelters, and hospitals. Visit www.casadelpomba.com for more information on the display, Santa's Secret Service, and Deacon Dave's family history.

To reach Casa del Pomba on Hillcrest Avenue, take East Avenue to Hillcrest, and then follow the glow.

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Solid Waste Diversion

The Livermore City Council at its Nov. 26 meeting adopted a resolution authorizing establishment of a solid waste diversion rate goal of 75 percent by 2015.

In 1990, Alameda County voters established a countywide goal of 75 percent diversion by 2010. Achieving the goal is not mandatory. However, failure to adopt the goal by 2008-09 would jeopardize annual recycling funding by approximately \$60,000.

To date, six of the jurisdictions in the county have committed to the goal of diverting solid waste from landfills.

Livermore's rate of diversion for 2004, the most recent year for which diversion rates are available, is 65%. Pleasanton diverted 52%, Dublin 50%, Fremont 66%, San Leandro 60%, and Alameda 68%.

Although within 10 percent of the target diversion, Livermore staff felt it would be difficult to achieve it by 2010.

In order to achieve the diversion goal, Livermore would need to increase the diversion of construction and demolition recyclables by requiring, among other measures, 100 percent of asphalt and concrete be recycled on every project.

Other potential programs would involve establishing food scrap recycling programs on school campuses, increasing outreach to encourage businesses to greater recycling efforts, particularly in the area of food scrap recycling, increasing recycling at city facilities, consider an ordinance to require managers of multi-family units to offer recycling services to residents, and considering the repeal of the residential discount for disposal at the Vasco Road landfill. Currently, nonresidents are claiming to be from Livermore in order to receive the discounted rate, leading to garbage generated outside the city being allocated to Livermore.

Rapid Project Hearing

The Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, operator of the WHEELS bus system, will hold a public hearing to obtain input on the Rapid

Project, scheduled for start in Winter 2009.

The meeting will be held at 4 p.m. on Dec. 10 at Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (WHEELS), 1362 Rutan Court, Suite 100, Livermore.

The Wheels Rapid Project is meant to provide faster and superior service through the Tri-Valley and to BART. The proposed Rapid line would run between the Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station, by downtown Pleasanton to the Lawrence Livermore National Lab/Sandia Transit Hub via Santa Rita Road, Old Stanley and Stanley Boulevards, Railroad and East Avenues, including a stop at the Livermore Performing Arts Center.

Rapid Projects use recent technological advances to significantly increase the speed and convenience of transportation services, including traffic signal priority, prepaid ticketing, boarding platforms, fewer stops, real-time arrival information, and safer and more comfortable shelters. The Wheels Rapid will feature hybrid technology vehicles for a cleaner, quieter ride.

Those who are unable to attend this meeting, may submit comments by fax to (25) 443-1375 or by e-mail to info@lavta.org or by mail to Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, 1362 Rutan Court, Suite 100, Livermore.

Attempted Murder Suspect

The Pleasanton Police Department and Crime Stoppers of Alameda County are offering a \$2500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of an attempted murder suspect.

On Nov. 1, an adult male in Pleasanton was the victim of a gunshot wound. The victim was returning home from work and had just parked his vehicle when he was confronted by a lone suspect holding a shotgun. The suspect shot the victim in the arm after trying to steal the victim's car. The suspect fled the scene.

The suspect is described as a white adult male approximately 25 years old. He is 5'8" to 5'10" tall and weighs 150 to 160 pounds. He was wearing a dark jacket and a dark colored skull cap.

Anyone with information should call the Crime Stoppers tip line at 510-293-7197. The reward is comprised of a city donation and a standard reward offered by Crime Stoppers.

Nominees Sought for Women's Hall of Fame

Applications are available to nominate outstanding women for induction into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame for 2008.

It will be the 15th straight year that Alameda County is celebrating the accomplishments of women in the community through its Women's Hall of Fame (WHOF) program.

Nomination forms are available online at www.acgov.org/cao/halloffame or by calling the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women at (510) 259-3871. The online nomination

form is available on the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame website, which is part of Alameda County's online offerings — www.acgov.org

Nominations are being accepted for women in Alameda County who have excelled in any of 11 categories: Business and Professions; Community Service; Culture and Art; Education; Environment; Health; Justice; Non-Traditional Careers; Science; Sports and Athletics and Youth. Please see application for details/rules. The deadline for nominations is January 3, 2008.

The Women's Hall of Fame is co-hosted by Alameda County Board of Supervisors and County Administrator and the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women. The WHOF event raises money for a selected charity. In the past, proceeds were donated to breast cancer programs serving low-income and minority women in Alameda County.

For the second straight year, the Women's Hall of Fame program will also accept contributions to a scholarship fund to help young women further their education or training.

MATCH

(continued from page one)

Board of Governors has announced LLNS will match the first \$1 million raised by the Laboratory.

"The HOME Campaign was created by Laboratory employees specifically to help those in need within their own communities," said LLNS President and Laboratory Director George Miller. "The LLNS Board of Governors recognized this effort and the significant contributions that

have been made over the years and are pleased to offer this matching donation. It is a tribute to not only our communities but to the caring spirit of our employees."

The HOME Campaign is a major community support activity for the Laboratory. Through the campaign, Lab employees donate money via payroll deduction or onetime donations to benefit more than 400 local agen-

cies of their choice, including umbrella agencies such as the United Way and Tri-Valley Community Fund. Last year the campaign raised more than \$1.4 million. This year's campaign will close on Dec. 14.

LLNS assumed management of the Laboratory on Oct. 1. The matching funds will be taken from the management fee LLNS receives from the U.S. Department of Energy to manage the Laboratory.

VEHICLE

(continued from page one)

team to navigate more easily through crowded public events. This will expedite the response time for reaching a citizen requiring medical attention during the many street fairs and special events held in our communities," according to LPPD Chief Bill Cody.

Electric carts are easier to maintain and less expensive to

operate than a larger, gas fueled fire truck or ambulance.

The total cost of the cart with the modifications and gurney was approximately \$30,000. Fireman's Fund Insurance Company and UnionBanc Insurance Services, Inc. (based in Hacienda Business Park) awarded the LPPD with a \$19,000 grant for the purchase of the vehicle.

The grant was made through Fireman's Fund Insurance Company's Heritage program. The balance of the funding for the cart modifications, trailer and medical equipment was provided by the Livermore Police Department's asset seizure funds, Farmers Insurance in Pleasanton, Wal-Mart in Pleasanton, and the California Refuse Removal Council.

HISTORIC

(continued from page one)

est would be a landmark. Others include a conservation area and structures of merit. Structures of merit are described as not quite a landmark, but still of value.

Among the sites in the East County on the list are the VA Hospital, Olivina Winery Gate, a 1925 roadside store and residences on Grant Line Road, Sunol Railroad Station, Elliston Winery Building, Mountain House School, railroad worker housing on Railroad Avenue, Sunol Water Temple, and Vallecitos Nuclear Center.

Pinon noted that the list does not just include buildings. It may include a site that is considered significant in terms of California and the county. The Vallecitos Nuclear Center is such a location.

Property owners can request that they not be included on the

list. The details on how that is accomplished are part of the discussion in establishing the ordinance.

Once the county has an ordinance in place, there are potential state tax incentives in having a property listed. The Mills Act provides tax incentives for historic properties. The provision is similar to the Williamson Act, which allows tax incentives for agricultural land. The disadvantage to being listed, Pinon noted, is that there would be restrictions on how modifications could be made.

"The community would benefit in having historic resources around for future generations to enjoy. The ordinance would also help to keep the flavor of a neighborhood," added Pinon.

The ordinance will also estab-

lish criteria and requirements for placement on the register. It would establish a review process for development projects involving landmarks. One of the goals would be to encourage development that incorporates the retention, preservation and reuse of historic structures, sites and other resources.

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EDITORIALS

Cool Counties

With Supervisor Scott Haggerty assuming a major role, Alameda County has become one of the spearheads of a nationwide global warming project called the Cool Counties Initiative.

Ours was the first county in California and one of only 12 in the nation to join with the Sierra Club in launching the initiative whose purpose is to reduce the greenhouse gases that cause the warming. The project aims for an 80% reduction by year 2050. Alameda County has taken the lead in recruiting other California counties. Contra Costa, Santa Clara, Los Angeles, Yolo and Lake Counties have joined so far.

Hand-in-hand with this endeavor, Alameda County has become a pioneer among the counties in "green building" and in converting its motor vehicle fleet to hybrid.

Haggerty, who represents the Valley on the Board of Supervisors, has been in the forefront. He sits on the board of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. From that seat he has become acutely aware of how real the impacts of greenhouse gases are and has become a fervent crusader for government action.

Speaking at the counties' state convention in Oakland last month, Haggerty observed, "Government has a golden opportunity to lead the rest of society in taking action to combat global warming. We must not miss this opportunity. We must act now."

May those words help spur action. Global warming affects all. Every county in America should be enlisting in the struggle.

Lorraine Dietrich

Though we've had our political differences with Lorraine Dietrich, mainly over growth issues, we cannot let her leave office without taking notice of her accomplishments.

Dietrich was one of those citizen activists who get involved in the community (the schools in her case) and eventually wind up on the City Council.

Measure L was her greatest achievement, providing \$150 million in bonds for a new library, community center and school facilities. As co-chair of the Measure L campaign in 1999, she went all out for the bonds and played a large role in their overwhelming passage.

Measure L will be Lorraine Dietrich's legacy — a rich legacy whose benefits Livermore will be enjoying for generations to come.

PETITIONS

(continued from page one)

could not be constructed nor could grading take place on slopes of 25 percent or greater or within 100 vertical feet of a ridgetop. The initiative exempts developments of 10 or fewer housing units on a single property that was, as of January 1, 2007, a "legal parcel."

There were charges by both sides at the council meeting that the other side was not providing factual information.

Supporters of the petition drives point to photos of the southern ridges showing a park. They say the photos are inaccurate and misleading because they don't show the development that would take place in the area.

Karla Brown, one of the signers of the initiative, noted, "People don't share your (the

council's) vision. They are tired of traffic and over-crowded schools. They are not interested in trading the ridgetops for mega-houses."

Jerry Pentin, leader of Keep Our Parks and an Oak Grove proponent, took aim at one of the ads boosting the referendum and initiative that quoted Senator Dianne Feinstein as opposing development in fire prone areas. Pentin produced a letter from Feinstein noting that she had not authorized the use of her name, nor had she taken a position on Oak Grove and in fact, was not familiar with the project.

Pentin declared, "Providing truthful information is all of our jobs. We plan to be there to provide honest information in an effort to keep Oak Grove."

CHARTER

(continued from page one)

two new schools. At that time the plan was to have one school serve grades eight and nine and the other grades 10 through 12.

The plan now is for LVCP to open in the fall of 2008 with ninth grade. One grade will be added each year until 2012, when the first class graduates. LVCP will serve a total of 540 students, 135 at each grade.

Students attending LVCS have the option to continue high school at LVCP. A total of 35 spots will be open if all current LVCS eighth graders attend LVCP.

"The opportunity to open the high school was the trigger that drew me to this position," says Brandstetter. "It's a chance to take my career to the next level."

In addition to hiring an executive director, the LCLC Board of Education also made Tara Aderman the permanent LVCS principal. Aderman, who taught middle school at LVCS since its inception, had served as the interim principal since July.

Aderman filled a key role at the school during several chaotic months last summer. Lon Goldstein, the founder of LVCS and first executive director, was terminated in June. Since summer, the school's finances have been overseen by the Financial Crisis and Management Team.

Tina Morris, the school's second principal, quit in July citing that the scope of the job had grown too large for one person. Morris became principal in early 2006 after the first principal, Mike Hazelhofer, was fired by the Board. Goldstein was president at the time.

The LVJUSD Board of Education must determine whether it will treat the LVCP petition as a new petition, or a modification to the petitions approved last January.

LCLC also filed a renewal to the LVCS charter, which was approved in late 2004 by the California Department of Education. That approval was for three years and will expire next October.

Isabel Neighbors Seek Broader EIR On Widening

West Livermore and Ruby Hill residents concerned about the state's widening of Isabel Avenue are calling for Caltrans to expand its EIR on the project.

Janel Gladen, an activist on the issue, said that many of the 50 or so people who attended an informational meeting Nov. 29 at Emma C. Smith elementary school in Livermore want more answers from Caltrans. Many of those attending the meeting said that questions about noise and traffic generation and its mitigation haven't been answered satisfactorily, said Gladen. She lives in the Prima subdivision, near Isabel Avenue and Concannon Boulevard.

The widening of state Highway 84, which uses Isabel through Livermore, will expand the road from two to six lanes north of Stanley Boulevard as far as Jack London Drive, and go from two to four lanes south of Stanley to Vineyard Avenue near Ruby Hill.

A related project, already underway, is the installation of truck pullout lanes near Ruby Hill up to Mission Peak on Highway 84 southbound, and also up the hills on the northbound side. That is on the historic Highway 84 alignment, which carries traffic to and from Interstate 680 in Sunol. Caltrans is also straightening out curved road there to make it safer. The old route through the hills links up to the new 84 alignment on Isabel.

Art Dao, deputy director of

Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA), said Tuesday that it's up to Caltrans to extend the comment period on the EIR if it wishes. However, even if the comment period were not extended, the release of the EIR document is only the first step in the process. Next will come the design stage. Caltrans and ACTIA can work with the public about their concerns, said Dao.

Gladen said the meeting Nov. 29 drew about 50 people. They talked about approaching the Livermore City Council to ask Caltrans to extend the EIR comment period. Gladen said she collected approximately 100 signatures to back up that request to the council. "A lot of people are approaching us. They want to help us. Some people were there from the South Livermore Homeowners Association, which was formed when (PG&E) wanted to put up big power poles along Isabel. The group was successful in getting it thrown out," said Gladen.

People north of Stanley Boulevard who are concerned about improvements at the Livermore airport bringing in more air traffic are also supportive, said Gladen. She has even heard from residents who helped to defeat the auto auction proposal near the airport several years ago.

Gladen said that the sentiment at the meeting was, "They all pretty much want to fight to achieve a minimum EIR. The

general feeling was that the state and city concluded that all that traffic was detrimental (to Livermore's downtown when Highway 84 used a route along First Street). However, Caltrans was saying there is no impact when it's moved to Isabel."

Gladen said that she visited a neighbor whose property is next to Isabel. He had a noise meter and found readings of 70 decibels in his back yard from current traffic on Isabel. The federal standard is 67 decibels 1000 feet from a road. Caltrans should take more measurements to better detail the problem, said Gladen.

The group is retaining a lawyer. Her advice was that the project itself can't be stopped. However, modification is possible. To achieve that, it's important to build a record of protest about the specific concerns, said Gladen.

SOME RESIDENTS ARE NOT OPPOSED

Kevin Smith, another Prima resident, told the Independent that he is not opposed to the project, although he would appreciate more information about it. Smith said that he was at another meeting on the subject at Emma C. Smith school Oct. 30.

That earlier meeting was sponsored by Caltrans, Livermore and ACTIA to give residents information. It drew a few dozen residents. Smith said that a nucleus in the group seemed to have a hostile attitude about the project. He said the public

shouldn't get the idea that all neighbors are opposed to the widening.

"I talked to other individuals. They backed away from the group that formed. There was a negative attitude toward shutting the project down. There was no forum for us to voice our opinion," said Smith.

Smith was also concerned that a flier advertising the Nov. 29 meeting was sent home with his daughter, a fifth grader at Smith school. He said that sending home political fliers violates school policy. He wondered whether the copies were printed at Smith school's expense. He said he did not know who sent them out, but suspected it was a fellow PTA member who would have access to teachers' boxes.

Smith principal Denise Nathanson said that she didn't know where the copies were created. She does know the identity of the parent. Nathanson confirmed that the fliers should not have gone out. She said she told the parent involved that they were not supposed to go out. The parent put them in teachers' boxes anyway.

Some teachers recycled the papers immediately. Others, perhaps thinking that because the flier advertised a meeting at Smith school, sent them home with their students, said Nathanson. She said she will work to tighten the authorization process, which requires her signature on anything going home to parents.

ACTIVISM

(continued from page one)

out of court by FWS in an agreement with the builders.

