



Michael Fennelly

Concert Will Benefit Young Artist Awards

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council (PCAC) will present a classical piano concert performed by Michael Fennelly.

The concert will be Sat., Sept. 8 at 8 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and L Streets, Livermore. This concert is to honor the memory of Renee Smith. It is a benefit for PCAC's Young Artist Achievement Awards in Music, given in Renee Smith's name.

Fennelly began playing piano at age five. His mother, a piano teacher started him. There were, he said three pianos at his house so there was lots of music. Only five years later he performed his first concert.

Fennelly fondly remembers Renee Smith, the woman who provided him with his first chance at performing. Smith touted young Michael's talent when he won the local Livermore-Amador Symphony Annual Competition for Young Musicians in 1982 and 1984. Fennelly recalls, "All the training in the world means nothing if you can't perform at a recital." Without Renee, he would not be where he is today, according to Fennelly.

Following his first recital, he began then to make appearances

(See CONCERT, page 8)



Dana Barbero and Laurie Grey staff the van.

Van Takes Health Care to Those In Need

The Livermore Rotarian Foundation and ValleyCare Health System welcomed some Livermore elementary students back to classes Aug. 27 by offering free immunizations from the new mobile health unit.

The health unit was parked at May Nissen Park adjacent to Marilyn Avenue School to provide service to students who lacked required immunizations on the first day of school.

It was the first use of the 39-foot mobile health van, which the Rotarian Foundation purchased and then donated to ValleyCare for its use. The unit is designed to take health services to where people are who lack routine access to the health care system. The van cost more than \$350,000, a total fronted by

(See HEALTH CARE, page 2)



Highland dancing is one of the competitions at the annual Games and Gathering in Pleasanton. For the story, see page 7.

Ruling Resolves Dispute over Workday

By Patricia Koning

A longstanding dispute between the Livermore Education Association (LEA), the teachers' union, and the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District has finally been resolved. In May 2006, LEA filed a grievance over a schedule change at Granada High School, which it said violated the teacher contract.

An arbitration ruling issued on August 21 defined the teachers' work day as no more and no less than 6.5 hours and stated that 40-minute preparation periods must be contained within that workday.

A remedy requesting additional compensation for Granada teachers for the 2006/07 school year was not sustained.

While students won't notice any change, schedules for high school teachers will be slightly different as a result of the ruling. Full-time teachers teach class during three periods out of a possible four. In the past, the fourth period was the teachers' prep time. However, as the class periods are 90 minutes long, this meant teachers were required to stay at school longer than 6.5 hours.

Under the new schedule, high school teachers will have a daily 40-minute prep period either before their first class or after their last class. A tentative schedule has teachers starting their day with a prep from 8-8:40 am and ending their workday at 3:10 pm, or starting their workday at 6:55 am, having their prep time from 1:25-2:05 pm, and ending their workday at 2:05 pm.

"We all know that teachers and other staff members are on campus for much longer than 6.5 hours," explains LEA President Keith Pickering-Walters. "This

means that teachers cannot be disciplined if they do need to leave the campus for personal or work reasons after their contractual workday has ended."

Middle and elementary school teachers probably won't see a change in their work schedule, as their preparation periods already meet what was defined in the ruling. Kindergarten through third grade teachers are required to have three 40-minute prep periods per week. Teachers of fourth grade and higher are required to have five 40-minute prep periods per week.

The distinction is not based on grade level, but class size. Since class size reduction (20:1) is applied in kindergarten through third grades, fewer prep periods are required for those teachers.

Pickering-Walters says the ruling has bigger implications for future bargaining sessions with the District.

"This gives both sides clarity, so when we sit down at the bargaining table we can say this is what we have and where do we go from here," he explains. "Even

(See DISPUTE, page 5)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Don Kumpf (from left), A.C. Clements, Jason Cain, and Bob Pierce enjoy a round of golf.

Worries about Future of Golf Course

The Springtown Golf Course has many bumps and turns, traps and watering holes. The story of its future may have a few bumps and turns too. While it has never been a big moneymaker, it is clear the golf course is loved by those who play it.

Around eighty residents gathered last week in Springtown to express concern over the future of the Springtown Golf Course. They plan to attend the Sept. 10 Livermore City Council meeting to voice those concerns.

Rumors have been flying around about what the city plans to do with the land. Many of those at last week's meeting pointed out that the golf course is one of the few amenities on the northside of the freeway.

According to Kathleen Laing Schoening, Vice President of the

Springtown Homeowners and Editor of the Springtown, the city is looking at several options concerning the golf course. They include renovating it, operating the golf course as it is today, or perhaps reusing the golf course for some other public purpose such as a neighborhood sports park. A committee has been formed by concerned residents about the changes since as of yet, the City still has not asked the Association for input (though the golf course backs to our homes and facilities).

Last week in a letter to the editor, Betty Crosby wrote, "It is rumored the City might sell the Springtown Golf Course to a developer who would build low-cost housing on the Golf Course land so the City could meet its required low-cost hous-

ing quota, and the developer would in turn have the privilege of building a "higher-cost" housing elsewhere in the city."

She said that could create more population density, and "destroy not only our real estate values, but the good quality of life in our neighborhood. If the rumored development is true, it appears that the City of Livermore doesn't care enough about our welfare to keep our living standards from deteriorating."

Those themes were echoed during the meeting held in Springtown. Another complaint was that the city focused all of its efforts on the Las Positas Golf Course.

Both the Las Positas and Springtown golf courses are operated as enterprise funds. This

(See GOLF COURSE, page 5)

Housing Cap Looms Over Pleasanton General Plan Decisions

The Pleasanton City Council was all over the map when it came to discussing the draft land use element in the general plan update. The 29,000 unit voter housing cap issue came up many times during the discussion.

The council agreed that two new land use designations were good. They didn't support the planning commission recommendation to revise the definition of developable acreage. The council couldn't agree on how to count senior housing under the cap, nor on how many units might be considered for development in the Hacienda Business Park.

The number of units available has been revised after staff found that in some cases there had been double counting of approved units. There are 2755 units on the

table, not the 1685 previously reported by staff. Of the 2755 units, 113 are reserved for the Busch property and 200 are to be placed in reserve for future planning.

James Paxson, CEO of the Hacienda Business Owners Association, asked that the additional units be designated for Hacienda. With 900 units (333 were already designated), it would be possible to produce a viable transit oriented development plan. Paxson said he realized there would not be a commitment to that number of units on the part of the council. The final decision would be based on the proposal from Hacienda.

The two new land use designations are mixed use, which allows any combination of busi-

(See HOUSING, page 5)

Pleasanton District Trying To Facilitate High Schools' Expansion

The Pleasanton school board will conduct a special study session, probably in September, to sharpen the picture of just what can be done to expand and modify its high schools in the face of school population expansion.

No date has been set yet for the session, because of the need to clear calendars to find the time.

At the board's meeting Aug. 21, the commitment was made to move forward with seeing how much expansion can be completed with the estimated available funding at \$18 million.

The board has discussed high

school planning at three meetings so far this year. The trustees looked at early architectural drawings to form an idea of how the final products would look. Next, the board will try to fine-tune projects, with an eye toward breaking them into smaller increments, so the district would have more choice in what needed to be funded in a first round, and what did not.

For example, at Amador Valley High School, there is a proposal to expand the gym, and an adjacent weight room. Next to those two facilities, there would

(See HIGH SCHOOL, page 4)

McNerney Touts Education

Education is the key to this country being able to compete in an international economy. That was one of the messages delivered by Congressman Jerry McNerney during a talk at a Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Tuesday.

Health care and transportation infrastructure were also topics addressed by McNerney.

The luncheon was held at Wente Vineyards in Livermore.

McNerney, who was sporting a black eye, quipped, "This is what happens when you say 'no

to Nancy Pelosi." He then explained he had acquired it during an athletic competition.

During his talk McNerney declared, "It is important to nurture kids, to provide them with the skills they need to be able to compete in an international economy. There is a need to focus on local education, to make sure the community realizes the importance of investing in education. Parents need to be involved." Subjects he said were important included math, music,

(See EDUCATION, page 4)

Health Care Among Major Issues

Now that California has a budget, Assemblyman Guy Houston urged business leaders to keep an eye on several issues that will be coming to the forefront in Sacramento.

Houston made his remarks last week during a "State of the State" talk hosted by the Livermore Chamber of Commerce at Concannon Vineyard. Among the issues he mentioned were health care, workers comp and global warming. He added that one of the good things about the budget is that it contains full funding for education.

"There are issues coming up that impact the development community and people who voted for bonds and expect transportation projects such as those on I-580 and the Isabel interchange to move forward," declared Houston.

One is AB32, the global warming initiative. Houston explained that Attorney General Jerry Brown has interpreted the initiative to mean that all construction projects need to conform and have global warming considered in environmental

(See STATE, page 4)



Photo - Doug Jorgensen

Penny Johnson hides "the falcon" from Humphrey Bogart as Sam Spade.

'The Big Read' Pleasanton Style

By Libby Kolar

It has long been held that a well-read citizenry is essential to a vibrant society. According to a 2002 survey conducted by the

Census Bureau, *Reading at Risk*, literature reading as a meaningful pleasure activity is fading—especially among young people. In fact, the percentage of Ameri-

can adults reading literature has declined from 54% in 1992 to 46.7% in 2002—a decrease of 7%. Reading for pleasure has gone

(See READ, page 3)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Mulligan is friendly and handsome chap who loves to be cuddled and have his long, soft fur brushed. He is very friendly with people and gets along with dogs, but doesn't care for the company of other cats. He can be shy with strangers and small children, but is a great companion and loves attention. For more

information about Mulligan, 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.

Do You Remember?

By Anne Homan



The Young Farmhouse

In the late 1990s the Alameda County Waste Management Authority restored the Young family farmhouse located at 11761 North Flynn Road in the hills between Altamont and Patterson Pass. Built in 1878-79, it is the oldest surviving home in that area. WMA bought the house and 27 surrounding acres and decided to restore the old dwelling using "green" construction methods. The project was filmed by Ideas in Motion, a Berkeley company. "You might think rebuilding a farmhouse is not something a waste management agency is meant to do," said Bruce Goddard, WMA public affairs director. "But the restoration was, in fact, very much in keeping with our mission, which involves a commitment to environmental stewardship and recycling of materials." Larger than the typical farmhouse of the period, the two-story house has a wrap-around front porch; it was the only house in the area with an indoor bathroom and a library. WMA now rents it out as a single-family residence.

As a young woman, Anna J. Simmons crossed the plains from Illinois to California in 1862 with her family and met her future husband, John Guinn Young, at a church conference. After marriage in 1866 and a few years living in Irvington near John's parents, the couple settled in the Livermore hills and by 1867 owned 163 acres in Corral Hollow. Anna wrote in her autobiography, "Of all the forsaken windy places I have ever been, it was the worst. There was not a spear of anything green. ... We had to haul our water three and a half miles, so had to utilize every drop. My baby's bath was used to mop the floor and then go to the chickens or pigs, and dishwater also went to the pigs. The wind blew so hard some nights the chickens could not go to roost."

In 1869 they moved to the land they would call home for many years, Lone Oak Farm, and finalized their purchase of this northwest quarter of section 8 T3S/R2E with agricultural scrip in 1874. Anna's stepfather came from San Francisco to build them a two-room house on the property. "In 1875 I had my first sewing machine, and oh, what a comfort it was as it gave me time to do my other work as I wanted to. Before that, I had to spend every moment I could spare with my needle for in those days we made our clothes, even the boys' suits and Mr. Young's pants and underclothing." Later, her stepfather built the two-story house, which was started in late 1878 and finished by May 1879. "It was a great change from the little house and it was the finest house in that part of the country and had the only [indoor] bathroom within 25 miles." The 1880 U.S. agricultural census for Murray Township shows the Youngs in 1879 owned 360 acres and raised 90 bushels of hay and 1,200 bushels of wheat. They had nine horses, two cows, four pigs, and 60 chickens. During that year their ranch had produced 300 pounds of butter and 250 dozen eggs.

John and Anna had nine children; one son, Will, died of tonsillitis soon after his eighth-grade graduation from Highland School, and daughter Mattie died at age 16. The rest lived to adulthood: Alice, Jesse, Chester, Archie, Edwin "Guy," Fred, Nellie. "In so large a family, there was incidents and accidents, some laughable, and some tragic," Anna Young wrote. "When Jesse was about seven I think, he came to the house with a puppy in his arms, and so pleased, as he had traded Chester [about age three] to Mr. Sherman [a neighbor] for the puppy. After an hour or so Mr. Sherman brought Chester in. I told him, 'I knew you would get tired of your bargain,' but Jesse was heartbroken." Archie claimed that they were "the 'readingest' family in all the country around" with plenty of books, weekly and monthly magazines, and the local newspaper. On a typical winter evening, Anna would read aloud to the children.

After her husband's death, Anna remained at the farm until after the 1906 earthquake, when she moved into town and left the running of the farm to her son Guy and his new wife. Anna lived in Livermore with her younger daughter, Nellie, until Nellie married in 1909. When Guy died of pneumonia brought on by influenza in 1919, Anna turned over her share of the ranch property to his widow, sold the Livermore cottage, and moved into Nellie's home in Oakland. She regretted that for the rest of her life: "I made a foolish move and gave up my home and moved to Oakland. A woman should keep her own home if she has means, for it means giving up responsibility, and hospitality, and her own personality in many ways." After one of their traditional gatherings in the fall of 1945, the family sold 470 acres of the Young property including the farmhouse. But descendants of Malvern Sweet, great-grandson of John and Anna Young, continue to graze livestock on other property they own in the hills near the Lone Oak homestead.

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

Bouchard Leaving Role As Pleasanton Chamber Chief

David Bouchard, President & CEO for the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce since 1998, informed the Chamber Board today that he plans to leave his position as the Chamber's chief executive officer after nearly ten years in the position.

In his announcement, he cited several reasons for his decision. "I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as President and CEO, and I'm proud of what the organization has accomplished over the past ten years. But it's time for me to look for new challenges in my life, and find other ways to contribute to the Pleasanton community."

Bouchard continued, "I plan

to continue to live in Pleasanton and expect to work here or in the surrounding area. As a result, I will not really leave the Chamber but just change my relationship from president and CEO to a member and client."

During his tenure with the Chamber he was responsible for the modernization of the Chamber, providing an array of new services, programs and activities for Chamber members, strengthening of the Chamber's advocacy role with local government, establishing the Political Action Committee (a non-profit political action foundation), strengthening the Leadership Pleasanton program and establishing its

Foundation, forming strong partnerships with other business, non-profit organizations, the City and School District, and managing a dedicated and competent staff.

Bouchard also served on the Chabot-Las Positas College Measure B Bond Oversight Committee and the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation Advisory Board.

John Sensiba, Chairman of the Chamber's Board of Directors, offered these comments. "The Board of Directors appreciates all of Dave's work and know that he did an outstanding job for our organization. We are a stronger and more visible organization

now than we were ten years ago. Dave can be very proud of the part he has played in our success."

Bouchard has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science (with an emphasis in Public Service) from the University of California at Davis. He has also completed a nationally recognized course of study in chamber of commerce management through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institutes for Organization Management at Stanford University, and is a graduate of the Leadership Pleasanton program.

He and his wife, Cathy, have an eight-year-old daughter, Isabel, and reside in Pleasanton.

Pleasanton Students Show Overwhelming Success In Exit Exams

Pleasanton students continued their success in passing the state's high school exit exams.

Results announced by the state department of education last week showed that this year's 11th graders had a passing rate of 96 percent in English Language Arts (ELA) and 96 percent in mathematics on their first attempt. More than 97 percent of this year's seniors have passed both segments of the exam.

Students are eligible to take the test as 10th graders. They must pass it by the time they are to be awarded their diplomas.

The fact that so many 11th graders were able to pass the test last year, when they were in 10th grade, has enabled the dis-

trict to focus its help on this year's seniors, said superintendent John Casey. "I am very proud of our students' performance on this high stakes exam," he said.

The exit exam has been given since 2001. It was the result of the efforts of the Legislature and two former governors, Pete Wilson and Gray Davis, to correlate consistent statewide standards with student accountability.

The district's success reflects the alignment that the district staff has been able to do with the state standards, said Amador Valley High School principal Bill Coupe. He also gave a pat on the back to students for "their hard work."

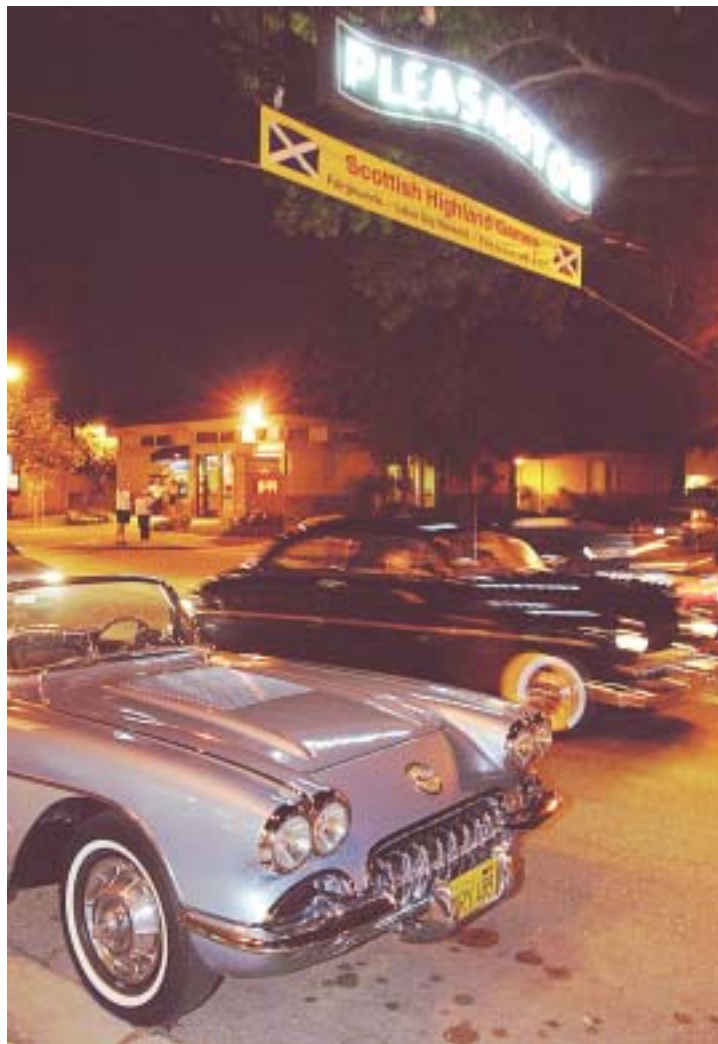


Photo - Doug Jorgensen

A Corvette was among the vintage automobiles and street rods taking part in the unofficial cruise in downtown Pleasanton last Friday.

