



Sommerfest Set For This Saturday

The annual German Sommerfest will be held June 16 at The Barn in Livermore.

Livermore Cultural Arts Council sponsors the evening of family entertainment that includes dancing, dance exhibition, and dinner. 5 to 10:30 p.m. There will be an activities corner for children. Performing will be the Karl Leberher Band (pictured above).

All proceeds will go to Livermore School Arts programs. Admission tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and \$25 for a family of two or more children.

For information, call Dick and Doris Ryon, co-Festmeisters 447-8907.



The Principled Academy Ballet Folklorico was an award winner.

Rodeo Parade Winners Listed

Award winners in the annual Livermore Rotary Rodeo Parade were handed out following the parade last Saturday.

The general sweepstakes trophy went to the Livermore Rodeo Rockettes, while the equestrian sweepstakes trophy was awarded to the Alameda County Sheriff's Posse.

Other winners in the general entry, judged by the Pacific Coast Judges Association are: Commercial entry: 1st G&M Farms, 2nd Cooleykatz Toys, 3rd Woopsie-Daisy Toy Shop; Majorette corp. (senior and junior) 1st Napa Pepperettes; amateur float: 1st Cactus Corners Youth Square Dancers, 2nd Zone 7 Water Agency; Novelty Unit (senior: 1st Livermore Rodeo Rockettes, 2nd Tri-Valley CAREs;

Novelty unit (junior): 1st Currin Lee Dancers of Livermore, 2nd The Principled Academy Ballet Folklorico, 3rd Girl Scout Troop 2949; Color guard (see PARADE, page 9)

Pleasanton Votes To Ban Marijuana Dispensaries

A ban on medical marijuana dispensaries was approved by the Pleasanton City Council last week.

However, the council left the door open to reconsider the ban if federal law were to change. In addition to approving the ban, the council voted to establish a task force to determine the need for medical marijuana in Pleasanton and how that need could be met. The city's Human Services Commission will lead the task force.

The vote on the ban was unanimous. It included provisions to lobby the federal government to change its law regarding the use of medical marijuana.

The vote to establish the task force was 3 to 2, with Cindy McGovern and Jerry Thorne opposed.

McGovern and Thorne both indicated that they would not support any potential change in the ban until federal law changes.

McGovern said when she voted to support the use of medical marijuana, she believed that it would be distributed through pharmacies. "I cannot support a dispensary in Pleasanton."

Cheryl Cook-Kallio said of her vote to establish the task force that if the recommendation (See BAN, page 5)

Task Force to Look at Arts Funding

An arts master plan was approved Monday by the Livermore City Council. At the same time, the council held off on moving forward with a fee on development to help pay for implementation of the plan.

Instead the council voted to establish a task force to recommend a financing plan that would include a variety of sources. The task force is charged with coming back with a financing plan by the Sept. 24 council meeting. If at that time the recommendation were not acceptable, the council made it clear that it would move forward

with the financing plan proposed in the master plan.

The vote was unanimous. Councilmember John Marchand, an original member of the Commission for the Arts, had wanted to move forward with the fee at Monday's meeting. However, he agreed to the task force when it was made clear that the task force would not be allowed to study the issue beyond Sept. 24.

Marchand said that the commission had wanted to do many things, but was hobbled by the lack of money. "We need seed money. We need people to

write grants. A work place contribution program is in the works. There will be an opportunity for everyone to contribute. We need to start somewhere. The fee is a good place. It's time to get going."

Mayor Marshall Kamena said he had envisioned seed money coming from grants, not necessarily a fee. "Philosophically, I support the arts master plan and art in public places ordinance. I would like to see grants as the first source of money. I would like to approve a plan and hold back the fee to develop a more defined process."

He suggested establishing the task force that would include representation from industrial, commercial and residential developers.

"Timing is very important," said Councilmember Marj Leider. "We can't delay supporting the arts commission."

Councilmember Tom Reitter said what's important is to have the task force and residents understand that the council is expecting the development fee to be part of the funding. The amount and phasing has yet to be worked out. "I don't want this studied for months and months

and then quietly go away."

The task force, comprised of representatives from the Chamber, development community, downtown Livermore, arts commissioners, and others, will have until Sept. 24 to prepare a recommendation.

The council considered three issues at the meeting. The first was the master plan. Second was the introduction of an ordinance establishing a fee on private development of 1/2 of 1%. The fee would have been increased to 1% by 2010. Developers would have the option of (See FUNDING, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The action was fast and furious at the annual Livermore Rodeo held over the weekend. In the photo, a saddle bronc rider heads for the ground.

Testing Underway for Pleasanton Wi-Fi Project

By Libby Kolar

The City of Pleasanton is joining an international movement by establishing a Wi-Fi network in its downtown.

Municipal Wi-Fi networks have been widely used internationally for at least the past five years. Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Japan, France and parts of Germany and Scandinavia are some of the countries that have well-developed and widely used municipal Wi-Fi networks.

However, in the United States, the idea of municipal Wi-Fi networks gained national attention only two and 1/2 years ago (at the end of 2004) when Philadelphia's Wi-Fi implementation was fought by Verizon, the incumbent broadband Internet service provider in that area. Verizon last the battle. According to Jennifer LeClaire in her 11/15/06 article appearing in TechNewsWorld, spending on municipal networks increased from less than \$50 million in 2005 to more than \$150 million in 2006. As these projects prove their worth, more and more US municipalities have or are planning and implementing their own Wi-Fi networks, including Pleasanton, San Ramon, Walnut Creek, Danville and Concord.

According to Pamela Ott, Pleasanton's Economic Development Manager, in the spring of 2006 Pleasanton submitted a staff report recommending to the city council the development and implementation of a Wi-Fi network for use by the City, particularly for emergency police and fire services. As the Council discussed the project, it was recognized as providing a benefit not only for the City, but also for the entire downtown as well given

its potential impact on the quality of life for merchants, residents and visitors.

The council approved a downtown pilot project and put it out to bid on July 25, 2006. The contract was awarded to Network Anatomy, a mobile wireless and satellite integrated communications firm located in downtown Pleasanton. The company was founded by Doug Linman in 2001.

The pilot project was kicked off in the area bounded by the Rose Hotel, First Street, the Senior Center and Peters Avenue on January 17, 2007. All access points were installed by April 29. Internal testing began on May 21. Network Anatomy's internal testing has just been completed. Now the project is being beta tested by 200 potential users June 12-14. Linman and his team will compile and analyze the resulting data and then present the results to the City on either June 15 or 18. At that point the City will set an official live date - most likely towards the end of June, according to Ott.

The potential user test is being coordinated by the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce and the Pleasanton Downtown Association. The 200 official "beta testers" were selected from the memberships of the Pleasanton Chamber and the Pleasanton Downtown Association.