CBD objected that the case should have gone to trial, and that FWS was too accommodating to the builders. At one time, red-legged frog habitat in California covered 4.1 million acres. That shrunk to 737,000 acres. Eventually it was reduced to the present 450,000 acres.

Miller said that FWS will now go through a process of determining what habitat was excluded from designation that would not have been excluded before. "Then they'll revisit what habitat should be in the critical habitat. They'll propose a draft rule and a final rule," said Miller.

SUIT TRIES TO RESTRICT CHEMICAL

Also seeking to protect the environment, as well as workers' and consumers' health, a coalition of labor and environmental organizations sued the state Nov. 19 for failure to "even consider listing PFOA, a chemical manufactured by DuPont and associated with Teflon and stain repellants," said a press release from the coalition.

The chemical is "likely to cause cancer," according to federal scientific experts, said Sierra Club spokeswoman Kristina Johnson.

However, the state's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has refused to list it. The coalition said that the refusal to consider PFOA is typical of continuing problems in trying to have chemicals listed under Proposition 65.

Johnson said that the state was slow in listing diuron, a pesticide widely detected in the California water supply. The federal EPA identified it as a cancer cause in 1997. It didn't make the list until 2002.

"More than half of 29 chemicals took more than two years to be listed by the state under Prop. 65 after being identified by an outside body as cancer causing. It raises the question, 'How much harm has been done?' The state needs to let people know they may be exposed (to cancer-causing substances)," said Johnson.

The Sierra Club is also campaigning for stricter standards for the use of nonylphenol ethoxylate (NPE). The chemical is found in household and industrial detergents, and is discharged into water. It has been found to cause sex changes in fish.

NPE is banned in Europe. Canada has restricted its use, said Johnson. She said that some companies are trying to phase it out of their products.

COLLEGE

(continued from page one)

for both sports events and P.E. programs.

The cost of the current construction projects is \$10.4 million.

Future projects, due to begin construction shortly, are a central plant, a center for the arts, and a child development center.

The center for the arts will include a 500-seat theater. "It is not in competition with the Bankhead Theater," declared Kratochvil. "It will be used almost exclusively for campus programs."

A dedication ceremony was held for the new gymnasium last year. One is being planned for the new multi-discipline building.

ON-THE-GROUND RESEARCH HELPS BIRDS

Members of the Audubon Society will do some practical environmental research by hiking in areas of the county to conduct the annual Christmas survey of birds. The survey in the county will be on Dec. 16.

Members from Livermore and Pleasanton will be taking part, said Evelyn Cormier, president of the Ohlone Chapter, which includes all of Alameda County. Members may take friends along to help with such things as counting numbers of birds.

The count is important not so much year to year, but over a long run of years to determine whether the population of a species is declining or growing larger. The survey comes at a time when the Audubon Society has released its watch-list of imperiled birds. There are 217 species on the list nationally this year, including 27 from Alameda County. Fourteen are shore birds in salty marshes alongside San Francisco and San Pablo bays.

The other 13 nest are inland. Some are found in the Valley, said Cormier. She singled out the yellow-billed magpie and the Tricolored blackbird as two species that definitely live in the Valley.

Garrison Frost, an Audubon spokesman, said that the watch-list is "intended to show those bird species that are in the greatest need of immediate conservation help to simply survive amid a number of environmental challenges, including habitat loss, invasive species and global warming."

Cormier said that the spill of 58,000 gallons of ship fuel in San Francisco Bay made the threat to birds even worse. "This is the peak of the migratory bird season. They stop here. There is plenty of food for them on the shore and in the water. They fill up for a week or two or three. They get a new load of fat and protein in their bodies, then take off and finish the migration route, heading south for a warmer climate," said Cormier.

Some Audubon volunteers are helping to clean the beaches. A few members who know how to clean oiled birds are involved with the process. Others are out finding birds for qualified people to rescue, said Cormier.

The Audubon Society's Christmas bird count began 107 years ago. In those days, many "birders" collected birds. They shot them, and brought them home," said Cormier. This was the method that Audubon, the famous bird illustrator, used to make his drawings. However, one

member decided it was better to just go look at the birds and record the sightings.

Usually the census takers start at around 8 a.m. or so, and finish by 4 p.m. However, the owl counters have to get up early. They work between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. Various Audubon chapters set their own census date, but it's usually within one week around Christmas.

GETTING WELL CAN MAKE FISH SICK

Another effort to clean up the environment is being encouraged by the Bay Area League of Women Voters, which has a Livermore Valley chapter (at 443-VOTE).

An article in the Ohlone chapter's newsletter states that wastewater treatment plans don't remove the toxic chemicals in prescription pills that some

MAILBOX

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

Cruisers Thanked Nancy Richardson President, Board of Directors Open Heart Kitchen

Open Heart Kitchen would like to publicly thank the Altamont Cruisers Car Club for their generosity in giving Open Heart Kitchen a portion of the proceeds from their 2007 Nostalgia Day Car Show held at the end of September.

This event was highly successful and organized by dedicated volunteers and supported by a number of sponsors. Open Heart Kitchen was among many worthy organizations graced by the hard work and community minded spirit of this wonderful club. The City of Livermore should be proud to have such an organization in its midst.

Former Mayor Betsy Everett Pleasanton

When will our local newspapers fully disclose that our Slow Growth former mayor Tom Pico has been and is still working as a consultant for both the Oak Grove Project (51 mega-mansions on the ridge top) and the project recently approved by a 3 to 2 vote of the Planning Commission that allows a 16,000 square foot house and accessory buildings project in the Southeast Hills.

When you see former Mayor Pico on the street corner waving and asking you not to sign a referendum and the hillside preservation ordinance, he is at work. Pleasanton residents have a right to vote on these issues.

Thanks to Lorraine John Shirley Livermore

I notice the November 29th Independent did not thank Lorraine Dietrich for her 19 years of service to Livermore on the Planning Commission and City Council. I am sure the paper will do that in the near future.

In the meantime, I would like to express my thanks for all Lorraine has done over the years for a broad range of community services including being vice mayor, and Co-Chair of Measure

people flush down the toilet. As a result, the chemicals continue on to discharge in the Bay, where they harm species that live and feed there.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) studied 2309 streams in 30 states and found that 80 percent had measurable concentrations of prescription drugs, steroids and reproductive hormones. Other studies have shown a distinct link between such chemicals and endocrine disruptors that can change the sexes of fish.

The LWV article describes one solution to the problem. Police agencies in San Mateo County have set up collection boxes where people can drop off their unused drugs. Then they can be taken to a facility for incineration.

L. Bond Committee that brought us a new library, community recreation center, and years of money for school improvements. She has represented the city on numerous regional committees including Chair of the Tri-Valley Affordable Housing Committee, Chair of the Alameda County Waste Management Authority. She was also on the State Board of Directors of the League of California Cities.

Lorraine always did her home work, stayed well informed on all matters before the City Council. She asked good questions, and was always independent and thoughtful about her votes. She was a strong, intelligent member of our City Council. I know many people will join me in saying "Thank you for your years of fine service."

Speeding Traffic Joe Pavlak Livermore

Can we get a patrol car to police traffic on Concannon between Holmes and Isabel please? The flashing, lighted speed signs are not controlling speeds. Do we not have enough patrolmen to set up a traffic surveillance between the hours of 6am and 7pm? Seventy percent of the cars are traveling faster than the posted limit. I know, because I drive and walk the road daily.

Fireplace Burning Nancy Storch Pleasanton

My neighbors don't understand how much it physically hurts to breathe in their dirty chimney smoke. When they burn I can't walk my dog or work in the yard. I've tried wearing a mask, but it's uncomfortable and hard to get enough air for these activities. Their chimney smoke came through the closed windows of my upstairs office. I was unable to work in there until I had all the windows replaced. In addition, I've followed my doctor's recommendation to install air filter systems in my house. And to be a good neighbor, I converted my fireplace to natural gas.

If people would voluntarily stop burning or convert their fireplaces to natural gas, we would all benefit. I worry about the long term health consequences to our young children, seniors like myself, and our dear pets. Times have changed, and although I miss the crackling and dancing flames of a friendly old-fashioned wood fire in my fireplace, I am satisfied with other alternatives.

The Independent

(INLAND VALLEY PUBLISHING CO.)

Publisher: Joan Kinney Seppala
Associate Publisher: David T. Lowell
Editor: Janet Armantrout
Sales Manager: Jessica Scherer

The Independent is published every Thursday at 2250 First St., Livermore, CA 94550
(Mailing address: PO Box 1198, Livermore, CA 94551)

The Independent is delivered by the United States Post Office.
Advertising rates and subscription rates may be obtained by calling

(925) 447-8700 during regular business hours. * Fax: (925) 447-0212 E-MAIL: editmail@compuserve.com

SHORT NOTES

Open Space Park

"Behold Holdener!" is a program that will offer a look at the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District's newest open space park.

Meet Ranger Amy Wolitzer at 10 a.m. at the park on Hansen Road. Holdener Park is located just past the East end of Hansen Road and includes steep hillsides and a beautiful little canyon. Though this park is small, it consists of rich habitat and supports a variety of wildlife. Trails have not yet been developed so prepare for a short but rough hike that includes some steep climbs. In the shady canyon, the grass will almost certainly be wet from morning dew so wear water resistant shoes or prepare for soggy socks.

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

Beacon Lighting

On Friday, December 7, at 3:45 pm the Beacon Lighting on Museum at Summit of Mt. Diablo will take place.

Since 1964, the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association has memorialized Pearl Harbor Day by turning on the summit Beacon atop Mt. Diablo. The "Eye of Diablo" as it's known, is lit at sunset and shines all night on this single night each year. Meet at the Summit Museum in Mt. Diablo State Park

Santa and Chocolate

Alden Lane Nursery at 981 Alden Lane in Livermore is combining two holiday staples, chocolate and Santa Claus, to highlight its December celebrations.

Santa will visit Alden Lane on Dec. 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. While the kids

visit with St. Nick, their parents can enjoy discounts on all Dig It tree ornaments and attend a class on how to create a gardener's gift for the yard lover on their list. This class is ongoing and free from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 8 and 9.

More information is available by calling the nursery at 925-447-0280 or visiting online at www.aldenlane.com.

Dueling Bands

The bands from Livermore and Granada high schools are each decorating a model home at The Grove in Livermore for Christmas. Northbrook Homes, the builder, has given each band money to decorate the model homes.

During the holidays, there will be ballots available for anyone visiting the decorated models to vote for his or her

favorite. Voting is underway and will end on Sun., Dec. 23. The winning band will receive \$1000 and the second place band will receive \$500 from Northbrook Homes.

The homes are open daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Grove is located near First Street and North Mines Road, 4188 Sonia St., Livermore. For information, call 245-1782.

Post Harvest Review

Tri-Valley Conservancy and Livermore Valley Wine Growers Association will be hosting a Quest for Excellence Quality Wine Growing Educational Series. The purpose of this series is to assure the highest quality of wine grapes and wines are produced by Livermore Valley Wine Growers and Vintners.

The next Quest for Excellence semi-

nar will be held on Tuesday, December 11th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue in Livermore.

The topic will focus on the "Post-Harvest Review." Growers/vintners are invited to join in a discussion of the 2007 Harvest with panelists.

Please RSVP by December 7th to the Livermore Valley Wine Growers Association at (925) 447-WINE (9463). The session will have a fee of \$10.00 to cover the cost of materials.

Brown Eyed Girl Opens

Brown Eyed Girl Beauty & Gifts will hold a grand opening celebration on Thurs., Dec. 6 from 5 to 9 p.m.

This will be a fun filled evening featuring Bare Escentuals cosmetics with make-up artists ready to answer any questions and provide make-up demonstrations. Brown Eyed Girl also offers unique gifts and bath and body products.

There will be food, fun, celebration and a drawing for a gift basket for one lucky person. The new business in downtown Livermore is located at 2074 First Street. For information, call 215-1145.

Also on Thurs., Radiance Day Spa will host a holiday open house from 5 to 8 p.m. Radiance is located at 152 South K Street in downtown Livermore. There will be specials, food, prizes and fun. For information, call 294-5600.

Festivites at Stoneridge

Stoneridge Shopping Center has special activities planned during the holidays:

Pet Photos at Stoneridge December 9, 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m., Stoneridge Shopping Center, Grand Court Bring a pet to have its photo taken with Santapaws. Pets will be given a special holiday treat from Santa, provided by PetPuccino (while supplies last). Enter the shopping center through Entrance D, which is in between Sweet River Grill & Bar and Cheesecake Factory. Small to medium cats and dogs only please. For more information, visit shopstoneridge.com or call 925.463.2778.

Holiday Kidgits Event at Stoneridge December 14, 1:00 p.m., Stoneridge Shopping Center, Grand Court Stoneridge Kidgits Club presents,

"Santastic! Santa's Fantastic Musical Revue," a Guggenheim Entertainment production. After the performance, children are invited to enjoy free arts & crafts where they can make a holiday photo frame, an ornament for their tree or decorate their own cookie.

For more information, visit shopstoneridge.com or call 463-2778.

Miss Alameda County

For the first time in 20 plus years, Alameda County is going to have a Miss in 2008. The need for scholarship money has revived the Miss Alameda County Scholarship Pageant, an official Miss America preliminary.

On Feb. 23, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., the Amador Valley Theater (next to Amador High School) will play host to the Miss California preliminary. Rachael Kerstner, Miss Oakland 2006, and a finalist in the Miss California Pageant, will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. Alameda County Supervisor, Scott Haggerty will be one of the "celebrity" judges.

Women, aged 17-24, a U.S. citizen, never married, and with no children, either living, working or attending school in Alameda County, are eligible to participate. To obtain entries, contact the Executive Director, Barbara Davies Walsh at (925) 846-6277. Entries will be closing on Dec. 20.

There is no entry fee. Every girl fully participating will receive scholarship money, with the largest going to the highest point winner. The winner will represent Alameda County in the Miss California Pageant in Fresno in June 2008.

Night Out

Parents can do some shopping before the holiday or just enjoy an evening or afternoon out!

LARPD staff will provide a fun and safe environment for children in the Elbow Room at the Robert Livermore Community Center. Activities will include snacks, games, movies and arts & crafts. Ages 3-12 years accepted—must be potty trained.

Available dates include Saturday, Dec. 15, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM or Tuesday, Dec. 18, 5:00-9:00 PM. Fee is \$20 per child. Call LARPD at 373-5700 to register. Space is limited. Sorry, no drop-ins accepted.

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



Mountain Camps on Mines Road

Several months ago, I had a marvelous day of exploring the dirt roads branching off from Mines Road—dirt roads with cattle guards and gates with combination locks. My tour guide Doug Baird, his wife, Bobbie, and I visited two old hunting camps—Camp Buckeye and The Pointers.

The Buckeye Gun Club was founded in 1899. The members leased half of section 32 T4S/R4E; the Mountain Home Club, another hunting camp, was on the other half of the section. The site is at the extreme southeastern portion of Alameda County; in fact, part of it extends into San Joaquin County, 20 miles from Livermore. In 1903 "the beginning of the quail-shooting season found a jolly crowd at Camp Buckeye," according to the *Herald*. A year later, the members decided to incorporate and purchase the property. The capital stock was \$3,000, divided into 30 shares at \$100 each. The 30 members were a group of Livermore and Oakland business and professional men.

By May 1908 they had paid off their mortgage on the property and held a "gala" party to celebrate. A month later, the directors decided to erect a new, larger building. The original one would be kept as the lodging for the caretaker. "The new building is being erected in deference to the ladies." Wives and sisters of members were now able to come on outings. Today, the property is owned by Richard and Cleo Wilt, who graciously allowed us to walk through their home, once the large new clubhouse. A wide porch, probably used as a sleeping porch by the men of the Buckeye Club, extends around half of the brown shingled building. The women most likely slept inside in one of the five small bedrooms off the great room with its massive fireplace. Outside, the old cement ice house for hanging deer is built into the hill. The Wilts enjoy their quiet life here with no telephone service and electricity supplied only by solar energy. The reason for the name of the camp is clear—massive buckeyes are on all sides of the building. Manzanita and other chaparral plants on the property make good habitat for quail.