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HEALTH CARE

(continued from page one)

the Rotarian Foundation, which then raised more than \$250,000 in support of the van.

The mobile health unit is the first major project for the foundation, which is a joint effort of the two Livermore Rotary clubs. It was undertaken after the foundation reached its initial goal of a \$1 million corpus.

ValleyCare will operate the van on a regular schedule to provide health care to children and senior citizens in Livermore and throughout the valley. In the event of a major disaster, it also will be used as a primary health care point. It contains two examination rooms that are equipped for health screening.

It is staffed by a nurse practitioner who will evaluate patients and then prescribe treatment or refer to another health care provider. The van is equipped with routine communication with ValleyCare as well as a direct line to ambulance services if someone with a life-threatening issue comes to the unit.

The regular schedule, which is anticipated to begin the second week of September, is as follows: Mondays, Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur Avenue, Livermore 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, Open Heart Kitchen, Asbury Methodist Church, 4743 East Avenue, 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, May Nissen Community Park, 658 Rincon Avenue, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; First and third Thursdays, Open Heart Kitchen at Vineyard Christian Fellowship, 460 North Livermore Avenue, 3 to 6:30 p.m.; St. Michael Catholic Church, 7-9:30 p.m.; Second and

fourth Thursdays, Pleasanton Unified School District offices, 4661 Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To confirm these times, please check the ValleyCare web site at www.valleycare.com. For information about the Rotarian Foundation, please check www.rotarianfoundation.org.

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VALLEY ROUNDUP

Agriculture Grants Available

Farmers, ranchers and agricultural professionals are eligible for funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program.

Grant recipients receive up to \$15,000 as individuals and up to \$30,000 for groups of three or more working together on a project. Funding can be requested for projects related to production practices and marketing alternatives, according to Western SARE representatives at UC Davis.

"Projects to consider might be small research trials, demonstrations, farmer or rancher workshops or market surveys," said David Chaney, education coordinator for the University of California's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program and the Western Region SARE representative.

Dec. 7 is also the deadline for "Professional Producer" grant proposals. Under those grants, agricultural professionals such as Cooperative Extension educators or Natural Resources Conservation Service employees, coordinate the projects with farmers or ranchers serving an advisory role. The same funding levels apply depending on the number of producers involved.

Calls for proposals are available on the Web at <http://wsare.usu.edu/> or by calling the Western SARE office at Utah State University, (435) 797-2257.

Property for Hope Hospice

The Lin family has donated land to Hope Hospice.

Currently, Hope Hospice operates from a rented space. In the past five years, the number of patients has tripled. A new building is planned to meet the needs of the hospice team.

The new building will include patient care, bereavement and administration. With more space, the patient care team can be located at the same place, improving communication, response time and delivery of care to the community.

The property is located in Dublin with freeway access.

Hope Hospice will now develop construction plans, select a contractor, work with city and county officials, and raise the additional funds needed for completion of a building.

Labor Day BBQ

The Central Labor Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO, union members and families, along with community members and local politicians are invited to attend the annual Labor Day BBQ in the Park on Mon., Sept. 3. The event will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. at Martin Luther King Shoreline Regional Park, 7250 Doolittle Dr., Oakland.

Music will be provided by Pete Escovedo and his orchestra. Hayward firefighters will serve the

BBQ. A poker tournament and jump houses for kids will be available.

Tickets are \$15 per person. For information or to purchase tickets, call 510-632-4242 ext. 224 or go to www.alamedalabor.org.

Healthy Air Partnership

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the American Lung Association have formed a partnership that will serve as a model. It highlights the relationship between air quality and public health with focus on the adverse health impacts of breathing unhealthy air.

The first campaign will be the wintertime "spare the air tonight," to be launched in mid-November.

Housing Starts Decline

California homebuilders continued to cut back on production in July, as buyers continued to wait and watch, exacerbated by the recent financial turmoil in the credit and lending industries, the California Building Industry Association reported Monday.

Total housing starts in California, as measured by building permits issued, fell by 22 percent in July when compared to the same month a year ago. According to housing permit data supplied by the Construction Industry Research Board, production of single-family homes fell by nearly one third while multifamily units saw a slight increase in permits being pulled when compared to July of 2006.

CBIA Chief Economist Alan Nevin said that builders and lenders are waiting for a signal from the market telling them to move forward, with most not yet convinced that now is the right time. As a result, builders are holding off on production in order to continue selling down their existing inventory of homes.

He anticipated that when the market turned, it would do so quickly. "In California, the market has historically been a 'V' shape in that when it turns around, it does so with great enthusiasm," Nevin said. "As California's economy remains strong and the job market solid, we believe the 'V' phenomenon will occur once more, though we hesitate to put a date on it."

In July, permits were pulled for 5,675 single-family homes statewide, down 32.5 percent from July 2006 and down 15 percent from the previous month, while multifamily housing starts - condos and apartments - totaled 3,355, increasing 4 percent from July 2006 and up 11 percent from the previous month.

During the first seven months of the year, production began on 73,339 homes and apartments, down 32 percent from the same period last year. Single-family housing permits were down 35 percent, while multi-family starts were down 23 percent.

He added that market corrections alone will not be enough to make housing affordable for families already priced out of homeownership.

READ

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down for both men and women and among all age and ethnic groups as well as at all educational levels. These declines are occurring despite the increasing popularity of book clubs, Harry Potter, and Oprah Winfrey's well-received efforts to promote reading for pleasure.

One of the most significant of the ten key findings of the *Reading at Risk* study states, "The decline in literary reading fore-shadows erosion in cultural and civic participation resulting in a rising tide of mediocrity." The study has sparked a massive reform effort by many organizations including The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The NEA partnered with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest in sponsoring The Big Read, a nationwide, community-based reading program. According to the NEA, "the purpose of The Big Read, like the purpose of literature itself, is pleasure. Not necessarily an easy pleasure, but a deliciously rich and complex one. A great book combines enlightenment with enchantment. It awakens our imagination and enlarges our humanity. It can even offer harrowing insights that somehow console and comfort us."

The first Big Read was held in seventy two communities nationwide from January to June 2007. Each community applied to the NEA in order to be selected as an official participant in the program. All those selected received matching grants from the NEA in order to sponsor the various events included in their particular program. The NEA selected twelve books by American authors for the participating communities to choose from ranging from *The Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton to *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury to *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett.

According to Penny Johnson, the Pleasanton librarian managing The Big Read, Pleasanton was selected based on the quality of its grant application. The application demonstrated a high level of support within the community, particularly the business community. Several businesses are actively participating in the Big Read events. The Pleasanton Hotel's October 12th and 19th mystery dinners, The Maltese Crow, is a spoof on the book, guaranteed to have participants laughing while enjoying their gourmet dinners.

The Pleasanton Downtown Association is sponsoring a mystery hunt with clues at the cash registers of various downtown businesses. Prizes range from dinners at John's Grill in San Francisco (an important part of the book) to facsimiles of the Falcon. Mayor Jennifer Hosterman will demonstrate the art of falconry with her bird at one of the events. Towne Center Books is advertising the event to all the book club members who purchase their books there. Each book club member is being encouraged to read the book for its October selection. Towne Center is also organizing drop-in book clubs during the month of October to discuss the book. The Pleasanton Great Books Group that meets at Towne Center will be discussing the book at its October meeting. These events are open to anyone interested in attending. Dates and times will be listed on the Towne Center calendar for October.

The library is sponsoring youth events as well. The youth selection is *Chet Gecko's The Malted Falcon* by Bruce Hale. On Tuesday, October 9, Bruce Hale will be speaking at the Pleasanton Library and Camp Parks.

The Maltese Falcon was chosen as Pleasanton's read because of the city's proximity to San Francisco, the setting of the book. One of the scheduled events will be a Don Herron led Dashiell Hammett tour of San Francisco, covering the majority of the locales from the classic novel. According to Judy Wheeler, owner of Towne Center Books, *The Maltese Falcon* is an important book in the mystery genre. It changed it from the Agatha Christie style to the noir mystery style. Somehow San

Francisco, with its fog and hills, seems the perfect setting for the first noir mystery written.

Pleasanton was awarded a \$5,500 matching grant to cover the costs of the various activities planned for The Big Read. Penny Johnson of the Pleasanton Library has involved members of the community, both business and private, to plan the two months of activities. The matching portion of the grant has not been met yet. Penny asks that anyone interested in contributing to the grant to please contact her at the Pleasanton Library. She emphasized that no amount is too small, so even children can participate if they would like to. The deadline for receipt of the matching funds is December 31, 2007.

Pleasanton's Big Read will be kicked off at the September 5th First Wednesday. The library will have a booth with lots of fun event-related activities and plenty of information about the scheduled activities. Everyone in town is encouraged to read the book and participate in the activities.

Although the events are designed to be fun for everyone even if individuals don't read the book. However, Penny notes the activities will be more meaningful and maximum enjoyment will be ensured if people read the book first. There are twenty copies available at the library. Towne Center can order copies for anyone who wishes to own the book. Banners will be placed at the library, over the Pleasanton Arch and in front of Towne Center Books to remind residents of The Big Read.

Penny declares, "Join the fun, read the book, and choose an event or two or three to participate in. Tell your friends to join the fun, too: October and *The Maltese Falcon*, don't miss it!"

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Final Party Includes Hunt for Missing Maltese Falcon

The Pleasanton Downtown Association bids farewell to summer at its final 1st Wednesday Street Party of the season. "Summer Blues" is the theme for the 6 to 9 p.m. event on September 5 in downtown Pleasanton.

Tommy and the 4 Speeds will play classic 50s and 60s rock 'n' roll music in the beer and wine garden at the Round Table Pizza parking lot. Beers from Anheuser-Busch, Trumer Pils and Main St. Brewery in addition to wines from members of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association will be available in the

Beer & Wine Garden.

The Wells Fargo Stagecoach will be on-hand at the corner of St. John and Main Street for this event. Singers from Harmony Fusion perform.

One of the special activities will be, "Hunt for the Missing Maltese Falcon," complete with clues and prizes, involving participants in a chase through the historic Pleasanton downtown. The hunt is in conjunction with "The Big Read" program sponsored by the Pleasanton Library.

A library booth for the fair will provide a photo-op: residents

can take their picture with Sam Spade and the Falcon. Prizes to be raffled off include a Maltese Falcon statuette, dinner for two at San Francisco's John's Grill, dinner at the Pleasanton Hotel's Mystery Dinner, and tickets to the Library's Big Read Maltese Falcon Gala on November 10, 2007.

Main Street will be closed from St. John Street to Old Bernal Avenue from 5 to 10 p.m. There will be plenty of off-Main Street parking available.

For more information, visit www.pleasantondowntown.net.

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Dr. Ben Kurz has joined his colleague Dr. Margaret Fry as the newest pediatrician to affiliate with the Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF). They are ready to care for your child at our new Dublin Center. At the PAMF Dublin Center, your family has access to some of the area's most advanced health care services, including:

- Electronic health records
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EDITORIALS

Garden Of Art

A master plan for public art in downtown Pleasanton was approved by the City Council last week.

This plan was a high priority project of the council. It establishes five goals revolving around the overriding goal of transforming downtown into a veritable garden of art.

The plan calls for sculptures, fountains, light and media installations, solo exhibitions and group shows, a chalk festival, an artist-in-residence program, and more. One of the most interesting ideas proposes that benches be placed throughout downtown, designed by artists in styles ranging from the simple to the ornate.

The City Council was effusive in its praise of those who put the plan together. We share the council's feeling. Art is often seen as something to be set on a pedestal and admired at a distance. Pleasanton's plan sets forth a vision of art that is everywhere, accessible to everyone. As visualized by this plan, a visit to downtown will be a special and wonderful experience.

EDUCATION

(continued from page one)

science, and foreign languages.

McNerney added that it is important to inspire kids to take advantage of the opportunities they are offered. Education will help prepare students who will be developing technologies that reduce the nation's dependence on foreign oil, as well as developing new fuels and more efficient cars and buildings. An educated workforce is also critical to growing the local economy.

"I know this area can lead in technology advances," McNerney declared. He predicted that the next wave would be energy technologies. "This area is well poised to take advantage and create jobs here that can't be exported." He mentioned biofuels and solar energy technologies as examples. McNerney stated that new energy technologies would be an area that he would focus on in the next few years.

Health care needs to be overhauled, according to McNerney. Local governments and businesses of all sizes are paying a lot for health care. He suggested that 2009 would provide an opportunity to revamp health care in a way that makes sense and is affordable. "We need to reach out in a bipartisan way to find something the American people can live with," McNerney stated.

McNerney is a member of the Transportation Infrastructure Committee. He said it is important to put resources into infrastructure to handle future growth and to move both goods and people.

He said transportation infrastructure is falling behind. Every major city has the same problems. There is a need to invest in infrastructure. McNerney said he believes part of the problem in providing funding is the percep-

tion that government was wasting dollars on projects during the 1970s and 1980s. "It is up to us to be responsible stewards with tax money, to make sure it goes to good local projects. If we do a reasonable job, citizens may be willing to trust us with funds in the future. We have to earn that right," stated McNerney.

Another committee assignment is the Veterans Committee. He described the Livermore VA as a terrific hospital. "It's serene and beautiful. It does serve our veterans well. We need to keep it open. That doesn't look good based on what the administration wants to do. However, I will continue to fight to keep it open," said McNerney.

Chamber members posed several questions. One continued the education theme, with the questioner asking about opportunities for kids who want to go into trades.

McNerney said that is an important area. Currently "No Child Left Behind" provides no credit for that type of training. "I will use the next week or so on the reauthorization of 'No Child Left Behind' to include credit for those types of subjects. It is important to provide more resources for those kids," stated McNerney.

Another question related to the effort to have the nation's energy supply 20 percent renewable by 2020 and the removal of tax incentives for gas and oil exploration. McNerney said that some of the money going to tax incentives for drilling was moved into renewables. He explained that companies already making a pretty good profit, don't need incentives. In the future, he anticipated that the country would need every bit of fuel it can get.

HIGH SCHOOL

(continued from page one)

be an entrance. Taking each of the three separately, with a redesign that wouldn't require the whole area to be built at once, the district could at least complete the weight room. The other two projects could be put on hold, until the money shows up.

The board also wants to take a closer look at potential revenue sources outside the current means. Trustee Kris Weaver suggested pursuing foundation grants.

Superintendent John Casey replied, "We'll see what is available." He later told the Independent that it's rare to receive grants for capital improvements. However, it does happen. Casey said that when he was superintendent in Watsonville, prominent sports artist LeRoy Neiman donated money to the district to build an art gallery at a specified elementary school. In Pleasanton, businesses have been generous in donating to the district through Pleasanton Partners in Education, said Casey.

Creating partnerships with the city was another avenue discussed to make construction dollars go further. Weaver said that the city would like the school district to join in financing a new city library. In turn, the city might be interested in helping to finance gyms that community groups, such as CYO, could use.

That might not be an easy sell. Board president Jim Ott, a member of the district's liaison committee with the city, said that such cooperative projects come up at the panel's meetings. However, the city has demands for its money. He named the Firehouse

Theater, the Bernal property and the future library as the top three that would absorb the city's money.

Assistant Superintendent Sandra Lepley said that joint efforts between the city and school district on projects can attract some state education money, perhaps as much as \$1.5 million on a project.

Trustee Pat Kerman said that he had an idea "out of the box. Build one big gym for both high schools, with a combination performing arts center. It's probably too late for that avenue."

Weaver said that it's important to expand gyms on both Amador Valley and Foothill campuses, so that each school's entire student body could be seated at their events. At Foothill, students who attended one rally ask students who attended a second what happened, because there is not enough room to hold one rally, she said.

Ott agreed to keep discussions going with the city at the liaison committee, to see what partnerships might be possible.

On another item, the board voted unanimously to invoke a law that permits the district to have the roof repaired at Hearst elementary school without going to bid. The district is in a hurry to repair the roof, so it can install solar panels there.

Lepley said that an expert inspection showed that the contractor that installed the roof in 2001 did not stick to all of the specifications. The district is contemplating legal action against the contractor over the roof's failure.

Zone 7 Looking At 8 Percent Water Rate Boost

The finance committee of Zone 7 Water Agency is recommending an 8 percent increase in the water rate that retailers will pay to Zone 7 next year. That would bring an increase of \$2.13 per month for a typical household, if the Valley's water retailers pass the cost directly through to consumers.

The Valley's water retailers are the City of Livermore and California Water Service in Livermore, City of Pleasanton, and Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD), which serves water to Dublin, but not San Ramon.

All three finance committee members — Sarah Palmer, Steve Kalthoff and Jim Concannon — backed the recommendation to increase the charge. Concannon said that compared to other services, consumers are getting a

bargain with water. "I'm not saying that just because I'm up here (as a director), but as a homeowner," said Concannon, referring to his power bills at home.

Although new water rates do not go into effect until January 1, they traditionally are examined and set by the full board during the previous fall. The finance committee's job is to screen the staff proposal and offer comments.

Currently, the Valley retailers pay \$636 per acre foot (AF) to Zone 7. The increase would add \$51 per AF. One AF supplies two households of average size for one year, so the annual cost to the typical household would be \$25.50.

The rate increase last year was 7 percent, and in the previous year it was 5 percent. The recent trend

has gone upward, above a 10-year rate increase average of about 3 percent. The consumer price index over the same 10 years has averaged approximately 3 percent.

Much of the boost for the two recent years and next year is the result of higher charges from the state Department of Water Resources (DWR). There are also other costs. Zone 7 is one of 29 state water contractors in the DWR's state water project. All of the state project's cost increases are passed along equally on a pro-rated basis to all of the contractors.

The increase primarily reflects the higher cost of transporting the water, which rose about 30 percent. It amounts to \$12 of the \$51 per AF rise. Increased

power costs are part of the boost.

The 2008 calendar year will be the first time that Zone 7 will get water from the Cawelo water district in the Central Valley, at a cost of \$1 million. That translates to \$11 of the \$51 increase per AF. Zone 7 signed a contract with Cawelo to obtain as much as 10,000 AF to guarantee that Zone 7 could meet its policy of 100 percent reliability for water customers, even in a drought.

Other costs are less dramatic. However, they add up to fill out the remaining \$51 per AF boost. Pay raises for staff amount to \$9 in the increase. Maintenance of structures is \$6. Smaller cost boosts include chemicals, professional services, supplies, and work being done to improve water quality.

STATE

(continued from page one)

impact reports. Brown plans to sue for compliance. "The problem is that the rules and regulations on how the initiative is to be interpreted have yet to be written. How can you sue when there are no rules," asked Houston.