According to Dave Bouchard, President and CEO of The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, registered official beta testers will receive 10% discount coupons from participating restaurants, free coffee coupons and other incentives upon completion of the various testing and reporting re-

(See WI-FI, page 5)

Residents Asked to Conserve Water

The Livermore-Amador Valley's Zone 7 Water Agency said Friday that the California Department of Water Resources' decision to resume minimal State Water Project pumping from the Delta is critical to meeting local water supply needs. However, Zone 7 stressed that the agency still isn't out of the woods and called on the public to voluntarily conserve water.

"Without the minimal pumping from the Delta announced today, we were looking at the possibility of a 40-55% mandatory water-use restriction in a portion of our service area, and the possibility of compromised fire suppression in eastern Livermore," said Jill Duerig, general manager of Zone 7. "Imported supplies from the Delta are critical to our operations during the summer months."

In addition to municipal supplies, Delta water is the sole water source for at least two thirds of the Valley's viticultural operations that support a \$200-million-a-year wine industry. Without the additional pumping announced today, water supply to the majority of these operations would have been entirely cut off

(See WATER, page 3)

Applications Due June 18th for Council Seat

The Livermore City Council will appoint a replacement for Tom Reitter following an application and interview process.

The new councilmember is expected to be chosen at a special July 2 meeting. The person selected will serve until November 2009. Reitter is officially leaving the council on June 30.

Applications, to include a resume and statement of qualifications, are due in the city clerk's office by 5 p.m. on Mon., June 18. Depending on the number of applicants, the council could hold a special meeting June 20 to screen the applications. Interviews will be conducted at a special city council to be held Tues., June 26.

The vote to appoint Reitter's replacement was unanimous. That was the case until the process was discussed. The process included allowing Reitter to take part in the interview process.

Councilmember Lorraine Dietrich objected to having Reitter involved.

Dietrich said she would like to argue that it is not a good idea to

have Tom involved in the interview process. "The council went to the trouble of adding to the rules of procedure that once a council member participates in a discussion that person would have to vote. It seems he can't vote. Therefore he doesn't belong in the process. It would be appropriate for Tom to make comments as a member of the public."

City attorney John Pomidor said that there was no prohibition to having Reitter take part in the interview process. He, however, would not be allowed to vote on his replacement.

Dietrich also felt it would be more appropriate to interview and select the new councilmember at the same meeting, July 2. With those objections in mind, Dietrich said she would prefer to have an election to replace Reitter. Dietrich declared, "I feel strongly that the interview and appointment process should occur at the same meeting. If this is going to be (See COUNCIL, page 4)



Gary Drummond greets Smith students.

Students Thank Gary Drummond For Sharing Livermore History

By Patricia Koning

Last week, the entire third grade at Smith Elementary School threw Gary Drummond a party to thank him for taking them on walking history tours of downtown Livermore. To the delight of the students, Drummond arrived dressed for the occasion in a black suit and top hat.

"Gary has such a wealth of information and he's anxious to

share it with the children," said Mary Cameron, a third-grade teacher at Smith. "We wanted to honor him. He brings alive what we are doing in the classroom."

The Smith students presented Drummond with a cake depicting downtown Livermore and recited the poem "That Man Livermore," which comes from the 1961 book "Livermore Long Ago" by Olive Townsend.

(See THANKS, page 9)

Dedication Program Set For New Plaza

The City of Livermore celebrates another link in the successful revitalization of Historic Downtown Livermore with the completion of the Livermore Valley Center Park Plaza & Amphitheater.

The Park Plaza & Amphitheater will be dedicated by Livermore Mayor Marshall Kamena at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, June 14.

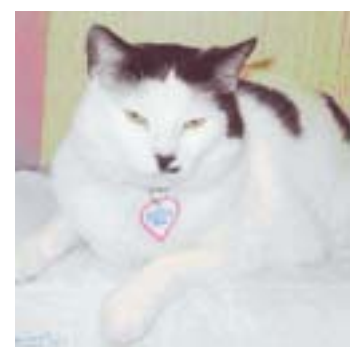
"The beautiful plaza and amphitheater are a city dream realized; an outdoor venue for concerts, plays, art shows, literary readings or just relaxing," said the Mayor.

The project, which cost \$5 million, was financed by the Livermore Redevelopment Agency on land purchased in 2002. Architect Steve McCracken of McCracken & Associates designed the project; the contractor was McGuire & Hester.

The community is invited to attend the ceremony, which is scheduled from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm at 2450 First Street. Refreshments will be served.

Inside

Anne Homan	8	Roundup.....	3
Art & Entertainment.....	10	Short Notes.....	11
Bulletin Board.....	11	Sports.....	6
Classifieds.....	11	Obituaries.....	8
Editorial.....	4	Open Homes.....	12
Mailbox.....	4		



PET OF THE WEEK

Walter is a big and friendly guy with a face you've got to love. He looks like he had a bad encounter with a razor and shaved off half of his black moustache! He loves people and food, and is laid back and easy going. He likes cats, and would probably do well with dogs and children as well. He may look like the venerable Uncle Walter, but he is actually a playful two-year

old. For more information on Walter, call Valley Humane Society at 925-426-8656, or visit him at our Adoption Center at 3670 Nevada St. in Pleasanton's Stanley Business Park Wed-Sun 11 am-5 pm. Valley Humane Society holds mobile pet adoptions for dogs at Pet Extreme in Livermore every Saturday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Team roping was one of the skills demonstrated during rodeo family night last Thursday at Robertson Park in Livermore. Rodeo action in Livermore continues this weekend with the 48th annual Livermore Junior Rodeo to be held this Sat., June 16 at the stadium at Robertson Park. The rodeo gets underway at 8 a.m. with the grand entry. Competitions are broken up into jr. rodeo, jr./jr. and peewees with the youngest age one..The youngest take part in dummy roping, stickhorse barrel racing, boot racing and a goat undressing event. Other competitions are open to age 4 to 5 and 6 to 9. The older competitors take part in such events as calf riding, steer riding, bull riding, calf roping, pole bending, steer stopping and family team roping. This year's Livermore Jr. Rodeo Queen is Brittany Voss. She is a senior at College Park High School in Pleasant Hill. There is no admission charge. The public is invited to attend and watch the action.

Learn More About Good News Bears

Good News Bears, a Livermore-based non-profit, is holding its annual Open House on Thursday, June 21 at the Livermore Police Station Community Room. Anyone interested in finding out more about what the club does is invited to attend. Starting at 6:30 p.m., the informal evening will showcase gifting stories, recognize star supporters, and welcome new members.

The club has been in operation since 1996, and has steadily increased its donations every year. Since its inception, the club has distributed well over 50,000 stuffed animals to local police, fire, ambulance, hospitals, shelters, and individuals through the Bay Area and beyond. More than 65 organizations are on a regular distribution list for the club. In addition, individual bears are given to those who have been ill, traumatized, or are lonely. The stuffed animals and teddy bears are purchased with monies from Good News Bears' fundraising efforts, grants, and donations. The community plays a big part in helping the club fulfill their mission. Besides accepting grants and monetary donations, the club also accepts new or gently used animals to pass on. Bear collections are great projects for scout troops and businesses!