In the afternoon the Bairds and I traveled to The Pointer's Club, another former hunting club, over a corduroy dirt road lined with chaparral thick with manzanita to the south of Mines Road. Once in a while a ghostly digger pine rose above the chaparral. The Pointer's is owned today by Jim Boswell, a Contra Costa County deputy sheriff. He showed me two registers which club members and guests had signed. Many had also written in comments and sometimes created drawings and cartoons about their experiences. The earliest

one began in March 1933. There is a main building on the site with a large fireplace in a great room, bedrooms, a kitchen and facilities for barbecuing. On a hill above this is a cabin, built for the honeymoon of Harold and Clarice Heckman. After that event, it was used by women who came out to visit. I suppose that with the women tucked safely asleep in the cabin, the men felt free to swear at their poker games. Often the people that came helped in the upkeep of the camp, for example, building stone retaining walls and putting in a new shower.

The Pines Lodge was another mountain club located near what is now the Los Mochos Boy Scout Camp. Although its exact founding date is unknown, in May 1908 members were proud of a new road being laid out from Mines Road into the site. The Pines was incorporated in 1916; memberships of \$150 apiece were limited to 20. The directors were Daniel J. Murphy, Thomas E. Knox, George Therkof, Lee Wells and A.C. McLeod. Almost all the members attended a Sunday get-together in April 1916, when a sumptuous meal of spring chicken and squab was served along with fresh vegetables from the club's own garden. The Henry family, who owned *The Livermore Herald* newspaper, came often to the Pines so that Maitland Henry could find some relaxation away from his news desk. They would frequently hike over to Sweetwater Springs on an adjoining property, now the site of Los Mochos. The main building at the mountain camp, according to Nancy Henry Lyons, had "a gorgeous view and a sleeping porch on three sides with 10 beds where everyone slept." Inside, the great room had a large fireplace made of native stone and a square grand piano. Bobbie Baird would play the piano and everyone would sing "until gosh knows when." The "ownership" of the place gradually dwindled down to the Henrys, "Mac" McVicker, and Carl Clark; they sold the 120 acres in 1956. "Hiking, swimming, reading, resting and eating were the main occupations when we went to the Pines," Nancy remembered. "It was a marvelous place for quiet and privacy."

Many other mountain camps dotted the hillsides along Mines Road: Camp Bessie, the Mountain Home Club, Frenchman's, Hayes Camp, Cedar Brook, and probably others that I don't know about. On my trip with the Bairds, the beautiful scenery and peaceful nature of the area were still appealing.

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

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SPORTS NOTES

Youth Soccer

The Pleasanton Rage U-13, Division 3 soccer team defeated the Livermore Arsenal on Sunday to capture the CYSA District III Cup title in Newark. To reach the championship game, the Rage defeated the Dublin Hurricane, Rage Blue and the Mustang Rush before posting the 1-0 win over Livermore. In the first game on Saturday, the Rage's offense was relentless, as Rachael Kapp scored twice and Shannon Malindzak and Madison Nethery each added one goal in a 4-1 victory over the Hurricane. The next two games were more defensive. Strong middle field play by Lindsey Allen, Lauren Hayashi and Nicole Henninger generated the Rage attacks as Kapp again found the back of the net with a goal against the Blue, and Olivia Climent scored on a penalty kick versus the Rush to give the Rage 1-0 victories.

Sunday's championship game was again a defensive struggle as both teams fought for control of the ball. Using their kicking strength, the Arsenal continued to send long kicks to their forwards, but the Rage's defense was flawless. The defensive rotation of Alyssa Keiner, Maddie Martin, Cassidy Lynch, Jamie Bodmer and Malindzak kept the Arsenal attack at bay. After a scoreless first half, the Rage finally broke the deadlock. A Rage shot toward goal, and the subsequent Arsenal's defensive clear found Rage's Nethery just outside the penalty area. Nethery wasted no time pounding an arcing shot just over the Arsenal goal and into the back of the net. As the time counted down, Livermore generated one final attack and a controversial ending. After a long kick toward goal from the Arsenal mid-field, the ensuing stop by the Rage's goalie rebounded to an Arsenal forward who quickly shot what appeared the tying goal. The goal was reversed after illegal goal contact foul was called on the play, preserving the Rage the 1-0 championship win. The Rage now prepares for the Association Cup tournament in January.

Top Offensive Players: Isabela Castaneda, Alex Dickinson, Ellie Jurich; **Top Defensive Players:** Nicole Thomas, Morgan Bowen, Cheyenne Lofthouse-Wolf.

The Pleasanton U14 Rage B team came away with a 2nd place finish in its weekend's District Cup tournament. The championship game was an all-Pleasanton affair as they met up with their fellow Rage team and fell just one goal shy of victory.

The Rage team that played this weekend was a strong, motivated, and determined team that made their opponents play defensively from the opening whistle. Coming into the tournament seeded 7th, they made handy work of their opponents in pool play. In game one, Erin O'Loughlin notched up 2 goals with Arielle Siegel adding another to cap a 3-1 victory over a Mustang team. Game 2 was much more even against another Mustang club and the Rage came out with a 0-0 tie.

Sunday morning's match up was against the Livermore Earthquakes and knowing they needed a convincing win to move onto the Championship match, the girls played aggressively. Arielle Siegel was first to score off a tremendous penalty kick shot just outside the eighteen. Nat Tiengo was up next firing on all cylinders and making it 2-0 Rage. Finally Karoline van der Zee netted the Rage's third score off a nice cross from Nicole Ponzini. The victory here was enough to send the girls onto the Championship game against their fellow Rage team.

The championship game was what it should be with both teams playing aggressively. Nicole Ponzini scored her second goal of the tournament and when the final whistle blew it was 2-1.

Top Offensive Players: Arielle Siegel, Karoline van der Zee, Nicole Ponzini, Kelly Parsons, Devon Gold, Brittany Jones; **Top Defensive Players:** Lauren MacDonnel, Nat Tiengo, Shannon Easley, Pascale Marti, Taylor Dorsi, Dani Ramirez, Sarah Machado, Erin O'Loughlin, Kara Matsune.

The Livermore Elite Fury girls U12D3 competed in District Cup play over the weekend. In the first game against the Mustang Tigers, the Fury fell behind early but tied the contest in the 20th minute when Mikayla Molten followed an Amanda Fairclough free kick that bounced off the Mustang goalie. Midfielder Marissa Scheid played a strong first half and defender Morgan Brandt also made some nice stops on the Tigers forwards. Midway through the second half, the Tigers broke the tie and scored again later to post a 3-1 win. Erin Winegamer played well defensively throughout the match and keeper Emily Kalantar made a couple of great saves to keep the Fury in the game.

Against the Pleasanton Game Blue, the Fury offense dominated the first half. Rebekah Johnson took a pass from Fairclough and scored in the first minute. After the Rage responded with a goal two minutes later, Johnson dribbled by the defenders into the box and buried the shot for a 2-1 lead. In the 16th minute, Alyssa Stevenson drove a long shot from outside the box towards the goal which deflected off the goalie and Katie Lortie knocked in for a 3-1 lead. Minutes later, Kaitlyn Bulhoes tapped in a shot off a pass from Brittany Abbeck for 4-1. In the 25th minute, Bulhoes headed in a bouncing ball in front of the goal for a 5-1 lead. Kaitlin DaDalt also had some nice runs to keep the pressure on the Pleasanton defense. Callie Crowe led the Fury offense in the second half with several strong outside runs and shots on goal. With two minutes remaining, Crowe and Bulhoes worked a nice give and go, resulting in Crowe scoring her first goal of the season with a well-placed shot into the back of the net as Livermore won 6-1.

Game three versus the Mustang Eagles was a hard-fought, physical game. The Fury matched the Mustang play and intensity throughout the match. Skyler Kriz and Rebekah Johnson led the midfield battles and defenders Erin Winegamer and Ryley Landreth hustled back to stop a couple of Mustang rushes in the first half. The Eagles broke through early in the second half with a penalty kick and a break-away goal two minutes apart. Alison Pierson led the Fury offense with a couple of solid runs and Amanda Fairclough had several big kicks to keep the pressure on the Eagle defense. The Fury lost the game 2-0 but played a quality match against a very strong opponent.

The Pleasanton Rage U12D3 team played in the District Cup this weekend ending their season with 1 win, 1 loss, and 1 draw. In game 1 versus the San Ramon Solar, Rage was the dominating force. The Rage offense was relentless with attacks on the Solar goal. Kendall Moore was first to score off a cross from Patricia Norcross. Minutes later, Cassie Santana scored when she directed in a rebound from a Moore shot that hit the post. Next it was Ali Racer who drove the ball up the field to Moore. Moore took a shot which ricocheted off the crossbar and Kelli Wheatley was there to finish it off. Finally it was Molly Grozier who scored off a cross from Moore, ending the game in a 4-0 shut out.

In game two, Rage met up with the first place Mustang Stampedes. The Stampedes controlled the first half of play giving the Rage a defense a run for their money. However, the defense held tough and with strong play by Lauren Fan, Dani Lederman and Olivia Deutschman, coupled with several amazing saves by goalie Olivia Brown, it was enough to hold off the Mustang offense and keep the score at 0 to 0 going into the second half. Rage came back stronger in the second half. Mathea Turkalj made the first drive with a great pass to Ali Racer who took the shot but just missed. Kayla Bautista, Mackenzie Schoen, and Taylor Sancez each had scoring chances, but were denied. In the end, it was Stampedes

who scored the first and only goal of the game, giving them the 1 to 0 victory.

In the final game, it was Rage against the Solar again. This time San Ramon was not going to make it an easy victory. The Rage midfielders led by Sami Williams, Cassie Santana, and Mathea Turkalj did a great job moving the ball up the field, while Kayla Bautista, Kelli Wheatley and Kendall Moore each had scoring chances. However, the Solar defense held tight and their offense kept up the pressure. Patric Norcross and Claire Hickler played excellent defense and denied all Solar attacks. In the end, neither team would advance, and the game ended in a 0 to 0 tie.

Pleasanton Rage White U10 girls soccer team started CYSA District III Cup play last Saturday with a resounding 7 to 0 victory over the Newark Crushers at the Newark Sports Field. Sophie Santos led the scoring attack for Rage White with two goals. Also contributing to the Rage White onslaught were Megan Shackley, Jenna Crawford, Christina Echavia, Emma Theroux and Darcy Kron, with one goal each. Cassie Wood, a seasonal defensive force, and Jenna Crawford shared goalkeeping duties to post the shutout for Rage White. Megan Martin's strong defensive effort, and Hailey Bouchard's play in the midfield helped Rage White dominate field position throughout the contest.

Top Offensive Players: Sophie Santos, Megan Shackley, Jenna Crawford, Christina Echavia, Darcy Kron and Emma Theroux; **Top Defensive Players:** Cassie Wood, Megan Martin and Hailey Bouchard.

After a 7-0 win and a tough 1-0 loss in Saturday flight play, the Pleasanton Rage White U10 girls soccer team needed a dominating victory on Sunday against Mustang Stampedes to have a chance to advance to the District Cup championship game. Despite a strong team effort, Rage White was unable to capitalize on several scoring opportunities, and their season came to a close with a 1 to 1 tie against the Stampedes.

Sophie Santos, who led the team in scoring for the season, put Rage White up 1-0 with a goal early in the second half. However, Mustang Stampedes tied the contest ten minutes later, and despite constant pressure by Rage White players Emma Theroux, Jenna Crawford, Megan Martin and Hailey Bouchard around the Stampedes, they were unable to break the deadlock. Carly Israel and Cassie Wood contributed stellar efforts while sharing goalkeeping duties for Rage White, and got strong defensive support from Megan Martin, Darcy Kron and Christina Echavia.

Top Offensive Player: Sophie Santos; **Top Defensive Players:** Carly Israel, Cassie Wood.

Rage U14-Division 3 captured the District Cup title. In the Championship game, Rage and Rage Bee teams battled it out on the Mustang fields with Rage coming out on top 2-1. Both teams fought hard, but Rage scored midway through the 1st half with a goal from Elena Vitor. Mid-fielder Cassi Scroggins put another one on the boards for Rage with a beautiful run down the left side of the field. With renewed determination Rage Bee came out hard the 2nd half and scored a goal, but the Rage defensive team held on to give Rage the win.

On their way to the championship game, Rage gave up only 1 goal. This was due to great play by goalkeeper, Aria Crawford. Other outstanding defensive players were Megan Clark, Kristen Dumanski, Autumn Whitney and Cassi Scroggins. In their 4-0 win against Mustang Spirit, Stephanie Little and Jessie Hopson scored one goal each and Jessica Klahr scored 2. In the second game against the San Ramon Strikers, Marisa Vitor, Devon Lutz and Megan Ash each put one into the net and Danielle LaMarche added 2 more.

LHS Girls Varsity

The Livermore High School girls varsity basketball team got off to a hot start this season beating Tenynson High School 72 to 44. Scott Hoehne with 7 points, Rynn Raber 13 points and Taylor Borba 14 pts; had great games offensively. Working hard all night for Livermore were Kayla Webber, Sammy McConvey (6 pts) and Margaret Donovan. Hot shooting from above the arc by Shayla Raber 4 three pointers (16 pts) and Veronica Garza (9 pts) three 3 pointers stretched the Tenynson defense. Playing pressure defense all night for Livermore were Erika Schell (2pts) and Brooke Betts (2pts). Great free throw shooting by Sammy Edwards (3pts) late in the game sealed the victory. The Livermore team played tough against a very aggressive Tenynson team fighting through cuts and bloody noses. The raucous crowd appreciated the effort by both teams.

Livermore contained the explosive Dublin offense in the second half but couldn't overcome the first half deficit losing 64 to 35 before a packed house at Dublin High School. Shooting well for the Livermore team were Rynn Raber 14 points, Taylor Borba 8 points, Veronica Garza 3 points and Scott Hoehne 7 points. Slowing the Dublin attack for Livermore was Shayla Raber, Erika Schell (1 pt), Sammy Edwards and Brooke Betts. Margaret Donovan (1 pt), Sammy McConvey (1 pt) and Kayla Webber worked hard in the paint all game long.

CYO Basketball

St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) 8th grade boys (#808) battled St. Isidore's (#812) in CYO basketball action. SM/SC came out very aggressive on the defensive end causing many turnovers by St. Isidore's, which led to a 56-24 SM/SC victory. Michael Noble and Justis Olsen led the defensive attack with 5 steals each. Leading scorers for SM/SC were Brandon Ganguet and Justis Olsen with 14 each. Chris Benavidez, Michael Noble and Spencer Mead chipped in on the offensive end.

SM/SC 8th grade girls (#806) battled the Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) (#8007), winning 42 to 21. SM/SC took an early lead and held CCOP to a 16-11 half time score. Top scoring players for SM/SC were McKenzie Hubert with 14, Katelyn Jones with 11, Brittan Campiotti with 9, Claudine Soriani with 4, Chelsea Thomas and Shelby White with 2 points each. Providing the offense with additional support were Dani Arnold, Kenzie Holcomb, Lindsey Thien, and Roxanna Utpadel.

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) 8th grade girls (team 8001) defeated St. Raymond's (team 8004) 28-10 to improve their record to 3-0. The 3rd and 4th period defense was CCOP's key to the win. The press held St. Raymond's to just 3 points in the second half. A combined total of 8 steals by Jessica Morosoli and Kim Beaudin kept CCOP on the offensive track. Offensively, CCOP started slow but charged back with top scorer Morosoli 11 points, Sydney Okumura 8 points 7 rebounds, Jessica Woodruff 6 points and grabbing down 20 rebounds. Contributing to the total score were Lyndsay Godwin (2 points) and Ellen Freitas (1 point, 5 rebounds). Brittany Bicomog (4 rebounds), Beaudin (6 rebounds) and Nicole Torquato also played well defensively.

SM/SC 8th grade boys (814) outscored St. Raymond's (818) 14-6 in the 3rd quarter on the way to a 37-33 win. Luke Hamilton and Danny Emerson each scored 10 points to lead SM/SC in the win. Tyler Kisting pulled down a game-high 11 rebounds and Hunter Lewis grabbed 8 boards with 5 blocked shots. Andy Logsdon, Greg Anderson, and Turner Sblendorio supplied spark off the bench with

solid defense. With the victory, SM/SC improves to 2-1.

SM/SC 17th grade girls (#7003) took on St. Isidore's (#7002). Jennifer Meredith scored 8 points with Rebecca Pilz, Kristy Kearney, and Kaila Silver each scoring 6 points. Kalle Phillips scored 4 points with the final score, Hippies 30 and St. Isidore's 22. Great defensive effort by all the girls.