As part of the recent budget process, a two-year moratorium was set in place on such lawsuits until regulations are put in place, Houston continued. "That is important. People who voted for the transportation bonds want the money spent. They don't want to see further delays." He added, however, that the moratorium is only for levee and transportation projects. Other projects will still be subject to litigation.

Among those are refinery expansions and modifications. "We all want cheaper gas and a supply of gas. Brown is threatening to sue refineries. While we want the environment to be safe and sound, at the same time, it doesn't do any good having lawsuits," he stated.

One of the things Houston liked about the budget, is that there are no new taxes. There is a \$3.4 billion reserve for economic uncertainty. Houston believes the reserve is important, because of the housing market problems. Property taxes are likely to go down, reducing the amount of revenue available to the state in the future.

"There is full funding for education and public safety in the budget," continued Houston.

Wording is included that could help solve the problem of equalization funding for schools in the future. There is \$350 million in the budget that will help bring up the average, which will help districts like Livermore and San Ramon. An additional \$150 million is needed to "get us there all the way."

Houston said the entire amount of equalization funding had been promised by the governor, and both the Republican and Democratic leadership. "Everyone suffered from amnesia (when it came time to fulfill the promises). I voted against the budget in July because of that. However, intent language has been added in this year's budget. That means that next year, after the cost of living increase, school equalization will be first in line for funding. Once the equal funding is in the base, it's there forever. The intent language doesn't guarantee the money. But it means politicians cannot say they don't remember conversations about providing the funding," said Houston.

"Equalization is a fairness issue. It makes a difference if a district doesn't receive the same funding in the programs the district offers," he stated.

Another important issue that Houston said would be garnering a lot of press in the future is health care. He does not support the Democrat's proposal to make

it the responsibility of business owners by instituting a 7.5 percent payroll deduction. That could put many people out of business who operate on a 1 to 4 percent profit margin, Houston said.

The Democrats have rejected fifteen ideas to improve health care access proposed by Republicans. Among them is the idea of health care savings accounts.

"The issue is what is a tax and what is a fee. If it's a fee only a 50 percent plus one majority is required to approve it. A tax requires a two-thirds vote of both houses. The 7.5 percent payroll deduction is a tax," stated Houston.

"Our health care is the best in the world. I don't want to jeopardize health care and lower it for those who already have health care by supplementing those not paying into the system or who may not even be documented in California," Houston said.

Workers comp is still an issue. Houston said that much of the improvement that has been gained over the past three years in reducing premiums could be lost if bills being considered were approved. He argued that would be bad for both businesses and employees. He explained that if employers were spending all of their income on workers comp premiums, there would be no room for pay increases for employees.

MAILBOX

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

Truman and bin Laden

Ted Tully

In his letter, Donald King said that bin Laden has a point in comparing the 9/11 attacks with the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This is a monstrosity of logic, and an insult to the American people.

Mr. King doesn't mention that Japan, after invading parts of China, declared war on the United States, launched the attack on Pearl Harbor, and invaded Malaya, Indochina, Burma and the Philippines. There was an extremely bloody war in the Pacific to liberate these areas. The culmination was the allied invasion of Okinawa, which resulted in horrendous casualties among military forces, and more so, civilians.

The Japanese government vowed to fight to the end. This would have necessitated the invasion of the mainland with unthinkable civilian and military casualties. President Truman de-

cidated to end the war immediately, balancing the casualties of each option. The U.S. and Japan have long put these events behind them. Japan has been a staunch ally for fifty years.

Osama bin Laden's objective is to subjugate the world to his warped vision of Islam. All who disagree are infidels, who are to be subjugated or killed. America is his top enemy, but Britain, Spain, Indonesia and the Philippines have been attacked. Ironically, the death toll is highest among his fellow Muslims. His method is jihadist terrorism, or acts of violence against non-combatants. His weapons are airline hijacking and bombing, suicide and roadside bombing, kidnapping and beheading.

If Mr. King chooses to compare President Truman's actions with Osama bin Laden's, that is his prerogative. I think it's a disgrace.

Voters Beware

Eric "Otis" Nostrand

Pleasanton
Pleasanton voters, beware. A group is attempting to gather signatures for an "open space" initiative on Staples Ranch. This misguided initiative is not what it appears to be.

Please don't sign it!
In reality, this initiative will ensure that control of the property will move away from Pleas-

anton and into the hands of either Livermore or Dublin. That means that our parks, schools, libraries, youth sports, cultural arts, seniors and emergency services will suffer.

Local open space advocates, including the Sierra Club, don't endorse it, and neither should you.

Don't be fooled. To protect Pleasanton's interests, it's simple—just say "no."

To learn more, visit www.pleasantonfirst.com, and join friends, neighbors, park and trail enthusiasts, youth sports groups, seniors, local businesses, and school and city leaders in supporting Pleasanton First.

Good Compromise

Tom Pico

Former Mayor

City of Pleasanton

Pleasanton residents, please voice your support for the Oak Grove development project at the 9/4/07 City Council meeting. As a consultant to the property owner, I truly believe we have created an environmentally superior development proposal that will be welcomed by the community.

In 1993 I helped collect signatures and defeat the original project on this property, which I felt was an environmental disaster. This time around, the City set up a facilitated communication

process including City, property owner representatives and neighboring homeowners resulting in the proposed "environmentally preferred alternative".

Pleasanton's residents get: a gift of a 496-acre nature park with convenient public access trails preserved forever by conservation easements; model green building guidelines applied to the new homes, and hundreds of thousands of property tax revenue dollars. Approval of Oak Grove establishes a key southern cornerstone for protecting open space and further bolsters a permanent green belt around our city.

With this proposal, Kottlinger Ranch and adjacent homeowners get fewer homes, reduced traffic, environmental and sightline impacts, safety improvements, home size limits, the opportunity to challenge plans for each future home and an end to uncertainty over future Oak Grove property development.

The property owner can create and sell 51 custom estate lots within the Urban Growth Boundary, and incurs the obligation to: build the trail system and staging areas before selling the 5th lot; establish 20 off-site affordable housing units; pay extra off-site mitigation expenses; and donate 496 acres of land to the City.

It's a good compromise.

Axis Health Selects New Executive Officer

Axis Community Health has named Sue Compton as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective December 1, 2007. She will succeed Ronald Greenspan, who is retiring.

Compton joined Axis Community Health (then Valley Community Health Center) in 1981 as family planning coordinator. She became director of administrative services in 1983 and assistant director in 1987. She held that position until 1999, when she left the organization for a brief time, returning in 2001 as associate executive director under Greenspan.

"Axis' Board of Directors selected Sue unanimously from a pool of 25 applicants, acknowledging that she is the best-qualified person to lead the organization into the future," says Axis' current CEO, Ronald

Greenspan. "She is a well-respected member of the Tri-Valley's healthcare sector who possesses an unparalleled combination of professional expertise, experience with the organization, community awareness and dedication to our stakeholders. She will do a fine job leading Axis in its ongoing mission of health and wellness for the entire community."

As Associate Executive Director, Compton's responsibilities have included all aspects of program development and management; financial responsibilities such as budgeting, grant writing and reporting; contract and personnel management; and community relations responsibilities. While Associate Executive Director, Compton managed all contracts, serving 14,000 persons and providing 100,000 patient/

client visits annually. Other notable accomplishments included creation of Axis Community Health's Strategic Plan and the raising of \$2.6 million in support of the organization. She also generated the concept and funding for Axis' Livermore clinic expansion project and the Women's Clinic, which is scheduled to begin operation in 2008.

As Axis' advocate for health and wellness in the Tri-Valley, Compton has worked with Human Services Commissions, Chambers of Commerce and community organizations and established working relationships with Tri-Valley cities, Alameda County, Community Health Center Network, Alameda Health Consortium and local foundations. Recently, she was appointed to Congressman

Gerald McNerney's Health Advisory Board.

She and her husband have resided in Pleasanton since 1988. They have two sons.

Axis Community Health offers medical, mental health, substance abuse counseling and health education services to residents of the Tri-Valley. Founded in 1972 as a licensed nonprofit organization, Axis serves 14,000 community members annually through direct services and school- and community-based education, prevention and treatment programs. It operates facilities in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin. Axis is supported by local, state and federal funding, foundation grants, client revenues and community donations. Detailed information is available at www.axishealth.org.

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HOUSING

(continued from page one)

ness park, office, retail, research and development, community facilities and residential uses in a single building or on a single site; and water management and recreation, which is proposed for the lake area in East Pleasanton.

The planning commission had recommended revising the definition of gross developable acres to exclude portions of a property with slopes of 25 percent or greater. However, the

council felt that it would be unfair to downzone land. In addition, it was noted, very few units are involved.

Staff suggested that the city council re-visit a previous council direction as to how assisted living units are counted under the cap. At issue is a proposed senior living facility for the Staples Ranch. Staff recommended that the units not be counted, making them available to other projects to "increase their viability and meet city goals, such as providing affordable housing and mixed use development." Staff argued that the entire complex should fall under the category of assisted living.

Councilmember Cheryl Cook-Kallio agreed with staff and supported not counting any of the units proposed for the Staples Ranch senior housing against the cap. "We should not limit the number of seniors who could move into the community or force residents who transition to look elsewhere," she explained.

Cook-Kallio was supportive of looking at moving units to Hacienda. It could provide an opportunity for workforce housing. "It is irresponsible not to at least attempt to build a place where people can live."

Councilmember Matt Sullivan said he didn't necessarily want to build all of the units available under the cap. "I do want to make sure we obtain high

value units that meet community needs." He felt more units in Hacienda makes sense. "I'd like to see a specific plan for a viable mixed use community next to BART. I'm willing to look at up to 900 units," Sullivan declared.

He wasn't as supportive of a project next to the west BART station. He felt the space was too small to build a true transit oriented development with parks and open space.

When it comes to counting senior units, Sullivan suggested that the current policy should be continued. Assisted living units have not been counted against the cap in the past. However, non-assisted living units for seniors should be counted.

Jerry Thorne also supported continuing the current policy, and expressed concern about changing how the city has counted units in the past.

Thorne stated that the additional units should be used to provide affordable housing, not necessarily in a transit-oriented development.

Cindy McGovern supported counting all of the non-assisted living units on Staples Ranch against the cap, which she estimated at 690. She said that the city should define what a housing unit is and stick with it.

She did not like placing more units in Hacienda Business Park. "It looks like we're putting all our eggs in the Hacienda basket. If we want mixed use develop-

ments, we should be able to look at it any time a project comes to us. There are other landowners and developers who could provide mixed use development." McGovern said she couldn't understand why Hacienda is a good place for housing. It's next to 580 with all its congestion and there are no schools.

McGovern also questioned zoning that allows 50 units per acre. "That is enormous. The city has never looked at that level of density before. It's a philosophical change that the community needs to be aware of."

Mayor Jennifer Hosterman wanted to maintain flexibility when it comes to counting Staples Ranch units against the cap. She said she was willing to go in the direction of not counting any of the units.

Hosterman said she is hoping Hacienda can put together a project for the council to look at. Transit-oriented high development density near transportation makes good sense, she said. Part of looking at where units go involves circulation, she added.

Residents offered views ranging from reducing the cap to increasing it. Former councilmembers Kay Ayala and Becky Dennis were on opposite sides of the issue.

Ayala noted, "Growth is a huge issue. If an initiative were out there to lower the cap, it would pass in a nanosecond. This is feeling like a pro-growth coun-

cil willing to put units everywhere. I'd like to see the number of reserve units increased dramatically. The council doesn't have to plan every unit."

Dennis suggested that the city would need to add an additional 22,000 units to house its workforce in the coming years. Another option would be to reduce the commercial acreage and generate fewer jobs.

Hosterman commented that the jobs/housing balance in Pleasanton would never be 50/50. Housing numbers should be looked at on a regional basis, she

said. She noted that Pleasanton will be asked to build an additional 3500 homes in the next seven years. "That's way over the cap." It is an issue that the council will be facing in the future.

Originally intended to be a nine-month process, Pleasanton's General Plan update is now in its fourth year. The process has evolved and grown in scope, accounting for the extended timeline.

The General Plan was last updated in 1996. The new plan is intended to guide the city through the next 10 to 20 years.

DISPUTE

(continued from page one)

if we don't agree on what we want, we'll be starting from the same place. This will make negotiations, at least in terms of work day, much easier in future."

In a joint press release issued by the District and LEA Superintendent Brenda Miller echoed this sentiment.

"The discussions around the teacher work day and preparation period proved to be a valuable experience for all of us as we implemented a new class schedule at Granada a year ago," she says. "We believe that the new schedule will provide a better learning environment for students. We appreciate the support we've received from Granada's teachers to implement this educational improvement. The arbitrator's ruling provides needed clarification on important issues following implementation of the new schedule."

GOLF COURSE

(continued from page one)

means they must generate the money to operate them. One of the issues discussed at the meeting was that the money from both courses go into one fund. Residents felt that the city was then using the money for the Las Positas course and ignoring Springtown.

The Springtown Golf Course was built in 1966. Its patrons were largely from Springtown, which was built originally as a retirement community. Since then, many families have moved in and more and more young golfers have discovered the course. It is the least expensive course at par seventy to play golf in the Tri-Valley.

Residents point out that the land is home to many different species. The White Tailed Kite is a small bird that can be found on the course. Water birds and owls can also be found here. Geese wait on the greens, greeting the golfers. Frogs croak in the water traps. Bob Pierce, who works in the pro shop, says foxes can be seen early in the morning and just before sundown. On the north side of the fairway is a pond which is used to water the course. Nearby are large blue herons roosting in the trees and patrolling the shorelines.

At the meeting of concerned homeowners, resident and non-resident golfers there was a common thread of concern about the future of the golf course. A rumor has been going around that the city was going to close the golf course.

A meeting with Daniel McIntyre, the Public Works Director, tells a different story. McIntyre says the city has a duty to balance budgets and declining attendance at the course is causing annual shortfalls. McIntyre said city hall will be scheduling town hall meetings in Springtown in the next month or so to discuss the future of the golf course. He says the city has not made any decision and wants to hear from the people of Livermore before deciding.

Some of the fears of the Springtown residents came from the previous sale of a portion of the course to build six homes. There was confusion over how the funds were to be used. The proceeds were used to add a new pump to the water system. Golfers had understood the proceeds would build a new maintenance shed replacing the Quonset hut.

Another bone of contention is the grill in the pro shop. The fire department shut it down saying the sprinkler system is out of date. A new one would cost \$4,000. Because of the month-to-month lease the management company has, members are fearful of pushing to replace it.

Dante Bacci is the General Manager of the course and an employee of Sierra Golf Management, which oversees the golf course. He stated that he likes the course and hopes it continues to serve the young the old alike. Often courses are costly and competitive, but Springtown was a bit more affordable and relaxed.

Bacci is also a homeowner there.

Mas Hisaoka has played at the course for seventeen years. He is the president of the Springtown Golf Club. He said unlike other courses, Springtown is friendly to the seniors and not just because of the low cost but because of its "walkability." Often seniors choose not to use the carts to get exercise. The course is not so huge that a cart is absolutely necessary. Mas plays two or three times a week.

The Men's Club holds a tournament every year to raise money for the Christenson Middle School golfers. Last year they raised over \$1,200, not just the students but their opponents as well. The money covered all the students green fees and equipment. They plan on holding the tournament again next year.

Richard Billian doesn't live in Springtown. He lives south of the 580 freeway on Concannon Boulevard. He likes Springtown because it is "family friendly, inexpensive and allows for a spectrum of incomes."

Jeff Hallin is the president of the Springtown Homeowners Association. He is a landscaper and feels the course is the best use of the land because, as he sees it, "A park would use the same amount of water and produce no revenue."

A.C. Clements is a member of the Homeowners Association Golf Committee. She is concerned with the possibility of any changes being made regarding

the course. She met with McIntyre last year and showed pictures of other courses that she thought looked well run.

Betty Murillo was born and raised in Livermore. As a citizen of Springtown, she says it seems the city forgets people across the freeway. According to her, "If Las Positas looks better than Springtown, there's a problem."

The recent meeting, according to lifelong residents, was the largest meeting ever for Springtown. People who are not residents of Springtown attended also. Some came from South Livermore and Dublin. One common complaint was the cities mentioning use of a consulting firm. Many Springtown residents asked why the city doesn't meet with them directly to save money.

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Rosh Hashana Services:
Wednesday, September 12 - 7:00pm
Thursday, September 13 - 10:00am
Friday, September 14 - 10:00am
Festive Holiday Buffet will follow all services

Yom Kippur Services:
Friday, September 21 - 6:30pm
Saturday, September 22 - 10:00am
Yizkor Memorial Service - 11:30am
Neilah, Closing Service - 6:30pm
Havdalah and a "break the fast" buffet will follow

SPORTS NOTES

Scottish Games



LARRY BROCK

Larry Brock wants to be the World Champion. The Charlotte, North Carolina athlete will be competing in this weekend's 33rd U.S. Invitational Heavy Events Championship in Pleasanton during the 142nd Scottish Highland Gathering & Games at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

Brock has come a long way in his short career following success in college football and track and field, by winning two Scottish Junior Championships before moving up to the top echelon Professional division. In the recent World Championship held in Inverness, Scotland, he placed third overall. He won the individual World Hammer Championship at Pomona, CA in May.

The 28-year-old, who stands 6'3" tall and weighs 285 lbs., has already won ten competitions in the U.S. and Scotland this year. With a future World Championship in mind, Brock looks to the prestigious Pleasanton games as an important step in the right direction. He will need to surpass seven-time World Champion Ryan Viera of Stevenson, CA who has captured the last three Invitational at Pleasanton with a total of seven wins at the facility. Viera placed second at Inverness where he lost his reign as champion while experiencing flu-like symptoms.

Among the prime athletes competing is Harrison Bailey III. The high school principal hails from Bethlehem, PA and is widely known for perfecting and popularizing the spin technique in the Weight Over the Bar competition. Bailey won the Weight for Height at Pleasanton last year, launching the 56 lb. weight over the 18-foot bar.

Current Women's World Champion Summer Pierson of Phoenix, AZ leads the women's contingent. She still holds the women's discus record at Stanford University.

All professional, amateur and women's division athletes are required to compete in all eight heavy events with the aggregate score determining the overall winner. The events include the ancient task of tossing the Caber; 56 lb. Weight for Height, standing or pinning; 17.6 lb. Regular Stone Putt; 26.6 lb. Braemar Stone Putt; 28 lb. Weight for Distance; 56 lb. Weight for Distance; and the 16 and 22 lb. Hammer. All but the Caber and Weight for Height are held on the soccer field from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. both days.

The Caber and Weight for Heights events are held in front of the main grandstands beginning at 1 p.m. preceding the 4 p.m. Massed Bands Closing Ceremonies each day. The classes include Professional Men's Open, Women's Open, Men's 40-49 Masters and Men's 50-Plus Masters.

