

Vote Delayed on New Charter Schools

By Patricia Koning

Last Monday's meeting of the Livermore Board of Education may have been the shortest meeting on record. The Board was set to vote on petitions for the Livermore Valley Charter Academy (grades 8 and 9) and Preparatory (grades 10-12).

Parents, staff, and trustees from the Livermore Valley Charter School (LVCS) packed the Board room, anxious to learn if their plans for a charter middle and high school would move forward. They'll have to wait another seven weeks to find out.

Moments after the meeting began with the pledge of allegiance, Lon Goldstein told the Board that he was

withdrawing the two petitions. Goldstein is executive director of the Livermore Charter Learning Corporation (LCLC), which oversees LVCS and the proposed Academy and Preparatory schools.

"Effective immediately I'd like to withdraw our two charter petitions. There are a number of items that need to be addressed and I want to do this through an open dialogue," said Goldstein. "We've come a long, long way and nothing would please me more than to establish a relationship with this Board and District."

Superintendent Brenda Miller's recommendation to the Livermore School Board was to approve the two petitions.

The approval hinged on LCLC meeting a list of 76 conditions by March 31, 2008 to the satisfaction of the District. LCLC intends to open the Academy in the fall of 2008 and the Preparatory in the fall of 2009.

"We've only just received this list, so we need time to review the conditions and discuss them with our staff and board," said Goldstein. "I believe we can resolve these issues with the District over the next few months."

Goldstein resubmitted the two petitions on Tuesday, Dec. 12, which restarts the timeline within which the District must respond. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 23, at which time the Board may take action to ac-

cept or reject the petitions.

"It's nice to have some specifics. Now it is time to go back to the drawing board and see what we can work out," said LVCS Principal Tina Morris. "I am excited that District personnel put forth so much effort in reviewing our petitions. I look forward to working together."

Preparation and review of the two petitions represents a significant time investment for both LVCS and the Livermore School District. LVCS staff and parents spent nine months preparing the two petitions. Livermore School Superintendent Brenda Miller estimates that each of her cabinet-level staffers put in 40 hours reviewing the petition and coming up with the conditions.

"I think this is a very wise move on Lon's part," said Miller. "They do need time to digest the conditions."

The District's conditions cover admissions, health and safety, finance, legal issues, and the educational program. One of the primary concerns is bringing the number of socio-economically disadvantaged students in line with the District's demographics.

Currently, 19% of students District-wide are eligible for free-and-reduced lunch. Only 2% of LVCS students are on the program. The conditions call for the charter school to have 50% of the District's percentage in the first year and 70% in the second year.

(See SCHOOLS, page 5)

No Recount In Pleasanton Mayoral Race

There won't be a recount in the Pleasanton mayoral race.

A backer of Steve Brozosky, who lost to incumbent Jennifer Hosterman by 188 votes, had called the Alameda County Registrar's office to learn the deadline for asking for a recount, said registrar's spokesman Guy Ashley. However, by the end of business on Dec. 11 deadline, no one had called back to ask for the recount, said Ashley.

Identity of the caller was not known.

Brozosky's treasurer, Dan Carl, told the Independent on Tuesday that neither he nor Brozosky had called the registrar's office.

In a call later on Tuesday to the Independent, Brozosky confirmed he did not call the registrar's office, and was not interested in a recount. Some well-meaning supporters had told him that they would call for one, and help pay for it. However, Brozosky said he is not interested. Such a recount could involve legal action, which would just tie things up in court for a long time.

Brozosky said that his supporters may not know how much of a financial commitment a recount would be. The acting registrar told him that it could cost up to \$40,000, although no penciled-out estimate was prepared, he said.

A recount is a labor-intensive process, because countywide absentee ballots have to be combed

(See RECOUNT, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

New LVPAC Executive Director Len Alexander is pictured with the 500-seat performing arts theater in the background.

Love Intervenes in Arts Group's Hunt for CEO

The search by the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) for its first full-time CEO has a fairytale ending.

Len Alexander has just been hired for the position. The appointment signals LVPAC's transition from a volunteer driven group to a professionally run theater and cultural organization.

A nationally known figure in the theater management world, Alexander came to Livermore

from the East Coast a year ago to serve as interim director of LVPAC. His main duty was to help LVPAC find a permanent chief executive.

However, as the search progressed, it became evident that he boasted in abundance all the skills the position demanded — facility operations, fiscal management, strategic planning and arts programming. LVPAC leaders began asking him, "Len,

why don't YOU become the executive director?"

At the time Alexander was committed to returning to the East Coast, and turned down the requests.

Enter Cupid. Among those on his staff at the LVPAC office was Francoise Bousset, a Pleasanton resident who was serving as fund-raising coordinator. Len and Francoise

(See ALEXANDER, page 4)

Plans to Purchase Land for 1800-Seat Performing Arts Theater Move Ahead

The city council gave the go-ahead for staff to work with the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center (LVPAC) to put together a plan to purchase land for an 1800-seat performing arts theater.

The vote was unanimous. LVPAC proposes to fund the acquisition of the property. The site is at the corner of So. Livermore Avenue and First Street.

The Redevelopment Agency has set acquiring the property for the regional theater as a high priority. However, at this time, there are no agency funds available to accomplish that goal. The agreement with LVPAC will provide for purchasing the property without the use of agency funds.

In the future, the agency

would ultimately acquire the properties from LVPAC to either facilitate the development of the regional theater, or if it does not go forward, to redevelop the land based on the Downtown Specific Plan.

The council heard an update on the progress of the 500-seat theater and was shown a preview of a design for the 1800-seat venue.

Mayor Marshall Kamena commented on tours that were provided Sunday of the 500-seat theater. "It was really breathtaking," he declared.

Kamena added, "LVPAC has reached a milestone with the appointment of a full time director and CEO, Len Alexander."

(See PURCHASE, page 4)

Reliable Replacement Warhead Strategy Eyed

Senior officials at the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) said they have determined that the Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW) is feasible as a strategy for sustaining the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile for the long-term without underground nuclear testing.

A broad range of Livermore Lab neighbors, Lab scientists, sick workers, and Northern California peace and environmental advocates were scheduled to speak in opposition to the Department of Energy's plan to build new weapons. The DOE's National Nuclear Security Administration held hearings Tuesday in Livermore and Tracy.

These "scoping" hearings followed DOE's publication of a "Notice of Intent" to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) for "Complex 2030." The DOE's plans include a massive reorga-

nization of the nuclear weapons complex. These activities will affect future operations at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory main site in Livermore and its Site 300.

The driving force for Complex 2030 is the Reliable Replacement Warhead program to re-design every nuclear weapon in the enduring U.S. arsenal.

The Nuclear Weapons Council (NWC), a working group of senior officials from the Defense Department and NNSA that oversees nuclear weapons policy, made the decision after reviewing competing designs for a replacement nuclear warhead for the nation's sea-based nuclear deterrent. They were submitted by the nation's two nuclear weapons design laboratories, Los Alamos National Laboratory and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

The NWC launched the competition more than a year ago to

(See NUCLEAR, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Replicas of historic trains belonging to Stephen Rodriguez are on display at the Heritage Guild museum.

Exhibit's Trains Are a Model for History

By Ron McNicoll

Pleasanton resident Stephen Rodriguez, who collects model trains, is helping out Livermore history buffs for the next few weeks. His model engines and railcars, all made by Lionel, are on exhibit at the Livermore Heritage Guild's museum.

It's a broad collection. There are four display cases showing Rodriguez's models. One case is devoted to copies of trains that ran through Livermore at one time or another on the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific tracks.

Other railroads' logos may be on the models. However, the imitated cars are the same that were driven through the Valley by the WP and SP, said Rodriguez. Some of the models are copies of 19th century engines and cars, and others are current trains.

The profile of trains going through the Valley has changed greatly. Twenty or 30 years ago,

it was still the era of boxcars, with names of railroads painted on them. They came from all over the United States — the Baltimore and Ohio, Erie Lackawanna, the Soo Line, and the Great Northern.

Now a motorist traveling down Stanley Boulevard can look over and count a 70-car train parked on a siding. Every car will be a flat car, reserved for transporting shipping containers from the port of Oakland.

Hoppers, which load at the top, and carry grain or coal, are no longer seen around the Valley. Grain trains are exclusive to the Central Valley now. "There are six or eight grain operators there. There are lots of big cars there," said Rodriguez.

Tank cars carry a variety of liquids. "The only ones you hear about are those that fall off the track, loaded with acid. You don't hear about the ones loaded with (commercial food-source oils).

Tank cars can also carry alcohol. It's stored in round vats, with big containers at each end, and then a small one in the middle," said Rodriguez.

Rodriguez received his first train on Christmas at age 6. "I watched my father, uncle and grandfather run the train. Then, awhile after Christmas, I got to play with it," he said. Rodriguez immediately took to the train set.

Every Christmas, the family would add an engine or a car. He has added quite a few himself, since that first train in 1947. He has loaned the museum more than 200 items, which is only a part of his collection.

An added attraction at the display are one-half dozen or so paintings of trains, all done by Rodriguez's wife, Diane. She is one of the few women in the United States who is a train artist.

Both Diane and Stephen are

(See TRAINS, page 12)

Church Puts Catholic High School on Back Burner

Fund-raising for the Catholic high school slated for Livermore has been put on a slow track for awhile, because the Diocese of Oakland is concentrating on building its new cathedral near Lake Merritt in Oakland.

Bishop Alan Vigneron notified Catholic leaders interested in the high school about the need for seeing to the cathedral's construction before putting a strong effort into the high school development. Vigneron's statement thanked the business and community leaders, school administrators and volunteers for putting together the vision for the new high school, which will be named after Pope John Paul II.

Vigneron's message to Catholic leaders stated that the high school project has "reached a critical stage where Diocesan leadership is necessary to finance and complete this important project. The reality is that, before I can begin leading the funding of our new high school, and before I can finalize building contracts, I must first complete another very important project — the financing and construction of the Christ the Light Cathedral Center in Oakland.

Bob Baltzer, Friends of Livermore, expressed concern that the diocese appears to be putting the high school on the "back burner." He made his comments at a recent Alameda County Planning Commission hearing on a cemetery in North Livermore. Baltzer wondered whether the

decision has something to do with Livermore's opposition to the cemetery project.

Baltzer said in an interview that a recent television program pointed out that funerals are a multi-billion dollar a year industry. He said the Livermore cemetery would provide money for projects the church is planning, such as the new cathedral in Oakland.

Jack Smith, the applicant for the cemetery, is a chair of the fund-raising committee for the Oakland Cathedral. The planning commissioners asked Smith whether he planned to have the church run the cemetery. Smith replied, "I did talk to the church about the concept. I have had preliminary discussions with several people. I have not made commitments to anyone."

The high school project is in the stage of acquiring permit approvals from Livermore. Jim Ghilmetti, the Signature Properties executive who was asked by the diocese to help begin organizing the fund-raising effort several years ago, said the expectation is completion of the permit process sometime in the coming summer.

The church will be hiring a professional fund-raising, one who is yet to be selected, said the Rev. Mark Wiesner, a diocesan spokesman.

"The Cathedral Center is the vital component within the total educational ministry of the Diocese. It will be our foremost re-

(See HIGH SCHOOL, page 4)

Livermore To Appeal Cemetery Approval

The City of Livermore will challenge a decision by the Alameda County Planning Commission to allow construction of a cemetery in North Livermore.

The council voted 4 to 1 on Monday to appeal the decision to the County Board of Supervisors. The city joins with Friends of Livermore, who had earlier voted to appeal the decision.

Councilmember Lorraine Dietrich was opposed to the appeal. She objected to the use of Measure D provisions in the challenge. "It is my view that some of the policies in the measure are over-reaching in the extreme. If the measure is going to be cited as heavily as it has been in previous letters, I won't support the motion," Dietrich stated.

The cemetery site is located along North Livermore Avenue. Planned are a mausoleum, mortuary, including a crematory, a caretaker's residence, and two other homes. There could be 210,000 graves, providing an estimated 50-year demand. The mausoleum would contain 948 crypts and 3754 niches for ashes. The developers would plant a 100-foot wide strip of vineyards along North Livermore Ave. Heritage trees along North Livermore Avenue would be removed. New trees would be planted further back from the road.

The area is zoned for agriculture. A cemetery itself is a conditional use allowed under the zoning. However, the other buildings and uses are subject to zoning requirements specified in the Measure D initiative and adopted by the County.

A condition of approval by the county is that the developers must identify a sustainable of water. In addition, it must be

(See CEMETERY, page 4)

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

MADD President in Pleasanton

Glenn Birch, national president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), will be attending the Pleasanton Police Department's DUI checkpoint on Fri., Dec. 15. Birch will speak to officers prior to heading to the checkpoint.

The briefing will include officers from the Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin Police Departments, California Highway Patrol and Alameda County Sheriff's Department.

"This sobriety checkpoint is designed to serve as a reminder that the Pleasanton Police Department will be out this weekend looking to arrest and remove impaired drivers from the road," said Traffic Unit supervisor Sgt. Michael Collins.

The checkpoint is the kick off of the "Avoid the 21" campaign against drunk drivers.

"Avoid the 21" refers to the number of law enforcement agencies taking part in the campaign in the county.

Motorists approaching the checkpoint will see informational signs advising them that a checkpoint is ahead. Once there, motorists will be delayed for a few seconds while an officer explains the purpose of the checkpoint, inspect each driver's license and examine the driver for signs of DUI. A key objective of the operation is to educate the public of the dangers involved while driving under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or a combination of both.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Gang Graffiti in Park

The Livermore Police Department were able to arrest two Livermore residents in the process of vandalizing Mocho Park.

The vandalism was reported by a citizen in the area Monday afternoon. When Officers arrived to investigate, two subjects fled the park. Officers were able to stop the subjects a short distance away. Both subjects were determined to be juveniles who reside in Livermore. Both were positively identified as being responsible for the vandalism by a witness.

Officers found extensive graffiti to the picnic tables and play structure in the park. The graffiti consisted of Norteno gang graffiti and markings of "Rainbow Power." Both juveniles were arrested and released to the custody of their parents.

New Dems Strengthen Role

In preparation for the Democratic Majority, the New Democrat Coalition took a series of moves to strengthen its role as Congress' largest centrist coalition in the 110th Congress.

First, the New Democrat Coalition reelected its current leadership team, which reorganized and refocused the group in 2005. Rep. Ellen Tauscher was re-elected as the Chair of the coalition. Reps. Adam Smith (Wash.), Ron Kind (Wis.), Artur Davis (Ala.) and Joe Crowley (N.Y.), will all retain their positions as Vice-Chairs.

Joe Crowley has also been named Whip of the group. He will lead the floor effort on legislation the group endorses in the areas of technological innovation, economic competitiveness and national security.

Additionally, for the first time in the group's history, the New Dems have also adopted a set of by-laws with strong membership and attendance requirements that will help to further organize the coalition, aid the ambitious whip program being implemented, and promote the

group's centrist agenda.

The New Democrat Coalition will have a total of 63 Members in the 110th Congress, consisting of 47 current members and 16 freshmen, the group recruited and supported in the recent elections.

Houston Legislation

Assemblyman Guy Houston (R-San Ramon) has introduced two bills for the 2007-2008 Legislative Session. These bills are:

Assembly Bill 15 - Vasco Road. This measure is intended to ease the way for the construction of median barriers along Vasco Road. By speeding up the environmental review process, AB 15 will allow the installation of median barriers to be accelerated by months or perhaps years, preventing injury and loss of life.

"Making Vasco Road safer is a critical need. One of the best ways to preserve lives along this corridor is to install median barriers as quickly as possible," stated Assemblyman Houston.