SM/SC 7th Grade Girls vs St. Isidore's lost a heartbreaker 15 to 12 when St. Isidore's hit a 3-pointer in the final seconds. SM/SC was losing at half time 12-0, when Coach John made a defensive adjustment that almost shutout St. Isidore's in the second half. Kadee Valdez, Kelsie Bowles, Jessica Floyd and Sierra Cassels all scored. Great defense was turned in by Caitlin Barney and Erica Labrucherie.

CCOP (#6012) pressure defense led to 15-6 victory over SM/SC (#6009). CCOP managed to open a 7-4 halftime lead. In the second half, CCOP defensive effort led to eight unanswered points to open a comfortable 15-4 lead. Tori Larsen, Jessica Medina, Danni Moyers, and Emily Tsivikas played outstanding defense for CCOP. Paige Zollars and Madison Steele led CCOP in scoring with 4 points each and Ella Willey added 2 points.

CCOP 6th grade (612) defeated SM/SC (610) 24-21. After a tight defensive battle that left SM/SC behind 10-8 at the half, Austen Gibbs scored 6 straight points in the third quarter to open a lead for the home team. An offensive explosion ensued in the final quarter as the two teams traded baskets. The game came down to the final possession with SM/SC down by three. A last second try attempt was blocked to secure the win for CCOP. Darin Anderson led SM/SC with 14 points and 3 assists. Marcus Marr-Clark had 6 rebounds. Kristian Berry and Matthew Adiao both played strong defensive games.

In 6th grade girls' basketball, SM/SC #6010 took on CCOP #6007. It was a tight game with a two-point difference throughout the game. Outstanding players for CCOP included Sarah Brown, Jamie Altman, Malory Masaljo, and Arianna Wisgo. Top players for SM/SC Pumas were Claire Hyde, Natalie Land, Hannah Leever and Lauren Huizar. Final score was CCOP 11 and SM/SC 9.

SM/SC 6th grade girls American (#60004) defeated CCOP (#60001), 21 to 20. SM/SC got off to an early lead, but then fell behind in the 3rd quarter. They battled back in the fourth quarter to clinch the victory with a free throw by McKayla Saavedra. Both teams played with a lot of heart. It was a nail biter to the end. Top scorers from SM/SC were Rachel Norman with 10 points and Hailey Lasit with 4 points. Cassie Campiotti, Ashleigh Pettit, and Brielle Preece completed the game with 2 points each. Nikki "Shorty" Lutz led SM/SC in steals along with solid defensive play by Rachel Norman, and Allison Martin.

St. Joan of Arc (#603) vs. SM/SC Grizzly Bears (#607) 6th grade boys basketball was a very exciting game. Alex Barden scored 10 pts for St. Joan, and Brandon Haeffling scored 9 pts. It was a tight match throughout all four quarters! Hunter Ashby, Tito Quihuis, Dominex Kovacs, and Mark Santos played great defense and scored well for SM/SC. St. Joan kept the lead through most of the game, but the Grizzly Bears never gave up. Justin McKee, Jaylin Valles, and Josh Revay kept the pressure on for the Grizzly Bears. St. Joan of Arc won the game 29 - 25.

SM/SC 2 6th grade girls (#6009) took on CCOP3 (#6012). The first half was a closely played contest with CCOP leading by a 5-2 score. Offense for SM/SC2 was led by Shelby Stunkel and Taylor Smith. During the second half Tori Larsen and Jessica Medina put up an astring defense for CCOP, holding SM/SC2 to only 4 points. Outstanding offense by CCOP's Paige Zollars and Roxy Moran completed a 15-6 final score. Top defensive players for SM/SC2 were Christie Swinton and Sierra Hoggatt.

SM/SC 5th grade boys (#520) lost a tough one to St. Isidore (#524) 28 to 22. St. Isidore's high scorers, Josh Larsen with 8 pts, and Matt Schuman with 8 pts., helped lead their team to victory. SM/SC made a valiant effort to stage a come back from a 20 to 9 halftime deficit with Ryan Nops scoring 9 pts and Devin Bernacchi with 4 pts. These teams both played a tough defensive game.

After 3 quarters of head-to-head play, the St. Isidore's 5th grade boys' American team came alive in the 4th to beat SM/SC, 20-11. Top players for St. Isidore's include Eckerman with 8 points, Simonick with 6, and Slone with 4. Top players for SM/SC include Marcus Acton with 7 points and 2 steals, Adam Boehrner with 2 points, and Tylor Silva with 2.

The Dribblers, SM/SC (5004), 5th grade girls captured their 1st win of the season. The Dribblers defeated CCOP (5001) 15-6. Sarah Partridge led the Dribblers offense with 6 points. Also contributing to the score with great shots were Nicole Alcaraz, Elisha Sands and Paige Walker. The CCOP girls fought hard the entire game. Meghan Shelverson was their leading scorer with 4 points and Dani Taylor led the defense with 8 rebounds and 3 steals.

Using strong defense and crisp passing, particularly in transition, SM/SC Girls 5th grade American League team moved out to a 12-point halftime lead against a good St. Joan's team. The second half was a different story, with St. Joan's mounting a furious comeback led by stifling defense and great shooting. In the end, SM/SC held on for a 30-26 win, carried by Shannon Rosemark's 20 points, Anna Neitzel's solid defense and rebounding, and Delaney Gill-Sommerhauser's defense and passing in transition and on the break.

SM/SC 5th grade boys (#506) lost 16-8 to St. Raymond's. For St. Raymond's, the top offensive and defensive players were

Blaze Perko, Conner Riland and Michael Rosstrater, however the entire team played very well. SM/SC Heat top defensive and offensive players were Garrett Vigtisberger, Garrett McDonald and Zachary Stevens. The Heat played a very defensive game, and gave a lot of heart.

SM/SC 5th Grade Boys (#521) defeated St. Joan's (#525), 18-12. SM/SC had the lead the entire game but pulled out a great 4th quarter to seal the win. Top scorers were Devin Darden (8 pts, 5 rbs & 4 steals) and Jacob Woll (4 pts, 7 rbs & 4 steals). Top defensive players were Ryan Holmes (2 pts, 6 rbs & 5 steals), Jacob Hall (3 pts, 2 rbs & 3 steals), and Brandon Cory (6 rbs). With a combined team total of 25 steals, the great defensive effort by the whole team won the game.

SM/SC 4th Grade Boys (#412) played a very intense game against CCOP (#409). Final score was 16 to 20. Scoring were John Reggiardo, Logan Potter, Skiler Lamb and Nathan Tabaracci. Cole Jacobs and Ryan McCool did an excellent job on rebounds. Gregory Moreland and Curtis McDonnell were great on defense.

Game Highlights: SM/SC 4th grade A team (#46) played an outstanding game, staying in the lead all the way to the final second, when St. Isidore's Al (#42) dropped one in for a 27 to 26 win over SM/SC. Top Defenders for SM/SC were Brennan Dillard, Kyle Emrich, and Ben Parker. Top Offensive player for SM/SC where, Jordan Ratinho with 10, Ben Parker with 5, and Scott Newby with 4.

SM/SC 3rd grade boys (#329) defeated SM/SC (#326) 22 to 6. It was a fast moving game with numerous steals, and great effort from both teams. SM/SC 329 got of to an early lead with 4 points from Nicholas Ratinho in the first half. Wesley Katz finished the 4th period with 12 points for the game, while Logan Cole, Ronnie Halhbeck and Chase Madrid contributed one bucket each. SMSC #329 battled back in the second quarter with 4 points from Ben Kerling followed up by 2 points by Jacob Murdoch in the fourth quarter. There was great defensive plays all around with solid rebounding from Eric Pinton.

SM/SC 3rd Grade girls Guardians battled SM/SC Wildcats to a 9-8 final score. Robyn Kammeier played solid defense for the Guardians, blocking shots and intercepting the ball. Taylor Peterson led the Guardians in scoring with 4 points. Madison Jackson scored a basket in the first half and then, in the final minute of a tied game, put in a free throw to pull the Guardians ahead and win the game. The Wildcats leading scorers were Katelyn Johnson and Krista Pilling with 4 points each. Danielle Frevert and Emily Johnson were also great on defense, contributing to a great team effort.

SM/SC 3rd grade boys (#319-Fireballs) defeated St. Raymond's (#322), 22 to 6. Both teams played a great game. For the Fireballs, Nathan Coats had tremendous rebounds. Ron Ngo had multiple assists throughout the game. Justin Allen played great on defense. Bryce Disbrow led the team with 14 pts. Nate Redditt and Lucas O'Brien had multiple rebounds. Blake Downey and Kaine Montez had a great game. Team #322 showed great hustle and had lots of rebounds.

SM/SC 3rd grade girls (#3011) defeated St. Joan (#3008), 24 to 4. Top scorers for SM/SC were Missy Nunes with 12, Holly Julson with 4 and Riley Heffron with 2. Top defensive players for SM/SC were Savannah Vasquez and Adriana Sblendorio. It was an exciting game with great efforts from both teams.

SM/SC 3rd grade boys (#324) vs (#328) won 19 to 11. The top scoring players for B324 were Reily Taya with 9 points, Mac Shoemaker and Sean Hupke with 4 points each. For Team 328, the top scoring players were Braden Jackson with 5 points, Will Mohler, Austen Moomau, Austin Curtis and Trevor Hamilton each with 2 points. Both teams played extremely well on defense.

SM/SC 1st and 2nd grade boys 2BN2 vs. 2BN5. Both teams are the Warriors and played an aggressive exciting game. The top scoring players for the 2BN2 were Tyler and Matthew. The top defensive players were Jaden and Nate. The top scoring players for the 2BN5 were Andrew and Jack. The top defensive players were Kevin and Ethan.

SM/SC Wildcats vs. SM/SC Farro Warriors. What an awesome game played by both teams. Outstanding job by the Wildcats: Madison Kawhart, Regan Widenfield, and Madison Stewart. Outstanding job by the Farro Warriors: Francis, Sean, and Gunnar.

Diablo Gymnastics

Diablo Gymnastics team members competed in the Level 4 State tournament hosted by Technique Gymnastics in Rancho Cordova, December 1-2.

Results: Age Group: 8A: Vault: Julia Pfleger, t 5th, 9.4; Tessa Wolfram, 8th, 9.35; Bars: Wolfram, 3rd, 9.3; Pfleger, 13th, 8.775; Beam: Wolfram, 1st, 9.325; Pfleger, 18th, 8.8; Floor: Pfleger, 1st, 9.275; Wolfram, t 5th, 9.075; All-Around: Wolfram, 1st, 37.050; Pfleger, 15th, 36.25. Age Group: 8C: Vault: Rhianne Kheveld, t 8th, 9.375; Bars: Kheveld, 16th, 8.025; Beam: Kheveld, 2nd, 9.375; Floor: Kheveld, t 4th, 9.1; All-Around: Kheveld, 5th, 35.875. Age Group: 9B: Vault: Miriam Gemmell, t 15th, 8.95; Bars: Gemmell, 17th, 8.45; Beam: Gemmell, t 16th, 8.050; Floor: Gemmell, 17th, 8.175; All-Around: Gemmell, 17th, 33.625.

Age Group: 9D: Vault: Dana Kudelka, 1st, 9.475; Kelsey Smith, t 5th, 9.3; Bars: Kudelka, 8th, 9.425; Smith, 9th, 9.375; Beam: Smith, 3rd, 9.3; Kudelka, t 11th, 8.9; Floor: Smith, 2nd, 9.4; Kudelka, 3rd, 9.325; All-Around: Smith, 2nd, 37.375; Kudelka, 6th, 37.125. Age Group: 9E: Vault: Shannon Bagot, 3rd, 9.6; Hannah Nguyen, t 4th, 9.5; Bars: Nguyen, t 3rd, 9.425; Bagot, t 6th, 9.4.

Beam: Bagot, 6th, 9.175; Nguyen, 11th, 8.875. Floor: Bagot, t 1st, 9.35; Nguyen, t 7th, 9.175; All-Around: Bagot, 2nd, 37.525; Nguyen, 6th, 36.975.

Age Group: 10B: Vault: Isabella Book, 3rd, 9.55; Mauch, 15th, 9.050; Bars: Book, 9th, 9.1; Mauch, 15th, 8.725; Beam: Book, 2nd, 9.475; Mauch, 9th, 8.625; Floor: Book, 2nd, 9.625; Mauch, 7th, 9.2; All-Around: Book, 2nd, 37.750; Mauch, 13th, 35.6.

California Gymnastics

California Gymnastics Academy competed in Level 4 State Championship Meet hosted by Technique Gymnastics in Rancho Cordova, December 1.

RESULTS (by event): LEVEL 4: Age Group: 8D VAULT - Katarina Weissbach, 7th place (9.25) BARS - Weissbach, 6th place (9.35) BEAM - Weissbach, 1st place (9.4) FLOOR - Weissbach, 7th place (8.95) ALL AROUND - Weissbach, 3rd place (36.95).

Age Group: 9B VAULT - Karissa Haubert, 3rd place (9.525) BARS - Haubert, 7th place (9.1) BEAM - Haubert (8.2) FLOOR - Haubert, 8th place (8.7) ALL AROUND - Haubert (35.525).

Youth Ice Hockey

Matthew Bissell's 4 goal performance led the way for the Tri-Valley Pee Wee A squad as they defeated the Oakland Bears (A2) 14-0 in NORCAL regular season action at Dublin Iceland in youth ice hockey.

The game was close in the first period as the Blue Devils led 2-0. However, a 6 goal barrage in the second period blew things wide open. There were actually two hat tricks in the game. Connor Young also scored 3 goals and added a pair of assists. Young was one of three Tri Valley players with 5 point games. Michael Hahn and Cole Merrick each had a goal and 4 assists.

Daniel Atwater had a solid game for the Blue Devils scoring a pair of goals. Patrick Melville chipped in with a goal and two assists while Gerin Flores had a goal and an assist. Jacob Minton also scored for Tri Valley. Jordan Smith had a 3 assist game while Jeremy Che and Michael Llamas each had an assist.

Dev's goaltender Michael Sinicropi made 6 saves to record the shutout. Coaches John Young, John McGowan and Anthony Melville also received excellent performances from Justin McGowan and Aleksey Pelletier. With the victory the Blue Devils NORCAL record improved to 2 - 0 - 1. Next up will be a meeting against Santa Rosa in Oakland.

Bowling News

Darin Smith substituted for an absent bowler in the Modified Guys and Dolls and started the evening out with a perfect 300 game and then added a 257 and a 233 for a 790 series. He returned later in the week and just missed another perfect game when he rolled a 276 game. Rich Canada finished with a 279 game for a 738 series. James Hamilton rolled a 255, 222 and a 221 for 698 set. Chad Chinen rolled a 233, 229 and a 215 for a 677.

Paul Guerrero became the first senior this season to eclipse the 700 mark with scores of 246, 237 and a 231 for a 714 series.

In the Friday Family Affair League youth bowlers excelled as Alex Stuber had a pair of 216 game for a 631 series. Rieley Chin had a 219 on his way to a 616 series and Vincent Piper rolled a 603 set aided by a 223 game.

Amador JV Wrestling

Amador Valley High School junior varsity wrestling team competed in the Hayward High School Haystack tourney this past Saturday. Robert Reger led the team in finishing first with a 3-0 record.

Other results: Chris Klein 4th, 2-2; Josh Rosenblatt 4th, 2-2; Max Beck, 1-2; Luis Peraza, 4th, 2-2; Joey Silva, 3rd, 3-1; Chris Connolly, 4th, 2-2; Daniel Deville, 1-2; Spencer Smith, 3rd, 3-1. Also competing were Keith Sullins and Greg Carson.

Holiday Tennis Camps

Lifetime Tennis and the City of Pleasanton are offering youth tennis camps during the Christmas break. Camps are available for all levels from beginner to the more advanced player for ages 4 through 18.

Sign up at the City of Pleasanton Tennis Park, 5801 Valley Ave. (corner of Valley and Hopyard). For more information, please call the Lifetime Tennis office at 931-3449.