Youth Soccer

The Pleasanton Rage U15 D3 team lost in the championship game by one penalty kick point in the final minute of play in last weekend's Soccer City Warmup tournament. Ending with second place overall, the team outscored their weekend opponents by 6-to-1.

Weekend scores were 2-0 against Santa Cruz Jaws, 3-0 against Piedmont Highlanders, 1-0 against Elk Grove Fury, and 0-1 against Folsom Breeze. Goals were scored by Mo Weber (assist by Chelsea Lowenstein), Chelsea Lowenstein (assist by Kristen Desprez), Julie Price, Kristen Desprez, Heidi Johns, and Casey Curtis (assist by Heidi Kim).

Defensive standouts for the weekend were Nikki Gotelli and Emma Caswell. Two midfielders who stepped up their games both on offense and defense were Noelle Malindzak and Sara Quero. Goalkeepers Alex Villanueva and Heidi Johns held their opponents scoreless all weekend, save for that last PK close-in. Kendall Reedy, Stephanie Boggs, Maggie Blasing, and Vicki Binder also had stand-out moments during tournament play.

The Pleasanton Rage Blue U14 team came away from this weekend's Soccer City Warm Up with 2 decisive wins and a tie. Although the team did not advance to the final rounds of play, they outscored their opponents 6 to 1 and never lost a game.

In Saturday's action the Rage met East Diablo from Brentwood. Rage got on the board quickly when Kelly Parsons found the back of the net off a nice cross from Dani Ramirez. Before the half, Brittany Jones put one in for a 2-0 Rage lead. Arielle Siegel would make it 3-0 when she sent a rocket in from outside the eighteen. Although Rage let Diablo score late in the game, they dominated play.

In Saturday's second game, the Rage offense was ready to score early and often. Dani Ramirez started the scoring with a nice shot from the left. Brittany Jones and Arielle Siegel netted their second goals of the tournament and then the defense held strong to preserve the 3-0 victory.

Sunday morning the Rage faced the Pacific Heights Celtics. Play was very even and although the Celtic team had scored 10 goals the day before, the Rage held them scoreless and the game ended in a 0-0 tie. Arielle Siegel had a great shot in the waning seconds of the game but the Celtic keeper made a nice save to keep the game scoreless. Top Offensive Players: Arielle Siegel, Brittany Jones, Kelly Parsons, Dani Ramirez, Karoline van der Zee; Top Defensive Players: Keeper Jessica McKeethan, Erin O'Loughlin, Hannah Bteszcat, Taylor Dorsey.

The Rage Division 1A C - U17 finished second in pool play and was able to advance to the championship round in the El Dorado Shoot-Out in Sacramento this past weekend. Rage won the game for 3rd place in the tournament with a 1-0 win over Delta United Gold. The lone goal came on direct kick by Sam Okumura. Rage won the previous game 4-0 against the Hayward Striker that vaulted them into the next round, led by two goals by Katelyn Golik.

Rage defense was stellar through-out the tournament with 3 shut-outs and only blemish was a 2-1 loss against the eventual champions of the tournament.

Top Offensive Players: Kayelyn Golik - 3 goals; Lina Potter - 1 goal; Samantha Okumura - 1 goal; Casey Tuoto - 1 goal; Top Defensive Players: Megan Leoni, goalkeeper; Krista Bormann, sweeper and an assist; Nicole Rains, fullback.

The Pleasanton Rage U12 Div. A team took part in the Pleasanton Soccer City Warm Up Tournament this past weekend and came away with a loss and 2 ties. The Rage got off to a slow start against the Almaden Wildcats and it resulted in a Wildcats goal after the first 10 min. of play. The Wildcats kept up the pressure, but Olivia Brown made a diving save at goal to keep the score at 1-0 going into the half. The Rage came back fired up and much more alive in the second half. The offense led by Molly Grozier, Keli Wheatley and Sammie Williams battled hard back, but each time were met by a strong Wildcat defense. In the end, a second goal by the

Wildcats gave them the 2-0 victory.

Next, the Rage met the Elk Grove Strikers. Dominating the 1st half, the Rage was first to score at just 5 min. of play when Cassie Santana took the ball up the left side and made a great cross to Sammie Williams. Williams passed the ball onto Kendall Moore who drilled it high and in the corner just out of the goalies reach. The Rage held tight, and thanks to some tough defensive play by Lauren Fan, Dani Leedeman and Olivia Deuschman, they were able to shut down the Strikers offense and the game remained 1-0 at the half. A penalty kick midway through the second half was enough to produce a final 1-1 tie.

The final game was against the Benicia Arsenal. Both teams played equally as well, but it was the Arsenal who scored first. The Rage offense battled back, but shots by Taylor Sanchez, MacKenzie Schoen, and Kayla Bautista did not find the net. The Rage answered back in the second half with a penalty shot by Mathea Turkalj to tie it up. Again it was the powerhouse defense led by Lauren Fan, Claire Hinkel, and Patti Norcross that shut down the Arsenal's offense, preventing any further scoring, and resulting in a 1-1 tie.

The Pleasanton Rage U-13, Division 3 Orange team came away with a third place at the Soccer City Warm-up tournament this past weekend. The Rage finished 2-1-1 with wins over the Tiburon Rockets and the South San Jose Hurricanes. The weekend was highlighted with a come from behind 2-1 victory over the South San Jose Hurricanes in the consolation game with goals from Rachael Kapp and Shannon Malindzak. A strong effort from Lindsey Allen, Maddie Martin, Ajana Bodmer, Alyssa Keiner and goalies Chyenne Lofthouse-Wolf and Morgan Bowen paced the Rage defense. For the weekend, Isabela Castaneda and Kapp each scored 3 total goals, and Allen and Malindzak each netted one.

Top Offensive Players: Rachael Kapp Isabela Castaneda Nicole Henninger; Top Defensive Players: Lindsey Allen Alyssa Keiner Maddie Martin.

Rage U14 Division 3 captured 2nd place in the Pleasanton Tournament.

Game 1 against Novato Thunder, Rage scored 3 to 0 wins off goals by Danielle LaMarche, Danielle Homan and Megan Ash. The Rage defense kept Novato scoreless to start off with a 3-0 win. In game 2 against Palo Alto, Rage's defensive team of Megan Clark, Kristen Dumanski, Megan Ash, Cassi Scroggins, Autumn Whitney, Marisa Victor, Elena Victor and Devon Lutz took control of the field which helped Danielle LaMarche and Jessica Klahr score 2 goals. Final score Rage 2, Palo Alto 0.

Aria Crawford, the goalkeeper for Rage kept Heritage Ambush scoreless in Game 3 with a beautiful save to assure Rage a spot in the championship game. Rage put 3 on the boards with Stephanie Little's penalty shot and two scores off corner kicks by Katie Cloonan and Stephanie Little. The championship game against Petaluma Ambush was an evenly matched game. Both teams fought hard for control of the ball. Danielle Homan scored with an assist from Stephanie Little and Katie Cloonan scored 1 goal, yet Petaluma scored in the last minute of the game to win 3-2.

Pleasanton U10 Rage white team, posted a 1-3 record in the Mission Peaks Soccer Jamboree. In their 6-0 opening game victory over the Red Devils (SACSYL), Carly Israel and Christina Echevia led the Rage scoring attack with two goals apiece. Sophie Santos and Monica Martinez also scored for Rage, and both players added an assist. Megan Martin and Carly Israel posted the shutout in the net for Rage.

In their most tightly contested game, the Pleasanton U10 Rage White outscored the Castro Valley Power 4 to 2. Darcy Kron led the Rage scoring attack with two goals, Carly Israel and Monica Martinez both added a goal, and Christina Echevia contributed an assist. Emma Theroux and Sophie Santos were very strong in the goal for Rage White, and Hailey Bouchard's excellent defensive effort helped the Rage come out on top.

Top Offensive Players: Darcy Kron, Monica Martinez, and Carly Israel; Top Defensive Players: Emma Theroux, Sophie Santos, and Hailey Bouchard

The Rage U10 White team capped off a successful first day in the Mission Peaks Soccer Jamboree with a 3-0 win over PSA United (S. San Jose). Megan Shackley, Carly Israel and Sophie Santos each scored a goal for the Rage. Jenna Crawford and Megan Martin contributed strong defensive efforts in the victory, and Monica Martinez and Cassie Wood were outstanding in the goal for the Rage White team. Top Offensive Players: Megan Shackley, Carly Israel, and Sophie Santos; Top Defensive Players: Jenna Crawford, Megan Martin, and Cassie Wood.

Pleasanton Rage Division 3 U12 shut-out Lamorinda United 9 to 0. Lindsay Cole scored a hat trick in the first ten minutes of play. Other goals were by Jackie Archey, Rachel Reichenbach, Paige Zollars, Jessica Crawford, Kayla Cerri and Madison Lingerfelder (penalty kick). Leading the no goal defense were Marisa Riordan and Rachel Lortz.

Pleasanton Ballistic United Soccer Club U-14 placed third at this weekend's Napa Valley Wine Country Classic. It could have so easily been more. Ballistic held a 1-0 advantage over the eventual first-place winners Benicia Arsenal until the last three minutes of regulation time in their group match before Benicia forced an equalizer and went through to the final on the tie-breaker of fewest goals conceded. Both teams had finished tied on twenty-three points from their group matches.

In their third place play-off match Ballistic dispatched FS Fusion from Vacaville 5-1. Earlier on Saturday Ballistic defeated Napa United 5-2 and Placer United 4-0 to put themselves in a great position to make the final in the first place.

Over the weekend Ballistic scored fifteen goals led by Dane Schaffar who tallied four himself. Their defense anchored by the Kuo twins gave up only four goals and their midfield engine featuring Chris Franzella, Erik Knaggs and Brandon Cohen simply dominated play for long stretches. The team now prepares to head south for the Huntington Beach tournament.

The Livermore Elite Explosion Division 1 Girls U13 soccer team played 4 great games this past weekend with 12 goals scored and only 2 goals allowed in the Stockton Fall Classic and captured second place.

Championship Game: Livermore Elite Explosion 0, Tracy United Dynamite 1. Both teams played extremely well offensively and defensively and regulation ended with both teams tied at zero forcing overtime. In the first half of overtime, Tracy scored and earned the win. In all 4 games, great defensive pressure was enforced by Explosion players Cierra Comfort, Kylee Southwell and Jennie Harmon. Victoria Case was stellar manning the goal for Livermore.

Livermore Explosion 3, Turlock Tornadoes 0. The Explosion displayed total offensive pressure in the first half at the hands of Mandi Alvarez and Jessica Floyd and in the second half, the Explosion finished their pressure with 3 solid goals. Cassidy Peters drove in Livermore's first goal after she received a perfect pass from Brooke Rittmann. With 10 minutes left in the game, Taylor Roach picked up a defender's kick and sent it in almost from mid-field for the score.

Minutes later Alexa Hubbs fed a nice pass to Rittmann who dribbled and put the ball in the net. Livermore held the Tornadoes to only 1 shot on goal in the game.

Livermore Explosion 8, Clovis Cyclones 0. It was all Explosion offense in this match as the Explosion scored 5 of their 8 goals in the first half. Livermore's scoring came at the hands of 6 separate shooters: Brooke Rittmann (hatrick), Cassidy Peters, Sierra Cassels, Audrey Walke, Alex Boucher and Caroli Floris with assists by team mates; Danielle Lacombe, Rittmann, and Floris.

Livermore Explosion 1, Stockton Lightning 1. It was an aggressive fight to the end as the Explosion scored first off a side line throw in by Danielle Lacombe landed right in front of Brooke Rittmann who sent it to the back of the net. The Lightning came back to tie the game in the second half.

The Livermore Elite Fury Girls U12 D3 team finished in second place in the Walnut Creek Summerfest tournament. Against a tough Annadel Thunder team in the first game, Mikayla Mollen, Morgan Brandt and Erin Winegarner played strong defense and Skyler Kriz, Marissa Scheid, Ryley Landreth and Callie Crowe led the offense. In the last five minutes of the first half, Annadel broke through with two goals to take a 2-0 lead. The Fury opened the second half with tremendous pressure, highlighted by an Amanda Fairclough corner kick which was headed on goal by Katie Lortie and saved by the Thunder keeper, Rebekah Johnson, Emily Kalantar, Callie Crowe and Alyssa Stevenson also had scoring chances while Brittany Ahrebeck helped gain midfield possession. Finally, with four minutes left Stevenson raced down the left wing and shot a hard ball into the left corner of the net to get within 2-1. Livermore continued its pressure near the Thunder goal and Lortie fired a high shot out of the keeper's reach to tie the score 2-2 with two minutes remaining.

Livermore rode the momentum of its furious rally to tie the first game and dominated its next two opponents. Against the DeAnza Force, Alison Pierson opened the scoring by tapping in a deflected ball near the goal in the 8th minute. Ten minutes later, Callie Crowe sent a perfectly placed ball over the Force defense to a waiting Kaitlyn Bulhoes who fired the ball past the goalie for a 2-0 lead. The Fury defense remained solid as Erin Winegarner and Mikayla Mollen cleared all the DeAnza rushes, often times with big kicks to put the offense in great position. In the second half, Skyler Kriz and Kaitlyn DaDalt led the assault on the Force defense. In the 30th minute, DaDalt won the ball from a Force defender and crossed the ball to Pierson who controlled and buried the shot to go up 3-0. DaDalt rounded out the scoring in the final seconds in Livermore's 4-0 win.

In game three versus the Menlo Park Strikers, the Fury scored in the first minute when Kaitlyn Bulhoes drilled a shot off a corner kick from Amanda Fairclough. In the 11th minute, Alyssa Stevenson converted a shot off a loose ball. Three minutes later, Fairclough rocketed a long shot which deflected off a Striker defender and into the goal for a 3-0 halftime lead. The Fury kept up the pressure in the second half. Morgan Brandt's defensive play set up the offensive attack as she cleared several balls to the midfield and beyond. Emily Kalantar scored with ten minutes. The Fury capped it 5-0 victory and a place in the championship game when Erin Winegarner dribbled by her defender, drilled a hard shot off the goalie and Alison Pierson followed up with a rebound score.

In the finals against the undefeated Santa Rosa Shooting Stars, both teams traded scoring opportunities in the first half. Brittany Ahrebeck and Erin Winegarner both made excellent plays to hustle back on defense to thwart the Stars attack. Rebekah Johnson, Katie Lortie and Ryley Landreth provided good offensive play. After a scoreless half, Santa Rosa broke the tie on a well-placed throw-in to the middle of the field and open shot. Six minutes later, the Stars scored again on a long kick just out of the Fury keeper's reach. Livermore tried to come from behind again but the Strikers' defense played solidly. Defender Mikayla Mollen helped keep the Fury close by blocking a shot and goalie Emily Kalantar made a diving save. Santa Rosa held on for a 2-0 win and first place in the tournament.

The Livermore Shock U-14 girls, Division-1 team took the 2nd place title at the El Dorado 2007 Shoot-Out Tournament held this past weekend at the Cherry Island Soccer Complex August 25th and 26th. The Shock Team dominated all three games this weekend for an outstanding weekend of play. The first game was played against CJSL Cal Odyssey where Shock dominated in a shut-out final score of Shock 5, Cal Odyssey 0. The second game on Saturday was played against the Modesto AJAX Elite 94 where Shock cleaned up with a shutout and a final score of Shock 1, AJAX 0. The third game on Sunday was played against the CVSL Swoosh 94. Shock managed yet another shutout with a final score of Shock 2, Swoosh 0.

The championship game was an outstanding play by the Shock Team against the CVSL NIKIE Rush. The tied 0 to 0 game went into overtime and ended in a shoot-out with Shock 0, Nike Rush 1. It's tough to lose in a shoot out and the pressure on the players was tremendous. However, Shock showed excellent sportsmanship and ended the weekend with compliments from players and coaches.

The Shock Defense did an awesome job this weekend, shutting teams down and not allowing any goals to be scored. The keeper did an outstanding job this weekend, not allowing any goals in 4 games. The midfield and forwards did an outstanding job as well, great hustle up and down the field.

The Mustang Strikers U-17 Boys competed in the Mustang Boys Stampede Tournament August 25 & 26, 2007 in Danville, California coming away with the Championship.

Mustang played Bullard FC United in the final coming away with a 3-1 final victory. Gerardo Garcia started off the scoring Chris Bernardi and Emrah Klimenta added the other 2 goals for Mustang.

In Pool Play - Mustang shutout all opponents. They defeated Burlingame 2-0

with goals being scored by Jose Garcia and Chris Bernardi. In game 2, Mustang defeated Bay Oaks in a red card filled game by a score of 3-0. John Waincott, Jose Garcia and Justin Cheng scored for Mustang. In game 3 of pool play, Mustang defeated Davis legacy by a score of 1-0 to advance to the finals.

The defense of Mustang played awesome, lead by Michael Janjigan & Patrick Watson, along with Nick Feeney, Tory Jorgensen and Dominic Daley.

Midfielders George Mayer, Shawn Daut, Nadav Kariv, & Scott Brelseld played an excellent midfield and provided several key scoring opportunities for the offense.

The offense of Gerardo Garcia, Sasha Chalek, Chris Bernardi & John Waincott pressured the defense which payed off with several scores.

Ryan Rivera - playing superb in the nets for Mustang recorded 3 shutouts and one goal against the whole tournament.

Livermore Elite Force U16 Boys Div III played their way into their third consecutive tournament championship game. This time it was the Soccer Rocklin Quarry Classic, where they brought home the second place award.

Livermore Elite Force 2, Cal Rush Combat 91 0: Goals were scored by Cody Lutz on an assist from Brandon Bauer. The second shot was by Alex Gonzalez, Livermore Elite Force 1, Rocklin Raptors 2: Livermore's lone goal was scored by Cody Lutz. Livermore Elite Force 5, Roseville UFC 0: Silvano Lopez and Peter Morrow each had a pair of goals, with a shot from Alex Gonzalez as the topper. Assists from Joseph Van Fossen, Brandon Bauer and Peter Morrow made the scoring possible.

Championship Game: Livermore Elite Force 0, Rocklin Force 3: Suffering from several injuries, Livermore was unable to play its best game. Rocklin broke through their defenses three times in the first half. The Elite Force had enough juice left to come together as a team and keep Rocklin scoreless in the second half.

Livermore Soccer Club: 7 under girls: Chetah Girls v. Angels; top players Chetah Girls: Abby Hamish, Lindsay Hamish, Emily Rogers; Angels: Olivia Armstrong, Mariah Turner, Talina Quezada.

California Gymnastics

California Gymnastics Academy competed in the Judge's Cup at Sacramento State University August 25-26.