Assembly Bill 6 - Emissions Credits. This bill is a follow up to last year's AB 32, which laid the groundwork to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. AB 6 supports the Governor's intention to create a "market-based mechanism" to reduce these emissions.

Assemblyman Guy Houston represents the 15th Assembly District, which includes Livermore, Walnut Creek, Alamo, Danville, San Ramon, and a portion of Pleasanton.

Nuclear Terrorism Legislation

Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) and Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher (D-CA) last week introduced legislation in both chambers of Congress to help prevent nuclear terrorism.

The Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Act of 2006 would create a senior advisor to the President to focus solely on preventing nuclear terrorism. The bill would also require the President to develop a comprehensive plan to work with the international community to secure the nuclear materials that terrorists could use to build a nuclear weapon.

Tauscher commented, "There's no larger threat to global security than loose nuclear materials in the hands of a terrorist or rogue nation. The question is, what are we doing about it? For too long, the answer has been not nearly enough. Our legislation raises the level of commitment to match the threat head-on, by creating the post of a Senior Advisor to the President dedicated to preventing nuclear terrorism."

The advisor will be responsible for developing a strategy to prevent nuclear terrorism, coordinating the efforts of the Departments of Energy, Defense, State and other agencies. The advisor will lead efforts to work with the international community to develop specific standards for the security of weapons-usable nuclear material and assist countries in meeting these standards. The advisor will also be responsible for providing Congress with a yearly report on all sites with weapons-usable material, plans for securing or removing material from these sites, details of a country's efforts to secure weapons-usable material and an update on efforts to create specific international standards for the protection of these materials.

The bill would also authorize an additional \$50 million for the Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI) to encourage countries to replace highly enriched uranium (HEU) with less proliferation-sensitive low enriched uranium (LEU).

PURCHASE

(continued from page one)

Alexander told the council, "We believe it is time to move forward with the 1800-seat theater. We have donors who want to put money toward this theater. We don't want to lose them." He urged the council to support LVPAC's proposal to buy the land. "We are confident that if the city allows us to move forward, we will be able to secure the funds needed to purchase the properties for the theater."

Alexander reported to the council that LVPAC has had a very successful year. The construction of the 500-seat theater, more than 55 percent complete, is on time and on budget. He projected that the theater would be completed in August 2007. There will be soft openings in September in preparation for the gala opening by October 1. Thirteen days of performances are planned to celebrate the opening of the theater, providing an example of everything that can happen there.

The theater is planned to serve local performing arts groups. Alexander reported that over 30 events are already on the calendar. "We are receiving inquiries from other groups across the Bay Area. LVPAC will present programs as well. Our goal is to operate every weekend of the year, if not more often," he stated.

On the financial side, Alexander said that LVPAC will meet its 2006 capital goal of \$2.4 million. There are over 100 charter members. "Early next year,

there are planned giving commitments that will allow us to fully fund the \$6 million endowment," he said. Alexander added that receipt of that level of commitment will encourage other gifts. Money from gifts would also be used towards the 1800 seat theater.

The larger theater is designed to capture larger touring groups such as Broadway touring companies, and major orchestra and dance series. "From opera to grand old opry, this building will be able to handle it," he declared.

The newest LVPAC director Layne Marceau, president of the Northern California Division of Shea Homes, expressed his company's commitment to the LVPAC plans. He described the theaters as amenities that draw people to a community.

Shea Homes is donating \$250,000 to LVPAC. A portion of it will be used to finance the opening gala.

Dale Kaye, CEO of the Livermore Chamber of Commerce, urged the council to move forward with the 1800 seat theater. "The chamber is impressed with the creativity and scope of LVPAC plans," she commented.

Other speakers also praised the plans. They suggested future uses for both theaters. Among those speaking were advocates for Shakespearean plays, symphonies, youth groups, and music performances.

From the California Independent Film Festival, Derek Zembrak declared that the larger venues could attract fund-raising performances featuring such performers as Tony Orlando and Rich Little.

LVPAC board member Michael Bocchiaccio, who is also president of the Livermore Valley Opera, declared, "If Livermore is going to become a cultural hub, we need to provide for every interest."

Nancy Bankhead, representing the Livermore Cultural Arts Council, said the arts council has supported plans for the theaters since the beginning. The group is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

The educational dimension of the theaters was emphasized by Pat Kernan, a member of the Pleasanton School Board. He told the council that at a time when arts programs are not as available in the schools, it is important to have such venues as theaters where students can learn about the arts. He said the school board supports LVPAC's plans, viewing them as regional in nature.

Bob Baltzer, who at one time said he hoped he would live to see the theaters built, stated, "I represent the guy who plunks down the money and sits down to enjoy the show. I have zero performing arts talents. But I enjoy watching it. This is the baby (1800-seat theater) I've been holding out for. Get busy."

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By William Lide, MD

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- **Limit naps.** If you have sleep problems, don't nap longer than 20 minutes.
- **Make your bedroom sleep-friendly.** Keep it quiet and dark, and reserve it for sleep and romance; use other parts of your home for eating, working, and watching TV.
- **Avoid caffeine and alcohol.** Although it may make you sleepy at first, alcohol can cause light, fragmented sleep.
- **Increase daytime exercise.** Regular physical activity helps reduce stress and increase deep sleep, but avoid strenuous exercise within two hours of your bedtime.

For more tips on sleeping well, check out the *Kaiser Permanente Healthwise Handbook*, which can be accessed in Spanish and English through my Web site at www.kp.org/mydoctor/lide.

This article is proudly sponsored by Kaiser Permanente. William Lide, MD, is Physician Site Leader for the Pleasanton Medical Offices.

EDITORIAL

Led By The Nose

Ignoring pleas to uphold Measure D, the Alameda County Planning Commission has approved the proposed North Livermore cemetery, contingent on water availability.

The issue has been appealed to the Board of Supervisors.

The voter-approved Measure D calls for the revitalization of North Livermore agriculture. While a cemetery is an allowable use in an agricultural zone, there are limits on buildings. These are exceeded by the plan that the developer has submitted. The proposed facilities include a mortuary, mausoleum, crematory and three residences.

However, staff argued that approval could be justified by applying a "community facilities" definition to the development. Though that required a tremendous stretching of what the community facilities term means in the county general plan, the commission barely questioned the matter. Glen Kirby was the lone dissenter in the 5-1 vote. "First and foremost, it is our duty to protect agriculture," Kirby futilely exclaimed.

The applicant, Jack Smith, carries enormous influence in county planning circles. That influence, not the duty cited by Kirby, was clearly the driving force behind this decision.

David Quinn, whose rural residence is next to the cemetery site, said it best: "Residents have approved Measure D and turned down development projects. We are frustrated that we have been doing things in an ethical manner, while the county is heading off in a divergent direction, allowing itself to be led by the nose by a developer."

Vine Cinema Celebrates 50 Years in Livermore

On December 26, 1956, Dwight D. Eisenhower was President, Elvis Presley was singing "Love Me Tender" on the Billboard Charts and The Vine Cinema opened its doors for the first time with a showing of "You Can't Run Away From It," starring Jack Lemmon and June Allyson.

The Vine Cinema will celebrate its 50th Anniversary Dec. 15-26th by offering their customers popcorn and soda for 50 cents each. They are also hosting a special sneak preview of the new movie "We Are Marshall" starring Matthew McConaughey this Saturday night at 7:30. The film opens nationwide and at the Vine Cinema Dec. 22.

With the new theater opening in downtown Livermore, what is the future of the Vine Cinema?

"We have several different options, but by no means will we be closing our doors," says Kenny Way, longtime manager/operator of the Vine Cinema.

"We will continue playing first run movies into the near fu-

ture. The two primary new options for change that are being considered are to play independent/art films or turn the Vine Cinema into a 'Dinner and a movie' house. Movies of all types would be shown. No final decisions have been made yet. People are invited to email the Vine Cinema with offering input to info@vinecinema.com."

Festival Director of The California Independent Film Festival, Tim Neeley says, "We will continue to show our support to the Vine and screen films during our film festival, which is slated for April 19-22nd in Livermore. Also, we will hold monthly screenings in 2007."

"We have a lot of support here in Livermore" says Kenny Way. "This is not a typical two screen movie theatre that will just go under in a year. That's not going to happen. We're independently owned and we will stay around in some capacity no matter what. The Vine Cinema has become a fixture in the Livermore Community and we're here to stay."

RECOUNT

(continued from page one)

just to get those from Pleasanton. Also, a deputy sheriff must be hired by the recount requester, to stand there and watch the process.

However, Brozosky said that he was concerned about irregularities that may have occurred.

The major possible irregularity was the supposed failure of polling place workers to ask people carrying in absentee ballots whether it in fact belonged to them. The election officials are supposed to do that. Brozosky said he received reports from his supporters that there was failure to do so. He is not sure how widespread the failure was.

Brozosky said he doesn't know whether he could have made up the 188 votes in a recount. "It depends on what they do during the recount about checking signatures. The county is being sued for a previous recount, for not using part of a signature for identification. A recount would mean more time spent with lawyers than with anyone else," Brozosky said.

Election Day absentee ballots appeared to make the difference for retaining Hosterman as mayor. Results show that Brozosky won the polling place and pre-Election Day absentee votes, but lost because of the Election Day absentees.

Democrats conducted a big phone campaign, starting the previous Thursday, to urge voters to bring their absentee ballots to the polls on Election Day, rather than risk mailing them late, and not having them counted. The tactic was designed to get out the vote for Jerry McNerney, the Pleasanton

Democrat who unseated Republican Rep. Richard Pombo.

Asked about that, Brozosky said he thought the McNerney drive had something to do with it. "Hosterman was not afraid to say how she is politically aligned. Her viewpoints are liberal. However, there is no way of knowing (what the impact was)," said Brozosky.

Brozosky spent four years on the city council, but chose the mayor's race instead of trying for council re-election. "It was a very tight election. Running against an incumbent is a difficult thing to do. Beating an incumbent just doesn't happen in Alameda County. We had a lot of good people involved, and we ran an honest campaign," Brozosky said.

Looking back at his council tenure, Brozosky said that he is proud of working on the Bernal property plan. He said he helped prevent overcrowding the park with houses and other uses. "We could have had an overdeveloped village. Instead, we got a layout that was approved by 82 percent of voters. We kept a lot of open space there. It's a Golden Gate Park atmosphere," said Brozosky.

Brozosky also singled out partnerships with the school district as an important part of his tenure. He cited the 9-acre sports field at Donlon elementary school, which will have joint city and school use. He said he was also "instrumental in obtaining the BMX park."

Regarding the future, Brozosky doesn't have any political plans. He will be working on his business, and will have more time to spend with his family.

Livermore Backs Off on Marijuana Dispensary Ban

The Livermore City Council reversed an earlier decision to ban medical marijuana dispensaries in the city.

On Monday, the council voted 3 to 2 to send the issue back to staff for further study. Mayor Marshall Kamena and Councilmember John Marchand continued to support the ban.

City Attorney John Pomidor had recommended the ban for two main reasons. One is the secondary impacts from crimes that occur where dispensaries are located. The second is the illegality of marijuana under federal law.

Councilmember Tom Reitter made the motion to return the matter to staff. He declared, "I oppose the ban. I wish we would

look at other cities and how they deal with the dispensaries. There is evidence that some cities have been successful in operating them."

Reitter also said that according to the state's Attorney General's office, local police do not have to enforce federal law. He added that police who stop someone who has purchased marijuana legally can confiscate it. That leaves the purchase marijuana on the street the only option.

Councilmember Marj Leider pointed out that all of the information provided by staff is negative. She felt that there were positive aspects concerning medical marijuana dispensaries that had not been explored. "I don't see

the big hurry right now to approve a ban."

The city currently has a moratorium on the dispensaries. The moratorium expires Sept. 11, 2007. If the city does not enact a ban or an ordinance regulating the establishments, dispensaries could be set up anywhere in the city after the moratorium expires.

Councilmember Lorraine Dietrich supported asking staff for more information. "There are a number of people for whom this is the only effective pain relief. There are more than we might think. If we fail to do anything to make their life easier, we are failing," Dietrich commented.

In supporting the ban, Marchand said he looked at the cost of oversight related to dis-

pensaries. He quoted Safe Access, a group that supports the use of medical marijuana, in saying that significant oversight is needed by the city, community and police. "Where is the income stream to provide that oversight? There isn't one," declared Marchand.

All members of the public who addressed the council opposed the ban of the dispensaries.

Andrew Glazier said there is a time when it is good to challenge federal law. He cited assisting slaves in their escape and prohibition as two examples of federal laws that had been challenged.

Michael Ferrucci suggested the council delay its decision to institute a ban. He asked that staff work with people involved with the issue, and not just take information off the Internet. "It is shameful that we don't honestly look at and examine the truth."

CEMETERY

(continued from page one)

shown that water usage by the cemetery does not negatively impact nearby wells. The studies are to be completed before a grading permit can be issued.

Another condition was that any trees removed be replaced at a 6 to 1 ratio. The development proposes to remove 40 trees.

The city sent several letters to the county voicing its opposition to the cemetery. In its letters, the city stated that it believes that the issues of water quality and quantity have not been addressed. Nor does the city believe the project is consistent with ECAP or Measure D policy. Inconsistencies with Measure D include the mortuary and mausoleum that cannot fit inside the required 2-acre building envelope. Also, a third house is prohibited. The proposal also exceeds the maximum allowable height of 30 feet and exceeds the allowable floor area.

All members of the audience who addressed the council supported the appeal.

Nancy Bankhead, who lives in North Livermore, was concerned about the amount of water the cemetery will use, water that is needed by the people and animals who live in the area. "This is a poorly planned project. It wrecks Measure D. The development will destroy any agriculture in the area."

Bankhead also objected to the removal of 117-year-old trees and the vote to replace them on a 6 to 1 basis. That, she said, would result in 240 new trees, all needing more water.

Water was an issue raised by other speakers, as well. They also cited what they felt was the commission's apparent lack of interest in listening to any opinions or presentations other than those presented by staff.

Bob Baltzer noted, "Livermore spelled out everything wrong with the thing. Staff and the commission mostly ignored the information. County counsel came up with an idea to declare the cemetery infrastructure. Therefore the land restrictions in Measure don't apply."

"The cemetery should be a zoning issue. It does not meet zoning requirements," Baltzer added.

Councilmember John Marchand said he found it mind-boggling that the consideration could be given to something where the basic need for water is not accounted for.

Councilmember Tom Reitter said that no one has suggested in the previous five years that there was water in the area. The amount of water they describe would irrigate a lot of crops.

NUCLEAR

(continued from page one)

determine whether a replacement warhead could support long-term confidence in the performance of the current stockpile without a return to underground nuclear testing. The program has been authorized by Congress, although no decision to build or deploy the warhead has been made.

The council is continuing to discuss the two laboratory submissions and has not selected a preferred design. Once the NWC reaches a decision, expected in the next few weeks, the two departments will conduct a study to further define and develop detailed cost estimates for the RRW program. A move to the engineering development and production engineering phase will require congressional approval.

The RRW is predicted to enhance the security of nuclear weapons, through the use of state of the art technology to prevent unauthorized use by terrorists, rogue nations or criminal organizations; improve the safety of the stockpile, through upgrades such as the use of insensitive high explosives, rather than conventional high explosives; enable a reduced stockpile size, by increasing confidence in the infrastructure to produce weapons if and when they are needed; and decrease the likelihood that a nuclear test will be needed to confirm weapon performance.

Opponents to the plan have spoken out.