Baseball Winter Camp

Livermore High Varsity Baseball Coach David Perotti is hosting a three day winter baseball camp. Each camper will receive individual instruction from coaches and Livermore High players, a snack each day and a camp shirt. This 5-12 year old camp costs \$130 and runs from 9:00-12:00 everyday. The dates are December 26-28. For more info

to sign up please contact David Perotti at (925) 443-2742 or lvbinfo@yahoo.com or check website www.eteamz.com/lvb.

Stompers 93 Tryouts

The Valley Stompers 14U 93 team enjoyed a 4th place finish in the 2007 14U ASA Western Nationals and look to improve on that at ASA Nationals and other National Tournaments for 2008. Open tryouts are being held for all positions on Saturday, December 8 from 9:00am to 12:00pm at Monte Vista High School, 3131 Stone Valley Rd. Danville. Plan on arriving 15 early to warm up and complete registration paperwork. Preregister via e-mail gostompers@yahoo.com or phone John (510-715-8285). Information at www.gostompers.com.

American LL Signups

American Little League will hold registration on Thurs., Dec. 6, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. 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.

Fastpitch Tryouts

Tryouts for the spring/summer team Lady Hustle Fastpitch Softball 14 A travel team in Pleasanton have been scheduled.

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 softball 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 Registration for the Spring 2008 season. Register on-line at www.pleasantpony.com or call 600-PONY for more information.

Livermore National LL

OBITUARIES

Mary C. Mitchell

Mary C. Mitchell died November 28, 2007 in Pleasanton. She was 79.

Mary was born Nov. 20, 1928 in Pipestone, MN. She attended the University of Minnesota. She worked as a professor of nursing. Her hobbies included college sports (Notre Dame) and playing bridge.

She is survived by a son Stephen W. Mitchell (Debra) of Durham, NC, daughters Anne M. Moselle (Dave) of Pleasanton, and M. Susan Frost (Craig) of Phoenix, AZ., brothers Jim Crook of Minneapolis, MN, Jack Crook (Linda) of Council Bluffs, IA, and Den Crook (Cathy) of St. Josephs, MO, grandchildren Tyler, Marcus and Brett Frost; and step-grandchild, Zachary Hatch. She was preceded in death by her husband John T. Mitchell and a brother, Thomas Crook.

A memorial service was held at Heritage Estates in Livermore. Burial will be at Colgate University Cemetery in Hamilton, NY.

Donations may be made to PanCan (Pancreatic Cancer Action Network) in memory of Jack Mitchell.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Evelyn Tracy

Evelyn Tracy died November 24, 2007 in Pleasanton. She was 92.

Evelyn was born Nov. 5, 1915 in Brooklyn, NY.

She is survived by daughters Janis Niedermeyer and Pat Speka, a sister Eleanor Groves; grandchildren, John Speka, Jeanny de Dianous, Kelly Gossett, Carrie Swamy, Nikki Hoy and Ashley Hoy, and 8 great grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Woodrow Tracy and daughter Susie Hoy.

Mass was celebrated Dec. 4 at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton. Burial was at St. Augustine Cemetery in Pleasanton.

Memorial gifts may be made to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Suite 100, Dublin, CA 94568.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Mildred Outzen

Mildred came into the world January 1916 in Philadelphia, PA and left on November 27, 2007 at ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton. She was 91.

She met her husband Frank O'Connor, married and then moved to Livermore in the late 60's. She lost her brother, a US Navy pilot, on the Franklin Aircraft Carrier during World War II. She worked as a secretary at Camp Parks Military facility in Dublin and the Livermore Veterans Hospital. She especially enjoyed her 23 years as a legal secretary for the law firm of the late William Struthers, Esq.

Mildred was past president of the Livermore-Amador Valley Legal Secretary Association and actively involved with the Women's Auxiliary. Mildred and Bob enjoyed entertaining their many friends at home and sharing her great Irish humor playing cards and board games. She truly treasured the many friends who came into her life. Her memory will live with us forever.

She was preceded in death by two husbands, Frank O'Connor and Robert Outzen, her son Terrence O'Connor and sister Loretta McCarty. She is survived by a nephew Dr. Richard McCarty, nieces Toni McCarty, Loreta Harris and Gloria Galey.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Fri., Dec. 7 at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton.

Donations may be made to a favorite charity.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Ray V. Vidal

Ray V. Vidal passed away unexpectedly, Wednesday, November 28, 2007, at the age of 47.

Ray was born on September 25, 1960, in Cebu, Philippines and moved to Livermore in Au-

gust 1963. A devoted son, brother and uncle and a dear friend to many, he will truly be missed.

For 22 years, Ray was a member of Local 16, Heat and Frost Insulators & Abestos Workers.

Ray is survived by his mother, Ludy Vidal, of Tracy; brother and sister-in-law, Giovanni and Judy Vidal of Livermore; his sister and brother-in-law, Karen and Steve Baxter of Tracy; nephews Joshua and David-Brett Vidal of Livermore; and his niece Mary Ellen Mathis of Tracy.

Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated Dec. 4th at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 458 Maple St., Livermore. Burial followed at St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery, Livermore.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

(Marion) Edward Hjerpe

(Marion) Edward Hjerpe died November 30, 2007. He was 75.

The Pleasanton resident was born Dec. 12, 1931. He was an active coach in Little League, basketball and soccer for his children. He enjoyed membership at St. Augustine and serving on the social justice committee. He also belonged to SIRS. In retirement, Ed greatly enjoyed golfing with his buddies. His biggest joy was his family.

He is survived by his wife, Millie Hjerpe, children Kenneth (Malika), Stephen (Gerry), Michael, Therese (Kevin), Mark (Amy), and Jeanette; and grandchildren, Ashley, Kristen, Haley, Nick, Annabelle and Samuel, and great granddaughter Alexcia.

Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Thurs., Dec. 6 at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Autism Speaks, 2 Park Ave., 4th Floor, NY, NY 10016, or a charity of choice.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Claire C. Stevens

Claire Cornell Stevens died on November 20, 2007, in Livermore, California, after a courageous battle with lung cancer. She was 60 years old. Claire was a long term resident of Tempe, Arizona and moved to Livermore this past July to be closer to her family. She was born in Luanshya, Zambia, Africa on December 26, 1946. Claire was predeceased by her mother Helen Stevens, her father Royale Stevens, her brother Richard Stevens, her niece Laura Stevens, and her aunt Kay Smithford.

Claire is survived by her daughter Collette Valentine and husband Mike, her granddaughter Emma Valentine; her grandson Adam Valentine, all of Livermore, her brother Bob Stevens of Oklahoma City; a niece Sarah Conroy and husband Todd, of Las Vegas, Nevada; nephews Bill Stevens and David Stevens, of Tucson; niece Ellen Stevens of Tempe; sister-in-law Sally Stevens-Taylor and husband Ralph of Tucson, Arizona; cousins Susan Seeley and husband Jim of Orlando, Florida; and Robin Marder of Kaufman, Texas; niece Shana Highfield and husband Douglas, of Orlando, Florida; and Claire's former husband Norman Cameron of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Claire and her family moved from Africa to Salt Lake City when she was 10 years old. The family later moved to Hurley, New Mexico in 1959, where Claire attended Cobre High School. She attended Katharine Gibbs School in New York City. She married Norman Cameron in

1968, shortly after which they moved to Melbourne Australia, and then to Perth, Australia. Claire repatriated to the U.S. in 1973, and resided in Walnut Creek, California. She moved to Pasadena, California, and worked for the law firm of Ives, Kirwin and Dibble in Los Angeles, for 16 years. She later lived in Las Vegas and in Tempe. She worked at the Cavanagh Law Firm in Phoenix, until she relocated to Livermore, California in July, 2007, to be close to her daughter Collette's family, as Claire battled cancer.

Claire had a wide variety of interests. She loved her grandchildren dearly, and cherished the time she spent with Emma and Adam. Claire made many friends during her life, and stayed in touch with them long after she had moved away from them. She loved her dog Missy. She was an avid duplicate bridge player, and competed in many bridge tournaments.

Services were held in Livermore on November 29 with a burial service immediately following. Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Sadie Darlene McGregor

Long time Livermore Resident Sadie Darlene McGregor died on Sunday, November 18, 2007. She was 86. Her health had been permanently affected by a stroke suffered 1999. Since then, she lived as well as she could within her limitations. During this past year, she faced numerous health problems, ultimately weakening her beyond recovery.

Born on July 29, 1921 to Guy Ernest Tripp and Sadie Elizabeth Criddle in Downey, Idaho, she lived most of her early years in Idaho and Oregon. She married John Vernon McGregor in 1941. Their marriage lasted 64 years until John died in 2005. As a couple, their first move was to Wonderland, CA where John worked on the construction of Shasta Dam. Shortly after, John was called to serve in World War II, leaving Darlene stateside as a soldier's wife. She returned to Oregon to live with her parents, awaiting the birth of her first daughter. After the war ended, Darlene and John lived in Baker just long enough to welcome their second daughter. The desire for stable work motivated a move to California. A third daughter was born shortly after the family moved in 1948 to a small house on the north side of the sleepy little town of Livermore that served as the family home for over twenty years.

Darlene was an active member of the community. When her daughters were young, she engaged in their activities by serving as Room Mother, Girl Scout leader, PTA officer, church volunteer and proud audience member when her girls performed at various events. Darlene also served her community as a licensed child care provider. The families of the children in her care were grateful to have someone as loving and capable as Darlene in their lives. Later, she worked at Duarte's Pharmacy for many years as a bookkeeper and sales clerk. She enjoyed the challenge of this work. She liked helping familiar customers as they shopped and visited in the store. In the 1960's, she enrolled in classes offered through Chabot College and became qualified as an early childhood teacher. She worked at Mary's Nursery School where she again enjoyed fostering the growth of young children.

Darlene was a spirited person who enjoyed the pleasant gifts that life offered. She took delight in the simple pleasures that nature provides, appreciating family, friends, neighbors, nature, and pets. She loved poetry, limericks and puns, daily comics and silly jokes. During the later part of her life, her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren became the joys of her life. Her last year was filled with increasing health problems, but she still maintained her positive and encouraging spirit in moments of strength and clarity.

She is survived by her daughters Sandra Jansen, Diana McGregor and her husband John Jurcso, and Jone McGregor. Grandchildren include Bonnie, Kristie, Laura, Andrea, Ian and Devon. Great-grandchildren are Maggie, Kaylin, Megan and Hannah and Adam. Numerous cousins, nieces and nephews also survive her.

A memorial service will be held December 15 at 1PM, in the Regional Meeting Room of the Dublin Civic Center, 100 Civic Drive. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to Hope Hospice, Dublin, CA 94568, or The Friendship Center c/o LARPD, or a favorite charity.

Timothy Milton Wade

Timothy Milton Wade died November 29, 2007. He was 26.

He was a resident of San Francisco. Tim is survived by his father Berry Wade of Livermore; a sister Laura Wade and nephew Gabriel McHugh of Livermore, grandmothers Phyllis Wade of Livermore and Charlotte Buck of Arizona, grandfather Harold Price of West Glacier Park, Montana, his uncle Tom Wade of Livermore, great-aunt Ruth Brunton, and longtime friend Grazie DeOliveira of San Francisco.

Tim touched many lives with his gentle spirit and positive outlook on life. He was born Feb. 26, 1981 and grew up in Livermore. He graduated from Granada High School. He was attending San Francisco State University completing his bachelors degree in Environmental Studies while working full time at Beverages and More. He enjoyed sports, hiking, camping and many other outdoor activities.

Friends and family are invited to attend a memorial service on Friday, December 7, 2007, at 11:00 am Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Avenue, Livermore.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests a memorial contribution to the Leukemia Research Foundation.

Robert Shaw

Robert (Bob) Shaw passed away peacefully on Nov. 26, 2007 with family present. Bob was a Pleasanton Police Officer and Detective from 1970 to 1984 when he retired. For the last 12 years, Bob worked as a 911 dispatcher for the County of Alameda Sheriff's Dept.

He is survived by his wife Diana Shaw, daughter Kelly Shaw Swenson and her husband Michael, brother William Shaw, niece Kristen Randall, and three beautiful grandchildren Faith, Destin and little Gracie. Bob was preceded by his parents Virginia and Roy Shaw.

He moved to Livermore when he was 14 and graduated from Livermore High School. Later Bob attended Chabot College.

The Memorial Service to celebrate Bob's life will be at the Cornerstone Fellowship 348 N. Canyons Pkwy, Livermore, on Dec. 7, at 2:30 PM. Inurnment will be at Memory Gardens Cemetery, 3873 East Ave. Livermore.

In lieu of flowers we suggest a donation to the heart or cancer organizations.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Frank Marshall Lehne

Frank Marshall Lehne died December 1, 2007. He was 64.

Frank was the icon of many people and a catalyst of many families. At age 17 he left home to serve in the Air Force and was honorably discharged after four years. He then bought the first of many properties on the strength of determination and vision. After meeting his life mate, Imelda, he proposed within a week and unfolded a series of events that

resulted in the making of 6 more families. He spent the rest of his life working as a high voltage PG&E lineman and landlord in the process devoting his abilities and love to family and friends. Frank enjoyed family gatherings, listening to music, solving problems, the outdoors, the study of history and physical creation through construction.

He is survived by his wife, Imelda, children, Frank Jr., Jeremy, and Shad Lehne; grandchildren Brenden and Bianca Lehne. He was a lifelong friend to his siblings Charles, John, Barbara, Mary Ann, and David.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Fri., Dec. 7 at St. Raymond's Catholic Church, 11555 Shannon Blvd., Dublin.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

	<p>BUS TRIP TO THE PRICE IS RIGHT GAME SHOW!</p> <p>Guaranteed seats, no standing in line. Wed., January 23, 2008. \$109 each. www.ivm1.com (510) 636-9234 HOTLINE</p> <p>\$16 OFF w/coupon</p>
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Livermore Community Thanksgiving Dinner

We would like to thank the following businesses and organizations that contributed to the 25th annual dinner and helped make it possible:

Del Arroyo 4H	R. C. Readymix	Kat's Coffee
L.A.R.P.D.	Starbucks's (Arroyo Plaza)	Safeway (Downtown 1st St)
LAVTA / Wheels	P.W. Market	Safeway (Arroyo Park)
Bothwell Arts Center	Piranha Produce	Lucky's (Portola Ave.)
Girl Scouts of America	Terra Mia Restaurant	Palomart
LPFD	Weinerschnitzel	Springtown Chiropractic
Livermore Schools	Cattlemen's Steakhouse	Marcel Orthodontics
Anita's	Waste Management	Mountain Mike's Pizza
Casa Orozco	Riata Diner & Tavern	Alden Lane Nursery
L.L.N.L.	Trader Joe's	Knodt's Flowers
Party Rental Warehouse	Nob Hill Foods	Strizzi's Restaurants
Avilla & Sons	Grocery Outlet	Home Town Buffet
JIFCO Fabricated Piping	Baker's Square	ALSCO

Co-Sponsored by the Rotary Club of the Livermore Valley (Morning)

Mental Health Services Act
PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PLANNING

Share

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 (Oakland, 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)

YOUR IDEAS ONLINE
www.acbhcs.org

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, Suite 400 (Oakland, CA)



For more information contact: mhs@acbhcs.org
or call: (510) 363-1704
For more information on the PEI guidelines visit:
www.dhrh.ca.gov/ehsa/

A Department of Alameda County Health Care Service Agency

Christmas Choir and Creche Festival Set

The Interfaith Christmas Choir and Creche Festival has become an annual event at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Livermore. This year's event, Dec. 9, the creche display will be larger than ever, and will be open for viewing an hour before the singing begins.

Nativity scenes have been gathered from around the world. They will be on display from 6:00pm to 7:00pm before the program, and from 8:15pm until 9:00pm afterwards.

"Seeing the many artistic expressions helps us to view Christ's Nativity through the eyes of many cultures," commented Jean Petrilli coordinator of the event. "We want this to be a gift we give to the community."

Choirs from the congregations of St. Charles of Borromeo Catholic Church, Unitarian Universalist Church, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will join with the Cantabella Children's Chorus and the Livermore Valley Chamber Chorale (Livermore High School) to present the choral celebration at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 9th, at 1501 Hillcrest in Livermore.

"All the choirs have practiced for many weeks for Christmas presentations in their own congregations; the chamber group and children's chorus make professional appearances throughout the season. We are anxious to have the opportunity to share enjoyment of a few of the numbers that each group has prepared," said Petrilli.