RESULTS (by event): LEVEL 5 Age Group: Younger VAULT - Isabella Orecchia (8.1) BARS - Orecchia - 3rd place (8.75) BEAM - Orecchia - 2nd place (9.15) FLOOR - Orecchia - 6th place (8.575) ALL AROUND - Orecchia - 3rd place (34.575);

LEVEL 6 Age Group: Younger VAULT - Shannon Gray (8.4); Tana Hodzic (7.95) BARS - Hodzic (7.6) BEAM - S. Gray (8.15); Hodzic (7.875) FLOOR - Hodzic - 5th place (8.8); S. Gray (8.25) ALL AROUND - Hodzic (32.225); S. Gray (31.55); Age Group: Older VAULT - Amy Tilsion-Lumetta - 5th place (8.85); Jaime Gray - 9th place (8.6); Jacy Rasnick (8.3) BARS - Tilsion-Lumetta - 6th place (8.625); J. Gray - 9th place (7.925); Rasnick (7.0) BEAM - Tilsion-Lumetta - 7.125 place (8.95); J. Gray (7.9); Rasnick (7.15) FLOOR - Tilsion-Lumetta - 2nd place (9.175); J. Gray - 4th place (8.9); Rasnick (7.15) ALL AROUND - Tilsion-Lumetta - 2nd place (35.6); J. Gray - 8th place (33.325); Rasnick (30.175).

Livermore Smoke

Livermore Smoke Red 13-under B participated in the Fall State Qualifier in Hayward.

Pool play - game 1: Livermore Smoke 13, San Lorenzo Lady Patriots 0. The Smoke offense was strong with Paige Darrow, Megan McEntee and Jessica Olson each driving in two runs, the defense was led by pitcher Morgan Monaghan, who threw a no-hitter with six strikeouts. Renee Dobson was catcher.

Livermore Smoke 8, Rebels 3. Again the Smoke offense stood out, keeping the Rebels on their toes with Morgan Monaghan going three-for-three with a triple and a RBI, Cassidy Van Trease slapped two singles, and Courtine Fields connected for a base hit. Van Trease also recorded six strikeouts on the mound, with excellent fielding by Paige Darrow, Kayla Block, and Morgan Monaghan.

East Bay Thunda Strike 11, Livermore Smoke 1. After two big games on offense, the Smoke could only produce four hits this game. Morgan Monaghan hit a triple with singles by Jessica Olson, Kayla Block, and Cassidy Van Trease. The defense was supported by Michelle Soule, Jeannette Koenig, and Megan McEntee.

Lamorinda Menace 5, Livermore Smoke 4. This nail biter took a turn away from the Smoke in the last inning of their final game. The Smoke rallied in the third inning with a RBI triple by Morgan Monaghan, an RBI double by Renee Dobson, and a RBI single by Jessica Olson. The defense was tight with Taylor Munoz, Jenny Bruner, and Kayla Block.

Smoke Registration

The Livermore Smoke 2008 season is almost here. Walk-in registration will be held October 9th and October 23rd, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church located at 1020 Mocho

Street, 6pm-9pm. Birth certificates will be verified for all players (past records are shredded after each season). Signed zero tolerance policy forms are required for both player and parent. Forms will be available online and at walk-in. For more information please visit us at <http://livermoregirlssoftball.org/>



DAVE CAMPBELL

Triathlon Championship
Dave Campbell, former Livermore resident, will be competing in the 2007 International Triathlon Union BG Triathlon World Championship slated for Hamburg, Germany on Sept. 2.

Campbell, who now lives in Auburn, graduated from Granada High School in 1975.

The 250 amateur athletes on the USA Triathlon's Team USA range in age from 16 to 81. Many of the athletes use the world championships to judge their progress from year to year. More than 2500 athletes from over 50 countries will compete in the intermediate distance triathlon - 1.5k swim, 40k bike, 10k run.

Most of the athletes qualified for the team by finishing in the top 16 in the Hagk Lake event outside Portland, Oregon on June 30.

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to the Pin Awards
For more information contact Al Chavira at 980-3287 or Steve Martinez at 220-0965 and/or email Al at al@chasefinancialgroup.com or Steve at coachscm@aol.com.

Fall Baseball

PONY Baseball is now accepting registrations for 2007 Colt/Palomino Fall Ball Season Ages 15-18 Register online at www.pleasantonpony.com or www.livermorepony.com Any questions please contact Angel Moore at amo10@comcast.net or call 925-600-PONY.

Hats Off Run

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

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

Hats Off America (HOA) nonprofit organization raises money for families of soldiers who have died in Afghanistan and Iraq. The run is another day 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.

Pony Baseball

PONY Baseball Pleasanton/Livermore/Dublin is now accepting registrations for the 2007 Fall Ball Season Ages 5-10. Ages 11-14 will register with the PONY Baseball Tiger Program. Games begin Sunday, September 23, 2007 and continue 6 Sundays. For more information or to register for Fall Ball or Tiger Baseball log onto our website at www.pleasantonpony.com or www.livermorepony.com.

CYO Basketball

St. Michael's/St. Charles CYO Basketball is now accepting registration for 07/08 season. Register on-line at www.smsccyo.org for player's 1st - 8th grade, coaches and referees. Late registration will be accepted at try-outs. Visit the website for more information or email vince@teamwpd.com. CYO hot line number 925-417-542

Celebrating All Things Scottish This Weekend in Pleasanton

More than 750 bagpipers and drummers will be marching into Pleasanton over the Labor Day weekend for the festive 142nd Scottish Highland Gathering & Games.

The largest two-day Scottish festival in the Northern Hemisphere runs September 1 and 2 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton from 8:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. both days.

The Games have been presented by the Caledonian Club of San Francisco for 142 consecutive years without Federal, State or Local funding. The pipers and drummers are part of the thirty-plus pipe bands gathering from the U.S. and Canada to compete for honors in Grades-1, 3 and 4 and take part in unison in the spectacular Closing Ceremonies Grandstand Show both days at 3:45 p.m.

Pleasanton is again the site

that draws the world's top athletes for the 33rd U.S. Invitational Heavy Events Championship. The lineup will include seven-time World Champion Ryan Vierra of Stevenson, CA.

The Sword Dance is among the traditional Celtic dances performed in the Western U.S. Open Highland Dancing Championships.

Entertainment galore is provided on seven stages with the traditional Scottish folk music and Celtic Rock 'n Roll. Five of the stages feature traditional performers including Alex Beaton taking up the traditional roll of a guitar-playing troubadour, while the Browne Sisters, Golden Bough, Neill O'Neill, Peter Daldry and Jo Ann Gilmartin provide their popular versions of folk music.

Increasing in popularity world-wide, top Celtic Rock

groups include, directly from Scotland, Albannach, regarded as "Braveheart on Steroids" with their stirring percussion instrumentation; Australia's abstract Brother; Stand Easy and the Wicked Tinkers. The Ric Blair Band provides a blending of traditional and rock in their performances.

The remaining two stages are devoted to Celtic Heritage, including Scottish Country Dancing by numerous Northern California societies, the Fiddler's Rally with world-famous Alasdair Fraser and student ensembles, Celtic Harpers with Varlene Schermer and the Welchman troubadour John Kelly and the traditional Scottish and Irish songs of Kirsty Fitch.

Nearly one-hundred Clan Tents, representing clans of the Highlands and Lowlands of Scot-

land will be represented. Most of the traditional Scottish surnames have other multiple surnames that are linked through heritage to Clan names, and the Games are an excellent place to find one's heritage.

The Living History takes visitors back to 1562 and the reign of Mary Queen of Scots. See the court of the queen with more than 125 re-enactors portraying historical events. Highland Warriors will stage fierce battles using the legendary Claymore swords. The Roman Legion, part of Scotland's turmoil-laden past, is re-created in the Living History sector.

Winged and four-footed entertainment is provided by the Birds of Prey, accredited Sheepdog Trials, Scottish Highland Cattle and the Clydesdale horses.

One-hundred vendors of Scottish, Irish, Welch and British

goods are located in five spacious buildings, while traditional ethnic foods are available at stands outside. For the corn dog crowd, regular "fair" food is also available.

The crown on this full day of activities is the "Closing Grandstand Show." Announced by American and Scottish flag-bearing skydivers at 3:45 p.m. both days, the show includes the popular "Kilted Mile" running race (in kilts) around the one-mile track in front of the grandstands. The 750-plus pipers and drummers are led by a number of Pipe Majors onto the track and align in formation to present one of the largest pipe band presentations in the world.

The show includes the Toronto Scottish Regiment Pipes & Drums and the Marine Band San Diego in solo as well as inte-

grated performances, Scottish television singing personality Isla St Clair, the presentation of the Chief of the Caledonian Club and dignitaries, presentation of the "Chief's Trophy" to a deserving games participant and the Western United States Drum Major Competition.

Reserved grandstand seating is \$5. The large standing room area is free. Ticket prices to the grounds are: adult 1-day \$18.00, adult 2-day \$25.00, senior 65 and older and youth 8-16 are \$12.00; under 8 free. Parking charged by the county fairgrounds is \$8.00. (Prices do not include the reserved grandstand seating). Take BART to Scotland.

A free shuttle bus runs continuously to-and-from the Pleasanton/Dublin station station and the entrance to the fairgrounds.

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.

Tri-Valley Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind meets on Saturday, Sept. 1 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in cafeteria room 2 at Valley Memorial Hospital, 1111 Stanley Blvd., Livermore. Any visually impaired or blind person is urged to attend. Call, Carl, 449-9362 for more info.

Tri-Valley Republican Women Federated meets at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, September 13, at La Vite Ristorante (formerly Garlic di Pasta), 3037G Hopyard Road, Pleasanton. Featured speaker will be Steve Giraud of the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps. New members and visitors are welcome. Reservation deadline is September 9. 426-1995.

Cowboy Express, Saturday, September 29, 6 to 8 p.m. starting at the Niles Canyon Railway Station in Sunol. Train departs at 6:30 p.m. and returns at 8 p.m., a roundtrip from Sunol through Niles. Appetizers and a dessert will be provided in individual boxes for each rider. Beverages, including wine, will be available for \$5. There will also be entertainment with musicians and singers during the 1 1/2 hour ride. Tickets are \$25, including food and entertainment. Raffle tickets will be for sale for \$5. Some of the prizes are a Gold Country getaway in Jamestown, a Twaine Harte cabin retreat get-away, a day tour with lunch in Old Sacramento and more. One winner will receive a trip to San Antonio, Texas. Event and raffle tickets can be purchased by calling 925-461-6401. Fundraising event is sponsored by Assistance League of Amador Valley to raise money to fund philanthropic activities and projects.

Volunteers needed to become Bookleggers and present book programs to the school children of Pleasanton. Anyone interested in bringing together books, children and libraries through community service, is invited to join the Pleasanton Bookleggers. Training classes are set to begin September 25 at 9:30 am at the Pleasanton Library. The Booklegger Program is a literacy program supported by the City of Pleasanton and the Pleasanton Unified School District. For more information about the Booklegger Program please call Chris Spitzel, Booklegger Coordinator, at 925/931-3400 x26.

Del Valle Home Economists, starting 41st year. Group of graduate professionals representing many phases of what in the past were known as home economics. Meeting Thurs., Sept. 13, 4 to 5:45 p.m. on the patio at Alden Lane Nursery. This will be a back to school party and apron fashion show. All graduates in related fields such as child development, fashion merchandising, etc. are invited. For more information or if planning

to attend, please call Pat Hoenig at 447-0411 or email Joanne Abey at joannea@comcast.net. Light refreshments will be served.

Granada High School Class of 1989. The Reunion Committee has been formed and is looking for grads. Please visit <http://www.granadahigh.com/> or e-mail current contact information to ReunionCommittee@GHS1989.com.

Tri-Valley Conservancy BBQ will be hosting a Bar-B-Q Fundraiser. The event is Sunday September 9, from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm, at the Eagle Ridge Vineyard in Livermore. Bar-B-Q tickets are \$40 per person. Raffle items being awarded during the Bar-B-Q include two footballs signed by John Madden, a 3.0 liter bottle of 2003 Charles Wetmore Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon signed by the Wente family, a 2.0 liter bottle of 1990 Concannon Cabernet Sauvignon, Necklace and Bracelet courtesy of Cavalieri Jewelers, and a gift basket of Local Olive Oils. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 12 for \$50 (you do not have to be present to win). To purchase tickets, call Barbara Graham at 925-449-8706.

Pleasanton/Tulancingo visit, Sept. 19-23. Variety of activities are planned that are open to area residents. They are hosted by the Pleasanton/Tulancingo Sister City Organization. Events include a welcome dinner at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Sept. 19; dinner and casino night on Sept. 21 and a farewell dinner on Sept. 23. Please call Jorge Victoria at 462-6723 or Dick Stafford at 462-6245 for more information and ticket prices.

4-H Reunion Barbeque Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 9, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds from 12 Noon - 6:00 p.m. The event program includes a special salute to Retired Alameda County Farm Advisor Gordon Winlow who was an inspiration to 4-Hers for 30 years. All members and leaders from 1955 to today are encouraged to attend this unique opportunity to reconnect with old friends and enjoy participating in familiar 4-H activities. Tickets are on sale for \$15/adult and \$8/child (9 years and under). Reservations are due by Friday, August 31, 2007. For more information contact Leona at (510) 537-1536.

Amador Valley Adult and Community Education presents a class and book signing led by Kennette Reed on Tues., Sept. 11 from 6 to 9 p.m. Village High School 4645 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. 925-426-4260/ <http://www.pleasanton.k12.ca.us/village/>. Class fee: \$29. Materials fee: \$20. Kennette Reed is the principal consultant with Kennette Reed & Associates. Her firm provides nationwide customer and staff retention, performance improvement, and executive coaching solutions. She is also a nationally known speaker and the author of several books.

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club monthly meetings resume on September 4, at 7:00 p.m. at Alisal School in the

multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton. The speaker will be Kristen Yanker Hansen. Her topic will be Gardening with Water Wise Plants. Visitors are welcome. For more information, please call Sally at 925-417-8809.

Livermore Adult Education, fall registration has started. Art, Computer, CPR, Digital Camera, Dog Training, Driver Education, English as a Second Language, Finance, Fitness, Foreign Language, Sewing, Knitting, Crocheting and Yoga classes are among the many offered. Register online at www.livermoreadult.org/ or walk-in registration starts August 27 at 1401 Almond Ave. Livermore.

Computer classes: Livermore Library, 1188 So. Livermore Ave. Introduction to the Internet class on Saturday, September 8 from 10:15 am - 12:15 pm. Searching the Internet class on Saturday, September 15 from 10:15 am - 12:15 pm. Tuesday, September 18 from 6:15 pm - 8:15 pm a Microsoft Word Basics class will be offered. Learn how to send and receive e-mail in an E-Mail Basics class on Saturday, September 22nd from 10:15 - 12:15pm. Classes are hands on, first come first served, and take place in Community Meeting Room B. Stop by the Civic Center Library Adult Information Services Desk or call 373-5505 for further information about the classes.

Livermore Community Blood Drive, Sat., Sept. 29, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cedar Grove Community Church, 2021 College Ave., Livermore in the Lighthouse Room. For information and to sign up call, 447-2351. An ID is required in order to give blood.

The Valley Vista 4-H Club is looking for new member ages 5-19. Various projects include mini 4-H, beginning 4-H, crafts, cooking and leadership. The club meets the second Monday of every month beginning September 10, at Jackson Avenue School, 554 Jackson Avenue in Livermore at 7:00. Contact Melanie Kent at (925) 443-1587 or mjkent@earthlink.net for more information.

Beating the Blues with Bingo Sadness or a loss of interest may be signs of depression but, depression has a broad range of other symptoms. Theresa Cleaver of ValleyCare Health Systems' Legends program will share signs, symptoms, and tips to combat depression through a game of Bingo. Join us for discussion and prizes! Tuesday, September 11, 10 am to 11:30 am at the Pleasanton Senior Center, 5353 Sunol Blvd., Pleasanton. Activity fee: \$1.50 Residents, \$2 Non-residents. Call (925) 931-5365 for information.

Book Sale. Friends of the Livermore Library will hold their monthly book sale on Sunday, September 2, from 12:00 noon to 4 p.m. in front of the former Library at 1000 South Livermore Avenue in Livermore. Fiction and non-fiction books, magazines and audio-visuals are sold at deep discounted prices and there will be a table of free books.

From 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. books will be sold.

Assistance League of Amador Valley will be hosting a coffee/orientation at 7 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 17. This will introduce both new and prospective members to the non-profit volunteer organization and service projects we are involved with throughout the year. For more information, call 925-461-6401, email amadorvalley@yahoo.com; website: amadorvalley.assistanceleague.org.

GIANT Semi-Annual Sale, Kid's Stuff: Twin Valley Mothers of Twins Club is hosting our Children's Clothing and Equipment consignment sale on Saturday September 29, 9 a.m.-2:15 p.m. at the "Barn" in Livermore, 3131 Pacific Avenue. \$1.00 per person Entrance Fee. Participation is open to the public! Unload all your outgrown, gently used children's clothing, toys and equipment and make money in the process. For info e-mail Rachel: rachelburgess78@comcast.net. Great bargains on Clothes, Strollers, Toys, Videos, Pak n Plays, Layettes, Books, High Chairs, Swings, Gates, Cribs, outdoor toys and more. For info on the sale go to <http://www.tvmoct.com>.

Amador Valley Quilt Guild will meet on Saturday, September 8, at 1:30 p.m. at the Pleasanton Middle School, 5001 Case Avenue, Pleasanton. Guest Cara Gulati will present a lecture entitled "So, You Want to Make an Art Quilt." Cara will conduct her workshop "Radiant Sun" the following day. The guild is a nonprofit educational association for quilters of all skill levels. Anyone interested in quilting may attend. For further information about the guild or upcoming speakers, please visit our website, <http://amadorvalleyquilters.org>.

RELIGION
Unitarian Universalist, 1893 N. Vasco Rd., Livermore. Topic for Sept. 2 in "Labors of Love," an all church work party to spruce up the buildings and grounds. Information 447-8747.

Grief Support Workshop, 8-week session. Offered by Grief Support Ministry at the Catholic Community of Pleasanton at St. Elizabeth Seton in the chapel, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton. Schedule: Sept. 13, 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 8. All are welcome. Registration is required. For additional information, contact Joan Bell at 828-6864.

Community Laughs Family Event, Saturday, September 8, at Crosswinds Church in Dublin, 5-8 pm (dinner catered by Cabana Dave's, will be served from 5-6). Comedian Stephen B will entertain the adults, while the kids can enjoy a magician and an inflatable slide. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for kids (ages 3-12). Kids under 3 are free. Tickets online at www.crosswindschurch.org.