"Do as I say, not as I do" is not an effective foreign policy," said Marylia Kelley, Tri-Valley CARE's Executive Director. "Instead of building new nuclear weapons, Tri-Valley CAREs supports a 'curatorship' approach, which would fully maintain the

safety and reliability of the existing nuclear weapons stockpile as it awaits dismantlement under the provisions of the Non-Proliferation Treaty."

Kelley continued, "Curatorship would ensure the reliability of the arsenal (consisting of previously fully-tested designs), no return to full-scale testing, increased dismantlement, removal of dangerous and vulnerable plutonium and highly enriched uranium from Livermore Lab, and increased efficiency throughout the weapons complex."

Ray Kidder, a retired physicist and senior scientist at Livermore Lab whose career spanned 6 decades of weapons development, explained that the DOE has no need to rebuild and replace the nuclear arsenal by 2030. "The JASONS recently-released summary of the government's plutonium bomb core aging studies shows that the 'pits' in the weapons presently in the U.S. arsenal will last for at least 100 years."

According to Kidder, "The DOE is ignoring its own data in order to promote the Reliable Replacement Warhead program and Complex 2030. Not only will the plutonium pits not wear out, but the DOE can remanufacture other parts for the arsenal that do have a more limited lifetime. By pretending otherwise, DOE does a disservice to the American people."

According to the Government Accountability Office, the price tag for Complex 2030 will be \$150 billion. It may go much higher.

PLUTONIUM AGING
Recent studies by Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories demonstrated

HIGH SCHOOL

(continued from page one)

source for worship and works of evangelization, teaching and service. Because of the tremendous scope of the project it is difficult to put reasonable timelines as to when its financing will be completed. I can then turn my fuller attention to financing and building Pope John Paul II Catholic High School. Nonetheless, I am committed to keeping progress on this important educational ministry moving forward," Vigneron wrote.

Vigneron said decisions still remain about facility design for the high school. After that is completed and permits are granted, an access road from Interstate 580 must be built, and the staff structures to operate the school must be created. Through it all, the community will be kept informed of the progress, said Vigneron.

ALEXANDER

(continued from page one)

fell in love. In September he announced that he had decided to stay, and asked, "Do you still want to hire me?"

The LVPAC people were overjoyed. In the words of one, "It's a miracle — for him and for all of us."

In an interview this week, Alexander told us, "I look forward to putting down my roots and making my home here. That's the other piece of the fairytale. I've always been fond of the Bay Area. This job with LVPAC gives me the opportunity to come and live in an area that I consider very special."

A native of Springfield, Massachusetts, Alexander had his first theater experience at age three when he was in a church play. "I've been told I was in the play. I myself don't remember it," he says laughing. He does remember attending a summer theater performance a few years later and thinking that theater work would be a great way to make a living. "It struck me they were having an awful lot of fun," he recalls.

Alexander would later be an apprentice with that company, the Storrowton Music Fair. Storrowton put on summer musicals starring performers such as Martha Raye and Milton Berle. Alexander apprenticed there for

Livermore Director of Community Development Marc Roberts said that the church has to submit construction plans before any permits are issued. In addition, Zone 7 has to sign off on the project. The church also has to obtain a permit from the Department of Fish and Game to build a bridge over a creek on the property, Roberts stated.

Diocesan spokesperson Wiesner said that the diocese is "hoping the cathedral will be open in late spring 2008." The cost estimate is \$131 million. Drawings of the building, which also will have a 200-seat chapel, have shown a dramatic dual-wall construction. The outside wall will be glass to bring plenty of natural light past the internal wall's superstructure, and change the look inside the church throughout the day.

The diocese has had no cathedral since 1989, when the Loma Prieta earthquake weakened St. Frances de Sales church, the old cathedral on 23rd Street in Oakland, to the point where it was declared a hazard. Retrofitting it to withstand earthquakes was considered to be impractical. Since then, major diocesan ceremonies, such as ordinations, have been held in various large churches spread around the diocese, said Wiesner.

The new cathedral will seat 1500. A cathedral is the most important church in a diocese. It is the bishop's parish. The word "cathedral" comes from the Latin word "cathedra," which means chair. It refers to a time many centuries ago when the bishop literally would teach the faithful from the chair in his church.

three summers.

He went on to train as a lighting designer at the drama school at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. His subsequent career includes the following:

- 1969-71, general manager of New York Pro Musica Antiqua, a world-class nonprofit organization specializing in early and medieval music.

- 1971-72, managing director of Playhouse in the Park, a nonprofit summer theater at Philadelphia's Fairmount Park.
- 1972-73, company manager of Theatre Now, touring nationwide with the production "The Effect of Gama Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds."

- 1973-76, program director, Philadelphia '76. In this position Alexander supervised all of Philadelphia's Bicentennial programming. He oversaw a staff of 300. He helped develop the Philadelphia Mummies' Museum and ran programs ranging from street performances to professional theater.

- 1977-83, general manager of The Shubert Organization, a Chicago based organization with commercial theaters of 2000 and 1400 seats. The group also presents national touring productions of Broadway shows. Alexander was in charge of an

annual budget of \$4 million-plus and developed new marketing and community relations programs.

- 1983-85, managing director of Indiana Repertory Theatre, a regional company that annually produces 20 shows on three stages in a restored 1920s movie palace. Alexander pared a \$1.8 million deficit, guiding the group to its first balanced budget in its 13-year history.

- 1985 to present, partner in Management Consultants for the Arts, based in Connecticut. They specialize in executive search, strategic planning, labor relations, etc. The client list numbers more than 1000 and covers the entire nation, including both major arts organizations and relatively small community groups such as LVPAC.

In addition to his work in arts management, Alexander has been an independent producer and has helped found several arts groups, including the League of Chicago Theatres, the Midway Playwrights' Theatre and the Indiana Cultural Consortium. Midway, now defunct, showcased the work of new American playwrights. Alexander has also been a teacher, presenting classes as part of an arts and entertainment management program at Colum-

bia College in Chicago.

Alexander says that when LVPAC first hired him a year ago, he was immediately drawn to the project. Two theaters were planned, a 500-seater for local arts groups and an 1800-seat regional theater for big-name touring artists. He says most communities would want the larger theater built before the smaller, but Livermore wanted the needs of local performers to be met first.

He says he found a project that had been studied over and over again, but the pile of paper at city hall didn't put him off; rather, it kind of impressed him. "It showed to me that this is a community that wants to do it right," he says.

Furthermore, he notes it's typical for a community to get the idea of building a performing arts center and then secondarily to start considering what kind of productions the facility could accommodate.

"It was the other way around in Livermore," he observes. "Here the uses were considered first. Next they got around to thinking about how the facility will look and where it will go."

"The idea that content came first, that was unique, and for me a most compelling reason to get involved," says Alexander.

SHORT NOTES



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Harpist Shannon Polley entertained visitors to the Cottage Parlor at Ravenswood Historic Site during the annual Victorian holiday celebration. Other entertainment included the Livermore High School Chamber Chorale, The Valley Banjos and Valley Dance Theatre performing excerpts from "The Nutcracker." Full performances of "The Nutcracker" will begin this weekend at Livermore High. For details, see Art and Entertainment on page 9.

Muir Family Christmas

The John Muir National Historic Site will host a Christmas celebration on the weekends of Dec. 16 and 17, 22 and 23, and on Dec. 27, 28 and 29. The home will be decorated for the season.

Christmas tours of the Muir House will be offered at 10, 10:30, 11 and 11:30 a.m. Mr. Muir will be by the Christmas tree to tell some stories of his adventures from noon to 1 p.m. on Dec. 16 and 17 only. Ranger Barbara Phillips will spin some tells around the tree from noon to 1 p.m. on Dec. 22, 23, 27, 28 and 29. Piano Christmas music and merry tunes will be in the Muir house from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. each day.

The Historic Site is open Wed.-Sun. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entrance fees are \$3 for adults, children 16 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. The home is located at 4202 Alhambra Ave., Martinez. For specifics, call 228-8860.

Toy Drive

Santa's workshop will get a special package again this year from the Financial Planning Association of the East Bay. At the Association's recent meeting on December 6 at Round Hill Country Club in Alamo. The 400 members assembled enough Christmas toys for needy youngsters to fill a special delivery sleigh to the North Pole.

The Association is participating in the "Forgotten Angel" Toy Drive sponsored by The Salvation Army of Contra Costa County. At the Association's December meeting, members of this non-profit financial planning organization brought new toys for distribution to less fortunate children.

Last year, The Salvation Army provided gifts to over 3,000 county children. Parents who apply for help come to The Salvation Army and select two toys for each of their children, along with wrapping paper. The parents then wrap the gifts and share them with their children on Christmas morning in the privacy and warmth of their own homes.

The East Bay Chapter of the Financial Planning Association has been participating in this worthwhile effort for many years. Anyone interested in participating directly in this effort should contact Major Pam at the Salvation Army in Concord at (925) 676-6180.

Party at Blacksmith Square

The merchants at Blacksmith Square in downtown Livermore are hosting a party this Saturday, Dec 16th from 6 to 9 p.m. Both wine tasting rooms will be open. All merchants will be serving appetizers and/or desserts.

Each merchant has come up with special promotions and deals available only during the party. They include the following: Diva in U - 25% off select dresses, tops and coats for the holiday; Sweet Feet - 20% off boots and evening wear shoes; Rya's - 25% off all candles and ornaments; John Christopher Cellars - 20% off select wines and 50% off dipping mixes; On the Rocks Creations - 10% off select rocks and 30% off select bird baths; and Retzlaff Winery - 10% off 6 bottles or 15% off a case of wine.

Blacksmith Square is located at the corner of So. Livermore Ave. and Railroad Ave.

Movies for Kids

The Pleasanton Library invite children to Friday movie programs during the holiday break.

On Friday, Dec. 29th at 11:00am, movies for the preschool set will be shown in a program lasting approx. 30 minutes.

On Friday, Jan. 5th starting at 2:00pm, the library will show Ice Age II: The Meltdown. The movie lasts approx. 90 minutes and is rated PG.

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

Achievement Medal

Sgt. Steven Walton has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, with combat distinguishing device, for his heroic achievement in the superior performance of his duties while serving as a squad leader, Company E, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from Oct. 2005 to April 2006. Walton led his squad in more than 100 combat patrols, including raids and offensive operations, resulting in the capture of more than 20 known insurgents.

On the morning of January 7, 2005, while maneuvering to support a squad in contact, his marines came under fire. Walton directed his marines' fire on the enemy, helping to force the enemy's withdrawal.

Corporal Walton, now Sergeant Walton, brought himself and his entire squad home safely with only scrapes, bruises and a few small scars from an IED.

Walton attended Jackson Avenue Elementary School and East Avenue Middle School in Livermore. He graduated from Pinckney High School in Michigan in 2001 and spent a year at UC Long Beach before joining the marines following the 9/11 attack. He is the son of Amy Walton and the nephew of Randa Walton, who grew up in Livermore. He is the grandson of John and Loretta Walton, who lived in Livermore for 35 years.

Tinkerbell Event

Special Pixie Dust guest Margaret Kerry, the concept model for Tinkerbell, will be at Where the Magic Begins in Livermore.

On Sun., Dec. 17 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. there will be a signing event with surprises and a Santa's secret item available only that day at the store.

A fireside evening with Margaret will be held Mon., Dec. 18 from 3 to 8 p.m. The evening party will include exclusive Tinkerbell lithos and other items, door prizes, hot cocoa and chocolate.

New holiday hours are 7 days a week. Available are WDCC, Art from Collectors Editions, Lenox, Royal

Doulton, Disney Traditions and much more including Christmas Snowbabies, Ornaments, Plates, Mugs, and stocking stuffers. Gift Certificates are available. Stop by and see all of the new items such as Disney dragons and much more.

Where The Magic Begins is located at 2177 Las Positas Court, Suite A in Livermore. Information is available at (925) 294-8152 or wherethemagicbeg@aol.com.

Santa and Shopping

Visit Santa at Cooleykatz Toys, 1959 Second Street in downtown Livermore. Santa will be available for photos on Dec. 14, 15, 21 and 22 at 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Dec. 16 and 23, noon to 6 p.m.

Call Livermore Downtown Inc. at (925) 373-1795 for more details!

Downtown Livermore Inc. will host a Winter Solstice late night shopping event on Thurs., Dec. 21 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. It's the longest night of the year. Downtown merchants will be spreading Holiday Cheer with specials, discounts. They will be serving hors' d'oeuvres and beverages.

For more info, contact Livermore Downtown Inc. at (925) 373-1795.

Yellow Ribbon Tree

The yellow ribbon tree in downtown Livermore is in need of new ribbons. People can make a donation at Richard's, 4502 Las Positas Rd. (by Target) or to Operation: S.A.M. at P.O. Box 2992, Livermore. After the new year new ribbons will be put on the yellow ribbon tree. A ribbon costs \$5.00.

1000th Wedding

The Purple Orchid Inn Resort & Spa in Livermore will be hosting its 1000th wedding on New Year's Eve.

The happy couple is Cinda Mahorney and Michael Freitas of Antioch. Together, they are the owners of Shear Magic Grooming pet salon in Pleasanton.

The Mahoney-Freitas union will be catered by the Inn's Certified Executive Chef, Tim Snyder. Snyder is an honors graduate of the California Culinary Academy.

According to Angela Rauch, the Inn's Special Events Manager, the key to becoming a destination venue for Northern California brides has been the ability to deliver upon dreams that are often years in the making.

"Our wedding staff understands that for every bride this is a once-in-a-lifetime event that they've dreamed about since they dressed their first Barbie or looked through their first copy of Modern Bride magazine," Rauch said.

"I have brides write that their wedding here exceeded their dreams, that family members were very impressed, and that our staff and official vendors gave them five-star service at every turn," Rauch said.

Purple Orchid Inn owners Kaushik and Bhervi Banerjee are giving Freitas

and Mahoney a complimentary night in the Inn's Celestial Moon Honey-moon Suite on the couple's first anniversary in recognition of the 1,000th Wedding. "We want to commemorate this day for the lucky couple in a romantic and memorable way," said Kaushik Banerjee.

Child Care Programs

Child Care Links provides free workshops to employers in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

Workshop facilitators will provide

valuable information on important issues to parents at their work site. Workshops are available on a variety of topics and can be tailored to the needs of employees. The length of each workshop can range from 45 minutes to 2 hours. Workshops can be during the lunch hour, or at another time arranged by the employer. Child Care Links can also provide a series of workshops.

Training Topics include: Choosing Child Care, Parenting Skills, Child Development, and Work/Family Balance. A Child Care Links facilitator will

present the curriculum, related hand-outs, resource materials and answer questions. Child Care Links' staff is available during business hours to answer further questions, provide free child care referrals and community resources.

Employers or employees are encouraged to call for further information on this free service. For more information contact Shauna Brown at (925) 249-3925. There is no charge for this service.

SCHOOLS

(continued from page one)

To meet that requirement, the Academy, with 432 students, would need 41 students on free-and-reduced lunch in year one and 57 in year two. At 648 students, the Preparatory would need 62 students in year one and 86 in year two.

Another condition is a viable plan that meaningfully attempts to recruit socio-economically disadvantaged students. The plan would include an enrollment preference for such students and elimination of practices that publicly identify students or families for volunteerism and/or financial contributions. According to the District, such practices create an unwelcoming environment for socio-economically disadvantaged students.

Currently, the Choice for Our Children Education Foundation (CCEF), a separate fund-raising entity that supports LVCS, has a policy to recognize individuals and families who meet specific criteria in terms of money donated or volunteer hours contrib-

uted.