Last year, Good News Bears celebrated its 10th Anniversary by gifting over 10,000 stuffed animals. Normally averaging 7000 per year, club members worked hard to realize the goal by identifying new recipients and delivering the "critters." Members are involved at all levels, from finding new places to receive the animals to delivering to the organizations to assisting with fundraising.

The Good News Bears' Annual Open House is Thursday, June 21 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Livermore Police Station, 1110 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. Dues will be free until January 2008. For more information on the Open House, or how you can help Good News Bears, please call (925) 373-7982, or e-mail jhaigh@webbears.com.

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Teens Invited To Books to Movies Program

Middle and high school students are invited to join in the Livermore Library's Teen Reading: Books to Movies program.

Teens read books and rate them according to their appeal and movie adaptation potential. Reading and evaluating books earns the reader a personal copy of William Goldman's "Princess Bride."

At the library's "Princess Bride Casting Call" those attending will recreate a favorite character and perform scenes from the movie script. Those not interested in acting, will act as judge and jury and vote for a favorite performance.

Register at the Livermore Library information desk beginning Mon., June 25.

The program concludes on Tues., Aug. 1 with "Snack 'N Movie Night" including prize raffles and a screening of the movie. For more information, call Mary Sue Nocar at 373-5505 or visit any Livermore Library.

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Mountain Lion in Livermore

Last Wednesday a mountain lion was sighted in the residential neighborhood in the area of Superior Drive in Livermore. The Livermore Police Department received no reports of any attacks on people or animals.

Based on eye witness reports, there is no indication the animal is sick, injured, or behaving abnormally in any way. The Livermore Police Department Animal Control and CA Department of Fish and Game representatives are aware of this issue and have been searching for the animal.

If a resident should see a mountain lion, do not approach it. Do not make sudden movements or attempt to run from it. Call the CA Fish and Game at 1-888-334-2258 or 1-888-DFG-CALTIP. If you cannot reach them, you can call the Livermore Police Dispatch at 925-371-4987.

Equalization Funding

Assemblyman Guy Houston delivered to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger a letter signed by 50 State Legislators supporting the inclusion of \$150 million for under funded school districts. This effort, known as "equalization," seeks to allocate additional education dollars to local school districts throughout California.

Houston also delivered nearly 10,000 letters to the Governor and Legislative leaders (Big 5) from parents who support Houston's efforts to secure equalization funding. The Big 5 are expected to negotiate the final components of the State Budget.

Many school districts in the 15th Assembly District have been under funded for many years. This will increase the per-pupil funding for those districts. The total increase would provide a significant amount of additional money, especially for large school districts.

Houston noted that Governor Schwarzenegger, who has previously supported the issue and signed budgets with funding for equalization, has not included any funding for equalization in his proposed 2007-08.

Geothermal Energy

A bill authored by Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) to create research and development funding for cutting edge, 21st century geothermal energy, passed the Energy and Environment Subcommittee of the House Committee on Science and Technology.

"Geothermal energy is clean, reliable, always available, and 100 percent domestic," said Rep.

McNerney. "Enhanced geothermal should be an important component of the efforts to move our nation towards energy independence."

The bill, H.R. 2304, the Advanced Geothermal Research and Development Act of 2007, expands existing geothermal energy programs at the Department of Energy and authorizes \$75 million a year for fiscal years 2008 to 2012 to fund research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of new geothermal technologies.

Unlike renewable resources that depend on daylight or wind, geothermal can provide "baseload" power, which means that the source is uninterrupted and constant, running day and night, 365 days a year.

A recent report by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology estimates that new Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) may provide more than 100 Gigawatts of affordable energy over the next 50 years in the U.S. alone, which could power as many as 25 million homes.

The Advanced Geothermal Research and Development Act of 2007 passed the Energy and Environment Subcommittee on a voice vote. It will now move to consideration by the full House Science and Technology Committee.

Fewer Nukes

The Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) announced last week that it has increased the rate of nuclear weapons dismantlements by 50 percent over last year's level, and will continue at the sharply higher rate for the rest of the year.

Meeting the goal took the effort of NNSA's entire nuclear weapons complex. This includes the three national nuclear weapons design laboratories: Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore, and Sandia National Laboratories.

Last year, NNSA dismantled the last 1960's era W56 type nuclear weapon in the U.S. stockpile.

At the beginning of fiscal year 2007, NNSA established a goal to increase the dismantlement rate of retired nuclear weapons by nearly 50 percent. Because of dramatic improvements in procedures, tools and policies NNSA was able to reach this goal four months ahead of schedule. In order to increase its dismantlement capacity, NNSA made substantial investments in previous years across the nuclear weapons complex to hire additional technicians, purchase the right equipment and tools, and develop better safety and security procedures.

Governing Board for Lab Filled

Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC (LLNS) last week announced its board of governors, a group of renowned scientific, academic, national security and business leaders from across the nation.

Members will serve on seven committees - Mission, Science & Technology, Nuclear Weapons Complex Integration, Business & Operations, Ethics & Audit, Nominations & Compensation and Safeguards & Security.

LLNS' management team includes Bechtel, the University of California, BWX Technologies, Washington Group and Battelle. The Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration selected LLNS in early May to manage and operate Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory beginning Oct 1. George Miller, the current Laboratory director, is the LLNS president and will remain director when the new management takes over on Oct. 1.

"This is an engaged board of governors who are proven leaders with expertise that will take Lawrence Livermore far into the future," said LLNS Board of Governors Chairman Gerald Parsky. "We have assembled a team of experts in scientific research and development, busi-

ness management and operations, national security and nuclear safety to provide the best support to the Laboratory, our LLNS president and his team."

Tom Hash, president of Bechtel Systems and Infrastructure, will serve as vice chair of the board.

In addition to Parsky and Hash, the LLNS board's executive committee currently includes Bruce Darling, Preston Rahe and Craig Weaver. There also are six advisory board members: Sidney Drell, John Gordon, William Madia, Richard Mies, Nick Moore and William Perry.

At the University of California's July meeting of the UC Board of Regents, Chairman Richard Blum and UC President Robert C. Dynes will recommend that William Frazer be appointed to the LLNS board on behalf of the university. Frazer is a theoretical physicist, professor emeritus of physics at UC Berkeley and former UC senior vice president for academic affairs. He will serve on the LLNS executive committee.

Parsky is chairman of the Aurora Capital Group, a Los Angeles-based investment firm, and currently serves on the Board of Regents of the University of Cali-

fornia, the world's largest academic research institution. Parsky also serves as chair of the Board of Governors of Los Alamos National Security LLC (LANS).

Hash is chairman and president of Bechtel Systems and Infrastructure, Inc., Bechtel Corporation's government services unit.

Darling is executive vice president for university affairs for the University of California. In 2003, in addition to his university affairs responsibilities, Darling was UC's interim vice president-laboratory management, responsible for UC's management oversight of three national laboratories - Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore and Lawrence-Berkeley.

Rahe is the president of Washington Group International's Energy & Environment Business Unit.