Bible Study, St. Charles & St. Michael's Monday Night Bible Study begins on September 10th at 7:30 pm at St. Charles Borromeo, 1315 Lomitas Ave., in Livermore

in the Pope John XXIII room. The 2007-2008 begins with Being Disciples of Jesus, a 7 week series beginning on September 10th and running until October 22nd. The series will explore the Gospels' insight into the Call and the Cost of Discipleship, along with being a witnessing and a model disciple. Each session we will take time to discuss how discipleship affects our lives and how we ourselves are called to be disciples. This study is open to all people interested in Bible Study. There is a \$10 donation for materials. For more information contact Julie Gallagher at upcatholic@aol.com or 925-447-4549.

Jewish New Year, Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, Secular Humanistic Jewish New Year celebration of music and readings, followed by the traditional apples & honey, honeycake & challah. Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 7 pm. \$10/non-member 13 and over. Members and under 13 free. Reservations required. Welcome to non-traditional families. TVCJ will also be collecting packaged and canned foods for the Alameda County Food Bank. Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 1817 Sinclair Drive Pleasanton, (925) 485-1049. CulturalJews@aol.com Tri-ValleyCulturalJews.org

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews sukkah-raising brunch potluck, a child-friendly activity. The sukkah is the traditional harvest hut decorated with branches and fruit. TVCJ members and friends will erect and decorate a sukkah and share brunch. Bring a dish for 8 to share, canned or packaged food for the Alameda County Food Bank, and if you can, a branch or fruit to decorate the sukkah. TVCJ is welcoming to singles and to non-traditional and intermarried families. Tri-Valley Cultural Jews, 1817 Sinclair Drive, Pleasanton, (925) 485-1049. CulturalJews@aol.com Tri-ValleyCulturalJews.org

ton, (925) 485-1049. CulturalJews@aol.com

Tri-Valley Unity Church meets at the Radisson Hotel, 6680 Regional St., Dublin. Sunday service and children's school at 10 a.m. Ongoing classes and groups. All are welcome. Rev. Mary Anne Harris, minister. Call (925) 829-2733 or visit www.trivalleyunity.com.

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SHORT NOTES

Picnic 4 Pets

Valley Humane Society will celebrate its 20th Anniversary with an afternoon of BBQ, refreshments, carnival games, and drawings on Sunday, September 23, from noon to 5 p.m.

This will be an event for the entire family, including the family dog. Food will be provided by Back 40 Texas BBQ. The event is co-sponsored by SuperFranks Fun Adventures of Pleasanton and will include carnival games, face painting, balloons, henna tattoos, a 21-foot high inflatable slide, doggie Olympics, wine and beer garden, music and raffle prizes.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. The Valley Humane Society is located at 3670 Nevada Street in Pleasanton. For tickets, call Valley Humane Society at 925-426-8656.

Ask the Doctor

Orthopedic surgeon David Jupina and rheumatologist Melissa McNamara will answer questions on "Joint Pain and Treatment: on the Ask the Doctor television show. It will air live on Channel 30 on Wed., Sept. 5 from 7 to 8 p.m. Viewers can phone in medical questions by calling 462-3030.

Viewers may phone in questions about joint pain, arthritis, joint replacement surgery and other treatments. The episode will rerun the remaining Wednesdays in September at 7 p.m. Questions can not be accepted during the reruns.

Ask the Doctor is sponsored by San Ramon Medical Center.

Citizens' Police Academy

Enrollment is continuing for the Fall 2007 session of the Pleasanton Police Department Citizens' Police Academy. The new session begins on Thursday, September 6th and will run for 14 sessions with the week of Thanksgiving off.

The goals of the program are to create closer partnerships with the public, explain law enforcement procedures, and discuss the importance of public involvement in the policing process.

All fourteen segments of the Academy will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Pleasanton Police Department, with the exception of November 22nd for Thanksgiving. These classes are primarily taught by Department personnel. They cover a wide variety of topics including Community Policing, Patrol Procedures, Radio Communications, SWAT, Narcotics Investigations, Crime Prevention, Traffic Enforcement, K-9's, Evidence Collection, Use of Force Issues, Animal Services and the DARE program.

This program is open to adults only. Applicants will be carefully screened and participants must live or work in the City of Pleasanton. They must be free of any felony convictions, have no misdemeanor arrests within one year of

application, successfully complete a background investigation check, sign waiver forms and be approved by the Chief of Police.

Applications are available at the front counter of the Pleasanton Police Department, by calling the Academy Coordinator, Sgt. Mike Tryphonas at (925) 931-5169 or by sending an email to mtryphonas@ci.pleasanton.ca.us.

Safe Toys

Woopsiedaisy Toy Shop in Livermore wants residents to know that it does not carry toys made by Mattel or Fisher Price, the two major companies voluntarily recalling millions of toys imported from China. The recent toy recalls have caused worry and confusion for many parents and Woopsiedaisy Toy Shop is working to ensure that their customers feel confident that they are purchasing the safest toys for their children.

Woopsiedaisy Toy Shop imports several brands of toys directly from Germany and France and is carefully keeping track of the recall of any toys made in China. Woopsiedaisy is happy to help you choose toys that meet and/or exceed current toy safety standards. To assist you with this, Woopsiedaisy will give 15% off of all Vilac, Corolle, LEGO, and HABA Toys. These companies use completely non-toxic, child-friendly substances.

"We do not sell toys that we would not let our own children play with. While we do have a large selection of products, our store is not very big. With

that, we have been able to hand select every toy for its safety, durability and fun. We do not carry toys to simply fill our shelves," declared Elizabeth Fields, owner of Woopsiedaisy.

For information, please contact Elizabeth Fields at Woopsiedaisy Toy Shop, 154 South J Street, Livermore.

Roses to Grandparents

The Rose Hotel will host its second annual Roses to Grandparents event on Sunday, September 9, in observation of Grandparents Day.

Grandparents and their families are invited to gather in the hotel's lobby hospitality area for cake, coffee and conversation from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. They will be treated to tours of the hotel with special attention to the vintage photos of downtown Pleasanton on the balcony walls and will be eligible to win a free night's stay at the 4:00 p.m. drawing. Each grandparent will receive a long-stemmed rose.

"Our first Roses to Grandparents event was a huge success, with more than 100 persons enjoying the hotel and each other's company," says General Manager Phyllis Grisham. "One guest, Bob Koopmann, who now lives in Murphys, even presented us with his antique cocktail lounge sign from the original Rose Hotel.

"Grandparents are such an important part of our community's heritage as well as each family's history. It is heartwarming to see several genera-

tions of families spending a Sunday afternoon together, sharing old memories and making new ones," Grisham added.

National Grandparents Day is observed on the first Sunday after Labor Day. It was proclaimed by President Jimmy Carter in 1978 in response to the efforts of Marian H. McQuade, a housewife in Fayette County, West Virginia. She championed the cause of the lonely elderly in nursing homes and encouraged grandchildren to tap into the wisdom and heritage their grandparents could provide. Today, her organization continues its work to strengthen bonds between the generations.

For more information about Roses to Grandparents, call The Rose Hotel at (925) 846-8802.

Shot Clinic

Axis Community Health has scheduled its free immunization clinics for children on September 8, 2007 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. The clinics will take place at Axis' Pleasanton Clinic only, 4361 Railroad Avenue in downtown Pleasanton.

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

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

A benefit for the
Alameda County Community Food Bank

Celebrate the Flavors of Autumn!

Join us for a festive outdoor celebration
of California-grown food and wine
in a beautiful vineyard setting

- * Special guest speaker **Joey Altman**
Celebrity chef and host of Bay Café
- * Music featuring Silverwood Jazz Quartet
- * Gourmet seasonal food and estate wine from **Wente Vineyards**
- * Silent and live auctions

Sunday, September 23 • 12:00 — 3:00 pm
Wente Vineyards • 5050 Arroyo Drive, Livermore
Tickets • \$125 per person / \$1,125 per table

For tickets, visit www.accfb.org
or call 510-635-3663, ext. 328

Ask Kathleen

KATHLEEN MINSLER
WASTE REDUCTION SPECIALIST
OFFERS ADVICE ABOUT THE 4R'S:
REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, ROT
(COMPOST)

Q I'm planning to remodel my home and would like to know if you have any information on "building green"?

Steve

A Green building means taking steps to create new or remodeled buildings that reduce the amount of materials that ends up in landfills, conserve natural resources, increase energy efficiency and improve indoor air quality. According to StopWaste.org, you can build green by following these fundamental goals: **1) Be mindful about using limited resources such as wood and water. 2) Build and remodel with energy efficiency in mind. 3) Choose healthy materials and construction methods.** To obtain a copy of "Green Building Guidelines," call the Recycling Hotline at 1-877-STOPWASTE or visit www.BuildGreenNow.org (on the left column, click on Publications; then under Residential Green Building, browse the four listed topics).

Q I sometimes use aluminum foil to cover and cook my family's food. Can I recycle it?

Lauren

A Aluminum foil is not accepted for recycling in your curbside program. Always place **aluminum foil in your Garbage cart** after rinsing and re-using it whenever possible. Aluminum foil in Recycling or Green Waste carts can contaminate recycling loads and jeopardize the recycling process.

Email Ask Kathleen questions to:
AskKathleen@wm.com

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

(925) 447-1300
www.wm.com

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



Guitarist David Isaacs and soprano Chelsea Camille will perform.

Recital Planned at Pleasanton Library

"Chanson du Soir," is a voice and guitar recital to be presented at the Pleasanton Library on Thurs., Sept. 6 at 7 p.m.

Chanson du Soir features classical guitarist David Isaacs and soprano Chelsea Camille. Their music spans the centuries from the Renaissance to the 20th Century. The program will include Renaissance fare by John Dowland, songs from the plays of Shakespeare, verses by Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Italian art songs by Mauro Giuliani, the Bachianus Brasileiras No. 5 arranged by Heitor Villa-Lobos, and an art song by Joaquin Rodrigo.

There is no admission charge. No registration is required. The library is located at 400 Old Bernal Ave. The Friends of the Pleasanton Library is sponsoring the program. For more information, call Penny Johnson, 931-3405.



Painting by Stephan Sanfilippo.

Deer Ridge Presents 'The Essential Landscape' Exhibit

"The Essential Landscape: A Tribute to Nature's Bounty and Beauty," is the theme of an art exhibit at Deer Ridge Vineyard in Livermore.

The exhibit complements the winery's artistic approach to wine making and features landscapes by two California oil painters, Stephan Sanfilippo and Tom Taneyhill. Their work celebrates the topography, climate and soil essential to the craft of wine making. The exhibit runs August 30 through October 28.

The public is invited to meet both artists at a special wine and cheese reception to be held Sat., Sept. 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. All artwork is available for purchase. Deer Ridge Vineyards is located at 1828 Wetmore Road, Livermore. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

CONCERT

(continued from page one)

with local symphonies and orchestras. One story, which his mother likes to tell, occurred when he was ten years old. He went to a show and had forgotten to pack his dress pants. The conductor told the audience "they had to shuffle the order of the program to accommodate the young man who forgot his pants."

When he was still a teenager; a musician on the east coast was unable to perform. Fennelly was rushed on an airplane to New York to play with the Virtuosi Orchestra. It seems he hasn't stopped moving since. He performed a concert in Siberia and was then asked to come to Mongolia but was unable to make it. That was a first. It seems he has been everywhere else in the world. He has been all over South America, Europe, Germany and Italy, Africa, and the South Pacific too.

Another performance he was involved featured him as a young Harry Truman in "American Experience" on PBS. Truman aspired to be a concert pianist but had to settle for President. Fennelly also performed for the Aristotle Onassis Foundation.

Fennelly says one of his favorite performance opportunities is that of a distinguished guest on a cruise liner. He plays once and enjoys the cruise for the rest of the day.

These days his focus on his music is more concentrated than when he was a child. He says he still vividly remembers when he was ten and hadn't practice the

night before a performance. During the recital, he struggled a bit and he never forgot it. He always practices now.

Fennelly says when he is performing, he is in the music and has absolute concentration. It is as if the audience isn't there. He learns the music note for note. There is no page turning. There is no written music. Every note, every nuance is in his brain.

Currently, he is teaching at Juilliard School in New York. He released his debut solo recording, "The Legend of Faust," on One Soul records in 2003 and is currently preparing the follow-up CD, "The Legend of Faust, Part Two."

The program planned for the September 8 concert in Livermore is as follows: Johann Sebastian Bach, "Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue BWV 903;" Johannes Brahms, "Sonata Opus 1, C Major;" Maurice Ravel, "Gaspard de la nuit (1908) Ondine;" Alexander Scriabin, "Poème, Opus 72, Vers la flamme;" Frederic Chopin, "Nocturne, Opus 55 no. 2, E-Flat Major;" Sigismond Thalberg, "Fantaisie sur Moïse en Egypte, Opus 33;" and Franz Liszt, "Grande fantaisie sur La Niobe de Paccini."

Tickets are \$18 in advance; \$20 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St., Pleasanton (925-846-8826); Ingram & Brauns Musik Shoppe, 3160 Santa Rita, Pleasanton (925-462-3667); Camarata Music at Music Exchange, 7704 Dublin

ART & ENTERTAINMENT

Auditions, open rehearsal night. Valley Concert Choral, auditions are Sept. 10, 17 and 24, 5 - 7pm. First Presbyterian Church, Livermore 4th and L Streets Livermore. No admission charge. Information www.valleyconcertchorale.org/ or 925-866-4003. The Choral is seeking experience singers with sight-reading skills who enjoy singing exciting and challenging music. To schedule an appointment, call (925) 443-6815. On Monday, September 17, the Choral will hold an Open Rehearsal Night, when interested singers may join the rehearsal to experience singing with the Choral. Rehearsal begins at 7:00 p.m. at the church in Livermore.

Competition for Young Musicians. Livermore-Amador Symphony Association 35th annual competition application deadline is Sun., Oct. 7. The competition is open to instrumentalists and vocalists who reside or attend school in Livermore, Sunol, Pleasanton, Dublin, or San Ramon. Students are eligible through grade 12. If not enrolled in high school, the maximum age is 17. All instruments will be considered. The purpose is to select two young musicians who will perform as soloists with the symphony on Feb. 9, 2008. Each winner/

soloist will be awarded \$250. Completed application forms must be accompanied by a cassette tape, CD or DVD for preliminary screening and a \$5 fee. Application forms and additional information may be obtained at www.livamsymph.org or calling 447-1947.

Chorus auditions for Livermore Valley Opera (LVO)'s upcoming opera La Bohème. Call 925-443-6563 for information or go to the website: www.livermorevalleyopera.com.

Broadway Chorus. Pleasanton Playhouse is looking for people who love to sing. Registration and rehearsals begin on Sunday, Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. at 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 303, Pleasanton. Rehearsals will be held Sunday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. No auditions are required. For information call Nancy Mulligan, 443-3076.

Comedy Showcase. Wednesdays 8:00-10:00 pm featuring 6-7 of the best comedians in the Bay Area. Doors open at 6:30, show starts at 8pm. Produced by Laugh-A-Lot Productions \$7.00 cover charge will be collected at the door. Full Restaurant and Bar menu available. No reservations required. Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-8106.

Sunday Blues and BBQ from 4-8 pm

on the Patio during August and September. September 2 Screamin' Iain & the Diving Ducks; September 9 Kathleen Cairns & Tattoo Blue; September 16 Annie Sampson; September 23 Jack Pollard Band; September 30 Top Secret. Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-8106.

Diablo Light Opera Company. "Peter Pan," with special flying effects. 8 p.m. Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29; 2 p.m. Sept. 2, 8, 9, 16, 22, 23, 29; 11 a.m. Sept. 20, 27. Tickets \$17-38. Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. Tickets: 943-7469; www.leshercenter.org.

Bocce Ball & Italian Dinner Night: Wednesday, Sept. 5 The Foods of Calabria; Served with three glasses of complimentary vineyard selection wine, event takes place on outdoor courts with patio seating. Cellar Master Wayne Re is Bocce Captain and coordinates instruction and group play. Bring a group or come alone; all skill levels are welcome. \$34.95 person. Two seatings from 5:30-7pm. Garré Winery, 7986 Tesla Road, Livermore. 925-371.8200. www.garrewinery.com. Reservations required.

Celebration of the Piano with Roy Bogas. Saturday, September 8, Mas-

ter Class at 10:30 am; Lecture/Recital at 2 pm. Free Admission. Las Postas College, 3033 Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. For further information call the Performing Arts Events Line at 925-424-1100 or call Cindy Rosefield at 925-424-1119.

Author Lois Trader. Lady in the Red Dress. Livermore Library program, Sept. 12, 7 p.m. 1188 So. Livermore Ave. 373-5505.

History - Ed Kinney Lecture series. Sept. 20, The Spirits of the Kottlinger Barn; presented by Terry Carlsen, owner of Milfeur. Presented by the Museum On Main in Pleasanton. Lectures are at 7 p.m. Reservations are requested. \$5 members/\$10 non-members. Memberships available for purchase. Lecture at Lynnwood Methodist, 4444 Black Ave., Pleasanton. For information, 462-2766.

Danville Role Players Ensemble Black Box production of Jane Martin's "Talking with . . ." Fridays and Saturdays September 7, 8, 14 and 15 at 8pm at Danville's Town Meeting Hall, 210 Front Street, Danville. RPE's Black Box productions employ minimal sets, no stage and are offered at the price of \$10 at the door only. For more information contact Role Players Ensemble Theatre at (925) 820-1278.

Gala Celebration Planned for LAA 50th Anniversary

The Livermore Art Association will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a gala celebration on Sat., Sept. 15.

Festivities will be held at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th St., Livermore from 6 to 10 p.m.

There will be a show featuring art work by LAA members. Hors d'oeuvres will be offered by Tommie's Deli and wine by John Christopher Cellars and Thomas Coyne Winery.

Vested music will perform live music.

Tickets are \$15 per person. They can be purchased at the LAA Gallery in the Carnegie Building, 3rd and J Streets, Livermore.

Tickets should be purchased by Sept. 8.

LAA is a nonprofit organization established in 1957 James Paul Wesley as president. The initial membership included 14 artists and people interested in art. Today, LAA has a membership of 280.

The original intent was to promote public interest and appreciation in the fine arts and in the fine crafts. The group also encourages the artistic progress and the development of its membership. LAA membership is open to anyone interested in the fields of arts and craft.

In 1974 the LAA established

its co-op gallery in the historic Carnegie Building. This facility serves as an art information center for the community as well as a gallery. Additionally, the art video library developed by the organization for its members is housed at the gallery, as are books, magazines, and other educational and informational materials.

The group sponsors a series shows and exhibits, including the annual Spring Show, Art in the Vineyard at Wente Estate Vineyard, Art Under the Oaks at Alden Lane Nursery, and a theme show, Vineyard Images, during the vineyards' Harvest Trails

event. The LAA also sponsors rotating exhibits of members' art at Virtues of Coffee, Goodenough Books, the Livermore City Council Chambers, Livermore First Street Project and the China Village Restaurant.