Another issue for the District is the LVCS student discipline policy. The conditions stipulate that the policy exclude humiliation and mass punishment and provide due process, adequate parental notification, and respect for student rights.

This condition appears to be in response to an incident in which Morris was accused of singling out middle school students for disciplinary problems. Morris and the LCLC governing board have stood by her actions. Morris says that she, along with

her staff and the board, already are reviewing and updating the disciplinary policy.

If the Livermore School Board should reject the petitions, charter organizers have the option of appealing to the County and State Boards of Education. The petition for LVCS was approved by the State after being rejected by both the Livermore and Alameda County Boards.

Goldstein says he and other organizers planned adequate time for those appeals into their timeline for opening the Academy 20 months from now.

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ACTIA

ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Survey Services for City-Based
Paratransit Programs

The Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA) is seeking proposals for Survey Services for City-Based Paratransit Programs funded by Measure B, Alameda County's half-cent transportation sales tax.

For more information, visit the ACTIA website at www.acta2002.com/opportunities.html

SEND ALL INQUIRIES TO:
Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority
426 17th Street, Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Tess Lengyel
"City-Based Paratransit Services Survey - RFP, ACTIA"
510-267-6111

A Pre-proposal meeting will be held at the ACTIA offices on **Monday, December 18, 2006, at 10:00 A.M.**

Deadline for submitting a response to the RFP is **Monday, January 22, 2006, at 4:00 P.M.**

Any contract to be awarded as a result of this Notice will be awarded without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or national origin.

SPORTS NOTES

24 Strikes in a Row

Bowling history was made at the local bowling center, Granada Bowl in Livermore. Maria Lockridge, 199 average, bowled her first career 300 game and came right back with twelve more strikes for back-to-back perfect games.

Maria rolled 24 consecutive strikes becoming the first women bowler in Alameda County Bowling Association history to bowl back to back 300 games. To add to the exciting event all of Maria's three children were present to witness the record setting event. Maria started the evening with a below average 185 game to make the series big 785.

Tanya England, Eagles Renovations Match Point, topped the ladies with 233-193-255 for a big 681 series. Greg Kwasiak, ReMax Realty Cheyenne League, started with an eleven strike game of 279 to go with a 269 for his 747 set. The Sunday Rollers witnessed a battle between Roger Purta, Dave Bunch and Rich Costa with Purta using a 289 game plus 227-228 for his 744 set. Bunch posted games of 270-259-215-744 and Costa had an eleven strike game of 279 for his 720 set. Gene Bruhl, Gene's Pro Shop, started with a strike filled game of 277 to go with 223-242 for a 748 series.

Dean Lonsky started with the first ten strikes for a 288 game... Valley Family and Friends league had Scott Cooper post a 723 set with highs of 255-249. The Classic watched Mark McGowin make it to the 711 level with 258-226-227. Chris Williams, 4 Seasons Heating and Air Stroller, used highs of 258-244 for a 703 set; Michael Weingard, Reno Gamblers upped his 162 norm with a 2678 game and 647 series. Tim Vice, 142, became an USBC award winner for bowling a 246 game.

Seahawks Take 3rd in JO

The Pleasanton Seahawks have spent the past 3 seasons settling for 4th place in the Junior Olympics - but no more. At the 2006 Junior Olympics held Dec. 1-3 in Pacifica, the Seahawks swam to a nail-biting 9 point lead in the finals on Sunday evening to take 3rd place. The 1st and 2nd place teams were teams with over 500 swimmers.

Almost all of the Seahawks swimmers swam best times, made finals, with team records breaking left and right. Head Age Group Coach Todd Tucker helped rally his swimmers.

Chris Guido won high point award for 13-14 boys with his multiple finals, capped by winning the 1000 Free. Andrew Seitz won the 200 Free for 13-14 boys. Both Andrew and Chris picked up Sectional cuts with their wins.

In addition, Catherine Breed and Natalie Wong swam solid times to contribute to the team points. Tory Houston won the 200 Breast, and Rachel Knowles made a great move in the 200 IM final to take 3rd and rack up more team points. Nick Silverthorn had 5 1st place finishes and broke the 10-Under boys Pacific Swimming Record in the 200 IM on Sunday. Overall, each team member swam great swims to contribute to the coveted 3rd place team award.

Tigersharks

LifeStyleRX Tigersharks competed in a meet hosted by the Pleasanton Seahawks over the weekend.

Erin Moriano, 9-10 girls, finished 7th in the 50 free in 41.07. Patrick Leary, 11-12 boys, swam to two club records, 200 IM 3:13.03, 6th, and 50 back 40.61, 6th. He finished 3rd in the 200 free in 2:51.68.

Pleasanton Ballistic Soccer

The U-9 A/C Bronze Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club competed in the CYSA District Cup at the Dublin Sports Grounds over the weekend and came away with the championship following a 1 to 0 win over the Mustang Inferno.

Seeded first, Ballistic Black opened play in the Cup on Saturday Morning, 12/2, defeating the Mustang Revolution 5-0 on goals by Michael Anastassiou, Chudi Atuegbu, Sam Molz, Konrad Jurkiewicz, and Cameron Ritchie. On Saturday Afternoon, Ballistic Black defeated the FC Fremont Rockets 7-0. Scoring for Ballistic were Ryan Racer and Sam Molz with 2 goals apiece and Michael Anastassiou, Cameron Ritchie, and Sebastian Perry with one each.

Sunday's first game, 12/3, saw a rematch between Ballistic Black and the Mustang Revolution with Ballistic winning 7-1 backed by 2 goals each from Jack Traube and Sam Molz, and one each from Jacob Guzman, Cameron Owens, and Cameron Ritchie. This set up a Sunday Afternoon championship Game between Ballistic Black and the Mustang Inferno. In a very tense, well played match, in the 18th minute, Sam Molz scored from ten yards out on an assist from Cameron Ritchie. Both sides, playing strong together as teams, held each other tightly in check from then on out. The Inferno denied several chances from Ballistic as well as mounted offensive pressure of their own during the final ten minutes. It went down to the final whistle in a very evenly matched contest. Ballistic Black held on for a 1-0 victory and earned the District Cup Championship.

Ballistic United U12 Class 1 competed in Turlock's New Year's Derby.

On Saturday, game 1 proved an easy "warm-up" for BUSC United winning easily 9-0 against Placer Prestige Black with 8 different players scoring goals. The afternoon game resulted in another scoring frenzy against FC Fremont ending in a 7-1 win.

Sunday morning was challenging enough with rain, wind and mud. BUSC United was down 2-0 at the half. A renewed focus proved powerful bringing the game to a 2-2 tie at the end of regulation against the Turlock Tornados Tsunami. BUSC United came out on top after penalty kicks moving on to the Championship Round against SV United Black.

A little rain didn't stop the United players from controlling the ball throughout the game resulting in a 1-1 tie at the end of regulation time. After another round of penalty kicks, BUSC United ended up coming home with 2nd place in the tournament. Three cheers to goalie Louis Desprez. Top Offensive Players: Christian Clark, Cody Hall, Bruno Andres, Matt Klei, Danny Glascock, Tommy Powell, Thomas Janjigian; Top Defensive Players: Graham Lindgren, Brent Richmond, David Busch, Connor Silcox, Nick McGillivray, Louis Desprez, Matthew Martin.

The BUSC U13 Ballistic Black played in the District Cup in Livermore this past weekend. On Saturday, the visiting Ballistic Black played the Danville Mustang Bolts in a 2 to 0 loss. The match was evenly played with shots on goal coming from Randy Copeman, Bobby Sehrgosha, and Jason Chow. Goalkeeper Lukas Moses had 4 saves in the match. On Sunday the visiting Ballistic Black played Fremont The Machine in a 3 to 3 tie. The Ballistic Black dominated possession of the ball throughout the match

with a total 19 shots on goal coming from Barron Kim, Jared Shohfi, Nick Bayley, and Jason Chow. The Ballistic Black first goal was made in the 29th minute by Jared Shohfi with an assist from Karsten Jurkiewicz. Jason Chow scored the Ballistic second goal in the 49th minute with assists from Barron Kim with a well placed cross pass in front of the goal, and Jared Shohfi who took a shot on goal which was blocked then finished in the back of the net by Jason Chow. Goalkeeper Lukas Moses preserved the tie with 4 key saves.

The visiting Ballistic Black played Fremont The Machine again in their final match of the tournament ending in a 1 to 1 tie. The Ballistic Black had 12 shots on goal coming from Jared Shohfi, Jason Chow, Barron Kim, Jack Richardson, and Joey Pereira. It was another tough fought match with Ballistic dominating possession and constantly pushing the ball forward with support from Joey Pereira, Hunter Meurrens, Jack Richardson, Jake Lorentz, Eric Brooks, Randy Copeman, Bobby Sehrgosha, Manraj Mangat, Jack Lyons, Karsten Jurkiewicz, Tyler Mende, Alex Hall, and Nick Bayley. Goalkeeper Lukas Moses had 3 key saves in the match.

Seahawks Fast in Water

Over 160 Seahawks swimmers participated in the first home meet of the season and swam to outstanding times. Although the results are too numerous to report in total, the following swimmers took the home pool advantage to place or swim best times:

Stephanie Arson, 10, best times 200 Free, 100 Back, and 50 Fly. Jake Bahls, 15, 1st 500 Free, 2nd 400 IM, and 3rd 200 Free, 200 Back, and 100 Free. Gunjan Baid, 12, all best times in her events. Adam Bayley, 17, 1st 200 Free, 200 Back, 100 Free, and 500 Free; 2nd 400 IM and 100 Breast; and 3rd 50 Free and 100 Fly. Monica Bello, 12, swam all best times and placed 2nd 50 Back, Natalia Bello, 8, all best times and 2nd 50 Free, 3rd 25 Free and 25 Free. Bridget Booe, 11, and sister, Cassidy Booe, 12, swam to best times in almost all events. Parker Brown, 11, all new best times. Arnold Chan, 10, all new best times. Naomi Chan, 10, all new best times and 1st 50 Back. Brandon Chandler, 13, 1st 500 Free and 2nd 100 Breast and 400 IM. Heather Chandler, 10, 2nd 200 Free, and best times in all events. Iris Chang, 12, 1st 50 Back, 200 IM, and 100 Breast; 2nd 100 Free and 200 Free. Matthew Chen, 11, 2nd 100 Free and 100 Breast; 3rd 50 Fly and 200 IM.

Analese Chinn, 8, 2nd 25 Free and 25 Back, and 3rd 50 Back (all best times). Eva Chung, 9, new best times to place 1st 100 IM, 50 Free, 100 Breast; and 3rd 50 Back and 50 Fly. Maya Cipriano, 11, all new best times. Casey Coughlin, 15, all new best times and placed 1st 200 Back and 2nd 100 Breast. Elise Cox, 11, all best times to place 2nd 100 Free with lots of 3rd place finishes: 200 IM, 200 Free, 50 Back, and 100 Breast. Julianna Delatorre, 10, all new best times. Madeleine Dierckse, 6, all new best times. James Ding, 13, new best times to place 1st 50 Free. Caitlin Dourov, 15, 1st 100 Free, 2nd 200 Free, 500 Free, 400 IM, and 3rd 200 Back. Christopher Dourov, 11, 1st 50 Fly, 200 Back, and 200 Free; 2nd 100 Free, 200 IM, and 50 Back. Shannon Easley, 12, 1st 200 Free and 3rd 200 Fly. Brittany Gallagher, 15, 1st 500 Free, Eric Gates, 14, swam all new best times. Maxim Golubchik, 14, 1st 200 Free and 2nd 50 Free. Akul Goyal, 8, 3rd 25 Breast. Lucy Graham, 11, swam to all new best times.

Lily Gribbel, 8, 1st in the 25 Back, 25 Breast, 50 Back, and 25 Free. She also capped it off with 2nd place 50 Free and 50 Fly. Brittany Grider, 15, 3rd 200 Free. Stefan Hall, 14, 3rd 500 Free with a new best time. Crystal Hung, 15, 1st 100 Free. Tanay Jael, 13, swam all new best times. Anuja Joshi, 10, swam all new best times. Darren Kaye, 12, 3rd 100 Free. Andrew Kuo, 15, 1st 200 Back and 3rd 400 IM. Regis Lachance, 8, 2nd 25 Breast, 50 Back, and 25 Free. Wolfgang Lachance, 8, 3rd 25 Breast. Brian Lee, 10, swam all new best times. Urian Lee, 12, swam all new best times. Haley Lenz, 16, 1st 500 Free and 100 Fly, and 2nd 100 Free. Aaron Li, 7, 1st 25 Breast. Jasmine Lin, 8, 1st 50 Free. Kayla Lindsay, 8, 1st 50 Free and 50 Fly, and 2nd 25 Back. Kyle Lindsay, 13, 1st 200 Back and 500 Free. Calvin Lowe, 11, 1st 100 Free and 200 Free; and 2nd 50 Fly. Vickie Luo, 5, swam all new best times. Max Martinez, 18, 1st 50 Free. Jake McElvrey, 12, swam all new best times. Tim McLaughlin, 13, swam all new best times and took 3rd 500 Free.

Alex Meadows, 15, 3rd 100 Free. Shannon Miller, 12, 1st 100 Free and 50 Fly, and 2nd 200 IM. Rishab Nair, 7, 2nd 25 Back. Roshni Nair, 11, knew only 1st, 2nd or 3rd place this weekend. 1st 50 Fly, 200 Back, and 100 Breast; 2nd 200 Fly, 50 Back, 200 Free, and 3rd 100 Free and 200 IM. Brianne Neumayr, 15, 3rd 400 IM. Nadia Nguyen, 8, 2nd 25 Breast and 25 Free (all new best times). Jonathan Ong, 9, swam all new best times. Doug Oonk, 15, 1st place with a new best time 100 Breast. Lexi Orozco, 11, 3rd 50 Fly. Annalisa Parker, 9, 1st 50 Back and 100 Back. Brandon Pihlal, 10, placed 2nd in all his events: 200 Free, 100 IM, and 100 Breast. Monica Pulido, 13, 2nd 50 Free and 3rd 100 Free. Bryan Qi, 15, 2nd 200 Free and 100 Breast, and 3rd 100 Fly. Krishnan Rajagopalan, 15, 2nd place 50 Free. Gabriele Rinehart, 10, swam all new best times. Katie Roberts, 15, 3rd 200 Back. Adrien Rooney, 7, 2nd 50 Back and 25 Free, and 3rd 50 Free and 25 Back.

Maxime Rooney, 8, 1st place in all events: 50 Free, 50 Fly, 25 Back, 25 Breast, 50 Back, and 25 Free. Conor Ryan, 11, swam all new best times. Nicky Schlies, 13, 3rd place 200 Free. Eli Sciammas, 11, swam all new best times. RJ Scott, 9, 2nd 100 Back, and 3rd 100 IM. Tony Shen, 10, 1st 100 Fly, 50 Back, 2nd 50 Free and 200 Free, and 3rd 100 Back. Robert Shi, 10, 3rd 100 Back. Annalise Stevenson, 9, swam all new best times. Danielle Sticker, 13, 2nd 400 IM, and 100 Fly. Krissy Stroud, 13, 1st 50 Free and 500 Free, and 3rd 200 Free and 400 IM. Elle Surber, 12, 1st 50 Back, 2nd 50 Fly, and 3rd 100 Free, 200 Free, and 100 Breast. Laura Taylor, 12, swam all new best times. Anca Todor, 14, 1st 50 Free. Victor Todor, 10, 1st 100 IM, 50 Free, 100 Breast, and 3rd 50 Back and 50 Fly.