The event is open to the public. No collections will be taken. The church is located at 1501 Hillcrest Avenue, Livermore.

Giving Tree Way to Help Those in Need

The Livermore Giving Tree is sponsored by the Livermore Police Department and the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association.

The tree is located in the lobby of the police department. To help out someone in need, select a tag from the tree then bring a new, unwrapped gift in a box with the tag from the tree attached back to the police department. Monetary donations cannot be accepted. However, gift cards are always welcome.

The families who need a little assistance this holiday season have been hand picked by the police department.

The tree will be in the lobby from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays through Dec. 14. The department is located at 1110 So. Livermore Ave.

To arrange a sponsorship or for more information, please call the Citizens Police Academy Association at (925) 371-4976.

Hark the Herald Angels Sing in Pleasanton

By Susan Steinberg

But they're an all-male quartet dressed in plaid jackets! You guessed it - The Plaids have returned to Pleasanton's Studio Theater for a holiday-themed show.

Famously modeled after the many popular quartets of the 50's (The Four Lads, Ames Brothers, Four Aces, Mills Brothers) the group proved a huge hit in their original production, "Forever Plaid."

The premise is simple: an aspiring young foursome enroute to their first big gig was tragically wiped out in a highway accident. Years later they were granted a one-night stand to re-create their program on earth as The Plaids.

Now, in a new follow-on, the boys are sent back to Earth once more to re-inspire a dispirited human race with the joys and hopes of the season. Pleasanton Playhouse has reassembled their stellar original cast for this new show titled "Plaid Tidings," and the songs are a clever amalgam of 50's favorites and holiday traditional.

From "Sh'boom" to "Silver Bells," "Stranger in Paradise" to "Sleigh Bells Ring," and "Mambo Italiano" to "Merry Little Christmas," the combinations are outrageously clever and

funny, especially when matched with the sappy gestures and mugging that were part of the 50's style.

But the show is more than just a musical revue. Each of the singers is a real human being, with individual personalities and foibles, and by the finale, each has forged a warm personal bond with the audience, like old friends remembered from high school.

Penn Brimberry returns as the smiling swooning crooner Frankie, Jessie Garcia as the nose-bleed-nervous Jinx, Chris LaCour as Sparky, the shameless prankster, and Sean Fenton as the hapless nearsighted nerd Smudge. All are ingeniously boyish and sincere as they try to cobble together an unrehearsed performance, stopping to beg the audience's indulgence like real eager-to-please kids with a touch of stage fright.

During the course of their attempt they conjure up a backup session for Perry Como's very real black-and-white TV Christmas Show, and a sendup of Elvis doing pelvis-twitching "country carols."

An impressively frantic 3 minutes and 11 seconds is devoted to recreating a fast-forward Ed Sullivan show, including

Grocho Marx, the Muppets, Vienna Boys Choir, the flying Wallendas (remember them?) plus Alvin and the Chipmunks.

Heavenly phone messages from Rosemary Clooney, Whoopie Cushions, Ivory Snow snow, felt reindeer antlers and a big red nose (guess who!) all combine to conjure up a warm fuzzy mood of 50's nostalgia. A show-stopping first-act finale even presents a Caribbean Caylopo Christmas, with a spirited audience sing-along to Harry Belafonte's famous number (slightly seasonally adjusted): "Mah-tilda, she take me money and go Christmas shop-ping!"

Aiding and abetting the singers are the talented duo of Greg Zema on piano and Mike Adam on bass. Zema is also the busy music director with Derrick Silva as Director/Choreographer and Susan Hovey as the creative Producer.

Don't worry if you never celebrate Christmas; other holidays from Chanukah to Kwaanza and Ramadan get some mention. But the real point of the evening is the common musical heritage of growing up or "teening" in the 50's, when school children still sang carols and sentimental ballads dominated the airwaves. A "more-than-middle-age" audience on opening night was un-

abashedly enthusiastic, including this retired Jewish Religious School Principal.

Now for the bad news: the show runs only 2 weekends and has been sold out for weeks. I was very fortunate to acquire a returned ticket at the last minute. So keep calling the Pleasanton Playhouse at 462-2121 and hope for a cancellation. But please be kind to the poor beleaguered ladies answering the phones. They would love to sell you a ticket if they possibly could. Good Luck!

Cantabella Children's Chorus Performs Holiday Concert

Cantabella Children's Chorus presents its annual holiday concert on Saturday, December 8.

This year's concert, "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," will be performed at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway in Pleasanton.

The first performance will be held from 10:45am-12:15pm and will feature the training choir (K-5th grades) and the 2 performing choirs (4th-10th grades). The second performance will be from 2pm-3pm and will feature the two performing choirs, CCC and Chamber.

Tickets will be available at the door for a suggested donation of \$10. For more information please visit our web site at www.cantabella.org or phone 292-2663.

Our Savior Lutheran Presents Concert

The musical groups of Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 South Livermore Avenue, will present a concert of Christmas music on Sunday, December 9, at 4:00 p.m.

The concert will include music by choirs, bell choirs, brass, flute, and violins. Traditional carols, "And the Glory of the Lord" from *Messiah*, and fresh new Christmas music will be featured. The audience will also have the opportunity to sing along with a few carols.

The concert has been a tradition at Our Savior for many years; the community is invited to share in the joy of the Christmas season. There is no charge for the concert. A reception following the concert will highlight Christmas foods from around the world.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

Holiday boutique, 3rd annual Bishop Ranch event. Dec. 6 and 7, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bishop Ranch 15, 12657 Alcolta Blvd. #100, San Ramon. Free. Open to the public. Over 40 Bay Area artists and crafters; jewelry, giftware, garden art, one-of-a-kind clothing, ornaments, decorations, and much more.

Holiday Breakfast & Bazaar, Sat., Dec. 8. Hosted by Girl Scouts of Cresta Blanca and Livermore. The breakfast and bazaar are open to the public, all ages. Pancake Breakfast from 9am to 11am, \$5 per person. Bazaar from 9am to 1pm. Photos with Santa, \$3 each. First Presbyterian Church, 2020 5th Street, Livermore. Entrance to the bazaar is free; items offered for sale will include one-of-a-kind gift ideas created by the local Girl Scout troops, ages 5-18 as well as home business offering. For more information, call 243-1046. Proceeds go to the Cresta Blanca Service Unit and Livermore Girl Scout Troops.

Recycle e-waste. Get rid of those old monitors, TV sets, lap tops, cell phones, fax machines, printers, copiers, microwaves and other electronic debris from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, December 8, at the Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Dr. Livermore. Computer monitors, TVs, Cell Phones and Ink Jet cartridges will be accepted free, other items may be discarded for a small fee. The proceeds will go to support the Livermore Pleasanton Elks Lodge charitable works. The discarded material will be recycled in accordance with state law. Checks should be made out to "ELKS 2117." (Check with your tax adviser) for donation qualification. Recycling is required by the State of California, and recycling helps the environment. This is a one day, rain or shine event. Contact Charles Landmesser at 510-590-7510, Terry Cotteleer at 549-1776 or the Lodge at 455-8829.

Arts, Crafts & Fashion, Dec. 15 and 16, noon to 4 p.m. 1152 Crellin Road, Pleasanton. Pacific Coast Mestieri (formerly the Pleasanton Craft Mafia) is second annual holiday trunk show. PCM is a local art group comprised of over 100 artisan members. Free admission; Free refreshments; Goodie bags; Door prizes; gift wrap services.

Tri-Valley Group, Sierra Club, meets 7:30 p.m. on Tues., Dec. 11 at the Livermore

Library, conference rm. A, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Plans for the development of Tesla Park will be shared by Celeste Garamindi form "Friends of Tesla."

NARFE (National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association), all members invited to the Livermore Chapter 0397 holiday luncheon on Dec. 13. Lunch at 11:30 a.m. at Emil Villa's Restaurant in Livermore, corner of Pacific and S. Livermore Ave. Meet the new executive board for the year 2008. There will be a raffle for prizes and a little something everyone. For information, please call 484-0813 or 846-7167.

Saturday morning road ride, every Saturday 8 a.m. no drop-ride for those new to cycling: 10 to 12 mph, 20 miles and no more than 2 hours. Bring water, spare tube and pump. Email rides@cyclopath.com if planning to attend. Ride depart from Cyclopath in Pleasanton. Information, 485-3218 or www.cyclopath.com. Free.

Sunday morning road ride, every Sunday 9 a.m. for all levels, routes vary weekly and last 2 to 3 hours. Riders warm up and split into smaller groups based on skill level; distances range from 60 miles to 20 to 25 miles. Ride depart from Cyclopath in Pleasanton. Information, 485-3218 or www.cyclopath.com. Free.

Free Christmas Carol Sing-Along, Tri-Valley Unity Church sponsors its third annual Sing-Along, Sunday, Dec. 9, 2:00-4:00 pm, at Old St. Raymond's Church, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. Sing old favorites, both secular and sacred. Cider and cookies at intermission. All welcome. Free Admission! (925) 829-2292. www.trivalleyunity.com.

American Business Women's Association Express to Success (ABWA E2S) holds monthly meetings that focus on personal and professional development for women in business. The group meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 8:00 to 8:30 pm at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel at 5115 Hopyard Road in Pleasanton. Non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of \$5 per meeting. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 18th. There will be lots of holiday cheer, music, and as always our White Elephant Gift Exchange. For more information, email info@expressstosuccess.org or go to www.expressstosuccess.org.

Blood Drive - Friday, December 14, 2:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Avenue in the

Gym. There is a severe shortage of blood in the Bay Area, and only 3% of the eligible people give blood. Please help save a life by giving blood. The process takes 1-1/2 hours, and snacks and refreshments are served after you donate. You must be 17 years old, and have a form of identification with you. To sign up, go to www.GiveLife.org, and use ASBURY as the sponsor code. For information contact Tom Petty at 925-980-8164 or e-mail BloodDrive@asburylive.org.

Day Trippers, Dec. 13, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. holiday lights tour. Register at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Cost is \$10 residents, \$13 non-residents. Information at 931-5365.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Dec. 8, 32 miles Pleasant Hill to Crockett and Martinez, meet 10 a.m. Pleasant Hill Community Center, Randy Huey, 518-8439. Sun., Dec. 9, 60 miles with 50 mile cutoff. Nicasio-Tomas Pt. Reyes Station, meet 10 a.m. in Nicasio. Jim Duncan, 209-1369. Wed., Dec. 12, 35 miles Sunol loop, meet 9:30 a.m. at Shannon Center in Dublin, Jim Duncan, 209-1369. Anyone planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

Armchair Travelers, a monthly program, will take place at the Livermore Civic Center Library on Thurs., Dec. 13, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Stephen Angelo will give a presentation on his experiences visiting architectural landmarks of Chicago and Oak Park, including buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Adults are invited to this free program on the second Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Rooms of the Civic Center Library, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue, Livermore. For additional information please call 925 373-5500.

Letters from Santa, The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is offering Letters from Santa. Applications are on-line at www.larpd.dst.ca.us or visit LARPD, 4444 East Ave., to put in a request. Last day to request a letter is Noon on Dec. 18. \$3 per letter. For more information, call LARPD at (925) 373-5700 or visit www.larpd.dst.ca.us.

Tri-Valley Holistic Moms Network. Come share and discuss how you manage commercialism in your home. Meeting on Monday, December 17, at CrossWinds Church located at 6444 Sierra Court in Dublin at 7PM. Regular meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at the same time and location. Dads and children are welcome! For further information, please visit

www.holisticmoms.org or e-mail Tri-ValleyHMN@hotmail.com.

Romanca, a documentary, will be shown on Saturday, December 8th, at 7 PM at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin. The event is free/\$3.00 donations accepted, open to the public, wheelchair accessible, and refreshments are served. Meet & greet begins at 6:30 PM. This movie follows Carmelo, a middle aged mariachi musician from his jobs in San Francisco to his home in Salvatierra, Mexico. For more information, call 925-462-3459.

Beating the Holiday Blues Feelings of sadness and depression are common during the holidays, but not inevitable. Help yourself or a loved one identify these feelings and address them. Discover a variety of practical tips to help keep the blues away during the holiday season. Discussion and prizes. Tuesday, December 11, 10 am to 11:30 am at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Activity fee: \$1.50 Residents, \$2 Non-residents. Call (925) 931-5365 for information.

ValleyCare Auxiliary, Volunteers needed. Nine different areas of volunteer service available in both Pleasanton and Livermore. Floorservice, information desks, office, the library, gift and thrift shops. For more information, please call 734-3368.

RELIGION
Family Chanukah Party, Sunday, December 9, from 10:30 to 12:30 at the Bothwell Center, 2466 Eighth St. in Livermore. We'll cook latkes, play games and light candles. Bring a potato and a donation of boxed or canned food for the Alameda County Food Bank. Free to members, \$10/ household for non-members. For information, reservations and directions, call (925) 485-1049 or e-mail CulturalJews@aol.com.

Advent Christmas Concert, Fri., Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Children's, adult and teen choirs, instrumentalist. All are welcome.

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SUN., DEC. 9TH AT 9 & 10:30 A.M
CEREMONY OF CAROLS
The highlight of these services will be an opportunity to hear Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols, sung by the Sanctuary Choir & accompanied by the outstanding harpist, Wendy Tamis. It will be performed at both services & serve to make those services a memorable experience.
SUN., DEC. 16TH AT 9 AND 10:30 A.M.
CHILDREN'S PAGEANT
See and hear the story of the Nativity as the children, angels, and shepherds tell us the Good News! Take an hour from this busy season & enjoy the true Spirit of Christmas.
CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 24TH
FRIENDLY BEASTS SERVICE 5 P.M.
Bring your children to meet the animals there for the Holy Night, sing your favorite Christmas carols & warm up with hot cider & cookies. We'll tell the story of Christmas night from a different perspective in Fellowship Hall.
CANDLELIGHT SERVICES 9 & 11 P.M.
Come enjoy our beautiful sanctuary decorated with poinsettias & listen to our choir sing praises to the Holy Birth.

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DECEMBER 9, 4 P.M.
Advent/Christmas Concert
(A reception will be held in the gym following the concert.)
DECEMBER 12, 7 P.M.
Advent Christmas Service, "Amazing Miracles"
(Led by OSLS Students in Grades 3 - 5)
DECEMBER 24, 5 P.M.
Children's Christmas Program
DECEMBER 24, 7 P.M. AND 10 P.M.
Candlelight Christmas Eve services
DECEMBER 25, 10 A.M.
A festival communion service
Our Savior Lutheran Ministries
1385 S. Livermore Avenue
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A Christian Community - Rooted in Grace, Growing in Faith, Serving with Joy



Rafael Arzuaga with some of the work exhibited at Las Positas.

CUBA

(continued from page one)

cultural richness of our Caribbean neighbors to Las Positas students and the Tri-Valley community for the first time. All events are free and open to the public.

"It isn't about Castro or Che Guevara. It's about the Cuban culture, literature, music and dance," said Suárez.

Suárez selected Cuba for the focus, she explained because, "The island is close to us, yet we are far from Cuba. We can't go there. It is a mystery to us. During the week, we are focusing on aspects that we may not know exist. I don't think we are aware of the rich offering of film, art and literature, of the beauty of an artist such as Rafael Arzuaga."

Suárez is proud of the exhibition of art by Rafael Arzuaga that is on display at the college.

Arzuaga, a native of Cuba, has created all new works for the exhibit at Las Positas. His work can be seen in building 2400. He explained that he made sketches to develop a concept for the show and then spent the next six months on the artwork itself.

The artist explains that he begins with a photograph. "Every time I go to Cuba, I take photos. The photos in this exhibit were taken a year ago. They are all people I know. I am very happy with the results," he stated.

His artwork is influenced by the traditions, religion and symbolism of the Kongo region of Central Africa, where his roots are. "The art becomes an interpretation of the heritage of my slave ancestors as I strive to attain a connection with their legacy and the diffusion of their roots," he explained.

The symbols are painted onto the canvas, framing the photos. Some are in stark black and white; others dance with color. There are both large and small works of art. The small works can be paired with a larger work, "something I like to do," said Arzuaga. He describes the show as like a concert, all of the pictures are connected.

The African symbols don't have actual meaning, Arzuaga continued. "There is a freedom in using them. I play with the symbols to develop new meaning. The camera captures the spirit of the person. The symbols show something of what is going on inside the portraits."