Themed shows are also held at the gallery.

The LAA has been strengthened by coming with the Pleasanton Art League to publish a monthly Portfolio magazine. The two groups present monthly artists demonstrations that are free and open to the entire community.

For additional information, call 449-9927.

Tours, Lectures, Classes and More Planned for Quilt in the Garden

Registrations are being accepted now for tours, special classes and lectures to be offered during the annual Quilting in the Garden event.

The 10th annual Quilting in the Garden is hosted by Alden Lane Nursery and In Between Stitches on Sept. 22 and 23.

Quilts will be displayed at Alden Lane Nursery and in gardens on a special Valley Garden Tour. The collection of quilts in the store will be a retrospective of the last ten years, with a quilt from each of the previous featured artists among them.

Featured artists this year are Valori Wells and Alex Anderson.

Wells is a professional quilter, fabric designer, author, pattern designer and co-owner of The Stitchin' Post in Sisters, Oregon. Anderson is co-host of the new internet show, "The Quilt Show," with Ricky Tims at www.thequiltshow.com.

During the event, tours include a personal tour with Wells. Visitors will be able to view her newest fabrics, books and the special quilts she brought with her. This tour is offered Sept. 22

and 23 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. The cost is \$12.

Ten gardens will be open for self-guided tours. Quilts will be hung in each garden. Participants will need to provide their own transportation. The tour is available Sept. 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sept. 23 from noon to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$30 with proceeds going to the Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club.

Classes at Alden Lane Nursery include Baskets and Blossoms taught by Anderson on Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$87 including lunch. Introduction to Machine Quilting will be taught by Jill Schumacher Thurs., Sept. 20, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; fee of \$77 includes lunch. Autumn Banner is the theme of a session offered by Elizabeth Scott, author of "The ABC's of Words on Quilts." The class is Sept. 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; fee of \$57 includes book and lunch.

Valori Wells will offer "Bloom," with participants making a simple pieced quilt as a way to explore the use of color in fabric. This class is Sept. 21, starting at 9:30 a.m. at In Between

Stitches and continuing 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Alden Lane Nursery. Fee is \$77, pattern and lunch included.

Evening lectures offered at Alden Lane Nursery will be presented by the visiting artists. Quilts and Inspiration is the topic of a lecture by Wells on Sept. 21 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. On Sept. 22, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. there will be an Evening with Alex Anderson. Fee for each is \$42 or \$77 for both; dessert and coffee included.

As part of the festivities a fall quilt challenge is planned with the theme, "What does fall mean

to you?" Take this theme and incorporate it into a quilt. All quilts will be displayed during Quilting in the Garden. For details visit www.InBetweenStitches.com.

There will be a special project for first time quilters and one for kids on Sept. 22 and 23, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no charge.

There is no admission charge to view the quilts displayed at Alden Lane Nursery during the event.

Alden Lane Nursery is located at 981 Alden Lane in Livermore. For information or to purchase tickets go to www.aldenlane.com or call 447-0280.

Vine Cinema Playing Aug. 31 - Sept. 6
1722 First Street - Livermore (925) 447-2545
WWW.VINECINEMA.COM

Saturday Night 9/1 at Midnight
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
All seats are just \$7.00 - Don't forget the toast!

Jet Li David Statham
WAR
Showing Fri - Mon
12:30 2:40 5:00
7:15 9:25
Showing Tues - Thurs
2:45 5:00 7:15

Russell Crowe Christian Bale
3:10 to YUMA
Starts Friday 9/7!
Also Playing - Call for Showtimes
Becoming Jane
Harry Potter
and the Order of the Phoenix

LIVERMORE CINEMAS		2490 First Street 443-SHOW			
BALLS OF FURY (PG-13) DLP	12:00	2:15	4:35	7:10	9:40
HALLOWEEN (R) DLP	1:10	3:40	6:30	9:25	
DEATH SENTENCE (R) DLP	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:50	
LADRON QUE ROBA A LADRON (NR)	12:35	2:50	5:05	7:20	9:35
THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM (PG-13) DLP	12:45	4:30	6:40	7:20	9:10 10:00
SUPERBAD (R) DLP	1:20	4:10	6:45	7:25	9:20 9:55
UNDERDOG (PG) DLP			12:20	2:35	4:40
THE NANNY DIARIES (PG-13) DLP	12:15	2:45	6:50	9:35	
RESURRECTING THE CHAMP (PG-13) DLP					1:15
STARDUST (PG-13) DLP	12:30	3:35	6:35	9:10	
THE SIMPSONS MOVIE (PG-13) DLP			12:05	2:30	
HAIRSPRAY (PG) DLP			6:30	9:15	
MR BEAN'S HOLIDAY (PG) DLP	12:00	2:10	4:20	6:40	9:30
RUSH HOUR 3 (PG-13) DLP	3:00	5:10	7:30	9:45	
RATATOUILLE (G) DLP					12:30
THE INVASION (PG-13) DLP					3:30

Livermore Downtown Inc. Presents

EVERY THURSDAY
Through October 18
4 PM - 8 PM
Carnegie Park
(Third Street between J & K St.)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Join us for the local wine tasting, live music and arts & crafts at the last two Thirsty Thursdays of the season!

September 20 & the BONUS night on September 27!

Sponsors for this week are:
Camp Bow Wow Tri Valley & Livermore Adult Ed.

The Livermore Farmers Market is brought to you by:
Livermore Downtown Inc., Pacific Coast Farmers Market, The City of Livermore, L.A.R.P.D., The Independent Newspaper, The Lanet Team, The Livermore Valley Tennis Club, Arroyo Crossing: The Collection by Obrien Homes, and Marcel Orthodontics

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

Sycamore Strings Academy

Enroll now for Fall Classes at Sycamore Strings Academy!

Classes in Suzuki violin, viola & cello starting in September/October to beginner students, ages 3 - 8. Classes offered in Livermore, Pleasanton and San Ramon. Transfer students are also welcome to audition.

(925) 455-0161
info@sycamorestringsacademy.com • www.sycamorestringsacademy.com

Valley Dance Theatre
Bringing Art To Life

Open Auditions for the Tri-Valley's only full-length production of Tchaikovsky's

The Nutcracker

in collaboration with Livermore-Amador Symphony Orchestra & Harmony Fusion Chorus

September 15 at 1:00 pm

Call 925-243-0925 to reserve a slot
Reservations are limited

We welcome intermediate and advanced ballet students between the ages of 12-17 to audition for the VDT performing company.

Adult dancers may also audition for ballet as well as character roles.

All dancers will be required to take ballet technique classes with the Company and attend regular rehearsals in order to perform in this professionally-staged, full-length production.

Dancers selected as Company members or apprentices will also have performance opportunities for the upcoming VDT Spring Repertoire, "Reverence".

Performance dates : Dec 15, 16 & 22. 2 pm & 7 pm at Bankhead Theater
Tickets go on sale starting Oct. 1

www.valleydancetheatre.com
2247B Second St., Livermore

OBITUARIES

Kelly Dean Williams

Kelly Dean Williams passed away on August 19, 2007, in Pleasanton, at the age of 47.

He was a resident of Tracy at the time of his death. Kelly is survived by his wife Leila Williams, and children Shanna and Brenton Williams, his father Leo Williams, brother Rod Williams (Carol), and nieces and nephew, Jack, Molly and Annie. He was preceded in death by his mother Berda Williams and a brother Charlie Williams.

Kelly touched many lives with his gentle spirit and his great sense of humor. He was born in Burlingame, September 16, 1959 and attended Hillsdale High School in San Mateo. Kelly worked in the floor covering industry for over 20 years. He enjoyed fishing, golfing, traveling, and listening to music. Kelly loved spending time with his family and being surrounded by good friends. He will be missed by everyone who was lucky enough to have known him.

A Celebration of Kelly's life was held August 26 in Fremont. Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Patricia Louise Mann

Patricia Louise Mann, a woman known for her love and concern for what is right and just, lost a long bout with pancreatic cancer. She passed away August 19, 2007. She was 73.

Pat was the pianist for the Pleasanton Playhouse and Broadway Chorus for many years. She participated fully with her love of music always front and shining. She previously retired from the Alameda County Fairgrounds as the secretary for her favorite manager, Lee Hall.

Pat is survived by a son Michael Mann, daughter-in-law Margaret Mann, sister Barbarajo Bloomquist, grandchildren Shawndel and Austen, many nieces and nephews and a host of friends. She was preceded in death by her son James Mann, and a brother Bill Ferguson.

A celebration of her life will be held at noon on Sat., Sept. 8 at Pleasanton Presbyterian Church, 4300 Mirador Dr., Pleasanton. A gathering, from 1 to 5 p.m., will

follow at the Pleasanton Hotel, 855 Main St., Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Kaiser Hospice, 200 Muir Rd., Martinez, CA 94553.

P.J. (Pete) Jewell

P.J. (Pete) Jewell passed away August 20, 2007 after a two year battle with cancer. He was 72.

He was born in McAlester, OK May 12, 1935. He was a resident of Dublin for 37 years. Pete served in the Air Force. Following his discharge he continued a 45 year career in aircraft maintenance. He always enjoyed flying and throughout the span of his career was a partner in ownership of several aircraft. He was happiest when events of any kind would bring family and friends together. He enjoyed fishing and camping and excelled at horse-shoes and fishing competitions at the annual family reunion. A natural musician, P.J. played multiple and varied musical instruments.

P.J. is survived by his wife of 51 years, JoAnn; daughters, Rhonda Jewell of Virginia Beach, VA and Karen Loughman (Kevin) of Patterson; sons Kerry Jewell of San Leandro, Kevin Jewell (Melissa) of Wheatland; seven grandchildren, brother Tex Jewell of McAlester, OK, sister Judy Mays of Houston, TX, as well as many extended members across the U.S.

A celebration of his life was held August 24 at Valley Christian Center in Dublin. Interment was private.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation be made to the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Beatrice Engebretson

Beatrice "Bea" Jeanette Engebretson passed away August 22, 2007 at the young of heart age of 83. She had lived in Ridgeview Commons in Pleasanton for 15 years.

Born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Bea lived her life with a gift of finding only the goodness in everyone she met. She wed her childhood sweetheart, Vern

Engebretson in 1940. Vern served in WWII. Bea, without hesitation or her husband's knowledge, placed their belongings in storage and traveled cross country with two small children to "surprise" Vern at boot camp in California. Shortly after their arrival, he was shipped overseas to Germany and she and the children returned to Wisconsin. After the war, the family relocated to California.

Throughout her life Bea enjoyed bowling, square dancing, playing cards, traveling, ocean waves crashing, celebrations with family and friends, and watching the flag blowing in the breeze at Ridgeview Commons.

Bea was preceded in death by her husband Vern and a daughter Sandra Leatherman. She is survived by her Aunt Viola Johnson, who was more like a sister; brother and sister-in-law Kenneth and Kate Engebretson, daughter Pamela and husband Dan Ramirez, son-in-law Jim Leatherman, and 8 grandchildren, six great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren and her "extended family" in the residents at Ridgeview Commons.

A luncheon in her memory will be held at noon on Thurs., Aug. 30 at Ridgeview Commons, 5200 Case Ave., Pleasanton. She will be laid to rest with her husband Vern on Fri., Aug. 31 at 1 p.m. at the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery in Gustine.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that consideration be given to donation to Hope Hospice, 6500 Dublin Blvd., Suite 100, in memory of Bea Engebretson.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Virginia Marino

Virginia "CG" Marino passed away peacefully on Aug. 22, 2007 at her home in Livermore. Her beloved family was by her side. She was born on April 14, 1917 in San Francisco and lived in Livermore her entire life.

She worked for the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District for 17 years. GG was a ten-

nis player and met her late husband Frank O. Marino Sr. on the courts. When she wasn't cooking for her large family, she enjoyed gardening, bird-watching and the Oakland A's.

She is survived by her daughter Carole Thompson; son Frank "Ky" Marino, daughter-in-law Janice; sister Helina DeRosa; grandchildren Marianna Thomas (Mark), Andrea Bodin (Mats), Caroline Vest (Tim), Susie Reed (Josh), Stephen Marino (Liz), Paul Thompson (Amy); great grandchildren Gentry, Garrett, Kinnon Vest and Johnny Bodin.

Funeral services were held Aug. 28 in Livermore, followed by a committal service at St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial gifts may be made to Hope Hospice; 6500 Dublin Blvd. Ste. 100 Dublin, CA 94568 or online hopehospice.com.

Arrangements by Callaghan Mortuary.

Policronia Sinay

Policronia Sinay passed away August 24, 2007. She was 85.

The native of Leyte, PI, had lived in Pleasanton for 40 years. She spent her time doing on her large family, including her white poodle, Princess. She looked forward to hosting Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings. An ever increasing group of family and friends attended these celebrations. She will be missed during the upcoming holidays, but will be remembered by all.

She was preceded in death by her husband Joe in 1978 and a son, Sonny. She is survived by her children, Franco (Vangie) Sinay, Jose (Debbie) Sinay, Fred Sinay, Edgar Sinay, Elizabeth (Gregory) Hayes, and Irma Sinay (wife of Sonny); grandchildren James, Kathleen, Michael, Edwin, Maritess, Angela, Jay, Robert, Evan, Kale, Aiden, Sheldon, Olivia and Holly, and great grandchildren Jasmine, EJ, DJ, Evan, and Robert Jr.

Mass was celebrated August 28 at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Pleasanton. Burial followed at St. Augustine Cemetery in Pleasanton.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Jessie Minden

Jessie Minden died August 24, 2007 in Walnut Creek. She was 87.

She was a native of Iowa, born Feb. 17, 1920. She loved teaching Sunday School and painting. Jessie spent many hours in her garden.

She is survived by a daughter Bev Jotten, grandchildren, Tanya Gabler and Lars Jotten, and great grandchildren, Larissa, Kristen, Stephen and Shelby. She was preceded in death by her husband Virgil Minden.

No services were listed.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Spencer Clark

Spencer Clark died August 26, 2007 at Stanford University Hospital in Stanford. He was 43.

The native of San Jose had lived in Pleasanton for ten years. Prior to that he had lived in Los Gatos for 30 years. Spencer earned a masters of business administration from Golden Gate University and worked as a marketing executive for 19 years in Santa Clara. His hobbies included his family, hunting and fishing.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Clark; sons Derek, Kohlten, and Zieren; a daughter, Kaciah; brothers, Brad Clark and Reid Clark, sisters Dana Stroud and Caralee White, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, Dan and Elizabeth Clark.

A memorial mass will be celebrated at 2 p.m. on Tues., Sept. 4 at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 4001 Stoneridge Dr., Pleasanton.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Cardiovascular Research at Stanford University Hospital Medical Center, 2700 Sand Hill Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025; checks should be made to Stanford University.

Arrangements by Graham-Hitch Mortuary.

Albert Schott, Sr.

Albert Raymond Schott, Sr. died August 27, 2007 in Livermore. He was 88.

The San Francisco native had lived in Pleasanton for 36 years. He had lived in San Francisco for 52 years, where he and his wife raised their family. After graduating from Mission High School, he served his country in the U.S. Army. Albert was a shipping clerk for the Port of Oakland for 35 years and a member of ILWU Local #34. He enjoyed fishing at Lake Del Valle, and watching baseball and 60 Minutes on television.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Bernice R. Schott; daughters Patricia Schott of Central valley and Mary Schott of Livermore; son Albert (Abbey) Schott, Jr. of Central Valley; sister Trudy; brothers Frank and Amiel; four grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and most of his brothers and sisters.

Visitation is planned for 8:30 to 10 a.m. on Fri., Aug. 31 at Graham-Hitch Mortuary, 4167 First St., Pleasanton, followed by a funeral mass at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton. Burial will be 2 p.m. Tues., Sept. 4 at Sacramento Veterans National Cemetery in Dixon.

At the family request, in lieu of flowers, please send donations to the American Cancer Society, 7000 Village Parkway, Suite E, Dublin, CA 94568.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 398312

The following person (s) doing business as Help-U-Sell Allen Realty, 4171 1st Street, Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Ronald Stokes, 4948 Mines Rd., Livermore CA 94550
Mary Ann J. Allen, 2944 Perla, Newport Beach CA 92660

This business is conducted by a general partnership. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 1, 2007.

Signature of Registrant: /s/Ronald Stokes and Mary Ann J. Allen

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 13, 2007. Expires July 13, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2206. Publish August 9, 16, 23, 30, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399284

The following person (s) doing business as Turbohoses Inc., 5948 Las Positas Rd. Unit H, Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Turbo Hoses Inc., 5948 Las Positas Rd. Unit H, Livermore CA 94551

This business is conducted by a corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on March 15, 2006.

Signature of Registrant: /s/Jennie Kim-Chan

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on August 2, 2007. Expires August 2, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2207. Publish August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399536

The following person (s) doing business as Speedee Car Wash, 2645 Old First Street, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Nhu Ha Le, 18050 Woodland Ave., Morgan Hill CA 95037
Hanh Huynh, 18050 Woodland Ave., Morgan Hill CA 95037

This business is conducted by husband and wife. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on August 5, 2006.

Signature of Registrant: /s/Hanh Huynh

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on August 9, 2007. Expires August 9, 2012. The Independent Legal No. 2208. Publish August 16, 23, 30, September 6, 2007.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 398894

The following person (s) doing business as Cosas, 4995 Charlotte Way, Livermore CA 94550 is hereby registered by

the following owner (s):

Rebecca Navarro, 4995 Charlotte Way, Livermore CA 94550

Matthew Toomey, 4995 Charlotte Way, Livermore CA 94550

Signature of Registrant: /s/Jerry D. Becker

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 24, 2007. Expires July 24, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399480

The following person (s) doing business as OOPS, 3207 Sylvan Ct., Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Linda Hammer Garnham, 3207 Sylvan Ct., Pleasanton CA 94566

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

Signature of Registrant: /s/Linda Hammer Garnham

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on August 8, 2007. Expires August 8, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399054

The following person (s) doing business as Mon Ami Equestrian Services, 4610 Cross Road, Livermore CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Tracy L. Maurer, 4610 Cross Road, Livermore CA 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 10, 2007.

Signature of Registrant: /s/Tracy L. Maurer

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 30, 2012. Expires July 30, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399420

The following person (s) doing business as ReyStar Fashion Boutique, 1569 Olivina Ave #109, Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Jessica D. Reynoso, 1518 Hollyhock St., Livermore CA 94551

Signature of Registrant: /s/Jessica D. Reynoso

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on August 7, 2007. Expires August 7, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 398813

The following person (s) doing business as Combined Realty, 7031 Village Parkway Suite 214, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

JB Mortgage Market, Inc., 7001 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568

This business is conducted

by a corporation

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 24, 2007.