Amita Toor, 15, 1st 400 IM, 2nd 200 Back, and 3rd 100 Breast. Peter Tsou, 14, 1st 100 Breast. Blake Tucker, 7, 3rd 50 Free and 25 Back. Nicholas Tucker, 9, 1st 100 50 Back and 100 IM, and 3rd 200 Free. Kevin Vicencio, 13, 2nd 100 Breast. Alok Virkar, 13, 3rd 100 Free. Caleb Wang, 11, 3rd 100 Free. Michelle Wang, 7, swam all new best times. Brody West, 8, 1st 25 and 50 Back, and took 3rd 25 Free. Winky Wong, 11, 2nd 200 Back. Jessica Xu, 13, 1st 200 IM, and 400 IM, and 2nd 100 Fly. Brian Zhang, 14, 1st 50 and 200 Free. Daniel Zmeu, 15, swam all new best times. Sandra Zmeu, 10, swam all new best times, with 2nd place finishes in the 100 IM and 100 Breast.

CYO Basketball

The St. Michael's/St. Charles (SM/SC) 7th grade boys (705) trimmed a 13 point deficit to 6 in the 4th quarter before falling to St. Raymond's (704) 34-22 in CYO basketball action. Andrew Jupina was a force on the inside for St. Raymond's, scoring 11 points while Danny Emerson led SM/SC with a season-high 9, all on perimeter jumpers.

Because of illness, Hunter Lewis was forced to play center and led SM/SC with 8 rebounds and made three-point jumper during the 4th quarter rally adding 2 steals and 3 blocks. Turner Sblendorio and Chris Holzschuh made 2nd half jumpers and Jeremy Smith added 5 rebounds to go with his 2 points.

The Catholic Community of Pleasanton (CCOP) 7th grade girls (team 7005) met up with a tough opponent CCOP (team 7001), 7005 improved their record to 3 and 1 by riding the strong inside game of Jessica Morosoli and Lyndsay Godwin who scored 6 points each. The first half was close throughout, with 7005 trailing by one at the half. 7005 scored double digits in the 3rd quarter and held CCOP 7001 to single digits to go ahead 20-13. 7001 came charging back and out-scored 7005 in the 4th but it wasn't enough and 7005 completed the game with a 25-21 win. Other contributing scorers were Lauren MacDonnell (5 points), Sydney Okumura/ Nicole Ponzini/Michele Mann and Emily Alberts contributed 2 points each. Top defensive players were Okumura (5 rebounds, 3 steals), Mann (7 rebounds, 1 steal) and Godwin (6 rebounds, 3 steals, 2 blocks).

SM/SC 7th grade girls (#7010) vs CCOP (#7009) came away with a 24 to 20 in their second consecutive overtime game. SM/SC's Erin Walthall (8 points) shot the game tying bucket in regulation as well as the game winner in overtime. Shannon Sunnergren (2 pts., 8 rebounds), Corina Snyder (2 pts.) and Dani Arnold (2 pts.) for SM/SC had a great offensive game. Playing strong defense for SM/SC were Brittany Campiotti (6 pts, 8 steals), Navneet Kahlon (4 rebs), and Ashley Holmes (2 pts, 3 rebs.). Both teams gave the fans an early Christmas present with their hustle.

SM/SC 8th grade Boys (#819) defeated SM/SC (#814) 42-26 for their second straight win as all 8 players scored and played tenacious defense. SM/SC #819 fell behind early (9-0) but fought back to get within 1 point at the half 19-18. Then the St. SM/SC's defense took over the game and pulled away for the win. John Murphy had 7 steals (5 pts, 6 rebs), Gary Chappetta led scorers with 17 pts. Gurmeer Uppal (3 pts), Donald Furr (3 rebs), John Kuchac (2 pts, 7 rebs), Richie McWilliams (4 pts, 5 rebs, 2 steals), Anthony Ruiz (4 pts, 4 assists, 3 steals), and Kyle Zendarski (7 pts, 8 rebs) all contributed greatly to the victory.

SM/SC 6th grade boys (#620) vs St. Isidore (#619) won 26 to 24. In overtime during the 5th game of the CYO basketball season, SM/SC took an early lead and held their opponents to a 18-8 half time score. Top scoring players for SM/SC were Ben Davidson with 10 and William Stewart with 4. Blake Chandler collected 10 rebounds and Casey Wend 5 to top defensive players for SM/SC.

CCOP 7th grade girls team performed remarkably well during the first half of the game against SM/SC before falling 24-22. CCOP took a 18-12 at half time. Outstanding defensive action held their opponents to only 6 baskets. Rebounding for CCOP were Stephanie Hogan, Jessica Woodruff and Rachel Orpina. CCOP's execution of the full court trap allowed them to force turnovers on their opponents, and gain control of the ball. CCOP drove SM/SC out of their press, which allowed them easy lay-ups. SM/SC was able to score in the second half and bring the game into a 22-all tie in the last minute of play. High scoring players were Rachel Orpina (6), Elena Victor (4), Stephanie Hogan (4), Jessica Woodruff (4).

The CCOP 8th (team #81) grade American team defeated St. Raymond's (team #85) 44-36. CCOP built a 28-13 halftime lead as a result of a strong defensive effort. CCOP capitalized on several steals which resulted in fast-break scoring opportunities. In the second half, St. Raymond's put together a strong comeback effort, but was not able to overcome the halftime deficit. Trevor Guerrieri led CCOP with 15 points and 4 rebounds. Carson Ewanich added 10 points and 7 rebounds, Michael Udinski chipped in 8 points, and David Elison had 6 rebounds and played very well defensively for CCOP. Top Offensive Players: Trevor Guerrieri (15 points, 4 rebounds), Carson Ewanich (10 points, 7 rebounds), Michael Udinski (8 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists); Top Defensive Players: David Elison (6 rebounds), Stephen Ferrel (4 rebounds, 2 steals), Stephan Mohajer (3 steals).

SM/SC 6th grade boys (#614) defeated St. Isidore (#609) by a score of 35 to 26. The two teams were well-matched and battled to the end. Scoring leader for SM/SC was Will Jaureguito (14 pts); Anthony Duberly led in assists and steals; and Anthony Olmo rebounded well. The St. Isidore team was led by Adam Pendegrift in scoring, Andrew Guvera in steals, and Andy Zeiger in defensive play.

In CYO fifth grade action, SM/SC team 527 lost to visiting St. Joan's team 523 by a score of 20-12 in a well-played game. Excellent defense by both teams kept the score low and close through the first three quarters. In particular, SM/SC's Alec Bradley and Andrei Kasten played great defense and snagged many rebounds. St. Joan's pulled away in the final quarter, however, with nine unanswered points. The game's top scorers were St. Joan's Grant Rogers (8 points) and Jamey Smart (6 points) and SM/SC's David Pinion (4 points).

SM/SC Heat 5th grade boys were definitely heating up the court against Saint Isidore's on Sunday. The Heat was victorious with a 24 to 16 win. The game was action

packed with all players contributing quite well. Vincent Bartoni #3 was hot on scoring along with Frankie Kerstetter. Taylor Disbrow and Jack Meredith were strong on both offense and defense for the Heat.

SM/SC 4th grade boys (#411) vs CCOP (#415) lost 28 to 8. Patrick Miron for the SM/SC team battled on defense stealing and rebounding the ball. SM/SC battled CCOP with only five players. The offensive play by Michael Pierce and Dustin Allen worked hard all game. Ryan Holmes pressed and stole the ball to try and slow the CCOP squad.

SM/SC 4th grade girls American League Team (#40005) lost to an excellent team from St. Isidore's 28-6. After falling into a deep hole early, the girls regained their balance and kept the score from getting too far out of hand for most of the second half. Anna Neitzel had a strong game at both ends, playing particularly good defense and leading the team in rebounding. Samantha Trask and Rachel Braun had good outings as well, each playing solid defense and passing very well in the face of an excellent, swarming St. Isidore's defense. In the end, St. Lizzy's was just too strong, but there was no quit in the SM/SC team, and everyone played well and had a great game.

In 4th grade boys action, an exciting game took place between SM/SC #424 and St. Raymond's #420. SM/SC prevailed in double-overtime against St. Raymond's with a final score of 22-20. Leading SM/SC's offense was Jared Buranits with 14 points and Cody King with 4 points. Kevin Garcia and Nicky Martin contributed with a strong defensive game for SM/SC. For St. Raymond's, Jake Omo, Devin Rocha, and Jeffrey Croker played an overall solid game.

SM/SC 4th grade boys (#411) vs CCOP (#415) lost 28 to 8. Patrick Miron for the SM/SC team battled on defense stealing and rebounding the ball. SM/SC battled CCOP with only five players. On offense Michael Pierce and Dustin Allen worked hard all game. Ryan Holmes pressed and stole the ball to try and slow the CCOP squad. A valiant effort by SM/SC was appreciated by the crowd.

SM/SC 3rd grade girls (#3008) defeated St. Joan of Arc (#3005) by a score of 12 to 8. Scoring leader for SM/SC was Nicole ("Little T") Taharez. Amy Moussa and Kelecie Norton rebounded well. Good defensive play by Sydney Zambonin and Mirabella Barballarud. Jesse Jaureguito and Jordyn Salinas combined for several steals.

The Shooting Stars 1-2 grade girls played the B4 1-2 grade boys, with both teams playing a good clean game and showing great improvement. Victoria Greene scored the first basket for the Stars and kept up the pressure on the boys team for the rest of the game. Her teammate Alexandra Lonsinger ably assisted the Stars as well, defending the basket with great blocked shots. Annemarie Arnold, playing good defense, pulled down lots of rebounds and scored in the second half. The B4 boys team was led by Emilio Perez with points and 3 turnovers in the first half. Arion Ford also was dropping in the buckets for his team and Omar Jesus assisted with good defense against the Shooting Stars.

The Vipers SM/SC 1st and 2nd graders ran up and down the court. They gave up the fewest baskets of the year led on defense by Aaron Epstein. Braden Jackson continued to roll offensively and Jacob Wurster showed improvement on both sides.

Frosh Girls Champs

The Amador Valley Lady Dons basketball team slipped Carondelet in the championship game to win the Cougar Classic by a score of 31 to 28. Chelsea Luther and Kelsey Martin were named to the all-tournament team. Britannia Bloom was selected the tournament's most valuable player.

The Championship game was a dogfight from the beginning, but at the end of the first half the Dons were up 17 to 12. The third quarter, however, was all Carondelet. The Cougars hit their first three shots, all three pointers and the Dons quickly found themselves down by five at the end of the third quarter. The fourth quarter started with a quick steal and a basket by Britannia Bloom. Chelsea Luther hit a big three while Haley Douglas, Kelsey Martin and Emily Pease stepped up and out-rebounded the much taller Cougar team. Carondelet managed to put up a desperation shot at the buzzer but it was short and Amador won by a final score of 31 to 28. Chelsea Luther was high scorer with 14 points and Brit Bloom had 11 to pace the Dons.

In the opening game of the tournament Amador Valley started strong and never looked back, beating Berkeley 41 to 28. Douglas, Martin, and Courtney Wagner controlled the boards. Jessica Infald, Chelsea Luther, Pauline Rosa and Britannia Bloom had several steals a piece and caused a number of Berkeley turnovers. Bloom led the Dons offensively with 18 points and Wagner added 7. Luther, Martin and Rosa all added four points each.

The Lady Dons won their second game of the Carondelet tournament by beating the Sacred Heart Irish 34 to 23. Amador Valley battled in the first half but had trouble hitting their shots and the game was close at halftime with Amador leading 16 to 15. Coach Bigler made some adjustments at halftime and in the second half the Irish found themselves facing a much better Amador team. The Dons defense held the Irish scoreless while the offense doubled the point output of the first half. Luther and Bloom each had nine points to pace the offensive attack. Martin contrib-

uted with ten points. Bloom, Luther and Wagner handled the pressure of the Irish press while Jessica Infald and Pauline Rosa supplied the pressure for the Dons defense. Douglas led the team in rebounding with Emily Pease, Martin Wagner and Bloom also hitting the boards. Neha Seelam and Krishna Bommakani played very well in the fourth quarter.

10K Run

The 6th Hats Off America Red T-Shirt 10K Run/5K Walk will be held beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 10, 2007 at Sycamore Valley Park, 2101 Holbrook Drive, Danville, rain or shine.

Entry fee is \$35 per person. All runners and volunteers will receive a red t-shirt and a barbecue lunch after the run. There is no entry fee for volunteers.

Run with Sparky George, the Bear Flag Runner, to raise awareness and money for the Hats Off America (HOA) nonprofit organization. HOA raises money for families of soldiers who have died in Afghanistan and Iraq. The run is another way that Hats Off America lets the families know that they and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

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

Hats Off America fundraising events are held each year and include Casino Night in April 2007; The Muscle Car, Hot Rod & Art Fair in May 2007; and Red T-Shirt 10KRun/5K Walks in February, September and November 2007. There is also a blood drive on February 3.

Golf Club

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) Golf Association launches its sixth year as an associate golf club with the USGA/Northern California Golf Association. The club is open to those 18 years of age and older, and to youth golfers ages 14 to 17 who are accompanied by an adult member. The LARPD Golf Association is taking registration for the 2007 membership year starting December 30.

Membership fees include NCGA membership, sanction and its amenities, discounts on golf, merchandise and apparel, tournaments at surrounding bay area courses including Poppy Hills and Poppy Ridge, tournament deposits, club affiliated socials and special events, and much more. Registration fees are \$60 through December 30 and \$70 after January 1, 2007.

Visit www.larpdgolfclub.com to download a copy of the registration form, which should be mailed or delivered to the LARPD Golf Association, 4444 East Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550. For more information, call Frank LaScala at (925) 373-5731.

Girls Softball Registration

2007 Registration for all Pleasanton Phantom divisions is now open. Phantom softball is open to girls in grades K-12 living in Pleasanton, Dublin and Sunol. Registration can be made online or mail-in. See the PGSL web site for additional information www.pleasantonsoftball.org.

Sharks Tickets

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) is selling a limited amount of tickets to two games in the upcoming National Hockey League season of the San Jose Sharks.

The public can purchase tickets for the January 15, 2007 game against the Colorado Avalanche, which kicks off at 7:00 p.m. at the Shark Tank in San Jose. Also available are tickets for the Sunday, March 11, 2007 game against the Edmonton Oilers, starting at 5:00 p.m. The Oilers were ranked sixth in the NHL in 2005 and made it to the Stanley Cup finals.

Tickets for both games are Upper Reserved seats in sections 217, 218, 226, and 227. Tickets are \$43 each and can be purchased by calling (925) 373-5700. For more information, please contact Moe Kline at (925) 373-5717.

Baseball Camp

A holiday baseball camp is planned for Dec. 26 to 28. Guest instructors include Brad Bergesen, Brandon Crawford and Jeff Lyman. Proceeds from the camp will be donated to local charities: Camp Arroyo and the DARE Program.

The camp will be held at Bill Payne Park in Livermore, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It is open to groups 8 to 10 and 11 to 14. Instruction will be fundamental pitching, fundamental hitting, and fundamental baseball. Fee is \$125 per player. Registration is on-line at www.thepitchingcenter.com.

Cosponsoring the camp are The Pitching Center, Livermore-Pleasanton Firefighters, Pleasanton Police Department, Livermore-Pleasanton Pony Baseball, All Star Sports, and ThinkSport Consulting Services.

Girls Lacrosse Camp

All girls lacrosse camp: 5-12th grade girls, all levels of play. The girls will be divided by age and ability. The camp dates are from 12/19 - 12/21. Camp hours will be from 1-4PM at Granada High School. Equipment will be provided. The application form can be obtained from the Granada High web site, granadahigh.com. Stu Brokowsky will be running the camp. He can be reached at 925-484-5854 or sbrokowsky@mindspring.com. Camp fee is \$60.