Weaver is executive vice president and manager of strategy, marketing and business development for Bechtel Systems and Infrastructure, Inc. and Bechtel National, Inc. He serves on the Board of Governors of LANS, where he is chair of its Business and Operations Committee.

Winegrowers Have new Executive Director

The Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association (LVWA) has selected Chris Chandler as Executive Director. Chandler takes over from Lynn Wallace Naylor, who leaves the Association to lead the World of Children Foundation.

Chandler brings a combination of strategic leadership, marketing implementation, and hospitality experience to the Asso-

ciation. She has held marketing positions in both the for-profit and non-profit sectors including Metreon, Environmental Media Association, and the American Cancer Society. Most recently, she was Director of Event Sales for Tavistock Restaurants, LLC in Emeryville.

Association President Mike Wood noted Chandler's skills and experience are key to furthering

the recognition of the Livermore Valley wine country as a dynamic destination. "Under Lynn's guidance, our wine country greatly expanded its visitors' program. She led the organization through unprecedented growth, and forged many collaborative private and public partnerships. With Chris Chandler, those relationships will grow as we build new ones, and our region will continue to thrive as we take the Experience Livermore Valley Wine Country campaign to the next level."

Chandler commented, "As a resident of the region, I have experienced first hand, the Livermore Valley wine country visitor experience and the incredible contribution the wineries make to our quality of life in the East Bay. I am honored to join the Association and to be part of this incredible community of vintners and growers."

A graduate of Louisiana State University, Chandler and her husband reside in Danville.

WATER

(continued from page one)

this weekend.

Zone 7 wholesales water to nearly 200,000 people in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and Dougherty Valley, and supplies agricultural water for 3,500 acres, primarily vineyards, in the South Livermore Valley. The agency normally obtains 80 percent of its water supplies conveyed through the Delta.

Since DWR's voluntary shut down of its Delta pumps on May 31, Zone 7 has been relying on its groundwater basin, water supplies stored locally in Lake Del Valle, and residual water in the State's conveyance system. Duerig said that because the restored Delta pumping may remain far below normal levels, Zone 7 will continue to rely primarily on its emergency groundwater supplies to meet water demand throughout the service area.

The agency is working with its water retailers - the cities of Pleasanton and Livermore, Cali-

fornia Water Service Company, and the Dublin San Ramon Services District - to develop contingency plans to meet water demands under a variety of reduced Delta pumping scenarios that may extend into the future. This could include near-term actions to blend Zone 7's groundwater supplies with those of the retailers for distribution throughout the system to meet demands.

Zone 7 also is considering accelerating construction of its planned additional groundwater wells, as well as that portion of the future Altamont pipeline that will run through Livermore in order to enhance distribution of available supplies.

Currently, Zone 7 is asking its customers to voluntarily reduce water consumption by at least 10 percent through such actions as reduced outdoor watering of lawns, repair of leaking sprinkler heads and household plumbing, and turning off the hose when not needed during car-washing.

In a voluntary, preventive

move, the state shut down its Delta pumps on May 31, 2007 to help protect the endangered Delta smelt, which were clustered in the immediate vicinity of pumping plants in the San Francisco/Sacramento San Joaquin Bay-Delta (Delta). The adjacent federal pumps (Central Valley Project), still in operation, have not taken any smelt during the past 10 days, indicating the fish have started migrating away from the area.

The Delta smelt have sharply and precipitously declined in numbers. Potential causes currently being explored by scientists include invasive species, toxics, power plant operations, local diversions by farmers, and Delta pumping operations. A definitive factor for the fish decline has not yet been identified. The SWC has demanded that the State Legislature direct other responsible state agencies to move quickly to consider those other stressors and immediately implement protective measures.

Grant Will Bring Summer Reading Program to More Children

The Livermore Library has received a \$25,000 Innovation Grant from the Bay Area Library and Information Systems. Innovation grants are awarded competitively to libraries for new programs that can serve as models for other libraries.

The Livermore Library received the grant for "Summer Reading is for Everyone," an outreach program that will allow 970 children in 11 day care facilities greater access to the library's summer reading program. The program runs from June 8 to August 11.

The grant allows for expansion of the reading game to children enrolled in day care programs at Livermore elementary schools and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory day care program. This project also allows day care providers time,

energy and resources to vary the activities at each day care site.

Children in day care, who would otherwise have access to libraries and books only after 6 p.m. and on weekends, will be able to play the game at each day care site. Day care staff, trained and supported by a library coordinator, will listen to reports by children about the books they have read. Day care providers will organize field trips to attend programs at the library.

The library will supply the game materials, book, staff and training and a coordinator.

Traditionally, summer reading programs necessitate the active participation of parents to transport children to the library for books and programs. Working parents are less likely to have the time and ability to participate fully in library activities during the summer.


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Recognizing risk factors and symptoms of heart disease can save your life. One in three adults has some form of cardiovascular disease. Cardiovascular disease claims more lives each year than the next four leading causes of death combined. Bottom line, do you have the information you need to save your life?

ValleyCare Health System is offering a complete cardiovascular assessment; blood pressure, total lipid profile with glucose, exercise tolerance testing, and peripheral artery disease screening. Plus, you will receive a personalized consultation with a cardiac professional at the time of screening.

Date & Location:
 June 23, 9am-3pm
 ValleyCare Medical Center
 Main Lobby
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Cost: \$69

To schedule an appointment or for more information, call the Healthy Heart Program at 416-6850.



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Livermore Board Adds \$1.2 Million in Spending to 2007/08 Budget

By Patricia Koning

At last week's meeting of the Livermore Board of Education, the trustees committed to spending an additional \$1.2 million in the 2007/08 budget. About half of the expenditures will go towards programs that saw severe cuts in the last five years.

WI-FI

(continued from page one)

quirements of the project. The testers have been asked to visit various establishments, check-in to be recognized testers at the establishments, log on to the network, and then take readings at as many locations within the pilot Wi-Fi district at whatever times of the day they can.

The testers will collect basic statistics such as ease of access, how fast they were able to access the network, and whether or not they had any dropped signals. They will report any other problems or challenges they might have had. For Network Anatomy and the City, this is the final testing stage and will determine many things, including the load capacity of the system. At this point residents living within the pilot area are being advised to continue subscribing to whatever internet provider they currently use.

City staff members of Pleasanton, The Chamber of Commerce and Linman have all had very positive responses to the project thus far.

Although phase two of the project has yet to be defined by the City, interest in being part of future Wi-Fi municipal network expansions has been expressed by the Pleasanton Unified School District and Hacienda Business Park, as well as businesses along the Stoneridge Mall corridor.

For further information about the project go to www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/services/wifi/wifi-updates.html. And, if you see people strolling around downtown with mobile devices over the next few days, ask them how the network is working.

BAN

(continued from page one)

from the task force comes back in favor of the dispensary and the federal law hasn't changed, she would not vote for to allow a dispensary to open in Pleasanton.