He sometimes incorporates cloth in his collages. One of the works in the show includes a swatch of material that contains mirrors. "I like to use glass as a reflection to the spirit of the person," he stated.

While he is happy with the work he has produced, Arzuaga declared that for his continued growth, he would like to go to Africa. "This is an infinite experience. My journey thus far has taken me deeper than ever imagined. For now, I am enjoying the ride on this river of knowledge."

He concludes, "I feel myself connected to my art with my heart. The more you put into it, the more you feel. Art is how I

communicate with people."

His most recent show was at Stanford University. Manuel Jordan Perez, Ph.D., said, "Part of my work at the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University is to find contemporary artists whose works meaningfully reference diverse artistic cultural and philosophical concepts found in Africa. Arzuaga's work... comfortably manages an artistic language that is intimate to him, where his Cuba, American, Latin American and/or African American identity or identities seem to coalesce through the essence of an African world view and views."

Remaining events at Las Positas this week include:

- Thursday, Dec. 6: 12:30-2:00 Film: I Am Cuba Room 402;

- 7-10 p.m., Room 2420, Building 2400 - Carlos Córdoba from San Francisco State University discussing Spirituality and Art in Santería (an Afro-Caribbean Religious system). Santería is a fusion of the religious beliefs that were brought to the Caribbean islands by African slaves with aspects of Catholicism. Córdoba is a Babalawo, a high priest in the Yoruba religion. The Yoruba are an African tribe whose myths and rites are the basis of Santería. He specializes in the Caribbean and has traveled to Cuba many times for academic and religious endeavors.

- Friday, Dec. 7: 12:30-2:00 Percussion Master Class, Luis Valverde and Manuel Suárez PE Bldg. 2500;

- 7-10 p.m., Havana Dance and Music, Room 2420, Building 2400 - The evening will feature Luz Mena, an assistant professor in the Department of Women and Gender Studies at the University of California, Davis speaking on, "The Faces and Spaces of Music and Dance in Early Modern Havana." This presentation is part of Las Positas's first Friday evening presentations sponsored by the Campus Change Network. A native of Central America, Mena is well known for her work in Latin American Studies. She specializes in Cuba and is currently focusing on race and gender issues in the Caribbean. The evening, which runs from 7 to 10 p.m., also includes Antia Arriuez who will present poetry through dramatic expression (Poesía Dramatizada). This will conclude five evening presentations.

- Saturday, Dec. 8: Bembe Celebration, 1 p.m. Music with Los Maestros Del Son, Afro Cuban Dance, drums and food, Bldg. 1700

All events are free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted to purchase shoes for school children in the extremely poor rural areas of Gantánamo and Santiago de Cuba.

For additional information, please contact Catherine Suarez, Spanish instructor, at (925) 424-1212

or csuarez@laspositascollege.edu. The campus is located at 3303 Collier Canyon Road in Livermore.

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 First Street 443-SHOW	
THE GOLDEN COMPASS (PG-13) DLP	12:00 1:00 2:00 2:45 3:45		
	4:45 5:30 6:45 7:15 8:15 9:15 9:45		
AWAKE (R) DLP	12:15 2:25 4:40 7:00 9:40		
THE MIST (R) DLP	12:45 3:50 7:00 9:55		
HITMAN (R) DLP	12:00 2:20 4:45 7:05 9:30		
THIS CHRISTMAS (PG-13) DLP	1:30 4:30 7:10 9:45		
AUGUST RUSH (PG) DLP	1:50 4:25 6:55 9:35		
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) DLP	12:05 3:15 6:45 9:40		
BEOWULF 3D (PG-13) DLP	1:40 4:10 6:50 9:35		
FRED CLAU (PG) DLP	1:40 4:20 6:50 9:20		
BEE MOVIE (PG) DLP	1:45 4:00		
AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) DLP	6:15 9:30		
MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM (PG) DLP	12:20 2:35 4:55 7:05		
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) DLP	9:15		

Music Review

Symphony Presents the Familiar and the Unknown

By Nancy O'Connell

Thongs of children and their families crossed Railroad Avenue on December 1st as thongs of anxious symphony patrons hurried in the opposite direction. It truly looked as though Livermore had grown into a big city to our daughter, who has lived away from the area for many years. Those of us headed for the Livermore-Amador Symphony concert were treated to an evening of unusual music, some of which is seldom performed. With the exception of the Prelude from Richard Wagner's *Lohengrin* which is often played, the other works on the program were not well known.

Len Alexander, Executive Director of the Bankhead Theater, pointed out the expensive acoustical shell enveloping the orchestra seated on the stage. He announced that Henrietta Fankhauser and her late husband, Chet, donated the entire funding for this shell. Anyone familiar with the difficulties of the acoustics at Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco, who remembers how many years it was before they "got it right," should be grateful for the Fankhauser's generosity.

Beethoven's Overture to "Consecration of the House" opened with loud dramatic chords. Martial sounds filled the theater, with predictable trumpet calls. These contrasted with a quiet melody in the first violins, followed by a question and answer portion between the strings and the winds. April Nissen, timpanist, kept the rhythms exact and precise. Uniform bowings in all of the strings made the sections look professional; and towards the ending the cellos had

many measures of dramatic down bows, creating a uniformity of style just before the final cadence.

"Ballade" for Harp and Orchestra by Carl Alberstetter followed. Dominique Piana, harpist, looked beautiful in her black velvet blouse and a shimmering gold skirt with a black floral design. Her fingers moved with grace and precision as she stroked her strings. She was in total artistic control, even with the many difficult harmonic shifts and pedal changes. Her arpeggios, particularly in the highest register, carried well, but in the lower register her notes were sometimes overpowered by the orchestra. There could have been a better balance if the orchestra had remembered the axiom, "If you can't hear the soloist you are playing too loud."

A multitasking musician, Ms. Piana also arranged, wrote out and printed the orchestra parts, (a mammoth task) as well as her solo harp part from a forgotten manuscript which was published in 1894. It is her hope that this "Ballade" will now become better recognized and performed by other musical ensembles.

"Die Natali," Chorale Preludes for Christmas, Opus 37 by Samuel Barber was composed in 1960, and the composer dedicated the work to Serge and Natalie Koussevitzky. It is a highly contrapuntal work based on several well known Christmas carols which opened with brasses and strings sounding forth with "O come, O come, Emmanuel." Throughout "Die Natali," some very unusual harmonies emanated from the orchestra. All sorts of devices were utilized - canon, double canon, syncopation in the clarinets, plus a tricky and de-

manding bassoon part. An occasional familiar Christmas carol underwent such a dramatic change, both rhythmically and harmonically, that it was barely discernible. "Good King Wenceslas" came through as though an old, old man was plodding through deep snow - the melody was heard in the lowest voices - the bassoon and the tuba. Different solo passages were heard. One, in particular, was well played on the viola by Hazelle Miloradovitch. "Silent Night" led to a quiet close.

Wagner's familiar *Lohengrin*, Prelude to Act III followed. Dr. Arthur Barnes, the conductor, said to the audience, "Now we'll give you something to wake you up after the quiet ending of the Barber." The French horn fanfare opened all of our ears. A violin tremolo (when a note is repeated rapidly) was followed by solos masterfully played on the clarinet, oboe, and flute. Cymbals clashed while all of the strings had another long tremolo passage. Everyone on the stage was playing with great intensity.

After the intermission, Dr. Barnes honored Virginia McFann, who has given countless hours for the symphony since its inception and volunteered in so many ways. Jean King, the President of the Livermore-Amador Symphony Board of Directors, brought out a big bouquet for Virginia.

Then Tchaikovsky's Symphony No.3, the "Polish" Symphony was heard. Performed far less often than some of his better known symphonies, this work is almost in the form of a suite. Four of the five movements are based on dances. A simple melody near the beginning was played by

each string section in turn, but what began as deceptively simple, quickly became intricate for the players. Dr. Barnes gave strong cues throughout. The cellos had some rich romantic passages, and exciting runs in the upper strings were accompanied by strong, emphatic beats in the tympani.

The bassoon and French horn opened the third movement. A rich violin sectional solo followed. Nathan Wong, first flute, had a beautiful, lyrical melody. As the movement moved towards its climax, the tones intensified, then quieted down to allow a quiet string tremolo, sounding mysterious and far away, to be heard, with an accompanying bassoon, then a French horn solo.

The last movement began hesitatingly, but the first flute again had a chance to shine. Running notes in the strings sounded a bit like Smetana's *Moldau*, but the winds had tricky solos above the strings. This finale was actually in the form of a rondo based on a Polish dance form, the Polonaise, and this is what has given this symphony its "nickname." There was a lot of repetition in this Tchaikovsky, and the ending demonstrated that. The last measures brought in every member of the orchestra playing forte fortissimo, creating one cadence after another until it finally built up to the long expected climax.

Once again, Dr. Arthur Barnes has brought a varied program to Livermore audiences, one that challenges the intellect. It looked as though the house was nearly sold out. We are grateful that he doesn't just conduct the "old chestnuts," but continues to offer us musical surprises.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Deer Ridge Vineyards, California pastel artist, Victoria Ryan. The exhibit of Ryan's work, "Dreaming in Color," will be at Deer Ridge through January 23, 2008. Gallery hours are Thurs.-Sun. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Deer Ridge Vineyards, 1828 Wetmore Rd., Livermore. 1-866-561-0838.

Melodrama auditions, Sunol Repertory 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.

Contra Costa Wind Symphony, Duane Carroll conducts. Includes audience sing-along of familiar carols. 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.

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 different holiday cards for each community. The Pleasanton design includes the Pleasanton Arch, museum and Christmas tree, while the Livermore 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.

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. - 4:00p.m., Wednesday through Sunday at Carnegie Bldg., 2155 Third Street, Livermore. For more information call: (925) 449-9927.

Pagbabalik, Theatre Production written/produced by Aimee Suzara, December 8, 8pm. Las Positas College Theatre, 800 Building, 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. Pagbabalik is a multidisciplinary theatre work fusing spoken word and theatre, Filipino and modern dance, and indigenous Filipino and contemporary music for an unforgettable journey

through history, language and memory. For more info www.aimeesuzara.net.

Diablo Symphony, Contra Costa Children's Chorus joins Maestro Joyce Johnson Hamilton and the symphony in a concert of traditional and contemporary music of the holiday season, and three carols written by Hollywood composer John Williams for the film, "Home Alone." 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18, Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. \$12, \$18, and \$20. 943-7469 or www.dirca.org.

Celtic Christmas Concert, Crafts Boutique and Artists' Open Studios presented by the Bothwell Arts Center, 4 to 7 p.m. boutique and open studios; 7 p.m. Celtic concert. Dec. 9. Free admission to the Boutique and Open Studios from 4-7pm; Celtic Concert Tickets are \$10, \$5 for children 12 & under, \$8 students/charter members, show starts at 7pm. To hold tickets to the performance, lryan@livermoreperformingarts.org or 925-447-ARTS. The Bothwell Arts Center is located at 2466 8th Street, Livermore, CA, just west of So. Livermore Avenue.

Abstract Figurative Exhibition, recent works by Linda Ryan on exhibit through Dec. 8 at artspace gallery, 133 So. Livermore, gallery hours 11-6pm.

A Christmas Carol, presented by the King's Players Drama Troupe, the timeless Victorian tale that looks back at innocence lost and forward to hope regained. Meet Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge (a mean-spirited, miserly old man who has everything, but enjoys nothing), and Bob Cratchit and his son Tiny Tim (whose family has very little, yet counts every small thing a blessing). Performances are Fri., Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Sat., Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Cedar Grove Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore (corner of College and L Streets). Admission is free. This production is appropriate for ages 5 to 105. For information, call 447-2351.

Sing-along Messiah, San Ramon Arts Foundation 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8 in the Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Way. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12. The Contra Costa Chamber Orchestra will perform the Handel Oratorio.

Del Valle Fine Arts Concert, December 8, Jon Nakamatsu, Winner of the 1997 Van Cliburn Competition, Jon Nakamatsu has gone on to forge a distinguished international career. Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St., Livermore. For ticket information phone: 925-447-2752 or 925-443-5470.

Cantabella Children's Chorus holi-

day concert, Dec. 8. It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year! at Valley Community Church, 4455 Del Valle Parkway, Pleasanton. The younger choir members will perform with the Cantabella and Chamber Choirs at 10:45 am. The older choirs will perform again at 2:00 pm. Donations of \$10 will be accepted for those 12 and over. For ticket information, visit our website at www.cantabella.org or call 292-2663.

Sacred Music, Friends of the Livermore Library will present its Author and Arts Series Sacred Music: Saint Innocent Oorthodox Concert Choir: Taste and See: A Journey Through Ten Centuries of Russian Sacred Music featuring San Francisco Symphony cellist Lawrence Granger. Dec. 9, 2 p.m. in the Civic Center Library, 1188 South Livermore Ave. Free. For information call 373-5505.

Mega Open Mic, Century House Poetry Reading, open to poets of all ages. Sun., Dec. 9, 2 to 4 p.m. Admission is a new children's book or small stuffed animal to be donated to Project Night-Night. Information, 931-5350.

Las Positas College Orchestra and Band Concert, Wednesday, December 12 at 8 pm. Location TBA. \$10 general admission and \$7 for students and seniors. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925-424-1119.

Sing-along Messiah, Fri., Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 4th & L Streets, Livermore. Admission \$10 at the door. No advance orders.

Las Positas College Vocal Jazz Concert, Friday, December 14 at 8 pm, Las Positas College Theater and are \$10 general admission and \$7 for students and seniors. 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925-424-1119.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas performed at the Front Row Theater, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road. There will be weekend performances from Dec. 14 through Dec. 23. Fri. and Sat. 7:30 p.m. and Sat. and Sun. at 2 p.m. \$10-\$15, 973-3350. The play, which includes music, is for the entire family. It is based on the inspiration for Clement Moore's poem about Santa Claus's annual ride.

Valley Concert Chorale, December 14, 2007 Second annual Sing-It-Yourself Messiah. To purchase tick-

(continued on page 13)

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'Pagbabalik' Theatrical Production Performance at Las Positas College

Las Positas College will present an original Filipino-American multi-discipline theatrical production written by one of its own English instructors on December 8.

Written by Las Positas instructor Aimee Suzara, "Pagbabalik" examines the ideas of home, history and identity from a Filipino-American perspective. "Pagbabalik" means "return" in Tagalog, a Filipino language. The production starts at 8 p.m. in the Las Positas College Little Theater, located at 3000 Campus Hill Drive.

Suzara's production blends spoken-word theater with choreography drawn from indigenous and modern dance to the score of Filipino and contemporary music.

"Pagbabalik" follows central character Diwata (played by Suzara), a young Filipina-American exploring her origins in the Philippines. Aided by a simple tape recorder, Diwata journeys into a history charged with magic

and painful memories of war and conquest.

Suzara draws from her own experience of returning to the Philippines. "In researching my own story as the daughter of Filipino immigrants to America, I found myself creating Diwata and the other characters in the play," says Suzara. "Diwata" literally translates to "spirit."

"I think that anyone familiar with the immigrant experience can relate to Diwata - to her sense of displacement from physical and emotional origins and her hunger for belonging to geography, to a culture, to an identity. We all strive to fit in to a place, to a people," she added.

The interwoven themes of homeland, genealogy, and migration speak to both younger and older generations.

The production highlights Philippine Independence Day, June 12. Although Spanish colonial rule is comparatively well-known, the complex relationship between the U.S. and the Philip-

ines is absent from most history textbooks. On June 12, 1898, Filipino revolutionary forces declared sovereignty and independence from four centuries of Spanish colonial rule.

This declaration was not recognized by the United States and Spain, which ceded the Philippines under the Treaty of Paris. The decision was followed by the bloody Philippine American war, in which over 500,000 Filipinos were killed.

"Pagbabalik" features the talents of key members of the Filipino-American and Bay Area arts community. The cast of choreographers, dancers, and actors includes Frances Sedayao of the Purple Moon Dance Project and Alvin Ailey Dance School; Lisa Juachon of the Alleluia Panis Dance Theatre; Jose "Flipchild" Saenz, of the film "Flipside;" and Aimee Espiritu, member of the collective Kreatibo.