Water Polo Signup

The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) has announced that registration is currently underway for the winter season of Livermore Laser Water Polo.

All practices will be held at the Robert Livermore Community Center (RLCC) Swim Center, located at 4444 East Avenue in Livermore. High school boys will practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., high school girls will practice from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and boys and girls in grades five through eight will practice Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Tournaments for the season will be held on the weekends of December 16-17, January 6-7, January 20-21, and February 3-4.

The fee is \$200 for high school players and \$175 for participants in grades five to eight.

Players can sign up online at www.larpd.dst.ca.us or sign up at the pool. Participants will also be required to register for U.S. Water Polo. Please call RLCC Aquatics at (925) 373-5751 for more information.

Granada Little League

Granada Little League 2007 Season Baseball Registration Tues., Dec. 12 6 pm - 8 pm Round Table on Stanley Blvd., Livermore. For more information visit www.eteamz.com/granadal.

Winter Baseball Camp

Livermore High Varsity Baseball Coach David Perotti is hosting a three day winter 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 \$125 and runs

Do You Remember?



By Anne Homan

Got Your Flu Shot?

Despite precautions such as Livermore's "mask law," one in four Americans came down with influenza during the World War I era. Estimates vary, but probably 50,000 people died of it from 1918 to 1920. In October 1918 the California State Board of Health listed 56,396 cases in the state. Average life expectancy in the U.S. dropped by 12 years.

The flu, transmitted by coughing or sneezing, spread rapidly across the country, in large part because of troop movements and the enclosed living of soldiers in barracks. Overall it claimed the lives of 25,000 in the U.S. armed services. Albert Morgan, grandson of Jeremiah Morgan of Morgan Territory, died in October 1918 while serving in the army at Fort Davis, Washington.

Today, children and the elderly are especially cautioned to have flu shots. By far the main victims of this influenza epidemic were young adults in their 20s and 30s.

The virus did not discriminate against its victims: Phoebe Apperson Hearst at her palatial Hacienda de Pozo de Verona in Pleasanton; Agnes Merritt, wife of the Coast Manufacturing Company president; young brothers James and Frank Connolly and Antonio and William Peña; young fathers George Reed Stanley and Henry York Stanley who between them left behind five small children.

Dora Flynn Sherman's orphaned children were fostered by their aunt and uncle, John and Elizabeth McGlinchey. Mary, the eldest daughter of Joseph and Lucy Cardoza, died along with her husband, and their year-old son, Manuel Enos, was raised by his grandparents.

This outbreak was unusual in the severity of the symptoms. Initial symptoms of high fever, sore throat and headache often developed into bacterial pneumonia. Antibiotics were not yet known. From Oct. 12, 1918 through Jan. 18, 1919, some three dozen Livermore residents died of pneumonia brought on by the flu. On the latter date, 13 families were still quarantined with the disease.

During that three-month period, anyone on the public streets of Livermore was required to wear a surgical-type mask. Schools, libraries, motion picture theaters, and saloons closed. Churches and social organizations canceled their meetings. Local newspapers kept readers abreast of the closures and printed instructions on how to make masks.

Red Cross workers and teachers gathered each day at the Livermore Grammar School, at that time the only elementary school in Livermore (familiar to us today as Fifth Street School or Del Valle Continuation High). The *Herald* described the daily routine as the volunteers met in the school kitchen and telephoned to the doctors and households affected:

"A list of needs is put up on the blackboard, and cooked food, medicine, and household nursing essentials are prepared according to this list. ... About a dozen families a day have been receiving regular supplies, and many emergency calls for broth, eggnog, milk and even bedding, have been promptly filled." Local car owners volunteered as chauffeurs for the deliveries.

The dreaded disease returned a year later to Livermore with more than 100 cases in January 1920; the aftereffects of pneumonia caused several deaths, including those of Jesse Young and Joseph Scullion, ranchers and brothers-in-law in the Altamont hills. Again schools were closed for a while, but overall the outbreak was milder.

Out on Mendenhall Road Billy Frates changed his sleeping habits after his attack: "The doc said sleep outside. ... He says it's better for you. Now when I sleep in the house, well, I can hardly breathe."

Dr. Paul Dolan returned from serving in the U.S. Army Hospital Corps and joined the Livermore practice of Dr. James K. Warner in August 1919, in time to help in the lighter 1920 outbreak. The office nurse, Mary Kelly, had died of influenza in January 1919.

Throughout the grim siege, Dr. Warner, according to his *Herald* obituary, was "on duty almost continuously day after day and week after week and worked far beyond the strength of mortal man." He died at age 58 in 1926.

In the latter part of the epidemic, Prohibition was in effect. According to John Silva, who lived on North Livermore Avenue for many years, local legend had it that if you drank "jackass" whiskey you would not catch the flu, so his family was a regular customer of local bootleggers. He affirmed that his family never caught the flu.

This influenza epidemic was not limited to the United States—estimates suggest that 50 million people died worldwide, more than the number claimed by the bubonic plague in Europe in the Middle Ages.

(Readers can reach me at am3homan@yahoo.com.)

Chanukah Celebrations Planned in the Valley

This Chanukah the Tri-Valley will boast two 'beacons of light.' They will be located in the center of Stoneridge Mall and in front of the Regal Cinemas at Hacienda Crossings. The 9-foot Menorahs will stand as symbols of religious freedom, encouraging the community to 'spread the light' - the primary message of Chanukah. They will be kindled every night of the eight day festival.

Additionally, two communal celebrations are scheduled for the upcoming holiday:

On Saturday, December 16 between 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Dublin Mayor Janet Lockhart and local dignitaries will join the communal Menorah lighting at the Hacienda Crossings. The family celebration will include an 18ft. jump slide for children, edible Chanukah crafts, and live music and dancing.

On Tuesday, December 19 between 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. (formal program and lighting at 6 p.m.) the second annual 'Chanukah Wonderland' will once again be hosted by Stoneridge Mall. Taking photos

with 'Judah the Maccabee,' face painting, and numerous holiday crafts will all be included in the program. State assembly members and the mayors of Pleasanton and Livermore will be present (or represented).

The public Menorahs and communal Chanukah celebrations were initiated and are being coordinated and sponsored by Chabad of the Tri-Valley - the local Jewish Community Center.

"The eternal message of the Menorah lights has particular significance in light of current world events. They remind us all too starkly that the forces of oppression and darkness are still present", explains Rabbi Raleigh Resnick, Chabad of the Tri-Valley's director. "Chanukah reminds us that a little light can defeat an empire of darkness, human goodness can defy terror and brute force, and life and spiritual vitality can overcome destruction."

Chabad of the Tri-Valley's menorahs joins a national and worldwide tradition of public Chanukah menorah displays and candle lighting ceremonies in-

spired by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of righteous memory (1902-1994). They have become commonplace from the White

House to the Kremlin, from Berlin's Brandenburg Gate to the Eiffel Tower and Universal Studios' theme parks.

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Live Nativities, Performances Planned by Local Churches

A Christmas program featuring a live nativity and choral performance will be offered the weekend of Dec. 16 and 17 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Pleasanton.

The live nativity production with music and narrative will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 16. Refreshments, Christmas displays, and music will follow.

On Sun., Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. the annual Christmas Youth Choir and Bell Choir will perform favorite and traditional Christmas and musical numbers.

The church is located at 6100 Paseo Santa Cruz, corner of Valley Ave. and Paseo Santa Cruz, in Pleasanton.

The community is invited to attend both events. Additional information is at 846-0431.

Trinity Baptist Church will present its annual drive through Nativity Story December 14-17 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. each evening.

Six scenes will feature live actors and animals. The story narrative will be available on the car radio.

Trinity Baptist is located at 557 Olivina Ave., Livermore. For information, call 447-1848.



Santa to Take Calls at TV30

Santa Claus will be making a special annual stop at TV30 on Friday, December 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. Children in the Tri-Valley area can watch this live TV show on Channel 30 and talk to Santa by calling 925/462-3030.

The "Santa Claus Live Show" will include entertainment for the entire family including visits from Santa and his elves, classic holiday cartoons, puppet shows, magic show, and performances by local singers including this year's "Livermore Idol."

TV30 is the community television station serving Dublin,

Livermore, Pleasanton, and San Ramon.

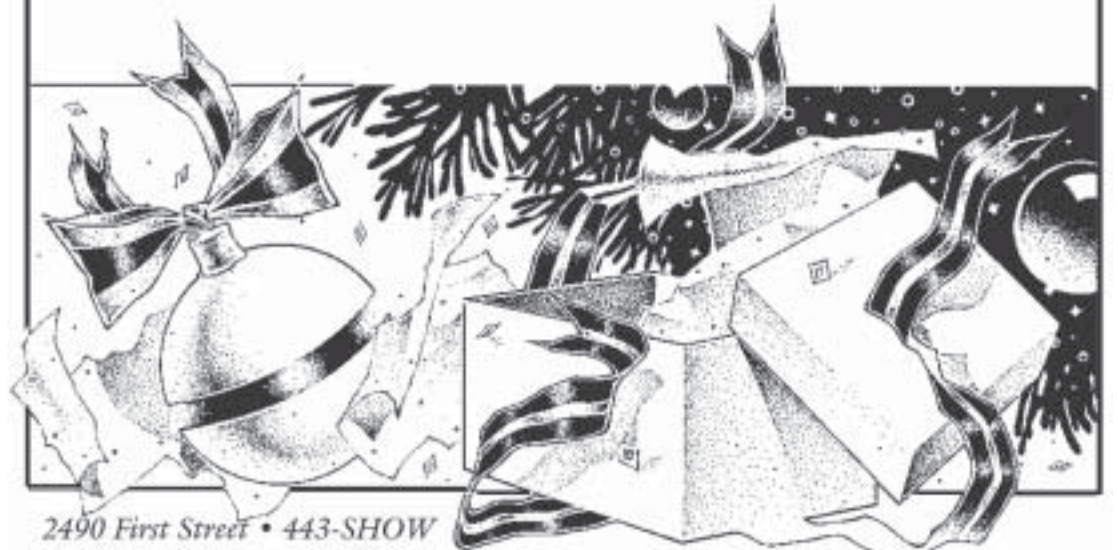
Livermore's BIGGEST Christmas Present Arrives on Friday, December 15

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CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) THX DLP	12:00	2:15	4:30	6:50	9:15
CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) DLP	1:00	3:15	5:45	8:15	
ERAGON (PG) THX DLP	11:45	2:10	4:20	7:10	9:40
ERAGON (PG) DLP	12:45	3:35	6:35	8:50	
PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13) DLP	12:10	4:00	7:00	9:30	
APOCALYTO (R) DLP	11:50	3:45	6:40	9:35	
THE HOLIDAY (PG-13)	12:20	4:05	6:55	9:50	
BLOOD DIAMOND (R) DLP	11:40	3:40	6:30	9:25	
DÉJÀ VU (PG-13) DLP	12:05	4:10	6:45	9:20	
BORAT (R)	12:15	2:20	4:25	7:20	9:30

Tickets & Gift Cards now available online www.cinemawest.com or at our box office starting December 14.



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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.

The Tri-Valley Democratic Club invites the public to its annual Holiday Party and to meet newly elected Congressman Jerry McNerney on December 18. Potluck Dinner 6:30 to 7:30 PM. Bring either an entree, salad, side dish and a bottle of wine or other beverage to share. 8:00 PM meet Jerry McNerney and have dessert at the IBEW Hall, 6250 Village Pkwy, Dublin. Come to one or both parts of the evening. www.trivalleydems.com.

Friends of the Vineyards, Annual Holiday Party Sunday, December 17, 2 to 5 p.m., Ravenswood Estate, 2647 Arroyo Road, Livermore. Music by harpist Karen Grublike. Please bring finger food and/or local wine to share. This invitation is open to all Friends of the Vineyards and Friends of Livermore members and guests.

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Touring Club, Sat., Dec. 16, 40 miles to Jelly Belly Factory in Fairfield, meet 10 a.m. at B St. parking area in Benicia, Barbara Wood, 707-745-6353. Sun., Dec. 17, 47 miles Moraga Loop, meet 10 a.m. at Railroad Museum in Danville, Jonathan Quist, 510-881-5295. Wed., Dec. 20, Ride around the Straits, meet 10 a.m. at Matthew Turner Park in Benicia, Edith Norby, 707-748-1508. Any-one planning to go on a ride is asked to call the leader for details on where to meet and what to bring.

MAP Senior Program, The "JB Smooth Sounds Band" Swing musicians to perform at the Pleasanton Public Library on Tuesday, December 19, 1 to 3 p.m. B Smooth Sounds Band features the mellow voice of Joe Buonsante, the accordion artistry of Ken Logsdon, a terrific trombone played by Chuck Cannon, and the swinging rhythms by master drummer Jerry Harrington. Come and enjoy this free hour of ballads and dance tunes. Please call 931-3400 ext 37 for more information.

Livermore Area Blood Drive - Friday, December 15, 1:00 - 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 1-1½ 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 447-1950, menu #7 (leave a message) or e-mail BloodDrive@asburylive.org.

Amador Valley Toastmasters meets every Thursday morning at 7 a.m. at Mimi's Café Restaurant, at the Hacienda Crossings Shopping Center, Dublin Blvd. and Hacienda Dr. in Dublin. Come improve your speaking and listening skills, and have a lot of fun while doing so! Contact Mark Triska for more info, mtriska@colliersparrish.com, or 925-227-6210.

Art of Living Yoga and Breath Workshop, 7 p.m. Mon., Dec. 18. Two hours of yoga, breathing and meditation. Open to all above the ages of 18. No prior experience required. Taught by an Art of Living teacher. All library programs are free and open to the public. No registration is required. For more information, please call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.

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

RELIGION

Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. There will be an intergenerational service on Dec. 17 featuring the youth in the annual holiday pageant. It will be a celebration of the births of Confucius, Buddha, and Jesus. Information 447-8747.

Sunset Community Church, 2200 Arroyo Rd., Livermore. Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. Nursery and children's church provided. A "Night of Worship" first Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. Wednesday night program for all ages at 7 p.m. Information, call 447-8282.

Chabad's Tri-Valley Chanukah Celebration. The community is invited to a Public Chanukah celebration at Hacienda Crossings in front of Regal Cinemas on Saturday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. Program will include 9 foot Menorah Lighting, jumpside & crafts for children, music and dancing. City dignitaries will be present. For more information call Chabad of the Tri-Valley at: (925) 846-0700 or visit

www.JewishTriValley.com.

Chabad's Chanukah Wonderland at Stoneridge Mall, Tuesday, December 19 at 5:00 p.m. Holiday games and crafts, take a picture with Judah the Macabee, raffles, face painting, holiday treats, and the lighting of Tri-Valley's 9-foot Menorah. Prominent and distinguished government officials will participate. For more information call Chabad of the Tri-Valley at: (925) 846-0700 or visit: www.JewishTriValley.com.

First Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street, Livermore, has worship services on Sundays at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary, located at 4th and L Streets. Adult Bible study is at 9 a.m. and Sunday school is held at 10:30 a.m. For details, call (925) 447-2078.

Our Savior Lutheran Ministries, 1385 So. Livermore Avenue, Livermore.

Tri-Valley Bible Church, 2346 Walnut St., Livermore, holds Sunday worship at 10 a.m. with Sunday school for all ages at 9 a.m. Children's classes during adult worship service. AWANA children's program Wednesdays at 6 p.m. 449-4403 or www.Tri-ValleyBibleChurch.com.