Signature of Registrant: /s/Jerry D. Becker

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 24, 2007. Expires July 24, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399480

The following person (s) doing business as OOPS, 3207 Sylvan Ct., Pleasanton CA 94566 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Linda Hammer Garnham, 3207 Sylvan Ct., Pleasanton CA 94566

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

Signature of Registrant: /s/Linda Hammer Garnham

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on August 8, 2007. Expires August 8, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399054

The following person (s) doing business as Mon Ami Equestrian Services, 4610 Cross Road, Livermore CA 94550, is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Tracy L. Maurer, 4610 Cross Road, Livermore CA 94550

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 10, 2007.

Signature of Registrant: /s/Tracy L. Maurer

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on July 30, 2012. Expires July 30, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 399420

The following person (s) doing business as ReyStar Fashion Boutique, 1569 Olivina Ave #109, Livermore CA 94551 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

Jessica D. Reynoso, 1518 Hollyhock St., Livermore CA 94551

Signature of Registrant: /s/Jessica D. Reynoso

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda County on August 7, 2007. Expires August 7, 2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 398813

The following person (s) doing business as Combined Realty, 7031 Village Parkway Suite 214, Dublin, CA 94568 is hereby registered by the following owner (s):

JB Mortgage Market, Inc., 7001 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA 94568

This business is conducted

ANIMALS/PETS

1)CATS/DOGS

ADOPT A DOG OR CAT, for adoption information contact Valley Humane Society at 925 426-8656.

TRUE ANIMAL LOVER will give dog and cat a loving home. Call 925 449-9568

Tri-Valley Animal Rescue hosts cat and dog adoptions at the Pleasanton Farmers Market on Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Cat adoptions are at Dublin Pet Food Express on Saturdays from 12 to 4 PM (excluding 4th Sat) and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM. Adoptions at Dublin PetsMart on Saturdays from 1 to 4 PM and on Sundays from 1 to 4 PM, dog adoptions of the month from 1 to 4 PM and rabbit adoptions on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 PM. For more information please visit www.tvr.org or call (925) 803-7043.

5)FOUND

Found an animal? Free Section. Call Barbara 925 243-8000 to let 48,600 households know!

6)LOST

Lost a family pet? Free Section. Call Barbara 925 243-8000 to let 48,600 households know!

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DONATE VEHICLE, running or not ACCEPTED! Free Towing. Tax Deductible. Noans Arc - Support No Kill Shelters, Animal Rights, Research to Advance Veterinary Treatment/Cures. 1-866-912-GIVE. (CAL)SCAN

DONATE YOUR CAR: Children's Cancer Fund/ Help Save A Child's Life Through Research & Support! It's Fast, Easy & Tax Deductible. Please Call Today 1-800-252-0615. (CAL)SCAN

9)USED AUTOS

SELL YOUR USED CAR HERE. Call Barbara at 925-243-8000 or go to www.independentnews.com Pay by Credit Card for any Classified or Display ads.

EMPLOYMENT

56) ADULT CARE

CAREGIVERS NEEDED for elder care. Light house-keeping errands transportation meal prep personal care. Please fax resume 925 371-8118

60) BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

START YOUR OWN! Landscape Curbing Business - High Demand, Low Overheads, High Profit. Training Available. Priced from \$12,000. 1-800-667-5372. www.EdgeMaster.net (CAL)SCAN

ALL CASH CANDY Route. Be Your Own Boss. 30 machines and candy for \$9,995. MultiVend LLC, 880 Grand Blvd., Deer park, NY. 1-888-625-2405. (CAL)SCAN

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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<p style="text-align: center;">COMPUTERS</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Tri-Valley PC Medic</p> <p>"I make house calls!"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repairs • Training Upgrades • Tune-Ups Networking <p>Ken Cook 925-485-9040 925-989-7722 (mobile)</p> <p>http://come.ta/pc-medic Member: PDA, PCC & BBB License #071199</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;">HOUSEKEEPING</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>At your service</i> residential housekeeping</p> <p>Now Serving Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin</p> <p>Expect Complete Satisfaction (925) 292-0056 insured & bonded</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center;">EYES</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Valley Eye Care Center Medical Associates</p> <p>Specializing in complete eye care Pleasanton (925) 460-5000 Livermore (925) 449-4000</p> </div>	

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63) CAREGIVERS

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Hourly and Live-In
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And CDL required.
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or email
dlauren@hillendale.net

68) HAIR SERVICES

Home Care Positions Available! PT FT Live-In. Flex Hrs. Competitive salaries. Exp. Req'd. (925) 935-9506.

71) HELP WANTED

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English Required - 925 417-1481

FIREFIGHTER TRAINEE.

Openings for high school grads ages 17-34. Must be in good physical condition and willing to relocate. Good pay/benefits. Call today for interview 1-800-345-6289. (CAL*SCAN)

TRUCK DRIVERS: CDL training. Up to \$20,000 bonus. Accelerate your career as a soldier. Drive out terrorism by keeping the Army National Guard supplied. 1-800-GO-GUARD.com/truck (CAL*SCAN)

72) HELP WANTED/DRIVERS

DRIVER: Don't Just Start Your Career. Start It Right! Company Sponsored CDL training in 3 weeks. Must be 21. Have CDL? Tuition Reimbursement! www.JoinCRST.com 1-800-781-2778. (CAL*SCAN)

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75) HELP WANTED SALES

SALES SUPPORT The Independent Newspaper is currently hiring a Part-Time Temporary Sales Support team member. The ideal candidate will have strong customer service skills and able to manage multiple task in a detailed and organized manner. Excellent written and verbal communication skills and ability to demonstrate a positive and professional attitude are a must. For immediate consideration, please email your resume to ivpsales@pacbell.net NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

TRAVELING INDEPENDENT SALES Rep. Max. Travel 6 hours from home. Gone M-F. Commission Position. Company ave. pays \$820/wk. Call 1-800-225-6368, ext 333. (CAL*SCAN)

MERCHANDISE

120) FREE/GIVEAWAY

FREE - Twin Oak Captains Bed (Drawers Under Bed). Usable, but could use some rejuvenating. Call 925 447-5120

This section is a no charge classified section. Call 925 243-8000 ask for Barbara

121) GARAGE/RUMMAGE/YARD SALES

United Christian Church, 1886 College Ave. (at So. M St.) with our neighbors at 1858 and 2475 College AND 759 So. N St. are having a multi-family, multi-site neighborhood yard sale! Saturday, Sept. 1, 8am-2pm. Furniture, clothing, books, sports equipment, children's items, household stuff, ETC.

Multi-family garage sale at the 5200 block of Felicia Avenue in Livermore. SAT 9/8 at 8:00am

Garage Sale Saturday 8/1, 9 am Corner of Jeanne Court and Jeanne Way. Children's toys and clothes

124) HORSES/LIVESTOCK/FARMEQUIP

8 Miniature Horses for Sale \$500.00 Each Please Call for Details (925) 228-8568

125) HOUSEHOLD/YARD ITEMS

Spa Cover / Brand New Wholesale Cost \$266.44 Box Never Opened Brown - Standard Skirt 6' 3" (74 inches round) Sparkle Pool Call (925) 577-7111

FREE - Twin Oak Captains Bed (Drawers Under Bed). Usable, but could use some rejuvenating. Call 925 447-5120

127) LOST/FOUND

KEYS FOUND 8/21/07 (Off Mines Rd. @ Del Valle Junction) Call to Identify 925 447-3414

130) MISC. FOR SALE

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY \$2,990 - Convert your logs to Valuable Lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.NorwoodIndustries.com Free Information: 1-800-578-1363x500-A (CAL*SCAN)

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NOTICES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

151) ADOPTIONS

CONSIDERING ADOPTION? We match Birthmothers with Families nationwide. Living Expenses Paid. Toll Free 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 1-866-459-3369. (CAL*SCAN)

155) NOTICES

"NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and/or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board."

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160) AUCTIONS
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163) HOMES FOR SALE
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Open Houses

PRICE	SIZE	DAY(S)	ADDRESS
\$779,500	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	4837 Lodi Wy cross streets Redwood Rd - Audrey - Lodi Wy Pat Francisco Realty
\$884,900	4BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	423 Sutton Cir cross streets Camino Tassajara - Liverpool Prudential California Realty
\$1,895,000	5BD/4.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	181 Hope Ln cross street Green Valley Rd Valley Properties
\$828,888	4BD/2.5BA	SAT 1-4PM	4733 Myrtle Dr cross streets Dublin Blvd - Myrtle Dr Francisco Realty & Investments
\$595,499	4BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	1828 Cassiopia cross streets Scenic - Centaurus - Pices Steiger Properties
\$629,900 & \$635,000	3BD/2.5BA	SUN 1-4PM	Dorothy Cmn cross street North P St Valley Properties
\$737,000	4BD/2BA	SAT 1-4PM	1443 Hudson Wy cross streets Vancouver - Florence - Hudson Remax Executive
\$899,950	5BD/3BA	SAT/SUN 1-3PM	3375 Edinburgh Dr cross streets Portola Envivian of East Bay Fine Homes
\$1,465,000	4BD/3BA	SUN 1-4PM	2338 Victoria Ct cross streets Arroy - Pyramid - Victoria Intero Real Estate Services
\$1,185,000	4BD/2.5BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	1940 Palmer Dr cross streets Kamp - Cameron Prudential
\$2,995,000	6BD/9BA	SUN 1-30-4:30PM	1842 Sannita Pl cross streets W. Ruby Hill Dr - Germano - Sannita Pl Alain Pinel Realtors
\$649,000	3BD/2BA	SUN 1-4PM	150 Jackson Wy cross streets Contra Costa Blvd - Gregory Ln - It - Jackson RE/MAX Accord
\$385,000	2MSTR802.5BA	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	108 A Norris Canyon Pl cross streets Alcolta - Norris Canyon - It - Norris Canyon Pl Keller Williams
\$1,025,000	SAT/SUN 1-4PM	106 Palmer St cross streets San Ramon Valley - Alcolta - Westside Dr - Palmer Prudential California Realty	



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Approx. 1189 sq.ft.
\$399,000

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Tracy
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\$599,000

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Approx. 1389 sq.ft.
SOLD

2534 Marsh Dr.
San Ramon
4 Bedrooms • 2 Baths
Approx. 2071 sq.ft.
\$749,000

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-Chuck and Merrilee

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light, bright home in desirable South Livermore

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Gorgeous half acre lot.
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163) HOMES FOR SALE

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ABSOLUTE STEEL - ARIZONA Ranch Liquidation. 36 AC - \$59,900. Perfect for private retreat. Endless views. Beautiful setting with fresh mountain air. Abundant wildlife. Secluded with good access. Financing available. Offered by AZLR 1-877-301-5263. (CAL*SCAN)

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ARIZONA LAND LIQUIDATION! Near Tucson, Football Field Sized Lots. \$0 Down/\$0 Interest, \$159/mo. (\$18,995 total). Free Information. Money Back Guarantee! 1-800-682-6103 Op #10. (CAL*SCAN)

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178) BUSINESS SERVICES
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180) FINANCIAL SERVICES
IBUY LAWSUIT Injury Cases: Pending Injury Lawsuits or Annuities, Settlements, Real Estate Notes, Other Notes. Call CARL @ 1-800-803-9960 (CAL*SCAN)

185) HOME SERVICES
GRANITE COUNTERTOP Custom fabrication & installation, FREE sink when labor prices up to \$3800, fully insured & Lic#860650. Call us for FREE estimate (888)-739-8288, KING STONE

195) TIMESHARES/RESORTS
TIMESHARE!!! PAYING TO MUCH 4 maintenance fees and taxes? Sell/rent your timeshare for cash. No Commissions/Broker Fees. 1-877-868-1933 www.VPResales.com (CAL*SCAN)

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925.443.7000 \$659,900

LIVERMORE

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925.443.7000 \$589,000

LIVERMORE

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LIVERMORE

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Annual Blessing Leads up to Harvest Wine Celebration

"May all those involved in this divine partnership be granted that artistic spirit that beautifully combines the gift of the fruit with the gifts of our wisdom and hearts in helping each grape realize its full potential." That statement was part of the annual blessing of the grapes conducted Tuesday in Livermore.

On hand for the ceremony were Rabbi Richard Winer, Congregation Beth Emek; Rabbi Laura Winer, Union for Judaism; Rev. Bill Nebo, First Presbyterian Church, retired; and Rev. Marty Williams, United Christian Church, along with Michael Wood, president of the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association.

The harvest is already underway. At Les Chenes, the Vignier grapes have been picked. Richard Dixon declared that the grapes look, "Marvelous."

Dustin Battaion of Battaion Cellars has completed bringing in Chardonnay and Pinot Noir varietals. "I couldn't have asked for better balances in acids, sugars and pH," he stated. "The grapes practically fermented themselves."

Rev. Nebo stated, "May we wisely use the gifts of the harvest of these vines to feed and cheer us with a greater desire to love what you are and what we are and what you have given us."

Wood summed up the ceremony, raising his glass and declaring, "Here's to a great har-



Toasting the harvest are (from left) Michael Wood, Rev. Bill Nebo, Rabbi Richard Winer, Rabbi Laura Novak Winer and Rev. Marty Williams.

Photo - Doug Jorgensen

vest."

This weekend wineries will be celebrating the annual harvest as the Livermore Valley Winegrowers Association presents the 26th Annual Harvest Wine Celebration. Festive events are planned for Sunday and Monday, September 2 and 3 from noon to 5 p.m. each day at most area wineries.

The theme is "cheers." Visitors to each of the participating

wineries will learn how to say "cheers" in another language, including Hawaiian, Zulu, and Italian.

For example say "Okole Maluna" (Cheers in Hawaiian) at Garré Winery.

In keeping with Okole Maluna, Garré Winery will feature an authentic twelve person Hawaiian dance ensemble. California Hula of Hawaii and Tahiti,

that will perform at 12 noon Sunday; a Hula Contest, Hawaiian themed menu and complimentary leis for all who attend.

Live music features Georgi and the Roughweek on Sunday and T Lane and the Nitehawks on Monday.

In addition to the theme fun, visitors will be able to see vineyards filled with grapes nearly ready for harvest. There will an

opportunity to tour wineries, sample award winning wines, listen to live music, and picnic in the vineyards. Air conditioned shuttle buses will transport guests to the various wineries and tasting venues.

In addition to entertainment, wine and food, there is an opportunity to shop at over 100 booths offering jewelry, pottery, glass art and more. Displays at the wineries will include history, fine art, and classic cars. In addition, most wineries will feature special tastings for a nominal fee.

Music will range from reggae to classic rock, acoustic guitar to rockabilly/surf, and the blues. Food offerings will tempt every

palate; Mexican, Mediterranean, Hawaiian, and classic California style, plus plentiful BBQ items.

Guests may board the shuttles at any of the wineries or at the main transportation hub at Robertson Park in Livermore.

Wineries are located in Livermore, Pleasanton, Sunol and Castro valley. Tickets are \$35 in advance (\$40 at the door) or Monday only \$30. Tickets include both days, wine tasting at all participating wineries, shuttle bus service, a wine glass and printed program. Tickets for those not wine tasting are \$5.

Tickets can be purchased on line at livermorewine.com or call 447-WINE (9463).

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Video Games Help to Train National Security Responders



Ground Truth simulates a terrorist attack.

National security and video games at first glance don't appear to be compatible. If Sandia National Laboratories computer scientist and software engineer Donna Djordjevic has her way, however, perhaps today's video game-loving youth will become the next generation's terrorist-fighting scientist. It could happen if a prototype project she now has under development with the University of Southern California's GamePipe Laboratory fulfills its promise.

At a recent demonstration of the prototype for real-world emergency responders indicates she is on track.

Djordjevic is the principal investigator of a Sandia-funded project titled "Game Technology-Enhanced Stimulation for Homeland Security." Its mission is to create an interactive gaming platform specifically designed to prepare decision makers and first responders for weapons of mass destruction (WMD/WME) attacks in metropolitan areas. The first version of this platform, more commonly known as "Ground Truth," provides a virtual environment where users can play through a scenario to see the effects of their decisions under the constraints of time and resources. The project was funded and started in FY07, with development beginning last October.

Modeling, simulation, and gaming, have been around Sandia for years. However, Djordjevic, a USC alumna and self-described "obsessive-compulsive gamer," is a true believer who suggests Sandia could do even more to take advantage of the current video game culture, perhaps even integrating gaming in a formal way into the lab's homeland security program activities and elsewhere.

"Video games are progressive, intuitive, accessible, and immersive," says Djordjevic, making them an ideal framework for training and learning. Firemen, police officers, and other first responders, she asserts, are used to being "on the scene" of an incident, so gaming mechanisms that thrust users into a "real" environment are a great fit for training and education purposes.

Ground Truth is part of the "real-time strategy" genre of video games and an example of the "serious games" movement. A 2006 article in the New York Times titled "Saving the World, One Video Game at a Time" asserts that this "new generation" of video games "can be more than just mindless fun, they can be a

medium for change... (The movement) is a partnership between advocates and nonprofit groups that are searching for new ways to reach young people, and tech-savvy academics keen to explore video games' educational potential."

The GamePipe Laboratory, part of the USC Viterbi School of Engineering's computer science department, has emerged as a major training ground, with nearly 100 students now pursuing BS and MS degrees in games specialization, including a large number focusing on game training tools, also known as "serious games." Five of these students are now working on Ground Truth, according to GamePipe director Mike Zyda, interacting with Djordjevic and a group of Sandia staffers. The project is in its first year of a three-year Sandia commitment.

Visually, Ground Truth looks somewhat like the popular "SimCity" city-building simulation game, with a nameless urban environment at the center of the action.

Djordjevic, says, in its current form Ground Truth is de-

signed for high-level incident commanders who need to understand how to best allocate their resources. The game also educates its users on the dangers faced by on-the-scene emergency responders. Those playing the game, for instance, quickly learn that only certain responders are able to wear personal protective gear, so "you don't want to be sending your police officers into an area where they might face a cloud of toxic gas." Future scenarios, Djordjevic hopes, will aim to engage personnel who actually respond to scenes, treat victims, as well as involving decision-makers at higher levels and jurisdictions.

Djordjevic also plans to incorporate feedback from authentic emergency response personnel into Ground Truth. A recent visit to Sandia/California by

members of the Alameda County Public Health Department featured a Ground Truth demonstration and was well received. "I thoroughly enjoyed playing Ground Truth, even though video games are not in my culture. The game made one comfortable in making decisions... you have done a great job," said James Pointer, MD, the department's medical director.

While Ground Truth may one day become a licensable product that comes on DVD, she envisions DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff being won over by a demonstration and demanding that the program be endorsed, paid for, and delivered by DHS to first responders all over the country. "Then maybe we'll be ready to launch Sandia's Center for Interactive Gaming Applications," she says with a laugh.

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