Matt Sullivan stated, "In my mind it is a public health issue. There is a law enforcement piece that needs to be considered. What we really need to understand is the need in our community." Sullivan continued, "I have not advocated to invite dispensaries. I have never been a pot dealer. I have asked for information to get beyond the fear mongering that drives these decisions. We can't kid ourselves, drugs and alcohol exist in our schools. Proper regulation is the key to the safe operation of a dispensary."

Thorne said at a recent workshop, he heard from parents who were greatly concerned about the use of drugs and alcohol by their children. "I don't believe putting a storefront dispensary in this community will help the problem. Generally, I will not support setting up an outlet for any regulated drug."

"Clearly marijuana has a medical benefit. It should be distributed the same way as any other medicine. To me the current distribution system is blatantly stupid and should be the poster child for bureaucratic nonsense. Other drugs, such as valium, that have a medicinal aspect also have illegal recreational use." Thorne urged people to let the federal government know, "This is a stupid situation, putting the city between state and federal

Superintendent Brenda Miller directed the Board to restore a special education program specialist to full-time, increase library technician and technology specialist time to 30 hours at the elementary level and 40 at the middle school level, and add two custodians to the high schools, a need which has arisen from closing the campuses for lunch.

On the Community Day School (CDS) proposal, Miller asked for the addition of one full-time teacher, and increases in instructional aide time from 75% to 100% and psychologist time from 10% to 20%. The trustees opted to approve \$92,000 for the CDS but not specify exactly how the money will be used.

Ongoing expenditures totaling \$583,860 were approved, spending nearly all of the

\$600,000 available.

The Board committed to spend \$640,000 of one-time money on Program Improvement support for Marilyn and Portola Elementary Schools, implementing a K-8 writing program, a supplemental math program for Portola and Junction Avenue Middle School, high school intervention classes, one warehouse position to support the District Office during its relocation, Career Technical Education, a pilot distance learning program, reform efforts at Livermore High, and replacement of old vehicles and equipment in the Maintenance Department.

The District left untouched about \$1.6 million that would be available for one-time use. With the reserve sitting at 4%, this leaves the District in a fairly com-

fortable financial position.

Kate Runyon, the newest member of the Board, elected last November, sees this undesignated balance as excessive.

"This money is for the students that are here now. I don't think we need to leave such a large amount in the budget just in case," she said. "We should give some of that money back to the school sites because we relied on them when we were in crisis. This was especially hard on the poorer sites, that don't have the PTO (parent teachers organization) money as a cushion."

Specifically, Runyon suggested giving \$25,000 to each of the high schools, \$15,000 to each of the middle schools, and \$10,000 to each of the elemen-

tary schools. Also on her list were up to \$100,000 for technology improvements, \$50,000 in support of the upcoming District library plan, \$50,000 for the visual/performing arts plan, and an additional \$100,000 for career technical education.

Runyon's list totaled \$540,000, which would still leave over \$1 million in undesignated money in the District's budget. Keith Pickering-Walters, president of the Livermore Education Association, supported Runyon's proposal, especially the idea to provide additional money to the school sites.

"The earlier sites know how much money they have to spend, the better they can plan," he said. "When money is distributed at

the start of the school year, a fear of 'use it or lose it' comes into play, which can lead to rash decisions."

However, the other trustees favored keeping the surplus money undesignated for the time being.

"I'd like to wait until fall to see where we really are," said trustee Bill Morrison. "I don't want to spend it all and find us in a position of being out of money."

Trustee Anne White favored putting Runyon's proposals in writing and allowing Miller extra time to review them. "Kate has some good ideas, but this is a big package that we need time to digest," she said. "If we don't spend it now, it will still be there in the fall."

State Budget Stability Looks Enabling For Pleasanton Schools

The Pleasanton school board heard an update on the state budget's financial support of education, and resolved to push ahead with its goals for educational improvement.

At its June 5 meeting, the board heard a report from the district's top financial officer, assistant superintendent Sandra Lepley.

The "May revise" of the state budget, announced last month by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, hasn't committed to all of the necessary small details, which are still in negotiation in Sacramento. However, it's clear that the financial picture will be stable. The district can move ahead to try to do some of the things that the committee on educational excellence has recommended, said Lepley.

The May revise in effect says that the per-pupil funding for Pleasanton from the state is \$6370. Total district enrollment is 14,740 students, up from 14,596 last year. The increase of 144 students is just under 1 percent of total enrollment. Lepley said, "We don't expect significant growth over the next few years," although the growth will

be continual. "Then in the future, there will be somewhat of a decline."

With its eye on the stable state budget climate, the board several weeks ago approved science and physical education specialists in the elementary schools. That raised the district's ongoing cost by \$729,000, with \$500,000 of it switched from potential salary increases for existing teachers. The teachers union agreed to the switch, in order to have preparation periods for some teachers. The science and PE specialists will take over the classes at those times.

Not all of the district's costs for next year are set. Although the contract with teachers is signed, salary negotiations continue with the support staff and administrators. A combination of staff salary increases and attempts to put more educational excellence programs into the curriculum could cause the district's budget to dip a little bit below a currently maintained 5 percent reserve. That is still above the state-required 3 percent reserve minimum.

The district's total budget for next year is slightly more than

\$100 million. Superintendent John Casey said, "We may have to back up a little of it (more expenditures) out of the reserve. We've kept 5 to 7 percent in the reserve (in the recent past)," he said. Waiting too long to implement curriculum additions, for example at the start of the school year, could put the improvements behind by two months, he said.

Trustee Chris Grant said that he was "not comfortable with continuing to reduce the reserve." He said he would like to see a plan that would put it back at 5 percent "in a year or two."

Board member Pat Kernan said that the district has "many meaningful programs. We need to preserve intervention programs, which we've done an exceptional job at." He added, "We've been fiscally responsible and not had to move away from class size reduction."

Lepley said that the district's programs, including new ones this year, have brought "some big changes."

Casey added that the district will continue to look at chances for new state revenue for programs, and other revenue sources, which may include a parcel tax. The district has hired a consultant to conduct a survey about the potential for voter acceptance of a parcel tax. The consultant surveyed 400 district residents, but has not tallied the results yet.

On another item, the board unanimously approved on its consent calendar the adoption of revised state physical education standards for all grades kindergarten through 12th. The new standards are in keeping with the district's goals to promote lifelong healthy lifestyles.

The board also approved new K-5 science textbooks. However, it split 3-2 when it voted to adopt the revised science course outlines for grades 6 through 8. Trustees Grant, Kernan, and Steve Brozosky, favored the motion. Kris Weaver and board president Jim Ott voted against it.

Ott said he joined Weaver in support of her request to have more time to find out about one potentially controversial point in the course outline adoption. Weaver said that some parents

wanted assurances that the Big Bang theory would be taught as a theory.

Casey told the board that the state guidelines do spell out that the Big Bang is only a theory. Pleasanton teachers are reminded of that.

The board kept to its tradition of honoring people at the start of the meeting, and apparently reached a record, said one of the trustees. There were 74 people honored at the meeting June 5. They were recipients of the district's newest honor, an annual award for civic involvement named after the late trustee,

Juanita Haugen. Haugen's daughters, Heather Haugen Rizzoli and Hilary Haugen were present.