Pleasanton Presbyterian Church, 4300 Mirador Dr., Pleasanton. Two Sunday worship services: 8:30 a.m. service will have a classic emphasis and nursery care for children under 3 will be provided. The 10:15 a.m. service will have a contemporary emphasis and nursery care, as well as Sunday school classes for preschool through high school age children will be provided. For more info, call the church office at 846-4436.

Faith Chapel Assembly of God, 6656 Alisal St., Pleasanton. Sunday school 9:30 a.m., worship with Pastor Glenn Matlock at 10:30 a.m. (nursery for both Sunday school and worship); children's church (age 3-12) at 11:15 a.m.; women's Bible study, Wed. at 10 a.m., Wed. evening programs; choir 7:15 p.m. (boys and girls mission club K-6); seniors 55 Plus meet Thursdays 7 p.m. Information 846-8650.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Livermore, has services at 10 a.m. every Sunday and at 7:30 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. Sunday School for students (ages 3-20) is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday. The church and reading room are located at third and N Streets. The Reading Room, which is open to the public, features books, CDs and magazines for sale. For information, call (925) 447-2946.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen
Mervyns in Livermore played host to a Holiday Shopping Spree for 25 Livermore children last Saturday. The ChildSpreeSM provided the children with a \$100 to purchase new clothes, accessories, shoes and a warm coat. Pictured selecting clothing is Theresa Manzanilla (right). Carol Sum is helping her shop.

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Churches Planning Services and Events of the Season

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If you're looking for a way to add meaning and fun to your holiday season, we invite you to visit us at Holy Cross. Meet warm and welcoming people. Rediscover the true spirit of Christmas!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:
9:30 AM - Sunday Morning Worship
4 PM Family Candlelight Services
8 PM Family Candlelight Services

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December 24, 6 p.m. and 11 p.m.
Candlelight Christmas Eve services

December 25, 10 a.m.
A festival communion service

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Trinity Lutheran Church of Pleasanton

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8:00 pm & 10:00 pm Festival Candle Light Worship
The service of Candle Lighting will highlight these Communion Services.

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All are Welcome

Advent Reconciliation Service
Tuesday, December 19 7:30 PM

Christmas Eve
4:00 PM Mass (Children's Choir)
4:00 PM Mass (Borromeo Hall)
6:00 PM Youth Mass
10:00 PM Mass - Carols at 9:30 PM (Adult Choir and Ensemble)

Christmas Day
10:00 AM Mass

Advent & Christmas At St. Clare's

Sunday Services During Advent:

- December 3, Advent 1: Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
- December 10, Advent 2: Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
- December 17, Advent 3: Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
- December 24, Advent 4: Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. only

Christmas Eve Services on Sunday, December 24:

- 5 p.m. Family Service with Children's Pageant & Carols
- 8 p.m. Festival Service of Christmas with Lessons & Carols
- 11 p.m. Candlelight Holy Eucharist with Chamber Music

Christmas Day Services on Monday, December 25:

- 11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

All are welcome at St. Clare's, regardless of faith.

ST. CLARE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
St. Clare's Episcopal Church is located at 3350 Hopyard Rd. in Pleasanton. For more information about St. Clare's, contact the church office or the Rev. Ronald Culmer at (925) 462-4802 or stclare@att.net.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Valley Concert Chorale performed its annual holiday concert last week. This Fri., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m. the group will host a "Sing-It-Yourself Messiah," at the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore. Admission is \$10 at the door. For more information, visit www.valleyconcertchorale.org.

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Polar Express at Wente Vineyards, Saturday, December 16, matinee begins at 1:30 p.m. screening of Polar Express, the animated family movie. The story: On Christmas Eve, a doubting boy boards a magical train headed to the North Pole and Santa Claus's home. And just like the kids in the movie, kids in the audience are encouraged to come in their pajamas to watch the movie. Wente Vineyards will serve a delicious prix fixe lunch (optional) to accompany. Hot chocolate and coffee will be served. Two-course prix fixe lunch and ticket for the show: \$29 Adults (plus tax and gratuity), \$16 Kids (plus tax and gratuity). Movie only ticket: \$9 Adults, \$5 Kids. Buy tickets now by calling 925.456.2400 or Ticketmaster.com. Proceeds benefit the California Independent Film Festival. Barrel Room at Wente Vineyards, 5050 Arroyo Road, Livermore.

Solo Show, Work by Dee Haag will be on display at Washington Mutual Bank, 561 Main St. in Pleasanton is the site now through the end of January. The show includes original landscape watercolor paintings. The public is invited to view her work during regular bank business hours.

Winter Concerts, Amador Valley High School Music Department presents a Winter Concert, directed by Mark Aubel, featuring the AVHS Orchestra, Choir and Jazz A Ensemble and with special guest, the Foothill High School Chamber Choir. Dec. 18 at 7:30 pm at the Amador Theatre. On Dec. 19, the Amador Valley High School Music Department presents a Winter Concert, directed by Jon Grantham, featuring the AVHS Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band, as well as the Jazz B Ensemble. The concert will begin at 7:00 pm at the Amador Theatre. General seating.

Diablo Symphony, Manuel Romero, vocalist, and Brentwood's Liberty High School Choir, join the symphony for "Holiday Delights," a concert of seasonal favorites including selections by Bizet, Mozart and Leroy Anderson. Joyce Johnson Hamilton conducts. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 19. Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. \$12, \$18, \$20 at 943-7469 or www.dlrca.org.

Wine, chocolate and appetizers, Aloha Island Trading Company, Gourmet Works and Studio 7 provide complimentary appetizers, Livermore wines and chocolates every Friday through

December 22nd from 6-9 PM. This is for the enjoyment of adult shoppers. Music is also offered on most Fridays. Aloha Island Trading Company, Gourmet Works and Studio 7 are located at 400, 410 and 420 Main Street in downtown Pleasanton (corner of West Angela and Main). Check www.AlohaIslandTradingCompany.com for the Livermore wineries to be featured each week.

Auditions, Play It Again Sam, by Woody Allen. December 18 and 19 at 7:00 p.m. Auditions will be cold readings from the script. Scripts will be provided at the audition. Roles are available for 3 men ages 35 - 55 (1 man plays the role of Humphrey Bogart) and for 8 women ages 22 to 40. Production runs March 2 - 18, 2007. For information about auditions visit us on the web at www.dmtonline.org. The Douglas Morrisson Theatre 22311 North Third Street Hayward; (510) 881-6777.

Worthington Gallery West, Cuna Indian Benefit, December 5-30. Benefit for the San Blas Medical Mission through the sale of colorful Mola textiles. Proceeds of the sale go directly to the Mission. December 15, 7 to 9 p.m., Bracelets by Ruth Van Slyke - bracelets made with vintage buttons, buckles and ribbons. All Friday night events free to the public; seasonal refreshments. 739-J Main St., Pleasanton, (925) 485-1183 www.worthingtongallerywest.com. Tues. - Sat. 10:30- 5:30.

A Christmas Carol, based on the story by Charles Dickens, directed by A. Fajilan, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 17 at 2 p.m., University Theatre, \$7 general, \$6 youth and seniors, \$5 CSUEB students, \$3 children and \$16 for a family. California State University, East Bay (CSUEB), 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward. Theatre and Dance Department 510-885-3118 <http://class.csueastbay.edu/theatre/>

Lounge entertainment: Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton: Thurs., Dec. 14, Fred McCarty sings folk rock, 6 to 8:30 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 15, Dave Crimmen Band, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Sat., Dec. 16, Major Link, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Tues., Dec. 19, Jambalaya Swing Band, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Thurs., Dec. 21, Fred McCarty sings folk rock, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Close Up, Livermore Art Association exhibit at the Livermore Library,

1188 So. Livermore Ave. Focus is on life in a macro view. The object of the show will be to view things encountered at close range. Exhibit Dec. 1-30. Available for viewing during regular library hours.

Vocal Jazz Concert, Las Positas College, Friday, December 15, 8 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 general, \$7 seniors/students. Tickets can be purchased at the campus bookstore, 3033 Collier Canyon Road, at the door, or at Fine Fretted Friends in Livermore. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Mary Campbell at 925-424-1118.

Choir Concert, Las Positas College performance. Saturday, December 16, at 8 pm. Location to be announced. Tickets are \$10.00 general, \$7 seniors/students. Tickets can be purchased at the campus bookstore, 3033 Collier Canyon Road, at the door, or at Fine Fretted Friends in Livermore. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Mary Campbell at 925-424-1118.

Valley Dance Theatre, Nutcracker ballet. Dec. 16 at 2 and 7 p.m., Dec. 17, 2 p.m., Dec. 19 and 22 at 7 p.m. Livermore High School Performing Arts Theater, 600 Maple St., Livermore. Ticket information www.valleydancetheatre.com.

Golden Bough Concert, Saturday, Dec. 16, The Wesley Center; 902 Danville Blvd; Alamo. Celtic Christmas Show featuring the McGrath Irish Dancers. Doors open 7:15; showtime 8 p.m. General Admission: Gold Circle: \$37, Adult: \$22, Sr/Child: \$20. Box office/information: 925-229-2710 or www.communityconcerts.com.

New Year's Party, Tesla Vintners New Years Eve Party on Dec. 31st from 8pm-1am. Patty's Passion, will be released. This is a musical blend of Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre, and Petite Sirah. The festivities will take place in the new Tented Facility. There will be live music by the Singing Winemaker and Driving Force. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served. Two complimentary glasses of wine and sparkling wine for a New Year's Toast will be served. Additional wines from Fenestra, Red Skye and The Singing Winemaker will be available for purchase throughout the evening. Cost is \$70 per person. Call 925-606-WINE (9463) for reservations.

'Wicked' Star to Teach Young Actors

The Young Actors' Theatre Camp's upcoming "Wicked!" Winter Holiday Break Camp features a Master Class with Broadway's Kristy Cates who plays "Elphaba" in the hit musical "Wicked!"

Kristy has been part of the "Wicked" family of for over 3 years and has performed in productions on Broadway, in Toronto, and currently Chicago.

The Young Actors' Theatre Camp's network of Industry Professionals in Los Angeles and New York brings working professionals to teach students about careers in Film, Television and

on Broadway. Past master class instructors have included Victoria Burrows, casting director of "King Kong" and the "Lord of the Rings," Lynn Redgrave and Zach Braff from "Scrubs." Daily classes include actor's scene study, jazz and hip hop dance, voice lessons, monologue workshops, improvisation, Shakespeare, yoga, and on-camera technique.

Wicked Winter Camp includes a special New Year's Eve Ball with a live performance by the band "Ten13 Concept" recently seen on NBC's "America's Got Talent!"

Brad Wilson Performs at Babe's Place

Recording artist Brad Wilson will be performing at Babe's Place in Livermore on Fri., Dec. 15.

His music has been featured in John Carpenter's last two films and soundtracks, "Vampires," and "Ghosts of Mars." The NBC soap, "Passions," has used his music for years.

Brad refers to his blend of blues and rock as "American music." His vocals have been described as "soulful in a way that call to mind the likes of Gregg Allman.

He was front man for the blues/rock band Stone for seven years, going solo in 2003. His solo effort has produced a self-titled album, which features a mixture of blues and rock 'n roll. Many of his songs are about his travels on the road. His tours have taken him throughout the United States many times.

Babe's Place is located on Old First Street in downtown Livermore.

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"I created this camp as a way to give back to the kids," said Camp Director, Shawn Ryan, a jazz cabaret star who was a Semi-Finalist on NBC's "America's Got Talent! This is something I wish I would have had growing up!"

Ryan is a Pleasanton native and has been active in bringing Arts Education to Bay Area teens for 8 years. Ryan was recently honored with an award for "Excellence in Community Service" by the Marriot of Walnut Creek.

"I just cannot wait to go back to camp!" said Chelsea Makela, 16, of Brentwood.

"This camp changed my life!" added Quinn Whitaker, 18, of Oakland.

Registration for YATC's "Wicked!" Winter Holiday Break Camp is open until filled. Only 75 students can attend. Cost is \$795 and financial aid and scholarships are available. Register is at the website, www.youngactorstheatre.org or call (925) 858-3548.

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Will Durst Brings Year End Show to Pleasanton

Political satirist Will Durst and friends will bring their The Big Fat Year End Kiss Off Comedy Show XIV to Pleasanton Friday, December 29, at 8:00 p.m.

The performance will take place at the Amador Theater, 155 Santa Rita Road. City of Pleasanton Civic Arts Presents will host the performance. This show is appropriate for adult audiences.

Appearing with Will Durst will be Jim Short, a regular guest of the Craig Ferguson Show, improvisationists Debi Durst and Michael Bossier, and well-known comedians Steven Kravitz and Arthur Gaus. The show will feature stand-up comedy, improvisation, and semi-written sketches all of which will spoof national and local events of this past year.

"Will Durst's show has become a Civic Arts Presents holiday tradition over the past few years," says Civic Arts Manager Andy Jorgensen. "We find that our adult audiences appreciate



Will Durst

the opportunity to take a break from the holiday pace and really laugh at the past year and its newsmakers."

The Amador Theater show is one appearance in Durst's annual tour to Bay Area venues during the week between Christmas and

New Year's Eve. Along with their appearance at the Amador Theater December 29, the troupe will entertain at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts in Berkeley on December 26, at The Mystic Theater in Petaluma on December 27, at the Little Fox Theatre in Redwood City on December 28, at the Hofmann Theatre, Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts, in Walnut Creek on December 30 and for two performances at The Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason in San Francisco on New Year's Eve.

Advance tickets to The Big Fat Year End Kiss Off Comedy Show XIV in Pleasanton are \$15, \$20 and \$25. They may be purchased online at www.civartstickets.org until 1:00 a.m. the day of the performance, by phone at (925) 931-3444, or in person at the Amador Theater Box Office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and for two hours prior to the performance.

Talk Hawks Come Home with Trophies

The Las Positas College (LPC) "Talk Hawks" forensic team came home exhausted but exhilarated by a tournament tour over the weekend of November 10-12 that resulted in many high scoring wins.

The Talk Hawks traveled to Stockton to compete in the Mustang Invitational Tournament and the Paul Winters Invitational Tournament. They went head-to-head against Rice University, Pepperdine University, Northern Arizona University, Western Kentucky University, the University of the Pacific, CSU Long Beach and San Francisco, the United States Air Force Academy and 27 other schools.

"We should all be very proud of our local team who made one of their most impressive showings ever," said Tim Heisler, the Talk Hawks coach and faculty member in the LPC Speech Department.

As a team, the LPC Talk Hawks won the following:

1st Place, Community College Division at the Mustang Invitational Tournament; 1st Place, Large School Entry - Individual Events at the Paul Winters Invitational Tournament; 1st Place, Swing Sweepstakes - Community College Division

Students winning individual awards were:

Mustang Invitational held at Delta Community College on November 10: Miriam Miller, Dublin, 2nd Place, Novice Speech to Entertain; 1st Place, Novice Informative Speaking; 2nd Place, Novice Communication Analysis; 5th Place, Speaker for entire Tournament.

Celeste Fusco, Pleasanton 2nd Place, Novice Duo Interpretation; 4th Place, Novice Informative Speaking.

David MacFarlane, Tracy 2nd Place, Novice Duo Interpretation; Finalist, Novice Dramatic Interpretation.

Jessica Padula, Pleasanton 3rd Place, Novice Informative Speaking.

Brandon Robinson, Pleasanton 3rd Place, Novice Prose Interpretation.

Lyndsay Parkman, Livermore 3rd Place, Open Oral Interpretation of Literature.