The production is directed by Alex Torres of Bindlestiff Studios with support from Ellen

Sebastian Chang of Theatre Bay Area.

Movement and dialogue are punctuated by a live score of traditional Philippine kulintang (bossed gong ensemble) and innovative folk-rock. The music was developed by a trio of Bay Area musicians: Ronald Quesada, ethnomusicologist and member of the Palabuniyang Kulintang Ensemble, on kulintang and guitar; musician Juan Calaf on drums and percussion, and Jennifer Soriano (formerly of Denskart Namin), on vocals and bass.

"In the context of what's going on for us socially and politically right now in our communities, with the issues around the right to return, issues around immigration, and people finding home, this piece has vital importance," says Ali Chagi-Starr, an arts activist who works with the Ella Baker Center. "I think it is critical that people learn about this history in the Philippines and hear this one woman's story."

"Pagbabalik" is made possible

with support from the Zellerbach Family Foundation and is sponsored locally by the Las Positas Division of Arts and Communication and Las Positas Performing Arts Program.

The Livermore performance will be followed by a discussion with the playwright and cast and

is free of charge. (Contributions of any amount will be received at the door to help defray the evening's costs.)

For more information, please visit www.aimeesuzara.net or email pagbabalik@aimeesuzara.net.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402970

The following person (s) doing business as: Artisan Salon, 1837 Holmes Street, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Hair I.D. Inc., 76 Tourmaline Avenue, Livermore CA 94550. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant has not yet 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) doing business as: Absolutely Sharp, 4849 Mohr Avenue, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Mark A. Giudici, 4849 Mohr Avenue, Pleasanton CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Keith Rothenberg. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 26, 2012. Expires October 26, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2256. Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

This business is conducted by husband and wife Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Mark A. Giudici. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 13, 2012. Expires November 13, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2255. Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402762

The following person (s) doing business as: Energy Metrics, 23 Diamond Dr., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Keith Rothenberg, 23 Diamond Dr., 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, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2257. Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402684-402687

The following person (s) doing business as: 1)Bittmore Horses, 2)Bittmore, 3)Beachrides, 4)Horseparks, 1286 Geneve Ct., Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Bittmore Horse Services, LLC, 1286 Geneve Ct., Livermore CA 94551. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant:

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403903

The following person (s) doing business as: Holistic Bodywork For Women, 1080 Concannon Blvd., Ste 180, Livermore 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, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2259. Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403190-403191

The following person (s) doing business as: 1)Seniors Reverse Mortgage Store, 2)Reverse Mortgage Store, 144 South "K" Street, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Seniors Reverse Mortgage, Inc., 3478 Buskirk Ave. Ste. 343, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Christine Louie. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 6, 2012. Expires November 6, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2261. Publish November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 402922

The following person (s) doing business as: Beads and Donuts, 1421 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Barbara Santos, 1421 Hopyard Road, Pleasanton CA 94566. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on October 2007. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Barbara A. Santos. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 31, 2007. Expires October 31, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2262. Publish November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 2007.

/s/ Brian Bogie. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on October 24, 2012. Expires October 24, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2258. Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403660

The following person (s) doing business as: Wild Smiles, 4200 East Ave. #100, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Klifford T. Kapus, 1476 Maplewood Dr., Livermore CA 94551. This business is conducted by husband and wife. The Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on May 1, 2007. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Klifford Kapus and Renee J. Kapus. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 19, 2007. Expires November 19, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2259. Publish November 22, 29, December 6, 13, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403190-403191

The following person (s) doing business as: 1)Seniors Reverse Mortgage Store, 2)Reverse Mortgage Store, 144 South "K" Street, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Seniors Reverse Mortgage, Inc., 3478 Buskirk Ave. Ste. 343, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Christine Louie. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 6, 2012. Expires November 6, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2261. Publish November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 2007.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME FILE NO. 346795

The following person (s) has (have) Abandoned the use of the Fictitious Business name Reverse Mortgage Store, 144

South "K" Street, Livermore CA 94550. The Fictitious Business Name Statement was filed on April 13, 2004 in the County of Alameda. Seattle Mortgage Company, 190 Queen Anne Ave. N., Seattle WA 98109. This business was conducted by a corporation /s/ Les Redford. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 6, 2007. The Independent Legal No. 2260. Publish November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403676

The following person (s) doing business as: Pane in the Glass, 1815 Monterey Dr., Livermore CA 94551. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on November 1, 2007. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Patrick J. Alderman. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 19, 2007. Expires November 19, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2263. Publish November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403517

The following person (s) doing business as: VIP Golf Club, 3908 Valley Avenue Ste A, Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): ICV Digital Media, Inc., 3908 Valley Avenue Ste A, Pleasanton CA 94566. This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on January 8, 2002. Signature of Registrant: /s/ David Dunham. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 19, 2007. Expires November 19, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2264. Publish December 6, 13, 20, 27, 2007.

The following person (s) doing business as: JT Bookkeeping Service, 4084 Hillcrest Common, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Joan H. Taylor, 4084 Hillcrest Common, 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 November 1, 2007. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Joan H. Taylor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 19, 2007. Expires November 19, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403982

The following person (s) doing business as: 1)Opal River, 2)Petroglyph Multimedia, 1308 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): James D. Aikin, 1308 Hillcrest Ave., 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/ James D. Aikin. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 29, 2007. Expires November 29, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403982

The following person (s) doing business as: Dubin Pet Food Express, 12 to 4 PM (excluding 4th Sat) and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM. Adoptions at Dubin 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 rabbit adoptions on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM. visit www.tbv.org or call (925) 803-7043.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403982

The following person (s) doing business as: Dubin Pet Food Express, 12 to 4 PM (excluding 4th Sat) and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM. Adoptions at Dubin 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 rabbit adoptions on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM. visit www.tbv.org or call (925) 803-7043.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403650

The following person (s) doing business as: JT Bookkeeping Service, 4084 Hillcrest Common, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Joan H. Taylor, 4084 Hillcrest Common, 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 November 1, 2007. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Joan H. Taylor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 19, 2007. Expires November 19, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403982

The following person (s) doing business as: Dubin Pet Food Express, 12 to 4 PM (excluding 4th Sat) and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM. Adoptions at Dubin 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 rabbit adoptions on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM. visit www.tbv.org or call (925) 803-7043.

The Independent Legal No. 2267. Publish December 6, 13, 20, 27, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403981-403982

The following person (s) doing business as: 1)Opal River, 2)Petroglyph Multimedia, 1308 Hillcrest Ave., Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): James D. Aikin, 1308 Hillcrest Ave., 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/ James D. Aikin. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 29, 2007. Expires November 29, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 403982

The following person (s) doing business as: Dubin Pet Food Express, 12 to 4 PM (excluding 4th Sat) and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM. Adoptions at Dubin 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 rabbit adoptions on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM. visit www.tbv.org or call (925) 803-7043.

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\$910,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	11444 Bloomington Wy
\$549,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	7566 Ironwood Dr
\$910,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	11444 Bloomington Wy
\$480,000	2BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	1321 Hollyhock
\$500,000	2BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	667 Alameda Dr.
\$524,950	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	5075 Erica Wy
\$549,950	3BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	4024 Pomona Wy
\$569,950	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	709 Hazel St
\$599,000	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	6608 Tiffany Crm
\$598,999	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	819 Wall St
\$599,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	5456 Arlene Wy
\$599,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	2604 Horseshoe Ct
\$599,950	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	128 Cascade Ave
\$606,000	4BD/2BA	SUN 11AM-2PM	566 Kinglet Rd
\$649,950	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	851 Marcella St
\$649,950	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	1657 Third St
\$654,950	2BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	4 Medina St
\$689,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	2329 Rapallo Crm
\$719,500	4BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	1141 Baltusar Ct
\$739,000	4BD/2BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	5480 Comberland Park Ct
\$799,000	5BD/2BA	SUN 1-4:30PM	4262 Bellmavr Dr
\$799,950	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	4052 Emerson Dr
\$849,000	4BD/3BA	SAT 1-4PM	5863 Welch Ln
\$849,950	4BD/3BA	SAT 1-4PM	5523 Carnegie Loop
\$1,059,000	5BD/4BA	SAT 1-4PM	5529 Autumn Wy
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\$729,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	4677 Helpert
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156) SPORTS
Livermore Smoke Softball 13U Tryouts on Dec. 8th, 1-4 pm, Joe Mitchell School, 1001 Elaine Ave., Livermore, questions or pre-registration: rickm@vertical.com

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New Watercolor Show Opens at Wente

Watercolors by Karen Fleschler will be featured at the Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Tasting Room. The exhibit will be on display throughout the month of December.

Fleschler paints scenic watercolors of places she has traveled to both at home and abroad, creating memories for herself and, hopefully, for others. She says she finds it a joy when others connect with her art. Her style is impressionistic realism with a liberal use of vibrant colors.

She describes her artistic philosophy, "I love to paint a variety of subject matters that I feel make interesting compositions that are rich with color and texture. I enjoy the versatility of watercolors and the wide range of techniques that the artist can employ."

A reception with the artist will be held on Sun., Dec. 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. There is no admission charge.

The winery is located at 5565 Tesla Road in Livermore. Regular tasting room hours are 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Karen has studied under many local artists and has shown her



Morning walk.

work around the bay area. She has won many awards – just recently at the Livermore Art Association's annual "Bank on It" show for "A Morning Walk"; and this summer winning a first place at the Amador County Fair in Plymouth, CA.

Her work can currently be seen at the LAA Gallery in the Carnegie Building on 3rd St. in Livermore, and at Avio Winery in Sutter Creek, CA.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

(continued from page 10)

ets. call (925) 866-4003 and leave a message, or send email to tickets@valleyconcertchorale.org.
Las Positas College Instrumental Jazz Concert, Saturday, December 15 at 2 p.m. Las Positas College Theater and are \$10 general admission and \$7 for students and seniors. 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925-424-1119.

Bay Bells, winter concert, Sat., Dec. 15, 7 p.m. Old St. Raymond's Church, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin. Performing on over 100 bells and chimes and representing over 200 years of musical experience, Bay Bells is one of the nation's longest running community handbell ensembles. \$10 adults, \$5 youth - pay at the door, no advance ticket sales. Call (925) 556-4500 for more information.

Las Positas College Choir Concert, Saturday, December 15 at 8 p.m. Location TBA. \$10 general admission and \$7 for students and seniors. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925-424-1119.

Valley Dance Theatre, Dec 15, 16, 22 (2 pm and 7 pm): Full-length production of "The Nutcracker" with Livermore Amador Symphony Pit

Concert, Boutique And Open Studios At Bothwell Center

A concert, craft boutique and open studios are planned for this Sun., Dec. 9 at the Bothwell Arts Center.

The boutique and artists open studios will be from 4 to 7 p.m. The Celtic Christmas Concert with Bracken begins at 7 p.m.

Admission to the boutique and open studios is free. Tickets for the concert are \$10 per person, \$5 for children 12 and under and \$8 for seniors and students.

To reserve tickets, call 447-2787 or email lryan@livermoreperformingarts.org.

The Bothwell Arts Center is located at 2466 8th Street in Livermore.

Orchestra & Harmony Crossroads Chorus. 925-243-0927.

Ice, the annual Cal State East Bay December holiday dance celebration will feature an eclectic program including excerpts from the projects of junior and senior dance students of the university's Theatre and Dance Department. The show, which will take place on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 7-8 at 8 p.m., also will feature performances by the university's Clausen House Dance for All Bodies and Abilities Class as well as the World Dance Cluster and previews of the upcoming Dance Faculty Concert. Both performances will take place in the Dance Studio (room 140 of the Physical Education building) on the Hayward campus, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd. Tickets, priced at \$5 for general admission and \$3 for students, seniors, and youth, are available via e-mail

tickets@csueastbay.edu or by telephone at (510) 885-3261.

Open mic, Thurs., Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at Coffee Beans & Bistro, corner of Main St. and West Angela, downtown Pleasanton. Poetry/short stories. All are welcome.

Art of Willard J. Carmel, Jr. M.D., Retrospective Exhibit through December 10. This exhibition reviews lithographs and watercolors done over the last twenty years since his retirement. Weekly Hours: Fri 5-9pm, Sat 1-9pm, Sun 1-5pm. All sales support local arts and art education grants. Alamo Danville Artists Society, Pioneer Art Gallery & Studios, 524 Hartz Ave., Danville.

Pride and Prejudice, Granada High School Drama Department, Dec. 14 and 15, and Jan 11 and 12 at 7 p.m. in the Little Theater on campus on Wall Street in Livermore. Tickets sold at the door and in advance.

Anthology Authors Read at Towne Center Books

Pleasanton authors included in the 2008 Livermore Wine Country Literary Harvest will read excerpts from their work on Sunday, December 9th from 3:00 to 4:00 PM at Towne Center Books, 555 Main Street in Pleasanton. Authors include Bryant Hoex, Sandra Kay, Kathy Mima, Tim Rien, and Steve Workman.

Livermore Wine Country Literary Harvest is an anthology of writers who come to read and listen at 4th Street Studio's Saturday Salon in Livermore.

Contact Karen Hogan at 925 456-3100 for information.

Sacred Music Performed at Library

A musical journey through 1000 years of the living tradition of Russian Sacred Music will be performed by the St. Innocent Orthodox Concert Choir of Livermore and San Francisco Symphony cellist, Lawrence Granger.



The performance will take place on Sun., Dec. 9 at 2 p.m.

Experience sacred music springing from the introduction of Christianity to Russia, through the present day — from the earliest Greek and ancient Russian melodies still in use, to the work

of Rachmaninoff, and contemporary American and British compositions. Concluding the concert will be John Tavener's haunting *Svayti* ("Holy") for cello and chorus.

This free event will be presented at the Livermore Public Library Civic Center, 1188 S. Livermore Avenue. The Friends of the Livermore Library have underwritten this program as part of the Friends Authors and Arts Series. For additional events, check the library's website at www.livermore.lib.ca.us.

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<p>www.860divisionst.com</p>  <p>DUBLIN</p> <p>11474 SILVERGATE DR Great 1400 sq ft. 3 beds, 2 baths, beautiful flooring throughout, stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops, custom floor painting, decorative items, Remodeled in 2007 with permits. YORD MARTINEZ 925.764.7000</p>	<p>OPEN SUN 1-4</p>  <p>DISCOVERY BAY</p> <p>8300 CRYSTAL SPRING CIRCLE NEW PRICE! 4 bed + Den, Family room, 2nd floor. More upgrades, IV parking, Spa, custom covered patio. Situated on a golf course, walking lanes throughout, partial view of lake, beautiful & more! Affordable financing. JANE BRINCENT 916.256.2065</p>	<p>PLEASANTON</p>  <p>8956 SERRANA COURT Absolutely beautiful! Amazing pride of ownership in this home in the lovely Serrana. Situated on a quiet cul-de-sac, across the street from the park, it boasts modern amenities including dual pane windows, vinyl panel doors! BOBBY DICKSON 925.251.2091</p>	<p>JUST LISTED</p>  <p>SUNOL</p> <p>2417 MILKARE RD Charming modern log cabin located in Sunol overlooking Sausal Creek. upgrades throughout. YORD MARTINEZ 925.764.7000</p>
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League to Discuss the Importance of Voting

League of Women Voters members will join eight civics classes at Amador Valley High School on Dec. 11 to discuss with students why voting is critical to a democracy. League members will also bring current samples of voting material to the classrooms. With the help of Guy Ashley from the Alameda County Registrar of Voters' office who will bring equipment with him, League teams will explain the mechanics of voting as well as help register students who may be eligible to vote in 2008.

This unique experience began at the Livermore-Amador Valley League's fall luncheon to which Pleasanton civics teacher Heidi Stepp brought several of her students. The speaker was Dave Macdonald, Alameda County Registrar of Voters. He spoke about how votes are taken, counted, certified and protected through his office. Macdonald's presentation was so lively and well received that everyone wanted more. Stepp and League members made arrangements for additional information to be provided to her students.

The League will prepare two teams of speakers to present a range of material from history to current affairs, all of which bring into focus the importance of each citizen's vote.

League is one of America's most trusted grassroots organizations. For more information about the Livermore-Amador Valley League, call 925-443-8683 or e-mail lavlww@comcast.net.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Wine tasting was a popular activity during last weekend's Holiday in the Vineyards. In the photo, visitors sample wines at Wente Vineyards.

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