On another matter, Trustee Steve Brozosky announced that he will not vote on any items that pertain to the sought-after construction of Neal School. He owns property within 500 feet of the school site. The district has been involved in litigation with Signature Properties about the agreed terms of a promise by the developer to build the school on a turnkey basis. A jury trial is expected to begin in October. The site is on Vineyard Avenue.



Five New Eagle Scouts

Five Pleasanton Boy Scouts were recently awarded the rank of Eagle Scout at a special court of honor in Pleasanton at the Specialty Sales showroom. All are members of Pleasanton Boy Scout troops affiliated with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The rank of Eagle is the highest in scouting and requires a minimum of 21 merit badges as well as service in youth leadership positions in the troop and the planning and implementing of a service project benefiting the community. Those honored were Nick Johansen, who arranged for the donation of computers to schools and charitable organizations; Brandon Barkduil, who worked with his troop and family to put together 100 72-hour emergency kits and then donated them to needy families; Bowman Bagley, whose project consisted of building a safety cable rail along a hillside pathway; Mark Warren, who along with 30 workers repaired and refurbished the playground at the Shepherd's Gate women's shelter; and Spencer Miller, who planned and conducted a canned foods drive for the Open Heart Kitchen.

Flag Retirement Box Provided to Livermore by Girl Scout

Kathleen Rosell, a Pleasanton Girl Scout, recently unveiled her Gold Award Project in front of Livermore City Hall. "Katie" as she is known to her friends, is a senior Girl Scout in Troop 3991 in Pleasanton. For her Gold Award service project, the Girl Scout Equivalent of an Eagle Scout project, Rosell chose to donate a Flag Retirement Drop Box to the City of Livermore. The Flag Retirement Drop Box is the culmination of Rosell's desire to do something Patriotic for her community and the community's need for a place to deposit the many hundreds of flags which become worn or faded each year and too tattered for patriotic display.

When Rosell proposed this idea to the City of Livermore, Mayor Kamena embraced the idea and suggested that the box be placed in front of City Hall. When a similar box was placed in Pleasanton last year, hundreds of flags found their way into the box within just a few months. Mayor Kamena said that the City alone retires numerous flags each year from public buildings. The

old flags are stored at the Fire Station. He said he was sure that many businesses and residents of Livermore have a similar need. He felt that City Hall would be an accessible and public place for this box.

Rosell discovered, when researching flag retirement, that more than \$550 million is spent each year in the U.S. to import and manufacture flags. Considering population and flag sale statistics, it is likely that residents and businesses in the Livermore area, purchase more than 5,000 flags per year and may need to retire as many as 3,000 flags per year.

The U.S. Flag Code recommends that retired flags be burned in a respectful ceremony. Local Boy Scout Troops usually take on this responsibility for the area,

holding retirement ceremonies at Camp Parks and the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Livermore Boy Scout Troop 931 has volunteered to take on the responsibility for regularly emptying the box.

The Livermore Elks Club has volunteered to store the flags between retirement ceremonies. The cost of the project was approximately \$1,600. Local service clubs have donated to Rosell's project.

Rosell, a senior at Foothill High School, is editor-in-chief of the year book, JV Section Leader for the Foothill Winter Guard Team, member of the Foothill Marching Band and a ten-year Silver Award Girl Scout. She will attend Cal State Fullerton in the fall as a Photo Communications major.

Two Livermore High Students Selected for Teller Scholarships

Two Livermore high school students have won the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's prestigious Edward Teller Science Scholarship. This year's award winners are Ayano Kohlguber of Livermore High School and Ann Rosa of Granada High School.

The awards, instituted in 2004 in honor of the late Dr. Teller, physicist and Lab co-founder, are given by the Laboratory to graduating seniors who excel in science studies. Each student will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and is eligible for a paid summer internship at the Lab when they complete their first year of college.

Kohlguber has established an overall grade point average of 4.4 in all academic areas. She ranks 1 out of 448 in her class. She has participated in the Lab's Tri-Valley Science and Engineering Fair in March with her project "The Effect of Organic Materials on Soil Composition and Respiration in Composts" for which she received a first place award in the environmental sciences category. She has been nominated

by the Livermore High School Science Department for the Bank of America Excellence in Science and Math award. She also has participated in the Department of Energy's Science Bowl since her freshman year. Kohlguber plans to attend UC Berkeley in the fall where she will study molecular and cell biology.

Rosa has taken six science courses in high school and has served as a science tutor. Her overall grade point average is 3.93. She received first place at both the Livermore Science Odyssey and the Lab's Tri-Valley Science and Engineering Fair in the cellular and molecular biology category for a project in which she and her twin sister Mary used DNA testing to determine that they are indeed identical twins. Rosa will be attending Cal State East Bay in the fall to study molecular biology and hopes to pursue a career in research or teaching.

The awards were presented to the students by Lab managers at each of their high school's awards ceremonies in Livermore.

High School Project Spreads Word On Saving Water

Water conservation awareness continues to spread among young people. Trish Marcelino's project this week at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton is a good example of it.

Zone 7 Water Agency last month honored youth winners of a contest for Water Awareness Month. Zone 7 director Sarah Palmer, a high school teacher in Livermore and Pleasanton, has had her students undertake water projects. Some Amador Valley students have volunteered to take part in environmental clean-up and scientific study at the nearby Arroyo Del Valle.

The latest example of youth involvement was Marcelino's project, on a team with four other students — Mindy Chen, Eve Edelman, Valerie Yim, and Chelsea Acker. They are students in Chris Murphy's world history class. Murphy assigned class members the task of choosing one global issue and one local one for reports, which were due this week.

The team's local topic, water conservation, is not only for Pleasanton and the Valley, but the entire state, said Marcelino. The team spent a month on its topic. They sent a press release via e-mail to newspapers late last week, which said that "through our research, we have learned that California is in urgent need to save water because of the lack of rainfall in the past year, and the need of water resources to provide for the growing population. If this issue is ignored, there might be a big chance of another mandatory cutback, such as from 15 years ago when the water shortage negatively affected California."

The release said, "Additionally, since California is one of the leading agricultural regions in the nation, it is important for our state to maintain an adequate supply of water for our crops."

The team researched water conservation ideas on the internet. They printed a flier with a dozen or so conservation tips on it. They put the fliers at bus stops and in people's home mail-

boxes.

Marcelino said that she distributed fliers in her condominium area in Vintage Hills, and also at a nearby park. The headline on their flier says that "California is drying up ... help our state conserve water ... to prevent mandatory cutbacks."

Among the conservation tips listed are reduction in faucet flow, shorter showers, putting washing machines on a lower water-use setting, less automatic dishwasher use, and installation of low-flush toilets. Other suggestions are turning off the faucet while brushing teeth, installing restricted-flow shower heads, and waiting until there is a full load

to use the washing machine. Also check on sprinklers so they are watering the lawn, not the sidewalk, and check pipes for leaks. Clean vegetables in a bowl of water instead of running tap water over them. Furthermore, by reducing the water pressure in your home, you can reduce the flow rate at the faucets.