Karen Brohard, Livermore 2nd Place, Open Informative Speaking, 3rd Place, Open Persuasive Speaking; 9th Place, Speaker for entire Tournament.

Rachel Herrington, Livermore 2nd Place, Novice Poetry Interpretation.

Paul Winters Invitational at University of the Pacific, November 11 and 12: Miriam Miller, Dublin 1st Place,

Novice Informative Speaking; Celeste Fusco, Pleasanton 3rd Place, Novice Duo Interpretation; Finalist, Novice Informative Speaking.

David MacFarlane, Tracy 3rd Place, Novice Duo Interpretation; 3rd Place, Novice Dramatic Interpretation.

Jessica Padula, Pleasanton 2nd Place, Novice Prose Interpretation; 3rd Place, Novice Informative Speaking.

Brandon Robinson, Pleasanton Finalist, Novice Prose Interpretation.

Callie Ryerson, San Ramon Finalist, Open Speech to Entertain.

Lyndsay Parkman, Livermore 2nd Place, Open Speech to Entertain; 2nd Place, Open Prose Interpretation; 3rd Place, Individual Event Speaker at the Tournament; 3rd Place, Open Oral Interpretation of Literature.

Michael Ledezma, Livermore Semi-finalist, Open Prose Interpretation; 6th Place, Open Persuasive Speaking.

Karen Brohard, Livermore 1st Place, Open Informative Speaking; Finalist - Open Persuasive Speaking; 1st Place, Individual Event Speaker at the Tournament; Finalist, Open Persuasive Speaking Finalist, Open Prose Interpretation Finalist, Open Communication Analysis.

Rachel Herrington, Livermore 3rd Place, Novice Poetry

Jazz Performance at Pleasanton Library

Swing into the holiday spirit: come to the Pleasanton Public Library for an hour of holiday jazz performed by pianist Ira Stein, his son Jonathan Stein, drummer Evan Hughes, featuring vocals by Cyndi Guerzon.

The performance will be Sat., Dec. 16 at 2 p.m. in the Pleasanton Public Library Meeting Room. 400 Old Bernal Ave. The program is free and open to all. No registration required.

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

Chorus Performs Seasonal Sounds

Pleasanton Playhouse Broadway Chorus presents "For the Love of Music," a choral celebration of some of Broadway's finest hits and the favorite songs of the Christmas season.

Performances will be Dec. 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 17 at 2 p.m.

Performing will be the Broadway Chorus, Rendition, our youth choir and a talented cast of Cosmopolitan dancers.

The show will be performed at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and \$10 for

youth. For information go to www.pleasantonplayhouse.com or call (925) 462-2121.

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Thursday
Dec. 21st

7pm to 10pm

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All About Me Kids Salon 156 S. J Street	Sweet Dreams Linenry 2074 First Street
Anita's Salon & Gift Boutique 206 S. J Street	Café Art 1769 First Street
ArtSpace 133 S. Livermore Ave	Vino Cellars & Accessories 1772 First Street
Livermore Trophies & Tees 2947 Second Street	Sweet Feet 21 S. Livermore Ave
Tommie's Deli & Sandwiches 2152 Second Street	John Christopher Cellars 25 S. Livermore Ave
Cooley Katz Toys 2959 Second Street	And Many More!!!
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(925) 373-1795 www.livermoredowntown.com
Have a safe and Happy Holiday season!
from the merchants, restaurants and businesses of
Downtown Livermore!

* * * * *

OBITUARIES

Elizabeth (Beth) Ford

Elizabeth (Beth) Ford died December 3, 2006.

She was born in Stockton and lived in Livermore many years until she retired to her beloved foothills.

She is survived by her brother Frank Taphorn, sons and daughters-in-law Barry and Yvonne Baker, and Tim and Carol Ford. She was preceded in death by her son Art Baker of Grass Valley. She is also survived by grandchildren Barry Baker Jr., Sherry Baker, Lauren Baker, Marci Delaney, Chris Ford and Craig Baker; great grandchildren Trevor Baker, Todd Baker, Eugene Jamison, Jessica Jamison, Kirsten Sargent, Kenneth Sargent, Laura Delaney, Rachael Delaney, Zachary Delaney, Cameron Ford and Cole Ford, and great-great grandchildren Noah Jamison and Seth Baker.

Her life revolved around her family and friends. She was known for her many hours of volunteer work for her church, hospital and Senior Center. She was a charter member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Livermore Auxiliary. She was honored with a plaque for being named Senior

Citizen of the Year for Amador County by the congressman from her district. While living in Livermore and raising her family there she worked for the Callahan Insurance Agency.

Kirsten M. Catalano

Kirsten M. Catalano died December 4, 2006. She was 62.

The Livermore resident was born in Copenhagen, Denmark where she met her first husband and his young daughter. They lived for a year in Iran and then Afghanistan. In 1966 they moved to Livermore.

Kirsten worked diligently earning an AA degree at Chabot College. She worked at the Doughnut Wheel, Longs Drugs and then took a job with the Livermore Police Department. Years later she was hired by the CHP before changing careers, going into real estate sales. She started with the IRS as a part time employee, and became a revenue officer where she met her 2nd husband. Kirsten retired after 20 years of service. She received many awards for outstanding service during her career. She loved to travel and visited many foreign countries. She went on many cruises, she loved Reno and Las Vegas, loved to shop, gamble, and loved eat-

ing fancy desserts

She was preceded in death by her son Jeffrey D. Marcotte. She is survived by her husband of 16 years Jim Catalano, and former husband of 24 years Theodore Marcotte, a son Thomas P. Marcotte and his wife Shari A. Marcotte, their daughter Melissa D. Lockhart, stepdaughters Sharon R. Marcotte and Patricia Catalano; stepsons, Benjamin Catalano and Joseph Catalano.

Funeral Services were held on Monday December 11 in Livermore. Burial will be at Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Jay Robert Husband

Jay Robert Husband, of Pleasanton, passed away peacefully in the loving arms of his family on November 30, 2006. He was 56. He was a technical coordinator at ADP, Audatex Development, for seventeen years.

He is survived by his wife, Debbie, son Robert and his son's fiancée, Irene. He was a devoted husband, married for thirty-three years. His parents, Robert (Bob) and Eunice, passed away in 1962. Jay was born in Oakland and later raised by his Aunt and

Uncle, Margie "Mom" and Harold "Pop." As a preteen he was involved in the Boy Scouts of America. This was an important experience; he referred many times to his mentor, Mr. Pruitt.

Family gatherings were always a special event. Swimming and reading and music, especially jazz, were his favorite diversions. Another enjoyable pleasure was cooking. Making potato salad was his specialty. He enjoyed camping and card playing with the guys, especially with his "bud," Pete. Attending jazz festivals with his Pete and his wife, Sharon, were always a highlight. The infectious laughter of Joni and great sense of humor she, her husband Pete and children often shared were always welcome. Additional special friends include Alan and wife Susan, Pauline and daughter Patricia. He had other nieces, nephews, extended family, friends and neighbors who all loved and cared for him.

Final arrangements will be private. Donations may be made to Stanford University School of Medicine, Dr. Michael Fowler, Heart Failure Research. In a separate note include: In memory of

Jay Husband. Send to Stanford University School of Medicine, Dr. Michael Fowler, Falk CVCR-295, 300 Pasteur Dr., Stanford, CA 94305-5406.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Michael Robert Azizi

Michael Robert Azizi died December 7, 2006 at his home in Livermore. He was 27.

The native of San Francisco had lived in Livermore for 9 years. He will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his parents, Robert and Moni Azizi and many other family members.

Funeral services were held December 12 in Livermore. Burial was at Roselawn Cemetery in Livermore.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Epilepsy Foundation, 5700 Stoneridge Dr. #295, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Dee Marie Archimede

Dee Marie Archimede died November 30, 2006 in Sacramento.

She was born in Peoria, Illi-

nois and was raised in Livermore. She graduated from Livermore High School in 1969. "Dee-Dee" was always the life of the party. She loved to sing and dance and listen to bagpipe music. She loved small animals and had numerous pets including Chihuahuas dogs, Chinchillas, Guinea Pigs and Hamsters. She kept family traditions alive by making sure all got together for the holidays. Dee-Dee will be missed by family and friends.

She is survived by her husband, Tim Archimede, son, Scott William Edwards of Post Falls, ID, daughter, Amy Marie Branton of Antelope, six grandchildren, her mother, Aldura Clarabell Shrigley, brothers William E. Forbes Jr. (Barbara) of Merlin and John Lee Forbes (Katherine) of Auburn; sisters Janice Cork Fellingham (Paul) of Livermore, Renee Sue Forbes of Livermore and Pamela Archimede of Grass Valley. She was preceded in death by her father William Forbes in 1985.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Sat., Dec. 16 at Callaghan Mortuary, 3833 East Ave., Livermore.

GOOD NEIGHBOR CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICE

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387963

The following person (s) doing business as Steel Creek Consulting, 1756 Valley of The Moon Rd., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Scott R. Rohe, 1756 Valley of The Moon Rd., 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 14, 2006. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Scott Rohe. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

County on November 14, 2006. Expires November 14, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2079. Publish November 23, 30, December 7, 14, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387838-387841

The following person (s) doing business as 1) The Crush 2) Wooden Turtle Productions 3) Beyond Technology 4) Hidden Creek Wine, 1249 Quarry Lane Ste 140, Pleasanton, CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Waldorf Conceptions LLC, 1249 Quarry Lane Ste 140, Pleasanton, CA 94566

This business is conducted by limited liability company. The registrant commenced to

transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on November 9, 2006. Signature of Registrant: /s/ James Frost. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 9, 2006. Expires November 9, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2080. Publish November 23, 30, December 7, 14, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 387823

The following person (s) doing business as Marth Jensen Solutions, 2243 Hampton Rd., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jensen & Associates, Inc., 2243 Hampton Rd., Liver-

more, CA 94550

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Marth Jensen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 9, 2006. Expires November 9, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2082. Publish November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2006.

Signature of Registrant: /s/ Uzma Kamal. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 9, 2006. Expires November 9, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2083. Publish December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 388454-388455

The following person (s) doing business as 1) Women's Integral Development Institute 2) Women's Development Institute, 2243 Hampton Rd., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Jensen & Associates, Inc., 2243 Hampton Rd., Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Marth Jensen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 29, 2006. Expires November 29, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2084. Publish December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 388588

The following person (s) doing business as Weston Properties, 2068 First St., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Matthew Ford, 8500 Crane Ridge Rd., Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Matthew Ford. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

County on December 1, 2006. Expires December 1, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2085. Publish December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 388303

The following person (s) doing business as Better Plumbing "dba" Economy Seismic, 239 Main Street Suite E, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Cameron Shawn Gugliemelli, 628 Berryessa Street, Milpitas, CA 95034

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Cameron Gugliemelli. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 14, 2006. Expires November 14, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2086. Publish December 14, 21, 28, January 4, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 388588

The following person (s) doing business as Weston Properties, 2068 First St., Livermore, CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Matthew Ford, 8500 Crane Ridge Rd., Livermore, CA 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Matthew Ford. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda

County on December 1, 2006. Expires December 1, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2085. Publish December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2006.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 388707

The following person (s) doing business as A Better Bookkeeping Solution, 4424 Payne Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588, is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Monica Fey, 4424 Payne Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588

This business is conducted by a general partnership. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Monica Fey. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 14, 2006. Expires November 14, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2086. Publish December 14, 21, 28, January 4, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 388303

The following person (s) doing business as Better Plumbing "dba" Economy Seismic, 239 Main Street Suite E, Pleasanton, CA 94566, is hereby registered by the following owner (s): Cameron Shawn Gugliemelli, 628 Berryessa Street, Milpitas, CA 95034

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed. Signature of Registrant: /s/ Cameron Gugliemelli. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on November 22, 2006. Expires November 22, 2011. The Independent Legal No. 2087. Publish December 14, 21, 28, January 4, 2007.

ANIMALS/PETS

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Adopt a new best friend: TVAR, the Tri-Valley Animal Rescue, offers animals for adoption every Saturday and Sunday, excluding most holidays. On Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, both dogs and cats are available at the Pleasanton Farmers Market at W. Angela and First Streets. Two locations will showcase cats only: Petsmart in Dublin from 12:00 to 4:00 and the Pet Food Express in Livermore from 1:00 to 4:00. On Sundays, cats are available at Petsmart in Dublin from 1:00 to 4:00, and Petco in San Ramon from 11:00 to 3:00. For more information, call TVAR at (925) 803-7043 or visit our website at www.tvr.org

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JEROME MARTIN AUERBACH

CASE NO. VP06299187

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **JEROME M. AUERBACH, JEROME AUERBACH, AND JEROME MARTIN AUERBACH**

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: **PAULA J. AUERBACH** in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **PAULA J. AUERBACH** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important action, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

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150)ADOPTIONS
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152) MISCELLANEOUS

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A "California Native", she was born and raised in Oakland but has made the Tri-Valley Area and Livermore her home for the last 19 years with her husband and three children. She and her family are very community based being active members of Boy Scouts of America SFBAC, Girl Scouts of America SFBAC, Livermore Girls Softball Association, and SM/SC CYD Basketball.

Given her diverse background Kristine shows a sincere commitment to community and prides herself on being honest and trustworthy.

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Photos - Doug Jorgensen

Giving to help others took place at two locations last week. In the photo at left, employees at Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore wrapped gifts to be given to those in need. Pictured are (from left) Jennifer Freitas, Carolyn Baker (standing), and Lindy Farhat. In the photo to the



right, Ron Sutton, CEO of Accusplit, presents 600 scooters and helmets. Trying out the scooter is Clay Gotz, student body president of Pleasanton Middle School. Many Pleasanton students are involved in Operation Hope, collecting money and gifts. The donation from Accusplit was to match the students' efforts.

TRAINS

(continued from page one)

members of the train museum in Sacramento. She has been a mainstay for Stephen's hobby, said Rodriguez. She even gave up most of their home's closets so he has room to store trains.

In the Livermore museum display, Rodriguez worked to focus on the history of the trains. "We pulled some historical pictures, from the history center, like a cab-forward engine, going past Altamont station," he said.

The cab-forward engine, designed and built in railroad shops in Sacramento in the 1940s, was the answer to the problem of engineers who were nearly asphyxiated when they drove through the long tunnels in the mountains. The smoke would come out of the smokestack, and basically flood the engine cab with fumes from the coal-fired steam engine. By putting the cab ahead of the boiler and smokestack, the engineer was able to ride ahead of the exhaust, and breathe much better in the tunnels.

Some of the trains on display in Livermore have Christmas themes. Typically the toy train manufacturers included these little treats annually, with such things as tank cars painted to look like candy canes, or a whole train dedicated as the Polar Ex-

press, a theme taken from the popular Christmas movie of the same name.

The model trains' special decorations put one in mind of the annual Sunol Christmas train trips down Niles Canyon. Those excursions are in big demand every year. All the cars are lighted and decorated with Christmas trimmings. Rodriguez said he thinks the Sunol train trips look

like lots of fun. However, "I've never been lucky enough to get tickets," he said.

The Livermore Heritage Guild museum is the Carnegie Building, 2155 Third St. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesdays through Sundays.

The train exhibit is expected to run well into January, said Rodriguez.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Wishful Wanda is so shy, but how she wishes she weren't! This sensitive 2-year old little girl is waiting for just the right person to come along and scoop her up. She's a blushing cutie who wants nothing more than to be loved. Please call Valley Humane Society at 925-426-8656 for more information on Wanda the Shy Princess. Valley Humane Society holds mobile pet adoptions for dogs and cats at Pet Extreme in Livermore every Saturday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Janice Pementel
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