The team's global issue for its report dealt with the growing problem of hackers' crimes against the computers of the Estonian government and citizens, said Marcelino. The hackers are trying to obtain people's credit card numbers and government data, she said.

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For more info on this & other events, please contact Livermore Downtown Inc. 925-373-1795
 www.livermoredowntown.com



William L. K. Shill

Eagle Scout Honors for William Shill

William L. K. Shill, a member of Boy Scout Troop 906, has completed the requirements qualifying him to receive Scouting's highest rank Eagle Scout.

William has enjoyed the scouting program since his first Tiger Cub meeting. He has especially enjoyed the outdoor adventures and has become a capable backpacker. William had the opportunity to expand his leadership qualities in his troop, in a variety of school and church responsibilities and while attending Brown-Sea Scout Camp. He was awarded the *Medal of Merit* for service to a fellow hiker on the Mount Tamalpais trail.

Working with East Bay Regional Park Ranger Sue Schwartz, William designed and managed the construction of a concrete pad and sidewalk for a greenhouse located at the Mitchell Canyon Staging Area located in Mount Diablo State Park. This walkway and pad now allows easy access for all, including those in wheelchairs, who want to work within the greenhouse.

An Eagle Court of Honor will be held on Saturday June 16th at 11:00 am at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saint located on Hillcrest Ave in Livermore. William will be a senior at Livermore High School in the Fall.

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Performing Arts Theater's Resident Companies Performance Schedule Set

With construction of the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center's new 500-seat theater nearing completion, LVPAC today announced the 2007-08 schedule of performances for the theater's resident companies.

"The 500-seat theater was created in part to provide a home for the Tri-Valley's performing arts groups and presenting organizations, including Del Valle Fine Arts, Livermore Valley Opera, Livermore-Amador Symphony, Valley Dance Theatre, Valley Concert Chorale and the Pleasanton Playhouse," said Len Alexander, LVPAC's Executive Director.

"We're delighted that over 60 events and performances will be presented in the inaugural season by our resident companies. We expect that additional events will be announced in the coming weeks by both the resident companies and other Bay Area groups such as the Pacific Chamber Symphony, San Francisco Lamplighters, Bay Area Dance Company and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Science Saturdays. In addition, we will soon announce the first season of LVPAC Presents, sponsored by Shea Homes, and featuring nationally and internationally known performers and ensembles."

Beyond their regular season of events, each of the resident companies will participate in special performances as part of the two week gala opening celebration for the 500-seat theater. The celebration begins with a public ribbon cutting ceremony and open house on Saturday, September 29th and continues through October 13th. Individual tickets for all events at the 500-seat theater will go on sale in early September. A full schedule of performances will be released in late August. Many of the individual resident companies are currently accepting subscription ticket orders for their upcoming seasons. Contact information appears with each group's performance schedule. Interested patrons may contact the group directly for more information and to order tickets.

For more information, contact the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center at (925) 373-6100 or go to www.livermoreperformingarts.org.

LVPAC Resident Companies' 2007-08 Season Schedule:

Del Valle Fine Arts: all start at 8 p.m. November 3 DiVenezia String Quartet; December 8 Jon Nakamatsu, Piano; February 2 Albers Trio; April 26 Binelli-Ferman-Isaac Trio; May 24 Premiere Saxophone Quartet. For

season ticket information contact: Art Scott at (925) 447-8269.

Livermore Valley Opera: La Boheme October 20, 26 & 27 at 8pm and October 21 & 28 at 2pm; Carmen March 15, 21 & 22 at 8pm and March 16 & 23 at 2pm. For season ticket information contact: (925) 960-9210 or www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

Livermore-Amador Symphony: all concerts begin at 8 p.m. December 1 Consecration of the House; February 9; March 30; May 17. For season ticket information contact: (925) 373-6824 or www.livamsymph.org.

Pleasanton Playhouse: Cinderella January 18, 19, 25, 26 & February 1 at 8pm and January 20, 27, February 2 & 3 at 2pm. The Music Man April 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 & 19 at 8pm and April 6, 13 & 20 at 2pm. Beauty and the Beast July 18, 19, 25, 26, August 1, 2, 8 & 9 at 8pm and July 20, 27, August 3 & 10 at 2pm. For season ticket information contact: (925) 462-2121 or www.pleasantonplayhouse.com.

Valley Dance Theatre: The Nutcracker December 15, 16 & 22 at 2 & 7pm. For ticket information contact: (925) 243-0927 or www.valleydancetheatre.com.

Valley Concert Chorale: March 8 at 8pm Carmina Burana. For ticket information contact: (925) 866-4003.



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

The Livermore Police Department participated in the Special Olympic Torch Run last Wednesday. The Law Enforcement Torch Run began in Sacramento on June 1 and arrived in Berkeley on June 8 for the opening of the summer games. In the photo, they are running down First Street heading towards Pleasanton where they handed off the torch to Pleasanton Police.

I-680 Has Relatively Low Commuter Buffer Time

Commuters who choose Interstate 680 as their route to San Francisco in the morning can count on a fairly reliable time for the trip every day, according to a survey by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

MTC studied six popular commute routes, some in the morning and some in the afternoon. The surveys were conducted annually between 2004 and 2006, to gauge a three-year trend. The studies did not include Interstate 580, although that might be added next year, said MTC spokesperson John Goodwin.

The survey measured the typical time, on average, that the trip should take, 19 times out of 20. On the I-680 route from San Ramon to San Francisco, the

time was 40 minutes.

In addition, the "buffer time" was measured. That's the amount of extra time a motorist should allow in case of unforeseen problems above and beyond the regular drive, such as a crash, wet-weather delay, or a stalled truck or car. On average, the buffer time on I-680, which also assumes travel on Highway 24 and the Bay Bridge, is six minutes.

The six minute buffer on the commute from San Ramon to San Francisco is two minutes higher than three years earlier, said Goodwin. However, the good news about the six minutes is that it was the lowest buffer time among the six routes studied.

The range for the others was from eight minutes for the Hayward-to-San Jose morning commute, to 13 minutes for Fremont-

to-Oakland morning drive, and for the San Jose to San Francisco afternoon commute.

Part of the problem on the Fremont-to-Oakland morning commute is the heavy truck traffic, said Goodwin. "It's the number-one truck corridor in the region. Truck traffic is a factor in reliability," he said.

The results are being published now, so that city planners will have a handle on commute times, and can judge local planning with it in mind, said Goodwin. The data also will be part of a report due early next year to the MTC board.

Highlighted in that report will be a look at how land use in the Bay Area affects its trade corridors, and how local land use decisions affect the movement, Goodwin said.

Livermore Hires New Economic Development Director

M. Robert White has been hired to serve as Livermore's new Economic Development Director.

He replaces Kevin Roberts, who announced his retirement earlier this year. He is leaving at the end of June.

For the past five years, Mr. White has held the position of Deputy Director for the Sacramento County Department of Economic Development and Intergovernmental Affairs. He also directs the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC), a business retention and expansion division within the Sacramento County Executive's Office. He has focused on commercial corridor revitalization, reuse of blighted properties and development of large community assets, including a sports complex and university.

City Manager Linda Barton in announcing the selection of White, stated, "We are delighted that Rob will be joining our Leadership Team. His strong management skills and broad-based economic development experience is exactly in line with Livermore's economic development initiatives."

With over 14 years of managerial experience in both the private and public sectors, White reportedly has a strong financial and technical background managing multi-million dollar programs. He has been successful in developing multidisciplinary partnerships, consensus building and crafting cooperative agreements. White also serves as Vice Chair of the Planning Commis-

sion for the City of West Sacramento, where he currently resides.

"I think this position will prove to be an exciting and challenging opportunity. I look forward to working with the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, City leadership and the community in fulfilling the plans already underway. Livermore is obviously a place that has created a vision and has outstanding potential to cement its place as a leader in the East Bay and the region. I am excited to be a part of this vision and will work hard to assist the community in realizing each aspect of the strategy already laid out," said White.

White holds a B.S. degree in Geology from California State University, Chico; a Master's in Planning & Development from University of Southern California, and is working on a Doctor-

ate Degree in Governance from Queens University, Belfast, Northern Ireland. He is expected to begin work at the City in late June.

THANKS

(continued from page one)

Drummond estimates he's taken about 3,500 third graders on walking tours of downtown since 2000. The idea for the walking tours came up that year when a teacher from Croce asked him if she could bring her class to the Livermore Heritage Guild's History Center as a field trip. "I told her if she got her entire class here, I'd do them one better and take them on a tour of downtown," Drummond recalls.

The walking tour makes a loop from the History Center in the Carnegie Building through downtown. Drummond makes a dozen stops to tell anecdotes, share pictures of how things used to look, and point out traces of history such as bronze letters in the sidewalk in front of what used to be a brewery and recycled

bricks in the Tommy's Deli building.

He also hands out souvenirs along the way. At the site of the old Chinese Laundry, near the Depot Building on L Street, the kids receive laundry tickets. After Drummond relates the story of the \$2,000 in gold coins that the owner of the brewery found after the building burned down, he gives each child a gold colored coin.

"I liked hearing the stories, especially the one about the laundry," said Smith third-grader Navita Sohah. "I was surprised that there are houses that are over 100 years old. They really didn't look that old."

Drummond has lived in Livermore for nearly 50 years. He joined the Livermore Heritage

Guild in 1975, right after the organization was formed. He has written numerous historical articles on Livermore, covering topics such as the arrival of the automobile, the early railroad, telephone service, the first churches, and the first library.

"That whetted my interest in history and got me involved in inventorying historical structures and becoming an author," he says. "We all know different things—you can't expect everyone to know everything. We're a community of partners and I'm proud to share what I know with younger generations."

For more information on Livermore history, visit the Livermore Heritage Guild's website at www.livermorehistory.com.

Effort Made to Find Homes for Shelter Cats and Kittens

As part of the national Adopt a Shelter Cat Month campaign, Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center & Urgent Care is hosting an adoption event for local animal rescue groups in an effort to help shelter cats and kittens find per-

manent homes this summer.

According to the Humane Society of The United States, an estimated 3-4 million animals are euthanized in shelters across the country each year. In June, more cats and kittens are at risk because June is the month when shelters are inundated with unwanted cats and litters of kittens. "We feel it is our obligation to support local animal rescue groups and shelters with their rescue efforts," said Doctor Franklin Utchen co-owner of Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center & Urgent Care. "This year, we're taking our support one step further by hosting an adoption event for local animal rescue groups to help find homes for some of their rescued cats and kittens."

The event will be held Saturday, June 23rd from 10-3 at Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center & Urgent Care in San Ramon. Rescue groups participating in the adoption event include Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation (www.arf.net), Tri-Valley

Animal Rescue (www.tv.ar.org), East Bay SPCA (www.eastbayspca.org), Pets and Pals (www.petspals.org), Contra Costa Animal Services and others. Each group will have cats and kittens available for adoption and information about their organization and how you can help.

Other vendors will be in attendance — local Lafayette artist Vina Daniels owner of Paw Printers Ceramics (www.pawprinter.com) will be creating ceramic "paw print" impressions, while the founder of the Valley Humane Society's Just Like New Fund (www.valleyhumanesociety.org) will have animal boutique items for sale benefiting the Just Like New Fund — a program that provides financial assistance to the public who have a sick or injured pet.

Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center & Urgent Care is located at 2000 Bishop Drive in San Ramon. For more information, call 925-866-8387 or go to www.webvets.com

PARADE

(continued from page one)

nior) 1st VFW Post #7265; Color guard (junior): 1st San Anselmo Police Explorer Post #306; Antique vehicles: 1st Livermore Heritage Guild 1944 Mack Fire Truck, 2nd Don Podesta 1923 Doane Truck, 2nd Larry Kuntz 1948 International Farmall Cub Tractor; Classic cars: 1st Northern California F-100 Elites.

Equestrian awards, judged by the California State Horsemen's Association: Future horseman or woman: 1st Savanna Simon; Local western (junior): 1st Simone Gonzalez, La Espuela Charra; 2nd, Brittany Voss, Miss Livermore Junior Rodeo Queen 2007; Mounted group (senior): 1st Alameda County Sheriff's Posse, 2nd Calaveras-Tuolumne Cattlewomen, 2nd Diamond Hills Equestrian Center;

Charro/Charra: 1st Jorge Gonzalez, La Espuela Charra; 2nd Rancho las Camelinas; Novelty: 1st Pari Cartier, Bay Area Cowboys and Cowgirls; 2nd Rancho las Camelinas; 3rd Savanna Simon; Plain western: 1st Mega Davis, Miss Livermore Rodeo Queen 2007; Working western (senior): 1st Oakland Black Cowboys Association.

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go to <http://www.noewaste.com/>. Any California business, school, government agency, organization, and/or resident is welcome to bring unwanted e-waste and dispose of it free. All e-waste items collected will be recycled by a state-approved e-waste recycling company. There is no limit to the amount of e-waste people can bring. Accepted will be TV's, computers, monitors, computer components, power supplies, telephone equipment, scrap metal, wire, and much more. Not accepted are household appliances, microwaves, paint, smoke detectors, furniture, or household or car batteries.

A portion of the proceeds from the event will be donated to Granada High School.

Pirate Theme for Teen Program In Pleasanton

Teens, ages 13 through 19, are invited to kick off the Teen Summer Program at the Pleasanton Public Library on Friday, June 22 at 2:00 p.m.


The festivities will include popcorn, prizes and a movie just for Teens, "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" starring Johnny Depp in his academy award nominated role.

The event will take place in the Library Meeting Room, 400 Old Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. The program is free. No registration required. For more information, call Teresa Parham, 931-3404.

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